



## EUROPEAN CLIMATE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT EXECUTIVE AGENCY (CINEA)

CINEA.D – Natural resources, climate, sustainable blue economy and clean energy  
D.2 – LIFE Environment (Nature & Circular Economy)

### GRANT AGREEMENT

#### **Project 101071737 — LIFE21-NAT-HR-LIFE for Mauremys**

#### **PREAMBLE**

This **Agreement** ('the Agreement') is **between** the following parties:

**on the one part,**

the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

**and**

**on the other part,**

1. 'the coordinator':

**SVEUCILISTE U ZAGREBU AGRONOMSKI FAKULTET (FAZ)**, PIC 999534561, established in SVETOSIMUNSKA CESTA 25, ZAGREB 10000, Croatia,

and the following other beneficiaries, if they sign their 'accession form' (see Annex 3 and Article 40):

2. **USTANOVA ZOOLOSKI VRT GRADA ZAGREBA (ZOO-Zg)**, PIC 933554773, established in FAKULTETSKO DOBRO 1, GRAD ZAGREB 10000, Croatia,

3. **HRVATSKE VODE PRAVNA OSOBA ZA UPRAVLJANJE VODAMA (HV)**, PIC 950805835, established in ULICA GRADA VUKOVARA 220, ZAGREB 10000, Croatia,

4. **UDRUGA HYL A (HYLA)**, PIC 919396750, established in I LIPOVAC 7, ZAGREB 10000, Croatia,

5. **JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE ZASTICENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE DUBROVACKO-NERETVANSKE ZUPANIJE (DUNEZ)**, PIC 897512774, established in BRANITELJA DUBROVNIKA 41, DUBROVNIK 20000, Croatia,

Unless otherwise specified, references to 'beneficiary' or 'beneficiaries' include the coordinator and affiliated entities (if any).

If only one beneficiary signs the grant agreement ('mono-beneficiary grant'), all provisions referring to the 'coordinator' or the 'beneficiaries' will be considered — mutatis mutandis — as referring to the beneficiary.

The parties referred to above have agreed to enter into the Agreement.

By signing the Agreement and the accession forms, the beneficiaries accept the grant and agree to implement the action under their own responsibility and in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

The Agreement is composed of:

Preamble

Terms and Conditions (including Data Sheet)

Annex 1 Description of the action<sup>1</sup>

Annex 2 Estimated budget for the action

Annex 2a Additional information on unit costs and contributions (if applicable)

Annex 3 Accession forms (if applicable)<sup>2</sup>

Annex 3a Declaration on joint and several liability of affiliated entities (if applicable)<sup>3</sup>

Annex 4 Model for the financial statements

Annex 5 Specific rules (if applicable)

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<sup>1</sup> Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

<sup>2</sup> Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

<sup>3</sup> Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).



## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

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## DATA SHEET

### 1. General data

Project summary:

Project summary
<p>LIFE for Mauremys is an ambitious 4-year project aiming to improve the unfavourable conservation status of iconic freshwater turtle species, the Balkan Terrapin (<i>Mauremys rivulata</i>), in Croatia. Project is designed to address all of the known drivers of <i>M. rivulata</i> decline across five Natura 2000 sites in Dubrovnik-Neretva County of Croatia (including all of the known Croatian populations), and at the same time conduct an assisted breeding programme to provide much needed population reinforcement for one of them (considered locally extinct until 2019). Our concrete actions include working closely with the local community on habitat restoration of ponds (35 hectares) and additional wetland habitats across four Natura 2000 sites (2850 hectares), improving habitat quality and connectivity, removing invasive alien species, securing the turtle nesting sites from predators and invasive agricultural practices through collaboration with landowners, and developing turtle-friendly fyke-net to address the by-catch mortality. We will implement a breeding programme in Zagreb ZOO with the specific objective of producing 40 hatchlings of <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> that will be ready by the project end for soft-release in one of our project areas, enabling us to save one of the most threatened populations of this species in Croatia from the brink of extinction, and providing media attention which we will use to raise awareness about the importance of Balkan terrapin, biodiversity protection, and Natura 2000 network. We believe that the proposed project activities will lead to the expected outcomes thanks to the comprehensives of planned actions, our plan to work closely with the local community, and the interdisciplinary and intersectoral strength of our partnership structure. We see LIFE for Mauremys as a start of the long-term success for conservation of <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> and Mediterranean wetland habitats, starting from Croatia but reaching across its entire range.</p>

Keywords:

- Areas of intervention: Space for Nature
- Areas of intervention: Safeguarding our species
- EU Bio. Strat. 2030 - bringing nature back to agricultural land
- REPTILES
- FRESHWATER HABITATS

Project number: 101071737

Project name: *Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County

Project acronym: LIFE21-NAT-HR-LIFE for Mauremys

Call: LIFE-2021-SAP-NAT

Topic: LIFE-2021-SAP-NAT-NATURE

Type of action: LIFE Project Grants

Granting authority: European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency

Grant managed through EU Funding & Tenders Portal: Yes (eGrants)

Project starting date: fixed date: 1 October 2022

Project end date: 30 September 2026

Project duration: 48 months

Consortium agreement: Yes

### 2. Participants

List of participants:

N°	Role	Short name	Legal name	Ctry	PIC	Total eligible costs (BEN and AE)	Max grant amount
1	COO	FAZ	SVEUCILISTE U ZAGREBU AGRONOMSKI FAKULTET	HR	999534561	425 562.54	255 337.52

N°	Role	Short name	Legal name	Ctry	PIC	Total eligible costs (BEN and AE)	Max grant amount
2	BEN	ZOO-Zg	USTANOVA ZOOLOSKI VRT GRADA ZAGREBA	HR	933554773	495 405.72	297 243.43
3	BEN	HV	HRVATSKE VODE PRAVNA OSOBA ZA UPRAVLJANJE VODAMA	HR	950805835	313 620.21	188 172.13
4	BEN	HYLA	UDRUGA HYLA	HR	919396750	314 559.67	188 735.80
5	BEN	DUNEZ	JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE ZASTICENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE DUBROVACKO-NERETVANSKE ZUPANIJE	HR	897512774	582 258.97	349 355.38
<b>Total</b>						2 131 407.11	1 278 844.26

**Coordinator:**

- SVEUCILISTE U ZAGREBU AGRONOMSKI FAKULTET (FAZ)

**3. Grant****Maximum grant amount, total estimated eligible costs and contributions and funding rate:**

Total eligible costs (BEN and AE)	Funding rate (%)	Maximum grant amount (Annex 2)	Maximum grant amount (award decision)
2 131 407.11	60	1 278 844.26	1 278 844.26

**Grant form:** Budget-based**Grant mode:** Action grant**Budget categories/activity types:**

- A. Personnel costs
  - A.1 Employees, A.2 Natural persons under direct contract, A.3 Seconded persons
  - A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries
  - A.5 Volunteers
- B. Subcontracting costs
- C. Purchase costs
  - C.1 Travel and subsistence
  - C.2 Equipment
  - C.3 Other goods, works and services
- D. Other cost categories
  - D.1 Financial support to third parties
  - D.2 Land purchase
- E. Indirect costs

**Cost eligibility options:**

- Standard supplementary payments
- Limitation for subcontracting
- Travel and subsistence:
  - Travel: Actual costs
  - Accommodation: Actual costs
  - Subsistence: Actual costs

- Equipment: full costs and depreciation for listed equipment
- Costs for providing financial support to third parties (actual cost; max amount for each recipient: EUR 20 000.00)
- Indirect cost flat-rate: 7% of the eligible direct costs (categories A-D, except volunteers costs and exempted specific cost categories, if any)
- VAT: Yes
- Other ineligible costs

**Budget flexibility:** Yes (no flexibility cap)

#### **4. Reporting, payments and recoveries**

##### **4.1 Continuous reporting** (art 21)

**Deliverables:** see Funding & Tenders Portal Continuous Reporting tool

##### **4.2 Periodic reporting and payments**

**Reporting and payment schedule** (art 21, 22):

Reporting					Payments	
Reporting periods			Type	Deadline	Type	Deadline (time to pay)
RP No	Month from	Month to				
					Initial prefinancing	30 days from entry into force/ financial guarantee (if required) – whichever is the latest
1	1	18	Additional prefinancing report	60 days after end of reporting period	Additional prefinancing	60 days from receiving additional prefinancing report/ financial guarantee (if required) – whichever is the latest
2	19	48	Periodic report	60 days after end of reporting period	Final payment	90 days from receiving periodic report

**Prefinancing payments and guarantees:**

Prefinancing payment		Prefinancing guarantee		
Type	Amount	Guarantee amount	Division per participant	
Prefinancing 1 (initial)	383 653.28	n/a	1 - FAZ	n/a
			2 - ZOO-Zg	n/a
			3 - HV	n/a
			4 - HYLA	n/a
			5 - DUNEZ	n/a
Prefinancing 2 (additional)	639 422.13	n/a	1 - FAZ	n/a
			2 - ZOO-Zg	n/a
			3 - HV	n/a



Prefinancing payment		Prefinancing guarantee		
Type	Amount	Guarantee amount	Division per participant	
			4 - HYLA	n/a
			5 - DUNEZ	n/a

**Reporting and payment modalities** (art 21, 22):

Mutual Insurance Mechanism (MIM): No

Restrictions on distribution of initial prefinancing: The prefinancing may be distributed only if the minimum number of beneficiaries set out in the call conditions (if any) have acceded to the Agreement and only to beneficiaries that have acceded.

Interim payment ceiling (if any): 90% of the maximum grant amount

No-profit rule: No

Late payment interest: ECB + 3.5%

Bank account for payments:

HR1823600001101221840

Conversion into euros: Double conversion

Reporting language: Language of the Agreement

**4.3 Certificates** (art 24):

Certificates on the financial statements (CFS):

Conditions:

Schedule: interim/final payment, if threshold is reached

Standard threshold (beneficiary-level):

- financial statement: requested EU contribution to costs  $\geq$  EUR 500 000.00

**4.4 Recoveries** (art 22)**First-line liability for recoveries:**

Beneficiary termination: Beneficiary concerned

Final payment: Coordinator

After final payment: Beneficiary concerned

**Joint and several liability for enforced recoveries (in case of non-payment):**

Limited joint and several liability of other beneficiaries — up to the maximum grant amount of the beneficiary

Joint and several liability of affiliated entities — n/a

**5. Consequences of non-compliance, applicable law & dispute settlement forum**

**Applicable law** (art 43):

Standard applicable law regime: EU law + law of Belgium

**Dispute settlement forum (art 43):**

Standard dispute settlement forum:

EU beneficiaries: EU General Court + EU Court of Justice (on appeal)

Non-EU beneficiaries: Courts of Brussels, Belgium (unless an international agreement provides for the enforceability of EU court judgements)

**6. Other**

**Specific rules (Annex 5):** Yes

**Standard time-limits after project end:**

Confidentiality (for X years after final payment): 5

Record-keeping (for X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Reviews (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Audits (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Extension of findings from other grants to this grant (no later than X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

Impact evaluation (up to X years after final payment): 5 (or 3 for grants of not more than EUR 60 000)

## **CHAPTER 1 GENERAL**

### **ARTICLE 1 — SUBJECT OF THE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement sets out the rights and obligations and terms and conditions applicable to the grant awarded for the implementation of the action set out in Chapter 2.

### **ARTICLE 2 — DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this Agreement, the following definitions apply:

**Actions** — The project which is being funded in the context of this Agreement.

**Grant** — The grant awarded in the context of this Agreement.

**EU grants** — Grants awarded by EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies (including EU executive agencies, EU regulatory agencies, EDA, joint undertakings, etc.).

**Participants** — Entities participating in the action as beneficiaries, affiliated entities, associated partners, third parties giving in-kind contributions, subcontractors or recipients of financial support to third parties.

**Beneficiaries (BEN)** — The signatories of this Agreement (either directly or through an accession form).

**Affiliated entities (AE)** — Entities affiliated to a beneficiary within the meaning of Article 187 of EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046<sup>4</sup> which participate in the action with similar rights and obligations as the beneficiaries (obligation to implement action tasks and right to charge costs and claim contributions).

**Associated partners (AP)** — Entities which participate in the action, but without the right to charge costs or claim contributions.

**Purchases** — Contracts for goods, works or services needed to carry out the action (e.g. equipment, consumables and supplies) but which are not part of the action tasks (see Annex 1).

**Subcontracting** — Contracts for goods, works or services that are part of the action tasks (see Annex 1).

**In-kind contributions** — In-kind contributions within the meaning of Article 2(36) of EU Financial

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<sup>4</sup> For the definition, see Article 187 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 ('EU Financial Regulation') (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1): "**affiliated entities** [are]:

- (a) entities that form a sole beneficiary [(i.e. where an entity is formed of several entities that satisfy the criteria for being awarded a grant, including where the entity is specifically established for the purpose of implementing an action to be financed by a grant)];
- (b) entities that satisfy the eligibility criteria and that do not fall within one of the situations referred to in Article 136(1) and 141(1) and that have a link with the beneficiary, in particular a legal or capital link, which is neither limited to the action nor established for the sole purpose of its implementation".

Regulation 2018/1046, i.e. non-financial resources made available free of charge by third parties.

**Fraud** — Fraud within the meaning of Article 3 of EU Directive 2017/1371<sup>5</sup> and Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests, drawn up by the Council Act of 26 July 1995<sup>6</sup>, as well as any other wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain.

**Irregularities** — Any type of breach (regulatory or contractual) which could impact the EU financial interests, including irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of EU Regulation 2988/95<sup>7</sup>.

**Grave professional misconduct** — Any type of unacceptable or improper behaviour in exercising one's profession, especially by employees, including grave professional misconduct within the meaning of Article 136(1)(c) of EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046.

**Applicable EU, international and national law** — Any legal acts or other (binding or non-binding) rules and guidance in the area concerned.

**Portal** — EU Funding & Tenders Portal; electronic portal and exchange system managed by the European Commission and used by itself and other EU institutions, bodies, offices or agencies for the management of their funding programmes (grants, procurements, prizes, etc.).

## **CHAPTER 2 ACTION**

### **ARTICLE 3 — ACTION**

The grant is awarded for the action **101071737 — LIFE21-NAT-HR-LIFE for Mauremys** ('action'), as described in Annex 1.

### **ARTICLE 4 — DURATION AND STARTING DATE**

The duration and the starting date of the action are set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 1).

## **CHAPTER 3 GRANT**

### **ARTICLE 5 — GRANT**

#### **5.1 Form of grant**

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<sup>5</sup> Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2017 on the fight against fraud to the Union's financial interests by means of criminal law (OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29).

<sup>6</sup> OJ C 316, 27.11.1995, p. 48.

<sup>7</sup> Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1).

The grant is an action grant<sup>8</sup> which takes the form of a budget-based mixed actual cost grant (i.e. a grant based on actual costs incurred, but which may also include other forms of funding, such as unit costs or contributions, flat-rate costs or contributions, lump sum costs or contributions or financing not linked to costs).

## 5.2 Maximum grant amount

The maximum grant amount is set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 3) and in the estimated budget (Annex 2).

## 5.3 Funding rate

The funding rate for costs is 60% of the action's eligible costs.

Contributions are not subject to any funding rate.

## 5.4 Estimated budget, budget categories and forms of funding

The estimated budget for the action is set out in Annex 2.

It contains the estimated eligible costs and contributions for the action, broken down by participant and budget category.

Annex 2 also shows the types of costs and contributions (forms of funding)<sup>9</sup> to be used for each budget category.

If unit costs or contributions are used, the details on the calculation will be explained in Annex 2a.

## 5.5 Budget flexibility

The budget breakdown may be adjusted — without an amendment (see Article 39) — by transfers (between participants and budget categories), as long as this does not imply any substantive or important change to the description of the action in Annex 1.

However:

- changes to the budget category for volunteers (if used) always require an amendment
- changes to budget categories with lump sums costs or contributions (if used; including financing not linked to costs) always require an amendment
- changes to budget categories with higher funding rates or budget ceilings (if used) always require an amendment
- addition of amounts for subcontracts not provided for in Annex 1 either require an amendment or simplified approval in accordance with Article 6.2

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<sup>8</sup> For the definition, see Article 180(2)(a) EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046: ‘**action grant**’ means an EU grant to finance “an action intended to help achieve a Union policy objective”.

<sup>9</sup> See Article 125 EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046.

- other changes require an amendment or simplified approval, if specifically provided for in Article 6.2
- flexibility caps: not applicable.

## ARTICLE 6 — ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE COSTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

In order to be eligible, costs and contributions must meet the **eligibility** conditions set out in this Article.

### 6.1 General eligibility conditions

The **general eligibility conditions** are the following:

(a) for actual costs:

- (i) they must be actually incurred by the beneficiary
- (ii) they must be incurred in the period set out in Article 4 (with the exception of costs relating to the submission of the final periodic report, which may be incurred afterwards; see Article 21)
- (iii) they must be declared under one of the budget categories set out in Article 6.2 and Annex 2
- (iv) they must be incurred in connection with the action as described in Annex 1 and necessary for its implementation
- (v) they must be identifiable and verifiable, in particular recorded in the beneficiary's accounts in accordance with the accounting standards applicable in the country where the beneficiary is established and with the beneficiary's usual cost accounting practices
- (vi) they must comply with the applicable national law on taxes, labour and social security and
- (vii) they must be reasonable, justified and must comply with the principle of sound financial management, in particular regarding economy and efficiency

(b) for unit costs or contributions (if any):

- (i) they must be declared under one of the budget categories set out in Article 6.2 and Annex 2
- (ii) the units must:
  - be actually used or produced by the beneficiary in the period set out in Article 4 (with the exception of units relating to the submission of the final periodic report, which may be used or produced afterwards; see Article 21)
  - be necessary for the implementation of the action and
- (iii) the number of units must be identifiable and verifiable, in particular supported by records and documentation (see Article 20)

- (c) for flat-rate costs or contributions (if any):
- (i) they must be declared under one of the budget categories set out in Article 6.2 and Annex 2
  - (ii) the costs or contributions to which the flat-rate is applied must:
    - be eligible
    - relate to the period set out in Article 4 (with the exception of costs or contributions relating to the submission of the final periodic report, which may be incurred afterwards; see Article 21)
- (d) for lump sum costs or contributions (if any):
- (i) they must be declared under one of the budget categories set out in Article 6.2 and Annex 2
  - (ii) the work must be properly implemented by the beneficiary in accordance with Annex 1
  - (iii) the deliverables/outputs must be achieved in the period set out in Article 4 (with the exception of deliverables/outputs relating to the submission of the final periodic report, which may be achieved afterwards; see Article 21)
- (e) for unit, flat-rate or lump sum costs or contributions according to usual cost accounting practices (if any):
- (i) they must fulfil the general eligibility conditions for the type of cost concerned
  - (ii) the cost accounting practices must be applied in a consistent manner, based on objective criteria, regardless of the source of funding
- (f) for financing not linked to costs (if any): the results must be achieved or the conditions must be fulfilled as described in Annex 1.

In addition, for direct cost categories (e.g. personnel, travel & subsistence, subcontracting and other direct costs) only costs that are directly linked to the action implementation and can therefore be attributed to it directly are eligible. They must not include any indirect costs (i.e. costs that are only indirectly linked to the action, e.g. via cost drivers).

## 6.2 Specific eligibility conditions for each budget category

For each budget category, the **specific eligibility conditions** are as follows:

### **Direct costs**

#### **A. Personnel costs**

**A.1 Costs for employees (or equivalent)** are eligible as personnel costs if they fulfil the general eligibility conditions and are related to personnel working for the beneficiary under an employment contract (or equivalent appointing act) and assigned to the action.

They must be limited to salaries, social security contributions, taxes and other costs linked to the

remuneration, if they arise from national law or the employment contract (or equivalent appointing act) and be calculated on the basis of the costs actually incurred, in accordance with the following method:

{daily rate for the person  
multiplied by  
number of day-equivalents worked on the action (rounded up or down to the nearest half-day)}.

The daily rate must be calculated as:

{annual personnel costs for the person  
divided by  
215}.

The number of day-equivalents declared for a person must be identifiable and verifiable (see Article 20).

The total number of day-equivalents declared in EU grants, for a person for a year, cannot be higher than 215.

The personnel costs may also include supplementary payments for personnel assigned to the action (including payments on the basis of supplementary contracts regardless of their nature), if:

- it is part of the beneficiary's usual remuneration practices and is paid in a consistent manner whenever the same kind of work or expertise is required
- the criteria used to calculate the supplementary payments are objective and generally applied by the beneficiary, regardless of the source of funding used.

**A.2 and A.3 Costs for natural persons working under a direct contract** other than an employment contract and costs for **seconded persons by a third party against payment** are also eligible as personnel costs, if they are assigned to the action, fulfil the general eligibility conditions and:

- (a) work under conditions similar to those of an employee (in particular regarding the way the work is organised, the tasks that are performed and the premises where they are performed) and
- (b) the result of the work belongs to the beneficiary (unless agreed otherwise).

They must be calculated on the basis of a rate which corresponds to the costs actually incurred for the direct contract or secondment and must not be significantly different from those for personnel performing similar tasks under an employment contract with the beneficiary.

**A.4 The work of SME owners** for the action (i.e. owners of beneficiaries that are small and medium-sized enterprises<sup>10</sup> not receiving a salary) or **natural person beneficiaries** (i.e. beneficiaries that are

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<sup>10</sup> For the definition, see Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC: micro, small or medium-sized enterprise (SME) are enterprises

- engaged in an economic activity, irrespective of their legal form (including, in particular, self-employed persons and family businesses engaged in craft or other activities, and partnerships or associations regularly engaged in an economic activity) and



natural persons not receiving a salary) may be declared as personnel costs, if they fulfil the general eligibility conditions and are calculated as unit costs in accordance with the method set out in Annex 2a.

**A.5** The work of **volunteers** for the action (i.e. persons who freely work for an organisation, on a non-compulsory basis and without being paid) may be declared as personnel costs, if and as declared eligible in the call conditions, if they fulfil the general eligibility conditions and are calculated as unit costs in accordance with the method set out in Annex 2a.

They:

- may not exceed the maximum amount for volunteers for the action (which corresponds to 50% of the total (ineligible and eligible) project costs and contributions estimated in the proposal)
- may not exceed the maximum amount for volunteers for each beneficiary set out in Annex 2
- may not make the maximum EU contribution to costs higher than the total eligible costs without volunteers.

If also indirect costs for volunteers are declared eligible in the call conditions, the amount of indirect costs may be added to the volunteers costs category in Annex 2, at the flat-rate set out in Point E.

## **B. Subcontracting costs**

**Subcontracting costs** for the action (including related duties, taxes and charges, such as non-deductible or non-refundable value added tax (VAT)) are eligible, if they are calculated on the basis of the costs actually incurred, fulfil the general eligibility conditions and are awarded using the beneficiary's usual purchasing practices — provided these ensure subcontracts with best value for money (or if appropriate the lowest price) and that there is no conflict of interests (see Article 12).

Beneficiaries that are 'contracting authorities/entities' within the meaning of the EU Directives on public procurement must also comply with the applicable national law on public procurement.

Subcontracting may cover only a limited part of the action.

The tasks to be subcontracted and the estimated cost for each subcontract must be set out in Annex 1 and the total estimated costs of subcontracting per beneficiary must be set out in Annex 2 (or may be approved ex post in the periodic report, if the use of subcontracting does not entail changes to the Agreement which would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants; 'simplified approval procedure').

## **C. Purchase costs**

**Purchase costs** for the action (including related duties, taxes and charges, such as non-deductible or non-refundable value added tax (VAT)) are eligible if they fulfil the general eligibility conditions and are bought using the beneficiary's usual purchasing practices — provided these ensure purchases with

- 
- employing fewer than 250 persons (expressed in 'annual working units' as defined in Article 5 of the Recommendation) and which have an annual turnover not exceeding EUR 50 million, and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding EUR 43 million.

best value for money (or if appropriate the lowest price) and that there is no conflict of interests (see Article 12).

Beneficiaries that are ‘contracting authorities/entities’ within the meaning of the EU Directives on public procurement must also comply with the applicable national law on public procurement.

### **C.1 Travel and subsistence**

Purchases for **travel, accommodation and subsistence** must be calculated as follows:

- travel: on the basis of the costs actually incurred and in line with the beneficiary’s usual practices on travel
- accommodation: on the basis of the costs actually incurred and in line with the beneficiary’s usual practices on travel
- subsistence: on the basis of the costs actually incurred and in line with the beneficiary’s usual practices on travel .

### **C.2 Equipment**

Purchases of **equipment, infrastructure or other assets** specifically for the action (or developed as part of the action tasks) may be declared as full capitalised costs if they fulfil the eligibility conditions applicable to their respective cost categories.

‘Capitalised costs’ means:

- costs incurred in the purchase or for the development of the equipment, infrastructure or other assets and,
- which are recorded under a fixed asset account of the beneficiary in compliance with international accounting standards and the beneficiary’s usual cost accounting practices.

If such equipment, infrastructure or other assets are rented or leased, full costs for **renting or leasing** are eligible, if they do not exceed the depreciation costs of similar equipment, infrastructure or assets and do not include any financing fees.

### **C.3 Other goods, works and services**

Purchases of **other goods, works and services** must be calculated on the basis of the costs actually incurred.

Such goods, works and services include, for instance, consumables and supplies, promotion, dissemination, protection of results, translations, publications, certificates and financial guarantees, if required under the Agreement.

## **D. Other cost categories**

### **D.1 Financial support to third parties**

**Costs for providing financial support to third parties** (in the form of **grants, prizes** or similar forms of support; if any) are eligible, if and as declared eligible in the call conditions, if they fulfil the

general eligibility conditions, are calculated on the basis of the costs actually incurred and the support is implemented in accordance with the conditions set out in Annex 1.

These conditions must ensure objective and transparent selection procedures and include at least the following:

- (a) for grants (or similar):
  - (i) the maximum amount of financial support for each third party ('recipient'); this amount may not exceed the amount set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 3) or otherwise agreed with the granting authority
  - (ii) the criteria for calculating the exact amount of the financial support
  - (iii) the different types of activity that qualify for financial support, on the basis of a closed list
  - (iv) the persons or categories of persons that will be supported and
  - (v) the criteria and procedures for giving financial support
- (b) for prizes (or similar):
  - (i) the eligibility and award criteria
  - (ii) the amount of the prize and
  - (iii) the payment arrangements.

## **D.2 Land purchase**

Costs for land purchase from private entities (or long-term lease of land or one-off compensations for land use rights) are eligible, if and as declared eligible in the call conditions, if they fulfil the general eligibility conditions, are calculated on the basis of the costs actually incurred and:

- (a) the purchase will contribute to improving, maintaining and restoring the integrity of the Natura 2000 network set up pursuant to Article 3 of Directive 92/43/EEC, including through improving connectivity by the creation of corridors, stepping stones, or other elements of green infrastructure
- (b) land purchase is the only or most cost-effective way of achieving the desired conservation outcome
- (c) the land purchased is reserved in the long term for uses consistent with the specific objectives of the LIFE Programme
- (d) the Member State concerned ensures, by way of transfer or otherwise, the long-term assignment of such land to nature conservation purposes and the beneficiary documents this by ensuring that:
  - (i) the entry into the land register includes a condition that the land will be assigned definitively to nature conservation
  - (ii) or, if there is no land register or such a condition is not possible under national law, that

such a condition is either included in the land sale contract or guaranteed by equivalent means

- (e) for land purchases by private entity beneficiaries: the beneficiaries ensure the long-term conservation by ensuring that:
  - (i) the entry into the land register includes a condition that, in case of their dissolution or incapacity to manage the land according to nature conservation requirements, the property will be transferred to an entity primarily active in the field of nature protection
  - (ii) or, if there is no land register or such a condition is not possible under national law, that such a condition is either included in the land sale contract or guaranteed by equivalent means
- (f) for purchases of partial rights: the entry into the land register duly reflects the long-term nature conservation objectives and the requirements set out in this Article
- (g) for land purchased to be exchanged at a later date for another parcel on which the action will be undertaken: the exchange is carried out before the end of the action and the land exchanged complies with the requirements set out in this Article
- (h) for long-term leases: the lease is of at least 20 years and includes provisions and commitments that ensure the achievement of its objectives in terms of habitat and species protection.

This cost will not be taken into account for the indirect cost flat-rate.

### **Indirect costs**

#### **E. Indirect costs**

**Indirect costs** will be reimbursed at the flat-rate of 7% of the eligible direct costs (categories A-D, except volunteers costs and exempted specific cost categories, if any).

### **Contributions**

Not applicable

### **6.3 Ineligible costs and contributions**

The following costs or contributions are **ineligible**:

- (a) costs or contributions that do not comply with the conditions set out above (Article 6.1 and 6.2), in particular:
  - (i) costs related to return on capital and dividends paid by a beneficiary
  - (ii) debt and debt service charges
  - (iii) provisions for future losses or debts
  - (iv) interest owed
  - (v) currency exchange losses

- (vi) bank costs charged by the beneficiary's bank for transfers from the granting authority
  - (vii) excessive or reckless expenditure
  - (viii) deductible or refundable VAT (including VAT paid by public bodies acting as public authority)
  - (ix) costs incurred or contributions for activities implemented during grant agreement suspension (see Article 31)
  - (x) in-kind contributions by third parties
- (b) costs or contributions declared under other EU grants (or grants awarded by an EU Member State, non-EU country or other body implementing the EU budget), except for the following cases:
- (i) Synergy actions: not applicable
  - (ii) if the action grant is combined with an operating grant<sup>11</sup> running during the same period and the beneficiary can demonstrate that the operating grant does not cover any (direct or indirect) costs of the action grant
- (c) costs or contributions for staff of a national (or regional/local) administration, for activities that are part of the administration's normal activities (i.e. not undertaken only because of the grant)
- (d) costs or contributions (especially travel and subsistence) for staff or representatives of EU institutions, bodies or agencies
- (e) other :
- (i) country restrictions for eligible costs: not applicable
  - (ii) costs or contributions declared specifically ineligible in the call conditions.

## 6.4 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary declares costs or contributions that are ineligible, they will be rejected (see Article 27).

This may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## **CHAPTER 4 GRANT IMPLEMENTATION**

### **SECTION 1 CONSORTIUM: BENEFICIARIES, AFFILIATED ENTITIES AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS**

#### **ARTICLE 7 — BENEFICIARIES**

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<sup>11</sup> For the definition, see Article 180(2)(b) of EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046: ‘**operating grant**’ means an EU grant to finance “the functioning of a body which has an objective forming part of and supporting an EU policy”.

The beneficiaries, as signatories of the Agreement, are fully responsible towards the granting authority for implementing it and for complying with all its obligations.

They must implement the Agreement to their best abilities, in good faith and in accordance with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

They must have the appropriate resources to implement the action and implement the action under their own responsibility and in accordance with Article 11. If they rely on affiliated entities or other participants (see Articles 8 and 9), they retain sole responsibility towards the granting authority and the other beneficiaries.

They are jointly responsible for the *technical* implementation of the action. If one of the beneficiaries fails to implement their part of the action, the other beneficiaries must ensure that this part is implemented by someone else (without being entitled to an increase of the maximum grant amount and subject to an amendment; see Article 39). The *financial* responsibility of each beneficiary in case of recoveries is governed by Article 22.

The beneficiaries (and their action) must remain eligible under the EU programme funding the grant for the entire duration of the action. Costs and contributions will be eligible only as long as the beneficiary and the action are eligible.

The **internal roles and responsibilities** of the beneficiaries are divided as follows:

(a) Each beneficiary must:

- (i) keep information stored in the Portal Participant Register up to date (see Article 19)
- (ii) inform the granting authority (and the other beneficiaries) immediately of any events or circumstances likely to affect significantly or delay the implementation of the action (see Article 19)
- (iii) submit to the coordinator in good time:
  - the prefinancing guarantees (if required; see Article 23)
  - the financial statements and certificates on the financial statements (CFS) (if required; see Articles 21 and 24.2 and Data Sheet, Point 4.3)
  - the contribution to the deliverables and technical reports (see Article 21)
  - any other documents or information required by the granting authority under the Agreement
- (iv) submit via the Portal data and information related to the participation of their affiliated entities.

(b) The coordinator must:

- (i) monitor that the action is implemented properly (see Article 11)
- (ii) act as the intermediary for all communications between the consortium and the granting authority, unless the Agreement or granting authority specifies otherwise, and in particular:

- submit the prefinancing guarantees to the granting authority (if any)
  - request and review any documents or information required and verify their quality and completeness before passing them on to the granting authority
  - submit the deliverables and reports to the granting authority
  - inform the granting authority about the payments made to the other beneficiaries (report on the distribution of payments; if required, see Articles 22 and 32)
- (iii) distribute the payments received from the granting authority to the other beneficiaries without unjustified delay (see Article 22).

The coordinator may not delegate or subcontract the above-mentioned tasks to any other beneficiary or third party (including affiliated entities).

However, coordinators which are public bodies may delegate the tasks set out in Point (b)(ii) last indent and (iii) above to entities with ‘authorisation to administer’ which they have created or which are controlled by or affiliated to them. In this case, the coordinator retains sole responsibility for the payments and for compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

Moreover, coordinators which are ‘sole beneficiaries’<sup>12</sup> (or similar, such as European research infrastructure consortia (ERICs)) may delegate the tasks set out in Point (b)(i) to (iii) above to one of their members. The coordinator retains sole responsibility for compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

The beneficiaries must have **internal arrangements** regarding their operation and co-ordination, to ensure that the action is implemented properly.

If required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 1), these arrangements must be set out in a written **consortium agreement** between the beneficiaries, covering for instance:

- the internal organisation of the consortium
- the management of access to the Portal
- different distribution keys for the payments and financial responsibilities in case of recoveries (if any)
- additional rules on rights and obligations related to background and results (see Article 16)
- settlement of internal disputes
- liability, indemnification and confidentiality arrangements between the beneficiaries.

The internal arrangements must not contain any provision contrary to this Agreement.

## ARTICLE 8 — AFFILIATED ENTITIES

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<sup>12</sup> For the definition, see Article 187(2) EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046: “Where several entities satisfy the criteria for being awarded a grant and together form one entity, that entity may be treated as the **sole beneficiary**, including where it is specifically established for the purpose of implementing the action financed by the grant.”

Not applicable

## **ARTICLE 9 — OTHER PARTICIPANTS INVOLVED IN THE ACTION**

### **9.1 Associated partners**

Not applicable

### **9.2 Third parties giving in-kind contributions to the action**

Other third parties may give in-kind contributions to the action (i.e. personnel, equipment, other goods, works and services, etc. which are free-of-charge), if necessary for the implementation.

Third parties giving in-kind contributions do not implement any action tasks. They may not charge costs or contributions to the action and the costs for the in-kind contributions are not eligible.

The third parties and their in-kind contributions should be set out in Annex 1.

### **9.3 Subcontractors**

Subcontractors may participate in the action, if necessary for the implementation.

Subcontractors must implement their action tasks in accordance with Article 11. The costs for the subcontracted tasks (invoiced price from the subcontractor) are eligible and may be charged by the beneficiaries, under the conditions set out in Article 6. The costs will be included in Annex 2 as part of the beneficiaries' costs.

The beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 11 (proper implementation), 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the subcontractors.

The beneficiaries must ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the subcontractors.

### **9.4 Recipients of financial support to third parties**

If the action includes providing financial support to third parties (e.g. grants, prizes or similar forms of support), the beneficiaries must ensure that their contractual obligations under Articles 12 (conflict of interest), 13 (confidentiality and security), 14 (ethics), 17.2 (visibility), 18 (specific rules for carrying out action), 19 (information) and 20 (record-keeping) also apply to the third parties receiving the support (recipients).

The beneficiaries must also ensure that the bodies mentioned in Article 25 (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.) can exercise their rights also towards the recipients.

## **ARTICLE 10 — PARTICIPANTS WITH SPECIAL STATUS**

### **10.1 Non-EU participants**



Participants which are established in a non-EU country (if any) undertake to comply with their obligations under the Agreement and:

- to respect general principles (including fundamental rights, values and ethical principles, environmental and labour standards, rules on classified information, intellectual property rights, visibility of funding and protection of personal data)
- for the submission of certificates under Article 24: to use qualified external auditors which are independent and comply with comparable standards as those set out in EU Directive 2006/43/EC<sup>13</sup>
- for the controls under Article 25: to allow for checks, reviews, audits and investigations (including on-the-spot checks, visits and inspections) by the bodies mentioned in that Article (e.g. granting authority, OLAF, Court of Auditors (ECA), etc.).

Special rules on dispute settlement apply (see Data Sheet, Point 5).

## 10.2 Participants which are international organisations

Participants which are international organisations (IOs; if any) undertake to comply with their obligations under the Agreement and:

- to respect general principles (including fundamental rights, values and ethical principles, environmental and labour standards, rules on classified information, intellectual property rights, visibility of funding and protection of personal data)
- for the submission of certificates under Article 24: to use either independent public officers or external auditors which comply with comparable standards as those set out in EU Directive 2006/43/EC
- for the controls under Article 25: to allow for the checks, reviews, audits and investigations by the bodies mentioned in that Article, taking into account the specific agreements concluded by them and the EU (if any).

For such participants, nothing in the Agreement will be interpreted as a waiver of their privileges or immunities, as accorded by their constituent documents or international law.

Special rules on applicable law and dispute settlement apply (see Article 43 and Data Sheet, Point 5).

## 10.3 Pillar-assessed participants

Pillar-assessed participants (if any) may rely on their own systems, rules and procedures, in so far as they have been positively assessed and do not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries.

‘Pillar-assessment’ means a review by the European Commission on the systems, rules and procedures which participants use for managing EU grants (in particular internal control system, accounting system, external audits, financing of third parties, rules on recovery and exclusion, information on recipients and protection of personal data; see Article 154 EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046).

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<sup>13</sup> Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts or similar national regulations (OJ L 157, 9.6.2006, p. 87).

Participants with a positive pillar assessment may rely on their own systems, rules and procedures, in particular for:

- record-keeping (Article 20): may be done in accordance with internal standards, rules and procedures
- currency conversion for financial statements (Article 21): may be done in accordance with usual accounting practices
- guarantees (Article 23): for public law bodies, prefinancing guarantees are not needed
- certificates (Article 24):
  - certificates on the financial statements (CFS): may be provided by their regular internal or external auditors and in accordance with their internal financial regulations and procedures
  - certificates on usual accounting practices (CoMUC): are not needed if those practices are covered by an ex-ante assessment

and use the following specific rules, for:

- recoveries (Article 22): in case of financial support to third parties, there will be no recovery if the participant has done everything possible to retrieve the undue amounts from the third party receiving the support (including legal proceedings) and non-recovery is not due to an error or negligence on its part
- checks, reviews, audits and investigations by the EU (Article 25): will be conducted taking into account the rules and procedures specifically agreed between them and the framework agreement (if any)
- impact evaluation (Article 26): will be conducted in accordance with the participant's internal rules and procedures and the framework agreement (if any)
- grant agreement suspension (Article 31): certain costs incurred during grant suspension are eligible (notably, minimum costs necessary for a possible resumption of the action and costs relating to contracts which were entered into before the pre-information letter was received and which could not reasonably be suspended, reallocated or terminated on legal grounds)
- grant agreement termination (Article 32): the final grant amount and final payment will be calculated taking into account also costs relating to contracts due for execution only after termination takes effect, if the contract was entered into before the pre-information letter was received and could not reasonably be terminated on legal grounds
- liability for damages (Article 33.2): the granting authority must be compensated for damage it sustains as a result of the implementation of the action or because the action was not implemented in full compliance with the Agreement only if the damage is due to an infringement of the participant's internal rules and procedures or due to a violation of third parties' rights by the participant or one of its employees or individual for whom the employees are responsible.

Participants whose pillar assessment covers procurement and granting procedures may also do

purchases, subcontracting and financial support to third parties (Article 6.2) in accordance with their internal rules and procedures for purchases, subcontracting and financial support.

Participants whose pillar assessment covers data protection rules may rely on their internal standards, rules and procedures for data protection (Article 15).

The participants may however not rely on provisions which would breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries or call into question the decision awarding the grant, such as in particular:

- eligibility (Article 6)
- consortium roles and set-up (Articles 7-9)
- security and ethics (Articles 13, 14)
- IPR (including background and results, access rights and rights of use), communication, dissemination and visibility (Articles 16 and 17)
- information obligation (Article 19)
- payment, reporting and amendments (Articles 21, 22 and 39)
- rejections, reductions, suspensions and terminations (Articles 27, 28, 29-32)

If the pillar assessment was subject to remedial measures, reliance on the internal systems, rules and procedures is subject to compliance with those remedial measures.

Participants whose assessment has not yet been updated to cover (the new rules on) data protection may rely on their internal systems, rules and procedures, provided that they ensure that personal data is:

- processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subject
- collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes
- adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date
- kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the data is processed and
- processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the personal data.

Participants must inform the coordinator without delay of any changes to the systems, rules and procedures that were part of the pillar assessment. The coordinator must immediately inform the granting authority.

Pillar-assessed participants that have also concluded a framework agreement with the EU, may moreover — under the same conditions as those above (i.e. not call into question the decision awarding

the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants or beneficiaries) — rely on the provisions set out in that framework agreement.

## **SECTION 2 RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION**

### **ARTICLE 11 — PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION**

#### **11.1 Obligation to properly implement the action**

The beneficiaries must implement the action as described in Annex 1 and in compliance with the provisions of the Agreement, the call conditions and all legal obligations under applicable EU, international and national law.

#### **11.2 Consequences of non-compliance**

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

### **ARTICLE 12 — CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

#### **12.1 Conflict of interests**

The beneficiaries must take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective implementation of the Agreement could be compromised for reasons involving family, emotional life, political or national affinity, economic interest or any other direct or indirect interest ('conflict of interests').

They must formally notify the granting authority without delay of any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation.

The granting authority may verify that the measures taken are appropriate and may require additional measures to be taken by a specified deadline.

#### **12.2 Consequences of non-compliance**

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28) and the grant or the beneficiary may be terminated (see Article 32).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

### **ARTICLE 13 — CONFIDENTIALITY AND SECURITY**

#### **13.1 Sensitive information**

The parties must keep confidential any data, documents or other material (in any form) that is identified as sensitive in writing ('sensitive information') — during the implementation of the action and for at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6).

If a beneficiary requests, the granting authority may agree to keep such information confidential for a longer period.

Unless otherwise agreed between the parties, they may use sensitive information only to implement the Agreement.

The beneficiaries may disclose sensitive information to their personnel or other participants involved in the action only if they:

- (a) need to know it in order to implement the Agreement and
- (b) are bound by an obligation of confidentiality.

The granting authority may disclose sensitive information to its staff and to other EU institutions and bodies.

It may moreover disclose sensitive information to third parties, if:

- (a) this is necessary to implement the Agreement or safeguard the EU financial interests and
- (b) the recipients of the information are bound by an obligation of confidentiality.

The confidentiality obligations no longer apply if:

- (a) the disclosing party agrees to release the other party
- (b) the information becomes publicly available, without breaching any confidentiality obligation
- (c) the disclosure of the sensitive information is required by EU, international or national law.

Specific confidentiality rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### **13.2 Classified information**

The parties must handle classified information in accordance with the applicable EU, international or national law on classified information (in particular, Decision 2015/444<sup>14</sup> and its implementing rules).

Deliverables which contain classified information must be submitted according to special procedures agreed with the granting authority.

Action tasks involving classified information may be subcontracted only after explicit approval (in writing) from the granting authority.

Classified information may not be disclosed to any third party (including participants involved in the action implementation) without prior explicit written approval from the granting authority.

Specific security rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### **13.3 Consequences of non-compliance**

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<sup>14</sup> Commission Decision 2015/444/EC, Euratom of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## **ARTICLE 14 — ETHICS AND VALUES**

### **14.1 Ethics**

The action must be carried out in line with the highest ethical standards and the applicable EU, international and national law on ethical principles.

Specific ethics rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### **14.2 Values**

The beneficiaries must commit to and ensure the respect of basic EU values (such as respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and human rights, including the rights of minorities).

Specific rules on values (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### **14.3 Consequences of non-compliance**

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## **ARTICLE 15 — DATA PROTECTION**

### **15.1 Data processing by the granting authority**

Any personal data under the Agreement will be processed under the responsibility of the data controller of the granting authority in accordance with and for the purposes set out in the Portal Privacy Statement.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission, an EU regulatory or executive agency, joint undertaking or other EU body, the processing will be subject to Regulation 2018/1725<sup>15</sup>.

### **15.2 Data processing by the beneficiaries**

The beneficiaries must process personal data under the Agreement in compliance with the applicable EU, international and national law on data protection (in particular, Regulation 2016/679<sup>16</sup>).

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<sup>15</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39).

<sup>16</sup> Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC ('GDPR') (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1).

They must ensure that personal data is:

- processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner in relation to the data subjects
- collected for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes and not further processed in a manner that is incompatible with those purposes
- adequate, relevant and limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes for which they are processed
- accurate and, where necessary, kept up to date
- kept in a form which permits identification of data subjects for no longer than is necessary for the purposes for which the data is processed and
- processed in a manner that ensures appropriate security of the data.

The beneficiaries may grant their personnel access to personal data only if it is strictly necessary for implementing, managing and monitoring the Agreement. The beneficiaries must ensure that the personnel is under a confidentiality obligation.

The beneficiaries must inform the persons whose data are transferred to the granting authority and provide them with the Portal Privacy Statement.

### **15.3 Consequences of non-compliance**

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## **ARTICLE 16 — INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) — BACKGROUND AND RESULTS — ACCESS RIGHTS AND RIGHTS OF USE**

### **16.1 Background and access rights to background**

The beneficiaries must give each other and the other participants access to the background identified as needed for implementing the action, subject to any specific rules in Annex 5.

‘Background’ means any data, know-how or information — whatever its form or nature (tangible or intangible), including any rights such as intellectual property rights — that is:

- (a) held by the beneficiaries before they acceded to the Agreement and
- (b) needed to implement the action or exploit the results.

If background is subject to rights of a third party, the beneficiary concerned must ensure that it is able to comply with its obligations under the Agreement.

### **16.2 Ownership of results**

The granting authority does not obtain ownership of the results produced under the action.



‘Results’ means any tangible or intangible effect of the action, such as data, know-how or information, whatever its form or nature, whether or not it can be protected, as well as any rights attached to it, including intellectual property rights.

### **16.3 Rights of use of the granting authority on materials, documents and information received for policy, information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes**

The granting authority has the right to use non-sensitive information relating to the action and materials and documents received from the beneficiaries (notably summaries for publication, deliverables, as well as any other material, such as pictures or audio-visual material, in paper or electronic form) for policy, information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes — during the action or afterwards.

The right to use the beneficiaries’ materials, documents and information is granted in the form of a royalty-free, non-exclusive and irrevocable licence, which includes the following rights:

- (a) **use for its own purposes** (in particular, making them available to persons working for the granting authority or any other EU service (including institutions, bodies, offices, agencies, etc.) or EU Member State institution or body; copying or reproducing them in whole or in part, in unlimited numbers; and communication through press information services)
- (b) **distribution to the public** (in particular, publication as hard copies and in electronic or digital format, publication on the internet, as a downloadable or non-downloadable file, broadcasting by any channel, public display or presentation, communicating through press information services, or inclusion in widely accessible databases or indexes)
- (c) **editing or redrafting** (including shortening, summarising, inserting other elements (e.g. meta-data, legends, other graphic, visual, audio or text elements), extracting parts (e.g. audio or video files), dividing into parts, use in a compilation)
- (d) **translation**
- (e) **storage** in paper, electronic or other form
- (f) **archiving**, in line with applicable document-management rules
- (g) the right to authorise **third parties** to act on its behalf or sub-license to third parties the modes of use set out in Points (b), (c), (d) and (f), if needed for the information, communication and publicity activity of the granting authority
- (h) **processing**, analysing, aggregating the materials, documents and information received and **producing derivative works**.

The rights of use are granted for the whole duration of the industrial or intellectual property rights concerned.

If materials or documents are subject to moral rights or third party rights (including intellectual property rights or rights of natural persons on their image and voice), the beneficiaries must ensure that they comply with their obligations under this Agreement (in particular, by obtaining the necessary licences and authorisations from the rights holders concerned).

Where applicable, the granting authority will insert the following information:



“© – [year] – [name of the copyright owner]. All rights reserved. Licensed to the [name of granting authority] under conditions.”

#### **16.4 Specific rules on IPR, results and background**

Specific rules regarding intellectual property rights, results and background (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

#### **16.5 Consequences of non-compliance**

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such a breach may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

### **ARTICLE 17 — COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY**

#### **17.1 Communication — Dissemination — Promoting the action**

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, the beneficiaries must promote the action and its results by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public), in accordance with Annex 1 and in a strategic, coherent and effective manner.

Before engaging in a communication or dissemination activity expected to have a major media impact, the beneficiaries must inform the granting authority.

#### **17.2 Visibility — European flag and funding statement**

Unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority, communication activities of the beneficiaries related to the action (including media relations, conferences, seminars, information material, such as brochures, leaflets, posters, presentations, etc., in electronic form, via traditional or social media, etc.), dissemination activities and any infrastructure, equipment, vehicles, supplies or major result funded by the grant must acknowledge EU support and display the European flag (emblem) and funding statement (translated into local languages, where appropriate):



Funded by the  
European Union



Co-funded by the  
European Union



Funded by the  
European Union



Co-funded by the  
European Union

The emblem must remain distinct and separate and cannot be modified by adding other visual marks, brands or text.

Apart from the emblem, no other visual identity or logo may be used to highlight the EU support.

When displayed in association with other logos (e.g. of beneficiaries or sponsors), the emblem must be displayed at least as prominently and visibly as the other logos.

For the purposes of their obligations under this Article, the beneficiaries may use the emblem without first obtaining approval from the granting authority. This does not, however, give them the right to exclusive use. Moreover, they may not appropriate the emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

### **17.3 Quality of information — Disclaimer**

Any communication or dissemination activity related to the action must use factually accurate information.

Moreover, it must indicate the following disclaimer (translated into local languages where appropriate):

“Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or [name of the granting authority]. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.”

### **17.4 Specific communication, dissemination and visibility rules**

Specific communication, dissemination and visibility rules (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### **17.5 Consequences of non-compliance**

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## **ARTICLE 18 — SPECIFIC RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION**

### **18.1 Specific rules for carrying out the action**

Specific rules for implementing the action (if any) are set out in Annex 5.

### **18.2 Consequences of non-compliance**

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such a breach may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

### **SECTION 3 GRANT ADMINISTRATION**

#### **ARTICLE 19 — GENERAL INFORMATION OBLIGATIONS**

##### **19.1 Information requests**

The beneficiaries must provide — during the action or afterwards and in accordance with Article 7 — any information requested in order to verify eligibility of the costs or contributions declared, proper implementation of the action and compliance with the other obligations under the Agreement.

The information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

##### **19.2 Participant Register data updates**

The beneficiaries must keep — at all times, during the action or afterwards — their information stored in the Portal Participant Register up to date, in particular, their name, address, legal representatives, legal form and organisation type.

##### **19.3 Information about events and circumstances which impact the action**

The beneficiaries must immediately inform the granting authority (and the other beneficiaries) of any of the following:

- (a) **events** which are likely to affect or delay the implementation of the action or affect the EU's financial interests, in particular:
  - (i) changes in their legal, financial, technical, organisational or ownership situation (including changes linked to one of the exclusion grounds listed in the declaration of honour signed before grant signature)
  - (ii) linked action information: not applicable
- (b) **circumstances** affecting:
  - (i) the decision to award the grant or
  - (ii) compliance with requirements under the Agreement.

##### **19.4 Consequences of non-compliance**

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 20 — RECORD-KEEPING

### 20.1 Keeping records and supporting documents

The beneficiaries must — at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6) — keep records and other supporting documents to prove the proper implementation of the action in line with the accepted standards in the respective field (if any).

In addition, the beneficiaries must — for the same period — keep the following to justify the amounts declared:

- (a) for actual costs: adequate records and supporting documents to prove the costs declared (such as contracts, subcontracts, invoices and accounting records); in addition, the beneficiaries' usual accounting and internal control procedures must enable direct reconciliation between the amounts declared, the amounts recorded in their accounts and the amounts stated in the supporting documents
- (b) for flat-rate costs and contributions (if any): adequate records and supporting documents to prove the eligibility of the costs or contributions to which the flat-rate is applied
- (c) for the following simplified costs and contributions: the beneficiaries do not need to keep specific records on the actual costs incurred, but must keep:
  - (i) for unit costs and contributions (if any): adequate records and supporting documents to prove the number of units declared
  - (ii) for lump sum costs and contributions (if any): adequate records and supporting documents to prove proper implementation of the work as described in Annex 1
  - (iii) for financing not linked to costs (if any): adequate records and supporting documents to prove the achievement of the results or the fulfilment of the conditions as described in Annex 1
- (d) for unit, flat-rate and lump sum costs and contributions according to usual cost accounting practices (if any): the beneficiaries must keep any adequate records and supporting documents to prove that their cost accounting practices have been applied in a consistent manner, based on objective criteria, regardless of the source of funding, and that they comply with the eligibility conditions set out in Articles 6.1 and 6.2.

Moreover, the following is needed for specific budget categories:

- (e) for personnel costs: time worked for the beneficiary under the action must be supported by declarations signed monthly by the person and their supervisor, unless another reliable time-record system is in place; the granting authority may accept alternative evidence supporting the time worked for the action declared, if it considers that it offers an adequate level of assurance
- (f) additional record-keeping rules: not applicable

The records and supporting documents must be made available upon request (see Article 19) or in the context of checks, reviews, audits or investigations (see Article 25).

If there are on-going checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation or other pursuits of claims under the Agreement (including the extension of findings; see Article 25), the beneficiaries must keep these records and other supporting documentation until the end of these procedures.

The beneficiaries must keep the original documents. Digital and digitalised documents are considered originals if they are authorised by the applicable national law. The granting authority may accept non-original documents if they offer a comparable level of assurance.

## 20.2 Consequences of non-compliance

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, costs or contributions insufficiently substantiated will be ineligible (see Article 6) and will be rejected (see Article 27), and the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 21 — REPORTING

### 21.1 Continuous reporting

The beneficiaries must continuously report on the progress of the action (e.g. **deliverables, milestones, outputs/outcomes, critical risks, indicators**, etc; if any), in the Portal Continuous Reporting tool and in accordance with the timing and conditions it sets out (as agreed with the granting authority).

Standardised deliverables (e.g. progress reports not linked to payments, reports on cumulative expenditure, special reports, etc; if any) must be submitted using the templates published on the Portal.

### 21.2 Periodic reporting: Technical reports and financial statements

In addition, the beneficiaries must provide reports to request payments, in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2):

- for additional prefinancings (if any): an **additional prefinancing report**
- for interim payments (if any) and the final payment: a **periodic report**.

The prefinancing and periodic reports include a technical and financial part.

The technical part includes an overview of the action implementation. It must be prepared using the template available in the Portal Periodic Reporting tool.

The financial part of the additional prefinancing report includes a statement on the use of the previous prefinancing payment.

The financial part of the periodic report includes:

- the financial statements (individual and consolidated; for all beneficiaries/affiliated entities)
- the explanation on the use of resources (or detailed cost reporting table, if required)

- the certificates on the financial statements (CFS) (if required; see Article 24.2 and Data Sheet, Point 4.3).

The **financial statements** must detail the eligible costs and contributions for each budget category and, for the final payment, also the revenues for the action (see Articles 6 and 22).

All eligible costs and contributions incurred should be declared, even if they exceed the amounts indicated in the estimated budget (see Annex 2). Amounts that are not declared in the individual financial statements will not be taken into account by the granting authority.

By signing the financial statements (directly in the Portal Periodic Reporting tool), the beneficiaries confirm that:

- the information provided is complete, reliable and true
- the costs and contributions declared are eligible (see Article 6)
- the costs and contributions can be substantiated by adequate records and supporting documents (see Article 20) that will be produced upon request (see Article 19) or in the context of checks, reviews, audits and investigations (see Article 25)
- for the final periodic report: all the revenues have been declared (if required; see Article 22).

Beneficiaries will have to submit also the financial statements of their affiliated entities (if any). In case of recoveries (see Article 22), beneficiaries will be held responsible also for the financial statements of their affiliated entities.

### **21.3 Currency for financial statements and conversion into euros**

The financial statements must be drafted in euro.

Beneficiaries with general accounts established in a currency other than the euro must convert the costs recorded in their accounts into euro, at the average of the daily exchange rates published in the C series of the *Official Journal of the European Union* (ECB website), calculated over the corresponding reporting period.

If no daily euro exchange rate is published in the *Official Journal* for the currency in question, they must be converted at the average of the monthly accounting exchange rates published on the European Commission website (InforEuro), calculated over the corresponding reporting period.

Beneficiaries with general accounts in euro must convert costs incurred in another currency into euro according to their usual accounting practices.

### **21.4 Reporting language**

The reporting must be in the language of the Agreement, unless otherwise agreed with the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

### **21.5 Consequences of non-compliance**

If a report submitted does not comply with this Article, the granting authority may suspend the payment deadline (see Article 29) and apply other measures described in Chapter 5.

If the coordinator breaches its reporting obligations, the granting authority may terminate the grant or the coordinator's participation (see Article 32) or apply other measures described in Chapter 5.

## **ARTICLE 22 — PAYMENTS AND RECOVERIES — CALCULATION OF AMOUNTS DUE**

### **22.1 Payments and payment arrangements**

Payments will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

They will be made in euro to the bank account indicated by the coordinator (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2) and must be distributed without unjustified delay (restrictions may apply to distribution of the initial prefinancing payment; see Data Sheet, Point 4.2).

Payments to this bank account will discharge the granting authority from its payment obligation.

The cost of payment transfers will be borne as follows:

- the granting authority bears the cost of transfers charged by its bank
- the beneficiary bears the cost of transfers charged by its bank
- the party causing a repetition of a transfer bears all costs of the repeated transfer.

Payments by the granting authority will be considered to have been carried out on the date when they are debited to its account.

### **22.2 Recoveries**

Recoveries will be made, if — at beneficiary termination, final payment or afterwards — it turns out that the granting authority has paid too much and needs to recover the amounts undue.

The general liability regime for recoveries (first-line liability) is as follows: At final payment, the coordinator will be fully liable for recoveries, even if it has not been the final recipient of the undue amounts. At beneficiary termination or after final payment, recoveries will be made directly against the beneficiaries concerned.

Beneficiaries will be fully liable for repaying the debts of their affiliated entities.

In case of enforced recoveries (see Article 22.4):

- the beneficiaries will be jointly and severally liable for repaying debts of another beneficiary under the Agreement (including late-payment interest), if required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)
- affiliated entities will be held liable for repaying debts of their beneficiaries under the Agreement (including late-payment interest), if required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.4).

### **22.3 Amounts due**

### 22.3.1 Prefinancing payments

The aim of the prefinancing is to provide the beneficiaries with a float.

It remains the property of the EU until the final payment.

For **initial prefinancings** (if any), the amount due, schedule and modalities are set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

For **additional prefinancings** (if any), the amount due, schedule and modalities are also set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2). However, if the statement on the use of the previous prefinancing payment shows that less than 70% was used, the amount set out in the Data Sheet will be reduced by the difference between the 70% threshold and the amount used.

