



BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

AND VIDEO PRESENTATIONS

INNOVATIVE
APPROACHES IN
COASTAL WETLANDS
MANAGEMENT

LIFE PLATFORM MEETING
12-13 OCTOBER 2022 /BURGAS, BULGARIA



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LIFE Lagoon Refresh Project

LIFE Lagoon Refresh: a multidisciplinary approach to restore the coastal lagoon habitats in Venice Lagoon

The LIFE Lagoon Refresh (LIFE16 NAT/IT/000663) takes place in the northern Venice Lagoon (Italy, SCI IT3250031; SPA, IT3250046), started in 2017 and it lasts 5 years. In Venice Lagoon, since the 20th century, a strong reduction of the typical salinity gradient of buffer areas between lagoon and mainland and of reedbed extension



has occurred due to historic human interventions, with negative consequences on coastal lagoon habitats. To restore habitats and biodiversity of the area, the LIFE Lagoon Refresh project realized five typologies of conservation actions. These included the diversion of a freshwater flow from the Sile River



Reed & aquatic angiosperm transplantation with the involvement of local fishermen and hunters.

into the lagoon; the restoration of intertidal morphology, through biodegradable structures; the reed and aquatic angiosperm transplantations with the involvement of local fishermen and hunters, and the reduction of hunting and fishing pressures in the intervention area. The strategy of the project covered a combination of different aspects and tools. These included planning activities, through the involvement of local Institutions and communities; stakeholder's involvement in transplanting activities;

an ecological engineering approach; numerical model as supporting tools for planning and managing of conservation actions; environmental monitoring, performed before and after the conservation actions. Interesting results have been achieved in terms of restoration of the salinity gradient, changes in the birds' community and an increase in the abundance of target fish species.

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Video presentation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzAisd2mFpQ>