Prefinancing payments (or parts of them) may be offset (without the beneficiaries' consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

### 22.3.2 Amount due at beneficiary termination — Recovery

In case of beneficiary termination, the granting authority will determine the provisional amount due for the beneficiary concerned. Payments (if any) will be made with the next interim or final payment.

The **amount due** will be calculated in the following step:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

#### Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the 'accepted EU contribution' for the beneficiary for all reporting periods, by calculating the 'maximum EU contribution to costs' (applying the funding rate to the accepted costs of the beneficiary), taking into account requests for a lower contribution to costs and CFS threshold cappings (if any; see Article 24.5) and adding the contributions (accepted unit, flat-rate or lump sum contributions and financing not linked to costs, if any).

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting amount is the 'total accepted EU contribution' for the beneficiary.

The **balance** is then calculated by deducting the payments received (if any; see report on the distribution of payments in Article 32), from the total accepted EU contribution:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{\{total accepted EU contribution for the beneficiary} \\ \text{minus} \\ \text{\{prefinancing and interim payments received (if any)\}} \end{array} \right\}$$



If the balance is **positive**, the amount will be included in the next interim or final payment to the consortium.

If the balance is **negative**, it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the amount due, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered and ask this amount to be paid to the coordinator (**confirmation letter**).

The amounts will later on also be taken into account for the next interim or final payment.

### 22.3.3 Interim payments

Interim payments reimburse the eligible costs and contributions claimed for the implementation of the action during the reporting periods (if any).

Interim payments (if any) will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Payment is subject to the approval of the periodic report. Its approval does not imply recognition of compliance, authenticity, completeness or correctness of its content.

The **interim payment** will be calculated by the granting authority in the following steps:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 2 — Limit to the interim payment ceiling

#### Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will calculate the ‘accepted EU contribution’ for the action for the reporting period, by first calculating the ‘maximum EU contribution to costs’ (applying the funding rate to the accepted costs of each beneficiary), taking into account requests for a lower contribution to costs, and CFS threshold cappings (if any; see Article 24.5) and adding the contributions (accepted unit, flat-rate or lump sum contributions and financing not linked to costs, if any).

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions from beneficiary termination (if any). The resulting amount is the ‘total accepted EU contribution’.

#### Step 2 — Limit to the interim payment ceiling

The resulting amount is then capped to ensure that the total amount of prefinancing and interim payments (if any) does not exceed the interim payment ceiling set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Interim payments (or parts of them) may be offset (without the beneficiaries’ consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

#### **22.3.4 Final payment — Final grant amount — Revenues and Profit — Recovery**

The final payment (payment of the balance) reimburses the remaining part of the eligible costs and contributions claimed for the implementation of the action (if any).

The final payment will be made in accordance with the schedule and modalities set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2).

Payment is subject to the approval of the final periodic report. Its approval does not imply recognition of compliance, authenticity, completeness or correctness of its content.

The **final grant amount for the action** will be calculated in the following steps:

Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

Step 2 — Limit to the maximum grant amount

Step 3 — Reduction due to the no-profit rule

##### Step 1 — Calculation of the total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the ‘accepted EU contribution’ for the action for all reporting periods, by calculating the ‘maximum EU contribution to costs’ (applying the funding rate to the total accepted costs of each beneficiary), taking into account requests for a lower contribution to costs, CFS threshold cappings (if any; see Article 24.5) and adding the contributions (accepted unit, flat-rate or lump sum contributions and financing not linked to costs, if any).

After that, the granting authority will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting amount is the ‘total accepted EU contribution’.

##### Step 2 — Limit to the maximum grant amount

If the resulting amount is higher than the maximum grant amount set out in Article 5.2, it will be limited to the latter.

##### Step 3 — Reduction due to the no-profit rule

If the no-profit rule is provided for in the Data Sheet (see Point 4.2), the grant must not produce a profit (i.e. surplus of the amount obtained following Step 2 plus the action’s revenues, over the eligible costs and contributions approved by the granting authority).

‘Revenue’ is all income generated by the action, during its duration (see Article 4), for beneficiaries that are profit legal entities.

If there is a profit, it will be deducted in proportion to the final rate of reimbursement of the eligible

costs approved by the granting authority (as compared to the amount calculated following Steps 1 and 2 minus the contributions).

The **balance** (final payment) is then calculated by deducting the total amount of prefinancing and interim payments already made (if any), from the final grant amount:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{final grant amount} \\ \text{minus} \\ \text{prefinancing and interim payments made (if any)} \end{array} \right\}.$$

If the balance is **positive**, it will be **paid** to the coordinator.

The final payment (or part of it) may be offset (without the beneficiaries' consent) against amounts owed by a beneficiary to the granting authority — up to the amount due to that beneficiary.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, offsetting may also be done against amounts owed to other Commission services or executive agencies.

Payments will not be made if the payment deadline or payments are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30).

If the balance is **negative**, it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the final grant amount, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered (**confirmation letter**), together with a **debit note** with the terms and date for payment.

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the granting authority will **enforce recovery** in accordance with Article 22.4.

### 22.3.5 Audit implementation after final payment — Revised final grant amount — Recovery

If — after the final payment (in particular, after checks, reviews, audits or investigations; see Article 25) — the granting authority rejects costs or contributions (see Article 27) or reduces the grant (see Article 28), it will calculate the **revised final grant amount** for the beneficiary concerned.

The **beneficiary revised final grant amount** will be calculated in the following step:

Step 1 — Calculation of the revised total accepted EU contribution

#### Step 1 — Calculation of the revised total accepted EU contribution

The granting authority will first calculate the 'revised accepted EU contribution' for the beneficiary, by calculating the 'revised accepted costs' and 'revised accepted contributions'.

After that, it will take into account grant reductions (if any). The resulting ‘revised total accepted EU contribution’ is the beneficiary revised final grant amount.

If the revised final grant amount is lower than the beneficiary’s final grant amount (i.e. its share in the final grant amount for the action), it will be **recovered** in accordance with the following procedure:

The **beneficiary final grant amount** (i.e. share in the final grant amount for the action) is calculated as follows:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{\{total accepted EU contribution for the beneficiary} \\ \text{divided by} \\ \text{total accepted EU contribution for the action\}} \\ \text{multiplied by} \\ \text{final grant amount for the action\}}. \end{array} \right.$$

The granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to recover, the amount to be recovered and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If no observations are submitted (or the granting authority decides to pursue recovery despite the observations it has received), it will confirm the amount to be recovered (**confirmation letter**), together with a **debit note** with the terms and the date for payment.

Recoveries against affiliated entities (if any) will be handled through their beneficiaries.

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the granting authority will **enforce recovery** in accordance with Article 22.4.

## 22.4 Enforced recovery

If payment is not made by the date specified in the debit note, the amount due will be recovered:

- (a) by offsetting the amount — without the coordinator or beneficiary’s consent — against any amounts owed to the coordinator or beneficiary by the granting authority.

In exceptional circumstances, to safeguard the EU financial interests, the amount may be offset before the payment date specified in the debit note.

For grants where the granting authority is the European Commission or an EU executive agency, debts may also be offset against amounts owed by other Commission services or executive agencies.

- (b) by drawing on the financial guarantee(s) (if any)
- (c) by holding other beneficiaries jointly and severally liable (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)
- (d) by holding affiliated entities jointly and severally liable (if any, see Data Sheet, Point 4.4)
- (e) by taking legal action (see Article 43) or, provided that the granting authority is the European

Commission or an EU executive agency, by adopting an enforceable decision under Article 299 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) and Article 100(2) of EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046.

The amount to be recovered will be increased by **late-payment interest** at the rate set out in Article 22.5, from the day following the payment date in the debit note, up to and including the date the full payment is received.

Partial payments will be first credited against expenses, charges and late-payment interest and then against the principal.

Bank charges incurred in the recovery process will be borne by the beneficiary, unless Directive 2015/2366<sup>17</sup> applies.

For grants where the granting authority is an EU executive agency, enforced recovery by offsetting or enforceable decision will be done by the services of the European Commission (see also Article 43).

## 22.5 Consequences of non-compliance

**22.5.1** If the granting authority does not pay within the payment deadlines (see above), the beneficiaries are entitled to **late-payment interest** at the rate applied by the European Central Bank (ECB) for its main refinancing operations in euros ('reference rate'), plus the rate specified in the Data Sheet (Point 4.2). The reference rate is the rate in force on the first day of the month in which the payment deadline expires, as published in the C series of the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

If the late-payment interest is lower than or equal to EUR 200, it will be paid to the coordinator only on request submitted within two months of receiving the late payment.

Late-payment interest is not due if all beneficiaries are EU Member States (including regional and local government authorities or other public bodies acting on behalf of a Member State for the purpose of this Agreement).

If payments or the payment deadline are suspended (see Articles 29 and 30), payment will not be considered as late.

Late-payment interest covers the period running from the day following the due date for payment (see above), up to and including the date of payment.

Late-payment interest is not considered for the purposes of calculating the final grant amount.

**22.5.2** If the coordinator breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the grant may be reduced (see Article 29) and the grant or the coordinator may be terminated (see Article 32).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## ARTICLE 23 — GUARANTEES

### 23.1 Prefinancing guarantee

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<sup>17</sup> Directive (EU) 2015/2366 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on payment services in the internal market, amending Directives 2002/65/EC, 2009/110/EC and 2013/36/EU and Regulation (EU) No 1093/2010, and repealing Directive 2007/64/EC (OJ L 337, 23.12.2015, p. 35).

If required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2), the beneficiaries must provide (one or more) prefinancing guarantee(s) in accordance with the timing and the amounts set out in the Data Sheet.

The coordinator must submit them to the granting authority in due time before the prefinancing they are linked to.

The guarantees must be drawn up using the template published on the Portal and fulfil the following conditions:

- (a) be provided by a bank or approved financial institution established in the EU or — if requested by the coordinator and accepted by the granting authority — by a third party or a bank or financial institution established outside the EU offering equivalent security
- (b) the guarantor stands as first-call guarantor and does not require the granting authority to first have recourse against the principal debtor (i.e. the beneficiary concerned) and
- (c) remain explicitly in force until the final payment and, if the final payment takes the form of a recovery, until five months after the debit note is notified to a beneficiary.

They will be released within the following month.

## **23.2 Consequences of non-compliance**

If the beneficiaries breach their obligation to provide the prefinancing guarantee, the prefinancing will not be paid.

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## **ARTICLE 24 — CERTIFICATES**

### **24.1 Operational verification report (OVR)**

Not applicable

### **24.2 Certificate on the financial statements (CFS)**

If required by the granting authority (see Data Sheet, Point 4.3), the beneficiaries must provide certificates on their financial statements (CFS), in accordance with the schedule, threshold and conditions set out in the Data Sheet.

The coordinator must submit them as part of the periodic report (see Article 21).

The certificates must be drawn up using the template published on the Portal, cover the costs declared on the basis of actual costs and costs according to usual cost accounting practices (if any), and fulfil the following conditions:

- (a) be provided by a qualified approved external auditor which is independent and complies with Directive 2006/43/EC<sup>18</sup> (or for public bodies: by a competent independent public officer)

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<sup>18</sup> Directive 2006/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2006 on statutory audits of annual accounts and consolidated accounts or similar national regulations (OJ L 157, 9.6.2006, p. 87).

- (b) the verification must be carried out according to the highest professional standards to ensure that the financial statements comply with the provisions under the Agreement and that the costs declared are eligible.

The certificates will not affect the granting authority's right to carry out its own checks, reviews or audits, nor preclude the European Court of Auditors (ECA), the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) or the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) from using their prerogatives for audits and investigations under the Agreement (see Article 25).

If the costs (or a part of them) were already audited by the granting authority, these costs do not need to be covered by the certificate and will not be counted for calculating the threshold (if any).

### **24.3 Certificate on the compliance of usual cost accounting practices (CoMUC)**

Not applicable

### **24.4 Systems and process audit (SPA)**

Not applicable

### **24.5 Consequences of non-compliance**

If a beneficiary does not submit a certificate on the financial statements (CFS) or the certificate is rejected, the accepted EU contribution to costs will be capped to reflect the CFS threshold.

If a beneficiary breaches any of its other obligations under this Article, the granting authority may apply the measures described in Chapter 5.

## **ARTICLE 25 — CHECKS, REVIEWS, AUDITS AND INVESTIGATIONS — EXTENSION OF FINDINGS**

### **25.1 Granting authority checks, reviews and audits**

#### **25.1.1 Internal checks**

The granting authority may — during the action or afterwards — check the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement, including assessing costs and contributions, deliverables and reports.

#### **25.1.2 Project reviews**

The granting authority may carry out reviews on the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement (general project reviews or specific issues reviews).

Such project reviews may be started during the implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

If needed, the granting authority may be assisted by independent, outside experts. If it uses outside experts, the coordinator or beneficiary concerned will be informed and have the right to object on grounds of commercial confidentiality or conflict of interest.



The coordinator or beneficiary concerned must cooperate diligently and provide — within the deadline requested — any information and data in addition to deliverables and reports already submitted (including information on the use of resources). The granting authority may request beneficiaries to provide such information to it directly. Sensitive information and documents will be treated in accordance with Article 13.

The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may be requested to participate in meetings, including with the outside experts.

For **on-the-spot visits**, the beneficiary concerned must allow access to sites and premises (including to the outside experts) and must ensure that information requested is readily available.

Information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

On the basis of the review findings, a **project review report** will be drawn up.

The granting authority will formally notify the project review report to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned, which has 30 days from receiving notification to make observations.

Project reviews (including project review reports) will be in the language of the Agreement.

### 25.1.3 Audits

The granting authority may carry out audits on the proper implementation of the action and compliance with the obligations under the Agreement.

Such audits may be started during the implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the beneficiary concerned and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

The granting authority may use its own audit service, delegate audits to a centralised service or use external audit firms. If it uses an external firm, the beneficiary concerned will be informed and have the right to object on grounds of commercial confidentiality or conflict of interest.

The beneficiary concerned must cooperate diligently and provide — within the deadline requested — any information (including complete accounts, individual salary statements or other personal data) to verify compliance with the Agreement. Sensitive information and documents will be treated in accordance with Article 13.

For **on-the-spot** visits, the beneficiary concerned must allow access to sites and premises (including for the external audit firm) and must ensure that information requested is readily available.

Information provided must be accurate, precise and complete and in the format requested, including electronic format.

On the basis of the audit findings, a **draft audit report** will be drawn up.

The auditors will formally notify the draft audit report to the beneficiary concerned, which has 30 days from receiving notification to make observations (contradictory audit procedure).

The **final audit report** will take into account observations by the beneficiary concerned and will be formally notified to them.



Audits (including audit reports) will be in the language of the Agreement.

## **25.2 European Commission checks, reviews and audits in grants of other granting authorities**

Where the granting authority is not the European Commission, the latter has the same rights of checks, reviews and audits as the granting authority.

## **25.3 Access to records for assessing simplified forms of funding**

The beneficiaries must give the European Commission access to their statutory records for the periodic assessment of simplified forms of funding which are used in EU programmes.

## **25.4 OLAF, EPPO and ECA audits and investigations**

The following bodies may also carry out checks, reviews, audits and investigations — during the action or afterwards:

- the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) under Regulations No 883/2013<sup>19</sup> and No 2185/96<sup>20</sup>
- the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) under Regulation 2017/1939
- the European Court of Auditors (ECA) under Article 287 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) and Article 257 of EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046.

If requested by these bodies, the beneficiary concerned must provide full, accurate and complete information in the format requested (including complete accounts, individual salary statements or other personal data, including in electronic format) and allow access to sites and premises for on-the-spot visits or inspections — as provided for under these Regulations.

To this end, the beneficiary concerned must keep all relevant information relating to the action, at least until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (Point 6) and, in any case, until any ongoing checks, reviews, audits, investigations, litigation or other pursuits of claims have been concluded.

## **25.5 Consequences of checks, reviews, audits and investigations — Extension of results of reviews, audits or investigations**

### **25.5.1 Consequences of checks, reviews, audits and investigations in this grant**

Findings in checks, reviews, audits or investigations carried out in the context of this grant may lead to rejections (see Article 27), grant reduction (see Article 28) or other measures described in Chapter 5.

Rejections or grant reductions after the final payment will lead to a revised final grant amount (see Article 22).

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<sup>19</sup> Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Council Regulation (Euratom) No 1074/1999 (OJ L 248, 18/09/2013, p. 1).

<sup>20</sup> Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/1996 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities (OJ L 292, 15/11/1996, p. 2).

Findings in checks, reviews, audits or investigations during the action implementation may lead to a request for amendment (see Article 39), to change the description of the action set out in Annex 1.

Checks, reviews, audits or investigations that find systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or breach of obligations in any EU grant may also lead to consequences in other EU grants awarded under similar conditions ('extension to other grants').

Moreover, findings arising from an OLAF or EPPO investigation may lead to criminal prosecution under national law.

### 25.5.2 Extension from other grants

Results of checks, reviews, audits or investigations in other grants may be extended to this grant, if:

- (a) the beneficiary concerned is found, in other EU grants awarded under similar conditions, to have committed systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant and
- (b) those findings are formally notified to the beneficiary concerned — together with the list of grants affected by the findings — within the time-limit for audits set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6).

The granting authority will formally notify the beneficiary concerned of the intention to extend the findings and the list of grants affected.

If the extension concerns **rejections of costs or contributions**: the notification will include:

- (a) an invitation to submit observations on the list of grants affected by the findings
- (b) the request to submit revised financial statements for all grants affected
- (c) the correction rate for extrapolation, established on the basis of the systemic or recurrent errors, to calculate the amounts to be rejected, if the beneficiary concerned:
  - (i) considers that the submission of revised financial statements is not possible or practicable or
  - (ii) does not submit revised financial statements.

If the extension concerns **grant reductions**: the notification will include:

- (a) an invitation to submit observations on the list of grants affected by the findings and
- (b) the **correction rate for extrapolation**, established on the basis of the systemic or recurrent errors and the principle of proportionality.

The beneficiary concerned has **60 days** from receiving notification to submit observations, revised financial statements or to propose a duly substantiated **alternative correction method/rate**.

On the basis of this, the granting authority will analyse the impact and decide on the implementation (i.e. start rejection or grant reduction procedures, either on the basis of the revised financial statements or the announced/alternative method/rate or a mix of those; see Articles 27 and 28).

## **25.6 Consequences of non-compliance**

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, costs or contributions insufficiently substantiated will be ineligible (see Article 6) and will be rejected (see Article 27), and the grant may be reduced (see Article 28).

Such breaches may also lead to other measures described in Chapter 5.

## **ARTICLE 26 — IMPACT EVALUATIONS**

### **26.1 Impact evaluation**

The granting authority may carry out impact evaluations of the action, measured against the objectives and indicators of the EU programme funding the grant.

Such evaluations may be started during implementation of the action and until the time-limit set out in the Data Sheet (see Point 6). They will be formally notified to the coordinator or beneficiaries and will be considered to start on the date of the notification.

If needed, the granting authority may be assisted by independent outside experts.

The coordinator or beneficiaries must provide any information relevant to evaluate the impact of the action, including information in electronic format.

### **26.2 Consequences of non-compliance**

If a beneficiary breaches any of its obligations under this Article, the granting authority may apply the measures described in Chapter 5.

## **CHAPTER 5 CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE**

### **SECTION 1 REJECTIONS AND GRANT REDUCTION**

#### **ARTICLE 27 — REJECTION OF COSTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

##### **27.1 Conditions**

The granting authority will — at beneficiary termination, interim payment, final payment or afterwards — reject any costs or contributions which are ineligible (see Article 6), in particular following checks, reviews, audits or investigations (see Article 25).

The rejection may also be based on the extension of findings from other grants to this grant (see Article 25).

Ineligible costs or contributions will be rejected.

##### **27.2 Procedure**

If the rejection does not lead to a recovery, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator or beneficiary concerned of the rejection, the amounts and the reasons why. The coordinator or

beneficiary concerned may — within 30 days of receiving notification — submit observations if it disagrees with the rejection (payment review procedure).

If the rejection leads to a recovery, the granting authority will follow the contradictory procedure with pre-information letter set out in Article 22.

### **27.3 Effects**

If the granting authority rejects costs or contributions, it will deduct them from the costs or contributions declared and then calculate the amount due (and, if needed, make a recovery; see Article 22).

## **ARTICLE 28 — GRANT REDUCTION**

### **28.1 Conditions**

The granting authority may — at beneficiary termination, final payment or afterwards — reduce the grant for a beneficiary, if:

- (a) the beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed:
  - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
  - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), etc.), or
- (b) the beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (see Article 25).

The amount of the reduction will be calculated for each beneficiary concerned and proportionate to the seriousness and the duration of the errors, irregularities or fraud or breach of obligations, by applying an individual reduction rate to their accepted EU contribution.

### **28.2 Procedure**

If the grant reduction does not lead to a recovery, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator or beneficiary concerned of the reduction, the amount to be reduced and the reasons why. The coordinator or beneficiary concerned may — within 30 days of receiving notification — submit observations if it disagrees with the reduction (payment review procedure).

If the grant reduction leads to a recovery, the granting authority will follow the contradictory procedure with pre-information letter set out in Article 22.

### **28.3 Effects**

If the granting authority reduces the grant, it will deduct the reduction and then calculate the amount due (and, if needed, make a recovery; see Article 22).

## **SECTION 2 SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION**

### **ARTICLE 29 — PAYMENT DEADLINE SUSPENSION**

#### **29.1 Conditions**

The granting authority may — at any moment — suspend the payment deadline if a payment cannot be processed because:

- (a) the required report (see Article 21) has not been submitted or is not complete or additional information is needed
- (b) there are doubts about the amount to be paid (e.g. ongoing audit extension procedure, queries about eligibility, need for a grant reduction, etc.) and additional checks, reviews, audits or investigations are necessary, or
- (c) there are other issues affecting the EU financial interests.

#### **29.2 Procedure**

The granting authority will formally notify the coordinator of the suspension and the reasons why.

The suspension will **take effect** the day the notification is sent.

If the conditions for suspending the payment deadline are no longer met, the suspension will be **lifted** — and the remaining time to pay (see Data Sheet, Point 4.2) will resume.

If the suspension exceeds two months, the coordinator may request the granting authority to confirm if the suspension will continue.

If the payment deadline has been suspended due to the non-compliance of the report and the revised report is not submitted (or was submitted but is also rejected), the granting authority may also terminate the grant or the participation of the coordinator (see Article 32).

### **ARTICLE 30 — PAYMENT SUSPENSION**

#### **30.1 Conditions**

The granting authority may — at any moment — suspend payments, in whole or in part for one or more beneficiaries, if:

- (a) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed or is suspected of having committed:
  - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
  - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including

improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), etc.), or

- (b) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant.

If payments are suspended for one or more beneficiaries, the granting authority will make partial payment(s) for the part(s) not suspended. If suspension concerns the final payment, the payment (or recovery) of the remaining amount after suspension is lifted will be considered to be the payment that closes the action.

## 30.2 Procedure

Before suspending payments, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to suspend payments and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the suspension (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

At the end of the suspension procedure, the granting authority will also inform the coordinator.

The suspension will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent.

If the conditions for resuming payments are met, the suspension will be **lifted**. The granting authority will formally notify the beneficiary concerned (and the coordinator) and set the suspension end date.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid to the beneficiaries concerned. For interim payments, the periodic reports for all reporting periods except the last one (see Article 21) must not contain any financial statements from the beneficiary concerned (or its affiliated entities). The coordinator must include them in the next periodic report after the suspension is lifted or — if suspension is not lifted before the end of the action — in the last periodic report.

## ARTICLE 31 — GRANT AGREEMENT SUSPENSION

### 31.1 Consortium-requested GA suspension

#### 31.1.1 Conditions and procedure

The beneficiaries may request the suspension of the grant or any part of it, if exceptional circumstances — in particular *force majeure* (see Article 35) — make implementation impossible or excessively difficult.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the date the suspension takes effect; this date may be before the date of the submission of the amendment request and
- the expected date of resumption.

The suspension will **take effect** on the day specified in the amendment.

Once circumstances allow for implementation to resume, the coordinator must immediately request another **amendment** of the Agreement to set the suspension end date, the resumption date (one day after suspension end date), extend the duration and make other changes necessary to adapt the action to the new situation (see Article 39) — unless the grant has been terminated (see Article 32). The suspension will be **lifted** with effect from the suspension end date set out in the amendment. This date may be before the date of the submission of the amendment request.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid. Costs incurred or contributions for activities implemented during grant suspension are not eligible (see Article 6.3).

## 31.2 EU-initiated GA suspension

### 31.2.1 Conditions

The granting authority may suspend the grant or any part of it, if:

- (a) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed or is suspected of having committed:
  - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
  - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), etc.), or
- (b) a beneficiary (or a person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant
- (c) other:
  - (i) linked action issues: not applicable
  - (ii) additional GA suspension grounds: not applicable.

### 31.2.2 Procedure

Before suspending the grant, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator:

- formally notifying the intention to suspend the grant and the reasons why and



- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the suspension (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

The suspension will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent (or on a later date specified in the notification).

Once the conditions for resuming implementation of the action are met, the granting authority will formally notify the coordinator a **lifting of suspension letter**, in which it will set the suspension end date and invite the coordinator to request an amendment of the Agreement to set the resumption date (one day after suspension end date), extend the duration and make other changes necessary to adapt the action to the new situation (see Article 39) — unless the grant has been terminated (see Article 32). The suspension will be **lifted** with effect from the suspension end date set out in the lifting of suspension letter. This date may be before the date on which the letter is sent.

During the suspension, no prefinancing will be paid. Costs incurred or contributions for activities implemented during suspension are not eligible (see Article 6.3).

The beneficiaries may not claim damages due to suspension by the granting authority (see Article 33).

Grant suspension does not affect the granting authority's right to terminate the grant or a beneficiary (see Article 32) or reduce the grant (see Article 28).

## **ARTICLE 32 — GRANT AGREEMENT OR BENEFICIARY TERMINATION**

### **32.1 Consortium-requested GA termination**

#### **32.1.1 Conditions and procedure**

The beneficiaries may request the termination of the grant.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the date the consortium ends work on the action ('end of work date') and
- the date the termination takes effect ('termination date'); this date must be after the date of the submission of the amendment request.

The termination will **take effect** on the termination date specified in the amendment.

If no reasons are given or if the granting authority considers the reasons do not justify termination, it may consider the grant terminated improperly.

#### **32.1.2 Effects**

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit a **periodic report** (for the open reporting period until termination).

The granting authority will calculate the final grant amount and final payment on the basis of the report



submitted and taking into account the costs incurred and contributions for activities implemented before the end of work date (see Article 22). Costs relating to contracts due for execution only after the end of work are not eligible.

If the granting authority does not receive the report within the deadline, only costs and contributions which are included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no costs/contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

Improper termination may lead to a grant reduction (see Article 28).

After termination, the beneficiaries' obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

## 32.2 Consortium-requested beneficiary termination

### 32.2.1 Conditions and procedure

The coordinator may request the termination of the participation of one or more beneficiaries, on request of the beneficiary concerned or on behalf of the other beneficiaries.

The coordinator must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with:

- the reasons why
- the opinion of the beneficiary concerned (or proof that this opinion has been requested in writing)
- the date the beneficiary ends work on the action ('end of work date')
- the date the termination takes effect ('termination date'); this date must be after the date of the submission of the amendment request.

If the termination concerns the coordinator and is done without its agreement, the amendment request must be submitted by another beneficiary (acting on behalf of the consortium).

The termination will **take effect** on the termination date specified in the amendment.

If no information is given or if the granting authority considers that the reasons do not justify termination, it may consider the beneficiary to have been terminated improperly.

### 32.2.2 Effects

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit:

- (i) a **report on the distribution of payments** to the beneficiary concerned
- (ii) a **termination report** from the beneficiary concerned, for the open reporting period until termination, containing an overview of the progress of the work, the financial statement, the explanation on the use of resources, and, if applicable, the certificate on the financial statement (CFS; see Articles 21 and 24.2 and Data Sheet, Point 4.3)

- (iii) a second **request for amendment** (see Article 39) with other amendments needed (e.g. reallocation of the tasks and the estimated budget of the terminated beneficiary; addition of a new beneficiary to replace the terminated beneficiary; change of coordinator, etc.).

The granting authority will calculate the amount due to the beneficiary on the basis of the report submitted and taking into account the costs incurred and contributions for activities implemented before the end of work date (see Article 22). Costs relating to contracts due for execution only after the end of work are not eligible.

The information in the termination report must also be included in the periodic report for the next reporting period (see Article 21).

If the granting authority does not receive the termination report within the deadline, only costs and contributions which are included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no costs/contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

If the granting authority does not receive the report on the distribution of payments within the deadline, it will consider that:

- the coordinator did not distribute any payment to the beneficiary concerned and that
- the beneficiary concerned must not repay any amount to the coordinator.

If the second request for amendment is accepted by the granting authority, the Agreement is **amended** to introduce the necessary changes (see Article 39).

If the second request for amendment is rejected by the granting authority (because it calls into question the decision awarding the grant or breaches the principle of equal treatment of applicants), the grant may be terminated (see Article 32).

Improper termination may lead to a reduction of the grant (see Article 31) or grant termination (see Article 32).

After termination, the concerned beneficiary's obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

### **32.3 EU-initiated GA or beneficiary termination**

#### **32.3.1 Conditions**

The granting authority may terminate the grant or the participation of one or more beneficiaries, if:

- (a) one or more beneficiaries do not accede to the Agreement (see Article 40)
- (b) a change to the action or the legal, financial, technical, organisational or ownership situation of a beneficiary is likely to substantially affect the implementation of the action or calls into question the decision to award the grant (including changes linked to one of the exclusion grounds listed in the declaration of honour)
- (c) following termination of one or more beneficiaries, the necessary changes to the Agreement

- (and their impact on the action) would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants
- (d) implementation of the action has become impossible or the changes necessary for its continuation would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants
  - (e) a beneficiary (or person with unlimited liability for its debts) is subject to bankruptcy proceedings or similar (including insolvency, winding-up, administration by a liquidator or court, arrangement with creditors, suspension of business activities, etc.)
  - (f) a beneficiary (or person with unlimited liability for its debts) is in breach of social security or tax obligations
  - (g) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has been found guilty of grave professional misconduct
  - (h) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed fraud, corruption, or is involved in a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking
  - (i) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) was created under a different jurisdiction with the intent to circumvent fiscal, social or other legal obligations in the country of origin (or created another entity with this purpose)
  - (j) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed:
    - (i) substantial errors, irregularities or fraud or
    - (ii) serious breach of obligations under this Agreement or during its award (including improper implementation of the action, non-compliance with the call conditions, submission of false information, failure to provide required information, breach of ethics or security rules (if applicable), etc.)
  - (k) a beneficiary (or person having powers of representation, decision-making or control, or person essential for the award/implementation of the grant) has committed — in other EU grants awarded to it under similar conditions — systemic or recurrent errors, irregularities, fraud or serious breach of obligations that have a material impact on this grant (extension of findings from other grants to this grant; see Article 25)
  - (l) despite a specific request by the granting authority, a beneficiary does not request — through the coordinator — an amendment to the Agreement to end the participation of one of its affiliated entities or associated partners that is in one of the situations under points (d), (f), (e), (g), (h), (i) or (j) and to reallocate its tasks, or
  - (m) other:
    - (i) linked action issues: not applicable

- (ii) additional GA termination grounds: not applicable.

### 32.3.2 Procedure

Before terminating the grant or participation of one or more beneficiaries, the granting authority will send a **pre-information letter** to the coordinator or beneficiary concerned:

- formally notifying the intention to terminate and the reasons why and
- requesting observations within 30 days of receiving notification.

If the granting authority does not receive observations or decides to pursue the procedure despite the observations it has received, it will confirm the termination and the date it will take effect (**confirmation letter**). Otherwise, it will formally notify that the procedure is discontinued.

For beneficiary terminations, the granting authority will — at the end of the procedure — also inform the coordinator.

The termination will **take effect** the day after the confirmation notification is sent (or on a later date specified in the notification; ‘termination date’).

### 32.3.3 Effects

- (a) for **GA termination**:

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit a **periodic report** (for the last open reporting period until termination).

The granting authority will calculate the final grant amount and final payment on the basis of the report submitted and taking into account the costs incurred and contributions for activities implemented before termination takes effect (see Article 22). Costs relating to contracts due for execution only after termination are not eligible.

If the grant is terminated for breach of the obligation to submit reports, the coordinator may not submit any report after termination.

If the granting authority does not receive the report within the deadline, only costs and contributions which are included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no costs/contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

Termination does not affect the granting authority’s right to reduce the grant (see Article 28) or to impose administrative sanctions (see Article 34).

The beneficiaries may not claim damages due to termination by the granting authority (see Article 33).

After termination, the beneficiaries’ obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

- (b) for **beneficiary termination**:

The coordinator must — within 60 days from when termination takes effect — submit:

- (i) a **report on the distribution of payments** to the beneficiary concerned
- (ii) a **termination report** from the beneficiary concerned, for the open reporting period until termination, containing an overview of the progress of the work, the financial statement, the explanation on the use of resources, and, if applicable, the certificate on the financial statement (CFS; see Articles 21 and 24.2 and Data Sheet, Point 4.3)
- (iii) a **request for amendment** (see Article 39) with any amendments needed (e.g. reallocation of the tasks and the estimated budget of the terminated beneficiary; addition of a new beneficiary to replace the terminated beneficiary; change of coordinator, etc.).

The granting authority will calculate the amount due to the beneficiary on the basis of the report submitted and taking into account the costs incurred and contributions for activities implemented before termination takes effect (see Article 22). Costs relating to contracts due for execution only after termination are not eligible.

The information in the termination report must also be included in the periodic report for the next reporting period (see Article 21).

If the granting authority does not receive the termination report within the deadline, only costs and contributions included in an approved periodic report will be taken into account (no costs/contributions if no periodic report was ever approved).

If the granting authority does not receive the report on the distribution of payments within the deadline, it will consider that:

- the coordinator did not distribute any payment to the beneficiary concerned and that
- the beneficiary concerned must not repay any amount to the coordinator.

If the request for amendment is accepted by the granting authority, the Agreement is **amended** to introduce the necessary changes (see Article 39).

If the request for amendment is rejected by the granting authority (because it calls into question the decision awarding the grant or breaches the principle of equal treatment of applicants), the grant may be terminated (see Article 32).

After termination, the concerned beneficiary's obligations (in particular Articles 13 (confidentiality and security), 16 (IPR), 17 (communication, dissemination and visibility), 21 (reporting), 25 (checks, reviews, audits and investigations), 26 (impact evaluation), 27 (rejections), 28 (grant reduction) and 42 (assignment of claims)) continue to apply.

### **SECTION 3 OTHER CONSEQUENCES: DAMAGES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS**

#### **ARTICLE 33 — DAMAGES**

### **33.1 Liability of the granting authority**

The granting authority cannot be held liable for any damage caused to the beneficiaries or to third parties as a consequence of the implementation of the Agreement, including for gross negligence.

The granting authority cannot be held liable for any damage caused by any of the beneficiaries or other participants involved in the action, as a consequence of the implementation of the Agreement.

### **33.2 Liability of the beneficiaries**

The beneficiaries must compensate the granting authority for any damage it sustains as a result of the implementation of the action or because the action was not implemented in full compliance with the Agreement, provided that it was caused by gross negligence or wilful act.

The liability does not extend to indirect or consequential losses or similar damage (such as loss of profit, loss of revenue or loss of contracts), provided such damage was not caused by wilful act or by a breach of confidentiality.

## **ARTICLE 34 — ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS AND OTHER MEASURES**

Nothing in this Agreement may be construed as preventing the adoption of administrative sanctions (i.e. exclusion from EU award procedures and/or financial penalties) or other public law measures, in addition or as an alternative to the contractual measures provided under this Agreement (see, for instance, Articles 135 to 145 EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046 and Articles 4 and 7 of Regulation 2988/95<sup>21</sup>).

## **SECTION 4 FORCE MAJEURE**

### **ARTICLE 35 — FORCE MAJEURE**

A party prevented by force majeure from fulfilling its obligations under the Agreement cannot be considered in breach of them.

‘Force majeure’ means any situation or event that:

- prevents either party from fulfilling their obligations under the Agreement,
- was unforeseeable, exceptional situation and beyond the parties’ control,
- was not due to error or negligence on their part (or on the part of other participants involved in the action), and
- proves to be inevitable in spite of exercising all due diligence.

Any situation constituting force majeure must be formally notified to the other party without delay, stating the nature, likely duration and foreseeable effects.

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<sup>21</sup> Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests (OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1).

The parties must immediately take all the necessary steps to limit any damage due to force majeure and do their best to resume implementation of the action as soon as possible.

## **CHAPTER 6 FINAL PROVISIONS**

### **ARTICLE 36 — COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES**

#### **36.1 Forms and means of communication — Electronic management**

EU grants are managed fully electronically through the EU Funding & Tenders Portal ('Portal').

All communications must be made electronically through the Portal, in accordance with the Portal Terms and Conditions and using the forms and templates provided there (except if explicitly instructed otherwise by the granting authority).

Communications must be made in writing and clearly identify the grant agreement (project number and acronym).

Communications must be made by persons authorised according to the Portal Terms and Conditions. For naming the authorised persons, each beneficiary must have designated — before the signature of this Agreement — a 'legal entity appointed representative (LEAR)'. The role and tasks of the LEAR are stipulated in their appointment letter (see Portal Terms and Conditions).

If the electronic exchange system is temporarily unavailable, instructions will be given on the Portal.

#### **36.2 Date of communication**

The sending date for communications made through the Portal will be the date and time of sending, as indicated by the time logs.

The receiving date for communications made through the Portal will be the date and time the communication is accessed, as indicated by the time logs. Formal notifications that have not been accessed within 10 days after sending, will be considered to have been accessed (see Portal Terms and Conditions).

If a communication is exceptionally made on paper (by e-mail or postal service), general principles apply (i.e. date of sending/receipt). Formal notifications by registered post with proof of delivery will be considered to have been received either on the delivery date registered by the postal service or the deadline for collection at the post office.

If the electronic exchange system is temporarily unavailable, the sending party cannot be considered in breach of its obligation to send a communication within a specified deadline.

#### **36.3 Addresses for communication**

The Portal can be accessed via the Europa website.

The address for paper communications to the granting authority (if exceptionally allowed) is the official mailing address indicated on its website.

For beneficiaries, it is the legal address specified in the Portal Participant Register.



## **ARTICLE 37 — INTERPRETATION OF THE AGREEMENT**

The provisions in the Data Sheet take precedence over the rest of the Terms and Conditions of the Agreement.

Annex 5 takes precedence over the Terms and Conditions; the Terms and Conditions take precedence over the Annexes other than Annex 5.

Annex 2 takes precedence over Annex 1.

## **ARTICLE 38 — CALCULATION OF PERIODS AND DEADLINES**

In accordance with Regulation No 1182/71<sup>22</sup>, periods expressed in days, months or years are calculated from the moment the triggering event occurs.

The day during which that event occurs is not considered as falling within the period.

‘Days’ means calendar days, not working days.

## **ARTICLE 39 — AMENDMENTS**

### **39.1 Conditions**

The Agreement may be amended, unless the amendment entails changes to the Agreement which would call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants.

Amendments may be requested by any of the parties.

### **39.2 Procedure**

The party requesting an amendment must submit a request for amendment signed directly in the Portal Amendment tool.

The coordinator submits and receives requests for amendment on behalf of the beneficiaries (see Annex 3). If a change of coordinator is requested without its agreement, the submission must be done by another beneficiary (acting on behalf of the other beneficiaries).

The request for amendment must include:

- the reasons why
- the appropriate supporting documents and
- for a change of coordinator without its agreement: the opinion of the coordinator (or proof that this opinion has been requested in writing).

The granting authority may request additional information.

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<sup>22</sup> Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 1182/71 of the Council of 3 June 1971 determining the rules applicable to periods, dates and time-limits (OJ L 124, 8/6/1971, p. 1).



If the party receiving the request agrees, it must sign the amendment in the tool within 45 days of receiving notification (or any additional information the granting authority has requested). If it does not agree, it must formally notify its disagreement within the same deadline. The deadline may be extended, if necessary for the assessment of the request. If no notification is received within the deadline, the request is considered to have been rejected.

An amendment **enters into force** on the day of the signature of the receiving party.

An amendment **takes effect** on the date of entry into force or other date specified in the amendment.

## **ARTICLE 40 — ACCESSION AND ADDITION OF NEW BENEFICIARIES**

### **40.1 Accession of the beneficiaries mentioned in the Preamble**

The beneficiaries which are not coordinator must accede to the grant by signing the accession form (see Annex 3) directly in the Portal Grant Preparation tool, within 30 days after the entry into force of the Agreement (see Article 44).

They will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of its entry into force (see Article 44).

If a beneficiary does not accede to the grant within the above deadline, the coordinator must — within 30 days — request an amendment (see Article 39) to terminate the beneficiary and make any changes necessary to ensure proper implementation of the action. This does not affect the granting authority's right to terminate the grant (see Article 32).

### **40.2 Addition of new beneficiaries**

In justified cases, the beneficiaries may request the addition of a new beneficiary.

For this purpose, the coordinator must submit a request for amendment in accordance with Article 39. It must include an accession form (see Annex 3) signed by the new beneficiary directly in the Portal Amendment tool.

New beneficiaries will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of their accession specified in the accession form (see Annex 3).

Additions are also possible in mono-beneficiary grants.

## **ARTICLE 41 — TRANSFER OF THE AGREEMENT**

In justified cases, the beneficiary of a mono-beneficiary grant may request the transfer of the grant to a new beneficiary, provided that this would not call into question the decision awarding the grant or breach the principle of equal treatment of applicants.

The beneficiary must submit a request for **amendment** (see Article 39), with

- the reasons why
- the accession form (see Annex 3) signed by the new beneficiary directly in the Portal Amendment tool and

- additional supporting documents (if required by the granting authority).

The new beneficiary will assume the rights and obligations under the Agreement with effect from the date of accession specified in the accession form (see Annex 3).

## **ARTICLE 42 — ASSIGNMENTS OF CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT AGAINST THE GRANTING AUTHORITY**

The beneficiaries may not assign any of their claims for payment against the granting authority to any third party, except if expressly approved in writing by the granting authority on the basis of a reasoned, written request by the coordinator (on behalf of the beneficiary concerned).

If the granting authority has not accepted the assignment or if the terms of it are not observed, the assignment will have no effect on it.

In no circumstances will an assignment release the beneficiaries from their obligations towards the granting authority.

## **ARTICLE 43 — APPLICABLE LAW AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

### **43.1 Applicable law**

The Agreement is governed by the applicable EU law, supplemented if necessary by the law of Belgium.

Special rules may apply for beneficiaries which are international organisations (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 5).

### **43.2 Dispute settlement**

If a dispute concerns the interpretation, application or validity of the Agreement, the parties must bring action before the EU General Court — or, on appeal, the EU Court of Justice — under Article 272 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU).

For non-EU beneficiaries (if any), such disputes must be brought before the courts of Brussels, Belgium — unless an international agreement provides for the enforceability of EU court judgements.

For beneficiaries with arbitration as special dispute settlement forum (if any; see Data Sheet, Point 5), the dispute will — in the absence of an amicable settlement — be settled in accordance with the Rules for Arbitration published on the Portal.

If a dispute concerns administrative sanctions, offsetting or an enforceable decision under Article 299 TFEU (see Articles 22 and 34), the beneficiaries must bring action before the General Court — or, on appeal, the Court of Justice — under Article 263 TFEU.

For grants where the granting authority is an EU executive agency (see Preamble), actions against offsetting and enforceable decisions must be brought against the European Commission (not against the granting authority; see also Article 22).

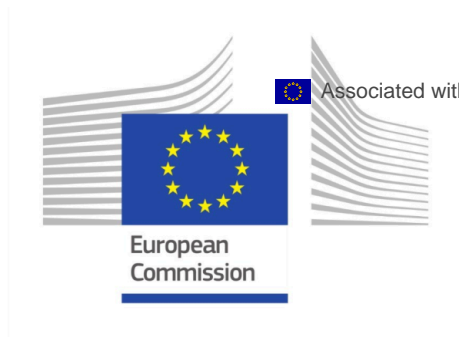
## **ARTICLE 44 — ENTRY INTO FORCE**

The Agreement will enter into force on the day of signature by the granting authority or the coordinator, depending on which is later.

**SIGNATURES**

For the coordinator

For the granting authority



## **ANNEX 1**



# **Programme for Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)**

## **Description of the action (DoA)**

**Part A**

**Part B**

## DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION (PART A)

### COVER PAGE

Part A of the Description of the Action (DoA) must be completed directly on the Portal Grant Preparation screens.

<b>PROJECT</b>	
<i>Grant Preparation (General Information screen) — Enter the info.</i>	
<b>Project number:</b>	101071737
<b>Project name:</b>	Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County
<b>Project acronym:</b>	LIFE21-NAT-HR-LIFE for Mauremys
<b>Call:</b>	LIFE-2021-SAP-NAT
<b>Topic:</b>	LIFE-2021-SAP-NAT-NATURE
<b>Type of action:</b>	LIFE-PJG
<b>Service:</b>	CINEA/D/02
<b>Project starting date:</b>	fixed date: 1 October 2022
<b>Project duration:</b>	48 months

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List of milestones (outputs/outcomes) .....	33
List of critical risks .....	34

## PROJECT SUMMARY

### Project summary

*Grant Preparation (General Information screen) — Provide an overall description of your project (including context and overall objectives, planned activities and main achievements, and expected results and impacts (on target groups, change procedures, capacities, innovation etc)). This summary should give readers a clear idea of what your project is about.*

*Use the project summary from your proposal.*

LIFE for Mauremys is an ambitious 4-year project aiming to improve the unfavourable conservation status of iconic freshwater turtle species, the Balkan Terrapin (*Mauremys rivulata*), in Croatia. Project is designed to address all of the known drivers of *M. rivulata* decline across five Natura 2000 sites in Dubrovnik-Neretva County of Croatia (including all of the known Croatian populations), and at the same time conduct an assisted breeding programme to provide much needed population reinforcement for one of them (considered locally extinct until 2019). Our concrete actions include working closely with the local community on habitat restoration of ponds (35 hectares) and additional wetland habitats across four Natura 2000 sites (2850 hectares), improving habitat quality and connectivity, removing invasive alien species, securing the turtle nesting sites from predators and invasive agricultural practices through collaboration with landowners, and developing turtle-friendly fyke-net to address the by-catch mortality. We will implement a breeding programme in Zagreb ZOO with the specific objective of producing 40 hatchlings of *Mauremys rivulata* that will be ready by the project end for soft-release in one of our project areas, enabling us to save one of the most threatened populations of this species in Croatia from the brink of extinction, and providing media attention which we will use to raise awareness about the importance of Balkan terrapin, biodiversity protection, and Natura 2000 network. We believe that the proposed project activities will lead to the expected outcomes thanks to the comprehensives of planned actions, our plan to work closely with the local community, and the interdisciplinary and intersectoral strength of our partnership structure. We see LIFE for Mauremys as a start of the long-term success for conservation of *Mauremys rivulata* and Mediterranean wetland habitats, starting from Croatia but reaching across its entire range.

## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

### PARTICIPANTS

*Grant Preparation (Beneficiaries screen) — Enter the info.*

Number	Role	Short name	Legal name	Country	PIC
1	COO	FAZ	SVEUCILISTE U ZAGREBU AGRONOMSKI FAKULTET	HR	999534561
2	BEN	ZOO-Zg	USTANOVA ZOOLOSKI VRT GRADA ZAGREBA	HR	933554773
3	BEN	HV	HRVATSKE VODE PRAVNA OSOBA ZA UPRAVLJANJE VODAMA	HR	950805835
4	BEN	HYLA	UDRUGA HYLA	HR	919396750
5	BEN	DUNEZ	JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE ZASTICENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE DUBROVACKO-NERETVANSKE ZUPANIJE	HR	897512774

## LIST OF WORK PACKAGES

<b>Work packages</b>						
<i>Grant Preparation (Work Packages screen) — Enter the info.</i>						
<b>Work Package No</b>	<b>Work Package name</b>	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	<b>Effort (Person-Months)</b>	<b>Start Month</b>	<b>End Month</b>	<b>Deliverables</b>
WP1	Project management and coordination	1 - FAZ	96.10	1	48	D1.1 – D1.1 Partnership agreement D1.2 – D1.2 Project plan D1.3 – D1.3 Extract of the project data from the LIFE KPI webtool –M9 D1.4 – D1.4 Extract of the project data from the LIFE KPI webtool –M48 D1.5 – D1.6 Progress report M19-M36
WP2	Restoring and improving habitats	5 - DUNEZ	86.60	1	48	D2.1 – D2.1 Guidelines for restoring and managing Mediterranean ponds and canals-1 D2.2 – D2.1 Guidelines for restoring and managing Mediterranean ponds and canals-update D2.3 – D2.2 Guidelines for turtle friendly agriculture for landowners
WP3	Reinforcement of Ston field population	2 - ZOO-Zg	48.65	1	48	D3.1 – D3.1 Ex-situ program for reinforcement of Mauremys rivulata population in Croatia D3.2 – D3.2 Guidelines for ex-situ turtle management in Croatia
WP4	Addressing the other threats	4 - HYLA	39.90	1	48	D4.1 – D4.1 Free industrial design for a by-catch free fyke net
WP5	Monitoring and evaluation	1 - FAZ	49.05	3	48	D5.1 – D5.1 Project impact on ecosystem condition and services

<b>Work packages</b>						
<i>Grant Preparation (Work Packages screen) — Enter the info.</i>						
<b>Work Package No</b>	<b>Work Package name</b>	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	<b>Effort (Person-Months)</b>	<b>Start Month</b>	<b>End Month</b>	<b>Deliverables</b>
						D5.2 – D5.2 Public opinion on fish trap usage
WP6	Public awareness, dissemination and networking	4 - HYLA	94.45	1	46	D6.1 – D6.1 Mauremys film
WP7	Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results	1 - FAZ	28.60	1	48	D7.1 – D7.1 First private land conservation agreement and parcel secured for 30 years



## Work package WP1 – Project management and coordination

<b>Work Package Number</b>	WP1	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	1. FAZ
<b>Work Package Name</b>	Project management and coordination		
<b>Start Month</b>	1	<b>End Month</b>	48

### Objectives

Specific objective: Coordinate the implementation of project and ensure good communication of all partners. Expected result: Partnership agreement has been signed, Project Timeline has been prepared, and coordination meetings are organized regularly.

Specific objective: The internal and external reporting is organized in timely manner. Expected result: mid-term and final reports are submitted in time and according to requirements.

Specific objective: Set up the preparatory documents to ensure streamlined project implementation. Expected result: Data management plan prepared, permits for project implementation are acquired, and documentation for public procurement is prepared on time.

### Description

T.1.1 Partnership agreement and project reporting (FAZ, all BEN):

This task (M1 – M48) involves preparing partnership agreements that will define the exact obligations and responsibilities for each partner, the financial distributions according to the payment, and the reporting schedule for both financial and technical implementation of the project, from the partners to the coordinating beneficiary. Setting up regular reporting schedule with all of the partners will streamline the preparation of all other reports, such as the KPI snapshot reports at M9 and M48, mid-term and final report, as well as reports to co-financing institution. This task also includes preparing progress reports, including the first (M19) and the final report (for the period M37-M48 of the project), as well as Progress report (M37) by the COO (FAZ). This activity requires the regular reporting from all BEN to COO throughout the project, which will be ensured by partnership agreement and regular communication. This task includes analyzing the achievement of the planned results of project activities. To monitor progress toward project performance indicators we will analyze the data resulting from the project and tasks within work packages. The KPI on-line table will be filled out in the first 9 months of the project, and the final results will be entered within 6 months of project end.

T.1.2 Project co-ordination and administrative management (FAZ, all BEN):

This task (M1 – M48) is an overarching activity of smoothly running the project by the COO (FAZ). This includes administrative, financial, and coordination tasks related to overall project management. In particular, the project coordinator will set up a proper on-line project communication and management platform (basecamp or similar) and they will establish the project management structure (who is responsible for what). They will lead the communication among partners, prepare the project timeline and monitor its execution, schedule and lead project coordination meetings of all partners, and they will regularly communicate with the project monitor and (when needed) with project advisor, as well as with national co-financier.

This task includes scheduling, organizing and leading all of the formal coordination meetings of all partners. First coordination meeting of all project partners will be held in Dubrovnik, and is planned to last for full 2 days. We will establish detailed project plan which will build further on this proposal and include a Gant chart, a detailed list of tasks for each partner; estimated resources; a timeline and critical milestones and deliverables. The plan will also describe all the processes and procedures set to ensure the project objectives are achieved. In addition to the first coordination meeting, we will have 16 obligatory on-line meetings throughout the project (4 times a year), and 8 live partner meetings (4 in Dubrovnik, 4 in Zagreb). At least one team member of each partner will take part in coordination meetings. Their responsibilities will include coordinating local activities, reporting to the FAZ project management, and ensuring the timely delivery of all of the documents (comments on the document drafts, monitoring reports, etc.). They will also share all of the relevant information with other team members.

T.1.3. Risk management and contingency planning (HYLA, all BEN):

Risk management and contingency planning (M1 – M48) will be put in place to implement processes and policies to guarantee that the highest quality standards are met during the project and to anticipate and manage risks. As a part of the Project plan, a quality management plan will be prepared that will define the objectives, activities, roles, and responsibilities for the quality control. An internal review procedure will be put in place in order to guarantee the quality of deliverables and other outputs. Deliverables will only be released after the review of the Project Steering Committee. All deliverables prepared for public release will follow the established formats. A risk reporting channel and procedure

will be installed for each project member to be used to report risks that (s)he foresees in the project. A risk register will be established, in which all identified risks will be registered and built further on the risks identified in the proposal. All risks will be discussed and evaluated within the Steering Committee and risk mitigation actions and plans will be prepared for risks recognized as important to mitigate at a certain time point in the project. Update of the risk register is planned during the project (M18, M30).

T.1.4. Data management (FAZ, all BEN): This task (M1 – M48) includes preparation of Data management plan in the first 6 months of the project, which will be agreed upon by all partners and uploaded to project management platform. The purpose of this plan is to ensure all data generated is properly collected, accessed, curated, preserved, and eventually made public after any possible data-ownership issue has been cleared and GDPR aligned. Our goal is that data and tools produced and/or used in the project are as much as possible discoverable, identifiable, and accessible. In addition, DMP will clearly define under what modalities, scope, and licenses the data and tools can be reused, to ensure the data produced and/or used are assessable and usable by third parties and to ensure interoperability of the data and tools through the application of open and FAIR standards. Update of the plan is envisaged during the project (M18, M30).

T.1.5 Acquiring permits and public procurement (DUNEZ, all BEN):

This task includes the acquisition of permits (M12) from the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development required for the implementation of the project activities in Natura 2000 sites, and for exemption of prohibited actions for strictly protected species in line with: Article 6(3) and (4) of Habitats directive (92/43/EEC), as well as national legislative: “Nature Protection Act” (OG 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19), “Regulation on ecological network and responsibilities of public institutions for managing ecological network areas” (OG 80/19), and „Ordinance on strictly protected species“ (OG 144/13, 73/16). This task also includes preparing documentation for the public procurement of needed goods and services (although a good amount of preparation for procurement was done during the planning phase for this project, especially for budgeted planning). These activities mostly consist of office work. Since these permits are necessary for the main conservation actions to begin, they are planned for the first 12 months of the project, and because these permits are needed to implement tasks from different working packages, they are planned as a horizontal activity, under Project management WP.

Assumptions related to major costs of the work package:

- 2 persons per partner participating in kick off meeting for 3 days in Dubrovnik
- 2 persons per partner participating in 4 project coordination meetings for 3 days in Dubrovnik
- 2 persons DUNEZ participating in 4 project coordination meetings for 3 days in Zagreb

## Work package WP2 – Restoring and improving habitats

<b>Work Package Number</b>	WP2	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	5. DUNEZ
<b>Work Package Name</b>	Restoring and improving habitats		
<b>Start Month</b>	1	<b>End Month</b>	48

### Objectives

Specific objective: Complete restoration of the most degraded ponds. Expected results: three ponds, at least 36 ha (ponds with surrounding landscape) restored, habitat significantly improved for two Croatian populations, or 25% of total population of Croatia. One of the ponds (in Ston field project area) will enable 7% increase of *M. rivulata* population in Croatia ensured by our reinforcement actions during the project (with estimated 45% gain in the long term)

Specific objective: Control succession in ponds, canals and adjacent nesting sites. Expected result: 2850 ha of restored wet habitats across 4 Natura 2000 areas, including canals in Konavle field and Ston field project area.

Specific objective: improve habitat quality in 3 Natura 2000 sites by setting up basking sites and improving connectivity. Expected result: at least 8 of basking sites across at 6 ponds set up, 1 tunnel adapted to be a functional ecological corridor between two ponds in Majkovi project area.

### Description

T.2.1 Developing guidelines for restoration and management of Mediterranean ponds and nesting sites (HYLA, all BEN): This task (M1-M24) includes organizing a hybrid workshop (in Dubrovnik + online), with all relevant national and international stakeholders: nature protection, agriculture, and cultural heritage sector reps; experts in restoration and management of karstic Mediterranean ponds, traditional drywall building organizations, as well as various representatives of local communities. Stakeholders will be invited during M2, workshop held in M3-4. The goal of

the workshop is to have constructive dialog in which stakeholders and team members will share their experience and their needs, in order to propose the best methods and consider all important challenges for actions of restoration and management of karstic Mediterranean ponds with traditional drywalls. DUNEZ will lead this activity in tight collaboration with FAZ to prepare the workshop materials and activities, and will lead the workshop. The involvement of local community in the planning activities of the rehabilitation and restoration activities is a crucial step in early phase of our project, a key for long term success of restoration projects, and a first principle of ecological restoration. Involvement of other experts in the planning phase is also important for developing our working protocol with best available expert knowledge. With input from all partners and based on conclusions from the stakeholder workshop DUNEZ and HYL A team members will write the Guidelines for restoration and management of Mediterranean ponds, a first thematic part of the Guidelines for restoring and managing Mediterranean ponds and canals. For the preparation of these guidelines we will also draw from previously published literature, guidelines and projects. The guidelines for pond restoration prepared in this task will be implemented, tested and improved throughout concrete restoration actions of this project. The full and updated version of these Guidelines will be one of our final project outputs, as well as one of the outputs of this WP. This task also includes developing guidelines for management of nesting sites situated next to the water bodies that the Mauremys occupies (Guidelines for turtle friendly agriculture for landowners) in M4-5, M12, and M24-25 in tight collaboration of DUNEZ, HYL A and FAZ. Nesting sites are either under the succession or under the agricultural production that can be detrimental, depending on the agro-technical measures used and the crop choice. While the possible solutions for the succession of the nesting sites are not complex when the required techniques are in question, these can be problematic because of the age of the owners in these rural areas, complex ownership, or e.g. owners not present on this continent. We will organize a workshop (M4-M5) with the local communities and relevant stakeholders over the project area in M5 of the project, to discuss possibilities of management of these kind of private agricultural land parcels with the goal of clarifying management requirements and responsibilities of such abandoned parcels undergoing succession. This solution will contribute to the nesting site management guidelines which are required for the actions in T2.4. Additionally, we would use this workshop to discuss the detrimental effects of the wild boars for the nesting sites and possible solutions. Our goal is to obtain the exact locations for the wild boar repellents that will be applied in T2.5 starting in M7.

The 2nd workshop with the local communities and relevant stakeholders is planned (M12) with the goal to define critical zones for the nests for each Mauremys population in Croatia in order to provide the secured minimum of nesting sites per population. In order to have at least 10m<sup>2</sup> of nesting site area per population secured from succession of the meadows, direct impact from agricultural activity, and negative wild boars impact we will present to the locals the map of areas biologically important for the species, recruit interested owners of the additional parcels on that area (additional to the six that have at this stage expressed support for our project) to volunteer to implement on their land some of the technical solutions and conclusions of the 1st nesting workshop. Additionally, (M12), we would like to recruit more owners for the agriculture trials on other parcels developed as a separate task WP4, task T4.1

In the 3rd workshop with the local communities and relevant stakeholders (M24) the goal is to discuss the trial results on all of the nesting parcels and provide final conclusions for the nesting site management guidelines considering all of the problems (succession, agricultural practice, wild boars). The conclusions on the crucial nest locations per population; locations selected for succession management and the responsibilities; locations and techniques for wild boar mitigation as well as conclusions on agro-technical and crop selection solution trials will be included in the guidelines for management of nesting sites.

While this task focuses on the local stakeholder involvement in the management guidelines production, T2.4 is focused on succession control, T2.5. deals with the problem of wild boars and in the WP4, the T4.1 is dedicated to agriculture trials on actively producing agricultural parcels with Mauremys nests.

T.2.2 Prioritizing locations and activities for wetland management in Ston and Konavle field (HYLA, HV, DUNEZ, FAZ):

This task includes organizing (M1-2) and executing a workshop (M3-4) to plan project activities in agro-ameliorative canals and torrent streams in the Konavle and Ston field. Torrent streams provide water for the canals in spring and fall and differ from agro-ameliorative canals that tend to become overgrown with riparian vegetation because they may have low or no discharge and a high concentration of nutrients from the surrounding agricultural land. Since their purpose is to drain or irrigate agricultural fields, some of these canals are managed by HV with permission from the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development.

Workshop will be prepared and held in Dubrovnik, by DUNEZ and HV, in the M3-M4 of the project, and it will include representatives of nature protection and water management sectors, as well as local stakeholders (especially relevant landowners, and other interested local stakeholders) and town and county representatives. The objectives of the workshop are: to define and agree on the priority ameliorative canals and streams for implementation of this project (minimum of 4 locations – min 10km ) in Konavle and Ston field and to discuss the management adjustments needed to meet ecological requirements of target species (timing of the work, acceptable management techniques, required shading, etc.) and the harmonization with requirements of other species in order to prevent the streams and the canals from losing

their biological and technical functions. The results of this workshop in terms of management adjustments and testing in the monitoring activities of HV (T5.2) will be implemented in HV's official Standards for assessment of ecological status and potential for habitat sustainability for *Mauremys rivulata*. These standards will be verified throughout this project (until 2024), and based on the results the existing standards will be modified. New standards will be tested in the following years (2025-27). If the tested standards prove to be significant improvement of water management practices for maintaining the habitat of the targeted species, they will be included into the new management plans, as well as into the new Regulation on water quality standard (which should be updated at the end of 2027), and will be implemented into new Water management plans.

This workshop is planned as separate from the workshop about the restoration of ponds, because of specific challenges related to jurisdiction and management procedures for those canals. Existing management practices of nature conservation sector and water management sector are not harmonized and sometimes in conflict, privately owned canals are often managed differently (or not managed at all), and there is no clear jurisdiction for some of the areas – i.e., status of some of the canals is unclear. To improve connectivity in the *M. rivulata* habitat we will select for restoration those irrigation canals and torrent streams that are most important for connectivity for the species.

#### T.2.3 Restoration of the ponds and canals (HV, all BEN):

The goal of this task is to restore the most degraded *Mauremys* habitats, for which substantial interventions are needed. Restoration of pond and canals in Ston field project area is also vitally important for the successful establishment of animals that will be reintroduced thanks to activities planned in our WP3.

This task consists of concrete restoration activities at three ponds (Majkovi church pond, Prljevići pond and Ston refugium pond) and the most important canals adjacent to those ponds. To ensure that our restoration activities do not disturb the original impermeable clay layer and that we understand the hydrology of each pond (so that the ponds can maintain the water as long as possible), HV will subcontract Ruder Bošković Institute to conduct the hydrogeological study on field with the help of DUNEZ team. This study will be conducted in the first year of our project (M1-12), on the three ponds planned for restoration, and they will use non-invasive methods and instruments (no drilling). This study will provide needed input for safe and successful interventions into the pond bottom layer, in particular the activities of digging and sludge extraction to deepen the pond.

Exact activities and methods for restoration will be precisely defined in previous task (T2.1), but they will most likely include complete emptying of the ponds (removing water), digging and removing the deoxidized sludge, clearing large amount of organic debris, and general cleaning. Depending on the results of pond hydrological study we might also need to re-establish natural bottom layer if we are unable to keep the original layer. During the process of removing the water and all other substance from the pond all of the native species will be saved and restored, and we will take advantage of this opportunity to remove all invasive fish and turtle species encountered, as well as the invasive knotweed (*Paspalum*). Restoration activities will include the surrounding landscape, such as restoration of pond edges and/or re-building of traditional Mediterranean drywalls.

In addition to the ponds, this task will (in M13-36) also include restoration of the most important streams and canals that are feeding into the ponds, to recover their function of retaining the water. In particular, we will focus on canals and streams that we identified as most important for the pond stability, such as Mlinski potok in Ston field and selected agro-meliorative canals, and Kanal Ljuta-Mihanići and selected smaller canals in Konavle field. The main actions will be the removal of vegetation from the canals in order to recover the water flow, and the removal of the deposited waste. In Konavle field, one part of the important canal is completely dried out because of the organic material accumulated in the pipe under the bridge, which has cut off the flow of water. Through this activity, the pipe will also be cleaned and the vegetation will be removed from the canal allowing again normal water flow.

This task will be led by HV, in collaboration with DUNEZ team members, with active participation from FAZ and HYL A. HV is the most appropriate lead for this task because of their experience and competences; however, part of the work will also need to be subcontracted (this also is part of their standard working procedures). All 3 hydrogeological studies will be finished by M12 after which the restoration of the canals and the ponds is planned to be finished by M36. In order to have Ston refugium pond ready for accepting the juvenile turtles at the end of the project, the canals and the pond of the Ston field area are the first ones scheduled for restoration ending at the latest by M24. Timing of other locations will follow the drying off period in order to have the procedure minimally invasive for the inhabiting species. The Ston refugium pond is privately owned and we have arranged with the owner (attached contract COO, all BEN and the owner Barović) to have this land parcel with the pond and the potential nesting site ensured by private land conservation stewarding instruments for the period of 30 years.

#### T.2.4 Control succession at ponds, canals and nesting sites (HYLA, all BEN):

This task focuses on locations that need less extensive work than the targeted locations of T.2.3. Cutting of excessive riparian vegetation from ponds, canals and nesting sites that are in succession, removal of garbage and sludge are the some of the activities, that will be planned according to the T2.1 guidelines. These activities will be conducted across larger area than those in T.2.3: on 5 additional ponds (1 in Majkovi, 1 in Ston, 3 in Konavle) at the seasonally suitable time slots for such a work (M18:19, M23:24, M30:31, M35:36, M42:43, M47:48) and the additional water flows in the



project area (M8:12, M20:24, M32:36, M44:48). Actions are not repeated during the project time on the same locations, but the results will be monitored to help us to estimate the needed frequency for some of the management activities, which will provide valuable input for improved site management. The purpose of this task is to improve the habitat quality and control succession in a mosaic pattern across additional targeted ponds, canals, and nesting area of the species (while previous task focused on restoration only of most degraded ponds and adjacent canals, which are not envisaged in this activity), and to maintain the restored status through input for the future plan of activities. Actions are planned to be conducted twice a year under HYLEA supervision and with DUNEZ responsible for the ponds and the nesting sites and HV responsible for the water flows across 4 Natura 2000 sites over a total of 2850 hectares.

Because of the larger hands-on work effort needed for this type of activities (e.g., some of the localities in Ston and Konavle fields will be cleaned mostly manually because there are no accessible roads for the machines, etc.) the participation of volunteers is planned for this task, once per year. Both local volunteering and international groups are planned throughout the project. Details of volunteer involvement is described in more detail in WP7.

#### T.2.5 Provide wetlands and nesting sites enhancements (DUNEZ, all BEN):

The enhancements regarded in this task are the basking spots for the ponds, connectivity improvement between the ponds in Majkovi, secured nesting sites from the wild boars and refugee Ston pond secured from the predators.

This task includes the building and installing eight basking spots across at least 6 ponds: 3 ponds in Konavle field (pond number 15 (Mihanići, M. Kukuljica), pond number 9 (Mihanići, Miljas V.) and ponds in Zastolje (P. Salatic), ponds in Majkovi, Prljevići pond, and refugium pond in Ston field. Basking spots are essential for thermoregulation of turtles. Additional basking spots will provide more basking space for turtles and lower competition for basking in ponds. This action should increase viability of suppressed individuals and strengthen the population in pond. The basking spots are floating panels of different sizes (100 x 100 cm, and 100 x 50 cm) produced from glued PVC GF+ pipes with valves that allow adjusting height above the water and covered with rubber (to allow easy climbing for turtles). Basking spots will be anchored to bottom of ponds. The construction of the basking sites and their installation will be led by ZOO and DUNEZ, and they will include the volunteers. In particular, for this action, we will focus on involving the local volunteers. This task will be conducted in M4:M8, M13:M36. Private pond agreements: Because this task includes installation of basking enhancements in ponds that are sometimes private, for those ponds we will provide a letter of consent for the planned actions from local stakeholders (M1:12) that already expressed their interest in the support letters provided as additional materials or verbal agreement. Six private ponds are targeted for this project requirements according to our current knowledge on extra basking spot needs.

This task also includes improving the connectivity between 2 ponds in Majkovi project area (M1:12), in order to enable terrapins to migrate unhindered between the two ponds in Majkovi and to the nesting grounds, avoiding the road and crossroad (road kill is a known threat). The current pipe that goes under the road is directed towards the pond on one side, while the other end is still not completed and not connected to another pond by suitable habitat. Next to the exit from the tunnel, there is an overgrown path surrounded by bushes. The trail is 40 meters long and connects with a macadam road that leads to another pond and nesting place. Under the guidance of HYLEA, HV will apply layers of gravel and earth under the current ending of the pipe in order to level the ground under the exit from the tunnel to avoid direct turtle casualties. With the help of ZOO and DUNEZ overgrowth from the path will be cleared and a thin layer of gravel provided, as well as the fences placed around the tunnel opening and the cleaned path, in order to direct the terrapins towards the pond and towards the gardens and meadows where they lay their eggs.

This task also includes providing wild boar distractions on locations showing negative wild boar impact on the nesting sites. This will be performed in the form of repellents in Ston, Majkovi and Prljevići, and by providing the alternative wallowing hole for boars in Majkovi. ZOO will supervise and conduct activity with the repellents with the help of DUNEZ and HYLEA in M7:12 M20:24, M32:36, and M44:48. We have targeted six owners that gave consent for using the repellents on their parcels important for Mauremys nesting: two in Ston (D. Pinčević, M. Barović), two nesting sites in Majkovi (Martić, Lobrović) and two nesting sites in Prljevići (Bender A., Radonić D.) are provided in the supplementary materials (see list of annexes pp101.). Wild boar egg predation is recorded on Mauremys nesting sites. Securing nesting sites near ponds will have direct impact on increasing hatching rate of turtle eggs and raise number of juveniles. Egg predation is widely present around ponds as eggs are laid and incubated during dry summer months when wild boars access ponds for water. Strong fences and electric fences can have negative impact on female egg-laying activities, as they might become obstacles for females during search for best egg laying sites. Therefore, applying of repellents around nesting sites is planned to distract boars from feeding on surfaces used as turtle nesting sites. As nesting sites are away from houses, repellent smell will not affect local community. Wider application of repellents can be applied if local community recognizes benefits from this action and is possible due to T2.1 workshops. ZOO Zagreb will provide repellents, application protocol and technical support and the know-how for DUNEZ. DUNEZ staff and volunteers will apply repellents according to protocol, during natural egg-laying and incubation period (May-September) during whole project. Additionally, boar watering and wallowing hole will be provided in Majkovi (outside the borders of the herpetological reserve in process of adoption) to lure the boars away from the two Mauremys ponds by DUNEZ providing a small grant to local NGO selected from the applicants to the open call. The granted applicant will receive

funding for building a boar watering and wallowing hole for the Majkovi population of wild boars situated outside of the range of Mauremys nesting sites in Majkovi. The provided boar watering and wallowing hole has to inherently support good hunting practices considering the Article 66 of the „Hunting Law“ (O.G. 99/18, 32/19, 32/20) stating that it is forbidden to hunt wild animals in the 200 m radius of protected areas (the declaration of herpetological reserve Lokve u Majkovima in process), and ensure optimal hunting requirements and support local communities whilst minimizing the effects of boars on the Mauremys eggs and juveniles.

### Work package WP3 – Reinforcement of Ston field population

<b>Work Package Number</b>	WP3	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	2. ZOO-Zg
<b>Work Package Name</b>	Reinforcement of Ston field population		
<b>Start Month</b>	1	<b>End Month</b>	48

#### Objectives

- Specific objective: Prepare protocols and facility for assisted breeding in ZOO Zagreb. Expected result: Glasshouse for breeding (28 m<sup>2</sup>) built.
- Specific objective: Establish and run a breeding program. Expected result: producing 40 hatchlings
- Specific objective: Secure the Ston refugium pond from predators. Expected result: protective cage is built for Ston refugium pond and first juveniles are soft-released

#### Description

Prior to planning the reintroduction/translocation programme for *Mauremys rivulata* we thought out and assessed the alternatives. However, considering the unfavorable-bad conservation status of the species and its slow natural reproduction cycle, all of the alternatives are deemed less effective or infeasible in reaching the specific and clearly defined conservation objectives of our project, and are unlikely to significantly improve the species conservation status. To ensure removal of animals from their habitat will not endanger the captive or wild-source populations, and that the founder specimens (min. 8) translocated in short-term for breeding purposes to Zagreb ZOO will cope with new pathogens and stress, we provide supplementary document on the conditions that we will fulfill in order to receive funding for captive breeding activities.

The response to the captive breeding LIFE program conditions is attached to this project as other supplementary.

##### T.3.1 Developing plans for ex-situ reproduction and Ston population reinforcement (FAZ, DUNEZ, HYLA, ZOO):

This task includes actions needed to prepare for the assisted breeding with temporary relocation of *Mauremys rivulata* in Zagreb ZOO. ZOO Zagreb has previous experience with assessment of the breeding potential of the Majkovi and Konavle populations in *Mauremys rivulata*, as well as experience in long term keeping of the specimens confiscated from the illegal trade, experience in short term keeping, oviposition, incubation, and transport to native populations.

This task will include organizing and running the minimum of 3 workshop meetings (M4-6) with other experts, with team members of LIFE HUNVIPHAB (LIFE18 NAT/HU/000799) and LIFE Trachemys, and other relevant stakeholders (EAZA experts, Ministry of economy and sustainable development, Societas Europaea Herpetologica, RIAS), and all project partners. The goal of these meetings will be to discuss best practices and experiences for assisted breeding of freshwater turtles. These meetings will build on the communication with LIFE Trachemys (planned under Networking with other projects, WP6), to learn from their experience.

Based on the specific outputs of organized meetings, the existing literature, and previous experience, we will prepare:

- Breeding, reproduction, and release plan for *Mauremys rivulata* - this document will include detailed protocols and planning for reproduction, feeding, and maintenance of the animals in captivity, as well as the release plan of the juveniles. This will be prepared by FAZ, with input from all partners, and will be formalized as a part of ZOO Zagreb working plan by M6.
- Health screening plan for *Mauremys rivulata*. The minimal encountering of the new pathogens and reduction of pathogen reintroduction to destination area will be ensured by adapting best practices from LIFE Trachemys. This document will also define pathogen screening for the source populations', and these practices will be continued in WP 5 Monitoring, as well as the pathogen screening of the hatchlings before and after release. Plans and protocols are to be adopted in DUNEZ and ZOO Zagreb working plan.

T.3.2 Preparing the breeding site facility in ZOO (ZOO, HYLA, DUNEZ, FAZ) This task includes the construction of the additional glasshouse for the breeding station in Zagreb ZOO and providing the needed equipment for assisted breeding

of *Mauremys rivulata*, as well as the final preparations and public procurement for construction. This addition to the existing breeding station is necessary because the breeding of *Mauremys rivulata* is expected to be successful only in Mediterranean conditions and optimal if the animals are allowed to hibernate, and the condition for this kind of breeding currently do not exist in ZOO Zagreb.

The newly built glasshouse (28 m<sup>2</sup>) will be constructed within the existing Zagreb ZOO breeding station (398 m<sup>2</sup>), and it will contain two separated outdoor water bodies, each partly covered with a glasshouse, which will enable animals to enter the glasshouse at any time and easily reach the basking area inside the glasshouse with the nesting site. Inside basking spots will be equipped with UVB heating lamps. Water bodies will have a maximum depth of 1 meter for hibernation, and shallow areas with water plants 0-30 cm depth that will be present on 60% of the surface outside as such areas are preferred by animals. Outside enclosure land part will be easily accessible for animals, as well as several basking spots in the water. Such facility will allow us to keep animals outside all year round and to extend the animal activity period in early spring and late autumn with higher temperatures inside the glasshouse. Creating higher temperatures in early spring should lead to a higher fertility rate of males and increase breeding potential. Nesting sites inside glasshouse with a deep substrate and higher temperature than outside should be preferred as egg-laying sites by females, which enables us proper control of eggs and prevention of egg predation by birds or rodents.

Besides outdoor water bodies, facility will include eight aquariums inside glasshouse (accessible only for ZOO staff to minimize stress for animals), that will be used for quarantine, veterinary treatment, and juveniles head-starting. Aquariums will be equipped with a filtration system, heating, and UVB basking spots. The incubation setup will be in a separate building in a room with air-conditioning. Outdoor water bodies will be visible to the public and will also be used for education. Therefore, the educational corner will be set up to provide public information about *M. rivulata* and LIFE+ project to all ZOO visitors. This task will be implemented by ZOO. Detailed breeding station planning will be finished by Dec 2022, public bid by March 2013 and the station will be built by Jun 2022.... M1-12, ZOO

T.3.3 Capture and health screening of animals for temporary relocation (HYLA, ZOO, FAZ, DUNEZ):

This task includes capturing adult animals in Ston field by HYLA for captive breeding (M10, M23:24, M30:31, M35:36, M42:43), health screening by ZOO and FAZ (M1:46), and relocation of founders to the Zagreb ZOO. To ensure capture of animals we planned minimum of four field trips. We will aim to capture minimum of 5 females and 3 males (8 founders). Each field trip will last for 4 days, during which traps with bait and sunbathing areas will be placed in water bodies. In the case that not enough founder animals were found in the Ston field we will activate the exit strategy, in which founders will be extracted either from Konavle field or Majkovi ponds or Delta Neretve population (depending on health screening). All of the captured animals that passed the health screening will be temporarily relocated for breeding purposes in ZOO Zagreb.

All potential founders captured will be health screened (general health and genetic fitness) according to the Plan developed in T3.1. In order to account for recognized risks of breeding program and potential need for the exit strategy we will also screen Majkovi and Konavle (10% of animals from individual locations) and Neretva Delta populations (e-DNA screening), in order to define the best possible location for gathering founders in case of need.

Health screening will be conducted IN-SITU (of the founders) or EX-SITU (of the founders population(s)) and includes: health examination (inspection, body weight, estimation of body condition, physical examination of eyes, ears, oral cavity, cloaca and skin, coelomic palpation, examination of ecto and endo parasites of the resident animals (inspection/feces, cloacal flush), tests for viral infections (Ranavirus, Mycoplasma and Herpesvirus detection by pooled pharyngeal and cloacal swabs and nasal flushes), and bacterial cultures of cloaca and nasal flushes.

Based on the results of selected sample units we will conduct the Disease risk assessment (IUCN/SSC, 2013., Sainsbury A. W. 2017) to select appropriate animals for ex situ keeping. This will include: 1. Hazard identification of the resident population: Sample size calculation based on the total number of animals from each location, and selection of the animals that will be screened in order to detect at least one infected animal in the sample with 95% confidence; 2. Hazard identification based on literature review and health screening of selected sample units.

We will also perform screening of other species (native or IAS turtles, IAS fish, by FAZ in potential founder populations) and water for above mentioned micro and macroorganisms. Also, if any dead freshwater turtles will be found, we will perform in the ZOO gross pathology, histology and micro and macroorganism detection to determine a cause of death and the level of risk for resident animals. Genetic screening (by FAZ) will include assessment of the inbreeding level of the caught founder animals and effective population size of the source population(s) of founders M24-M46.

Certain laboratory procedures will require external services by FAZ and ZOO in order with regular practice of this institutions for specific tests. In addition to the health screening of potential founder populations and of the caught founders after the animal capture, some of the mentioned health and genetic screening activities will also be performed on the hatched juveniles as a part of our monitoring activities (in WP5).

T.3.4 Housing the founders in Zagreb: breeding, laying of the eggs, and incubation ex-situ (ZOO, Hyla, FAZ, DUNEZ):

This task (M1-M46) includes housing the animals in the newly constructed reproduction center in ZOO, their daily care and monitoring by ZOO staff, in cooperation with HYLA, FAZ, and DUNEZ. The minimum of 8 animals, 5 females and 3 males will be included in assisted breeding. Glasshouse will extend activity period in Zagreb and will bring ex-situ

housing conditions close to natural conditions. Egg laying space of 2 m<sup>2</sup> inside glasshouse filled with deep litter (mixture of soil, sand and dried leaves) will provide space that should be recognized by females as an ideal nesting site. Basking area for founders will be next to nesting site, exposed to UVB lamps that can be used in case of colder spring temperatures. Whole area will be covered with cameras, to allow continuous supervision of animals, process of mating and egg laying. After we observe the egg laying, eggs will be removed to incubators. Two incubators will be used with different incubation temperatures. As sex determination of juveniles is controlled with incubation temperature, we will be able to incubate preferred juvenile sex to match the natural populations (natural populations in Croatia have approx. 1:1 ratio). After hatching, juveniles will be housed in glass aquariums in back of reproduction center. Every aquarium will have separate heating and filtration system and will be equipped with UVB light and hot spot for basking. This task includes daily care and monitoring of all animals by ZOO staff, in cooperation with HYL A, FAZ, and DUNEZ. Ex-situ reproduction center in ZOO will provide training for DUNEZ staff in *Mauremys rivulata* husbandry. All program and husbandry will be according to guidelines and protocols created earlier in the project (T3.1).

T.3.5 Secure the Ston refugium pond from predators and soft release of the juveniles (ZOO, all BEN, M35-M48):

This task includes securing the restored Ston refugium pond from predators (restored in WP2), in order to ensure higher survival rate of the juveniles while they are still small and potential easy prey of different mammal and bird predators. Iron construction cage of minimal 40 m<sup>2</sup> surface and 2-meter height will be designed and built to partly cover the pond. It will provide parts of terrestrial, riparian, and aquatic phase freely exchanging with the rest of the pond. General idea of the soft release is to prevent predation by birds and mammals, with water flow throughout cage, natural vegetation, and food for animals. Cage will be built from iron construction, based on concrete foundation (to prevent digging in by predators). Aquatic section and lower terrestrial part (0 – 50 cm) will be covered with mesh 20 x 20 mm, to prevent terrapins escape and providing enough water current for natural plants and animals. Upper part of cage will be covered with 50 x 50 mm mesh to prevent bigger birds to enter cage. Between lower and upper part of mesh, 45° overhang will be installed on inner side to prevent terrapins climbing out of cage.

Access gate will allow LIFE for Mauremys team members to enter cage for animal monitoring (WP5). We will finalize detailed planning and final cage dimensions after the pond restoration activities. Cage will be planned and designed by ZOO Zagreb, in cooperation with the land owner, HYL A, DUNEZ and HV and based on the experience of LIFE Trachemys (organization RIAS). The effectiveness of this protection will be monitored after the setup and juveniles soft release. Managing of cage structure and animal monitoring/husbandry (planned in WP5) will be done by DUNEZ in the project follow up, who will be trained by ZOO Zagreb staff (WP7).

This task also includes releasing of the captive bred juvenile *Mauremys rivulata* into restored and secured pond (soft release). Depending on their hatching and growth rate first batch of juveniles is expected to be released in Ston sometimes between M42-M43. The juveniles will be allowed to leave the safety of the provided enclosure when they reach the size of 10 cm carapace length. The safety enclosure will be removed from the pond by DUNEZ at the time when all of the juveniles reach the required size.

## Work package WP4 – Addressing the other threats

<b>Work Package Number</b>	WP4	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	4. HYL A
<b>Work Package Name</b>	Addressing the other threats		
<b>Start Month</b>	1	<b>End Month</b>	48

### Objectives

Specific objective: Secure nesting sites. Expected result: In collaboration with landowners adapt turtle-friendly land management and agricultural practices at minimum of 6 nesting sites to have at least 10m<sup>2</sup> of nesting site area per population secured for all 4 populations.

Specific objective: Removing invasive fish, turtle and knotgrass from all restored and improved sites. Expected results:

- all of *Gambusia* sp. population from two out of three ponds where it is currently known to be present: one Natura 2000 site 100% clear, one Natura 2000 site 50% clear (affecting 25% of the total *Mauremys rivulata* population);
- capture all currently known IAS turtle individuals in three Natura 2000 sites (Ston, Majkovi, Prljevići 100% clear of *Trachemys scripta*) and have at least 5 removal actions of the volunteer alerts during the project;
- completely eliminate *Paspalum* knotgrass from all three ponds where it is currently known to be present (two Natura2000 sites 100% clear, aquatic habitat secured for 25% of the total *Mauremys r.* population)



Specific objective: Design, build, and test the turtle-friendly fyke-traps to address by-catch mortality. Expected result: 30 fyke nets are built, tested in three phases and in collaboration with at least 10 local fisherman in Delta Neretve project area and at least 3 research/management experts, across the entire project area, and in Albania and Montenegro.

### Description

#### T.4.1 Secure nesting sites in collaboration with the landowners (HYLA, FAZ, DUNEZ):

This task includes activities to ensure that minimum of six nesting sites on private land in Majkovi, Prljevići, and Ston are safe from direct damage of the nests by agro-technical, crop and work timing choices of the owners. We will achieve this by establishing collaboration with the local landowners on implementing turtle-friendly agricultural practices in active gardens, orchards, and/or vineyards. We will also provide the landowners with expert agricultural advice individualized for their parcels. Additional support will be provided through the planed seminars helpful for transitioning from conventional to sustainable agriculture in the T6.2.

Starting with the landowners that have shown interest for this project proposal (see annexes for letters of interest of so-far identified interested landowners: Drage Pinčević, Miho Barović, Martić, I. Lobrović, Bender A., Radonić Draga) we will organize regular bi-annual meetings at these parcels nesting sites, with main goal to learn about the owners needs and practices (M5:12). At this starting point the landowners will be given a free advisory service by agricultural experts from FAZ, which will be based on the soil analysis (plant feeding capacity of the soil: pH H<sub>2</sub>O, pH KCl, Nuk, hummus, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>O; total heavy metals: Zn, Cu, Cd, Pb, Ni, Cr, Hg, As, Mo, Co; organic polutants: PAH, PCB; microbiology), as well as on the known Mauremys requirements (e.g. no soil disturbance during nesting). We will propose temporal and technical or crop rotation where required for the wellbeing of the *M. rivulata* nests, and we will discuss the land management and agricultural practices that can be implemented on their land and tested M12- M24. Building on the first and second workshop with the landowners (in T.2.1, M12) at least 6 interested landowners in Majkovi, Prljevići, Ston and Konavle field will be engaged to formally establish the collaboration (sign the agreements, see WP7) and agree on regular meetings, implementation of the measures agreed upon and monitoring on their land until the end of the project.

During the second year M12-M24 the landowners will be given a free advisory service by agricultural experts from FAZ, which will include additional soil analysis and based on owners needs and expert analysis of their land, we will design a custom sustainable crop rotation and agro-technical yearly management plan following the principles of regenerative agriculture (M24). The proposed practices will also be non-invasive for *Mauremys rivulata* nests (e.g., we will recommend to avoid growing potato or similar crops that require digging, on the locations suitable for nesting, etc.). These measures designed by M24 will be implemented at minimum of six localities under contract until the end of the project and additionally used to complement the guidelines produced in T.2.1. We plan to achieve at least one parcel with a long-term private land stewardship conserving the nesting sites (WP 7). Additionally, these guidelines will be recommended to the competent authority for integrating them into the Natura 2000 management plan for all of our project areas. To support the implementation of regenerative agriculture across the larger area we will also promote these successful examples on yearly regenerative agriculture seminars (total of 3 during the project) at the time of Wetland week (see WP 6 for details).

#### T.4.2 Assess and remove IAS threats (DUNEZ, HYLA, FAZ):

This task (M1:M48) includes removing the invasive species from the *Mauremys rivulata* habitat, in addition to the known locations from which IAS will be eradicated during T2.3 (Majkovi, one of the two ponds, and Prljevići pond). Because the invasive species spread easily and our baseline data is likely incomplete, we planned additional field assessment for the IAS during all of the field actions, reporting all new occurrences of IAS, and immediate action (: eradication) plan of all occurrences within the project area. We will mostly focus on to remove the invasive turtle *Trachemys scripta* (or other turtle species), while for the invasive plant *Paspalum paspaloides*, and invasive fish *Gambusia sp.*, as well as any other invasive species that is threatening the *Mauremys* habitat we will estimate a plan for future removal, and will report our data to the central national IAS database, by using the IAS app developed by the Ministry of economy and sustainable development. All *Trachemys scripta* individuals encountered in the field during the Task 3.3 across project area (twice a year for 12 days during the project) will be caught, delivered to DUNEZ, who will equip themselves for temporary intake of a smaller number of aquatic turtles and get educated for their keeping by ZOO Zagreb. The caught IAS turtles will be regularly transferred to ZOO Zagreb to the established facility for the IAS turtles keeping. This procedure is in line with the Management plan for *Trachemys scripta* in Croatia (in the final stages of the adoption procedure), which was developed through the project lead by Ministry for economy and sustainable development, an EU funded IAS project. In addition to this task, targeting the IAS in Natura 2000 *M. rivulata* habitats will be strongly promoted during project educational events and programs (W6), with the goal to enable DUNEZ to form a network of IAS early detection system consisting of local NGOs, school and individuals using the “Pond keeper program” planned in T6.2. and using the mentioned national IAS application.

#### T.4.3 Mitigating unsustainable fishery and patenting selective fish trap (FAZ, HYLA, DUNEZ)

This task includes designing the turtle-friendly fyke-net and testing it in Delta Neretve project area (M1:18), to address the turtle by-catch of both *Mauremys rivulata* and syntopic *Emys orbicularis* from regular fyke-traps (which can be deadly for air breathing freshwater fauna) as well as promoting sustainable fisheries and addressing illegal fishing. To ensure the proper communication about this issue this task also includes organising a workshop on sustainable fishery with multi-sectoral stakeholders.

Workshop on sustainable fishery will be organized in Neretva Delta project area, by FAZ (M3:12), and it will include relevant stakeholders from the project area (including local authorities), and representatives from Ministry of Agriculture (Directorate of fisheries), inspection of the Ministry of agriculture, Coast Guard of the Republic of Croatia, and the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development (Nature Directorate). The workshop will be led by fishery experts from FAZ, which are familiar with the complexities of this topic. The objective of the workshop will be to facilitate the dialogue between sectors especially on the issues of needs, plans and priorities in freshwater fishing of the project area. The workshop will aim to define and propose responsibilities and actions, across different stakeholders, regarding: a) the need to substitute fishing traps and fyke nets with the alternative equipment, safe for the freshwater air breathing organisms b) the need to remove all illegal fishing traps c) current methods of control of IAS fish in the county. The outcomes from this workshop will be strongly promoted in the educational program of the project in WP6 through at least 3 events. The main objective of this task is to develop and produce prototype and 30 testing samples of the turtle friendly fyke-net and test them through several phases. The first phase testing will check if freshwater turtle can escape (testing organism *Trahemys* sp., in ZOO Zagreb pond). The second phase will test if *E. orbicularis* and *M. rivulata* can escape the net - this will be tested across the project area with different aquatic habitats: in situ testing in the Neretva Delta five specific localities: Baćinska jezera, Desansko jezero, Modro oko, lake Kuti, and canals in Kula Norinska municipality. Final testing will be the real scenario trials with local owners/users in the Delta Neretva project area where the fish trap used by the local community cannot be avoided altogether for cultural or other reasons, and replacing the original fyke nets by M18 of the project duration.

The final goal of this activity is to achieve 100% reduction of conventional fish net usage and to have 0 bycatch of *Mauremys rivulata* in Ston and Konavle field, to have a reduction of usage of conventional fish trap with at least 20 fyke net users in at least 10 localities in Delta Neretve project area, and to have 90% of positive uptake of the turtle-friendly fyke net during this project for the freshwater non-commercial fishing of Dubrovnik-Neretva county. We will also present turtle-friendly fishing tool to nature protection sector and fisheries sector governmental and non-governmental institutions/organizations, with possibilities of replication or transfer to other problematic areas. We will formulate a proposal to have developed turtle friendly fyke-net as the only allowed passive gear for fishing in fresh and brackish water for the Ministry of Agriculture, Directorate of fisheries, and we will formulate a proposal for legislative change enabling the turtle-friendly fyke net as the only passive fishing tool allowed in Natura 2000 areas in Croatia where *M. rivulata* or *E. orbicularis* are the target species to the The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of the Republic of Croatia.

To support our objectives for this task we also planned the demonstration and technical dissemination activities within the WP6 (for the professional and scientific community of partners sectors, for agriculture and fisheries and the local population, but also with the preschool and school children), as well as for dedicated events and press conferences maximizing the uptake locally and nationally-wise (see in the T6.2 The Mediterranean wetland week (M18:22 M30:34 M42:46) as 3-day events hosting seminars and exhibitions with dedicated printed material). Local up-take of the new technology is additionally ensured by active networking during field work conducted in this task, by FAZ fishery team in close contact with the parcels/ponds/canal owners/users during the fyke-net testing and IAS sampling phase. Additionally, local fyke net producers in the county will be contracted for the fyke net prototype and testing samples production.

The budgeted for travel to test the turtle-friendly fyke traps is already accounted for in travel for previous work packages (field trips for founders catching (WP3, screening for IAS fish pathogens, WP4).

## Work package WP5 – Monitoring and evaluation

<b>Work Package Number</b>	WP5	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	1. FAZ
<b>Work Package Name</b>	Monitoring and evaluation		
<b>Start Month</b>	3	<b>End Month</b>	48

### Objectives

Specific objective: Measure the impact of the project on the targeted species. Expected results: The project impact on the targeted species is measured and quantified continuously during the project.

Specific objective: Measure the impact of the project on the habitats and ecosystem services. Expected result: The project impact on habitat is measured and quantified by assessing the water quality and ecological biodiversity monitoring, and the project impact on the ecosystem services is quantified.

Specific objective: the effectiveness of project conservation intervention is assessed. Expected results: the usage of basking sites, the effectiveness of predator repelling, and the success of agricultural intervention is measured and quantified, and will serve as input for habitat and species management in the future.

Specific objective: measure the uptake of turtle friendly fyke-net and the public opinion on sustainable fishery. Expected results: the uptake of new fyke net and the public opinion are measured and quantified.

Specific objective: monitor and report on the key project indicators. Expected results: the data needed for monitoring and reporting key project indicators is gathered through out the tasks in this WP.

## Description

To ensure the improvement of conservation status we are focused on the two main aspects: addressing the threats (habitat degradation and other) and on boosting the population through assisted breeding programme. All of our interventions will be monitored throughout the project, including the health and status of the new animals, as detailed in this WP. As *Mauremys rivulata* is one of the Natura 2000 species for which the national monitoring is planned and will be financed (outside of this project), we did not predict separate monitoring of the species population count, in order to avoid duplication of efforts. The monitoring of the species, however, will be conducted focused specifically on individual conservation efforts of our tasks. This will enable the continued, long-term monitoring of our project impact on this species. Within our project, we will monitor all of our interventions, including the newly hatched animals, which are designed to improve the *Mauremys rivulata* conservation status.

### T.5.1 Monitoring of the population reinforcement (HYLA, FAZ, ZOO, DUNEZ):

To ensure the success of *Mauremys rivulata* population reinforcement, the founder animals will be monitored (health screened) regularly in ZOO (M36:48) and juveniles will be additionally monitored after the hatching, before, and after the soft-release in Ston pond. This task builds upon the task C5.3.

Disease risk analysis will be applied during the whole project from the beginning of the project (IUCN/SSC, 2013., Sainsbury A. W. 2017.) For ex situ keeping and reproduction quarantine protocol will be established, and during that period, upon arrival of the animals to the captive facility a), b), c), d) testing (as in C5.3) will be conducted and additionally: (i) Blood biochemistry (general status of internal organs – seven parameters: ALT, AST, CA, P, UA, Uric, TP) and hematology (signs of stress, anemia, infections, blood parasites), (ii) X-ray examination (overview of internal organs and the bones – fractures, deformations).

Quarantine protocol will be established for founder animals in ZOO breeding facility, and during quarantine, health screening will be performed as follows from individual animals: clinical examination (inspection, palpation), sample collection (choanal and cloacal swabs, nasal flushes, feces/cloacal flushes), blood (hematology and biochemistry) and diagnostic imaging (x-ray). Biosecurity protocol for ex situ keeping will be performed as well as the training of the staff which will be working with the animals. Veterinary treatment of the animals according to their health status and screening tests will be carried on. Gross pathology and histology of all dead animals will be carried on to determine the exact cause of death, and in order to prevent future problems if possible.

*Mauremys rivulata* hatchlings will undergo genetic screening by FAZ, including the assessment of the inbreeding level and effective population size of the reinforced Ston population. Clutch size, egg size and hatching rate and temperatures in the ZOO will be monitored by FAZ in order to ensure maximum viability of the reproductive potential (M12:48). This task also includes monitoring growth of the hatchling in the ZOO.

Both adult animals and juveniles in the ZOO will have a twice yearly (before and after the hibernation) non-invasive health check-up with veterinary treatment of the animals according to their health status. Health examination and veterinary screening prior to reintroduction (release cage) of the 40 juveniles, in M36-M48, will include health examination as described above, and screening for pathogens to rule out source micro and macroorganisms linked to in situ keeping (blood, viruses and *Mycoplasma* sp. detection).

After releasing the animals in the in situ cage, follow up monitoring will include health examinations of the animals twice yearly (inspection, palpation), ecto- and endoparasite detection, treatment of sick or injured animals according to the pathology found, and gross pathology and histology of any dead animals. Hatchlings and juveniles feed uptake, growth and turning and swimming reflexes will be checked additionally to their twice a year check-up in M20, 32 and

44 in order to ensure minimal release stress. We will also monitor habitat use after relocation to ensure the animals are adapting to the natural pond (M20,32,44) by HYLEA, DUNEZ and ZOO.

#### T.5.2 Monitoring of restored and managed water bodies (DUNEZ, HV, HYLEA):

This task includes measurement of water status and quality, and ecological surveys to detect how the restored habitat is supporting the aquatic biodiversity. This activity will be conducted at Ston refugium pond, Majkovi (both ponds), Prljevići pond, and at one pond in Konavle field.

HV will measure water level and quality at these five localities to ensure the restoration activities were successful. This will include measurements of physical and chemical parameters of water (water temperature, pH, conductivity, total suspended solids, alkalinity, dissolved oxygen, saturation, BOD, COD, ammonia, nitrites, nitrates, TN, soluble reactive phosphorus, TP, DOC, dissolved copper, pesticides) once per trimester every year of the project (M4:51, once per trimester M:3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 39, 42, 45). HV will use external assistance for sampling and analysis (as is their usual mode of work), except for pesticides analysis (which will be performed in HV).

Monitoring of macrophytes and macrozoobenthos will be performed by HYLEA and HV (M8, M10, M20, 32, 34, 44, 46) to monitor the overall biodiversity of the ponds as a response to the restoration activities, and to monitor the availability of food for Mauremys in these water bodies. Macroinvertebrates are important food for both turtles and fish (which are also food for turtles), while aquatic vegetation is important shelter for many animals, and often food for the turtles. It is important to determine the current status of these organisms and monitor their succession after habitat intervention. Macroinvertebrates and macrophytes will be monitored three times a year during the second to final year of project, at the previously listed five locations. These data will also contribute to a better understanding of the ecology of Mauremys in the ponds and channels of the Konavle and Ston region.

In addition, dragonfly and amphibian fauna will be surveyed before and after restoration, because mentioned groups are strictly dependent on freshwater habitats and serve as ecological indicators. We will perform 6 visits to restored ponds (2 times before restoration - 1x spring, 1x summer, and 4 times after restoration - 2x spring, 2x summer) to monitor the success of the repopulation process of selected groups to newly restored ponds. We will record the number, sex, and age category of all recorded individuals, following the standard methodology for this type of survey.

#### T.5.3 Monitoring success of *M. rivulata* habitat interventions (HYLEA, DUNEZ, HV, ZOO):

This task includes monitoring the success of the specific habitat interventions implemented in WP2: the basking sites, securing nesting sites from threat presented by the predators (wild boars) and agricultural practices, etc. For the purpose of this monitoring we will set up a number of phototraps, at the nesting sites adjacent to ponds in Majkovi, Prljevići and Ston refugium pond, the newly set up basking sites, and the rebuilt migration route (tunnel) in Majkovi, and regularly inspect the field sites and the phot trap images. Depending on the intervention monitored, this task consists of the following subtasks (which will largely be implemented at the same times, but are kept separate here, to enable the assessment of each intervention separately in the reporting):

Checking photo-traps and site visit to nesting sites (succession, wild boars) (DUNEZ, HYLEA, FAZ, ZOO) M:20,32,44

To ensure monitor the success of succession control and wild board repellent success DUNEZ (with HYLEA and FAZ) will check photo traps at the nesting sites before and after the oviposition (in M20,32,44). Fieldtrip observation will verify if the seasonal oviposition has started.

Checking photo-traps and satellite telemetry for terrapin usage of new basking sites, IAS turtles, road tunnel (DUNEZ, HYLEA, FAZ) M:20,32,44

To monitor the success of basking sites (usage), the tunnel exit adjustment, and removal of IAS DUNEZ (with HYLEA and FAZ) will set up and monitor the photo traps once a year, during the summer, for 3 years (M 20, 32, and 44). The images will be used to assess the turtle usage of basking sites, usage of the tunnel exit. Some of the terrapins will also be tracked by the telemetry, and this data will also be used to analyze the habitat use of the animals. In addition to photo traps, the field days will be used for observation in the field and for communication with the local community. Where: three ponds in Majkovi and in Prljevići, two in Ston field and three ponds in Konavle.

Monitoring impact of new agricultural practices at nesting sites (FAZ, DUNEZ, HYLEA)

To provide the evaluation of the best agricultural practice for nesting sites we will conduct field monitoring, twice per year, of the implementation of the measures (recording whether they are implemented, to what extent, with what success, and if they are functional in preventing the damage to the Mauremys nests). We will also monitor soil quality to determine if the new agricultural practices have positive impact on the soil (M5:12: plant feeding capacity of the soil: pH H<sub>2</sub>O, pH KCl, Nuk, hummus, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>O; total heavy metals: Zn, Cu, Cd, Pb, Ni, Cr, Hg, As, Mo, Co; organic pollutants: PAH, PCB; microbiology).

Monitoring Ston pond security from the predators (DUNEZ, ZOO)

To make sure the Ston refugium pond restored in the T.2.3. is safe for terrapin repopulation, DUNEZ team members will carry out 16 field work trips in total over the period of 2 years, to assess the resilience of the cage (check for holes in the cage net, etc.), the pond cage stability, and to monitor the installed photo traps targeting basking usage and predator deterrence.



#### T.5.4 Monitoring the success of sustainable fishery (FAZ, DUNEZ, HYLA):

In order to monitor the success of our efforts to mitigate unsustainable freshwater fishing (required to reach the project objectives 1, 2 and 3) fyke net usage and the selective fish trap usage trial will be monitored and assessed. We will also monitor the potential change of the public opinion on fish trap usage in complete project area in Dubrovnik-Neretva County.

Konavle and Ston field and Delta Neretve will be scanned for fyke net usage (owners/parcels and traps) by DUNEZ. Fyke nets not used according to national legislation will be removed by DUNEZ, since the activity is in their jurisdiction. The success of selective fish trap usage trial through different project activities fieldtrips will be assessed by FAZ, through fyke net usage counts in M12 and 44. Public opinion on fish trap usage in Dubrovnik-Neretva County will be assessed by questionnaires at the start of the project, after fishery workshop (May 2023) and before the end of the project (M32), with special focus on Ston field and different stakeholder perception.

#### T.5.5 Project impact on ecosystem condition and services (FAZ, DUNEZ, HYLA):

This task will be outsourced by FAZ (M1:6, M22:27, M40:46), with the goal of comprehensive assessment of the impact of the project on the ecosystem services. Ecosystem services matrix will be built at early phase of the project implementation (by M6). To complete the ecosystem services matrix as a participatory process in which relevant stakeholders are involved and different information sources are combined two additional iterations are planned at the middle (by M27) and the end of the project (M46). Project data conclusions and outputs will also be important input.

## Work package WP6 – Public awareness, dissemination and networking

<b>Work Package Number</b>	WP6	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	4. HYLA
<b>Work Package Name</b>	Public awareness, dissemination and networking		
<b>Start Month</b>	1	<b>End Month</b>	46

### Objectives

Specific objective: Ensure the involvement of local community in the conservation actions. Expected results: 5 habitat management workshops (1 on ponds, 1 on canals; 3 focused on landowners of private agriculture parcels in Natura 2000 with Mauremys), 5 short term volunteer actions (at least 50 volunteers included), 1 educational program - The pond keeper: 1 picture book (500 distributed), 1 documentary book (500 re-print), 3 games (2700 distributed)

Specific objective: Ensure the continuing networking and dissemination with other experts. Expected result: 5 habitat management workshops (1 on ponds, 1 on canals; 3 focused on landowners of private agriculture parcels in Natura 2000 with Mauremys) at least 100 stakeholders reached; 3 workshops for Mauremys ex situ management (at least 50 stakeholders reached), 3 workshops on sustainable agriculture at nesting sites at Mediterranean wetland days (at least 20 owners reached);

Specific objective: Raise awareness about Mauremys rivulata, Natura 2000 network, and importance of biodiversity. Expected results: 3 seminars (at Mediterranean wetland days, at least 500 people reached); 1 educational program (The pond keeper: 1 picture book (500 distributed), 1 documentary book (500 re-print), 3 games (2700 distributed), 1 documentary movie, 1 traveling exhibition 30 schools visited with at least 2000 children reached), 1 volunteer program, 5- short term volunteer actions, at least 50 volunteers included

Specific objective: Ensure communicating about biodiversity, Natura 2000 project and Mauremys rivulata to international audience. Expected result: Improve the tourist offer with biodiversity-oriented content, in particular through Mauremys days in ZOO \*4, and Mediterranean wetland days \*3 (at least 8000 people reached total), English language posts on web page and social media (1 per month), some of the promotional material printed in English.

### Description

ZOO Zagreb and HYLA are the two partners most experienced with public relations and therefore they are planning the state-of-the-art techniques and methods for the project dissemination to different target groups, most important being the local population of Dubrovnik-Neretva county, and the children of different local schools, kindergartens and NGOs in order to reach the Objective 3. Project visibility materials (website, brochures, leaflets, newsletters, logo, tag line, Layman's Report), and education materials targeting diverse focus-groups (project video, children's book, souvenirs, noticeboards, project social media channels on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, ResearchGate) are envisaged in the way

that the Mauremys visual evokes pride over the preserved cultural and natural heritage arising from the Mediterranean wetlands. Dissemination plan for general public awareness and other stakeholders that could usefully benefit from the project's experience includes: a) media work (interviews, press releases for radio, TV, newspaper, and online media); b) choice of significant dates for media presence; c) social media channels (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn); d) dissemination from both the project beneficiary institutions and the project management; e) methodology open in final reports and web site together with findings, results, protocols, and guidelines developed during the action

#### T.6.1 Project visibility materials and dissemination (HYLA, all BEN):

To reach the Objective 3 and ensure long-term impact effective non-verbal contact with the user visual brand is envisaged. With the help of a visual identity and a good promotional campaign, the image and recognizability of the project will allow the general and targeted public to get acquainted with our goals, activities and results. Regular publication of diverse news through various digital channels and project and partner accounts is planned. Targeting rapid dissemination of information and obtaining massive feedback from general and targeted public is envisaged, encouraging the involvement of the local community in protection and conservation activities and development of eco-tourism.

Visual identity M1:7,M13:16,M25:27,M37:39

We will create visual identity and transfer it to the design of all promotional and educational materials and project sites. Promotional material will also be printed. Contracted designer will make visual identity (logo, typography, color system, slogan, starting from M1), based in part on the recognizable stripes on the *M. rivulata* body. Designed brochure about the project, project boards, and promotional materials (bags, pens, bottles, small notebooks, planners) are planned. In addition to the above, we will make a metal badge and Facebook ID photo frame in shape of the target species and official jackets and T-shirts with the logo of the partner and the project. Also, a hat will be created containing the target species, which will be given to the volunteers as well as the local inhabitants. As the hot sunny weather is prevailing in the project area, this will be a valuable asset to the local inhabitants while also promoting this project and raising the awareness. All promotional material will be distributed among all project partners to make the distribution of materials as large and fast as possible. Promotional material will be designed and partly printed in the first year of the project, the reprint will be every subsequent year of the project. The material will be distributed to project collaborators during working meetings, to workshop stakeholders, local people during volunteer actions, the public at events organized as part of the project, etc. Social media and web

Contracted designer will create a Facebook page for the project (M1) where all relevant information about activities will be provided. Before we start with the announcements in Croatian, we will make a detailed plan of promotion through social media. The plan will include a list of all partners with detailed information about the time of posting and the layout of the post itself. We will divide the announcements into several categories - i) those that describe and announce project activities, ii) announcements after the activities, iii) interesting sketches and adventures from the field, iv) prize quizzes about the species where promotional material will be distributed as a prize, etc. The goal is to post a minimum of two posts in Croatian and one in English per month on the official Facebook page. In addition to the project's Facebook page, all partners will also need to regularly inform the public about project activities on their private channels. Further promotion of the project through the already existing digital channels of the partners is crucial if we want a greater response, since the activities of all partners are well known to the public and all partners have a large number of followers. Project profile will be created on scientific platform Research Gate.

Press relation (Oct 2022 - Feb 2023, Nov 2023 - Feb 2024, Nov 2024 - Mar 2025, Nov 2025 - Jan 2026)

M1:5 Kick-off meeting conference, in the Dubrovnik-Neretva County M26:30, M26:30 -Two press conferences; one conference each in the second and third year of the project that will follow the key project achievements of finalized project sub-activities and held in the Dubrovnik-Neretva County and in Zagreb; M38:M46 - Final conference of the project, in the Dubrovnik-Neretva County.

Dissemination of project activities will be carried out in the local community from which the individual partner comes. Each of the partners will adjust the dissemination activities, taking into account the specific requirements of the project and the specific circumstances of their community. For this reason, partners in different local communities will carry out different promotional activities. When organizing joint conferences, each partner will submit their media contact list to the coordinator, so that all contacts can be combined when sending notices and invitations to the media for conferences. The coordinator of press activities will send working materials to the media along with the invitation for conferences. Each targeted conference will include announcements in the media and media coverage during and after the held event. All press conferences will be evaluated in reports with supporting documents: event invitation cards, participant list, event photos, Media coverage analysis and collection of Press cuts on the event (M5, M17, M30, M46). All materials intended for information and communication will contain the basic elements of project visibility, which are defined according to the user instructions. The coordinator will keep records and evaluation of all dissemination activities in one place during the project, with the contribution of project partners. Flyer about the project will be prepared for the kick-off conference meeting, with the most important information about the project itself, according to the given visibility rules (M1: 5). Brochures with all major project results will be prepared for the final project conference, as a dissemination material (M38:M46).

### Publications and guidelines dissemination

To ensure the effective dissemination of the more technical and interdisciplinary and expert project products and practices, we will in total attend at least 10 professional workshops, symposia, seminars and/or conferences. The targeted audience for this type of dissemination is nature protection professionals, water and agriculture sector, biology teacher, etc. Some of already identified events for this dissemination are (i) annual meetings of high school and elementary school biology teachers, (ii) seminars for the public institutions in nature protection, (iii) EAZA conservation forum and at least three other events, (iv) professional and scientific conferences in Croatia and Europe. Project product guidelines, interdisciplinary practices and practices for habitat and population management of *M. rivulata* are envisaged to contribute to targeted groups of nature protection experts in Croatia and EU and non-EU countries managing the same species, or similar conservation issues. Negotiating and planning for transfer of the proposed solution into Montenegro, Albania or Greece is expected to yield at least one organization showing interest per mentioned country and at least 1 international application for funding.

Targeted events where we plan to disseminate, not connected to the expenses of this proposal (- EAZA annual conference, EAZA Reptile TAG mid-year meeting, Wildlife Disease Association and European Wildlife Disease Association Conference, The Zoo and Wildlife Health Conference, ICARE Conference, Southeast European Ichthyological Conference (SEEIC), NEOBIOTA - International Conference on Biological Invasions, European Herpetological Congress, European Pond Conservation Network (EPCN) conference, Symposium for European Freshwater Sciences, Konferencija o vodama (Croatian conference on water), Symposium of professional institutions in protected area management (Croatian), Symposia of Education and teacher training Agency (Croatian), Croatian Biological Congress (Croatian), International scientific-professional conference- Innovation: future of agribusiness in Croatia, Croatian and international symposium on agriculture)

### T.6.2 Educational events, programs, locations and materials (ZOO, all BEN):

This task includes the educational activities about IAS during the pond restoration with local volunteers, installation of educational tables, design of Pond keeper programme which includes the promotion of the IAS smartphone application, and the organization of Mediterranean wetland week.

The overall purpose of these activities is to communicate the importance of wetland management and sustainable use in the Mediterranean climate to the local community and explain that wetlands are no longer a threat to human health. Because the the protection of Balkan terrapin habitats from predators will be performed within involvement of locals they will learn about the damage caused by the invasive species. By the end of the project, the local citizens are expected to accept the idea of supporting the survival of terrapin in the habitat they share, the importance of the species for biodiversity, the importance of healthy ecosystem in general, and to present the species as part of the tourist offer while actively participating in environmental education programs and a work of the visitor center.

During the project, when tourists and other visitors begin to show interest in information about the Balkan terrapin, they will be provided with brochures, informative features and cartoon films, and souvenirs. Space is opening up for non-governmental organizations in a culture that can design and create a line of indigenous souvenirs as well as environmentally conscious tourist guides/educators. The cartoon will be produced by local non-governmental organizations in media culture, and it will serve as a motivation and invitation to all interested groups to volunteer for one-day habitat management actions, which will make the project visible in the community. The implementation of volunteer programs will also be presented in volunteer centers.

Education aimed at younger generations will support the long-term sustainability of the project as it has been shown that positive messages on environmental and nature protection, adopted by the youngest in kindergartens and primary schools, become part of their lifestyle and they continuously advocate and promote it in their community. As many ecological groups as possible are going to be included in educational activities, especially under the leadership of the Public Institution for Nature Protection. The Balkan terrapin costume will be used in institutions that care for the youngest and at events dedicated to the general public and will address the youngest and arouse interest. Primary and secondary schools will be invited to get acquainted with the project as part of their fieldwork and to join volunteering programs. Universities (Zagreb, Rijeka, Split, Osijek, Dubrovnik) and polytechnics can present the project to students of natural sciences and visit the field as part of fieldwork, and registration, development and monitoring of the project will be interesting for students of economics.

Mediterranean wetland week M18:22 M30:34 M42:46

Three 3-day events will be organized during the project, as pen events for the local community, to promote sustainable use of natural resources in freshwater habitats of *M. rivulata* Natura 2000. M18:20 in Majkovi, M30:34 in Konavle, M42:46 in Ston. Seminars, exhibitions with emphasis on sustainable agriculture, cruelty free fishing and turtle bycatch free fyke nets (together with new Fishery Local Action Group “Malo misto”), living and local NGOs entailed in nature protection. Educational, interpretative and promotional material focusing on turtle safe agriculture and fyke nets for the events will be prepared and disseminated our events, but also 4 locally organised fishery events. Installing 25 panels in total will address different issues, such as: warning sign of the forbidden release of invasive species; instructions on how to behave at the locality; warning, turtle on the road; brown signalization panels; interpretative boards. The bicycle path

leading from Majkovi to Prljevići will be equipped with educational-interpretative boards. Promotional flyers about the project will be printed and made available to tourist boards offices of the 4 Municipalities in project area.

Pond keeper program: The active program for children and young adults and interested landowners, in which engaged participants are motivated (small gifts, media exposure, recognition) to take care of the Mediterranean ponds in their neighbourhood or owned by proper management, sharing information on the habitat and species with DUNEZ and HYLA, use of the IAS application and Biologer app, volunteering.

Sustainable agricultural practice seminar: M18:22 M30:34 M42:46. During the Mediterranean wetland week, with invited lectures and interactive workshops, these 2-day seminars will target agricultural producers. Transition to sustainable agriculture will be promoted by networking with local LAGs and NGOs as well as certified HUB for regenerative agriculture.

Mauremys day in ZOO (M6:9 M18:21 M30:33 M42:45), to be organized on World Turtle Day, May 23rd of each year during the project time. Mauremys day will be an educational event for the ZOO visitors, that will include thematically different educational activities and presentations, creative workshops and educational games for kids. Each Mauremys day will be evaluated in Event reports (M9, M21, M33, M45). The event will be an opportunity for project partners to present themselves to the public through their role in the project, to present their activities carried out with the aim of protecting and conserving this species and its habitat. It is also an opportunity to invite educational institutions (schools and preschools) to be actively involved in promoting the importance of protection of local biodiversity, in a way to present them different opportunities for their active involvement (for example including education about volunteering in the school curriculum, organization photo competition or an exhibition of children's artworks..). Mauremys days will be announced and reported by local and national media, which will be also evaluated in reports after the Event (M9, M21, M33, M45). For events, it will be designed a costume of the Balkan pond turtle (M8). With mascot we want to enhance communication and accessibility to children, by sending certain information that is strictly dependent on its design. Also, we will use new Mauremys costume for different dissemination activities.

Educational resources for kids M1:5, M14:17, M26:30, M38:41

This action directly contributes to objective 3. We will create Mauremys educational materials - a picture book & accompanying board game, memory & puzzle game, traveling Mauremys exhibition for schools. The turtle Hrvoje is the mascot of our partner HV, Hrvatske vode, and he already appeared in four children's books published by HV so far and he educated the reader about four different topics, but never about the actual biology of Mauremys rivulata (himself). In our picture book Hrvoje would talk about himself (biology) and aspects of conservation with elements from the project. Besides book, puzzle and memory game showing the food chain in the aquatic habitat will be created.

All materials will be distributed in kindergartens, lower grades of primary school, city & school libraries, mostly in the Dubrovnik - Neretva County. The educational exhibition will travel across all schools in the project area. At the end of the project it will be permanently housed in a volunteer centre of DNZ.

We will also create an educational movie about Mauremys rivulata for project promotion- the film will show the important aspects of the biology and ecology of the species, together with the recorded threats and human impact on the endangerment and extinction of the species from certain areas of the county. In addition to the educational, the film will be of a promotional nature, as project participants will talk about project activities and project goals. We will send the educational film to primary and secondary schools in the Dubrovnik-Neretva County, and in agreement with the teachers, it will be released in biology class and in ecological group classes. In addition, the movie will be available on the YouTube channels of all project partners. The already existing booklet about the river turtle will be sent for a redesign in the first year of the project. In parallel, the authors of the booklet (Hyla) will work on revising the old texts from the booklet and supplementing it with new information. The booklet will be printed in Croatian and English.

200 Layman's report (FAZ) printed and distributed, made available on-line

500 printed and distributed picture books with accompanying board game

200 printed and distributed memory games

2000 printed and distributed puzzle games

500 views on the partner's YouTube channel

45 minutes educational movie about Mauremys rivulata

500 reprinted second edition of the booklet "The Balkan Terrapin – secretive resident of the south Dalmatia".

1 traveling exhibition (contains at least 5 rollup banners)

4 warning sign of forbidden release of invasive species (Majkovi, Prljevići, Konavle and Ston field)

3 boards with instructions on how to behave at the locality (both ponds in Majkovi, one pond Prljevići)

10 warning panels - turtle on the road (Ston & Konavle field, Majkovi & Prljevići)

8 brown signalization panels (2 at each: Ston, Majkovi, Prljevići, Konavle)

photo documentation from each of 30 schools which will host the travelling exhibition

Photo documentation of Mauremys days in ZOO



3 interpretative boards (Ston, Majkovi, Konavle)

Pond keeper diploma

Photo documentation of Mediterranean wetland week and held seminars

Photo documentation of Facility for turtle care in Dubrovnik

T.6.3 Networking with other LIFE and/or non-LIFE projects (FAZ, all BEN):

This task includes meeting and communicating with relevant LIFE and non-LIFE projects. Networking with other new LIFE projects has already been started during the preparation for this project. It will be further broadened through the LIFE kick-off meeting. The meetings and knowledge transfer with two other LIFE projects are planned through within previous tasks, such as in WP3 with LIFE Trachemys.

It is envisaged that each partner chooses from the institutions providing support for our project at least two projects from which we can learn, and participates in international meetings for 10 days in total. Additionally, the institutions providing support will be asked to contribute one person for our advisory board members, which will be included in the on-line meetings while preparing, executing and concluding the envisaged workshops and seminars.

LIFE and other projects with whom we already established communication or will establish it during the project (see letters of support):

1. As one of the main wildlife rehabilitation centres in Portugal, RIAS has received more than 500 fresh water terrapins for rehabilitation, which 85% were released back into the wild. As LIFE –Trachemys participant, they have the experience with captive breeding, Trachemys removal and wetland management and DUNEZ has organized for the whole project team to learn more on the soft release using a site visit.

2. HYLA and ZOO Zagreb collaborator MME BirdLife Hungary has a vast LIFE project experience (e.g. CONVIPURSRAC - Conservation of Hungarian meadow viper (*Vipera ursinii rakosiensis*) in the Carpathian basin but also a lot of experience with the European pond turtle management and will share experience with ZOO and HYLA during site-visits. They will be sharing expertise in nest predation monitoring, radio-tracking methods, expertise in predator exclusion methods, predator trapping methods.

3. Societas Europaea Herpetologica Conservation Committee as central organization with herpetology experts has expressed their intent to provide expertise in population reinforcement activities and will be engaged in workshops and as advisory board as they recognize the need for actions regarding the fate and future prospects of the *Mauremys rivulata*.

4. NationalPark Donau Auen is an important source of experts willing to share their experiences with the antipredator activities focused on nests.

5. Dinara back to LIFE – the project works on the restoration of dry mountain grassland habitats, but also includes the small pond restoration actions, so their Team members will be invited to participate in the workshop for developing the Pond restoration guidelines and share experience with DUNEZ and HYLA.

6. LIFE Lynx is exemplary in communication and awareness raising and we plan to use their experience (HYLA and ZOO) to help us with our objective 3.

7. European Pond Conservation Network (EPCN) has a vast experience in pond conservation and programs including the citizens so we will put an effort to include them in our advisory board as well.

The networking activities planned in this task will establish collaboration and communication with experts and practitioners in the conservation sector. The established relationships will also ensure the greater success in dissemination since these will be colleagues familiar with our work, and familiar with the potential applications of the project outcome.

## Work package WP7 – Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results

<b>Work Package Number</b>	WP7	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	1. FAZ
<b>Work Package Name</b>	Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results		
<b>Start Month</b>	1	<b>End Month</b>	48

### Objectives

Specific objective: Ensure the long-term collaboration with the private land owners. Expected results: Land agreements signed.

Specific objective: The volunteer programme established throughout the project is sustainable. Expected result: DUNEZ has the knowledge, logistics and working plan for the continuing volunteer programme

Specific objective: Ensure the knowledge transfer to other countries with the *Mauremys rivulata* conservation issue.

Expected result: At least 4 persons from Albania and Montenegro visited during the Mediterranean Wetland week, at least 1 proposal submitted for funding by the visiting organization, by the end of our project

### Description

#### T7.1 Volunteering programme (ZOO, DUNEZ, HYLA):

This task includes the development of a long term conservation action volunteering programme in Dubrovnik-Neretva County and setting up the needed infrastructure for the volunteering logistics, as well as for the safe keeping of the native and IAS turtles in the transition.

#### Planning and implementing volunteering activities M6:24

To ensure long-term volunteering program that will benefit the continuing habitat management actions and promote biodiversity with the local community, the ZOO (the partner with the most experience in these activities) will prepare the Volunteer management plan in the first year of the project. In the long term, DUNEZ requires hands-on help with various habitat management and monitoring activities, and will benefit from setting up the long term volunteering programme for running some of its conservation work. Additionally, involving local community (both children and adults) is crucial for the small Mediterranean anthropogenic ponds in depopulated villages to survive as an important feature for conservation of the Mediterranean karstic fauna and flora as well as IAS safety. Moreover, offered short term activities enrich the touristic offer in the County offering purposeful outdoor activities for adults, families and children (users for which the offer is lacking in the county). This activity is important for Objectives 1 and 3 of the project proposal.

This task includes developing, and implementing a formal Volunteer management plan, and establishing a sustainable, organized and engaging volunteer program in a way of short-term volunteer roles. Short-term volunteers will be linked to specific projects or with special teams (existing volunteer's national and international networks and organizations to be involved in volunteer participation). This short-term volunteering actions will include habitat maintenance activities during the last two years of project (M24:M48). During the planning of the Volunteer management plan we will consider two following aspects - the incorporation of the volunteers, and their support and permanence. This plan should outline our approach to setting up the following key components of a volunteer program:

- Mission statement for organization's volunteer engagement
- Definition of Volunteer
- Volunteer task descriptions
- Volunteer recruitment (strategy for engaging volunteers)
- Role of volunteer coordinator
- Volunteer support processes
- Volunteer coordination strategies and effective monitoring and evaluation of volunteer involvement
- Policies and Procedures
- Legal and risk considerations

The volunteer management plan will also include suggested possible activities for local schools as part of formal learning (M21). This means integrating volunteering in school and/or classroom activities through educational activities. Involvement of children in education on volunteering and volunteering activities with the aim of comprehensive social development of young people and promotion of volunteering. For example, we will encourage local schools to celebrate international days such as World Turtle Day or International Biodiversity Day, by providing them with variety of educational activities for students. Students will learn about volunteering and actions how to help promote and protect local species and their habitats. Suggested activities for schools needs to be integrated in the curriculum, so they will be presented to local schools (Slano, Ston, Dubrovnik, Grude, etc.) before a new school year (M21, M32:M33, M44:M45). Furthermore, these educational talks and activities will be presented by DUNEZ in a new established Turtle Center - Facility for Care and Safekeeping of the Turtles within Volunteer Education Center (see further below), through prepared educational program about Volunteering for educational institutions.

Educational program for Turtle Center will be designed by ZOO and DUNEZ and incorporated in the volunteer management plan (M20). Apart from local educational institutions, local communities and all interested public will be invited to visit Turtle Center to get familiarized with its work and goals, in order to encourage them to get involved in volunteer activities. Using planned dissemination products (WP6), especially the animated movie about *M. rivulata* (M21), we will try to reach a wider range of educational institutions and encourage them to include volunteering in the curriculum, as well as encourage local communities to engage in volunteer activities.

Volunteering management plan will be a finished document by Aug 2023 (M23). Document will be integrated into DUNEZ working plan (M24). It is important to evaluate the developed volunteering management plan, in a way to prepare evaluation report after each organized volunteering activity. A protocol for the reports will be prepared by the ZOO (M24), and ZOO will also coordinate the evaluation of volunteer activities (C4.4) during the project (M24:48). Evaluation report will include discussed preparation actions, organized volunteering training and short-term activities and their results with media coverage report and photo documentation.

Throughout the project duration, DUNEZ will offer our developed volunteering program to both local community

and various volunteer communities and organizations, in order to organize at least five short-term volunteer activity of Mauremys habitat management (WP2). This will include at least 5 local NGOs and volunteers from Croatia and abroad, during the last two years of the project (M24:48). Also, volunteer coordinator will perform a self-assessment of developed Volunteering management plan according to already defined Quality Standards and associated criteria (Croatian Volunteer Development Center) (T6.2), and will also prepare evaluation reports after each volunteer activity (M24:48). The main goal of quality standards is to ensure the quality of the volunteer program in order to improve the volunteering process.

Turtle Center - Facility for care and safekeeping of the turtles and volunteer education centre on Mediterranean wetland biodiversity of Natura 2000 sites M6:M46

The building in the vicinity of DUNEZ offices, in their ownership, is going to be equipped for safekeeping freshwater turtles until they are transported to ZOO Zagreb (M6-12). For the purpose of securing adequate conditions for animals this task includes construction work (including new electricity wires, water pipes and isolation) according to the previously made project documentation for the area of 38m<sup>2</sup>. The 10m<sup>2</sup> of facility will be equipped with 2 incubators, 2 aquarium tanks and all the equipment necessary for turtle keeping (washbowls, thermometer, AC, water hoses for filling and emptying the tanks). The location for the facility has the optimal distance from all project target site and enables the management and animal care. Part remaining space, the 28m<sup>2</sup> of the object, will be used as for training of volunteers, therefore it will be equipped with educational materials. The purpose of the facility is to host both invasive species of turtles isolated from Balkan terrapin habitats, as well as the Balkan terrapins that are planned to be transported to ZOO Zagreb.

T7.2 Private land conservation agreements and new actions in Croatia (DUNEZ, all BEN):

This task includes acquisition of agreements of the private land owners required for the implementation of the project activities and as such contributes to all 3 objectives of the project. Most of field work activities carried out in this project are located on private lands, so this is crucial for the implementation of our project, but also for good communication with the stakeholders and for the long-term sustainability of the project. The long term agreements (longer than the project duration), will enable us to seamlessly continue conducting the actions planned after the end of project, without the need for additional administrative procedures. It will also provide a good working relationship and the sense of ownership and pride in those private land biodiversity protectors. Setting up the agreements mostly consist of office work conducted by DUNEZ and because these actions are necessary for the main conservation action to begin, they are planned for the first 12 months of the project. Some of the private land turtles uses for nesting will be determined and arranged with the owners until M24. Based on timeframe and type of actions, we planned three types of agreements:

1. Refugium pond in Ston field project area. For the main activity of establishing refugium pond in Ston on a private land, for reinforcement of Mauremys population, we will obtain a long term (30 years) private land conservation agreement with the owner. This agreement will define all the actions and obligations and it will guarantee the sustainability of the project actions. Pond will be restored, secured from the predators and used to receive juvenile *M. rivulata* from ZOO Zagreb breeding facility. Surrounding garden will be monitored in the follow-up of the project for the occurrence of nesting. Verbal agreement of the owner was obtained for the concept note phase, and we have a good working relationship with the owner, thanks to our prior work in this area. In this phase, we are attaching pre-agreement (in annexes).
2. Private land with nesting sites. For protection of nesting sites (meadows), as well as for sustainable agriculture (meadows, gardens) we provide a letter of consent for the project planned actions from the stakeholders that have already expressed their verbal agreement. Three owners are targeted for short term according to our current knowledge on nesting sites. Privately owned parcels with nesting sites will be secured in the short term (project + project follow-up, 10 years) and sustainable agriculture on Mauremys sites is planned to be disseminated for the wider up-take during the project.
3. Private ponds agreements. For the ponds where basking enhancements are planned, we provide a letter of consent for the project planned actions from the stakeholders that have already expressed their verbal agreement. Six ponds are targeted for short term according to our current knowledge on extra basking spot needs.

Cost-effective method is planned for the agreements with the landowners. The most important land particle in the project is the refugium pond to be restored for the purpose of the soft-release of the bread juvenile Mauremys. This location with the adjoining private non-commercial garden (where nesting is expected in the project follow-up) will be secured in the long term (30 years) and precontract with the owner and all of the project partnership institutions is attached to this proposal. No fees are planned and the private conservation (in the future nesting sites and the pond) contracted is agreed in return for the project investment in the pond restoration.

The other landowners important for the Mauremys habitat are also planned NOT to be engaged with one-off compensations. In the attached support letters we have contacted the owners of the crucial parcels and they have agreed to have the project activities performed on their ponds, gardens, meadows, or orchids (aquatic habitat or nesting sites). The arranged compensation with the private owners is in the form of the project investment in the parcel which is mostly manual labour in case of the ponds and meadows (cleaning, mowing by external services or volunteers), or repelling of the wild boars from the parcel and estimating the plant-feeding capacity of the soil and providing agricultural consultation

and advice and planting materials. Early adopters of sustainable private or small-scale production are planned to be included in the planned dissemination activities.

New actions in Croatia: Proposal of further population and habitat restoration actions in Ston

To ensure the continuation of project actions and to look for new potential conservation activity, the DUNEZ will, in M38:41 (Nov 2024 - Jan 2025), with the input from all partners create a catalogue of locations of Ston field current and historical ponds with notes on their current biological function and usage, with the proposals for further restoration or other conservation activities.

T7.3 Impacting other Mauremys Mediterranean habitats and populations (HYLA, all BEN):

This task will include hosting 1-2 persons per our collaborator organizations from Montenegro and Albania (see support letters) – total of 4 persons hosted throughout the project duration. The planned time for their visit is during the Mediterranean wetland week, in order to provide them with opportunities to interact fully with the local community and learn about our practices, but also to be able to talk about their conservation challenges with the larger group of colleagues. The main purpose of hosting these collaborators is to transfer our experiences and practices of implementing Mauremys rivulata focused large conservation project, in order to help them with the same issue in their countries.

The expected outcome is that by the end of our project, at least one other Mauremys conservation proposal has been submitted by the visiting organizations for funding in other countries, with the proposal preparation and planning assisted by this project partners.

To ensure the replication of our project actions to other areas that are dealing with habitat restoration projects or with Mauremys rivulata protection we already communicated with colleagues over the Mediterranean covering the first neighboring Mauremys populations in Montenegro, to Mauremys experts in Tirana Natural history museum (Albania), and working on small wetland conservation in Greece and Cyprus. We expect minimum of one organization per country visiting our project (or meeting virtually if visits will be impossible due to travel restrictions) and at least 1 international application for funding in common conservation topics (WP7).

1. MEDISWET is an important project and initiative with partnership over the Mediterranean focusing on assessment and conservation of the small freshwater habitats in the Mediterranean and on the Islands (Greece and Cyprus). HYLA is one of the project partners and will be crucial for effective transfer of knowledge between these two projects.


2. From Montenegro we have secured collaboration with the civil and governmental sector dealing with nature protection. Montenegrin Ministry of ecology, spatial planning and urbanism have expressed their eagerness to learn from this projects experience driven by the need to ensure Natura 2000 network in their county.

3. Montenegrin Ecologist society are interested in evidence based conservation work with our target species and we have arranged for tight communication and sharing throughout this project.

**STAFF EFFORT**

<b>Staff effort per participant</b>								
<i>Grant Preparation (Work packages - Effort screen) — Enter the info.</i>								
<b>Participant</b>	<b>WP1</b>	<b>WP2</b>	<b>WP3</b>	<b>WP4</b>	<b>WP5</b>	<b>WP6</b>	<b>WP7</b>	<b>Total Person-Months</b>
1 - FAZ	45.10	6.20	9.25	11.50	8.75	4.35	0.80	85.95
2 - ZOO-Zg	1.65	5.05	23.95	1.15	10.10	14.55	8.05	64.50
3 - HV	6.00	9.75		0.60	1.35	5.10	3.00	25.80
4 - HYLA	25.55	20.60	2.90	3.65	10.25	37.40	2.00	102.35
5 - DUNEZ	17.80	45.00	12.55	23.00	18.60	33.05	14.75	164.75
<b>Total Person-Months</b>	96.10	86.60	48.65	39.90	49.05	94.45	28.60	443.35

## LIST OF DELIVERABLES

<b>Deliverables</b>						
<i>Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.</i>						
<i>The labels used mean:</i>						
<i>Public — fully open ( automatically posted online)</i>						
<i>Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement</i>						
<i>EU classified —RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision <a href="#">2015/444</a></i>						
<b>Deliverable No</b>	<b>Deliverable Name</b>	<b>Work Package No</b>	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	<b>Due Date (month)</b>
D1.1	D1.1 Partnership agreement	WP1	1 - FAZ	R — Document, report	SEN - Sensitive	6
D1.2	D1.2 Project plan	WP1	1 - FAZ	R — Document, report	SEN - Sensitive	6
D1.3	D1.3 Extract of the project data from the LIFE KPI webtool –M9	WP1	1 - FAZ	R — Document, report	PU - Public	9
D1.4	D1.4 Extract of the project data from the LIFE KPI webtool –M48	WP1	1 - FAZ	R — Document, report	PU - Public	48
D1.5	D1.6 Progress report M19-M36	WP1	1 - FAZ	R — Document, report	SEN - Sensitive	37
D2.1	D2.1 Guidelines for restoring and managing Mediterranean ponds and canals-1	WP2	4 - HYLA	R — Document, report	PU - Public	7
D2.2	D2.1 Guidelines for restoring and managing Mediterranean ponds and canals-update	WP2	4 - HYLA	R — Document, report	PU - Public	42
D2.3	D2.2 Guidelines for turtle friendly agriculture for landowners	WP2	4 - HYLA	DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype	PU - Public	25
D3.1	D3.1 Ex-situ program for reinforcement of Mauremys rivulata population in Croatia	WP3	1 - FAZ	R — Document, report	PU - Public	48
D3.2	D3.2 Guidelines for ex-situ turtle management in Croatia	WP3	2 - ZOO-Zg	R — Document, report	PU - Public	48

**Deliverables**

Grant Preparation (Deliverables screen) — Enter the info.

The labels used mean:

Public — fully open (⚠ automatically posted online)

Sensitive — limited under the conditions of the Grant Agreement

EU classified — RESTREINT-UE/EU-RESTRICTED, CONFIDENTIEL-UE/EU-CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET-UE/EU-SECRET under Decision [2015/444](#)

Deliverable No	Deliverable Name	Work Package No	Lead Beneficiary	Type	Dissemination Level	Due Date (month)
D4.1	D4.1 Free industrial design for a by-catch free fyke net	WP4	1 - FAZ	DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype	PU - Public	46
D5.1	D5.1 Project impact on ecosystem condition and services	WP5	1 - FAZ	R — Document, report	PU - Public	46
D5.2	D5.2 Public opinion on fish trap usage	WP5	1 - FAZ	R — Document, report	PU - Public	33
D6.1	D6.1 Mauremys film	WP6	4 - HYLA	DEC — Websites, patent filings, videos, etc	PU - Public	41
D7.1	D7.1 First private land conservation agreement and parcel secured for 30 years	WP7	5 - DUNEZ	R — Document, report	SEN - Sensitive	12



**Deliverable D1.1 – D1.1 Partnership agreement**

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D1.1	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	1. FAZ
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D1.1 Partnership agreement		
<b>Type</b>	R — Document, report	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	SEN - Sensitive
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	6	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP1

<b>Description</b>
electronic or printed, EN

**Deliverable D1.2 – D1.2 Project plan**

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D1.2	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	1. FAZ
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D1.2 Project plan		
<b>Type</b>	R — Document, report	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	SEN - Sensitive
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	6	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP1

<b>Description</b>
[R — Document, report] [DMP — Data Management Plan] [ETHICS] [SECURITY] Electronic, EN Including: Project and quality plan with detailed project time plan, DMP, Risk register and mitigation plan

**Deliverable D1.3 – D1.3 Extract of the project data from the LIFE KPI webtool –M9**

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D1.3	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	1. FAZ
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D1.3 Extract of the project data from the LIFE KPI webtool –M9		
<b>Type</b>	R — Document, report	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	PU - Public
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	9	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP1

<b>Description</b>
Electronic, EN

**Deliverable D1.4 – D1.4 Extract of the project data from the LIFE KPI webtool –M48**

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D1.4	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	1. FAZ
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D1.4 Extract of the project data from the LIFE KPI webtool –M48		
<b>Type</b>	R — Document, report	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	PU - Public
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	48	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP1

<b>Description</b>
Electronic, EN



**Deliverable D1.5 – D1.6 Progress report M19-M36**

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D1.5	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	1. FAZ
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D1.6 Progress report M19-M36		
<b>Type</b>	R — Document, report	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	SEN - Sensitive
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	37	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP1

<b>Description</b>
Electronic, EN

**Deliverable D2.1 – D2.1 Guidelines for restoring and managing Mediterranean ponds and canals-1**

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D2.1	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	4. HYLA
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D2.1 Guidelines for restoring and managing Mediterranean ponds and canals-1		
<b>Type</b>	R — Document, report	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	PU - Public
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	7	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP2

<b>Description</b>
Electronic, EN Delivered at M7 and updated at the end of the project.

**Deliverable D2.2 – D2.1 Guidelines for restoring and managing Mediterranean ponds and canals-update**

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D2.2	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	4. HYLA
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D2.1 Guidelines for restoring and managing Mediterranean ponds and canals-update		
<b>Type</b>	R — Document, report	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	PU - Public
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	42	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP2

<b>Description</b>
update

**Deliverable D2.3 – D2.2 Guidelines for turtle friendly agriculture for landowners**

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D2.3	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	4. HYLA
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D2.2 Guidelines for turtle friendly agriculture for landowners		
<b>Type</b>	DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	PU - Public
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	25	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP2

<b>Description</b>
M25 Electronic, EN, CRO

The guidelines are important as a demonstration tool. The sensitive Appendices with the exact locations of the most important nesting sites per population are intended only for the responsible stakeholders

### Deliverable D3.1 – D3.1 Ex-situ program for reinforcement of Mauremys rivulata population in Croatia

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D3.1	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	1. FAZ
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D3.1 Ex-situ program for reinforcement of Mauremys rivulata population in Croatia		
<b>Type</b>	R — Document, report	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	PU - Public
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	48	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP3

#### Description

Electronic, EN  
The program is an important tool for future needs in other regions with depleted Mauremys populations.

### Deliverable D3.2 – D3.2 Guidelines for ex-situ turtle management in Croatia

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D3.2	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	2. ZOO-Zg
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D3.2 Guidelines for ex-situ turtle management in Croatia		
<b>Type</b>	R — Document, report	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	PU - Public
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	48	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP3

#### Description

Electronic, EN, CRO  
The guidelines are an important tool for future needs in ex-situ turtle management in Croatia, and showcase of the required management steps, considerations and decisions.

### Deliverable D4.1 – D4.1 Free industrial design for a by-catch free fyke net

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D4.1	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	1. FAZ
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D4.1 Free industrial design for a by-catch free fyke net		
<b>Type</b>	DEM — Demonstrator, pilot, prototype	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	PU - Public
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	46	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP4

#### Description

Electronic, EN,

### Deliverable D5.1 – D5.1 Project impact on ecosystem condition and services

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D5.1	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	1. FAZ
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D5.1 Project impact on ecosystem condition and services		
<b>Type</b>	R — Document, report	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	PU - Public

<b>Due Date (month)</b>	46	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP5
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<b>Description</b>
Electronic, EN,

### Deliverable D5.2 – D5.2 Public opinion on fish trap usage

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D5.2	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	1. FAZ
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D5.2 Public opinion on fish trap usage		
<b>Type</b>	R — Document, report	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	PU - Public
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	33	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP5

<b>Description</b>
[R — Document, report] [DATA — data sets, microdata, etc.] [PU — Public] M33 Electronic, EN,

### Deliverable D6.1 – D6.1 Mauremys film

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D6.1	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	4. HYL A
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D6.1 Mauremys film		
<b>Type</b>	DEC — Websites, patent filings, videos, etc	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	PU - Public
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	41	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP6

<b>Description</b>
EN, CRO, video

### Deliverable D7.1 – D7.1 First private land conservation agreement and parcel secured for 30 years

<b>Deliverable Number</b>	D7.1	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	5. DUNEZ
<b>Deliverable Name</b>	D7.1 First private land conservation agreement and parcel secured for 30 years		
<b>Type</b>	R — Document, report	<b>Dissemination Level</b>	SEN - Sensitive
<b>Due Date (month)</b>	12	<b>Work Package No</b>	WP7

<b>Description</b>
Electronic, EN, CRO Contract and the proof of obligation from the cadastre

## LIST OF MILESTONES

<b>Milestones</b>					
<i>Grant Preparation (Milestones screen) — Enter the info.</i>					
<b>Milestone No</b>	<b>Milestone Name</b>	<b>Work Package No</b>	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	<b>Means of Verification</b>	<b>Due Date (month)</b>
1	M7 Sustainable agriculture and fishery demonstrated	WP6	4-HYLA	Signatory list of participants, foto documentation, press clippings: Sustainable agriculture and fishery demonstrated and disseminated locally and in at least 1 foreign country (Montenegro, Albania, any of the Mediterranean Mauremys or Emys inhabited countries) trough activities of the Mediterranean wetland days	35
2	MS6 Workshop on sustainable fishery	WP4	5-DUNEZ	Signatory list and main conclusions, press clipping, fotodocumentation: Defined and proposed responsibilities and actions, across different stakeholders, regarding: a) the need to substitute fishing traps and fyke nets with the alternative equipment, safe for the freshwater air breathing organisms b) the need to remove all illegal fishing traps c) current methods of control of IAS fish in the county. The outcomes from this workshop will be strongly promoted in the educational program of the project in WP6 trough at least 3 events.	12
3	MS5 First clutch hatched in Zagreb ZOO	WP3	2-ZOO-Zg	Photo documentation, newspaper clippings	24
4	MS4 First oviposition in Zagreb ZOO	WP3	2-ZOO-Zg	by 31.7.2025 M23 Photo documentation, newspaper clippings	23
5	MS3 Mating recorded in Zagreb ZOO	WP3	2-ZOO-Zg	Mating in the springtime critical to the success of the program by 30.6.2025 M22 Photo documentation, newspaper clippings	22
6	MS2 Five founders provided for breeding	WP3	4-HYLA	5 founders are critical to the success	13

<b>Milestones</b>					
<i>Grant Preparation (Milestones screen) — Enter the info.</i>					
<b>Milestone No</b>	<b>Milestone Name</b>	<b>Work Package No</b>	<b>Lead Beneficiary</b>	<b>Means of Verification</b>	<b>Due Date (month)</b>
				of the program by 30.9.2024 M13 Photo documentation, newspaper clippings	
7	MS1 Ston refugium pond (owner M. Barović) restored	WP2	3-HV	Photo documentation, newspaper clippings: Based on the preformed hydrogeological study and the guidelines provided earlier in the project, the private land parcel containing desiccated pond is completely restored along with the adjoining area for potential nesting. This pond will be a refugium pond to accept Ston Mauremys population reinforcement which will be reared in the Zagreb ZOO in task 3.4.	24

## LIST OF CRITICAL RISKS

<b>Critical risks &amp; risk management strategy</b>			
<i>Grant Preparation (Critical Risks screen) — Enter the info.</i>			
<b>Risk number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Work Package No(s)</b>	<b>Proposed Mitigation Measures</b>
1	Captive breeding of Mauremys rivulata - medium concern i) Mating is not happening in Zagreb ZOO, ii) Caught animals are not at reproductive age iii) Hatching is not in planned numbers (mortality, diseases)	WP3	To ensure the most successful captive breeding program at the beginning of the project population reinforcement plan and exit strategy (in accordance with IUCN guidelines) will be prepared and reviewed by relevant stakeholders. The part of the exit strategy concerning points i) and ii) has already been explained in the attached document (Exit strategy).
2	Obtaining permits, letters of support, contract - low concern For revitlization of ponds permissions from	WP2, WP4, WP3,	- competent authorities in charge and owners consulted beforehand and letters of support as the results of these consultations

<b>Critical risks &amp; risk management strategy</b>			
<i>Grant Preparation (Critical Risks screen) — Enter the info.</i>			
<b>Risk number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Work Package No(s)</b>	<b>Proposed Mitigation Measures</b>
	county administrative departments and competent Ministry are needed, accordingly delays for getting them are possible	WP1, WP6, WP5, WP7	Attached: - all county administrative departments (some of them are owners of the ponds) & the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development which is a roof organization considering nature conservation in Croatia -we have already signed the contract with the owner of the land on which the refugium pond, for releasing juveniles from captive breeding, is located. - activities planned with expectation of administrative delays
3	COVID -19 force majeure - medium concern may affect planned project actions such as training, meetings, conferences, study trips, education, and awareness-raising events WP1 T1.2 WP2 T2.1 T2.2 WP3 T3.1 WP4 T4.1 WP6 T6.2 T6.3 WP7 T7.3	WP2, WP4, WP3, WP1, WP6, WP7	- necessary meetings can be held hybrid or online (zoom, skype); meetings in person will adopt latest COVID related health and safety standards.
4	On-Field activities success - low concern Due to heavy rains and bad weather conditions, some field trips (e.g. for data collection) will have to be postponed.	WP2, WP4, WP3, WP5	- the beneficiary will intensify activities in the period where weather conditions are good.
5	Restoration of the pond - low concern During restoration impermeable clay layer can be penetrated by digging and extraction of the sludge, and the pond will no longer maintain the water.	WP2	- before restoration activities, hydrogeological study will be done to ensure that the clay impermeable layer stays untouched and the pond retains water.
6	Efficiency of the project beneficiaries - low concern delays in execution, partners underperform, underestimation of the required effort	WP2, WP4, WP3, WP1, WP6, WP5, WP7	- clear project management structure and success metrics formalized; effective project communication platform and document repository; Clear project activity responsibilities; regular (online, hybrid and face-to-face) meetings to ensure emerging issues are detected early; periodical quality checks on deliverables monitor the planned versus actual effort per task; early warning in quarterly status reviews; timely team reinforcement.
7	Low interest of local agricultural producers on nesting sites - medium concern T2.1, T4.1	WP2, WP4	- direct and timely communication with few land owners have been established during the preparation of full project proposal (signed letters of support). During the project, a few workshops/seminars will be organized for local agricultural producers. To ensure the highest possible response, the place and time of the workshops will

<b>Critical risks &amp; risk management strategy</b>			
<i>Grant Preparation (Critical Risks screen) — Enter the info.</i>			
<b>Risk number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Work Package No(s)</b>	<b>Proposed Mitigation Measures</b>
			be adjusted to the farmers, and the date of the workshops will be announced in the local media. Regular communication with interested agricultural producers will ensure they remain in the regenerative agriculture program until the end of the project. In order to ensure long-term collaboration, every year the complementary-soil devices, testing and proof of impact will be offered to producers in the agriculture program to sustain their motivation.
8	Low interest of local volunteers - medium concern From the very beginning of the research of Mauremys rivulata in Croatia, the local community has embraced the species as a status symbol and directly or indirectly participated in the protection of the species and conservation activities. Within this project, their involvement will only be additionally formalized. But despite their previous interest in species protection, there is a possibility of low response to local volunteer actions. T2.4,T2.5	WP2	- volunteer meetings and education programs during the volunteer program planning phase; regular communication with volunteers Zagreb ZOO (years of experience in working with volunteers) is included in the project partnership and has assured to carry out T7.1 to plan of volunteering activities. - actions be promoted in local media, on local bulletin boards, and with posters on community centers (T6.1, T6.2). - all volunteering activities will be presented by DUNEZ in a newly established Facility for Care and Safekeeping of the Turtles within Volunteer Education Center (T7.1), through a prepared educational program. Targeted stakeholders will be familiarized with its work and goals, to motivate them for the planned volunteer activities. Additionally, volunteering activities will be presented to local schools (T6.2).
9	Fully realized planned results in question	WP2, WP4, WP3, WP1, WP6, WP5, WP7	full-time manager - additional year and additional relevant partner included since 2019 application of project idea - Faculty ensures the support and conditions for the implementation (legal, financial assistance in procurement, financial reporting)
10	Socio-economic environment - low concern	WP2, WP4, WP3, WP1, WP6, WP5, WP7	Spatial plans (municipality of Dubrovačko Primorje - 2012 and of the Dubrovnik-Neretva County) the route of the main gas pipeline is planned near the Natura 2000 site Majkovi-lokve. The route bypasses the sites at a distance of 200 m and will not affect the activities that will be done as part of the project. A golf zone is planned in the spatial plan of the Dubrovnik- Neretva County near the village of Prljevići, but it will not affect the activities we have planned in that area. In Konavle, there are no planned interventions near the locations of activities. Ston: All the sites we are working on are in the field which belongs to the water protection



<b>Critical risks &amp; risk management strategy</b>			
<i>Grant Preparation (Critical Risks screen) — Enter the info.</i>			
<b>Risk number</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Work Package No(s)</b>	<b>Proposed Mitigation Measures</b>
			zone 2 and according to the spatial plan to agricultural land of exceptional value. In the planning documentation of the county, there are no newly planned interventions for that area.



# Programme for the Environment and Climate Action (LIFE)

## Description of the action (DoA)

### Part B

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## 1. RELEVANCE

### 1.1 Background and general project objectives

#### Background and general project objectives

*Explain the problem and the needs to be addressed in the project. Describe the background, starting point / quantified baseline of the project.*

*Please explain in which location and/or sector the main activities of the project will take place and justify that choice.*

*For Nature and Biodiversity:*

*Provide a clear and quantified description of the conservation issue and threats targeted, as well as relevant background information and quantified figures defining the baseline to justify the proposed Interventions by*

*At stage 1 (concept note) when relevant, describe the main species/habitats directly targeted by the project: scientific name; refer to the Annex(es) of the EU Birds or Habitats Directive where they are listed; population size within each project area; conservation status; habitat name and Natura 2000 code; % of the cover within each project area; conservation status.*

*At stage 2 (full proposals), when relevant, provide a brief description of the areas where conservation actions will be implemented and main species and / or main habitats directly targeted by the project, and submit the following annexes:*

- maps
- description of sites
- description of species and habitats

*Describe the previous conservation efforts in the project area or for the habitats/species targeted.*

*For Circular Economy and Quality of Life (n/a to Environmental governance topics):*

*Describe the previous technical preparatory work and results of previous research and development activities, showing the status of technical development achieved for the proposed solution, including the technical readiness level (TRL) where relevant and proving its technical feasibility.*

*Explain the scale at which such results have been obtained and if prototypes have been already developed and tested. Their scale/dimension and relevant results and conclusions have to be clearly presented. Illustrate available best practices in the relevant sector (state of the art) and clearly and concisely explain the environmental, technical and economical improved performances/ advantages introduced by the proposed solution in case this is claimed to be innovative/ demonstrative.*

The Balkan Terrapin, *Mauremys rivulata* (Valenciennes, 1833), represents one of the two genera of freshwater turtles of Europe, and it is protected under the Habitats Directive, listed under both Annex II and Annex IV. In Croatia, this is one of the most iconic umbrella species of reptile conservation, and one of the two native freshwater turtle species. It is primarily a Mediterranean species, with its range extending from western Asia to Balkan Peninsula, but with presence also in the Black Sea and Continental biogeographical regions. In Croatia, its distribution is limited to southern part of the country, where it occurs in 4 isolated populations, representing the north-western edge of species' range.

*Mauremys rivulata* is a semi-aquatic species and it inhabits a wide range of freshwater habitats, from slow flowing rivers, creeks, and canals to springs, ponds, lakes, and swamps. It can tolerate a wide range of temperature, pH, and to some extent also some amount of pollution, but it usually cannot be found in fast currents or brackish waters. Despite this seeming ecological flexibility, in recent research drastic population declines were noted for two of the Croatian populations in comparison with the data from the '80-es, and the conservation status for this species was assessed as *Unfavorable - bad*. For the Mediterranean biogeographical region, it was assessed as *Unfavourable - inadequate*.

The overall unfavourable status of the species has not been addressed in large scale EU/LIFE projects so far. While more research is needed to provide information about the species' habitat requirements, biology, and reproduction for improving its management, most of the factors threatening this species are well established and can be addressed within the scope of the proposed project.

The national *Management plan with the action plan for Mauremys rivulata* (MPAP), for which the expert study was developed by conservation experts from HYLA (Association Hyla) and FAZ (University of Zagreb Faculty of agriculture), identified the following threats: 1) habitat loss and degradation caused by channelization of watercourses and ecological succession due to land abandonment; 2) illegal use of fish traps in some localities resulting in high mortality of both *M. rivulata* but also other freshwater turtle species, *Emys orbicularis*; 3) predation by invasive alien species (wild boar and mongoose) on the nesting sites; 4) competition and pathogen transmission from invasive terrapin species *Trachemys scripta*; and potentially 5) mineral and organic pesticide residues in soil and water. Also, some of the agricultural practices are potentially detrimental to Balkan terrapin nests, as most of the land surrounding the *M. rivulata* water habitats is agricultural land. Agricultural land can create two distinct issues: the lack of activities on the abandoned agricultural land (leading to succession of the nesting sites) or land under intense, conventional agriculture, with high risk of pesticide and fertilizer pollution and/or crop rotation practices that can be harmful to *M. rivulata* nests.

Most of the *M. rivulata* habitats in Croatia are secondary anthropogenic water bodies designed and maintained for traditional agricultural practices. However, with the cessation of the use of surface water bodies for water supply, irrigation, and watering livestock, canals and ponds are left to natural succession, degradation, and in the end complete disappearance due to the lack of maintenance. Currently, all of the ponds and canals where the target species occurs are threatened by some level of succession, eutrophication, and general habitat deterioration (including by being used for waste disposal). While not much can be done where urbanization has taken its toll (Rijeka Dubrovačka - not in the scope of this proposal, population considered locally extinct), habitat alterations affecting 100% of the species

individuals in Croatia that are mainly due to inadequate management of the agricultural area are in the scope of this proposal. More than 40% of the species habitat in Croatia is classified as agricultural surfaces.

In the last 15 years a number of small-scale projects have been conducted by the proposal partners, HYLA, DUNEZ (Public institution for the management of protected natural areas of Dubrovnik – Neretva county), and Zagreb ZOO, investigating the distribution, habitat, ecology, genetics, and population dynamics of this species, working on habitat management and raising public awareness. ZOO currently safeguards a small number of animals rescued from direct threats in Ston field.

By working with local stakeholders through all of the previous projects we established a good relationship with local community, and the species is recognized as an important part of natural heritage of southern Croatia (e.g. the species is used as a logo of local football club, as well as the mascot for the national water management education campaign of HV (partner: Hrvatske vode, Croatian waters). These previous projects enabled us to collect data and get a clear picture of current *Mauremys rivulata* populations and the status of its habitats.

The species inhabits five Natura 2000 sites (in total of 49.150 ha) in Dubrovnik-Neretva County of Croatia. The Natura 2000 sites that are designated for protection of this species are SCI HR2000947 Gornji Majkovi and SCI HR2000555 Prljevići (for both of these sites the population estimate is >142 animals), SCI HR2000946 Sniježnica and Konavle field (>416 estimated), and SCI HR5000031 Delta Neretve (during population estimate trial in 2019 no individuals have been confirmed). In addition, previously important site for this species, where the species was considered locally extinct, is Natura 2000 site SCI HR2001364 JI dio Pelješca. On this locality 6 animals were counted in the most recent field investigations in 2018 and 2019.

These previous projects have not significantly addressed the long-term habitat management, nor revitalized decimated populations. To improve the unfavourable conservation status of this protected species, a well-planned, large-scale endeavour is necessary, with strategic involvement of the local community and focused interdisciplinary actions to address all of the threats.

Our general goal is to improve the conservation status of north-western populations of *M. rivulata*. To achieve this, we propose a set of conservation actions foreseen in the National MPAP, targeting the recognized threats across five Natura 2000 sites in Dubrovnik-Neretva County, which contain 100% of *M. rivulata* populations in Croatia. These actions include habitat restoration and improvement across wet habitats important for this species, securing the nesting sites, both through collaboration with local landowners (Private Land Stewardship), establishing control of the invasive alien species that threaten the *M. rivulata* or its habitats, designing a turtle-friendly fishing tool and promoting sustainable fishery to eliminate by-catch, and reinforcing the population in the historically important site, through assisted breeding program as well as proposal of aquatic habitat management suitable for the species feeding, estivation and hibernation harmonisation with agro-technical measures suitable for the species nesting sites.

In addition to the nature protection sector, our project main activities will take place across two other sectors: freshwater management sector and agriculture (including both land farmers and fisheries). This will be achieved through our partnership with the competent national authority for water management

(HV), our work with local fisherman and other relevant stakeholders, and through collaboration with landowners for trials of biodiversity-friendly agricultural practices as well as through the support of the Ministry of agriculture. Main actions will be further strengthened through series of planned outputs (guidelines development), actions, and events (regenerative agriculture seminars at Wetland week, educational activities with local schools, etc.).

Further, our project takes place across both private and public sectors, by including private owners in the Natura 2000 areas (land stewardship), local farmers (vegetables, fruit, vine, honey), fisherman (small-scale and for private needs), hunters and NGOs, as well as public institutions (partnership structure, but also including local public schools, tourist agencies, etc.).

We chose those sectors based on our analysis of the main threats to our target species: the management of water bodies is crucial for species habitats, management of land where the species is nesting is crucial for nest survival, and the mitigation of the by-catch is important to decrease the species mortality. The cross-sectoral design is at the core of our proposal and is reflected in our partnership, so we can address all of these issues from “within” the sector, with each partner contribution to its own area of expertise.

*This project was previously submitted for LIFE programme, as LIFE20 NAT/HR/001219. The proposal has not been significantly changed in the terms of the planned objectives, actions, project area, scope, and partnership. However, we have addressed all of the comment from previous evaluation (including rewriting large parts of the proposal to make it more clear and concise), and we have provided additional information to be in line with the 2021 Call documents, the new LIFE Regulation, and the new application format.*

*List of changes relating to the NAT/HR/001219 review:*

- actions are more streamlined and written more clearly
- number of deliverables and milestones is reduced (partner HV added as responsible for one deliverable affecting their sector and providing more sustainability for the results)
- the objectives quantified and more concrete, baselines are provided, project output stated clearly
- project replication is planned for Albania and Montenegro *Mauremys rivulata* populations
- support of Ministry of agriculture is acquired
- project includes more clearly learning from relevant and experienced institutions and projects
- organisational chart provided and project management described in more detail
- Layman’s report is included in the plan and the budget of dissemination package
- Green procurement and EU Ecolabel are taken into consideration
- workload allocation was adjusted for DUNEZ regarding development of the guidelines for habitat management and “other” costs are allocated to specific budget categories and described

*First idea draft was submitted as LIFE19-NAT\_HR\_000210.*

## 1.2 Specific project objectives

### Specific project objectives

*Describe the specific objectives of your project (clear, measurable, realistic and achievable within the duration of the project).*

To improve the conservation status of *M. rivulata* in Croatia through assisted breeding and population



reinforcement, restoring and improving the quality of habitats across its range, addressing the threats and adapting long-term management, we identified the following specific objectives:

1. Restore habitats and mitigate direct threats for 100% of *M. rivulata* Croatian population

Rehabilitate and restore wet habitats (ponds and wetlands) of *M. rivulata* across three Natura 2000 sites designated for its conservation and in one Natura 2000 site where this population was considered locally extinct until 2019, through the following specific objectives:

*Restore and improve the habitat*

- Complete restoration of the most degraded ponds – three ponds with adjacent canals, at least 36 ha with surrounding landscape, habitat significantly improved for two Croatian populations, or 25 % of total population of Croatia. One of the restored ponds (Ston field project area) will enable 7 % increase in *M. rivulata* population in Croatia ensured by our reinforcement actions during the project, with estimated 45 % long term increase.
- Succession control in ponds, canals and adjacent nesting sites - total of 2850 ha of restored wet habitats in 4 Natura 2000 sites.
- Improving habitat quality by setting up basking sites - (at least 8 basking enhancements at 6 ponds set up) and increasing connectivity (1 tunnel adapted to be a functional ecological corridor between two ponds) in 3 Natura 2000 sites.

*Address other known threats*

- Secure nesting sites - in collaboration with landowners adapt turtle-friendly land management and agricultural practices at minimum of 6 nesting sites to have at least 10 m<sup>2</sup> of nesting site area per population secured for Majkovi, Prljevići and Ston populations (each 20 m<sup>2</sup>)
- Removing invasive species and address the potential pathogen threat - remove invasive fish, turtle and aquatic knotgrass from all restored and improved sites:
  - all of *Gambusia sp.* population from two out of three ponds where it is currently known to be present: one Natura 2000 site 100 % clear, one Natura 2000 site 50 % clear (affecting 25 % of the total *Mauremys r.* population);
  - capture all currently known IAS turtles in three Natura 2000 sites (Ston, Majkovi, Prljevići 100 % clear of *Trachemys scripta*) and have at least additional 5 removal IAS actions based on volunteer alerts during the project;
  - pathogen testing of animal IAS and of target species throughout the project
  - *Paspalum* knotgrass totally eliminated from all three ponds where it is currently known to be present (two Natura 2000 sites 100% clear, aquatic habitat secured for 25% of the total *Mauremys rivulata* population).
- Design, build, test, and disseminate the turtle-friendly fyke-traps to eliminate by-catch threat and mitigate illegal fishing – 30 fyke nets built, tested in in three phases and in collaboration with at least 10 local fishermen in Delta Neretve Natura 2000 site and at least 3 research/management experts, across the entire project area, as well as in Albania and Montenegro.

*Improved long-term management*

- Prepare, test, suggest adaptation, and/or adopt the following documents: Guidelines for restoring and managing Mediterranean ponds and canals; conservation management plans for NATURA2000 and protected areas of Dubrovnik-Neretva county (Pelješac peninsula (Ston),

Sniježnica and Konavle field); Guidelines for turtle friendly agriculture for landowners, Guidelines for ex-situ turtle management in Croatia, Ex-situ program for reinforcement of *Mauremys rivulata* population in Croatia, Standards for assessment of ecological status and potential for habitat sustainability for *Mauremys rivulata* (HV), update for Water quality standard, Volunteering management plan for PI for management of protected areas of Dubrovnik-Neretva county.

2. Reinforcement of the most critically endangered population in Croatia through assisted breeding

Parallel to the activities of the complete restoration of habitat and addressing the threats in the Stone field project area, we will run an assisted breeding programme at ZOO facility. Specific objectives are to:

- Run a breeding program in ZOO Zagreb assisted breeding facility - producing 40 hatchlings
- Establishing a reproduction center in Dubrovnik-Neretva county to accept the hatchlings in soft release by the end of the project (restored pond secured from the predators, knowledge transfer from ZOO Zagreb)

3. Raise public perception of *M. rivulata* as the umbrella species for the healthy Mediterranean wetlands

Working with local schools, the touristic sector, local food producers, volunteer networks, media, and landowners:

- Organize 11 workshops in person, hybrid and on-line (5 habitat management workshops (1 on ponds, 1 on canals; 3 focused on landowners of private agriculture parcels in Natura 2000 with *Mauremys*) at least 100 stakeholders reached; 3 workshops for *Mauremys* ex situ management (at least 50 stakeholders reached); 3 sustainable agricultures at nesting sites at Mediterranean wetland days (at least 20 owners reached));
- 3 seminars (at Mediterranean wetland days, at least 500 people reached);
- 1 educational program (The pond keeper: 1 picture book (500 distributed), 1 documentary book (500 re-print), 3 games (2700 distributed), 1 documentary movie, 1 traveling exhibition 30 schools visited with at least 2000 children reached)
- touristic program (*Mauremys* days in ZOO \*4, Mediterranean wetland days \*3, at least 8000 people reached)
- volunteer program - 1
  - volunteer actions - 5 short-term, at least 50 volunteers included

**1.3 Compliance with LIFE programme objectives and call topic**

**Compliance with LIFE Programme objectives**

*Explain how the project contributes to the specific objectives of the LIFE Programme and the sub-programme targeted by the call (Nature and Biodiversity, Circular Economy and Quality of Life, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation or Clean Energy Transition).*

LIFE for Mauremys will contribute to LIFE programme objective to protect, restore and improve the quality of the environment (through restoration and habitat improvement actions), halt and reverse biodiversity loss (through assisted breeding programme and reinforcement of declining species), and to support implementation and management of the Natura 2000 network (by implementing conservation objectives for targeted Natura 2000 species within its designated Natura 2000 sites, and providing guidelines to

improve this species and Natura 2000 sites management in the future).

In particular, LIFE for Mauremys will contribute to sub-programme Nature and Biodiversity by implementing the EU's policy objective for halting and reversing loss of wildlife habitats and species. Specifically, our project directly contributes to the implementation of Habitats Directive by improving conservation status of Balkan terrapin, *Mauremys rivulata*, which has "unfavorable-bad" conservation status in Croatia, and which is listed under Annex II and IV of the Habitats Directive. We will achieve this improvement through habitat restoration and improvements, management adaptation, directly addressing the threats, and by species reinforcement through assisted breeding program.

The long-term success of our interventions will be achieved through improving the species and site management, proposing the legislative change regarding the fishing tool, the inclusion of *M. rivulata* in SDF form of SCI HR2001364 JI dio Pelješca (as communicated with the Ministry: "3.2. Species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and species listed in Annex II to Directive 92/43/EEC and site evaluation for them, population marked as "D - non significant"), and through partnering with HV, the competent authority for water management in Croatia. Our partnership structure (inclusion of public bodies responsible for management of targeted Natura sites, private company that is competent authority for national water management, research and expert institution in conservation of animal genetic resources, sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and the nature conservation NGO) will improve nature governance through enhancing capacities of public, private and NGO sector.

#### Compliance with the call topic

*Indicate the call topic to which your proposal relates, and explain how the proposed project addresses the scope of the topic description in the Call document.*

Our proposal is a traditional LIFE project which falls under the call topic Nature and Biodiversity (LIFE-2021-SAP-NAT-NATURE). Based on our planned actions our proposal falls under intervention area "Space for nature" because our actions are implemented in the existing Natura 2000 sites with the goal to improve the condition of species and habitats for which they were designated. We will achieve this by implementing the existing conservation objectives, established in the *Management plan with action plan for Mauremys rivulata* (in the final stage of the adoption process), and by developing, testing, and implementing our tested practices into the future Natura 2000 site management plans for our project area.

Further, our project also falls under intervention area "Protecting our species", as we are addressing the threats, in particular by removing invasive alien species (including invasive alien species of special concern for EU, *Trachemys scripta*), lowering the mortality by developing sustainable fishing tools eliminating by-catch, protecting the species from the predators, improving connectivity (to avoid road mortality), and addressing the threat to nesting sites from agriculture. We are further addressing the stakeholder conflicts (through working with HV and private owners, e.g. in T2.1 and T2.2, which are sometimes in conflict over the canal management in Ston and Konavle fields). Because our project has a strong awareness raising component and programs for volunteering through involving the local schools and collaboration with private landowners, we are also working on improving acceptance and promoting co-existence with the protected species.

Our project falls under the scope for this subprogram, especially considering that it is targeting the species covered by EU Habitats directive which has been assessed with *unfavourable-bad* (U2) conservation

status on the latest Article 17 reports assessments for Croatia. Although the Croatia has been addressed in the Call document for LIFE programme as a country with recent accession and high proportion of species with unknown status, we would like to point out that our targeted species, *Mauremys rivulata*, is one of the species for which status has been assessed, based on the long-term research on this species, by FAZ and HYLA in particular. Because the conservation status of this species is somewhat better in Cyprus and Greece, the species has an *unfavorable – inadequate* (U1) status at the level of the Mediterranean biogeographical region.

Our project also contributes to the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030. In particular, considering the priorities for LIFE support under the EU Biodiversity strategy to 2030, our project is addressing “Implementing the EU nature restoration targets for species and habitats” and “Restoring degraded and carbon rich ecosystems” (wetlands). We will also somewhat contribute to priority “Bringing nature back to agricultural land”, through working with landowners on implementation of biodiversity friendly practices and promoting regenerative agriculture within all of our project areas as well as promoting Private Land Stewardship for the most important locality in one of Natura 2000 localities.

Our actions of invasive species control (fish, plant, and turtle) and the promotion of citizen science app for invasive species detection and data collection will contribute to implementation of the EU regulation on Invasive Alien Species by decreasing the negative impact of IAS on the species protected under EU legislation, and in particular by addressing the invasive alien species included on the invasive alien species of Union concern (*Trachemys scripta*).

## 1.4 Concept and methodology

### Concept and methodology

*Describe the overall intervention logic of the project, including the main idea and assumptions (i.e. how are the proposed activities and steps of your project expected to lead to the intended changes in terms of outcomes and impacts).*

*Explain the methodology, i.e. the main tools, techniques, methods and procedures you will use to implement the technical part of your project. Justify why the proposed methodology is the most suitable for achieving the project's objectives.*

*For Clean Energy Transition:*

*Describe the market barriers, the needs and constraints of market actors, and how your concept will address them concretely.*

*For Circular Economy and Quality of Life (n/a to Environmental governance topics):*

*Describe the technical details of the proposed solution (process, material, product etc.) using a flowchart and including, where possible, the general mass and energy balance. Explain how you plan to establish your supply chain.*

*Specify the scale (e.g. production capacity) and output of the project (e.g. quantity produced/sold during the project). The chosen technical scale should be one that allows the evaluation of the technical and economic viability of the proposed solution. In case of close-to-market conditions the target should be industrial/commercial scale already during the project.*

*Overall intervention logic.* Our overall intervention logic for this project is based on long-term experience in working with this species and a comprehensive assessment of known threats. Our project is ambitious because we will attempt to address all of the known threats: habitat degradation, loss of connectivity and quality, pressures from agriculture and fisheries, predator pressure, and invasive alien species. At the same time in which we will address all of the known threats we will conduct an assisted breeding programme to provide reinforcement of the most endangered population. This plan has been defined and

recognized at the national level, through recently adopted *Management plan with the action plan for Mauremys rivulata* (MPAP).

We believe that the proposed project activities will lead to the expected outcomes for three main reasons. The first one is the comprehensives of planned actions (addressing *all* of the threats in addition to boosting the most threatened population). The second reason is our plan to fully work with the local community, thanks to our previously established relationship and to a concrete plan of including them in different project activities (private land stewardship, agricultural advising, education and outreach at local schools, local volunteers, etc.). The inclusion of local community is the first principle of ecological restoration, and one of the main factors that influences the sustainability and long lasting changes in the attitude and behaviors towards wildlife and biodiversity. Third reason why we believe that our proposed actions and steps will lead to the expected outcomes is interdisciplinary strength and relevance of our partnership structure (explained in details under 4.1).

*Methodology.* The technical part of our project is planned in line with the methodology defined in our national MPAP for *Mauremys rivulata*. Most of our methods are based on current international standards, guidelines, and existing best practices. In addition, some of our actions include development of innovative tools or methods (fyke-net with minimized bycatch, developing and testing turtle-friendly agricultural practices) for which we have the needed expertise thanks to our partnership structure.

Mediterranean anthropogenic karstic pond revitalization, as part of the natural and cultural heritage, is present in Italy for more than 20 years with the local community, NGOs, and e.g. Museums of natural history as the knowledge (Trieste, where HYL A had attended the pond education program) and working force suppliers. However, only one or two such projects of complete pond revitalization have ever been performed in Croatia. Even though there are few NGOs active in drywall restoration in Croatia and Dubrovnik-Neretva County, they were not involved with nature conservation or pond restoration. We are working on providing guidelines for the stakeholders in Croatia to promote and facilitate this type of activities in the future, complementing the plan for additional Ston ponds revitalization, but also national-wide and networking with the MedIsWet project.

The habitat restoration activities will therefore be partially based on existing guidelines and principles (*International Principles & Standards for the Practice of Ecological Restoration, Guidelines for restoration and management of Mediterranean ponds*) that are developed by world experts and that were tested in numerous projects (especially the SER standards). However, to ensure the location specific and project specific guidelines, we will conduct the hydrological study for three ponds, and workshops with the relevant stakeholders (for restoration of ponds and canals separately). The FAZ and HYL A have previous experience with Mediterranean wet habitats, and HV has technical expertise and tools for large scale water management actions.

Our captive breeding and release plan with the exit strategy has been developed according to the existing IUCN guidelines and the LIFE program conditions, and the details of these considerations are attached as supplement. ZOO has long term experience in animal keeping and conservation breeding. We also planned a study visit to LIFE Trachemys (RIAS) to learn from their experiences and ensure our methods are cutting-edge. The founder animals from Ston will be captured taking into account all health recommendations and required screenings. The extended pathogen screening over other potential donor

populations in Croatia will provide a back-up for the founders or egg clutches, as explained in the captive breeding supplementary document (list of annexes pp101).

The development of fyke net that will minimize bycatch will be carried out by the FAZ fisheries experts, with long-term experience in this field and working relationship with all of the relevant stakeholders for the up-take of this tool.

The planned actions for developing adapted agricultural practices in collaboration with the landowners for protection of nesting sites (Private Land Stewardship) is based on the long-term experience of agricultural experts from FAZ. Our good working relationship with the local community will be maintained and enhanced through the local partner, DUNEZ.

We have envisaged networking with private owners of gardens, vineyards and orchards, producing either for private needs or registered as small family farm producers (OPGs) on pre-selected locations covering known and future (in case of Ston field project area) nesting sites of *Mauremys*. We have confirmed a collaboration with at least one owner per *Mauremys* population. Collaboration entails of our need to negotiate nest-non-invasive crops and techniques (during the working meetings with the owners in WP2), ensure the collaboration with the short-term arrangements and to test new "nest-safe" field crop rotation and agro-technical measures at those locations providing the owners with individual advice based on soil analysis and providing planting materials (WP4). Additionally, to minimize exposure of the nests to agricultural toxins, we plan to educate the contracted owners to use regenerative agriculture principles and techniques during the project and the project follow-up, targeting the private and commercial producers on Mauremys nesting sites but also networking with all the interested entities in Dubrovnik-Neretva county by offering help via seminars and on-site consultation with the regenerative agriculture hub.

For addressing the invasive species, we have based our planned actions on the best practices and experiences from previous projects, especially of HYLA and FAZ, who led the projects of IAS mapping and for the development of national management plan for the invasive turtle species *Trachemys scripta*, as a part of two recent EU-financed national IAS projects. Our citizen science actions for the detection of the invasive species will build up on one of those same national IAS project, during which the IAS app was developed. This will ensure that we are contribution to the national data base, and enhancing the previously developed methods. For the inclusion of volunteers in the more work intense actions of habitat restoration, our actions of mobilizing and running the volunteer programme are based on ZOO's long term experience in running volunteer programme.

### 1.5 Upscaling results of other EU funded projects (n/a for stage 1)

#### Upscaling results of other EU funded projects (n/a for stage 1)

Explain if and how the proposal builds on or up-scales results of other EU funded projects.

Our project builds up on the *Management plan with action plan for Mauremys rivulata*, which was developed by FAZ and HYLA experts, commissioned by Ministry of economy and sustainable development (Nature Directorate) as a part of the Natura 2000 management project co-financed by the European Union (OPCC 2014 – 2020). The plan is in the final stage of the adoption process.

To develop the needed protocols for assisted breeding programme for *Mauremys rivulata* (*Plan for reproduction and repopulation and Health screening plan*), we will use the best practices developed and tested by previous LIFE project, LIFE Trachemys (LIFE09 NAT/ES/000529) (RIAS), and LIFE HUNVIPHAB (LIFE18 NAT/HU/000799) (MME Birdlife Hungary, Societas Europaea Herpetologica). We established a communication with those teams during the planning phase for this project. They provided us with some valuable input and they agreed to host us for a visit and to transfer their knowledge to us during our planning activities for the breeding program development, and also to visit our project locations (WP3).

As a part of our actions to address the invasive species, we will promote the citizen science application developed through recently finished project co-financed by the European Union (OPCC 2014 - 2020) *Establishment of the National Monitoring System for Invasive Alien Species*, which was run by Ministry of economy and sustainable development. The advantage of promoting and using this application is that the data is validated, all of the data is publicly available, and it is feeding into the Croatian central information system for invasive species, as well as into the EASIN (European Alien Species Information Network), through a module for streaming the data. This means we will promote already developed app and that data will be centralized and available for use at both national and EU level. We have also foreseen to learn from the previous experiences of the LIFE+ Trachemys (LIFE09 NAT/ES/000529).

To develop guidelines for Mediterranean pond restoration and management which are specific for our regional and national context we will use previously developed protocols and best practices, in particular the "*Management of Natura 2000 habitats \*3170 Mediterranean temporary ponds*" (which are not 100% applicable because of different habitat types and stronger restoration emphasis, but are nevertheless useful). The development of these guidelines was financed by The European Commission (DG ENV B2) as well as the experiences and the on-going efforts of the MedIsWet project and initiative.

### 1.6 Complementarity with other actions (n/a for stage 1)

#### Complementarity with other actions (n/a for stage 1)

Explain how the project is complementary to other regional, national or international initiatives/activities/projects. How will it integrate the results from these other actions?

Our objectives are complimentary to national *Management plan with action plan for Mauremys rivulata*, for which the expert study was developed by FAZ and HYLEA experts, commissioned by the Croatian Agency for the Environment and Nature (now the Institute for Environment and Nature within the Ministry of economy and sustainable development) as part of the project "Development of the draft management plans for strictly protected species (with action plans)" co-financed by the European Union (OPCC 2014 - 2020). Our actions are also in line with the conservation objectives for 4 Natura sites where *Mauremys rivulata* is target species. Our IAS control actions that include *Trachemys scripta* will contribute to implementation of national Management plan with action plan for invasive alien species *Trachemys scripta* (which is in the final phase of the adoption process).

Our project also significantly builds on our previous work on targeted species in the project area. In the last 15 years a number of small-scale projects were conducted by HYLEA, DUNEZ and ZOO Zagreb, targeting the distribution, habitat, ecology, genetics and population dynamics. HYLEA conducted a research on biology and reproduction of the species, in which several gravid females were kept in the



Zagreb ZOO during the oviposition and hatching, which provided valuable input for planning the WP3 of this project. Information gathered through systematic research on *M. rivulata* has resulted in a comprehensive understanding of threats to the species in Croatia and defining the activities needed for improving the species conservation status in Croatia (*Workshop for conservation practitioners on Adaptive Management (AM) using the CMP Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation*), which also greatly influenced planning of this LIFE project.

In collaboration with the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Zagreb and the Faculty of Science in Zagreb, hematological and microbiological research was conducted of turtles captured at border custom control. The beginning of genetic research was funded by DUNEZ when HYL A established strong collaboration with the Laboratory for Conservation Genetics at the FAZ in Zagreb. The species *M. rivulata* is also involved in the project "*DNA barcoding of the biodiversity of Croatian fauna*" implemented by the Faculty of Science in Zagreb. The DUNEZ collaborated with the University of Dubrovnik, Department of Aquaculture, to carry out the project on the determination of physio-chemical parameters of water in Gornji Majkovi. In Majkovi and Prljevići, pond-cleaning activities (of vegetation and mud) were conducted, involving both the DUNEZ and the local community and where HYL A gained experience with reducing the knotgrass population. Both ponds in Majkovi were cleaned by hand in the previous 15 years, and pond by the church again in the previous 5 years. One of the important segments in the conservation of the species are constant educational activities (e.g. lectures, workshops, exhibitions, educational book) with schools, public institutions, local associations and the local community.

All of the listed smaller projects were important our project planning, and the results and experiences from these projects will be used for project implementation. Most importantly, our long-term collaboration with the local community is essential for some of the project actions (securing the land for restoration activities and implementing turtle friendly practices by private land owners).

### 1.7 Synergies and co-benefits with other LIFE sub-programmes (n/a for stage 1)

#### Synergies and co-benefits with other LIFE sub-programmes (n/a for stage 1)

Describe synergies with other LIFE sub-programmes (Nature and Biodiversity, Circular Economy and Quality of Life, Climate Change or Clean Energy Transition). Describe spillover effects (co-benefits) in addition to those targeted by the project. If possible, quantify the contribution.

Identify the activities/tasks that address these policy objectives of other LIFE sub-programmes.

- Circular Economy and Quality of Life - Our project includes the restoration actions of ponds (36 Ha) and small waterways (influencing at least 2820 ha at two Natura 2000 sites via primary, secondary, tertiary and quaternary water flows) which will contribute to achieving and maintaining a good status of the EU water bodies. This impact will be up scaled thanks to our partnership structure - partnering with HV, competent authority for implementing Water Framework Directive, who will be involved restoration planning and restoration actions, who will adapt some of the biodiversity-friendly practices into their working protocols and management documents, and through participation in this project increase their capacity for mainstreaming biodiversity into the water management sector. Our project will also contribute to reducing use of hazardous chemicals as well as reducing the exposure of humans and the environment to those chemicals by promoting regenerative agriculture (WP 4).

- Climate change mitigation and adaptation - Although not climate centered, our project will influence 35,100.544 ha of wet habitats, which are important carbon sinks, as well as critical shelter from the thermal stress for increasing number of organisms due to rise in average numbers of hot days, and which are recognized as especially vulnerable to climate change for Mediterranean region of Croatia. This will be achieved mainly through actions in WP2, but longterm impact will likely be achieved thanks to our partner commitment to testing and improving the existing management documents (*Standards for assessment of ecological status and potential for habitat sustainability for Mauremys rivulata*) (WP2). The implementation of our actions in the water management sector, especially restoration of important freshwater habitats, is also in line EU Climate adaptation strategy, which recognizes freshwater systems as some of the most vulnerable and aims to safeguard availability and sustainability of freshwater to secure climate resilience.

### 1.8 Synergies and co-benefits with other EU policy areas *(n/a for stage 1)*

#### Synergies and co-benefits with other EU policy areas *(n/a for stage 1)*

*Describe the synergies and positive spillover effects (co-benefits) with other EU policy areas (for example agriculture, health, civil protection, jobs and growth, etc.). If possible, quantify the contribution.*

*Identify the activities/tasks that address these other EU policy objectives.*

Implementation of LIFE for *Mauremys* will impact, in addition to environmental policies, the following policy areas:

*Agriculture* Our work to support, test, and enable wider uptake of regenerative agriculture and our work with local community on restoration of traditional Mediterranean landscapes (such as ponds and traditional drywall) will contribute to the implementation of objectives of the new CAP, in particular:

- CAP objective of efficient *soil management* (soil monitoring and advising landowners at the nesting sites and promoting regenerative agriculture, which has minimization of soil disturbance and the soil health in general as one of its main focuses);
- CAP objective on *biodiversity and farmed landscapes* (expert advising for farmers to enable transition to regenerative agriculture, including reducing the use of pesticides and enhancing natural landscape features);
- CAP objective on *jobs and growth in rural areas* (providing farmers with the education needed to shift to organic agriculture, placing them higher up in the growing market of organic food producers).

Although our direct work will include smaller number of the landowners for specific activities (the minimum of 6 landowners identified in the planning phase), our other actions will promote regenerative agriculture and rural development in general within the Dubrovnik-Neretva County (workshops at the Wetland week, regenerative agriculture HUB, restoration of traditional drywall, restoration of karstic Mediterranean ponds with local community...). In addition to CAP, our actions will also support the implementation of pesticide policies, in particular the Directive on sustainable use of pesticides (Directive 2009/128/EC), by promoting practices that enable reducing the use of pesticides both through our work with particular farmers and on educational seminars.

*Water management* Our project will restore the waterways and freshwater ponds, improving their water status. This work will be implemented in only one county of Croatia during the project, but it will include testing management practices that will be included by the project end into the working protocols and standards of the HV, the competent national body for water management and for implementing RBMP (River basin management plan) in Croatia. This will ensure the broader uptake of tested practices and contribute to implementation of Water framework directive, as well as of national RBMP.

*Fisheries.* Our work on promoting the sustainable fisheries (WP4) and designing, testing and promoting the turtle-friendly fyke-net will contribute to implementation of Common fishery policy, in particular to its goal to use research and innovation to developing tools and strategies to avoid unwanted catches.

*Science and research.* The designed turtle-friendly net will be promoted with local fisherman, national stakeholders and proposed for implementation to national legislative concerning fishing practices in Natura 2000 areas to Ministry of agriculture and Ministry of economy and sustainable development. In addition, we recognize potential use of this trap for the research purposes, so we planned active promotion of this product in the freshwater research circles, which will contribute to policy area of research and innovation.

## 2. IMPACT

Fill in **only** sections 2.1-2.3 at stage 1. Fill in **all** sections at stage 2.

### 2.1 Ambition of the impacts

#### Ambition of the impacts

*Identify and quantify the effects of the project (during the implementation and up to 5 years after its end).*

*Be specific and provide only information about impacts that are a result of your project. The impact of other projects should not be taken into account.*

*Wherever possible, use quantified indicators and targets.*

**Note:** *In addition to the description above, include quantified indicators in Part C of the application forms (both horizontal KPIs for the LIFE programme as well as any specific KPIs relevant to the proposal).*

The main ambition and expected effect of our project is to improve the conservation status of *M. rivulata* in Croatia. Because we included all of the *Mauremys* populations in our project area, our actions will have direct and indirect effect on 100% of the targeted species' population in Croatia.

*The direct impact* will be achieved through assisted breeding programme.

Baseline 558 animals

By the end of the project: we expect to produce 40 juvenile animals, for the Ston population reinforcement which will result in 7% *Mauremys rivulata* total population increase in Croatia by the end of the project (598 animals in total).

Five years after project end: - increase is expected to be at least 14% to the baseline value.

With increased habitat quality (effective habitat management, threats reduced over the total species area in Croatia, education and awareness raising) known populations of *Mauremys rivulata* in the dedicated Natura 2000 areas will be stabile (not endangered as before by IAS, traffic and by-catch mortality, nesting area overgrown). In addition to that, habitat restauration, secured refugium and nests and reinforcement

with 40 juveniles in Ston area will add 7% to total current estimated number of population in Croatia. Additional 40 animals (conservatively estimated 4 to 5 nests) are planned to hatch in secured nesting site next to the Ston refugium pond in the 5 years after the project end.

Also, our impact will be on one species during the project, but because of the by-catch free fyke net that we are developing, distributing in Croatia, and actively sharing the knowledge with targeted project supporters in Montenegro and Albania additional impact is expected on the *Emys orbicularis* in the project area, but also outside our project area and outside Croatia. Additionally, planned dissemination of the tool has a potential to reach other Mediterranean freshwater species in Portugal, Spain, France and Italy: *Mauremys leprosa*, *Emys trinacris*. So, expected impact 5 years after the project end is increased to 2 species.

*The indirect impact* will be achieved through habitat restoration, habitat improvement interventions, and through actions intended to secure the nesting sites of the species. These actions will impact 100% of the *Mauremys rivulata* population, because our project includes all of the Croatian populations. In addition to impacting the targeted species, improved habitat conditions of important and endangered Mediterranean freshwater habitats, will positively impact other species as well. The expected impact on the habitats:

At the end of the project 36 ha of ponds with surrounding landscape restored (Majkovi, Prljevići, Ston) – By restoring ponds and securing the adjacent nesting sites from threats, habitat significantly improved for two Croatian populations (25 % of current total population number in Croatia, Prljevići and Majkovi populations). Additionally, Ston refugium pond will be the new permanent aquatic habitat adding 10 ha of pond with surrounding area to the currently known population area.

Five years after project end: 46 ha of ponds with surrounding landscape restored. One additional pond restored in the Ston field area. In Ston field project area will create permanent aquatic habitat for at least 80 additional animals 5 years after the project end over that additional 10 ha habitat significantly improved for three Croatian populations, or 35 % of total population of Croatia projected for that time (Prljevići, Majkovi: 142, and reinforced Ston populations: 80 animals). One of the project activities is to map historical ponds in the area and find suitable parcels for restoration of the additional ponds. Good example of private land conservation stewardship promoted during the project time will help in case of private ponds.

At the end of the project additional succession control in ponds, canals and adjacent nesting sites – total of 2850 ha of wet habitats managed according to *M.rivulata* requirements across 4 Natura 2000 sites, 3 of which are designated for the target species.

Five years after project end: 3130 ha of managed wet habitats, because of additional area covered in Konavle field.

We are also addressing other threats, removing invasive species and reducing the mortality from by-catch. 3 most relevant IAS will be addressed:

1. *Trachemys scripta*: present in all of the five Natura 2000 sites that are the total project area - all Natura 2000 areas except for Delta Neretve will be completely cleared by the end of the project. Affected area after the project expected not to change because of the intensive education and awareness raising.

2. *Paspalum paspaloides*: currently known to be present in two Natura 2000 sites included in the project area (0.26 km<sup>2</sup>) and will be completely cleared by the end of the project. Re-introduction could occur via

birds in case there are other affected areas nearby. Project activities include mapping of presence in the project area.

3. *Gambusia* sp.: currently known to be present in two Natura 2000 sites (0.26 km<sup>2</sup>) and will be partially cleared by the end of the project due to the trophic balance important for *Mauremys rivulata*. 5 years after the project, total 0.26 area should be cleared.

In terms of cleared habitats this is:

Baseline: 49150 ha (total project area)

At the end of the project: 25344 ha

Five years after project end: 25344 ha

Disseminate results of the project

Throughout the various project activities we will ensure that our technical results are disseminated to other experts and professionals in Croatia, Mediterranean and wider, in order to ensure wider impact through upscaling and replication. By means of workshops, meetings, organized visits, and other actions we will reach:

Baseline: 0

By the end of the project: 100 expert stakeholders reached

Five years after project end: 150 expert stakeholders reached

Raise public perception of *M. rivulata* as the umbrella species for the healthy Mediterranean

Throughout the various project activities we will ensure public perception of *M. rivulata* has shifted and that local community continues to be involved in the habitat and species conservation within the project area, measured by the number of persons included in the targeted *Mauremys rivulata* and the Mediterranean ponds educational and citizen science activities (volunteers for the program, visitors to the web site and Facebook pages, participants in the Pond keeper program, participants in the Mauremys day....)

Baseline: 0

By the end of the project: 5000 people

Five years after project end: 10000 people

## 2.2 Credibility of the impacts

### Credibility of the impacts

*Show the steps of your calculations and base yourself on the activities mentioned in your work plan.*

*Justify and substantiate the baselines, benchmarks and assumptions you used, making reference to relevant publications, studies or statistics.*

*Try to use the same methodologies for calculating impacts (avoid using different methodologies for each partner, region or country).*

The causes of unfavorable conservation status of *Mauremys rivulata* are relatively well supported in research. The direct and indirect threats for the *Mauremys rivulata* nesting sites this proposal is dealing with are general threats present all over the Mediterranean freshwater turtles' habitats, concerning populations of *M. rivulata* in the Mediterranean, the Black Sea, and Continental biogeographical regions where the species status is assessed as 'unfavorable-inadequate' (e.g., GR, CYP, BGR). Héritier et al.

(2017) discuss the oxidative stress of the adult *M. leprosa* due to agricultural chemicals in the ecosystem, Rifai and Amr (2004) report *Mauremys* tends to choose locations with no agricultural influence where there is enough water, Broggi (2012) reports problems with *M. rivulata* habitat disappearance due to touristic area expansion and water springs captation in Greek islands, Bayrakcy et al. (2015) report deformities and deaths in specimens encountered in intensive agricultural areas, and many authors recognize the biodiversity threat of the wild boar populations, in Croatia crossed with domestic pig due to introgression during the Croatian war of independence (Šprem, 2007; Šprem et al 2014). Moreover, populations of *M. rivulata* in Montenegro and Albania are only recently been given interest to (in the recent 5 years, Saçdanaku and Haxhiu, 2015; Gvozdrenović & Ilković 2016) by initial distribution research, still not known for this species. The demonstration character of these actions extends locally in Croatia to the Mediterranean populations of *Emys orbicularis* and European-wide for the requirements of this species. Other Mediterranean species such as *Emys trinarcis* in Sicily, *M. leprosa* in France, Spain, Portugal and Morocco, and *Mauremys caspica* towards Israel and Lebanon.

- a) BROGGI, M.F. (2012): *The balkan terrapin Mauremys rivulata (valenciennes, 1833), in the Aegean islands. threats, conservation aspects and the situation on the island of Kea (cyclades) as a case study (Testudines: Geoemydidae). Herpetozoa, 24; 149 -163.*
- b) BAYRACKY, Y., AYAZ, D., CICEK, K. (2015): *Data on the population of syntopic turtles Emys orbicularis (L., 1758) and Mauremys rivulata (valenciennes, 1883) from great menderes delta (Western Anatolia, Turkey). Russian Journal of Herpetology, 22(2); 79-83.*
- c) GVOZDENOVIĆ, S., IKOVIĆ, V. (2016): *Distribution and vulnerability of balkan terrapin (Mauremys rivulata) in montenegro. The Rufford small grants conference "Nature knows no boundaries".*
- d) HÉRITIER, L., MEISTERTZHEIM, A.L., VERNEAU, O. (2017): *Oxidative stress biomarkers in the mediterranean pond turtle (Mauremys leprosa) reveal contrasted aquatic environments in southern France. Chemosphere. 183; 332-338.*
- e) RIFAI, L.B., AMR, Z.S. (2004): *morphometrics and biology of the striped-necked terrapin, Mauremys rivulata (Valenciennes, 1833), in Jordan (Reptilia: Testudines: Geoemydidae). Zoologischeabhandlungen 54: 177-197.*
- f) SAÇDANAKU, E., I HAXHIU, I. (2015): *First observations on ecology and distribution of balkan terrapin, Mauremys rivulata (Valenciennes, 1833) in Vlora bay, Albania, Hyla, 2015(2), str. 29-37.*
- g) ŠPREM N. (2007): *Fenotipske osobine divljih svinja i križanaca s divljom svinjom. Agronomski fakultet 2007, 184-185.*
- h) ŠPREM, N., SALAJPAL, K., SAFNER, T., ĐIKIĆ, D., JURIC, J., ČURIK, I., ĐIKIĆ, M., ČUBRIĆ-ČURIK, V. (2014): *Genetic analysis of hybridization between domesticated endangered pig breeds and wild boar. Livestock science. 162; 1-4.*

The baseline data for *Mauremys rivulata*, its habitat use, habitat condition and local threats is based on extensive research projects conducted throughout last 15 years in this area by the project partners (FAZ, HYL, DUNEZ, ZOO) – Some of the main published results are:

- 1) ŠALAMON, D. (2005): *Inventarizacija i monitoring riječne kornjače, Mauremys rivulata, u Hrvatskoj. Finano izvješće. Hrvatsko herpetološko društvo - Hyla. 83 str.(report)*

- 2) ŠALAMON, D. (2006): Populacija riječne kornjače (*Mauremys rivulata* (Valenciennes 1833) iz lokve u Majkovima. Diplomski rad, Prirodoslovno-matematički fakultet, Zagreb. (MS Thesis)
- 3) ŠALAMON, D. (2007): Monitoring riječne kornjače, *Mauremys rivulata*, u Hrvatskoj. Izvještaj projekta. Hrvatsko herpetološko društvo - Hyla. 42 str. (report)
- 4) ŠALAMON, D. (2008): Monitoring riječne kornjače, *Mauremys rivulata*, u Hrvatskoj. Izvještaj projekta. Hrvatsko herpetološko društvo - Hyla. 39 str. (report)
- 5) ŠALAMON, D. (2019a): Zapisnik prvog radnog sastanka s dionicima. Usluga izrade stručne podloge - riječna kornjača u sklopu projekta "Izrada prijedloga planova upravljanja strogo zaštićenim vrstama". 15 str. (report)
- 6) ŠALAMON, D. (2019b): Zapisnik drugog radnog sastanka s dionicima. Usluga izrade stručne podloge - riječna kornjača u sklopu projekta "Izrada prijedloga planova upravljanja strogo zaštićenim vrstama". 11 str. (report)
- 7) ŠALAMON, D., KOREN, T. (2009): Comparison of morphometry and algal growth of carapaces of two isolated *Mauremys rivulata* populations from two different types of habitat. 15th European Congress of Herpetology & SEH Ordinary General Meeting, 28 September-02 October 2009, Kusadasi-Aydin/Turkey / Kurtulus O., Oguz T. (ur.). - Kusadasi-Aydin/Turkey: Societas Europaea Herpetologica.
- 8) ŠALAMON D., ŠILIĆ T. (2007): *Mauremys rivulata* in Croatia: habitats, distribution, population parameters, threats to survival and suggestions for conservation. Book of Abstracts from 1<sup>st</sup> Mediterranean Herpetological Congress, UCAM, Marrakech, 132 pp.
- 9) ŠALAMON, D., ŠTIH, A. (2017): Istraživanje genetičke raznolikosti riječne (*Mauremys rivulata*) i barske kornjače (*Emys orbicularis*) Dubrovačko-neretvanske županije. Izvještaj projekta, Udruga Hyla. Zagreb. (report)
- 10) **ŠALAMON, D., ŠTIH A. (2019): Nacrt stručne podloge za izradu prijedloga plana upravljanja strogo zaštićenom vrstom s akcijskim planom – riječna kornjača (*Mauremys rivulata*). 125 str. (study -> MPAP)**
- 11) ŠTIH, A. (2013): Riječna kornjača, *Mauremys rivulata*. Izvještaj projekta za Grad Dubrovnik za 2013. godinu. Hrvatsko herpetološko društvo - Hyla. Zagreb, str. 12. (report)
- 12) ŠTIH, A. (2015): Zaštita riječne kornjače, *Mauremys rivulata*. Izvještaj projekta, Hrvatsko herpetološko društvo - Hyla. Zagreb, str. 22. (report)
- 13) ŠTIH, A. (2018): Istraživanje i prikupljanje podataka u svrhu izrade stručne podloge za proglašenje posebnog herpetološkog rezervata u Majkovima. Udruga Hyla. Zagreb, 31 str. (report)
- 14) ŠTIH, A., BURIĆ, I. (2015): Characteristics of the Balkan Terrapin population from Konavle field. In: Klobučar G., Kopjar N, Gligora Udovič M., Lukša Ž., Jelić D. (eds.). Book of abstracts of 12<sup>th</sup> Croatian biological congress, Sveti Martin na Muri, Croatia. Croatian Biological Society. Zagreb. pp 80.
- 15) ŠTIH, A. i KOREN, T. (2014): Zaštita riječne kornjače, *Mauremys rivulata*. Izvještaj projekta, Hrvatsko herpetološko društvo - Hyla. Zagreb, str. 17. (report)
- 16) ŠTIH, A., KOREN, T. (2016): Očistimo lokve, očuvajmo staništa riječne kornjače u Hrvatskoj. Izvještaj projekta, Hrvatsko herpetološko društvo - Hyla. Zagreb, str. 10. (report)
- 17) ŠTIH, A., ŠALAMON, D. (2018a): Nova saznanja o rasprostranjenosti riječne kornjače (*Mauremys rivulata*) u Hrvatskoj. : Simpozij studenata doktorskih studija PMF-a. Sveučilište u Zagrebu Prirodoslovno-matematički fakultet, Zagreb 9. veljače 2018., Knjiga sažetaka. Primožič, I. (ur.). - Zagreb : Prirodoslovno-matematički fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu. 51-51 (ISBN: 978-953-6076-43-7).
- 18) ŠTIH, A., ŠALAMON, D. (2018b): Livin' on the edge – threats to the survival of the Balkan Terrapin in Croatia. 13th Croatian Biological Congress with International Participation. Kružić, P.; Caput Mihalić, K.; Gottstein, S.; Pavoković, D.; Kučinić, M. (ur.). - Zagreb: Hrvatsko biološko društvo, 2018. 160-160.
- 19) ŠTIH, A. i ŠALAMON, D. (2018c): Usluga izrade stručne podloge – riječna kornjača u sklopu projekta „Izrada prijedloga planova upravljanja strogo zaštićenim vrstama (s akcijskim planovima). Izvješće nakon prve godine terenskih istraživanja. Udruga Hyla. Zagreb, 31 str. (report)
- 20) ŠTIH, A. i ŠALAMON, D. (2019): Usluga izrade stručne podloge – riječna kornjača u sklopu projekta „Izrada prijedloga planova upravljanja strogo zaštićenim vrstama (s akcijskim planovima). Završno terensko izvješće. Udruga Hyla. Zagreb, 46 str. (report)



21) ŠTIH, A., BURIĆ, I., JELIĆ, K., KARAICA, D. I JELIĆ, D. (2013): Populacijska istraživanja riječne kornjače, *Mauremys rivulata*, u okviru projekta "Značajni krajobraz Konavoski dvori i rijeka Ljuta". (report)

*M. rivulata* habitats in Croatia consist in more than 60% of agricultural parcels that are in the Mediterranean karst connected to water supply and freshwater habitats. Activities of this project, which are in line with *Mauremys rivulata* specific ecological and habitat needs, in particular focusing on restoring the natural water flow and level, good water status, removing the waste and invasive species from primary habitats, securing the habitat connectivity, enhancing habitat quality, enabling improved thermoregulation for the animals and providing a minimal amount of secured nesting area (safe from predators, agrochemicals and invasive cropping practices) have all been identified during the development of national Management plan with action plan for *Mauremys rivulata* as the most likely to yield strong results.

Populations numbers:

- *Mauremys rivulata* population estimations and area coverage is based on the work of Ana Štih and Dragica Šalamon (see the above list).

- The estimated population increase due to successfully breeding 40 hatchlings is estimated based on previous experiences of ZOO, *Mauremys rivulata* biology and considering the number of founders considered in the conditions for captive breeding of the species and the exit strategy (see list of annexes pp 101). This is a conservative number expected for the project success. The 5 females should produce at least 5 clutches of fertilized eggs during the 4 years of the project. Expected number of eggs is 8-12 per clutch. Successful hatching and survival is expected for at least 40 animals. In the optimal case scenario (5 females producing 1 clutch of 12 eggs in the 3 breeding seasons and 100% hatching and survival rate) we would have 180 additional animals.

By ensuring long-term agreement on private land we estimated to have ensured long-term capacity for population in Ston field project area of about 250 animals (adding, 7% to the total Croatian population by the project end, 14% to the baseline in the 5 years after the project end and in the long term, 45% to the current number in Croatia). Of that number 100-150 are expected to gravitate to the pond in question (based on population capacities of other known ponds in Croatia), and 100-150 are expected to gravitate on 10ha surrounding agricultural area with the network of streams and ameliorative canals (based on the density over the mosaic habitat in Konavle field).

- IAS:

*Trachemys* numbers of animals in Dubrovnik-Neretva County are not estimated, but it is known that the affected area includes all of the Natura 2000 sites included in the project. DUNEZ receives and responds to 4-6 calls annually regarding the *Trachemys* sightings and without any active targeted program for the region. Therefore, we have based our estimation of impact upon possibility to clear certain project areas.

*Gambusia* populations are not estimated, but it is known that it inhabits the ponds in Majkovi and Prljevići as well as some of the canals in Ston field. Since three ponds are going through reconstruction, we will take this opportunity to remove 100% *Gambusia sp.* from these ponds.

*Paspalum paspaloides* is not mapped or quantified in Dubrovnik-Neretva County, but some of the previous pond cleaning actions were related to the knotgrass removal from *Mauremys* habitats in Croatia and our plan is to remove it from the 2 infected ponds planned for the reconstruction (Majkovi and Prljevići) and

one additional in Majkovi which will not be reconstructed, but is infested only in the smaller peripheral area.

Required area for the nesting sites

*Mauremys rivulata* is a dense nester choosing adequate grounds adjacent to feeding ponds or water flows in the karst. By providing wild boar repellents on 4 corners of the protected nesting sites each influences the 5m radius. Our aim is to provide 10m<sup>2</sup> of succession free area with known nests adjacent to ponds and defended from the boars. Additionally 10m<sup>2</sup> of agriculturally active area where it is certain the nests will not be harmed. 20m<sup>2</sup> of threat free nesting ground would amount to 10-20 nests (times 8-12 eggs) per season safe from disturbance. While the predation rate on *Mauremys* nests is not accurately known at this time, in other specie it ranges from 50-85 %. Our actions focused on nests are planned for the populations where there are a lot of different disturbances recorded and where we have habitat reconstruction in plan during the project (Majkovi both ponds, Prljevići and Ston ponds).

Number of stakeholders (kids, visitors, tourists, locals, professionals) is considered from the ZOO statistics, previous experience with schools, traveling exhibits and workshops and other educational, dissemination activities of DUNEZ and HYL A different projects in that area.

### 2.3 Sustainability of project results

#### Sustainability of project results

Describe your strategy to sustain the project's results after the EU funding ends. Consider the following aspects:

- How will the project impact be ensured and sustained? Which tasks will you carry out during the project to ensure that?
- Which parts of the project should be continued or maintained? How will this be achieved and which resources will be necessary?

The project impact will be ensured and sustained thanks to our partnership structure and specific actions planned (WP7) to set-up the long-term sustainability of the project. The actions that will be continued or that will continue to have impact after the project end are:

Land-agreements. Signing the long-term agreement for safeguarding Ston field pond with owner Barović, for period of 30 years (WP 7) is planned. Similarly, the nesting sites for all populations will be secured through ~10 years long agreements with the landowners. As land ownership is often one of the biggest obstacles to implementation of area based measure in our project area, we made sure to have good relationship with local landowners, and to work on our shared interests, as expressed in letters submitted in annexes. By ensuring long-term agreement on private land we estimated to have ensured long-term capacity for population in Ston field project area of about 150 animals (adding, in the long term, 45% to the current number in Croatia).

HV management of the canals. HV will continue to manage canals in Ston field and Konavle field, in line with our targeted species ecological requirement, thanks to the project actions (WP2) through which we ensured integration of these practices into the HV standards (WP2, T.1.3.). By proper management of the priority torrents and canals adjacent to the restored Ston refugium pond, at least 100 more animals are expected in the mosaic aquatic microhabitats which brings the estimated Ston field capacity to 250 animals in the long term (adding a total of 45% to the current estimated pop. in Croatia).

Monitoring of the juveniles (WP5,T.5.1) in Ston reproduction center (the part of restored pond that is protected from the predators), and their safety from the predators, will be continued in the project follow-up and until all of the juveniles are transferred to Ston refugium pond (estimated in 2027). To ensure the competence of DUNEZ in continuing this activity the education of DUNEZ by ZOO is planned in the WP7, and to ensure the durability of the predator protection the appropriate sum has been budgeted for this intervention. To be conducted by DUNEZ.

Maintenance of habitat interventions is planned once in the project follow-up (WP7) and every 5 years afterwards. For basking spots provided in WP2 we expect that upgrade or replacement will be needed in 10-15 years. The upgraded tunnel (WP2) is permanent, but the fences directing the turtles should be repaired or replaced also in about 10-15 years. To be conducted by DUNEZ.

Maintaining succession control across project areas, especially in nesting sites and canals important for stable hydrology, will require regular check-up and repeated vegetation control actions, planned every 2-5 years, which will be conducted by both DUNEZ and HV, depending on the area.

Invasive species control Responding to alerts about invasive alien species (especially turtles, plant and fish) from volunteers, local and other citizens building a community for citizen science in nature protection. To be conducted by DUNEZ.

Volunteer program set up by ZOO and DUNEZ (WP7) is a capacity building activity and established throughout the project actions (WP2) will be continued by DUNEZ after the project end and provide DUNEZ with volunteer help for the required habitat management.

Mediterranean wetland week and the Mauremys day – workshops and exhibitions planned to be set up through WP 6 are going to continue as a part of the DUNEZ and ZOO regular educational activities. This activity builds the capacity of local inhabitants to integrate nature protection in everyday life and work. The finances for this as well as for volunteering programme are will be secured by local municipalities of Dubrovnik-Neretva County and ZOO.

*How will this be achieved and what resources will be necessary?*

The actions continued by DUNEZ are within their jurisdiction as the competent authority for management of our project's Natura 2000 sites. The needed actions will be included in their annual budgets and plans. The funding will be ensured because all of the needed activities are in line with conservation objectives for Natura 2000 species. The funds for continuation of those activities will also be much smaller (so more obtainable at the national level) than for this project, as most of "heavy lifting" (e.g. larger restoration intervention of pond clearing, assisted breeding programme, equipment for securing the reproduction pond from predators, etc.) is a one-time investment.

To ensure the coherency of these continuing actions with the existing management framework we planned updating of the key documents (*Natura 2000 management plans for Dubrovnik Neretva county*: we will suggest adaptations for conservation management plans for NATURA2000 and protected areas of Dubrovnik-Neretva county (Pelješac peninsula (Ston), Sniježnica and Konavle field. Development of management plans for Natura 2000 and protected areas for pre-agreed protected areas and Natura 2000 sites in the Dubrovnik-Neretva county are underway within the EU project of the Ministry of Economy and

Sustainable Development “Development of Natura 2000 Management Framework” (NATURA project). It includes JI dio Pelješca and Sniježnica i Konavosko polje Natura 2000 areas and Balkan terrapin as conservation topic is included in them. Majkovi and Prljevići ecological networks will be included in separate project and the area of Neretva delta already has a management plan; suggest update of *Management plan with action plan for Mauremys rivulata* based on the project outcomes, primarily WP2, 3 and 4. Most importantly, *Mauremys rivulata* will be recognized as the species inhabiting Natura 2000 site JI dio Pelješca during the project (as initially communicated with the Ministry: “3.2. Species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and species listed in Annex II to Directive 92/43/EEC and site evaluation for them, population marked as “D – non significant”) as a first step in SDF amendment. Additionally, during the project and based on the project results monitoring *Mauremys rivulata* will be integrated in the SDF forms of HR2001364 as a target species in Natura 2000 site JI dio Pelješca (Ston field project area), increasing the number of Natura 2000 sites designated for this species, and formalizing DUNEZ and Croatia’s obligations regarding the conservation management for *Mauremys rivulata* for this site.

Also, the agricultural practices that we will test and develop in collaboration with the landowners (WP2, WP4) will be proposed to be adopted for the incentivizing measures in the IAKS Rural development program at the national level, but also will be proposed for financing at the County level, for which the DUNEZ has already communicated with the County. This will be financed at the Dubrovnik Neretva County level.

Finally, monitoring of the targeted species is part of the national programme (reporting period 2019-2025), separate from this project, and will be financed nationally and conducted every 6 years (financed/conducted by DUNEZ) according to the National program of monitoring for this species. The program is currently under revision and the new protocol is expected to be available by the end of 2023 (HYLA is responsible for the development and testing in that project). As sustainable improvement of the population status of *M. rivulata* in Ston is impossible to achieve during this project, due to life traits of the species, the ensured national monitoring, that involves collecting the data needed to assess the change in species conservation status, is important to measure the long-term impact of our project.

## 2.4 Exploitation of project results (n/a for stage 1)

### Exploitation of project results (n/a for stage 1)

*Do you foresee other ways of exploiting the project’s results (e.g. utilisation in further research, in developing / creating / marketing a product or process, in creating / providing a service, in standardisation activities etc.)? Who are the targeted users?*

*For close-to-market projects: Describe the reference market: actual and potential market size, features of prospective customers and of their demand, competitors, market and regulatory barriers, etc. Explain the economic feasibility of the proposed solution comparing cost, price or other economic investment variables (e.g. payback period, net present value, etc.).*

**Note:** Don’t forget to include the activities in the mandatory Work Package for Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results.

The designed and tested turtle-friendly fyke net will be promoted and utilized for use in conservation and research projects. This will be ensured through promotion at professional and scientific meetings, within the network of experts stakeholders (defined in WP6 and Task 7.3) and demonstrated to the Montenegrin

and Albanian partners. The usefulness of this trap for research is that it enables using the trap methodology without harming the air-breathing aquatic species such as turtles and terrapins.

By-catch minimization in the fishery is a long known topic aiming to improve the precision and efficacy of this passive gear. However, reducing by-catch as a conservation effort is a topic researched only in the previous 5-10 years. As Larocque et al. (2012) report, freshwater by-catch remains relatively understudied compared to marine bycatch (Raby et al., 2011). Inland commercial fisheries that use passive gears such as fyke nets cause the drowning of all freshwater turtles that are unable to escape in time to breath in the air. To reduce fisheries impacts on turtles, bycatch reduction devices successfully implemented in marine systems may be adapted to freshwater systems according to Larocque et al. (2012).

Building on that experience, we plan to introduce, test, patent, and disseminate the most feasible and effective technical solution for fyke nets traditionally applied in freshwater non-commercial fyke net fishing of Dubrovnik-Neretva county eliminating *Mauremys rivulata* and *Emys orbicularis* bycatch, and promote it for use in research and conservation projects. The bycatch reduction devices for commercial fishery tested on *Chrysemis picta* show that with the escape device, all turtles escaped and most (88%) fish were retained, while a large hole allowed 60% and 77% of turtles and fish to escape, respectively.

We expect, by the end of the project to have at least 3 cases of expressed interest outside of the project area for using our bycatch reduction net, that conservation and scientific sector of Croatia and wider is equipped with our turtle-friendly nets for research purposes. This will be ensured through various promotion and communication actions planned within the WP4 and WP6 and WP7, especially promoting the free industrial design to our partners in Montenegro and Albania during their visits to our project site.

Larocque, S. M., Cooke, S. J., & Blouin-Demers, G. (2012). Mitigating bycatch of freshwater turtles in passively fished fyke nets through the use of exclusion and escape modifications. *Fisheries Research*, Volumes 125–126, 2012, 149-155, ISSN 0165-7836. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fishres.2012.02.018>.  
Raby, G. D., Colotelo, A. H., Blouin-Demers G., Cooke, S. J. *Freshwater Commercial Bycatch: An Understated Conservation Problem*, *BioScience*, Volume 61, Issue 4, April 2011, stranice 271–280, doi: 10.1525/bio.2011.61.4.7

## 2.5 Catalytic potential: Replication and upscaling

### Catalytic potential: Replication and upscaling

Describe the potential for the results to be replicated in the same or other sectors or places. Which factors might favour or limit the replication?

Describe the potential for the results to be up-scaled by public/private actors or through mobilising larger investments or financial resources. What is the coverage and size of the market? Who are the potential users of the results?

Describe the strategy and tasks to multiply the impact of the project (during implementation or afterwards). How will its main actions and results be replicated elsewhere?

**Note:** Don't forget to include the activities in the mandatory Work Package for Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results.

**Replication of our project and transfer are part of the overall sustainability strategy. Demonstration and pilot activities with the replication and demonstration potential of the techniques, methods, and strategies as well as the technical guidelines to be developed, are planned to be disseminated to different sectors (nature protection, biology, herpetology, water regulation, agriculture, fisheries, education) national regional and international professional and scientific community using integrated sector events coordinated through in at least 10 different professional workshops/symposia/seminar/conferences during their regular job description. In addition to the project activities designed for dissemination and networking where the demonstration and pilot results and products are planned to have a maximal local uptake. Negotiating and planning for the transfer of the proposed solution into Montenegro or Albania is envisaged through nature protection, biology, herpetology workshops/symposia/seminar/conferences, and into**

*Greece through networking with MedIsWet project. Our goal is to have at least one organization showing interest per mentioned country by the end of the project and at least 1 international application for funding.*

Replication to national nature protection experts- throughout the project we will form strong collaboration with other conservation experts, by including them in our planning process (inviting them to our planning workshops in WP2 and WP3), and by providing opportunity to learn more about our project to colleagues that will be invited speaker of the Mediterranean Wetland Week, once per year. We will also disseminate our results and interdisciplinary practices widely, through usual channels (mailing lists, social media, informing the national institutions) and on various conferences and seminars.

Publishing restoration guidelines (developed in WP2, tested and improved for the final publication) will be disseminated to all nature protection institutions, published on our website, and promoted through social media, through talks at Mediterranean Wetland weeks, and directly to the network of experts and professionals, enabling the replication in other areas.

Replication to international nature protection experts- In the last year of the project we will host 2-4 projects/individuals/organizations to demonstrate our practices and results. From other countries inhabited by *Mauremys rivulata*, we will host Montenegro and Albania, 4 persons (planned 2023-2025).

Replication to other breeding centers and ZOOs To ensure our experiences are useful to other assisted breeding conservation professionals, programs and institutions, we will present our results at least 3 professional meetings, and publish the developed Guidelines (WP3) on project website.

Replication to other landowners: Sustainable agriculture on *Mauremys* sites is planned to be disseminated for the wider up-take during the project (T6.2) and in the off-spin projects (T7.2 and T7.3) to NGO's.

#### ***Up-scaling of our project***

##### **Usage of fyke-nets for other conservation projects and in research.**

Turtle center in Dubrovnik will be used for temporarily keeping smaller numbers of caught *Trachemys scripta*, *Mauremys rivulata* and *Emys orbicularis* rescued from the sea flotsams near Dubrovnik until they are transferred to adequate IAS or rescue centers, and for volunteer purposes, which means we will use the established facility for the turtle conservation activities for other conservation projects.

Volunteer program establishment will be used for all conservation and protected area management of DUNEZ, enabling the up-scaling of the programme developed throughout the project to be used in future conservation actions of different types.

Citizen science - IAS detection and rapid response for invasive turtle will be promoted in the entire project area.

**Private land conservation stewardship** – we are building a showcase in this project by working with the owner Barović, not only for the Dubrovnik – Neretva county, but county-wide. Prior to this proposal, only one owner in Croatia has ever adopted the concept. We plan for one owner of the pond with the garden nesting site to be involved in this manner during the project in the long term and two owners of the gardens in the short term. Using E events and media campaign we plan to double this type of collaboration in the long term and short term in the spin-off project proposals.

### **3. IMPLEMENTATION**

Fill in **only** section 3.1 – 3.2 at stage 1. Fill in **all sections** at stage 2.

**3.1 Work plan**

**Work plan**  
Provide a brief description of the overall structure of the work plan (list of work packages or graphical presentation (PERT chart or similar)).

**T 1.1** → **T 1.2**  
↑ ↘ ↙ ↘  
**T 1.4** **T 1.3** **T 1.5**

T.1.1 Partnership agreement and project reporting  
T.1.2 Project co-ordination and meetings, administrative management  
T.1.3 Risk management and contingency planning  
T.1.4 Data management  
T.1.5 Acquiring permits and public procurement

T.2.1 Developing guidelines for restoration and management of Mediterranean ponds and nesting sites  
T.2.2 Prioritizing locations and activities for wetland management in Ston and Konavle field  
T.2.3. Restoration of the ponds and canals  
T.2.4 Control succession at ponds, canals and nesting sites  
T.2.5 Provide wetlands and nesting sites enhancements

**T 3.1** **T 3.2** **T 3.3**  
↓ ↓ ↓  
**T 3.4**  
↓  
**T 3.5**

T.3.1 Developing plans for ex-situ reproduction and Ston population reinforcement  
T.3.2 Preparing the breeding site facility in ZOO  
T.3.3 Capture and health screening of animals for temporary relocation  
T.3.4 Housing the founders in Zagreb: breeding, laying of the eggs, and incubation ex-situ  
T.3.5 Secure the Ston refugium pond from predators and soft release of the juveniles to Ston field

<p><b>T.4.1</b> Secure nesting sites in collaboration with the landowners <b>T.4.2</b> Assess and remove IAS threats <b>T.4.3</b> Mitigating unsustainable fishery and patenting selective fish trap</p>	<p><b>T5.1</b> Monitoring of the population reinforcement <b>T5.2</b> Monitoring of the restored and managed water bodies <b>T5.3</b> Monitoring the success of <i>M. rivulata</i> habitat interventions <b>T5.4</b> Monitoring Of the success of sustainable fishery <b>T5.5</b> Project impact on ecosystem condition and services</p>
<p><b>T6.1.</b> Project visibility materials and dissemination <b>T 6.2.</b> Educational events, programs, locations and materials <b>T6.3.</b> Networking with other LIFE and/or non-LIFE projects</p>	<p><b>T7.1</b> Volunteering <b>T7.2</b> Private land conservation agreements and new actions <b>T7.3</b> Impacting other Mauremys Mediterranean habitats</p>



### 3.2 Stakeholder input and engagement

#### Stakeholder input

*Identify any key stakeholders outside the consortium that are required to ensure the success of the project. How will you mobilise them to contribute to your project activities or participate in these?*

*Annex Letters of support to demonstrate the type and level of commitment already secured (if any). (n/a stage 1)*

*For Nature and Biodiversity: If your project (or a part of it) depends on support of the competent authority or stakeholders, provide letters of support to show their commitment to the project (needed for stage 2, n/a for stage 1)*

We selected the project stakeholders to include all groups of society whose activities can ensure the survival of young Balkan terrapins, while focusing on the habitat where the threats are most prominent and determining the impacts that led to the partial or complete extinction of Balkan terrapins. Looking broader we also identified interest groups who can benefit from our conservation actions at the national and international level, or who we want to include in order to achieve the wider uptake of our project results (such as governmental institutions, public institutions for nature protection, etc.).

Within the local communities, it is essential to address the pressures, without negatively impacting the activities of the local community and their way of life. All activities that influence the opinion and functioning of the local community are of great importance because in the future we see them as true protectors of the Balkan Terrapin. The existing way of life of the local community should be maintained but in a more sustainable way, for terrapins in particular and biodiversity in general.

In addition to local communities, the education on the importance of the Balkan terrapins will be conducted at national level, also including potential associates abroad, who are active in the conservation of this species in neighboring countries. For LIFE for Mauremys we identified the following stakeholders:

LOCAL COMMUNITY (county):	NATIONAL:	REGIONAL (Mediterranean)	INTERNATIONAL:
	- nature conservation: NGOs professionals public institutions		- MED wet platform - EAZA community - LIFE community
		- researchers, scientists	
- small family touristic entrepreneurs		- tourists	
		-volunteers	
		- journalists	
- governmental institutions	authorities	- governmental institutions and authorities (Montenegro)	
agricultural producers (landowners) - for private need small family farm producers (OPG) - NGOs and LAG	- agriculture professionals		
- freshwater fishermen (landowners) - fyke-net producers	- fisheries professionals - fyke-net producers		
- elementary schools and kindergartens - local high-education - Children - education professionals			
-creative NGO's - cultural heritage NGO's - (local) hunter, sports and firefighter NGOs			

The stakeholder will be included in almost all of the main conservation activities. To ensure their mobilization we:

- a- Already contacted the most important stakeholders within local community (landowners and representatives of local institutions - see letters of support)
- b- Ensured that one of our partners, DNZ, has long term experience and established network of local stakeholders and volunteers
- c- Already contacted and established communication with international community, including: LIFE Trachemys project team, Albania and Montenegro, Portugal - RIAS, Hungary MME Birdlife and Societas Euroapaea Herpetologica
- d- Planned concrete actions of including the stakeholders, e.g. workshops and meetings in WP2, WP3, WP4, as well as all of the education actions with the local schools.
- e- Ensured that our partner with the longest experience in the volunteer programme, ZOO, is responsible for developing the plan for volunteering actions, and planned actions where they will transfer their knowledge to other partners to ensure sustainability of planned activities long-term
- f- Included the fisheries experts (from FAZ) for the fieldwork and stakeholder communication concerning the sustainable fisheries and testing and promoting the turtle-friendly fishing trap
- g- Will define stakeholder responsibilities as a part of our project management planning in WP1, where we will establish for each partner responsibility for certain stakeholders' communication

(e.g. DNZ for local community, FAZ for fisheries and agricultural growers, ZOO for EAZA and volunteers, HYLA and FAZ for governmental institutions, etc).

Most relevant stakeholders for the project have either been contacted in the preparatory phase of the project proposal, or one or more project partners have built a relationship with them during previous conservation and research efforts. So far, agricultural and freshwater fishing activities have not been addressed in previous conservation work on Mauremys habitats and therefore a substantial portion of preparatory and conservation actions are planned in this proposal in order to recruit local inhabitants and address the small scale direct mortality of nests and as by-catch using sector workshops, seminars, opening dialogue with the fishery authorities and private, mostly non-commercial fishing sector. To facilitate the implementation of the project gradual recruiting of the non-commercial and small scale agricultural producers in the area is planned, with previous arrangement with the early adopters and broadening the interest during the preparatory phase of the project proposal and taking into account the small parcels and the complicated ownership in most of the project area. Some external assistance is planned in this part of the activities using the regenerative agriculture hub services in order to demonstrate the functional exemplary practice.

Socio-economic effects of the project is recognized by the local authorities . In Dubrovnik-Neretva county predominately touristic sector is the main source of income. Geographical location with Neretva delta, Bačina lakes, and Vrgorac field (outside the project area), Ston field and Konavle field as well as Neretva Delta (in the project scope) are the most important agricultural areas in Adriatic part of Croatia abundant with springs, streams and other freshwater habitats and enabling the food production. Since the species in the target of this proposal depends on sustainable use of those freshwater habitats and is nesting on agricultural grounds, the project is targeting the local sector living with the species in everyday life, rather than the touristic sector. Nevertheless, in areas of Konavle and Ston field agriculture is not as commercialized as in the Vrgorac field or Neretva delta and has had a "late start" developing only in the last 15 years, which enables it to have in its basics the concepts of sustainable production and recognized and planned synergy with the tourism, as s evident from A8 of the Konavle and Ston municipality. Small production parcels and lack of larger relevant agricultural roof NGO other than the LAG for the area make our job on networking with the local producers difficult, however, we expect they will benefit from networking with the regenerative agriculture hub provided by this project, as well as professional guidelines provided from this project in networking with FAZ. Aside from the small scale agricultural producers, we are working with non-professional owners producing for their own needs, either private or touristic (family business), and introducing to them the know-how on sustainable production and living. Animal cruelty safe fishing gear is an additional benefit for the sustainable agrotouristic sector.

Minimal output directly for the interpretative touristic infrastructure is planned in this project. However, we expect the branding of the local sustainable products arising from the Mediterranean wetlands with the image of the Mauremys will provide an additional spin-off touristic offer. Volunteering activities offered in coordination with DUNEZ through the AirBnB being just an example. Majkovi and Prljevići villages, mostly depopulated, have a chance to be revitalized through the agro-touristic and volunteer activities which is also recognized by the Dubrovačko Primorje municipality.

Rather than external tourism, we have focused on local, regional, and national offer, events, and materials because of the general lack of leisure and educational locations and events, especially for the youngest population of the Dubrovnik area is evident from the on-line contents and activities. Those can easily be translated for touristic purposes, but that is not the focus of this project.

**3.3 Timetable** (n/a for stage 1)

Timetable (projects up to 2 years) (n/a for stage 1)																								
<i>Fill in cells in beige to show the duration of activities. Repeat lines/columns as necessary.</i>																								
<i>Note: Use the project month numbers instead of calendar months. Month 1 marks always the start of the project. In the timeline you should indicate the timing of each activity per WP.</i>																								
ACTIVITY	MONTHS																							
	M 1	M 2	M 3	M 4	M 5	M 6	M 7	M 8	M 9	M 10	M 11	M 12	M 13	M 14	M 15	M 16	M 17	M 18	M 19	M 20	M 21	M 22	M 23	M 24
Task 1.1 - ...																								
Task 1.2 - ...																								
Task ...																								

Timetable (projects of more than 2 years) (n/a for stage 1)																								
<i>Fill in cells in beige to show the duration of activities. Repeat lines/columns as necessary.</i>																								
<i>Note: Use actual, calendar years and quarters. In the timeline you should indicate the timing of each activity per WP. You may add additional columns if your project is longer than 6 years.</i>																								
ACTIVITY	YEAR 1				YEAR 2				YEAR 3				YEAR 4				YEAR 5				YEAR 6			
	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4
Task 1.1 Partnership agreement and project reporting																								
Task 1.2 Project co-ordination and administrative management																								
Task 1.3. Risk management and contingency planning																								





### 3.4 Impact monitoring and reporting (n/a for stage 1)

#### Impact monitoring, evaluation and reporting strategy (n/a for stage 1)

Describe your overall approach to monitor and evaluate the impact indicators during your project. Ensure that you include specific tasks to monitor, evaluate and report impacts in the work plan (section 2 of this template).

To ensure the improvement of conservation status we are focused on the two main aspects: addressing the threats (habitat degradation and other) and on boosting the population through assisted breeding programme. All of our interventions will be monitored throughout the project, including the health and status of the new animals. As *Mauremys rivulata* is one of the Natura 2000 species for which the national monitoring is planned and will be financed (outside of this project), we did not predict separate monitoring of the species (separate to our planned monitoring of newly hatched animals), in order to avoid duplication of efforts and funds. The monitoring of the species, however, will be conducted at the national level, and will enable the continued, long-term monitoring of our project impact on this species.

To ensure we can monitor and evaluate the impact indicators of our project, we planned five tasks within the WP5:

T.5.1 Monitoring of the population reinforcement - in which the founder animals, the breeding programme, and the newly hatched animals are continuously monitored and undergo a series of health screening. The purpose of this task is to ensure that our planned population reinforcement is healthy and genetically resilient to achieve the significant improvement of the conservation status of the species, and set it up for a long-term success.

T.5.2 Monitoring of restored and managed water bodies - the comprehensive set of monitoring protocols (water status and quality, macrophytes and macroinvertebrates, amphibians and dragonflies), across the restored habitats, to ensure that our restoration intervention have contributed to ecological improvement of the habitat, and that the high quality food and shelter is available for the targeted species

T.5.3 Monitoring success of *M. rivulata* habitat interventions - Monitoring the use and effectiveness of the predator repellents, basking sites, connecting tunnels will enable us to quantify the effectiveness of these interventions for the targeted species, and inform us if this should be included into the future conservation plans. This task also includes monitoring of the soil and other agricultural indicators that will help us quantify the impact our tested adapted agricultural practices have on nest security and on soil quality.

T.5.4 Monitoring the success of sustainable fishery - This task includes assessing fyke net usage through two counting interventions, and evaluating the public opinion on the fish trap usage at the beginning and end of the project, with the goal to evaluate the success in implementing the new tool, eliminate bycatch and influence opinion of local stakeholders.

T.5.5 Project impact on ecosystem condition and services - Outsourced study that will ensure the comprehensive expert assessment of our project impact on the ecosystem services.

In addition, our communication and dissemination actions will be monitored through keeping the attendance lists, evaluation questionnaires at the workshops, google analytics for web site, press clippings, records of invited talks, and public presentations given about the project, and similar measurements, which will be further elaborated in the Communication strategy developed in WP6.

The monitoring tasks will be implemented by different partners, but the data gathering and analysis for KPI reporting will be conducted by Project coordinator, FAZ, as one of their main responsibilities.



Project plan at M6  
 First report (M1-M18) at M19  
 Final report (M19-M48) (by 31.12.2026)  
 Progres report (M19-M36) at M37  
 Extract of the project data from the LIFE KPI webtool –M9  
 Extract of the project data from the LIFE KPI webtool –M48

### 3.5 Communication, dissemination and visibility (n/a for stage 1)

#### Communication, dissemination and visibility of funding (n/a for stage 1)

*Define your target audience(s). Describe the planned communication and dissemination activities to promote the action and its results and maximise the impact (to whom, which format, how many copies, etc.). Clarify how you intend to reach each target audience, and explain the choice of the dissemination channels. Describe the methods and indicators (quantitative and qualitative) to monitor and evaluate the outreach and coverage of the communication and dissemination activities and results.*

*Describe how the visibility of EU funding will be ensured.*

Our main targeted audience, as identified in this stage (this will likely be further advanced in Task 6.1. during the communication strategy development by a hired expert):

- 1) **Local community of Dubrovnik-Neretva county**, with special emphasis on landowners, agricultural producers, and children.

We will ensure the effective communication with local community through including them early in the project phase (planning workshop, but number of landowners were previously contacted) and partnering with the local public institution (DUNEZ), that has long term experience of working with the local people. We also planned relatively large number of in-person meetings, important for good relationship with the older representatives of the local community. The communication is planned to be bidirectional, with us listening to their needs and concerns before explaining our motivation and goals.

The overall message we want to communicate to the local community is the importance of wetland management and sustainable use in the Mediterranean climate, and dispel the image of wetlands that are useless or a threat to human health. By the end of the project, the local citizens are expected to accept the idea of supporting the survival of terrapin in the habitat they share, the importance of the species for biodiversity, the importance of healthy ecosystem in general, to take pride in cohabiting this area with protected species, and see it as a part of the tourist offer, while actively participating in environmental education programs and a work of the Turtle center, and established conservation volunteering programme.

Planned activities and materials: 5 habitat management workshops (1 on ponds, 1 on canals; 3 focused on landowners of private agriculture parcels in Natura 2000 with Mauremys), 5 short term volunteer actions (at least 50 volunteers included, par of them local), 1 educational program - The pond keeper: 1 picture book (500 distributed), 1 documentary book (500 re-print), 3 games (2700 distributed). The details of engaging with local schools, and developing the Turtle center in Dubrovnik, are explained in WP6.

- 2) **General public (of Croatia)**, with special emphasis on children

Our educational visits and programs designated for schools will be most intensely disseminated to local schools of Dubrovnik-Neretva county (WP6), however some of our material will be distributed and available for download on our web page, and we plan to attend the national biology teacher meetings on which we will present our project and all of the educational material developed and available for uptake by other schools across Croatia. The children story book published by HV will also be distributed at the national level.

In addition, our social media and web site will reach broader audience, which will be ensured by developing a communication strategy in the beginning of the project (WP6, Task 6.1.). General public will also be reached through planned press conferences. We will invite local and national media to all of our major events. We believe that the story about a local community that cares about its environment and native biodiversity can be compelling for quality reporting and wider uptake.

The education material aimed at children at the national level: a picture book & accompanying board game, memory & puzzle game, traveling *Mauremys* exhibition for schools, Mauremys movie.

- 3) **Professionals** from nature protection sector, agricultural sector (including fisheries), and water protection sector.

To ensure our results are well known in the nature protection and other relevant sectors, we planned strong and continuous communication with the national and international experts from our field, and we will invite them to be active participants from the start of our project. We will share our results and create further networks of cooperation with associations and institutions that deal with the protection of Balkan terrapin and Mediterranean wetland habitats in the wider region such as Montenegro, Albania and Greece.

The valuable knowledge and experience that Zagreb Zoo will develop within the Balkan terrapin breeding station will be transferred through members of the European Association of Zoos and Aquariums to a number of zoos. Guidelines and protocols for the restoration and management of Mediterranean wetlands and a guide for the management of breeding sites and the removal of invasive species will be shared with the relevant conservation experts from the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, public institutions dealing with nature protection, nature protection associations.

Activities and means planned for reaching targeted audience: 2 habitat management workshops (1 on ponds, 1 on canals) with at least 100 stakeholders reached; 3 workshops for Mauremys ex situ management (at least 50 stakeholders reached), Mediterranean wetland days (invited speakers from the field, invited collaborators from neighboring countries with similar conservation issues), presenting our project at at least 10 international meetings, conferences, workshops and seminars.

#### 4) **Tourists**

Because Dubrovnik-Neretva county has a large number of domestic and international tourist visitors, as well as ZOO Zagreb (about 500,000 visitors annually), one of our targeted audience is tourist visitors. We planned actions that will mainstream the Balkan terrapin and the Mediterranean wetland protection, and in addition communicate the negative impact of invasive species. For this purpose, we planned a subset of promotional and education material prepared and printed in English, as well as English material available on our web site and social media distributed to tourist offices.

Activities and means planned for reaching targeted audience: Events: Mauremys days in ZOO \*4, and Mediterranean wetland days \*3 - at least 8000 people reached total, English language posts on web page and social media (1 per month), some of the promotional material printed in English.

*The visibility of EU funding will be ensured by printing the logo of LIFE programme and Natura 2000 network on all of our promotional material (including the brochures, booklets, T-shirts and hats, and information boards and panels, etc.), by displaying it on our web page, by declaring the LIFE funding in all of our interviews, press releases and media appearances, by displaying the LIFE and Natura 2000 flag on all of our events and making it visible on all of our presentations (public speaking events, conferences and similar).*

## 4. RESOURCES

Fill in **only** section 4.1 at stage 1. Fill in **all sections** at stage 2.

### 4.1 Consortium set-up

#### Consortium cooperation and division of roles (if applicable)

Describe the consortium composition. How will all the partners together bring the necessary expertise?

In what way does each of the participants contribute to the project? Show that each has a valid role and adequate resources to fulfil that role.

Fill out the Participant information (annex) with more details on the participants and their project teams (key staff).

FAZ - Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zagreb. The coordinating partner provides project manager full-time, and in part-time it provides: an expert on breeding and genetics, an expert on regenerative agriculture, soil science expert, physiology and veterinary preventive medicine expert, expert on conservation of domestic and managed wild animal populations, and two experts on fisheries, wildlife management, and special zoology. Main value of lead partner is comprehensive experience with *Mauremys rivulata* which will be relevant for all of the project actions and for overall implementation of the projects vision. In addition, the FAZ has the leading Croatian experts in the regenerative agriculture, soil science, and on fisheries, which is especially relevant for addressing two of the main threats. Their experience in sectors of sustainable agriculture and fisheries makes them well positioned to communicate and establish working relationships with all of the relevant stakeholders. FAZ experts for breeding and genetics, and preventive veterinary medicine will work together with the ZOO experts to ensure the planned breeding programme can be implemented safely, according to highest standards and in-line with all relevant legal requirement. Further, FAZ experts have experience in communication, advising and expert work for the two relevant ministries (Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Economy and Sustainable development), which will allow the easier communication about the planned proposals for the legislative changes. As FAZ is a partner and coordinator in implementation of many other EU program projects it has the needed experience in project administration and management and can invest administrative support as overhead. Main activities: project leader and program coordinator, taking part in majority of activities, WP1 (T1.1, T1.2, T1.4), T2.2, WP3, WP4, WP5 (T5.4, T5.5), WP6, WP7



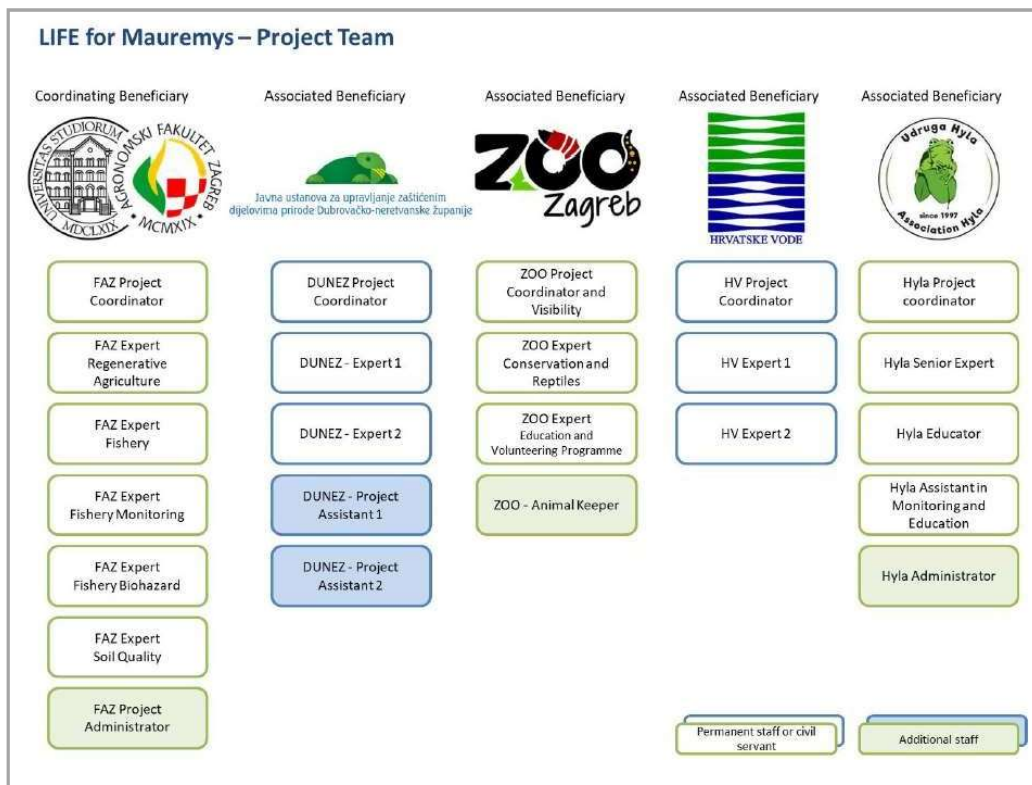
HYLA -Hyla is non-governmental expert association employing biologists and conservation experts with the main goal to assess, conserve and protect nature and biodiversity. During its 22 years of activity HYLA carried out more than 100 projects, most of them regarding herpetofauna, including large projects such as EU Natura 2000 Integration Project - NIP in Croatia, the Red Book of Amphibians and Reptiles of Croatia and project of establishment of national monitoring system for invasive alien species of herpetofauna (including field-work based mapping and national monitoring programme for *T. scripta*). HYLA was also one of the lead experts in development of Management plan with action plan for *M. rivulata*, thanks on its long-term collaboration with FAZ and ZOO on the smaller projects regarding different aspects of *M. rivulata* biology or conservation. In LIFE for Mauremys HYLA will provide the

needed expertise on the targeted species, and thanks to its experience with ecological monitoring it will provide needed expertise for monitoring of ecological status of restored habitats. HYL A also has long term experience in education, and outreach, and has so far published a number of educational books and other materials, therefore they will be responsible for some of the outreach, education and dissemination activities. T1.3, WP2 – WP7.

DUNEZ - Public institution for managing protected areas, within the Dubrovnik - Neretva county. They are a roof organization and competent authority for maintenance, promotion, and conservation of most Natura 2000 sites and other protected areas within the Dubrovnik county, including the Natura 2000 sites chosen for this project. Their activities include implementing monitoring of protected species, participating in supporting research projects within their area, organization of meetings and conferences with local stakeholders, international partnership on projects, and promotion of sustainable tourism. They collaborate with other institutions, organizations, and stakeholders in the area, and have experience in implementation of EU projects. Their work and experience in collaboration with the local community and local media is the main value as a partner along with their crucial role in the sustainability of project results. Main activities: T1.5, WP2, WP3, T4.2, WP5-WP7

ZOO - As a member of the European Association of Zoological Gardens, ZOO Zagreb participates in numerous projects in research and protection of endangered species. Breeding programs and experienced herpetologist with hands-on experience in keeping and breeding this species, as well as communication with media are the main value of this partner for the project proposal. Also, with more than 400 000 visitors per year ZOO Zagreb and its strong educational programs it is recognized as one of the most important awareness-raising institutions in Croatia. ZOO will provide experts, together with FAZ, that will be responsible for health and safety of founder animals and the implementation of breeding programme. Because of their long term experience with volunteering and education actions, they will also provide experienced support to implement actions involving volunteers and education and dissemination actions. Their established collaboration with other ex-situ conservation facilities will enable the expert support and advice when needed, and provide additional channels for dissemination of our results and promotion of the project. Main activities: WP3, WP6, WP7

HV - Hrvatske vode is a competent authority for water management of rivers, lakes, coastal and transitional waters, and underground water in Croatia. HV main tasks are flood protection, water protection, and implementation of the River Basin Management Plans, which includes actions such as monitoring of ecological and chemical status, ecological potential, mitigation and restoration measures, etc. HV has the needed technical experience for implementing the larger restoration activities, which are one of the core actions of this project. This partnership also provides an opportunity for biodiversity mainstreaming, through cross-sectoral collaboration on defining the management practices that are biodiversity-friendly that will then be implemented in the future management and operational documents. Considering sometimes conflicting interests of different sectors, we are proud of this partnership, which will help both the nature protection and water management sectors work on their shared interests, and improve the collaboration. Main activities: WP2, WP5, WP6.



#### 4.2 Project management (n/a for stage 1)

##### Project management, quality assurance and monitoring of progress (n/a for stage 1)

Describe the management structures and decision-making mechanisms within the consortium. Explain how decisions will be taken and how regular and effective communication will be ensured.

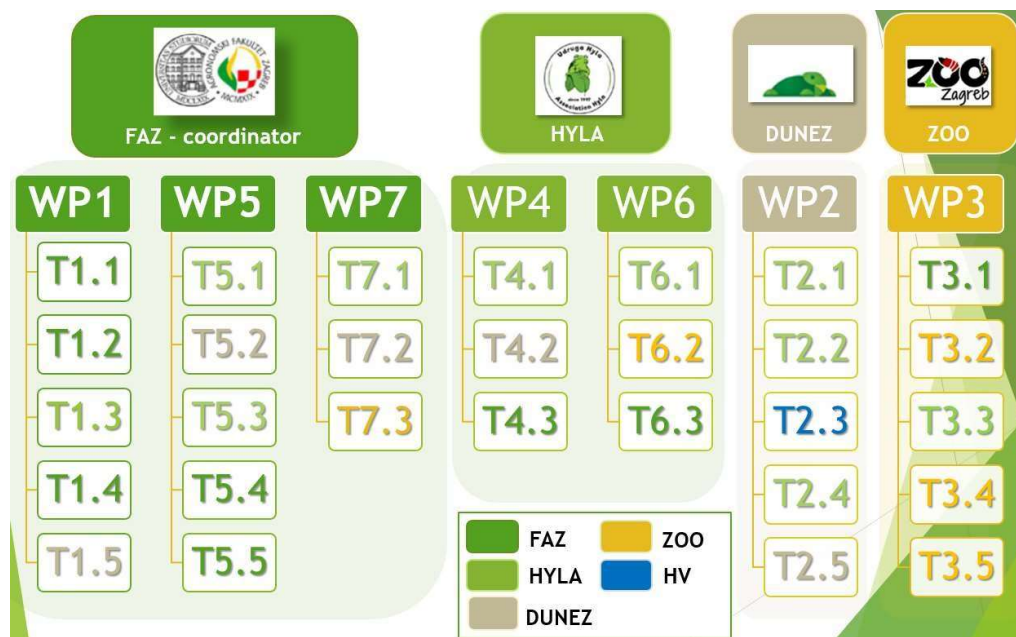
Describe the measures and methods planned to ensure good quality, monitoring, planning and control of project implementation.

All the partners have been deeply involved and motivated in the preparation of the project proposal in the previous two years. Even during corona time we made the site visits and held numerous live, hybrid and online meetings, which have strengthened the team spirit and will be a huge asset in the future collaboration. Established forms of communication, decision making and co-creation of this project proposals main ideas, structure and even the details of the actions with shared participation leave us confident the project team (which will receive a few additional persons if financed) will have only little surprises in functioning and non that can be overcome.

Management structure: functional and team based

Functional, rather than the classical hierarchical management is envisioned for this project with clear responsibilities of partner institutions for work packages and for the individual tasks. A lot of tasks have a multidisciplinary teams from different partner representatives working towards the defined goal based on the skills required to reach it. Project coordinator (FAZ team) was chosen to bear the main responsibility in project progress tracking, enabling the functional consortium and as the main contact point for financing organization due to the deep understanding of the issue, program experience, institutional experience in the leadership of complex projects, the motivation of its personnel and previous collaboration of the FAZ

team with other partner's institutions and personnel. In addition to the FAZ institutional administrative organization help (procurement, accounting, international relations and other offices), dedicated project manager will be employed by FAZ in full time for the purposes of this project management. WP leaders are chosen from the institutions connected mostly to the topic of the WP based on their previous personnel experience in the topic and institution responsibilities. Task leaders were chosen based on the same principle. Clear project management structure will be formalized through the agreement of the partners and further using the detailed Project plan which will be produced in the early project phase (M6) and will contain: (i) *Project and quality plan with detailed project time plan and individual personnel assignment to the leading responsibilities for WPs and tasks, deliverable responsibilities and internal documents and data sets responsibilities, communication and management tools and meeting schedule, as well as responsibilities for engagement of individual or groups of stakeholders* (ii) *DMP with the decision on technical solution for the data curation;* (iii) *Risk register and mitigation plan.*



Decision-making mechanism related to the project management will be defined in the agreement by forming a Steering committee (SC) consisting of one representative of each partner institution and SC leader from the coordinating institution. Questions regarding the project management will be prepared for the regular SC meetings by the members and the decisions regarding the project voted when quorum is achieved based on the majority of votes. Decisions relating the content of the project and the topic of conservation will be voted on the regular WP and task meetings based on the majority of votes of the project consortium members present at those meetings.

Communication strategy considers having a management platform (T1.2) as a central place for the project communication, document repository (T1.4) ensuring all data and documents are available at all time for the consortium members, communication platform consisting of on-line tools required for effective collaborative work (T1.2). Regular (online, hybrid and face-to-face) meetings are planned in T1.2 to ensure emerging issues are detected early; effective project communication platform and document repository;



Quality will be assured through the choice of the personnel of each team member and previous experience in joint work on similar topics. Clear responsibilities for tasks implementation, reporting, project management and risk control and mitigation, the success metrics formalized, early warning in quarterly status reviews and timely team reinforcement. Management will monitor the planned versus actual effort per task and we will have periodical quality checks on internal documents. All deliverables will be approved by the SC and document or other products will be finalized/launches after the WP meetings approval. (see supplementary- internal checkpoints and documents dates, list of annexes pp101)

#### 4.3 Green management *(n/a for stage 1)*

##### **Green management** *(n/a for stage 1)*

*Describe the measures proposed to reduce the environmental impact of your project, for example through the use of green procurement, environmental management systems, etc.*

LIFE for Mauremys will commit to support businesses that have lower ecological footprint, through preference of products and services which are officially recognized by eco-labelling schemes such as the EU Ecolabel, by choosing local businesses whenever possible, and through commitment to green procurement (“Zelena javna nabava”), including a recently published green purchasing criteria for food and catering services.

To ensure this commitment we already took into account these criteria, during cost estimation for our project’s budget. We will also prepare a short introductory talk about the green procurement and ecolabel during the first meeting with all partners, to ensure that they are aware of all options.

All of our organized events will also have the emphasis on vegetarian and/or locally sourced food, and the introduction speeches will be used as an opportunity to acknowledge this, in order to encourage this as climate-positive behavior.

We have also planned a minimum amount of printed promotional material, and encouraging use of our digital publications whenever possible. The promotional material that will be printed will be printed on ecologically conscious materials, such as recycled paper, organic cotton (for T shirts) and similar.

#### 4.4 Budget *(n/a for stage 1)*

##### **Estimated budget — Resources** *(n/a for stage 1)*

See detailed budget table (annex 1 to Part B).

### 5. OTHER

#### 5.1 Ethics

##### **Ethics**

Not applicable



## 5.2 Security

<b>Security</b>
Not applicable

## 6. DECLARATIONS

Higher funding rate (for Nature and Biodiversity; n/a for stage 1)	YES/NO
Do you fulfil the conditions set out in the Call document for a higher funding rate (75% or 67%)? If YES, explain and provide details.	<b>NO</b>
<p>Clear focus on priority species (see the objectives). Target species is <b>Mauremys rivulata</b>. Priority because it is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- listed on Annexes II and IV of HD and Annex II of the Bern Convention. Checklist relating to the HD Article 17. lists species code 2373 <i>Mauremys rivulata</i>. <i>Mauremys caspica</i> is the name of the species as listed in the HD with the Y-CTC mark (annex II and annex IV): species covered by the Annex, difference in the scientific name because previous species concept has been revised.</li> <li>- The conservation status in Croatia: U2 'unfavourable-bad', 'the Mediterranean biogeographical region 2013-2018 is' unfavorable-inadequate', both Cyprus and Greece: 'unfavorable-inadequate'</li> </ul> <p>Project activities planned also for: the IAS <i>Trachemys scripta</i> (priority EU IAS), but also <i>Gambusia sp.</i> and <i>Paspalum paspaloides</i> and use the wild boar repellents to remove them from nesting and estivation area of the target species (In order to provide habitat restoration and management for the target species)</p> <p>National Ecological Network areas where it is present as a target species are included in the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Neretva River Delta,</li> <li>- Gornji Majkovi - ponds,</li> <li>- pond in the Prljevići,</li> <li>- Sniježnica, and Konavle field (Regulation on amendments to the Decree on the Ecological Network, official gazette Narodne novine, no. 80/19).</li> </ul> <p>It was considered extinct in Ston field project area (National Ecological Network), and is not listed in the SDF forms of J dio Pelješca. We will use the Zagreb ZOO facilities to reinforce the population in this NATURA2000 site and get the forms of J dio Pelješca updated.</p>	

Double funding (n/a for stage 1)	
Information concerning other EU grants for this project	YES/NO
⚠ Please note that there is a strict prohibition of double funding from the EU budget (except under EU Synergies actions).	<b>YES/NO</b>
We confirm that to our best knowledge neither the project as a whole nor any parts of it have benefitted from any other EU grant (including EU funding managed by authorities in EU Member States or other funding bodies, e.g. Erasmus, EU Regional Funds, EU Agricultural Funds, European Investment Bank, etc.). If NO, explain and provide details.	<b>YES</b>
We confirm that to our best knowledge neither the project as a whole nor any parts of it are (nor will be) submitted for any other EU grant (including EU funding managed by authorities in EU Member States or other funding bodies, e.g. Erasmus, EU Regional Funds, EU Agricultural Funds, European Investment Bank, etc.). If NO, explain and provide details.	<b>YES</b>

**Financial support to third parties (if applicable)** *(n/a for stage 1)*

*If in your project the maximum amount per third party will be more than the threshold amount set in the Call document, justify and explain why the higher amount is necessary in order to fulfil your project's objectives.*

NA

## ANNEXES

### LIST OF ANNEXES TO PROJECT PROPOSAL

#### Standard

+ **Detailed budget table (annex 1 to Part B)(new)** — *mandatory (n/a for stage 1)*

CVs (annex 2 to Part B) — *not applicable*

Annual activity reports (annex 3 to Part B) — *mandatory, if required in the Call document (n/a for stage 1)*

List of previous projects (annex 4 to Part B) — *not applicable*

#### + Participant information

+ **Additional letter Ministry of economy and sustainable development - Nature protection directorate**

#### + Letters of support

1. *Ministry of economy and sustainable development – Nature protection directorate*
2. *Dubrovnik –Neretva County*
3. *Municipalities: Ston, Zračblje, Dubrovačko primorje, Kula Norinska, Konavle*
4. *Permissions to use the defined cadaster parcels and pond parcels: Dubrovačko primorje municipality, D Radonić, M Martić A. Bender, M. Barović, G. Buško, M.Kukljica*
5. *Ministry of Ecology, spatial planning and urbanism of Montenegro*
6. *Montenegrin Ecologists Society*
7. *RIAS wildlife rehabilitation and research center*
8. *MME Birdlife Hungary*
9. *Societas Europaea Herpetologica*
10. *Nationalpark Donau Auen*
11. *Faculty of natural sciences, University of Tirana, Albania*
12. *Regenerative agriculture HUB – Ekološka udruga Vojakovac*
13. *MedIsWet*
14. *Croatian Ministry of Agriculture*

+ **Cofinancing declaration - The Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund**

+ **Maps (new Neretva map)**

+ **Description of sites**

+ **Description of species and habitats**

#### Special

+ **Other annexes (annex 5 to Part B)** — *mandatory, if required in the Call document (n/a for stage 1)*

1. *Partners statement of collaboration*
2. *Land stewardship agreement-Miho Barović*
3. *2000 words summary LIFE for Mauremys*
4. *How the project meets LIFE captive breeding conditions*
5. *CB Exit strategy LIFE for Mauremys*
6. *Internal dates and reporting documents*
7. *Supplementary revised budget table*

### LIST OF SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL TO ANNEX 1 PART B of the GA

**1. Participant information**

**2. Letters of support**

**3. Description of sites**

**4. Description of species and habitats**

**5. Land stewardship agreement**

**6. Maps of project locations**

**7. New letter of support of the Ministry of economy and sustainable development - Nature protection directorate**

**8. Supplementary budget analysis**

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	15.04.2021	Initial version (new MFF).
1.1	08.06.2022	<p>Accepted changes requested during the GAP procedure questions and RP1 to RP10 as follows:</p> <p>AD1 Reporting periods are agreed to n° 1* M1-M18; n° 2* M19-M36; n° 1* M37-M48. <i>- This information is included in description text of WP1 T.1.1 in the B-form of the project proposal.</i> <i>- the deliverables' D1.4, D1.5 and D1.6 names and due dates on the pages 38 and 39 of the B-form project proposal were changed</i> <i>- 3.5 Impact monitoring and reporting on page 91 of the B-form project proposal amended.</i></p> <p>AD2 RP2 requested an update regarding the wider uptake of turtle-friendly fyke nets by the relevant stakeholders. Activities towards promotion of the turtle-friendly fyke nets are strengthened, new milestone and deliverable are added as follows: <i>- stakeholder FLAG "Malo misto" included as target for dissemination on page 72 of Form B project proposal in WP6 text and page 60 on WP4</i> <i>- additional activity added to WP6 (Form B of project proposal page 72) as participating at 4 local fisheries events, and ensuring wider uptake targeting more local fisheries stakeholders</i> <i>- Milestone 6 added to WP4 (page 61 Form B of project proposal) and Milestone 7 to WP6 (page 75 Form B of project proposal)</i> <i>- additional deliverable D5.2-Public opinion on fish trap usage added to WP 5 (page 67 Form B of project proposal)</i> <i>- DUNEZ cost (other) in dissemination package WP6: 8772 EUR is repurposed in the detailed budget table and Supplementary revised budget table from children dedicated material to targeted materials regarding nesting sites, IAS and sustainable fishery for the Mediterranean wetland days</i></p> <p>AD3 RP3 questioned the balance of the finances for WP4 and WP6 activities and following changes were agreed upon: <i>- WP4 T4.2 description was edited to explain our intentions better (page 57 Form B of project proposal)</i></p> <p>AD4 RP4 requested a new letter of support of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development : <i>- added to supplementary documents of Form B of project proposal</i></p> <p>AD5 RP5 requested addition of KPI screenshot to deliverables of WP1 <i>- D1.7 and D1.8 added as the project data from the LIFE KPI webtool (M9 and M48) the list of deliverables under WP 1, on page 39 of the B-form of project proposal.</i> As the reports linked to a payment (D.1.4., D.1.5., D.1.6.) are submitted directly in the Periodic Reporting Module of the Portal Grant</p>

		<p>Management System, we were asked to remove the foreseen reports from the list of deliverables. Deliverables D1.4, D1.5 and D1.6 are now removed in the Form B (enclosed with this reply). Consequently D1.7 is renamed to D1.4 (extract from KPI web tool M9), and D1.8 is renamed D1.5 (extract from KPI web tool M48).</p> <p>AD6          RP6 requested to clarify which actions will be performed in site HR5000031 Delta Neretve  <i>- Actions in site HR5000031 Delta Neretve are now correctly listed on the new revised map of the site (Annex)</i>  <i>- amended in the description of actions in WP 5 (page 66 B-form of project proposal.)</i></p> <p>AD7          RP7 agreement on 60% funding rate  <i>- We are willing to continue with the lowered funding rate and therefore with a lower EU contribution (€ 1,278,844.20 instead of € 1,428,037.00 as initially requested)- project budget table amended</i>  <i>- Change is made also in the Form B on page 101 B-form of project proposal.)</i></p>
1.2	05.07.2022	<p>It was requested to alleviate the administrative burden, therefore- Two reporting periods linked to grant payment are agreed upon. The first one remains n° 1* M1-M18 because this is in accordance with the budget spending time-plan ; the second one is encompassing M19 to the end of the project n° 2M19-M48.</p> <p>One additional deliverable is included in WP1: D1.6 Progress report (M19-M36) to be delivered at M37.  <i>This information is included in description text of WP1 T.1.1 in the B-form of the project proposal.</i>  <i>- the deliverables' D1.4, D1.5 and D1.6 names and due dates on the pages 38 and 39 of the B-form project proposal were changed</i>  <i>- 3.5 Impact monitoring and reporting on page 91 of the B-form project proposal amended.</i></p>

## PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

*(To be filled in by the participants and uploaded as part of the application. To add information for more participants, copy the table as many times as necessary. This section is not bound by any page limit.)*

PROJECT	
Project name and acronym:	[ <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County] — [LIFE for Mauremys]
PARTICIPANT 1 <i>(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).</i>	
Legal name (short name):	[SVEUCILISTE U ZAGREBU AGRONOMSKI FAKULTET] ([FAZ])
DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPANT	
<i>Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.</i>	
<p>University of Zagreb Faculty of Agriculture (FAZ) is the leading institution in the field of agricultural and related sciences and the profession in Croatia. With over 200 researchers and 28 laboratories and 6 experimental stations intended for teaching, and scientific and technical activities, FAZ continuously endeavours to acquire, develop and transfer knowledge in order to educate our students, scientists and experts and has awarded over 13,000 Engineers, Masters and Doctors of Science degrees to date. This enables us to contribute to the quality of life by enhancement of the food production and industry, sustainable management of natural resources and development of the rural and urban environment in the national and global framework. FAZ members are involved in the implementation of basic, development and applied research projects. Prolific professional and scientific collaboration has been established with different institutions, state administrations, business sector, and the FAZ institution helps researchers to participate as partners and coordinators in many EU programs and implemented many projects - FP6, FP7, IPA, SEE.ERA NET, Tempus, CARDS, LIFE III, INTEREG, Eureka, etc.). Main research subjects are: preservation of the biodiversity of plants and domestic and wild animals, pollution of soils and waters, effective plant protection, application of biotechnology in agriculture, application of geoinformatics science, new technologies for sustainable and renewable (organic) agricultural production, new food production technologies, evaluation and preservation of landscapes and the heritage of garden-come-park architecture, socio-economic and marketing analyses of Croatian agriculture, and competitiveness of Croatian agriculture in the domestic and world markets. Departments of: Animal science; Fisheries, apiculture, wildlife management and special zoology; Plant nutrition and the Analytical laboratory of the Department of Soil Amelioration will contribute to this project.</p>	
KEY STAFF	
<i>Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.</i>	
<p><b>[Dragica] [ŠALAMON], [F], [FAZ Project Coordinator, expert], [Genetics]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- working in nature protection and with <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> in Croatia since 2004.</li> <li>- was contracted for the action and management plan of this species as an expert for freshwater turtle conservation by the corresponding ministry in 2018</li> <li>- scientifically proficient in animal genetics and conservation of animal genetic resources</li> </ul> <p><b>[Marina] [PIRIA], [F], [FAZ expert], [Fishery]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- freshwater fisheries, by-catch reducing mechanisms, monitoring, IAS;</li> <li>- non-formal participant of GFCM (FAO) Research programme on European eel for an analysis of the data collection schemes and methodologies in place in each Mediterranean country concerned by European eel fisheries</li> <li>- scientifically proficient in research of freshwater fishes ecology and biology</li> </ul> <p><b>[Bruna] [TARIBA], [F], [FAZ expert], [Regenerative agriculture]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regenerative agriculture, livestock in extensive systems, veterinary</li> </ul>	

**[Ana] [GAVRILOVIĆ], [F], [FAZ expert], [Fishery biohazard]**

- researcher responsible for the physiological and ecotoxicological components of the project: „Gornji Majkovi -Lokve: characteristics of the habitat of the turtle *Mauremys rivulata*“
- currently leader of two projects that are conducted in cooperation with fisherman regarding fishing gear efficiency and management plans of fishing areas
- experience in technological innovations as inventor of two national patents and one internationally protected industrial design)
- veterinary expertise in health management of aquatic animals
- experience in environmental monitoring organization and performance, including e-DNA analyses

**[Sanja] [SLUNJSKI], [F], [FAZ expert], [Plant nutrition]**

- Plant nutrition and soil monitoring
- Heavy metals in soil-water-plant system
- Analytical procedures in soil, plant material, nutrient solutions and fertilizers research from the agroecology aspect

**[Ivan] [ŠPELIĆ], [M], [FAZ assistant], [Fishery monitoring]**

- working as freshwater fish researcher since 2014
- engaged as freshwater fish expert in project of Establishment of the National Monitoring System for Invasive Alien Species in Croatia
- main points of scientific interest are freshwater ecology, fisheries and invasive freshwater fish species

**PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES**

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

**A. AGRI ongoing and previous LIFE projects as partner:**

- A.1. LIFE18 NAT/HR/000847, Dinara Back to LIFE, 2020, total project value 1.296.509 € (EU cofinancing 777.903 €), 15. 1. 2019. – 15. 7. 2023., coordinating: Biom association, partners: University of Zagreb Faculty of Agriculture, Hrvatske šume d.o.o. and the LAG “Cetinska krajina”
- A.2. LIFE 18 PRE/NL002, Grazing for wildfire prevention, ecosystem, service provision, nature conservation and landscape management, 2019, total project value 833,325 € (EU cofinancing 499,995 €), 01.01.2019. - 31.12.2021, coordinating: Rewilding Europe, partners: Universität Leipzig, Universidade da Coruña, Rewilding Rhodopes Foundation, Rewilding Ukraine, ARK Nature, Baltic Environmental Forum Lithuania
- A.3. LIFE13 ENV/HU/001092, Innovative Real-time Monitoring and Pest control for Insects, 2014, total project value 3 008 627,00 € (EU co-financing 1 489 270,00 €), 01. 06. 2014.- 31. 12. 2018., coordinating: Centre for Agricultural Research, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, partners: University of Zagreb, Faculty of Agriculture, HELION Engineering Consulting Service Ltd. Hungary, Deák Delta Ltd. Hungary

**B. AGRI previous LIFE projects as coordinator:**

- B.1. LIFE05 TCY/CRO/000105, Project Development of the Croatian Soil Monitoring Programme with a Pilot project, 2006, total project value 800.000 €, 1.1.2006- 31.12.2008
- B.2. LIFE13 ENV/HR/000580, Low pesticide IPM in sustainable and safe fruit production, 2014., total project value 1,839,378.00 € (EU co-financing 901,938.00 €), 16.06.2014 – 16.12.2017, partners: Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna (Italy), University of Turin (Italy), Agra d.o.o. (Croatia), Apofruit Itali Soc. Coop. Agricola (Italy), Xeda International S.A. (France)

**AFFILIATED ENTITIES / ASSOCIATED PARTNERS**

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

n/a

**PARTICIPANT 2** *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).*



<b>Legal name (short name):</b>	[Ustanova Zooloski vrt grada Zagreb] ([ZOO])
<b>DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPANT</b>	
<i>Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.</i>	
<p>As a full member of EAZA, Zagreb Zoo participates in numerous breeding programs of endangered species. With over 130 reptile species within animal collection, herpetological staff is highly skilled in hand-on experience in keeping and breeding various reptiles. Balkan Pond Turtle (<i>Mauremys rivulata</i>) came in our collection in year 2008 from confiscation. Outdoor exhibit enclosure was built, together with educational area nearby. Since then, Balkan Pond turtle is playing important role in our collection and is implemented in several educational programs. With more than 400 000 visitors per year and strong educational programs ZOO Zagreb is recognized as one of the most important public awareness raising institutions in Croatia. During last years, we successfully incubated several clutches of Balkan pond turtle eggs, and head-started over 30 juveniles in cooperation with our partner HYLA. LIFE + financing should allow us to build breeding station (new glasshouse with more suitable conditions for animals, which should lead to higher fertility rate in males and better nesting sites for females). Precise incubators will improve incubation results in hatching rate and sex determination of juveniles. Zagreb Zoo capacity for permanent housing of invasive alien species that are present in existing ponds allows total removal of present invasive animals. Veterinary testing will help us gaining more knowledge about wild animals health status and providing healthy animals for soft release. Training Public institution for managing protected natural sites of Dubrovnik - Neretva County staff will be possible for long term capacity building in animal husbandry. Experience in planning and building of predator safe fenced areas for soft release will bring higher survival rate of juveniles determined for future release. Developing of volunteer program will be beneficial for natural sites, especially in bringing people from local community for long term contribution to project.</p>	
<b>KEY STAFF</b>	
<i>Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.</i>	
<p><b>[Ivan] [CIZELJ], [M], [ZOO Expert], [Reptile curator]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- expert in reptile husbandry, working with <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> in captivity over 10 years</li> <li>- designing reptile enclosures, incubation, technical support, animal transport, IAS management</li> </ul> <p><b>[Davorka] [MALJKOVIĆ], [F], [ZOO Project Coordinator, expert], [head of research and development]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- project planning and implementation</li> <li>- expansive knowledge in wildlife management procedures and protocols</li> </ul> <p><b>[Ivana] [KOVARIK ANTONOVIĆ], [F], [ZOO Expert], [Zoologist]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- involved in the possibilities of formal and non-formal learning in the Zoo (holding lectures in the classroom related to school or university curriculum, development of visitor education activities and educational seminars for adults).</li> <li>- Erasmus+ coordinator for Traineeships in Zoo, volunteer activities and a new projects under Erasmus+ programme for Zagreb Zoo</li> </ul>	
<b>PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES</b>	
<i>List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructural project " Facility – Zagreb wildlife recovery centre and animal shelter" - Modernization of the Zoological garden of Zagreb - Phase III" is being built with the aim of improving the animal care system and strengthening the green infrastructure of the City of Zagreb and the Republic of Croatia. The project is important for the City of Zagreb because it would get first facility that provides the possibility of housing wild animal species. The total value of the Project is 3.032.678,75 EUR of which the total amount of grants from the Cohesion Fund is 800.000 EUR. The project was submitted as part of the Call for Proposals "Improvement and capacity building of wildlife rescue centres" in which the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development acts as the Managing Authority and the Fund for Environmental Protection and</li> </ul>	

Energy Efficiency as the Level 2 Intermediate Body. The published Call for Projects was submitted by the Zagreb Zoo Institution, as a user / applicant, while the City of Zagreb is a project associate.

- EU project “City Windows Overlooking Nature – Urban Biodiversity Improvement and Green Infrastructure Development (Modernisation - Phase II)”. As part of the project, numerous educational and interpretational programs will be developed. The total value of the project is HRK 34,916,730.32. Of this amount, total acceptable project costs amount to HRK 22,889,601.52, of which HRK 13,982,357.30 are the European Union grant, i.e. 61.09%. The beneficiary of the funds and project holder is the City of Zagreb, and partners on the project are the Maksimir Public Institution, Biom Association, Croatian Association of Deafblind Persons Dodir, and Vjetar u leđa Association. Zagreb Zoo is the project collaborator. Project implementation began on 1 October 2018, and it is expected to finish on 31 December 2021.
- Infrastructural project „Modernization of the Zagreb Zoo – the first phase“, funded with support from the European regional development Fund (ERDF). The total contracted value of this projects amounts to HRK 37.853.343,04 with the European Union co-financing it with HRK 35.960.675,88. The beneficiary of the funds and project holder was the City of Zagreb, (2014-2016).

The volunteer program of the Zagreb Zoo has been implemented since 2013, for adults aged 18 and over. The Zagreb Zoo's volunteer program opens the way for gaining valuable work experience that will help volunteers in their future endeavours and careers. The average number of active volunteers per year involved in the program is around 25.

#### AFFILIATED ENTITIES / ASSOCIATED PARTNERS

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

n/a

#### PARTICIPANT 3 *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).*

**Legal name (short name):**

[HRVATSKE VODE] ([HV])

#### DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPANT

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

Hrvatske vode is a legal entity for water management of rivers, lakes, coastal and transitional waters, as well as underground water. Its main tasks are flood protection, water protection and all activities that are included within the River Basin Management Plans, such as monitoring of ecological and chemical status, ecological potential, mitigation and restoration measures. Hrvatske vode traditionally manage water resources and, as the leading national institution, are responsible for all aspects of water management in Croatia as an EU member state, have extensive experience in the WFD implementation and development of RBMPs.

Institutional monitoring framework is defined by the Water Act which unequivocally designates Hrvatske vode as the institution in charge of implementing water monitoring. The activity of water sampling and testing for the purpose of monitoring under the competence of Hrvatske vode is performed by the Central Water Management Laboratory of Hrvatske vode and other laboratories on the territory of the Republic of Croatia, which are authorized by the ministry in charge of water management. It refers to monitoring of ecological (with the exception of hydrological monitoring) and chemical status of surface waters and chemical status of groundwater. Services contracts outside of the Central Water Management Laboratory capacity will be concluded with authorized laboratories on the basis of conducted public procurement procedures. The territorial water management, which covers the national territory of the Republic of Croatia, consists of six water management departments (WMDs). WMD for the Southern Adriatic Basins will procure, contract and oversee all the territorial services regarding the Restoration of the ponds, Adjustment of the existing tunnel exit and Control succession in Konavle field and Ston during the project implementation. Hrvatske vode also regularly promote water protection and educate children creating targeted educational material.

#### KEY STAFF

*Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.*

**[Igor] [STANKOVIC], [m], [Partner project coordinator], [Ph.D. in biology]**

Continuous work since 2005 on implementation of Water Framework directive in Croatia, monitoring of Biological Quality Elements for assessment of ecological status and ecological potential, development of assessment systems for water quality monitoring and their harmonisation with other directives, such as the Habitat Directive, the 2030 EU Biodiversity Strategy, etc.

**[Vinko] [JURJEVIC], [m], [Staff member], [M.Sc.Civ.Eng.]**

Civil engineer and territorial authority as Water management branch office „Dubrovačko primorje“ leader which is a part of Water Management Department for the Southern Adriatic Basins.

**[Ivana] [CAGALJ], [f], [Staff member], [M.Econ.]**

Finance, administration and certified public procurement specialist.

**PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES**

*List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.*

G2G project 'Capacity Building for Hydromorphological Monitoring and Measures in Croatia' (MEANDER);

International research project "Joint Danube Survey 3" organised by ICPDR in 2013;

International research project "Joint Danube Survey 4" organised by ICPDR in 2019:

National research project "Classification system development of ecological potential for artificial and heavily modified surface waterbodies – 2nd part: Lakes of Dinaric Ecoregion";

National research project "Classification system development of ecological potential for artificial and heavily modified surface waterbodies – 4th part: Rivers of Dinaric Ecoregion".

**AFFILIATED ENTITIES / ASSOCIATED PARTNERS**

*Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

n/a

**PARTICIPANT 4** *(use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).*

**Legal name (short name):**

[UDRUGA HYLA] ([HYLA])

**DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPANT**

*Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.*

Association Hyla is a non-governmental organisation employing researchers and experts with experience in conservation of insects (butterflies, moths, beetles, and dragonflies), vertebrates (amphibians and reptiles), and associated habitats. Hyla has been operating on the territory of Croatia since 1997, which shows long term dedication to promotion of biodiversity conservation.

Since 2005 Hyla has been conducting surveys on *Mauremys rivulata* in Croatia. During this period, we gain information about its exact distribution and defined the pressures and threats for survival of the species. Based on the collected species data we wrote about 10 reports, an educational booklet, published two congress posters, assessed species endangerment according to IUCN, created a Monitoring Plan and in partnership with a leading beneficiary FAZ *M. rivulata* Management Plan. Also, we participated in habitat maintaining actions and in lots of educational activities to promote species endangerment. Also, we worked as experts on a Action Plan for invasive turtle species *Trachemys scripta* in Croatia that pose a threat to native turtles, and thus for the *M. rivulata*. As a crown of our work, the Red Book of Amphibians and Reptiles of Croatia was published.

To promote the goals of our projects and disseminate acquired results, we've been a part of many education workshops and awareness raising campaigns. In the last three years, we have also incorporated citizen science approach to emphasize the importance of collecting continuous records of protected species and involvement of general public in the process.

Employees of the Association are currently participating in several complex projects on a regional, national, or international scale. With all mentioned, Association Hyla is more than capable to use acquired knowledge, upgrade it

with new ideas and methods from other partners, and successfully coordinate and carry out activities on this project.

#### KEY STAFF

Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.

##### [Ana] [ŠTIH], [F], [Hyla project manager, senior expert associate], [Herpetology]

- working in nature protection and with *Mauremys rivulata* in Croatia since 2012.
- was contracted for the action and management plan of *M.rivulata* as an expert for freshwater turtle conservation by the corresponding ministry in 2018
- expert for native turtles and author of action plan for invasive turtle species *Trachemys scripta* in Croatia on project from corresponding ministry in 2020

##### [Katarina] [KOLLER ŠARIĆ], [F], [educator, senior expert associate], [Herpetology and education]

Expert for educational activities and monitoring and mapping amphibians and reptiles, IAS

##### [Daria] [KRANŽELIĆ], [F], [researcher, expert associate], [Herpetology]

Expert for monitoring and mapping amphibians and reptiles, IAS, habitats

#### PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES

List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.

##### A. Project partner on international projects:

- VEZE PRIRODE/VEZI NARAVE project (1.9.2018 - 28.2.2021) – Interreg SI – HR project with seven partners from two countries (Croatia and Slovenia). On this project Hyla's main tasks were conducting research and monitoring of insects and amphibians. We wrote guidelines for habitat management of our target species. Also, we wrote different educational materials and we organized and conducted 7 educational workshops for children, teachers, locals, and farmers. (Total project value 2.553.908,00 €, Hyla part 212.903,07 €).
- MEDISWET project (1.10.2017 - 1.10.2020) Mediterranean Island Wetlands Project. Main goal of this project is Conservation of the island wetlands of the Mediterranean Basin. MedIsWet project was implemented by 14 partners from 9 Mediterranean countries (Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey). We conducted mapping and rapid assessment status of wetlands on Adriatic Islands. Also, we did restoration pilot project on 3 ponds and we raised awareness of local communities (Total project value 1.907.000,00 €, Hyla part 66.201,00 €). Now the new project MedisWet 2 is ongoing in which we will conduct additional restoration activities.

##### B. Project on the *M. rivulata* species conducted by Hyla:

- 2012. – 2013. Research and mapping the *Mauremys rivulata* in Dubrovačko neretvanska county (5.000,00 € , financed by DUNEZ)
- 2014. Population research of *Mauremys rivulata* in Konavle and Ljuta area (2.500 €, financed by DUNEZ)
- 2014. Protection of *Mauremys rivulata* project (3.000,00 €, financed by Dubrovnik city)

Hyla started project on this species back in 2008., this are some of our latest projects. Hyla has experience and fieldwork expertise in mapping and monitoring but also in educational activities and raising awareness on *M. rivulata* that are similar to activities proposed in this LIFE project.

#### AFFILIATED ENTITIES / ASSOCIATED PARTNERS

Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.

n/a

#### PARTICIPANT 5 (use same partner numbering as on Submission System screens).

<b>Legal name (short name):</b>	[Javna ustanova za upravljanje zasticenim dijelovima prirode Dubrovacko-neretvanske zupanije] ([DUNEZ])
<b>DESCRIPTION OF PARTICIPANT</b>	
<i>Provide a short description of the participant, with an explanation on how it matches its main role and tasks in the proposal.</i>	
<p>Public Institution for the Management of Protected Natural Areas of Dubrovnik-Neretva County (DUNEZ) was founded in 2004 in accordance with the Nature Protection Act. It manages protected areas of nature (34 sites) as well as Natura 2000 sites within Dubrovnik-Neretva County (73 sites), including HR2000947 – Gornji Majkovi – lokve, HR2000555 – Lokva u Prljevićima, HR2001364 – JI dio Pelješca and HR2000946 Sniježnica i Konavosko polje, which are the project's target areas. Its main activity consists of protection, management and promotion of protected areas it is in charge of, all of it for the purpose of protection and preservation of nature originality and to ensure undisturbed natural processes with sustainable use of natural goods. The activities include implementing monitoring of protected species, participating in supporting research projects within the area, organization of meetings and conferences with local stakeholders, international partnership on projects, and promotion of sustainable tourism. Most important for this project, DUNEZ has started research on <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> back in 2012. as part of project "Značajni krajobraz Konavoski dvori i rijeka Ljuta" in cooperation with current project partner HYLA, and since then has been supporting the <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> and its habitats research. Also, it has been continuously working on raising the public awareness about the species via workshops and educational programs on natural values, as well as regularly posting on the website about its activities. Employees of DUNEZ will either organize, participate or supervise all of the conservatory activities of the project, as well as organize workshops and public awareness campaigns on the local level, and facilitate communication with landowners.</p>	
<b>KEY STAFF</b>	
<i>Provide a short description of the profile of the persons who will be primarily responsible for carrying out the proposed activities.</i>	
<p><b>[Margarita] [POLZER], [F], [expert advisor for protection and conservation], []</b></p> <p>Expert advisor assigned to all questions related to biodiversity, protection and conservation of target areas and target species, as well as educational activities. Taking part in workshops for the local communities in the project areas. Taking part in the coordination meetings of all partners. Also monitoring.</p> <p><b>[Ivana] [KONJEVOD], [F], [ranger], [monitoring and target area surveillance]</b></p> <p>Continuous monitoring of the areas the Public Institution manages, as well as surveillance of all activities performed in the Natura 2000 areas and protected areas. Responsible for monitoring of the success of implementation of activities.</p> <p><b>[Ana] [JERAMAZ], [F], [project assistant], [project management]</b></p> <p>Responsible for handling the animals and leading the cleaning/revitalization of the ponds process. Taking part in the field activities. Taking part in workshops for the local communities in the project areas. Taking part in the coordination meetings of all partners. Also monitoring.</p>	
<b>PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES</b>	
<i>List of up to 5 relevant previous projects or activities, connected to the subject of this proposal.</i>	
<p><b>DUNEZ ongoing and previous EU projects as partner:</b></p> <p>MANMON (EU (SAFU) and consortium, Ramboll (Denmark) and Naturebureau Ltd. (Great Britain)) - Natura 2000 management and monitoring (2011-2013) - total budget € 1.174.950,00</p> <p>Coast Project (GEF Grant) - Preserving the biological diversity of the Dalmatian coast, alongside promoting sustainable development (2009-2012) - total budget € 70.000,00</p> <p>HERITAGE (IPA CBC CRO/MNE) - Heritage - driver of development (03/2013-04/2015) - total budget € 2.535.000,00</p> <p>INTERREG ITA-CRO CREW - Coordinated Wetland management in Italy-Croatia cross border region (12/2018 - 08/2021) - total budget € 1.836.947,50</p> <p>LIFE CONTRA <i>Ailanthus</i> (LIFE19 NAT/HR/001070) Establishing control of invasive alien species <i>Ailanthus altissima</i> (tree of heaven) in Croatia - total budget € 2.591.937,00</p>	
<b>AFFILIATED ENTITIES / ASSOCIATED PARTNERS</b>	
<i>Does the participant envisage that part of its work is performed by affiliated entities or associated partners? If yes, please describe</i>	

*the entity / partner, their link to the participant, and describe and justify the tasks foreseen to be performed by them.*

n/a

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	15.04.2021	Initial version (new MFF).



## LIFE Nature & Biodiversity 2021-2027

### DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FROM THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

**Class Mark: 612-07/21-05/21; RegNo: 517-10-1-1-21-2**

Name and legal status: Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development - Nature Protection Directorate, Public body

Full address: Radnička cesta 80, HR-10000 Zagreb, Croatia

Tel: +385 (0)1 4866 102      E-mail: igor.kreitmeyer@mingor.hr

Contact person (name and function): Igor Krcitmeyer, Director, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Nature Protection Directorate

The Nature Protection Directorate of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development is a national authority responsible for the conservation of biological and landscape diversity, sustainable use of natural resources and conservation of species and habitats, by carrying out or ensuring the carrying out of obligations assumed under the EU and national legislation, as well as the international nature conservation treaties. Conservation and management of protected areas, as well as Natura 2000 sites and species and habitats of Community interest, are the responsibility of the public institutions for management of protected areas and natural values.

The aim of the **LIFE for Mauremys project - "Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County"** is to improve the conservation status of the Balkan Pond Turtle (*Mauremys rivulata*) in Croatia by enabling sustainable populations on restored habitats and ensuring their adequate long-term management.

To achieve this, a set of conservation actions is foreseen, targeting the recognized threats across five Natura 2000 sites in Dubrovnik-Neretva County, which contain 100% of *M. rivulata* populations in Croatia. These actions include habitat restoration and improvement across wet habitats important for this species, securing the nesting sites, both through collaboration with local landowners, establishing control of the invasive alien species that threaten the *M. rivulata* or its habitats, designing a turtle-friendly fishing tool and promoting sustainable fishery to eliminate by-catch, and reinforcing the population in the historically important site, through assisted breeding program as well as proposal of aquatic habitat management suitable for the species feeding, estivation and hibernation harmonisation with agri-technical measures suitable for the species nesting sites. Main project activities will include the freshwater management sector and agriculture (including both land farmers and fisheries) and will raise public perception of Balkan Pond Turtle as the umbrella species for the healthy Mediterranean wetlands.

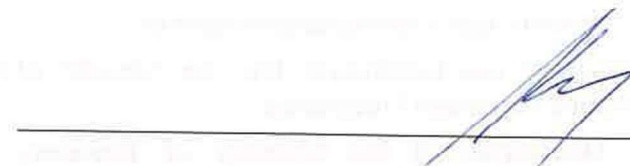
The LIFE for Mauremys project proposal is in line with the National Strategy and Action Plan for Nature Protection 2017-2025, primarily the activities: 1.3.1 Develop management plans for strictly protected species with action plans for priority species and revise existing management plans and 1.3.2 Ensure implementation of conservation measures defined in management plans for strictly protected species with action plans of priority strictly protected species. Foreseen activities will significantly contribute to the implementation of the Management Plan for the Balkan Pond Turtle (with action plan), which has been prepared in the scope of the project "Development of the draft management plans for strictly protected species (with action plans)" (reg. no. KK.06.5.2.01.0001) as part of the Operational Programme Competitiveness and Cohesion 2014.-2020.

This is why the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development fully supports the application of the LIFE for Mauremys project.



The Nature Protection Directorate of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development is responsible for the authorisation of derogations from the measures of strict protection of species. The activities foreseen by this project (taking animals from nature for assisted breeding program) can be permitted in accordance with the Nature Protection Act (OG 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19) for the purpose of species conservation, so the Ministry will issue relevant permits for the planned activities.

Signature and date: Zagreb, November 26<sup>th</sup> 2021



Name and status of signatory: Igor Kreitmeyer, Director





REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
DUBROVNIK-NERETVA COUNTY  
Gundulićeva poljana 1  
20000 Dubrovnik

PUBLIC INSTITUTION FOR THE  
MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED  
NATURAL AREAS OF DUBROVNIK-  
NERETVA COUNTY  
Branitelja Dubrovnika 41  
20000 Dubrovnik

**SUBJECT: Letter of support for project LIFE for Mauremys**

Dubrovnik-Neretva County declares full support to the project „LIFE for Mauremys (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County)“ whose aim is to improve the conservation status of *Mauremys rivulata* in Dubrovnik-Neretva County by enabling sustainable populations on restored habitat and ensuring corrected management in the long term. The Balkan terrapin is listed on the European list of endangered species, as well as on the List of strictly protected species according to Nature Protection Law (Official Gazette no. 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19). We strongly believe this project will be of great importance and a contribution to the conservation of protected natural areas and Natura 2000 Ecological Network areas and the associated biodiversity of county, since during this project, it is planned to enhance the habitat quality for this species at these locations which are part of Natura 2000 Ecological Network; Southeastern part of Pelješac Peninsula (Ston field), Konavle field, Neretva River Delta, village Prijevići and Gornji Majkovi.

Raising public awareness of the local communities of Dubrovnik-Neretva County through educational activities of the project on the importance and need to conserve protected natural heritage of the Dubrovnik-Neretva County for human life will raise the quality of life and contribute to usage of all potentials for sustainable development of the area whilst completing the goals of biodiversity protection.

The landscape values of the Dubrovnik-Neretva County, which include natural and cultural-historical values, represent the basis for the development of this area. The great diversity and good conservation of the landscape is a development potential that has so far only been partially exploited. As importance of ecology in our lives has been increasing rapidly, conserving nature and living in accordance with it becomes our obligation and duty. Dubrovnik-Neretva County, as the only area of distribution of the Balkan terrapin in the Republic of Croatia, has recognized the importance of conservation and protection of this species and fully supports the activities carried out through the project and will provide all of the permits needed to carry out project activities and procedures, thus contributing to better use of the nature potential in this area.

Dubrovnik, November, 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021.



President of the region  
Nikola Dobrosravić





REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA  
DUBROVAČKO-NERETVANSKA ŽUPANIJA  
OPĆINA STON



Trg kralja Tomislava 1, 20230 Ston • E-mail:opcina.ston@du.t-com.hr; opcina.ston1@du.t-com.hr

Klasa:612-07/21-01/01  
Urbroj:2117-04/21-03  
Ston, 08.11.2021.godine

PUBLIC INSTITUTION FOR THE  
MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED  
NATURAL AREAS OF DUBROVNIK-  
NERETVA COUNTY  
Branitelja Dubrovnika 41  
20000 Dubrovnik

**SUBJECT: Letter of support for project LIFE for Mauremys**

The Municipality of Ston declares full support to the project „LIFE for Mauremys (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County)“ whose aim is to improve the conservation status of *M. rivulata* in Dubrovnik-Neretva County by enabling sustainable populations on restored habitat and ensuring corrected management in the long term. The Balkan terrapin is listed on the European list of endangered species, as well as on the List of strictly protected species according to Nature Protection Law (Official Gazette no. 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19). We strongly believe this project will be of great importance and a contribution to the conservation of protected natural areas and Natura 2000 Ecological Network areas and the associated biodiversity of the Municipality of Ston biodiversity, since during this project, it is planned to enhance the habitat quality for this species at these locations which are part of Natura 2000 Ecological Network; Neretva River Delta, Southeastern part of Pelješac Peninsula (Ston field), Konavle field, Prljevići Village and Gornji Majkovi.

Raising public awareness of the local community of the Municipality of Ston through educational activities of the project on the importance and need to conserve protected natural heritage of the Municipality of Ston for human life will raise the quality of life and contribute to usage of all potentials for sustainable development of the area whilst completing the goals of biodiversity protection.

Agriculture is the result of the landscape in which we live in. By improving the Balkan terrapin habitats by cleaning and maintaining the ponds, canals, reducing the use of pesticides, encouraging sustainable organic agriculture, we will consequently improve the quality of agricultural land, which is important for the local agricultural sector. Protected natural values are of great importance for sustainable development and branding of the Municipality of Ston as a unique area of preserved natural heritage.



Mayor of the municipality

Vedran Antunica

**MUNICIPALITY OF ZAŽABLJE**  
**Mlinište 24**  
**20253 Mlinište**

**PUBLIC INSTITUTION FOR THE  
MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED  
NATURAL AREAS OF DUBROVNIK-  
NERETVA COUNTY**  
**Branitelja Dubrovnika 41**  
**20000 Dubrovnik**

**SUBJECT: Letter of support for project LIFE for Mauremys**

Municipality of Zažablje declares full support to the project „LIFE for Mauremys (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County)“ whose aim is to improve the conservation status of *M. rivulata* in Dubrovnik-Neretva County by enabling sustainable populations on restored habitat and ensuring corrected management in the long term. The Balkan terrapin is listed on the European list of endangered species, as well as on the List of strictly protected species according to Nature Protection Law (Official Gazette no. 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19). We strongly believe this project will be of great importance and a contribution to the conservation of protected natural areas and Natura 2000 Ecological Network areas and the associated biodiversity of the Municipality of Zažablje biodiversity, since during this project, it is planned to enhance the habitat quality for this species at these locations which are part of Natura 2000 Ecological Network; Delta Neretve, Southeastern part of Pelješac Peninsula (Ston field), Konavle field, Neretva River delta, village Prljevići and Gornji Majkovi.

Raising public awareness of the local community of Municipality of Zažablje through educational activities of the project on the importance and need to conserve protected natural heritage of the Municipality of Zažablje for human life will raise the quality of life and contribute to usage of all potentials for sustainable development of the area whilst completing the goals of biodiversity protection.

Municipality of Zažablje has recognized the importance of conservation and protection of this species and fully supports the activities carried out through the project, thus contributing to better use of the nature potential in this area.

Dubrovnik, November, 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

REPUBLICA HRVATSKA  
OPĆINA ZAŽABLJE  
Municipality of Zažablje  
Maja Vrnoga  
Mayor of the municipality





**MUNICIPALITY OF DUBROVAČKO  
PRIMORJE**  
Trg Ruđera Boškovića 1  
20232 Slano

**PUBLIC INSTITUTION FOR THE  
MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED  
NATURAL AREAS OF DUBROVNIK-  
NERETVA COUNTY**  
Branitelja Dubrovnika 41  
20000 Dubrovnik

**SUBJECT: Letter of support for project LIFE for Mauremys**

Municipality of Dubrovačko primorje declares full support to the project „LIFE for Mauremys (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County)“ whose aim is to improve the conservation status of *M. rivulata* in Dubrovnik-Neretva County by enabling sustainable populations on restored habitat and ensuring corrected management in the long term. The Balkan terrapin is listed on the European list of endangered species, as well as on the List of strictly protected species according to Nature Protection Law (Official Gazette no. 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19). We strongly believe this project will be of great importance and a contribution to the conservation of protected natural areas and Natura 2000 Ecological Network areas and the associated biodiversity of the Municipality of Dubrovačko primorje biodiversity, since during this project, it is planned to enhance the habitat quality for this species at these locations which are part of Natura 2000 Ecological Network; Neretva River Delta, Southeastern part of Pelješac Peninsula (Ston field), Konavle field, village Prljevići and Gornji Majkovi.

Raising public awareness of the local community of Municipality of Dubrovačko primorje through educational activities of the project on the importance and need to conserve protected natural heritage of the Municipality of Dubrovačko primorje for human life will raise the quality of life and contribute to usage of all potentials for sustainable development of the area whilst completing the goals of biodiversity protection.

Procedure of declaring a special herpetological reserve Lokve in Majkovi, currently in progress, clearly indicates the great importance of the area of Majkovi for the conservation and protection of the Balkan terrapin. Restoration of ponds and their maintenance and adaptation of the existing tunnel will improve Balkan terrapin habitats and stabilize populations, which we believe will contribute greatly and encourage the development of rural tourism and agrotourism in the Municipality of Dubrovačko primorje.

Dubrovnik, November, 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.



Mayor of the municipality

Nikola Knežić



REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA  
DUBROVAČKO-NERETVANSKA ŽUPANIJA  
OPĆINA KULA NORINSKA  
Rujnička ulica 1  
20341 Kula Norinska  
KLASA:002-05/21-01/01  
URBROJ: 2148/02-21-1  
Kula Norinska, 12.veljače 2021.g.

JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE ZAŠTIĆENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE DUBROVAČKO-NERETVANSKE ŽUPANIJE		
Primijeno	12.02.2021.	
Klasifikacijska oznaka	Org. jed.	
612-07/19-01/45		
Uredbeni broj	Pril.	Vrij.
2148/1-17-21-30	1	

JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE  
ZAŠTIĆENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE  
DUBROVAČKO-NERETVANSKE  
ŽUPANIJE  
Branitelja Dubrovnika 41  
20000 Dubrovnik

**PREDMET: Pismo potpore projektu LIFE for Mauremys**  
- dostavlja se -

Općina Kula Norinska daje punu podršku projektu „LIFE for Mauremys (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County)“ čiji je cilj pomoći razvoj i osigurati dugoročno održive populacije riječne kornjače (*Mauremys rivulata*) u Dubrovačko-neretvanskoj županiji. Riječna kornjača nalazi se na europskom popisu ugroženih vrsta, te na popisu strogo zaštićenih vrsta sukladno Zakonu o zaštiti prirode (Narodne novine br. 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19). Vjerujemo da će ovaj projekt imati veliki značaj i doprinos očuvanju zaštićenih područja i područja ekološke mreže Natura 2000 te pripadajuće bioraznolikosti Općine Kula Norinska budući da bi se u sklopu navedenog projekta poboljšala kvaliteta staništa ove vrste na lokacijama Delta Neretve, Gornji Majkovi, selo Prljevići, Konavosko polje te jugoistočni dio poluotoka Pelješca (Stonsko polje) u okviru europske ekološke mreže Natura 2000.

Podizanjem razine ekološke svijesti lokalne zajednice Općine Kula Norinska kroz edukativne aktivnosti projekta o važnosti i potrebi očuvanja zaštićene prirodne baštine Općine Kula Norinska za život čovjeka podići će se kvaliteta života te će se pridonijeti korištenju svih potencijala za održivi razvoj područja uz ispunjavanje ciljeva zaštite bioraznolikosti.

Općina Kula Norinska prepoznala je važnost očuvanja i zaštite ove vrste te u potpunosti podržava aktivnosti koje će se provoditi kroz projekt, što će u konačnici doprinijeti zaštiti i očuvanju zaštićene prirodne baštine, a ujedno i boljoj iskoristivosti potencijala koje priroda nudi na ovom području.



Načelnik:  
Nikola Krstičević, mag.oec.



Name and legal status: Municipality of Kula Norinska

Full address: Rujnička ulica 1, 20341 Kula Norinska

Tel: +38520693527 Fax: / E-mail: kula.norinska@du.t-com.hr

Contact person (name and function): Nikola Krstičević, mayor of the municipality  
Tel:099/671-8789 E-mail: nkrsticevic@gmail.com

Please specify whether, why and how you will support this project:

Municipality of Kula Norinska declares full support to the project „LIFE for *Mauremys rivulata* (conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County)“ whose aim is to improve the conservation status of *M. rivulata* in Dubrovnik-Neretva County by enabling sustainable populations on restored habitat and ensuring corrected management in the long term. The Balkan terrapin is listed on the European list of endangered species, as well as on the List of strictly protected species according to Nature Protection Law (Official Gazette no. 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19). We strongly believe this project will be of great importance and a contribution to the conservation of protected natural areas and Natura 2000 Ecological Network areas and the associated biodiversity of the Municipality of Kula Norinska biodiversity, since during this project, it is planned to enhance the habitat quality for this species at these locations which are part of Natura 2000 Ecological Network; Delta Neretve, Southeastern part of Pelješac Peninsula (Ston field), Konavle field, village Prljevići and Gornji Majkovi.

Raising public awareness of the local community of Municipality of Kula Norinska through educational activities of the project on the importance and need to conserve protected natural heritage of the Municipality of Kula Norinska for human life will raise the quality of life and contribute to usage of all potentials for sustainable development of the area whilst completing the goals of biodiversity protection.

Municipality of Kula Norinska has recognized the importance of conservation and protection of this species and fully supports the activities carried out through the project, thus contributing to better use of the nature potential in this area.

Signature and date:

Kula Norinska, 12. 2. 2021



Name and status of signatory: Nikola Krstičević, mayor of the municipality



**MUNICIPALITY OF KONAVLE**  
Trumbićev put 25  
20210 Cavtat

**PUBLIC INSTITUTION FOR THE  
MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED  
NATURAL AREAS OF DUBROVNIK-  
NERETVA COUNTY**  
Branitelja Dubrovnika 41  
20000 Dubrovnik

**SUBJECT: Letter of support for project LIFE for Mauremys**

The Municipality of Konavle declares full support to the project „LIFE for Mauremys (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County)“ whose aim is to improve the conservation status of *M. rivulata* in Dubrovnik-Neretva County by enabling sustainable populations on restored habitat and ensuring corrected management in the long term. The Balkan terrapin is listed on the European list of endangered species, as well as on the List of strictly protected species according to Nature Protection Law (Official Gazette no. 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19). We strongly believe this project will be of great importance and a contribution to the conservation of protected natural areas and Natura 2000 Ecological Network areas and the associated biodiversity of the Municipality of Konavle biodiversity, since during this project, it is planned to enhance the habitat quality for this species at these locations which are part of Natura 2000 Ecological Network; Konavle field, Southeastern part of Pelješac Peninsula (Ston field), Neretva River Delta, village Prljevići and Gornji Majkovi.

Raising public awareness of the local community of the Municipality of Konavle through educational activities of the project on the importance and need to conserve protected natural heritage of the Municipality of Konavle for human life will raise the quality of life and contribute to usage of all potentials for sustainable development of the area whilst completing the goals of biodiversity protection.

Rural tourism development is one of the most important drivers of economic development in Konavle. It largely depends on great natural values, unique rural architecture, numerous historical monuments and traditional skills that make this area attractive to visitors. Improving the Balkan terrapin habitat by cleaning and maintaining ponds, canals, reducing the use of pesticides, encouraging sustainable agriculture will improve the quality of agricultural land, which is important for the local agricultural sector and economic development of the Municipality of Konavle.

Dubrovnik, November, 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Mayor of the municipality,

Božo Lasić





## DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FROM THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

**Optional:** in addition to the support of the necessary competent authorities as described in the guidelines for applicants, this form may also be used to indicate any other support to the project by important stakeholder bodies, administrative bodies or individuals that may be concerned by the project.

Name and legal status: Općina Dubrovačko Primorje

Full address: Trg Rudera Boškovića 1, 20 232 Slano

Tel: 020/871-197 Fax: 020/871-558 E-mail: [opcina@dubrovaackoprимorje.hr](mailto:opcina@dubrovaackoprимorje.hr)

Contact person (name and function): Nikola Knežić, načelnik Općine Dubrovačko Primorje, Trg Rudera Boškovića 1, OIB: 3233978490, Slano

Please specify whether, why and how you will support this project:

Municipality of Dubrovačko Primorje give full support to the project LIFE for Mauremys (Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) and give consent to the partners on the project to carry out necessary actions which are:

setting up sunbathing areas in the pond, repellents, conducting a hydrogeological study, removing vegetation, removing sludge, placing a new layer of clay and returning rainwater to the pond, all on cadastral parcels number 1495, area 15587 m<sup>2</sup>, cadastral municipality Majkovi Donji, cadastral parcel number 1671/1, area of 24023 m<sup>2</sup>, cadastral municipality Majkovi Gornji and cadastral parcel number 860, area of 15587 m<sup>2</sup>, on which there are ponds.

Općina Dubrovačko Primorje daje punu potporu projektu LIFE for Mauremys (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te suglasnost da partneri projekta provedu projektne aktivnosti; postavljaju suncališta u lokvi, repelenata, provođenje hidrogeološke studije, odstranjivanje vegetacije, otklanjanje mulja, stavljanje novog sloja gline i vraćanje kišnice u lokvu, a sve na katastarskim česticama broj 1495, površine 15587 m<sup>2</sup>, katastarska općina Majkovi Donji, katastarska čestica broj 1671/1, površine 24023 m<sup>2</sup>, katastarska općina Majkovi Gornji i katastarska čestica broj 860, površine 15587 m<sup>2</sup> a na kojima se nalaze lokve.

Signature and date: \_\_\_\_\_, 11. February 2021.

Name and status of signatory: Nikola Knežić, Municipal Mayor

OPĆINA DUBROVAČKO PRIMORJE, Trg Rudera Boškovića 1, OIB: 3233978490, 20232 Slano zastupana po načelniku Nikoli Knežiću, koja je vlasnik katastarske čestice broj 1495, površine 752 m<sup>2</sup>, zemljišnoknjižni uložak broj 338, katastarska općina Majkovi Donji, katastarske čestice broj 1671/1, površine 24023 m<sup>2</sup>, zemljišnoknjižni uložak broj 129, katastarska općina Majkovi Gornji i katastarske čestice broj 860, površine 424 m<sup>2</sup>, zemljišnoknjižni uložak broj 338, katastarska općina Majkovi Donji na kojoj se nalaze lokve potrebne za provođenje aktivnosti projekta LIFE FOR Mauremys, daje slijedeću

### IZJAVU O SUGLASNOSTI VLASNIKA

Daje se puna potpora projektu LIFE FOR Mauremys (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te suglasnost da projektne aktivnosti (postavljanje suncališta u lokvama, repelenata, provođenje hidrogeološke studije, odstranjivanje vegetacije, otklanjanje mulja, stavljanje novog sloja gline i vraćanje kišnice u lokvu) provedu slijedeći partneri projekta:

- **Javna ustanova za upravljanje zaštićenim dijelovima prirode Dubrovačko-neretvanske županije**, Branitelja Dubrovnika 41, 20 000 Dubrovnik, OIB: 77404345702, koju zastupa ravnateljica Marijana Milić Đuračić, mag.ing.silv.;
- **Ustanova Zoološki vrt Grada Zagreba**, Maksimirski prvi bb, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 69262261098, koju zastupa ravnatelj Damir Skok, dr. vet. med.;
- **Hrvatske vode**, Ulica grada Vukovara 220, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 28921383001, koje zastupa direktor mr.sc. Zoran Đuraković, dipl.ing.građ.;
- **Udruga HYLA**, Lipovac 1, br. 7, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 97526280302, koju zastupa direktorica Ivona Burić mag.oecol.et.prot.nat.;
- **Sveučilište u Zagrebu Agronomski fakultet**, Svetošimunska 25, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 76023745044, kojeg zastupa dekan prof.dr.sc. Zoran Grgić.

U Slanom, 11. veljače 2021. godine

OPĆINA DUBROVAČKO PRIMORJE  
IZJAVU O SUGLASNOSTI VLASNIKA  
DUBROVAČKO-NERETVANSKE ŽUPANIJE

Primljeno	12.02.2021.	Org. jed.
Klasifikacijska oznaka	620719-01145	
Urudžbeni broj		Pril. Vrij.
	21171-19-21-52 1	



Nikola Knežić

Ja, DRAGICA RADONIĆ, iz Mokošice, Marina Kneževića 6, OIB: 56658614972 vlasnica katastarskih čestica brojevi 785/3 i 786, površine 3568 m<sup>2</sup>, zemljišnoknjižni uložak broj 391 i 394, katastarska općina Majkovi Gornji, na kojoj se nalazi potencijalno gnijezdilište potrebno za provođenje projektne aktivnosti, bez prisile, prinude ili što bih bio u zabludi, i ni od koga nagovoren isključivo svojom voljom dajem slijedeću

#### IZJAVU O SUGLASNOSTI VLASNIKA

Dajem punu potporu projektu LIFE for Mauremys (Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te sam suglasna da niže navedeni partneri projekta sa svojim predstavnicima, provedu projektne aktivnosti; košnje oko potencijalnog gnijezdilišta, regenerativna poljoprivreda i postavljanje tekućih repelenata oko parcele.

**Javna ustanova za upravljanje zaštićenim dijelovima prirode Dubrovačko-neretvanske županije**, Branitelja Dubrovnik 41, 20 000 Dubrovnik, OIB: 77404345702, koju predstavlja ravnateljica: Marijana Miljas Đuračić, mag.ing.silv.

**Udruga HYLA**, Lipovac I, br. 7, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 97526280302, koju predstavlja direktorica: Ivona Burić mag.oecol.et.prot.nat.

**Ustanova Zoološki vrt Grada Zagreba**, Maksimirski perivoj bb, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 69262261098, kojeg predstavlja direktor: Damir Skok, DVM

**Hrvatske vode**, Ulica grada Vukovara 220, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 28921383001, kojeg predstavlja generalni direktor: mr.sc. Zoran Đuraković, dipl.ing.građ.

**Agronomski fakultet**, Svetošimunska 25, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 76023745044, kojeg predstavlja dekan: prof.dr.sc. Zoran Grgić

U Mokošici, 12. veljače 2021



DRAGICA RADONIĆ

JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE ZAŠTIĆENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE DUBROVAČKO-NERETVANSKE ŽUPANIJE		
Primijeno: 12.02.2021		
Klasifikacijska oznaka	Org. jed.	
612-07/19-0145		
Uredžbeni broj	Prij.	Vrij.
2117/1-17-29-29 1		



Name and legal status: Dragica Radonić, private entity

Full address: Marina Kneževića 6, 20 236 Mokošica

Tel: +385 20 453 224 Fax: ..... E-mail:

Contact person (name and function): Dragica Radonić iz Mokošice, Marina Kneževića 6, OIB: 56658614972 vlasnica katastarskih čestica brojevi 785/3 i 786, na kojima se nalazi potencijalno gnijezdilište površine 3568 m<sup>2</sup>, katastarska općina Majkovi Gornji,

Please specify whether, why and how you will support this project:

I give my full support to the project LIFE for *Mauremys* (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) and I give consent to the partners on the project to carry out necessary actions which are: placing liquid repellents around the plot and maintaining nesting site by mowing; regenerative agriculture.

**Dajem punu potporu projektu LIFE for *Mauremys* (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te sam suglasna da partneri projekta provedu projektne aktivnosti; postavljanje tekućih repelenata oko parcele i održavanje gnijezdilišta košnjom; regenerativna poljoprivreda.**

Signature and date: Mokošica, 12. February 2021.



Name and status of signatory: cadastral parcel owner (cadastral office Dubrovnik, cadastral municipality Majkovi Gornji, parcel numbers 785/3 and 786)

Ja, MATKO MARTIĆ, iz Mokošice, Između dolaca 1, OIB: 15495534528 vlasnik katastarske čestice broj 1494/1, površine 425 m<sup>2</sup>, zemljišnoknjižni uložak broj 463, katastarska općina Majkovi Donji, na kojoj se nalazi gnijezdilište potrebno za provođenje projektne aktivnosti, bez prisile, prinude ili što bih bio u zabludi, i ni od koga nagovoren isključivo svojom voljom dajem slijedeću

#### IZJAVU O SUGLASNOSTI VLASNIKA

Dajem punu potporu projektu LIFE for Mauremys (Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te sam suglasan da niže navedeni partneri projekta sa svojim predstavnicima, provedu projektne aktivnosti; košnje oko potencijalnog gnijezdilišta; regenerativna poljoprivreda i postavljanje tekućih repelenata oko parcele.

**Javna ustanova za upravljanje zaštićenim dijelovima prirode Dubrovačko-neretvanske županije**, Branitelja Dubrovnika 41, 20 000 Dubrovnik, OIB: 77404345702, koju predstavlja ravnateljica: Marijana Miljas Đuračić, mag.ing.silv.

**Udruga HYLA**, Lipovac I, br. 7, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 97526280302, koju predstavlja direktorica: Ivona Burić mag.oecol.et.prot.nat.

**Ustanova Zoološki vrt Grada Zagreba**, Maksimirski perivoj bb, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 69262261098, kojeg predstavlja direktor: Damir Skok, DVM

**Hrvatske vode**, Ulica grada Vukovara 220, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 28921383001, kojeg predstavlja generalni direktor: mr.sc. Zoran Đuraković, dipl.ing.građ.

**Agronomski fakultet**, Svetošimunska 25, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 76023745044, kojeg predstavlja dekan: prof.dr.sc. Zoran Grgić

U Mokošici, 11. veljače 2021.



MATKO MARTIĆ

JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE ZAŠTIĆENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE DUBROVAČKO-NERETVANSKE ŽUPANIJE	
Primijeno	12. 02. 2021.
Klasifikacijska oznaka	Org. jed.
012-07/19-01145	
Uručbeni broj	Pril. Vrij.
2117/1-17-21-281	

Name and legal status: Matko Martić, private entity

Full address: Između dolaca 1 20 236 Mokošica

Tel: +385 98 171 18 46 Fax: ..... E-mail:

Contact person (name and function): Matko Martić, iz Mokošice, Između dolaca 1, OIB: 15495534528 vlasnica katastarske čestice broj 1494/1, na kojoj se nalazi gnijezdilište površine 425 m<sup>2</sup>, katastarska općina Majkovi Donji,

Please specify whether, why and how you will support this project:

I give my full support to the project LIFE for *Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) and I give consent to the partners on the project to carry out necessary actions which are: placing liquid repellents around the plot and maintaining nesting site by mowing; regenerative agriculture.

**Dajem punu potporu projektu LIFE for *Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te sam suglasan da partneri projekta provedu projektne aktivnosti; postavljanje tekućih repelenata oko parcele i održavanje gnijezdilišta košnjom; regenerativna poljoprivreda.**

Signature and date: Mokošica, 11. veljače 2021. godine



Name and status of signatory: cadastral parcel owner (cadastral office Dubrovnik, cadastral municipality Majkovi Donji, parcel number 1494/1)



Ja, ANE BENDER, iz Prljevića, Prljevići 8, OIB: 63633769970 vlasnica katastarskih čestica brojevi 784/1, 784/2 i 784/3, površine 2601 m<sup>2</sup>, zemljišnoknjižni uložak broj 392, katastarska općina Majkovi Gornji, na kojoj se nalazi gnijezdilište potrebno za provođenje projektne aktivnosti, bez prisile, prinude ili što bih bio u zabludi, i ni od koga nagovoren isključivo svojom voljom dajem slijedeću

### IZJAVU O SUGLASNOSTI VLASNIKA

Dajem punu potporu projektu LIFE for Mauremys (Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te sam suglasna da niže navedeni partneri projekta sa svojim predstavnicima, provedu projektne aktivnosti; košnje oko gnijezdilišta; regenerativna poljoprivreda i postavljanje tekućih repelenata oko parcele.

**Javna ustanova za upravljanje zaštićenim dijelovima prirode Dubrovačko-neretvanske županije**, Branitelja Dubrovnika 41, 20 000 Dubrovnik, OIB: 77404345702, koju predstavlja ravnateljica: Marijana Miljas Đuračić, mag.ing.silv.

**Udruga HYLA**, Lipovac I, br. 7, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 97526280302, koju predstavlja direktorica: Ivona Burić mag.oecol.et.prot.nat.

**Ustanova Zoološki vrt Grada Zagreba**, Maksimirski perivoj bb, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 69262261098, kojeg predstavlja direktor: Damir Skok, DVM

**Hrvatske vode**, Ulica grada Vukovara 220, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 28921383001, kojeg predstavlja generalni direktor: mr.sc. Zoran Đuraković, dipl.ing.građ.

**Agronomski fakultet**, Svetošimunska 25, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 76023745044, kojeg predstavlja dekan: prof.dr.sc. Zoran Grgić

U Prljevićima, 10. veljače 2021.



ANE BENDER

JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE ZAŠTIĆENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE DUBROVAČKO-NERETVANSKE ŽUPANIJE		
Primljeno	12.02.2021	
Klasifikacijska oznaka	62-07/19-01/45	Org. jed.
Uredžbeni broj	211711-17-21-06 1	Pril. Vrij.

Name and legal status: Ane Bender, private entity

Full address: Prljevići 8, 20 232 Slano

Tel: +385 98 995 50 21 Fax: ..... E-mail: .....

Contact person (name and function): Ane Bender iz Prljevića, Prljevići 8, OIB: 63633769970 vlasnica katastarskih čestica brojevi 784/1, 784/2 i 784/3, na kojima se nalazi gnijezdilište površine 2601m<sup>2</sup>, katastarska općina Majkovi Gornji,

Please specify whether, why and how you will support this project:

I give my full support to the project LIFE for *Mauremys* (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) and I give consent to the partners on the project to carry out necessary actions which are: placing liquid repellents around the plot and maintaining nesting site by mowing; regenerative agriculture.

**Dajem punu potporu projektu LIFE for *Mauremys* (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te sam suglasna da partneri projekta provedu projektne aktivnosti; postavljanje tekućih repelenata oko parcele i održavanje gnijezdilišta košnjom; regenerativna poljoprivreda.**

Signature and date: 10. veljače 2021. godine



Name and status of signatory: cadastral parcel owner (cadastral office Dubrovnik, cadastral municipality Majkovi Gornji, parcel numbers 784/1, 784/2 and 784/3)

Ja, MIHO BAROVIĆ, iz Stona, Zamlinje 2, OIB: 05968795675 vlasnik katastarske čestice broj 2279, površine 1967 m<sup>2</sup>, zemljišnoknjižni uložak broj 1512, katastarska općina Ston, na kojoj se nalazi lokva potrebna za provođenje projektne aktivnosti, bez prisile, prinude ili što bih bio u zabludi, i ni od koga nagovoren isključivo svojom voljom dajem slijedeću

#### IZJAVU O SUGLASNOSTI VLASNILKA

Dajem punu potporu projektu LIFE for Mauremys (Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te sam suglasan da niže navedeni partneri projekta sa svojim predstavnicima, provedu projektne aktivnosti; postavljanje sunčališta u lokvi, postavljanje kaveza, zaštitne ograde, repelenata, provođenje hidrogeološke studije, obnova vodenog tijela u sukcesiji, odstranjivanje vegetacije, otklanjanje mulja, stavljanje novog sloja gline i vraćanje kišnice u lokvu.

**Javna ustanova za upravljanje zaštićenim dijelovima prirode Dubrovačko-neretvanske županije**, Branitelja Dubrovnika 41, 20 000 Dubrovnik, OIB: 77404345702, koju predstavlja ravnateljica: Marijana Miljas Đuračić, mag.ing.silv.

**Udruga HYL**A, Lipovac I, br. 7, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 97526280302, koju predstavlja direktorica: Ivona Burić mag.oecol.et.prot.nat.

**Ustanova Zoološki vrt Grada Zagreba**, Maksimirski perivoj bb, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 69262261098, kojeg predstavlja direktor: Damir Skok, DVM

**Hrvatske vode**, Ulica grada Vukovara 220, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 28921383001, kojeg predstavlja generalni direktor: mr.sc. Zoran Đuraković, dipl.ing.građ.

**Agronomski fakultet**, Svetošimunska 25, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 76023745044, kojeg predstavlja dekan: prof.dr.sc. Zoran Grgić

U Stonu, 10. veljače 2021.



MIHO BAROVIĆ

JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE  
ZASTIĆENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE  
DUBROVAČKO-NERETVANSKE ŽUPANIJE

Primljeno	12.02.2021.
Klasifikacijska oznaka	Org. jed.
612-07/19-01145	
Uredbeni broj	Pril. Vrij.
2117/1-19-21-27 1	



Name and legal status: Miho Barović, private entity

Full address: Zamlinje 2, 20 230 Ston

Tel: +385 98 680 600 Fax: ..... E-mail: barovicmiho8@gmail.com

Contact person (name and function): Miho Barović iz Stona, Zamlinje 2, OIB: 05968795675  
vlasnik katastarske čestice broj 2279, na kojoj se nalazi lokva, površine 1967 m<sup>2</sup>, katastarska  
općina Ston,

Please specify whether, why and how you will support this project:

I give my full support to the project LIFE for Mauremys (Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) and I give consent to the partners on the project to carry out necessary actions which are: setting up sunbathing areas in the pond, setting up cages, protective fences, repellents, conducting a hydrogeological study, restoring the water body in succession, removing vegetation, removing sludge, placing a new layer of clay and returning rainwater to the pond.

**Dajem punu potporu projektu LIFE for Mauremys (Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te sam suglasan da partneri projekta provedu projektne aktivnosti; postavljanje sunčališta u lokvi, postavljanje kaveza, zaštitne ograde, repelenata, provođenje hidrogeološke studije, obnova vodenog tijela u sukcesiji odstranjivanje vegetacije, otklanjanje mulja, stavljanje novog sloja gline i vraćanje kišnice u lokvu.**

Signature and date: Ston, 10. veljače 2021. godine



Name and status of signatory: cadastral parcel owner (cadastral office Dubrovnik, cadastral municipality Ston, parcel number 2279)

Ja, GRGO BUŠKO, iz Stona, Mihajla Viševića 13, OIB: 69821698857 vlasnik katastarske čestice broj 1174/5, površine 1303 m<sup>2</sup>, zemljišnoknjižni uložak broj 979, katastarska općina Ston, na kojoj se nalazi kanal i lokva koja prolazi kroz Vaš posjed potrebna za provođenje projektne aktivnosti, bez prisile, prinude ili što bih bio u zabludi, i ni od koga nagovoren isključivo svojom voljom dajem slijedeću

#### IZJAVU O SUGLASNOSTI VLASNIKA

Dajem punu potporu projektu LIFE for Mauremys (Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te sam suglasan da niže navedeni partneri projekta sa svojim predstavnicima, provedu projektne aktivnosti; čišćenje kanala kojim prolazi posjed i lokve koja je uz kanal, kako bi se otklonila vodena vegetacija.

**Javna ustanova za upravljanje zaštićenim dijelovima prirode Dubrovačko-neretvanske županije**, Branitelja Dubrovnik 41, 20 000 Dubrovnik, OIB: 77404345702, koju predstavlja ravnateljica: Marijana Miljas Đuračić, mag.ing.silv.

**Udruga HYLA**, Lipovac I, br. 7, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 97526280302, koju predstavlja direktorica: Ivona Burić mag.oecol.et.prot.nat.

**Ustanova Zoološki vrt Grada Zagreba**, Maksimirski perivoj bb, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 69262261098, kojeg predstavlja direktor: Damir Skok, DVM

**Hrvatske vode**, Ulica grada Vukovara 220, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 28921383001, kojeg predstavlja generalni direktor: mr.sc. Zoran Đuraković, dipl.ing.građ.

**Agronomski fakultet**, Svetošimunska 25, 10 000 Zagreb, OIB: 76023745044, kojeg predstavlja dekan: prof.dr.sc. Zoran Grgić

U Stonu, 10. veljače 2021.



GRGO BUŠKO

JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE  
ZAŠTIĆENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE  
DUBROVAČKO-NERETVANSKE ŽUPANIJE

Primijeno	12. 02. 2021.
Klasifikacijska oznaka	Org. jed.
612-07/19-01145	
Urudžbeni broj	Pril. Vrij.
21711-17-21-25 1	

Name and legal status: Grgo Buško, private entity

Full address: Mihajla Viševića 13, 20 230 Ston

Tel: +385 99 222 19 46 Fax: ..... E-mail: /

Contact person (name and function): Grgo Buško iz Stona, Mihajla Viševića 13, OIB: 69821698857 vlasnik katastarske čestice broj 1174/5, kojom prolazi kanal i lokva uz kanal, površine 1303 m<sup>2</sup>, katastarska općina Ston,

Please specify whether, why and how you will support this project:

I give my full support to the project LIFE for *Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) and I give consent to the partners on the project to carry out necessary actions which are: cleaning the canal through which the property passes and the pond adjacent to the canal, in order to remove aquatic vegetation.

**Dajem punu potporu projektu LIFE for *Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te sam suglasan da partneri projekta provedu projektne aktivnosti; čišćenje kanala kojim prolazi posjed i lokva koja je uz kanal, kako bi se otklonila vodena vegetacija.**

Signature and date: Ston, 10. veljače 2021. godine



Name and status of signatory: cadastral parcel owner (cadastral office Dubrovnik, cadastral municipality Ston, parcel number 1174/5)



## DECLARATION OF SUPPORT FROM THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

**Optional:** in addition to the support of the necessary competent authorities as described in the guidelines for applicants, this form may also be used to indicate any other support to the project by important stakeholder bodies, administrative bodies or individuals that may be concerned by the project.

Name and legal status: Miho Kukuljica, private entity

Full address: Mihanići 33, 20 215 Gruda

Tel: +385 98 279 71 90 Fax: ..... E-mail: .....

Contact person (name and function): Miho Kukuljica iz Mihanića, Mihanići 33, OIB: 52427145191 vlasnik katastarske čestice broj 913/2 i 913/3, na kojoj se nalazi lokva, površine 3968 m<sup>2</sup>, katastarska općina Mihanići,

Please specify whether, why and how you will support this project:

I give my full support to the project LIFE for *Mauremys* (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) and I give consent to the partners on the project to carry out necessary actions which are: setting up a sundeck in a puddle.

**Dajem punu potporu projektu LIFE for *Mauremys* (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva Region) te sam suglasan da partneri projekta provedu projektne aktivnosti; postavljanje sunčališta u lokvi.**

Signature and date: Mihanići, 08. veljače 2021. godine



Name and status of signatory: cadastral parcel owner (cadastral office Dubrovnik, cadastral municipality Mihanići, parcel numbers 913/2 and 913/3)



Ministry of Ecology,  
Spatial Planning  
and Urbanism

Address: IV proleterske brigade 19  
81000 Podgorica, Montenegro  
tel: +382 20 446 200  
fax: +382 20 446 215  
www.mrt.gov.me

Reference number: 05-144/141

Podgorica, 10 November 2021

**PUBLIC INSTITUTION FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS OF  
DUBROVNIK-NERETVA COUNTY**  
Branitelja Dubrovnika 41  
20000 Dubrovnik

**SUBJECT: Letter of support for project LIFE for Mauremys**

Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism declares full support to the project „LIFE for Mauremys (Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County)“ which aims to improve the conservation status of *M. rivulata* in Dubrovnik-Neretva County by enabling sustainable populations on restored habitat and ensuring corrected management in the long term.

We strongly believe this project will contribute to the conservation of protected natural areas, protection of Natura 2000 Ecological Network areas and of associated biodiversity, since during this project, it is planned to enhance the habitat quality for this species at these locations which are part of Natura 2000 Ecological Network; Delta Neretve, Southeastern part of Pelješac Peninsula (Ston field), Konavle field, Neretva River delta, village Prljevići and Gornji Majkovi.

In line with our ongoing efforts for the establishment of Natura 2000 Ecological Network it is very important for us to be able to exchange information and good practices in the framework of this project, including a study visit to Dubrovnik-Neretva County as to raise awareness and capacities for the conservation of mentioned habitats and species.

Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism has recognized the importance of conservation and protection of this species and fully supports the activities carried out through the project.

  
**MINISTER**  
Prof Ratko Mitrović, PhD  






## CRNOGORSKO DRUŠTVO EKOLOGA



CRNOGORSKO DRUŠTVO  
EKOLOGA



Martinići bb, 81410 Danilovgrad, Montenegro



+382 68 048 388



drustvoekologa@gmail.com



drustvoekologa.me

### LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR PROJECT "LIFE FOR MAUREMYS"

**To: Javna ustanova za upravljanje zaštićenim djelovima prirode Dubrovačko-neretvanske županije, Branitelja Dubrovnika 41, 20000 Dubrovnik**

Crnogorsko Društvo Ekologa (Montenegrin Ecologists Society) give full support to the project LIFE for Mauremys (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County), for improvement of conservation status of *Mauremys rivulata* in Croatia.

Montenegrin Ecologists Society has been working on *M. rivulata* population status, ecology and conservation in Montenegro since 2012, with financial support of the Rufford Foundation. Up until now, three project were implemented:

- Checking the Distribution and Populations' Status of the Highly Endangered Balkan Terrapin (*Mauremys rivulata*) in Montenegro
- Determination of the Degree of Vulnerability and Distribution Balkan Terrapin in Montenegro
- Assessment of Demographic Structure and Protection Measures of the Balkan Terrapin (*Mauremys rivulata*) in Montenegro

We recognised that projects LIFE for Mauremys is very important for the conservation of *M. rivulata* so we are open for support and collaboration, especially in terms of **exchange of information and examples of good practice**.

Podgorica, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Montenegrin Ecologists Society

*Vuk Iković*

Vuk Iković



CENTRO DE RECUPERAÇÃO E INVESTIGAÇÃO DE ANIMAIS SELVAGENS  
Apartado 1009, 8700-282 Olhão  
Tlm: (+351) 927659313 Correio electrónico: rias.aldeia@gmail.com



## LETTER OF SUPPORT

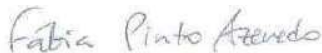
RIAS - Wildlife Rehabilitation and Research Center, declares full support to the project LIFE for Mauremys (*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County).

As one of the main wildlife rehabilitation centres in Portugal, RIAS has received more than 500 fresh water terrapins for rehabilitation, which 85% were released back into the wild.

RIAS was also beneficiary of the Project LIFE+ Trachemys (LIFE09 NAT/ES/000529) which aimed to halt the biodiversity loss caused by the presence of stable populations of exotic turtles in the wild. Project tools were the creation of a strategy and methodology for its eradication, the conservation of native terrapins populations, implementation of regulations on trade and pet ownership and the social awareness about the problems of invasive species and the need of a responsible pet ownership. RIAS developed a captive breeding program in order to design a protocol for the reproduction and reintroduction of *Emys orbicularis* in coastal wetlands. Wild parental have been bred and many juveniles have been reintroduced in some wetlands where this species was in decline, contributing to the recovery of the species.

We truly believe that projects like LIFE for Mauremys are fundamental for the conservation of biodiversity in Europe and therefore we are fully available to support and collaborate.

Olhão, 2nd November 2021





Fábia Pinto Azevedo  
RIAS Coordinator





## Letter of Support

to: Mr Ivan Cizelj  
Zagreb Zoo

With this letter we would like to support the LIFE-project proposal, coordinated by University of Zagreb Faculty of Agriculture, entitled as “Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County”.

Our Organization, MME BirdLife Hungary has ongoing collaboration agreement with Udruga HYLÁ, one of the participating organisations of the project consortium. Furthermore we have shareable expertise in the field of herpetofauna conservation, gained over several LIFE-projects, focusing on Hungarian meadow viper (*Vipera ursinii rakosiensis*) and European pond turtle (*Emys orbicularis*). We believe that the proposed activities would provide significant improvement for the conservation prospects of the Balkan terrapin. In case the project gets selected for funding, we will be able to help the implementation of the planned activities as follows:

- sharing expertise in nest predation monitoring, radio-tracking methods
- sharing expertise in predator exclusion methods, predator trapping methods
- inviting project team members to visit our project-sites
- sharing project information through our national and international network of experts

Budapest, November 4, 2021

Sincerely,

.....  
Gergely Babocsay  
president  
Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Group

.....  
Gergő Halmos  
director  
MME BirdLife Hungary





04/11/2021

## LETTER OF SUPPORT

**to: Mr Ivan Cizelj**  
Zagreb Zoo

*subject:* LIFE-project proposal entitled “Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County”

On behalf of the European Herpetological Society’s Conservation Committee we fully support the LIFE-project proposal, coordinated by University of Zagreb Faculty of Agriculture, entitled as “Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County”.

Reasoning for our support is the growing concerns about the fate and future prospects of the Balkan terrapin, this endangered species of the European herpetofauna. As an organisation focusing on the coordination and elaboration of herpetofauna conservation, we are really looking forward seeing the implementation of the proposed project.

If the proposal gets selected for funding, we offer to provide our expertise in supporting the implementation of the planned activities.

Yours sincerely,

Bálint Halpern

*Chair of the SEH Conservation Committee*

*SEH - Societas Europaea Herpetologica*







REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA  
UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA  
FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES  
RESEARCH CENTER OF FLORA AND FAUNA

**Dr. Enerit Saçdanaku**

Zoologist (Herpetologist) at Research Center of Flora and Fauna,  
Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Tirana.

Cell phone: 00355 68 41 03 150

e-mail: [eneriti@gmail.com](mailto:eneriti@gmail.com); [enerit.sacdanaku@fshn.edu.al](mailto:enerit.sacdanaku@fshn.edu.al)

Address: Muzeu i Shkencave te Natyres.

Rr. Petro Nini Luarasi, Nd. 76-1, No. 2, 1010, Tirana, Albania.

Website: <https://fshn.edu.al/departments/qendra-kerkimore-e-flores-dhe-faunes>

### Letter of Support

to: **Mr. Ivan Cizelj**  
Zagreb Zoo

With this letter I would like to support the LIFE-project proposal, coordinated by University of Zagreb Faculty of Agriculture, entitled as “Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik Neretva County”.

I have been working on terrapin species (*Emys orbicularis* and *Mauremys rivulata*) since 2013, when I was collecting data for my PhD studies in the southern part of Albania. Furthermore, I have shareable expertise in the field of herpetofauna conservation, gained over several projects, focusing more on some particular species like Marine turtle species (*Caretta caretta*, *Chelonia mydas*) or amphibians such as Albanian water frog, *Pelophylax shqipericus*, where this amphibian species do share the same habitat with terrapin species (*E. orbicularis* and *M. rivulata*) in most of its distribution range in Albania. I believe that the proposed activities would provide significant improvement for the conservation prospects of the Balkan terrapin. In case the project get selected for funding, I will be able to help the implementation of any planned activities such as participating and sharing my expertise in any workshop that will be organized or to any other activities that will be needed.

Tirana, November 29, 2021

Sincerely,

**Dr. Enerit Saçdanaku**

**To: assis. prof. Dragica Šalamon**  
Project LIFE for *Mauremys rivulata*  
Faculty of Agriculture  
University of Zagreb  
Croatia

**From: Ekološka udruga Vojakovac (EUV)**  
Vojakovac 146  
48264 Vojakovac  
Croatia

### Letter of support

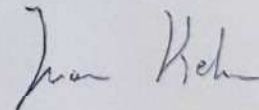
Dear Madam/Sir

Ekološka udruga Vojakovac (Ecological Association Vojakovac -EUV) strongly supports great efforts of LIFE for *Mauremys* project proposal and carefully selected team of associates in their actions on protection of ecosystem functions. EUV which part is Croatian Hub for Holistic management strongly supports every action which would provide change in the existing conventional agriculture practices to regenerative and annulate negative influences of agriculture on wild ecosystems, especially of such valuable and vulnerable as habitats of *Mauremys rivulata*. With all our knowledge and network of Savory Global, which we are part of we would support this project activities concerning sustainable agriculture.

In Vojakovac 25. 11. 2021.


Kind regards

Ivan Kekez, president of EUV





Letter of support

<b>Project title:</b>
LIFE project - "Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County"
<b>Name and legal status:</b>
Initiative PIM pour les Petites Iles de Méditerranée, Lycée des Calanques, 89 Traverse Parangon, 13 008 Marseille – France
<b>Name and job title:</b>
Eva Tankovic, Scientific coordinator <a href="mailto:e.tankovic@initiative-pim.org">e.tankovic@initiative-pim.org</a>
<b>Declaration of support:</b>
<p>During the last 30 years, all Mediterranean countries have attempted to identify their wetlands and evaluate their status; nonetheless, the level of information is still very low, and the existing data from national inventories are not comparable, resulting in inefficient protection on its whole. The latter is especially true for the small wetlands, since the vast majority of them remain unknown.</p> <p>The joined Mediterranean project “MedIsWet” includes actions for the completion of the inventories of all the Mediterranean island wetlands, dissemination of knowledge and promotion of certain conservation measures in local, national and Mediterranean scale. It will contribute to the full implementation of Ramsar Resolution XII.14 “Conservation of Mediterranean Basin island wetlands” and to the achievement of Ramsar Convention’s and MedWet’s objectives.</p> <p>Partners in nine Mediterranean countries carry out MedIsWet project, with PIM acting as a leading partner.</p> <p>The aim of the LIFE project - "Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County" is to improve the conservation status of the Balkan Pond Turtle (<i>Mauremys rivulata</i>) in Croatia by enabling sustainable populations on restored habitats and ensuring their adequate long-term management. Project actions include habitat restoration and improvement across wetland habitats important for this species.</p> <p>This is why the MedIsWet fully supports the application of the LIFE for Mauremys project, as it contributes to healthier and functional wetlands in Mediterranean.</p>
<b>Signature and date</b>
Marseille, November 30 <sup>th</sup> 2021.

...
Name and status of signatory: Eva Tankovic, MedIsWet coordinator

## DESCRIPTION OF SITES

*(Describe the areas and / or site(s) targeted by your project and upload as part of the application. If your project involves several distinct sub-areas / sub-sites, please fill in one form for each (copy table as many times as necessary). Please note that maps are mandatory for projects with area-based activities.)*

DESCRIPTION OF SITES	
<b>Project name and acronym:</b>	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i> - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County — LIFE for Mauremys
<b>Name of the project area:</b> <i>The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B</i>	Delta Neretve
<b>Surface area (ha):</b> <i>Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals</i>	23,814.31 ha
<b>EU protection status (if applicable)</b>	<b>SCI</b> HR5000031
	<b>SAC</b> HR2001364
	<b>SPA</b> HR1000031
<b>Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):</b>	There are six special nature reserves located within Natura 2000 site Delta Neretve, five ornithological reserves (Modro oko i jezero Desne, Kuti, Prud, Orepak and Pod gredom); and ornithological-ichtiological reserve Ušće Neretve. There is also one significant landscape, Predolac-Šibenica. Neretva River Delta is internationally important wetland under the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, 1971).
<b>Main land uses and ownership status of the project area</b> <i>Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.</i>	
Apart from the ichthyological reserves, this area is designated as an important freshwater fishery area of the Adriatic part of Croatia. Fyke nets are allowed as a tool here, however, there is, so far, no distinction of the passive catching tools with bycatch elimination contraptions in Croatian legislative. Most of the land where we planned our project actions is private	
<b>Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)</b> <i>Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.</i>	
We included this site into our project because it is one of the four Natura 2000 sites designated for <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> in Croatia, listed along with <i>Emys orbicularis</i> . However, its importance is likely relatively lower than expected for one of the four sites, because during our previous research and population size estimation in this area we could not confirm the presence of <i>M. rivulata</i> (HYLA, 2018-2019). This rich Mediterranean wetland is - due to its size, microhabitat diversity, and biodiversity - potentially important area for <i>M. rivulata</i> . We will use this site as pilot area for testing turtle-friendly fyke nets and workshops and collaboration with the local fisherman. Also, we will investigate the presence of the species, and in order to assure best preparation for the reinforcement of the Ston Mauremys population, we will assess its potential as a donor population for founders.	

The Neretva River and its tributaries comprise the largest complex of wetland habitats in the Croatian coastal zone, with well-developed coastal and other wetland vegetation, many lagoons, shallow sandy bays, low sandy shores, sand flats, salt beaches, etc. Though a large area of the wetland habitat has been transformed into agricultural lands, due to the branching network of channels, these areas are still important habitats for aquatic birds and a very important ichthyological area. These areas are important for the migration of anadromous and catadromous fish species. The delta, lagoons and brackish waters are an exceptionally important habitat which creates room for the intensive growth of fry, which later spend their life cycle in the sea or fresh water. This area also contains a high diversity of water habitats, the delta, lagoons, brackish waters, network of channels springs, streams with reophilic characteristics and lakes that are inhabited with almost 20 fish species endemic to Adriatic basin.

This Natura 2000 site is also:

- important site for herpetofauna species *Elaphe quatuorlineata*, *Zamenis situla*, *Emys orbicularis*, *Mauremys rivulata* and *Testudo hermanni*
- only important site for endemic species *Chondrostoma knerii* with the 100% of Croatian population
- only important site for *Alosa fallax*, important for reproduction
- only important site for endemic species *Alburnus neretvae* (syn. *Alburnus albidus*) with the 100% of Croatian population
- only important site for endemic species *Cobitis narentana* (syn. *C. taenia*) with the 100% of Croatian population
- only important site for species *Salmo marmoratus* with up to 60% of total Croatian population
- one of two important sites for endemic species *Squalius svallize*
- one of two sites important for reproduction of *Petromyzon marinus*
- one of two sites important for *Lampetra zanandraei*, endemic lamprey, with 30-40% of total population
- one of three sites important for *Knipowitschia croatica*
- southernmost site of distribution of *Lutra lutra*
- important for 8310 Caves not open to public - area important for *Congerius kusceri*, the only living underground bivalve in the world (species is found in altogether 7 localities in Delta Neretva site)
- important for *Salmothymus (Salmo) obtusirostris*
- brackish habitats of the site are important for *Pomatoschistus canestrinii* and *Knipowitschia panizzae*
- smaller area the Bačina Lakes included in the site Delta Neretve is important for *Cobitis illyrica* (syn. *C. taenia*)
- five underground taxa discovered and scientific described (*Cyphophthalmus neretvanus*, *Trichoniscus matulici*, *Emmericia narentana*, *Roncus narentae*, *Alpioniscus verhoeffi*); *Alpioniscus heroldi* known from seven localities of South Croatia, distribution area also in Herzegovina;
- *Saxurinator brandii* known from five localities of South Croatia
- one of on two sites important for the conservation of *Coenagrion ornatum* in the Mediterranean Biogeographical Region
- because of the large population (cca. 40% of the national population) the site is of great importance for the conservation of *Lindenia tetraphylla* in Croatia
- the largest *Miniopterus schreibersii* hibernation colony in the mediterranean biogeographical region in Croatia
- one of the 34 underground sites with 10,000 or more bats recorded in Europe
- internationally important underground site for *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum* (nursery, migration), *Myotis emarginatus* (nursery, migration) and *Miniopterus schreibersii* (hibernation)
- the southernmost known *Myotis capaccinii* nursery
- important for *Rhinolophus hipposideros* nursery and migration
- important for *Myotis emarginatus* migration
- *Rhinolophus euryale* summer roost
- important site for Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*)
- important site for Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (*Sarcocornetea fruticosi*) and *Salicornia* and other annuals colonizing mud and sand; these two habitat types occur together on the site, with *Salicornia* represented in much smaller area
- the area is considered to support a significant presence of Coastal lagoons
- important site for 3130 habitat type, with some plant communities known only from this part of Croatia; estimated area of this HT includes water bodies where it occurs along the water edges and over the lake bottom when water withdraws.
- important site for habitat type 62A0 - habitat types 6220 and 62A0 form a mosaic of 3650 ha with shrub and wood
- important site for 9320
- one of the most representative sites for Estuaries
- important site for Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide.

All tasks planned in this project area (exact micro-locations) are shown on the map.

T.4.3 Mitigating unsustainable fishery and patenting selective fish trap

T.4.2 Assess and remove IAS threats

T.5.4 Monitoring of the success of sustainable fishery



DESCRIPTION OF SITES	
<b>Project name and acronym:</b>	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i> - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County — LIFE for Mauremys
<b>Name of the project area:</b> <i>The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B</i>	Majkovi ponds
<b>Surface area (ha):</b> <i>Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals</i>	13.177 ha
<b>EU protection status (if applicable)</b>	<b>SCI</b> HR2000947
	<b>SAC</b> [Insert the corresponding Natura 2000 site code]
	<b>SPA</b> [Insert the corresponding Natura 2000 site code]
<b>Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):</b>	The declaration of a special herpetological reserve is currently in procedure for both Majkovi Donji ponds and Prljevići Village pond, which will be joined into one herpetological reserve under the name „Lokve u Majkovima“. For this purpose, a geodetic study was conducted and the expert/technical study was published in accordance with “Nature Protection Act” (OG 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19). This will be the first herpetological reserve in Croatia.
<b>Main land uses and ownership status of the project area</b> <i>Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.</i>	
Both ponds are owned by the Municipality of Dubrovačko primorje. The currently newly declared herpetological reserve will also include the area surrounding the ponds (as shown on the map). Surrounding area is predominately privately owned and is mostly agricultural land. However, due to depopulation of the Adriatic outback, a lot of land parcels are not actively used for agricultural production and are under succession, same as the ponds. Private land parcels are small, often with numerous co-owners and/or unresolved ownership (deceased owners, multiple owners immigrated overseas, etc.). Municipality Dubrovačko primorje based in coastal town Slano has important touristic sector, and interest in promoting this outback location to enrich its touristic offer.	
<b>Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)</b> <i>Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.</i>	
We chose this project area because it is one of only four Natura 2000 sites designated for <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> in Croatia, and it is crucial to include all of them in our conservation actions in order to ensure the bright future for the conservation of targeted species. Gornji Majkovi ponds jointly with the project area Prljevići village, currently supports the population of >142 animals. The main issue we will target in this project area is the decreased habitat quality, but we will also address other treats.	
Freshwater habitats in the target area of this project are very scarce in general and mostly man-made. In the past, they have been used in various traditional agricultural practices, which positively impacted target species by increasing the number of available and adequate water bodies. However, with the cessation of the use of surface water bodies for water supply, irrigation, or watering livestock, canals and ponds are left to natural succession, degradation, and in the end complete disappearance due to the lack of maintenance. In addition, in many places ponds have been purposely destroyed. Eutrophication, which involves an increase in organic matter in the pond (sludge, rotted plant	

material), and succession, which involves the overgrowing of the body of water with herbaceous plants, shrubs, and trees, represent problems in all ponds and canals where the target species occurs.

Both ponds in Majkovi lost their agricultural purpose and are left to natural succession. The pond near the church is in very poor condition, as it is very shallow and in the summer months, only a small pool of water remains, so it becomes unsuitable for the target species and exposes them to predators. In order to avoid this, terrapins must migrate to another pond near the firefighter station, which is about 200 meters away, and never dries out. Migration between these two ponds has been proven by previous research but is also a potential threat, as animals get exposed to predators and traffic.

Aside from the natural succession, the pond near the church has for some years been used as an illegal dumping site of construction material. This was noticed two years ago when the pond was superficially cleaned by the action of Hyla and DUNEŽ in the summer months when it was almost completely dry. Accordingly, the restoration of both ponds is needed in order to raise the suitability for the target species.

Both ponds are not only important for *Mauremys rivulata*, but also for other herpetofauna species, such as *Triturus vulgaris*, *Pelophylax sp.* and many entomofauna groups, such as dragonflies, aquatic beetles, etc. There are not many ponds in the surrounding area, since it is karst terrain and each pond represents an irreplaceable habitat for all aquatic animals.

The main conservation goal for this project area, which is to directly improve the conservation status of Natura 2000 species *Mauremys rivulata*, consists of complete restoration of the pond near the church, cleaning of the pond near the firefighter base, and work with locals to adopt new agricultural practices that will not endanger *Mauremys* nests. These actions directly improve aquatic habitats and nesting sites and ensure better living conditions for *M. rivulata*.

All tasks planned in this project area are shown on the map (with exact microlocations).

DESCRIPTION OF SITES		
<b>Project name and acronym:</b>	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i> - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County —LIFE for Mauremys	
<b>Name of the project area:</b> <i>The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B</i>	Prljevići village	
<b>Surface area (ha):</b> <i>Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals</i>	13.000 ha	
<b>EU protection status (if applicable)</b>	<b>SCI</b>	HR2000555
	<b>SAC</b>	[Insert the corresponding Natura 2000 site code]
	<b>SPA</b>	[Insert the corresponding Natura 2000 site code]
<b>Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):</b>	The declaration of a special herpetological reserve is currently in procedure for both Majkovi Donji ponds and Prljevići Village pond, which will be joined into one herpetological reserve under the name „Lokve u Majkovima“. For this purpose, a geodetic study was conducted and the expert/technical study was published in accordance with “Nature Protection Act” (OG 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19). This will be the first herpetological reserve in Croatia.	
<b>Main land uses and ownership status of the project area</b> <i>Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.</i>		

Together with Gornji Majkovi ponds, the pond in Prljević village is included in the future herpetological reserve. The pond is state-owned, whereas the surrounding land that has been identified as nesting sites is privately owned. However, due to the depopulation of the Adriatic outback, a lot of land parcels are not actively used for agricultural production and are under succession as well as the ponds. Private land parcels are small, often with numerous co-owners, or unresolved ownership situation (deceased owners or multiple owners overseas). Municipality Dubrovačko Primorje based in coastal town Slano has an important touristic sector, and interest in using this outback location to enrich the touristic offer.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

We chose this project area because it is one of the four Natura 2000 sites designated for *Mauremys rivulata* in Croatia, so including all of them in project activities will ensure the long-term survival of the species. Jointly with the project area Gornji Majkovi ponds, it currently has population of >142 animals. We selected this particular area because it is important for the species, and because of its degraded habitat quality.

The pond in Prljevići is full of deoxidized sludge due to the large amount of organic matter falling in the pond from the surrounding trees, some of which were removed two years ago by a cleaning operation by DUNEZ in order to reduce the eutrophication. The sludge removal was performed last time in the '60s by the locals. The pond is very shallow, smelly with a lot of branches in it so urgent cleaning activities are needed.

The nesting sites are found near the pond, in gardens and olive groves, and some of them were excavated by the wild boars. The size of the area 2100 m<sup>2</sup> contains the pond, garden, meadow where minimally 1984 m<sup>2</sup> will be secured nesting site (by using repellents). Also, promoting sustainable agricultural practices among local stakeholders will benefit *Mauremys* but also indirectly all the other flora and fauna present in the area.

The main conservation goal for this project area, which is to directly improve the conservation status of Natura 2000 species *Mauremys rivulata*, consists of complete restoration of the pond and work with locals to adopt new agricultural practices that will not endanger *Mauremys* nests. These actions directly improve aquatic habitats and nesting sites and ensure better living conditions for *M. rivulata*.

All tasks planned in this project area are shown on the map (with exact micro locations).

DESCRIPTION OF SITES

**Project name and acronym:** *Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County — LIFE for Mauremys

**Name of the project area:** Ston field (in JI dio Pelješca NATURA200)  
*The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B*

**Surface area (ha):** 14,058.480 ha  
*Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals*

<b>EU protection status (if applicable)</b>	<b>SCI</b>	HR2001364
	<b>SAC</b>	HR2001364
	<b>SPA</b>	HR1000036

**Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):** Approximately 10 ha of agricultural parcels that are in close focus for project actions are secondary freshwater area due to springs used for consumable water supply.  
Within the southern part of JI Pelješac, two smaller protected landscapes were declared in 1975: Uvala Vučina (Vučina cove,

1.2%) and Uvala Prapratno (Prapratno cove, 1% of the project area). On the Northern side, Malostonski zaljev, accounting for about 30% of the project area, was declared a special reserve in 1983.

#### Main land uses and ownership status of the project area

Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.

Around 30% of the project area JI Pelješac is state-owned, while 70% of the area is private. Of privately owned land, only smaller part (25% of total area) is used as arable land, mostly for vineyards, olives, and fruit. Less than 1 % of the project area is used for infrastructure, including towns, villages, roads, waste disposal sites, and industrial sites. Around 74 % of the project area is not in use, most of it covered with natural and semi-natural habitats such as dry grasslands, shrubs, and bush of holm oak and other evergreens, woodlands, and limestone cliffs. Tourism is an important branch for livelihood in this area.

The specific areas where we will conduct conservation actions are both state and privately owned. The planned refugium pond is completely private, whereas the priority canals are state owned.

#### Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)

Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.

We chose this project area in addition to the four Natura 2000 sites designated for protection of *Mauremys rivulata*. Ston field previously supported an abundant population of targeted species, but today this is the population most threatened with extinction. Including this area in our project is crucial to significantly improve the status of this *Mauremys rivulata*. Considering the size of potential *Mauremys* habitat in this sites (that will be restored through our project action), this is the most appropriate site for population reinforcement actions through assisted breeding.

Project area Ston field is situated completely within Natura 2000 SCI HR2001364 JI dio Pelješca, on the southeast part of the Pelješac peninsula, within the Mediterranean region of Croatia. It is part of the Dalmatian karst area, with rocks usually formed of highly permeable Jurassic, Cretaceous, and Palaeogenic limestones, while dolomites occur less often, mostly in the central and southeast part of the peninsula. Along the coastal area, isolated flysch rocks occur.

First known records of *Mauremys rivulata* in Croatia refer to Ston field and Ombla/Rijeka Dubrovačka (Erber, 1864; Kolombatović, 1888; Tomasini, 1889; Boettger, 1893; Werner, 1898; Rössler, 1904; Schreiber, 1912; Karaman, 1921; Karaman, 1939; Radovanović, 1941 i 1951; Pavletić, 1964; Radovanović, 1964; Diesner, 1966; Pozzi, 1966; Breljih i Džukić, 1974; Pracht, 1987; Fritz i Wischuf, 1997). Species was confirmed in Stonsko polje, Majkovi, Prljevići, and Konavle with further research, (Janev- Hutinec i sur., 2006; Šalamon i Šilić, 2007; Šalamon i Koren, 2009; Jelić i sur., 2012a; Štih i Šalamon, 2018a), while in the Ombla area historical findings were only confirmed just recently (Štih, 2019).

Across the Ston field, there is approximately 10 ha of aquatic habitats suitable for the Balkan terrapin, it consists of a couple of smaller ponds, two torrent streams (Perunski and Mlinski potok), and a network of irrigation canals still partially used for agriculture purposes. Ston population of *M. rivulata* was reported to be abundant more than three decades ago in the videos of Jirij Haleš and literature of the 20th century (Schreiber, 1912; Pracht, 1987). From 2004 to 2009 detailed search in freshwater canals of Ston field was conducted, recording both *Emys* and *Mauremys* across 10 ha of agricultural area next to Ston in six freshwater canals only (Šalamon i Šilić, 2007). The brackish canals near the saltworks were also investigated, but *Mauremys* was not found there (Strišković, 2009).

Today the lower part of the field, which consists of freshwater and brackish canals, has been neglected. The water level in the canals varies seasonally, but also depends on the amount of vegetation. Some of the canals are completely overgrown with vegetation and dried out. Only the deepest and widest canals remain partly open, but still with their edges overgrown with reed and sedge. There are only few ponds in the field that are used, others are neglected and in none of them has the Balkan terrapin been found in the recent surveys (2017- 2019). The Balkan terrapin has recently been found only in one canal that has a source of freshwater drilled for the purpose of trial water well, and is filled with water throughout the whole year (Štih i Šalamon, 2019). The canal is completely overgrown with vegetation, aside from one smaller part where surface water is visible. It is surrounded by abandoned overgrown meadows. The coastal part of the canal is steep so the terrapins bask on the dense vegetation that is present in the canal. The abandoned meadow located next to the canal is a potential nesting site. The size of the area is 8000 m<sup>2</sup> (Canal and the meadow together).

The lower part of Stonsko polje, surrounded by the road connecting Ston and Česvinica, and by the air-line from the plastic factory to Kut village, from Kut village to the cemetery and from the cemetery to Ston, is considered as the agricultural area of high value (about 100 ha). This area, comprising only 1% of this Natura 2000 site is important for the project. Most of the project activities concern 10 ha of freshwater habitats suitable for *Mauremys*. These consist of few smaller ponds (less than 20 m in diameter), two torrent streams (Perunski & Mlinski potok), and a network of agro-ameliorative canals over the field partially actively used for primary agricultural production with hydrological influence in the 1% of this Natura 2000 site. Part of the canals are neglected and with seasonal water content, overgrown by reed or aquatic vegetation. A number of old ponds, currently dried out, are found in this area.

The population in Ston was drastically reduced in the period from the mid-seventies (marked by a series of hydro melioration interventions throughout Croatia) to the end of the nineties (marked by war activities and devastation throughout Dubrovnik-Neretva county during Croatian War of Independence). To restore the Ston population of *Mauremys rivulata* (Ston gene pool) we will carry out assisted breeding programme in parallel with habitat restoration. These project activities will enable a return of the high-quality aquatic habitats, where the restored refugium pond and produced animals will initiate source of new animals for the whole 10 ha of Ston field. The instigated *M. rivulata* population has a prospect of reaching the species capacity of Ston field of totally about 250 animals in the long term, 15-20 years after the project. This would add a total of 50% to the current estimated population in Croatia, significantly improving the species conservation status and its changes for survival.

Main conservation goal for this project area, which is to directly improve conservation status or halt the decline of Natura 2000 species *Mauremys rivulata*, consists of creating a refugium pond (540 m<sup>2</sup>) in the project area, restore the priority canals, and clean up one old pond. Also, promoting sustainable agricultural practices among local stakeholders will benefit indirectly all the other flora and fauna present in the area. With restoration activities in the project area - on one pond (10.8 m<sup>2</sup>), two big canals (194 m & 80 m), two nesting sites (187 m<sup>2</sup>, 1000 m<sup>2</sup>) & few small canals - we are creating sustainable habitats (both terrestrial and aquatic) for the long term survival of the species, but also for all other species dependant on Mediterranean wet habitats.

As the species is in the area of Ston field on the verge of extinction, Work package 3 (captive breeding program in Zagreb ZOO and releasing of the juveniles in newly restored pond), completely meets the objective 2 (Prepare enhancement for the most critical population in Ston field).

All tasks planned in this project area are shown on the map (with exact micro locations).

DESCRIPTION OF SITES	
<b>Project name and acronym:</b>	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i> - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County — LIFE for Mauremys
<b>Name of the project area:</b> <i>The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B</i>	ZOO Zagreb
<b>Surface area (ha):</b> <i>Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals</i>	7.000 ha
<b>EU protection status (if applicable)</b>	<b>SCI</b> [Insert the corresponding Natura 2000 site code]
	<b>SAC</b> [Insert the corresponding Natura 2000 site code]
	<b>SPA</b> [Insert the corresponding Natura 2000 site code]
<b>Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):</b>	ZOO Zagreb is situated in southern part of Maksimir Park, which is protected monument of park architecture, declared in accordance with "Nature Protection Act" (OG 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19) in the 1884.
<b>Main land uses and ownership status of the project area</b> <i>Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate</i>	



also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.

Zoological Garden of Zagreb is situated in more than 200 years old Maksimir Park. It was founded in 1925 in the southern part of Maksimir Park's territory and occupies an area including lakes and ponds. It is a public institution, whose main activities are education, research and conservation. Zagreb Zoo is integral to the city's cultural and natural heritage with long history and tradition preserving architectural park heritage. Primary mission of ZOO Zagreb to participate in breeding programs of endangered species and and increase knowledge and understanding of nature conservation needs to all stakeholders. Animals are kept in modern, naturalistic enclosures in accordance with best practice guidelines and present animal species and their habitats through conservation educational activities. Great attention is paid to awareness raising and educational activities for the visitors through specialized programmes and events. Recognized aspirations reflect the fact that Zagreb Zoo is one of the most visited sites in Croatia.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.

The Zagreb ZOO is currently the best suitable institution in Croatia for implementation of the planned breeding programme for *Mauremys rivulata*, due to its staff extensive experience and its infrastructure. The planned breeding station for *Mauremys rivulata* will cover surface of 398 m<sup>2</sup>. It will contain two outdoor pools for animals, 28 m<sup>2</sup> new glasshouse that will extend activity period in early spring and autumn with public educational point. Such facility should provide all aspects of animal husbandry and breeding with educational corner that will serve and information point about species and the project. Educational public awareness activities *Mauremys* days will be organized in the ZOO Zagreb.

All tasks planned in this project area are listed on the map (with exact micro locations).

DESCRIPTION OF SITES	
<b>Project name and acronym:</b>	[ <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County] — [LIFE for Mauremys]
<b>Name of the project area:</b> <i>The name must be used consistently on all maps and Part B</i>	Konavle field
<b>Surface area (ha):</b> <i>Indicate the total surface of the project area in hectares, rounded to two decimals</i>	11,250.057 ha
<b>EU protection status (if applicable)</b>	<b>SCI</b> HR2000946
	<b>SAC</b> [Insert the corresponding Natura 2000 site code]
	<b>SPA</b> [Insert the corresponding Natura 2000 site code]
<b>Other protection status according to national or regional legislation (if applicable):</b>	Within the Natura 2000 site Sniježnica and Konavle field, there is significant landscape "Konavoski dvori" declared in accordance to the "Nature Protection Act" (OG 80/13, 15/18, 14/19, 127/19) in the 1975. and covering 4.6% of the project area.
<b>Main land uses and ownership status of the project area</b> <i>Indicate what are, at the project application date, the main uses made of the project site (e.g. farming, tourism, urban, nature conservation, etc.). Indicate the approximate percentages (in %) of the various uses, ensuring that the total reaches 100%. Indicate also the ownership status / types of the area at the project application date (e.g. private, state, etc.) and the approximate percentages (in %) of the different ownership status / types, ensuring that the total reaches 100%.</i>	



The project area is completely within Natura 2000 SCI HR2000946 Sniježnica and Konavosko polje. All of the project area where our activities are planned is privately owned. It consists of ponds located on private lands with surrounding meadows and agricultural fields. Konavle field was an important agricultural area throughout the history, and has seen tourist development only in recent decades. The current agricultural sector of this area recognizes the potential for sustainable food production, and has plans to comasate the sometimes exceedingly small parcels of land. Agro touristic offer is being invested in lately, but still the more dominant trend is cessation of traditional agriculture and land abandonment, with most of young population finding jobs in various other tourism related businesses.

**Importance of the project area for biodiversity and/or for the conservation of the species /habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantitative information if possible)**

*Justify why you have selected this particular area for your project. Explain why your choice is the most appropriate to reach the project's objectives.*

Konavle field is one of the few sites in Croatia where endangered freshwater turtle *Mauremys rivulata* can be found, and one of the four Natura 2000 sites designated for its protection. We included them all in our project to ensure the comprehensive approach to improving the conservation status of this species. Additionally, this site is important at the international level, because population of *M. rivulata* in Konavle field is important as a link between the Croatian and the southern Balkan populations.

The entire field is crisscrossed by a network of small canals and ditches of which many are natural while some of the smaller ones are drainage canals with paved riverbeds. In the field are also present small springs. Stream Konavočica has torrential character, it is relatively fast but generally shallow in summer and much warmer (and shallower) of the river Ljuta in which it flows. Part of the field are grasslands used for grazing (horses, cattle, large herds of sheep) and flood meadows, another part is under intensive vineyards and orchards, mainly peaches and apples. Part of the Sniježnica is still mined. This field used to be constantly flooded in winter with wetlands near the precipice.

The first literature quotation for *Mauremys rivulata* in the area of Konavle goes back to 1997. From then on species was recorded during all later surveys (Šalamon i Šilić, 2007; Šalamon i Koren, 2009; Jelić et al., 2012a; Štih i Šalamon, 2018a). The area of species occupancy in Konavle is very big, so this population is not so much affected by human negative activities, like on the other sites which are smaller and have a lower population density (Ston, Majkovi, Prljevići). The subpopulation in the Konavle is the most stable and most numerous one.

The Balkan terrapins has been found in the whole area of Konavle field (24 ponds, the irrigation canal) and in the river Konavočica, which makes the project area crucial for the conservation of the species. The terrapin spends most of its time in the waters or nearby, whereas it lays eggs on the meadows and agricultural fields surrounding the aquatic habitat. It uses the network of canals for migrations.

The main goal in Konavle was to improve the connectivity between ponds in the middle of the Konavle field where the largest numbers of individuals are located. Some of the canals are being overgrown with vegetation, due to inadequate management. These canals are crucial for species migration between ponds and ponds-nesting sites, not just for *Mauremys rivulata*, but also for another freshwater Natura 2000 species *Emys orbicularis*, which lives syntopic with *Mauremys* in this whole area.

Aside from canal restoration, basking site will be put in ponds to improve habitat quality. As most of the Konavle field is used for agricultural purposes, promoting sustainable agricultural practices will have a positive effect on turtles nesting sites. With cleaning activities in the project area - on one pond (46 m2), one canal (500m) & few small canals selected in task T.2.2. - we are creating sustainable habitats for the long-term survival of the species and meet the first objective of the project.

All tasks planned in this project area are listed on the map (with exact micro locations).

**HISTORY OF CHANGES**

VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	15.04.2021	Initial version (new MFF).

## DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES AND HABITATS

(To be filled in and uploaded as part of the application.)

DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES AND HABITATS	
<b>Project name and acronym:</b>	<i>Mauremys rivulata</i> - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County — LIFE for <i>Mauremys</i>
<b>Species</b>	
<p>For each of the <u>main</u> species <u>directly</u> targeted by the project, please indicate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– scientific name (in Latin). If the species is a priority species according to Annex II of the Habitats Directive or is on the list of priority bird species, please mark with an asterisk</li> <li>– the Annex(es) of the EU Birds or Habitats Directive where the species is listed, if relevant</li> <li>– population size within the project area. In case the project does not include actions targeting a well-defined area, please indicate the population size at regional, national or multinational level, as relevant</li> <li>– the conservation status within the project area. Please provide quantitative details. In case the project does not include actions targeting a well-defined area, please indicate the conservation status at regional, national or multinational level, as relevant</li> <li>– for bird species, please indicate whether the project area (if relevant) is used for breeding, wintering or staging.</li> </ul>	
<b>Mauremys rivulata (Valenciennes, 1833)</b>	
<p>The Balkan Terrapin, <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> is a European freshwater turtle species, syntopic on most of the locations in Croatia with <i>Emys orbicularis</i>. In Croatia, <i>Mauremys</i> is one of the most iconic umbrella species of reptiles in nature protection, and one of the two autochthonous freshwater turtle species. Its distribution is limited to the southernmost parts of Croatia, representing the north-western limit of species range, where it is present in four isolated populations. The species range extends from western Asia all the way to the Balkan Peninsula making <i>M. rivulata</i> primarily an inhabitant of the Mediterranean, but with presence also in the Black Sea and Continental biogeographical regions. The overall unfavourable status of the species has not been addressed in large scale EU/LIFE projects so far.</p> <p><i>Mauremys rivulata</i> is listed on both <b>Annexes II and IV</b> of <b>Habitats Directive</b>, and on <b>Annex II</b> of the <b>Bern Convention</b>. Checklist relating to the HD Article 17. lists species code 2373 <i>Mauremys rivulata</i>. <b><i>Mauremys caspica</i></b> is the name of the species as listed in the HD with the Y-CTC mark (Annex II and Annex IV): <i>species covered by the Annex, difference in the scientific name because previous species concept has been revised</i>.</p> <p>In Croatia, <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> is a target species in total of four sites in the national ecological Natura 2000 network, all of which are included in this project: HR5000031 Neretva River Delta, HR2000947 Gornji Majkovi ponds, HR2000555 Prljevići village, HR2000946 Sniježnica and Konavle field (Regulation on amendments to the Decree on the Ecological Network, official gazette Narodne novine, no. 105/15). Species is also present in the Natura 2000 site HR2001364 JI dio Pelješca, in Ston field, but for this site species is not listed in the SDF forms, although this area previously supported large population, now at risk of extinction due to habitat degradation and other factors. This site is also included in our project. The <b>current population estimates</b> for this species and for this sites are:</p> <p>HR5000031 Neretva River Delta: not estimated, but recent survey found no animals            HR2000947 Gornji Majkovi ponds &amp; HR2000555 Prljevići village jointly: &gt;142 animals estimated, 100% project area            HR2000946 Sniježnica and Konavle field: &gt;416 estimated, 100% project area            HR2001364 JI dio Pelješca: 6 animals recorded in Ston 2018 &amp; 2019, previously considered locally extinct, 1% project area</p> <p>In recent research, drastic population declines were noted for two of the Croatian populations in comparison with the historical evidence from the '80-es, alongside with habitat alteration. The most significant threats recognized in the national Management plan with the action plan for <i>Mauremys rivulata</i> (MPAP) are degradation and habitat loss caused by channelization of watercourses and by ecological succession due to abandonment, as well as the illegal use of fishtraps in some localities resulting in high mortality of both the Balkan Terrapin and <i>Emys orbicularis</i>. Other threats are: invasive predator species (wild boar and mongoose) on the nesting sites; invasive terrapin species (<i>Trachemys scripta</i>); potentially mineral and organic pesticide residues in soil and water. Most of the localities where <i>M. rivulata</i> is thriving are secondary anthropogenic water bodies designed and maintained for agricultural purposes that became vital for biodiversity and most are neglected today.</p> <p>The <b>conservation status</b> for this species in the <b>Mediterranean biogeographical region</b> for 2013-2018 has been assessed as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Croatia: “Unfavourable-Bad”</li> <li>- Cyprus: “Unfavourable-inadequate”</li> </ul>	

**- Greece: “Unfavourable-Inadequate”**

In the Black Sea and **Continental** biogeographical regions for the same period, conservation status is assessed as “**Unfavourable-inadequate**” by Bulgaria.

**Mauremys rivulata biology**

*Mauremys rivulata* is a medium-sized species, with an armour length between 14 and 21 cm. Due to its characteristic appearance, it is easy to distinguish from freshwater turtles in Croatia. It has a flat and oval shell, the dorsal side (carapace) is olive green with black and brown shades, and the ventral side (plastron) is black with lighter scute edges. Juveniles have a more colourful shell, as shell fades with age. Species has characteristic longitudinal pale-yellow lines along its olive-green neck and limbs. Sexual dimorphism is present; females are larger and heavier than males, and males have longer front claws, longer and thicker tail, and the anal opening is located closer to the tip of the tail.

As a semi-aquatic freshwater species, it inhabits a wide range of water bodies, from rivers, creeks, and canals to springs, ponds, lakes, and swamps and it is believed that it is a very adaptable species and can tolerate a wide range of temperature, salinity, pH, pollution, but usually, it cannot be found in fast currents. It spends most of the season in mesotrophic and eutrophic waters, intermittent watercourses, canals with constant and intermittent flow, and artificial freshwater stands where it feeds and steams. They spend part of their time outside of the water sunbathing on dry surfaces such as rocks, floating branches, or on the shore. The shores of these water bodies must not be free of vegetation to enable sunbathing. *Mauremys* uses permanent and seasonal watercourses as corridors for migration between different microhabitats. The male is more agile and can migrate more than 4 km during one season if there is a good corridor. The female is philopatric and hibernates at a permanent location.

*Mauremys rivulata* hibernates in the mud and on shores beneath the surface when the water temperature is below 13 °C. In summer, it stays in water bodies that do not dry out or in small pools in riverbeds where water is retained. If the water body dries out or if the temperature is above 45 ° C the species will estivate. It feeds in water and is an opportunistic omnivore. The young individual feeds on molluscs, ringworms, insects and their larvae, small crustaceans and fish, amphibian larvae and carrion, and the adult individual eats a large amount of filamentous algae and various aquatic plants. The predators of *M. rivulata* are herons, storks, birds of prey, and ravens. Herons and similar species prey on the hatchlings and young specimens, the same as opportunistic birds or mammals such as crows, mongoose, wild boar, golden jackal. The species plays an important role in the distribution of assimilated energy from aquatic habitats where it feeds to terrestrial habitats where their predators live and where they lay eggs. Due to predation, their eggs are considered essential for the distribution of energy, organic and mineral residues. It also has a major impact on the ecosystem in the roles of both prey and consumers and predators due to their large biomass.

It mates from April to mid-June underwater and less frequently on land. The female lays four to six eggs in favourable habitats along water bodies. Important microhabitats for egg-laying are meadows, dry grasslands, rocky pastures, and arable land. The female can lay eggs two to three times in one season. Incubation lasts three to four months. Sufficient substrate moisture is required for successful incubation. Young individuals are timid and inhabit the edge or shallows of water bodies with dense vegetation such as reeds mats and muddy bottoms where they can hide. The male reaches sexual maturity at one to two years and the females at three years. The reproductive period of the river turtle is seven years, the generation time is six years, and the generation interval nine years, assuming one nest per year. Due to generational time and role in the ecosystem, they have a slow recovery due to changes in the abundance or bioaccumulation of chemical compounds from agricultural applications.

**Status and threats**

In recent research drastic population declines were noted for two of the Croatian populations in comparison with the historical evidence from the '80-es, alongside habitat alteration. The most significant threats recognized in the Management plan with the action plan (MPAP) for this species in Croatia are degradation and habitat loss caused by channelization of watercourses and by ecological succession due to abandonment, as well as the illegal use of fish traps in some localities resulting in high mortality of both the Balkan Terrapin and *Emys orbicularis*. Other threats are invasive predator species (wild boar and mongoose) on the nesting sites; invasive terrapin species; potentially mineral and organic pesticide residues in soil and water. Most of the localities where *M. rivulata* is thriving are secondary anthropogenic water bodies designed and maintained for agricultural purposes that became vital for biodiversity and most are neglected today. While not much can be done where urbanization has taken its toll (one of four populations in Croatia), habitat alterations that are mainly due to inadequate management of the agricultural area which comprises more than 40% of this species habitat in Croatia are in the scope of this proposal.

Within this project, predominately direct threats are addressed. Threats are ranked from the one that has the greatest impact on the population to the one that is least significant. A quantification of threats was made: direct threats with high, medium, and low impact on the *Mauremys rivulata* populations in Croatia. Threats have been assigned IUCN threat codes.

**Direct threats with a big influence:**

**Low population** density prevents reproduction and long-term survival of the species in the area of the Ston field – the threat is solved with population reinforcement, UNEZ removes illegal fishing traps, AGRI constructs turtle safe fyke net, distributes 30 samples produced in the project in Neretva Delta and promotes the industrial design to local fyke net producers and in professional conferences. Additionally, submits a proposal to have this kind of fyke net as the

only passive fishing tool in Natura 2000 areas where aquatic turtles are present. Strong awareness raising program is also important to solve this issue.

**5.4 Fishing & Harvesting Aquatic Resources (5.4.3 Unintentional effects: subsistence or small scale (species being assessed is not the target) - illegal use of fish traps in Ston and Konavle field (small scale) resulting in high mortality of the species as well as unsustainable fishing Neretva delta (intensive) – the threat is solved with workshop, fyke nets, awareness raising, proposal of new legislative for fishing gear in NATURA2000.**

#### Direct threats with medium influence

**9.3 Agricultural & Forestry Effluents** - chemical compounds from agriculture that are deposited in the soil and water and cause slower recovery of species due to bioaccumulation (Ston, Konavosko polje, Majkovi, Neretva), - the threat is solved by introducing sustainable agricultural practice, awareness raising and educational programs within the Mediterranean wetland days

**7.3 Other Ecosystem Modifications** - ecological succession due to abandonment of agricultural practices, leading to overgrowth of aquatic habitat especially with invasive plant species (Ston, Konavle, Majkovi, Prljevići) – the threat is solved with planning habitat management, managing key locations and providing guidelines as well as building DUNEZ capacity by volunteer program for nature management purposes.

**8.2 Problematic Native Species/Diseases (8.2.2 Named Species)** - problematic native species such as wild boars, which cause a decline of all life stages (predator on juveniles and eggs, can harm the adult individuals) (Ston, Majkovi, Konavle) – the threat is solved with

**8.1 Invasive Non-Native/Alien Species/Diseases (8.2.2 Named Species)** - invasive terrapin species (*Trachemys sp.*, *Graptemys sp.*) is a competitor for basking sites and nutrients (All project area) – the threat is solved with active IAS removal, and organising local inhabitants in early detection system within the pondkeeper program, using the existing applications

**8.1 Invasive Non-Native/Alien Species/Diseases (8.2.2 Named Species)** - invasive grass species is overgrowing the ponds leading to faster succession *Paspalum paspaloides*- will be cleared during management and pond reconstructions and mapped using IAS application

#### Direct threats with small influence

**2.1 Annual & Perennial Non-Timber Crops (vineyards, olive yards, orchard) (2.1.2 Small-holder Farming)** - inadequate tillage resulting in digging and destroying turtles clutches - the threat is solved with active work with local food growers via different on-field and community support activities.

**Anthropogenic designed water bodies with a lack of basking sites** (Konavle, Ston, Majkovi) - the threat is solved with new basking sites. Basking enables healthy growth, successful hibernation and affects breeding fitness.

**7.3 Other Ecosystem Modifications** - ecological succession due to abandonment of agricultural practice affects the possibility to use the (former) gardens or meadows as nesting sites: private agricultural use without sustainable management (Ston, Majkovi, Prljevići) – the threat is solved with planning management, working with local landowners, active management including local volunteering actions and education and awareness raising.

**4.1 Roads & Railroads (roadkill)** - mortality on the roads when migrating from one pond to another or from aquatic to terrestrial habitats for egg-laying - the threat is solved with the turtle tunnel infrastructure in Majkovi.

**8.1 Invasive Non-Native/Alien Species/Diseases (8.2.2 Named Species)** - invasive fish - pond reconstructions and mapped using IAS application. *Gambusia sp.* present in both Majkovi ponds and Prljevići pond will be eradicated from the pond by the church in Majkovi and the one in Prljevići under FAZ responsibility during the pond restoration. *Gambusia* population present in the other Majkovi pond will be quantified to enable monitoring the trophic balance of the Majkovi *Mauremys* population during the restoration of one of the ponds.

#### Indirect threats

New pathogen arriving with IAS fish in the whole project area can be infectious for *Mauremys rivulata*. In order to mitigate/exclude that threat for the success of the captive breeding, we will define the common ecto- endo- parasite, viral and bacterial taxa in IAS fish and *Mauremys* and choose the CB founders accordingly

**9.3 Agricultural & Forestry Effluents** - chemical compounds from agriculture that are deposited in the soil and water and could cause problems with embryogenesis

### Habitats

For each of the *main* habitats *directly* targeted by the project, please indicate:

- name and Natura 2000 code, as indicated in the EU Habitats Directive. If the habitat is a priority habitat (according to Annex I of the Habitats Directive), please mark with an asterisk
- the % of the cover of the habitat type over the whole project area and for each sub-area

EU Grants: Description of species and habitats (LIFE): V1.0 - 15.04.2021

– *the conservation status within the project area. Please provide quantitative details.*

Insert text

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	15.04.2021	Initial version (new MFF).



**JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE  
ZAŠTIĆENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE  
DUBROVAČKO-NERETVANSKE**

**ŽUPANIJE**, sa sjedištem u Dubrovniku, Branitelja Dubrovnika 41, OIB: 77404345702, koje zastupa ravnateljica Marijana Miljas Đuračić, mag.ing.silv.

i

**HRVATSKE VODE**, pravna osoba za upravljanje vodama, sa sjedištem u Zagrebu, Ulica grada Vukovara 220, OIB: 28921383001, koje zastupa generalni direktor mr.sc. Zoran Đuroković, dipl.ing.građ.

i

**SVEUČILIŠTE U ZAGREBU AGRONOMSKI  
FAKULTET** Svetošimunska 25, Zagreb, OIB: 76023745044, kojeg zastupa dekan prof.dr.sc. Ivica Kisić

i

**USTANOVA ZOOLOŠKI VRT GRADA  
ZAGREBA**, sa sjedištem u Zagrebu, Maksimirski perivoj bb, OIB: 69262261098, koju zastupa ravnatelj Damir Skok, dr.vet.med.

i

**UDRUGA HYLA**, sa sjedištem u Zagrebu, Lipovac I, br. 7, OIB: 97526280302, koju zastupa predsjednica udruge Ivona Burić, mag.oecol.et.prot.nat.

skupno u daljnjem tekstu Sporazuma kao: „Partneri projekta“

te

**MIHO BAROVIĆ**, Zamlinje 2, 20 230 Ston, OIB: 05968795675

dalje u tekstu: *Vlasnik zemljišta*

skupno u Sporazumu Partneri projekta i Vlasnik zemljišta kao *Stranke Sporazuma*

zaključili su sljedeći

**SPORAZUM  
O UPRAVLJANJU I KORIŠTENJU  
ZEMLJIŠTA U OKVIRU PROJEKTA  
„LIFE FOR Mauremys“**

**PUBLIC INSTITUTION FOR THE  
MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED NATURAL  
AREAS OF DUBROVNIK-NERETVA COUNTY**

with registered seat in Dubrovnik, Branitelja Dubrovnika 41, PIN (OIB): 77404345702, represented by principal Marijana Miljas Đuračić, mag.ing.silv.

and

**HRVATSKE VODE**, legal entity for water management, with registered seat in Zagreb, Ulica grada Vukovara 220, PIN (OIB): 28921383001, represented by general manager mr.sc. Zoran Đuroković, M.S.C.E.

and

**UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB, FACULTY OF  
AGRICULTURE**, Svetošimunska 25, Zagreb, PIN (OIB): 76023745044, represented by dean prof. Ivica Kisić, PhD

and

**INSTITUTION ZOO OF THE CITY OF  
ZAGREB**, with registered seat in Zagreb, Maksimirski perivoj bb, PIN (OIB): 69262261098, represented by principal Damir Skok, dr.vet.med.

and

**ASSOCIATION HYLA**, with registered seat in Zagreb, Lipovac I, br. 7., PIN (OIB): 97526280302, represented by the president of the association Ivona Burić, mag.oecol.et.prot.nat.

together in further text referred to as “**Project Partners**”

and

**MIHO BAROVIĆ**, Zamlinje 2, 20 230 Ston, PIN (OIB): 05968795675

further in text: *the Landowner*

all together in the Agreement the Project Partners and the Landowner referred to as *Parties to the Agreement*

have concluded the following

**LAND STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT  
WITHIN THE “LIFE FOR Mauremys”  
PROJECT**



### Članak 1.

Partneri projekta uvodno utvrđuju da su se kandidirali za provedbu projekta EU programa LIFE Environment, potprogram Nature and Biodiversity, pod nazivom „LIFE FOR Mauremys“ - *Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County (u daljnjem tekstu: **Projekt**).

Partneri projekta suglasno utvrđuju da je Projekt prijavljen za natječaj EU programa LIFE Nature and Biodiversity od strane prijavitelja Agronomskog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu (u daljnjem tekstu: **Prijavitelj**) i partnera - Javna ustanove za upravljanje zaštićenim dijelovima prirode Dubrovačko-neretvanske županije, Hrvatske vode, Ustanova Zoološki vrt Grada Zagreba i udruga HYLE (u daljnjem tekstu: **Partneri**).

Navedeni Projekt je procijenjene vrijednosti od 2.131.572 EUR te će se u slučaju ostvarenja propisanih uvjeta natječaja provoditi u razdoblju od listopada 2022. godine do listopada 2026. godine. Uz EU sufinanciranje, sufinanciranje iz organizacija Prijavitelja i Partnera, Projekt je prijavljen na nacionalno sufinanciranje iz Fonda za zaštitu okoliša i energetske učinkovitost.

Predmet ovog Sporazuma je suradnja Sporazumnih strana u provođenju Projekta, a za potrebe kojeg Projekta će se koristiti i upravljati zemljištem (u daljnjem tekstu: **Zemljište**) u vlasništvu Vlasnika zemljišta i to sukladno principu očuvanja i zaštite prirodnih resursa i životinjskih staništa.

U okviru Projekta uspostaviti će se reproduksijska lokva za riječnu kornjaču, obnoviti područje u okviru Zemljišta, vršiti edukacija kroz radionice, seminare, edukacijske turističke i volonterske programe, kao i provoditi sve ostale aktivnosti navedene u Prijavi projekta.

### Članak 2.

Cilj Projekta, povodom kojeg se predmetni Sporazum sklapa, je očuvati bioraznolikost i prirodne resurse u Republici Hrvatskoj na način da se poboljša konzervacijski status riječne kornjače (lat. *Mauremys rivulata*) uspostavom održivih populacija u obnovljivim staništima te da se osigura dugoročno upravljanje istima.

Riječna kornjača jedna je od najugroženijih vrsta hrvatske herpetofaune. Uzimajući u obzir da obitava u lokvama koje su antropogenog

### Article 1

The Project Partners initially acknowledge that they have candidated for the enforcement of the project of the EU programme LIFE Environment, sub-programme Nature and Biodiversity under the title “LIFE FOR Mauremys” - *Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County (further in text: **the Project**).

The Project Partners mutually agree upon the fact that the Project is applied for the EU programme LIFE Nature and Biodiversity by the Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Zagreb (further in text: **the Applicant**) and partners - Public Institution for the Management of Protected Natural Areas of Dubrovnik-Neretva County, Hrvatske vode, Instution ZOO of the City of Zagreb and Association HYLE (further in text: **the Partners**).

The before mentioned Project has assessed value of 2.131.572 EUR and it shall in case of fulfilment of the conditions of the application set forth be conducted in the period of October 2022 until October 2026. With EU co-financing, co-financing from the organizations of the Applicant and Partners, the Project has also applied for the national co-financing from the Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund.

The subject of this Agreement is the cooperation of the Parties to the Agreement in the enforcement of the Project, and for the needs of which Project shall the Land Property owned by the Landowner (further in text: **the Land Property**) be used and managed in accordance with the principles of conservation and protection of natural resources and animal habitation.

Within the scope of the Project a reproductive pond for the river turtle shall be established, the area in regard of the Land Property shall be renewed, education shall be provided via workshops, seminars, educational, touristic and volunteer programmes, as well as other activities set forth in the Project Application.

### Article 2

The purpose of the Project in regards of which is this Agreement concluded is to preserve the bio-diversity and natural resources in the Republic of Croatia by improving the conservation status of the river turtle (lat. *Mauremys rivulata*) through establishment of sustainable population in renewable habitations and ensuring the long term management of the before mentioned.

The river turtle is one of the most endangered species of the Croatian herpetofauna. Given that it is found in ponds which are of antropogenic origin,



podrijetla, stoljećima korištene i održavane, pritisci na područje se očituju upravo u zapuštanju poljoprivrednih aktivnosti. Projekt time kao najveće prijetnje riječnoj kornjači utvrđuje upravo u vidu degradacije i gubitka staništa uzrokovano kanalizacijom vodenih tokova, ekološkom sukcesijom i gubitkom funkcije lokvi, neodrživim korištenjem vrša te prisustvom invazivnih stranih vrsta. Nastavno na isto se kroz Projekt time planira poboljšati kvalitetu staništa te ukloniti prijetnje u području Dubrovačko-neretvanske županije.

### **Članak 3.**

Prijavitelj i svi partneri obavezni su surađivati u dobroj vjeri te postupati sukladno obvezama navedenim u prijavi Projekta odnosno sukladno svim obvezama preuzetim u okviru navedenog Projekta.

Stranke Sporazuma su prilikom sklapanja ovog Sporazuma razumjele da će u slučaju odobrenja dodjele sredstava Projekt provoditi u skladu s odredbama Ugovora o dodjeli sredstava sklopljenog između nadležnih tijela i prijavitelja/korisnika, a odredbe ovog Sporazuma će biti primjenjive isključivo ukoliko nisu u suprotnosti s odredbama Ugovora o dodjeli sredstva.

### **Članak 4.**

U okviru uspješnog provođenja Projekta je od iznimne važnosti mogućnost upravljanja Zemljištem iz razloga što je upravo na tom području Stonskog polja populacija riječnih kornjača najkritičnija te je upravo na predmetnom Zemljištu potrebno restaurirati reprodukciju lokvu u nastojanju ojačanja populacije kroz potpomognuto razmnožavanje, kao i provoditi daljnje modifikacije na Zemljištu u svrhu restauracije reprodukcije lokve.

### **Članak 5.**

Zemljište je u vlasništvu Vlasnika zemljišta te se nalazi na katastarskoj čestici 2279, k.o. Ston, zk uložak br. 1512.

Na predmetnom zemljištu iz stavka 1. ovoga članka je lokva u kojoj je stanište riječne kornjače.

### **Članak 6.**

Vlasnik prepoznaje važnost Projekta u smislu očuvanje bioraznolikosti i prirodnih resursa Republike Hrvatske te ovim Sporazumom pristaje da se na Zemljištu provedu sve obnove, aktivnosti i radnje navedene u prijavi Projekta s kojima je upoznat, što potvrđuje svojim potpisom, te da se isto provodi za cijelo vrijeme trajanja Projekta (listopad 2022. godine – listopad 2026. godine) uz daljnji nadzor stanja.

used and maintained for centuries, the pressures on the area are visible exactly in neglecting agricultural activities. The Project in that regard sets forth as the biggest threats to the river turtle the degradation and loss of habitation caused by the sewage system of water, ecological succession, illegal use of nets and the presence of invasive foreign species. Given the before mentioned in regard, the Project plans to upgrade the quality of the habitation and to remove the threats in the Dubrovnik-Neretva County area.

### **Article 3**

The Applicant and all the Partners shall cooperate in good faith and act in accordance with the obligations set forth in the Project Application as well as in accordance with all obligations undertaken within the Project.

The Parties to the Agreement have upon the conclusion of this Agreement agreed that in the case of allocation of funds the Project shall be enforced in accordance with the provisions of the Contract on Allocation of Funds concluded between the competent authorities and the applicant/users, and the provisions of this Agreement shall be applicable only in case they are not contrary with the provisions of the Contract on Allocation of Funds.

### **Article 4**

In regards of the successful enforcement of the Project it is of great importance to have the possibility to manage the Land Property because on the that area of Stonsko polje the population of the river turtles is most critical and on the Land Property set forth it is necessary to restore the reproduction pond in regards of the efforts of strengthening the population by aided breeding, as well as perform further modifications on the Land Property for the purpose of restauration of the reproduction pond.

### **Article 5**

The Land Property is owned by the Landowner and it located on cadastral plot 2279, cadastral district Ston, land registry number 1512.

The Land Property from Paragraph 1 contains a pond in which is the habitation of the river turtle.

### **Article 6**

The Landowner recognizes the importance of the Project in terms of conservation of bio diversity and natural resources of the Republic of Croatia and by this Agreement agrees that all renewal, activities and actions set forth in the Project Application and conducted for the entire duration of the Project (October 2022 until October 2026) may be conducted on the Land Property, all of which he is aware of and what he confirms with his signature,



Vlasnik se ovim Sporazumom obvezuje da ni na koji način neće sprječavati ili onemogućavati Partnere projekta u izvršenju svih aktivnosti i radnji iz stavka 1. ovog Članka.

Vlasnik se obvezuje da 30 godina nakon završetka Projekta neće provoditi nikakve izmjene u odnosu na bilo koju moderaciju Zemljišta ili gradnju izvršenu u sklopu Projekta.

Vlasniku, izuzev projektne vrijednosti investicije u Zemljište, te projektne investicije u uspostavu održive poljoprivredne proizvodnje na Zemljištu ne pripada nikakva financijska naknada temeljem ovog Sporazuma.

#### **Članak 7.**

Vlasnik nekretnine Miho Barović ovim Sporazumom u korist Partnera projekta kao plodoužitelja osniva bez naknade pravo osobne služnosti – pravo plodouživanja i pravo uporabe u svrhe projekta EU programa LIFE Nature and Biodiversity pod nazivom „LIFE FOR Mauremys“ - *Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County*, koje obveze ostaju na snazi 30 godina po dovršetku Projekta, i to na teret cjeline vlasničkog prava nekretnine - katastarske čestice 2279, k.o. Ston, zk uložak br. 1512 na kojem se nalazi lokva s okolnim vrtom. U skladu s odredbama ovog Sporazuma, Vlasnik nekretnine Miho Barović ovlašćuje Partnere projekta da temeljem ovog Sporazuma, a bez njegovih daljnjih suglasnosti i ovlaštenja, u zemljišnim knjigama Općinskog suda u Dubrovniku u svoju korist i u svoje ime upiše pravo plodouživanja i pravo uporabe u svrhe projekta EU programa LIFE Nature and Biodiversity pod nazivom „LIFE FOR Mauremys“ - *Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County*, koje obveze ostaju na snazi 30 godina po dovršetku Projekta, na teret cjeline vlasničkog prava nekretnina - katastarske čestice 2279, k.o. Ston, zk uložak br. 1512 na kojem se nalazi lokva s okolnim vrtom.

#### **Članak 8.**

Upravljanje zemljištem provodit će svi partneri navedeni u Prijavi Projekta, i to u skladu s obvezama iz predmetne Prijave Projekta.

Aktivnosti koje će se provoditi u okviru

along with further monitoring of the condition.

The Landowner is by this Agreement obligated not to try to prevent or hinder in any way the Project Partners in the enforcement of the activities and actions set forth in paragraph 1 of this Article.

The Landowner is obligated for the period of 30 years after the end of the Project not to perform any changes in regards of any of the moderation of the Land Property or works conducted in the scope of the Project.

The Landowner is not entitled to any financial compensation based on this Agreement, other than the project value of investment in the Land Property and the project investment in regards of forming a sustainable agricultural production on the Land Property.

#### **Article 7**

The Landowner Miho Barović by this Agreement in favour of the Project Partners as usufructuaries establishes without compensation a right of personal servitude - right of usufruct and right of use for the purposes of the project of EU programme LIFE Nature and Biodiversity under the name “LIFE FOR Mauremys” - *Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County*, and which obligations stay in effect 30 years after the end of the Project and on the burden of the entirety of the ownership right of the real estate – cadastral plot 2279, cadastral district Ston, land registry slip Nr. 1512 on which the pond and the surrounding garden is located. In accordance with the provision of this Agreement, the Landowner Miho Barović authorizes the Project Partners, based on this Agreement, and without his further consents and authorizations, to enter in the land registry of the Municipal Court of Dubrovnik in their favour and in their name the right of usufruct and right of use for the for the purposes of the EU programme LIFE Nature and Biodiversity under the name “LIFE FOR Mauremys” - *Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik - Neretva County*, and which obligations stay in effect 30 years after the end of the Project, on the burden of the entirety of the ownership right of the real estate – cadastral plot 2279, cadastral district Ston, land registry slip Nr. 1512 on which the pond and the surrounding garden is located

#### **Article 8**

The management of the Land Property shall be conducted by all the partners set forth in the Project Application in accordance with the obligations from the Project Application.

The activities which shall be conducted in the scope



upravljanja Zemljištem su među ostalima sljedeće:

- izrada hidrogeološke studije u svrhu definiranja najboljeg načina obnove lokve, pri čemu će se provoditi ispitivanja sukladno potrebama Projekta;
  - obnova lokve koja se nalazi na Zemljištu (nastavno na rezultate studije iz točke 1) na način da će se micati višak vodene i obalne vegetacije, odstranjivati višak mulja te po potrebi produbljivanje i stavljanje novog sloja gline;
  - čišćenje okolnog prostora, a što uključuje i košnju;
  - ograđivanje dijela Zemljišta i postavljanje kaveza na dio obnovljene lokve (u koji kavez će se stavljati mlade jedinke riječne kornjače);
  - druge povezane aktivnosti određene u prijavi Projekta
- sve sukladno Projektnom ugovoru s organizacijama koje sufinanciraju Projekt.

#### Članak 9.

Partneri projekta bez posebne suglasnosti Vlasnika zemljišta ovlašteni su i dužni provoditi mjere vidljivosti i informiranja javnosti o svim provedenim aktivnostima u okviru Projekta sukladno Projektnom ugovoru s organizacijama koje sufinanciraju Projekt.

#### Članak 10.

Nadzor na provođenjem odredbi ovog Sporazuma provodit će Javna ustanova za upravljanje zaštićenim dijelovima prirode Dubrovačko-neretvanske županije.

Svaka Stranka Sporazuma koja svojim postupanjem protivno prijavi Projekta ili protivno odredbama ovog Sporazuma prouzroči štetu odgovara za tako nastalu štetu.

#### Članak 11.

Stranke Sporazuma obvezuju se da povjerljive informacije drugih Stranaka ovoga Sporazuma neće otkriti trećim osobama, te da će ih koristiti samo za potrebe ostvarenja ciljeva iz ovog Sporazuma. Stranke Sporazuma poduzet će razumne mjere radi zaštite povjerljivih informacija drugih Stranka Sporazuma; takve mjere moraju osigurati barem onoliki stupanj zaštite i sigurnosti koji je osiguran za zaštitu vlastitih povjerljivih informacija.

of the management of the Land Property are among others the following:

- *conducting a hydrogeological study for the purpose of defining the best way for renewal of the pond, in accordance of which testing shall be conducted pursuant to the requirements of the Project;*
- *renewal of the pond which is located on the Land Property (based on the results of the study from point 1) in a manner in which the excess of water and coast vegetation shall be removed, excess mud shall be removed, and if the necessary there shall be a deepening and placing of a further layer of clay;*
- *cleaning of the surrounding area, which includes mowing;*
- *enclosing part of the Land Property and setting forth a cage on part of the renewed pond (in which cage shall be the young specimen of the river turtle);*
- *other connected activities set forth in the Project Application*

*all in accordance with the Project Contract with the organizations which co-finance the Project*

#### Article 9

The Parties to the Agreement are without special consent from the Landowner entitled and obliged to conduct measures to ensure visibility and informing the public about all the enforced activities in the scope of the Project in accordance with the Project Contract with the organizations which co-finance the Project.

#### Article 10

The supervision of the enforcement of the Articles of this Agreement shall be conducted by the Public Institution for Managing Protected Natural Sites of Dubrovnik-Neretva County.

Each Party to the Agreement which causes damage by its conduct which is contrary to the Project Application or the provisions of this Agreement is liable for such damage.

#### Article 11

The Parties to the Agreement shall not disclose confidential information of other Parties to the Agreement to third parties, and shall use them only for the purpose of accomplishing goals from this Agreement. The Parties to the Agreement shall make all reasonable measures for the protection of confidential information of other Parties to the Agreement; such measures must at least ensure the level of protection and security as used for the protection of their own confidential information.



Stranka Sporazuma će odmah obavijestiti druge Stranke Sporazuma o svim otkrivenim slučajevima neovlaštenog korištenja ili otkrivanja povjerljivih informacija.

Svaka Stranka Sporazuma smije otkriti povjerljive informacije drugih Stranaka Sporazuma na temelju valjane sudske odluke ili zahtjeva nadležnog tijela. Prije toga svaka se Stranka Sporazuma obvezuje pobrinuti za osiguranje najveće moguće razine zaštite povjerljivih informacija koje se otkrivaju na temelju takve obveze.

#### **Članak 12.**

Stranka Sporazuma obvezuju se na zaštitu osobnih podataka u skladu s Uredbom (EU) 2016/679 Europskog parlamenta i Vijeća od 27. travnja 2016. o zaštiti pojedinaca u vezi s obradom osobnih podataka i o slobodnom kretanju takvih podataka te o stavljanju izvan snage Direktive 95/46/EZ (Opća uredba o zaštiti podataka), Zakonom o provedbi Opće uredbe o zaštiti podataka i drugim važećim propisima u slučaju prikupljanja i obrade podataka temeljem svojih aktivnosti te eventualnog pristupa takvim podacima koje prikupljaju i obrađuju druge Stranke Sporazuma.

#### **Članak 13.**

Ovaj Sporazum stupa na snagu danom potpisivanja, a obveze ostaju na snazi 30 godina po dovršetku Projekta.

Ukoliko jedna Stranka Sporazuma ne ispunjava svoje ugovorene obveze, odnosno ukoliko s istima kasni ili su izvršene nepotpuno, druga Stranka Sporazuma dužna je pisanim putem upozoriti tu stranu na pravilno i uredno ispunjenje obveza. U slučaju neispunjenja odnosno neurednog ispunjenja obveza u roku 30 dana nakon opomene, Sporazum se može raskinuti dostavom pisane obavijesti bez otkaznog roka.

Ukoliko temeljem predmetnog neispunjenja/nepotpunog ili neurednog ispunjenja/zakašnjenja nastane ikakva šteta, za istu štetu u potpunosti odgovara Stranka Sporazuma koja je kriva za neispunjenje/nepotpuno ili neuredno ispunjenje odnosno zakašnjenje.

The Parties to the Agreement shall promptly notify other Parties to the Agreement about all the discovered unauthorized use or disclosure of confidential information

Each Party to the Agreement may disclose confidential information of other Parties to the Agreement based on a valid court order or request from a competent authority. Prior thereof, each Party to the Agreement is obliged to secure the highest possible degree of safety of the confidential information based on such obligation.

#### **Article 12**

Parties to the Agreement are obligated to ensure protection of personal data in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation), Law on the Enforcement of the General Data Protection Regulation and other applicable regulation in case of collecting and processing data based on their activities and eventual access to such data which is collected and processed by other Parties to the Agreement.

#### **Article 13**

This Agreement is in effect from the day of its signing, and the obligations stay in effect 30 years after the end of the Project.

In case one of the Parties to the Agreement does not fulfill its contractual obligations, or if there is a delay in the fulfilment or if they are only partially fulfilled, the other Parties to the Agreement are obligated to warn that Party in regard of properly and orderly fulfilling its obligations. In case of further non-fulfilment or unorderly fulfilment for the period of 30 days after the warning, the Agreement may be terminated by delivery of written notification without any termination period.

In case there is any damage as a result of non – fulfilment/partial fulfilment or unorderly fulfilment/delay, the Party to the Agreement which is responsible for non-fulfilment/partial fulfilment or unorderly fulfilment or delay is completely liable for such damage.



#### **Članak 14.**

Sve izmjene i dopune ovog Sporazuma isključivo imaju biti u pisanom obliku.

Ako se bilo koja odredba ovog Sporazuma dokaže ništetnom, ostale odredbe ovog Sporazuma će se u cijelosti primjenjivati i izvršavati. U slučaju da se utvrdi ništetnost jedne ili više odredbi ovog Sporazuma, Stranke Sporazuma će odmah pristupiti zamjeni ništetnih odredbi drugima, vodeći pri tome računa o tome da se izmijenjenim odredbama postigne isti stupanj zadovoljenja interesa Stranaka Sporazuma, ali na način koji je dopušten.

#### **Članak 15.**

Stranke Sporazuma zaključuju ovaj Sporazum u dobroj vjeri i nastojat će sve eventualne sporove rješavati sporazumno, ako u tome ne uspiju dogovaraju nadležnost suda u Dubrovniku.

#### **Članak 16.**

Ovaj Sporazum sastavljen je u 12 (dvanaest) istovjetnih primjerka, po 2 (dva) za svaku Stranku Sporazuma.

Stranke Sporazuma izjavljuju da su pročitale ovaj Sporazum te ga u znak suglasnosti potpisuju.

#### **Article 14**

All amendments to this Agreement must be in written form

If any of the provisions of this Agreement proves to be invalid, other provisions of this Agreement shall be in full effect and be enforced. If it is established that one or more provisions of this Agreement are invalid, the Parties to the Agreement shall promptly commence to replace the invalid provisions of this Agreement with other provisions, giving in regard the fact that the replacing provisions satisfy the interest of the Parties to the Agreement as the invalid ones, but in a valid manner.

#### **Article 15**

The Parties to the Agreement conclude this Agreement in good faith and shall try to resolve any possible dispute amicably. In case of not being to resolve a dispute in such a manner, the jurisdiction of the competent court in Dubrovnik is agreed upon.

#### **Article 16**

This Agreement is drafted in 12 (two) identical copies, 2 (two) for each Party to the Agreement.

The Parties to the Agreement confirm that they have read this Agreement and that they sign it as sign of acceptance.



**JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE  
ZAŠTIĆENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE  
DUBROVAČKO-NERETVANSKE  
ŽUPANIJE**

**Ime i prezime:**

Marijana Miljas Đuračić, mag.ing.silv.

**Funkcija:** Ravnateljica

**Mjesto i datum:** DUBROVNIK, 08.11.21.

**PUBLIC INSTITUTION FOR THE  
MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED NATURAL  
AREAS OF DUBROVNIK-NERETVA COUNTY**

**Name and surname:**

Marijana Miljas Đuračić, mag.ing.silv.

**Position:** Principal

**Place and date:** DUBROVNIK, 08.11.21.

**Potpis i pečat:**



**KLASA:** G12-07/19-01/45

**URBROJ:** 2117/1-17-21-34

**Signature and seal:**



**CLASSIFICATION:** G12-07/19-01/45

**FILE CODE:** 2117/1-17-21-34

**HRVATSKE VODE**

**Ime i prezime:**

mr.sc. Zoran Đuroković, dipl.ing.građ.

**Funkcija:** Generalni direktor

**Mjesto i datum:**

**Potpis i pečat:**



HRVATSKE VODE - 374

Primljeno:	16.11.2021. 13:59:59
Klasifikacijska oznaka	Org. jed.
325-01/21-01/0000821	374-1-2/1007
Urudžbeni broj:	Prilog
380-21-2	



076924747

**HRVATSKE VODE**

**Name and surname:**

mr.sc. Zoran Đuroković, M.S.C.E.

**Position:** General Manager

**Place and date:**

**Signature and seal:**



HRVATSKE VODE - 374

Primljeno:	16.11.2021. 13:59:59
Klasifikacijska oznaka	Org. jed.
325-01/21-01/0000821	374-1-2/1007
Urudžbeni broj:	Prilog
380-21-2	



076924747

SVEUČILIŠTE U ZAGREBU  
AGRONOMSKI FAKULTET

UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB - FACULTY OF  
AGRICULTURE

Ime i prezime:  
prof.dr.sc. Ivica Kisić

Name and surname:  
prof. Ivica Kisić, PhD

Funkcija: Dekan

Position: Dean

Mjesto i datum: ZAGREB, 08.11.2021

Place and date: ZAGREB, 08.11.2021

Potpis i pečat:

Signature and seal:



KLASA: 402-01/21-01/30  
URBROJ: 251-71-28-01/1-21-1

CLASSIFICATION: 402-01/21-01/30  
FILE CODE: 251-71-28-01/1-21-1

USTANOVA ZOOLOŠKI VRT GRADA  
ZAGREBA

INSTITUTION ZOO OF THE CITY OF  
ZAGREB

Ime i prezime:  
Damir Skok, dr.vet.med.

Name and surname:  
Damir Skok, dr.vet.med.

Funkcija: Ravnatelj

Position: Principal

Mjesto i datum: Zagreb 09. 11. 2021.

Place and date: Zagreb 09. 11. 2021.

Potpis i pečat:

Signature and seal:



KLASA:

CLASSIFICATION:

URBROJ: 102-86

FILE CODE: 102-86

HRVATSKE VODE - 3/4

Primljeno:	09.11.2021. 13:47:21	
Klasifikacijska oznaka	325-01/21-01/0000822	Org. jed. 374-1-2
Urudžbeni broj:	383-21-1	Prilog



076906823

**UDRUGA HYLJA**

**Ime i prezime:**

Ivona Burić, mag.oecol.et.prot.nat.

**Funkcija:** Predsjednica udruge

**Mjesto i datum:** Zagreb, 08.11.2021

**Potpis i pečat:**

Ivona Burić 

**ASSOCIATION HYLJA**

**Name and surname:**

Ivona Burić, mag.oecol.et.prot.nat.

**Position:** President of Association

**Place and date:** Zagreb, 08.11.2021

**Signature and seal:**

Ivona Burić 

**MIHO BAROVIĆ**

**Mjesto i datum:** STON, 08.11.2021.


**Potpis i pečat:**



**MIHO BAROVIĆ**

**Place and date:** STON, 08.11.2021.

**Signature and seal:**



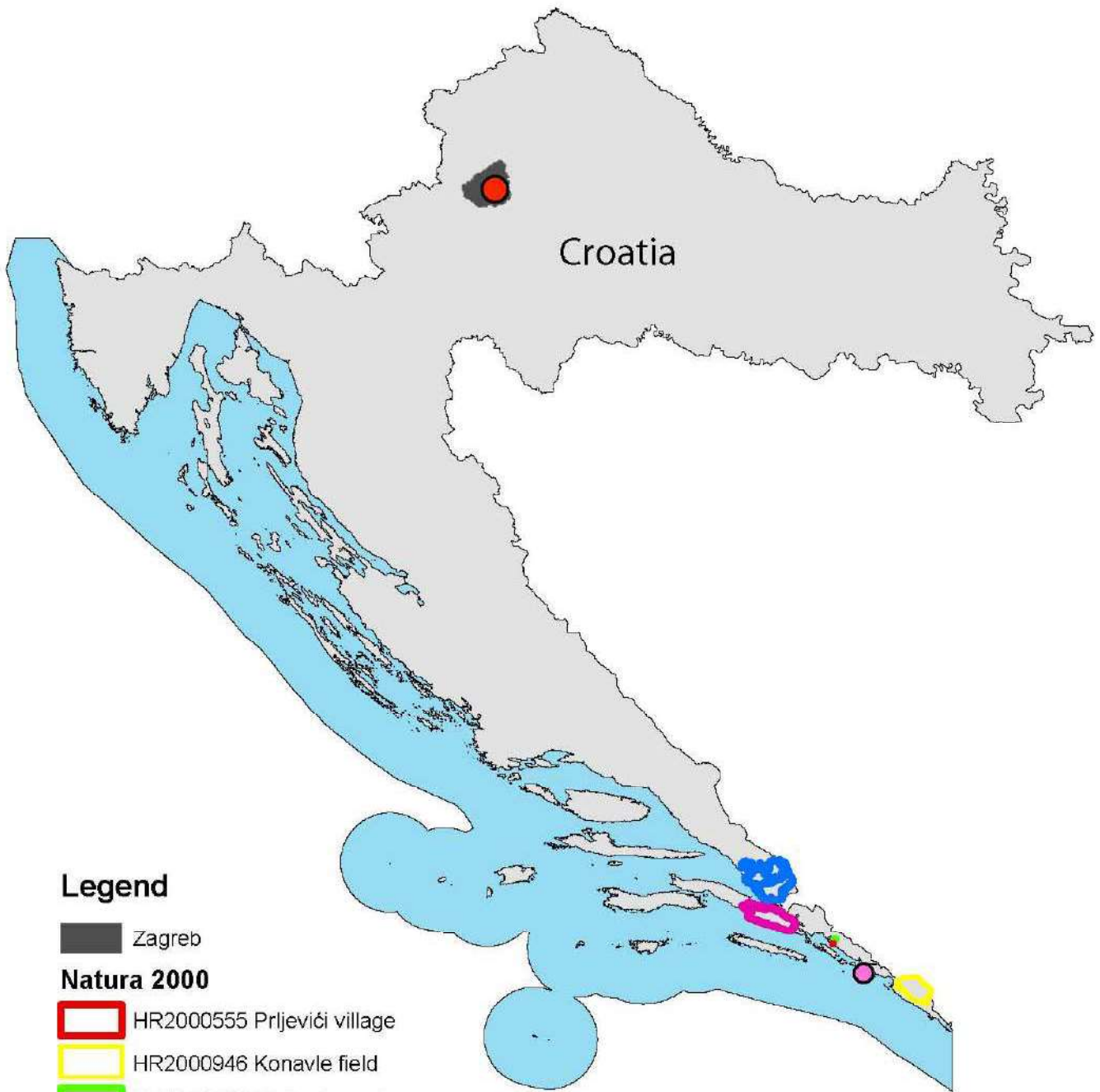




N



# Overview map of activity sites



## Legend

Zagreb

### Natura 2000

HR2000555 Prljevići village

HR2000946 Konavle field

HR2000947 Majkovi ponds

HR2001364 Ston field

HR5000031 Delta Neretve

ZOO Zagreb

T.3.2 Preparing the breeding site facility in ZOO - WP3

T.3.4 Housing the founders in Zagreb: breeding, laying of the eggs, and incubation ex-situ - WP3

T.3.5 Secure the Ston refugium pond from predators and soft release of the juveniles to Ston field - WP3

T.5.1 Monitoring of the population reinforcement - WP5

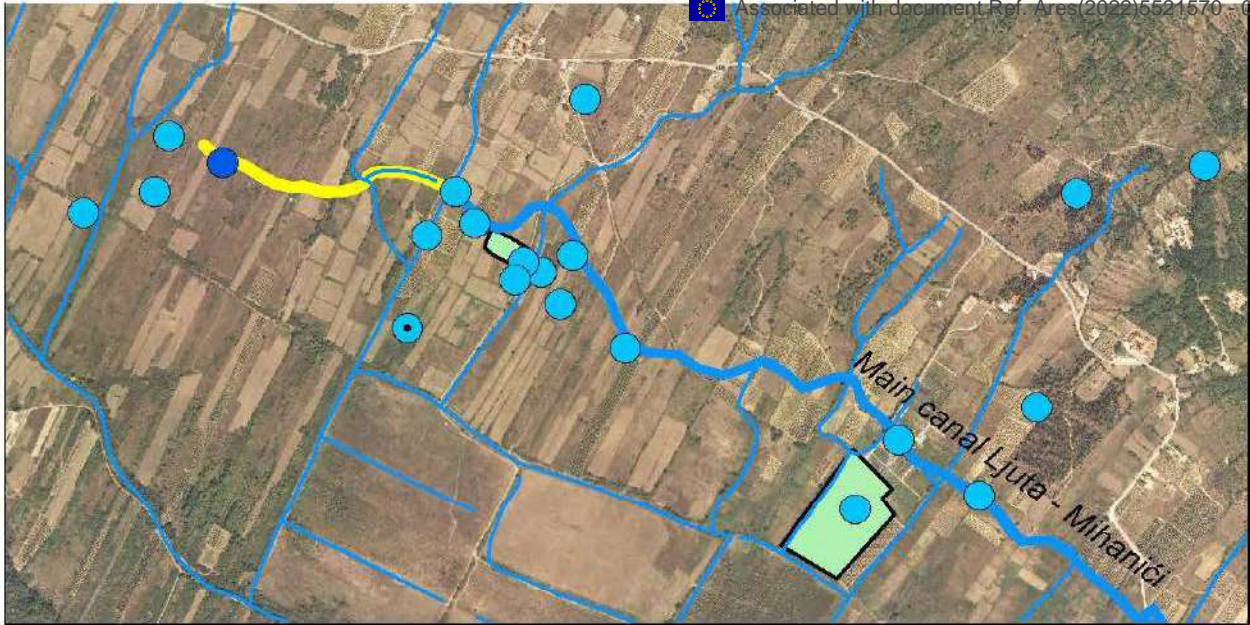
T.6.2 Educational events, programs, locations, materials - WP6

T.7.1 Volunteering - WP7

Dubrovnik - T.7.1 Volunteering - WP7

0 40 80 120 Kilometers



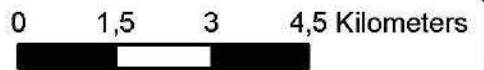


Konavle field HR2000946



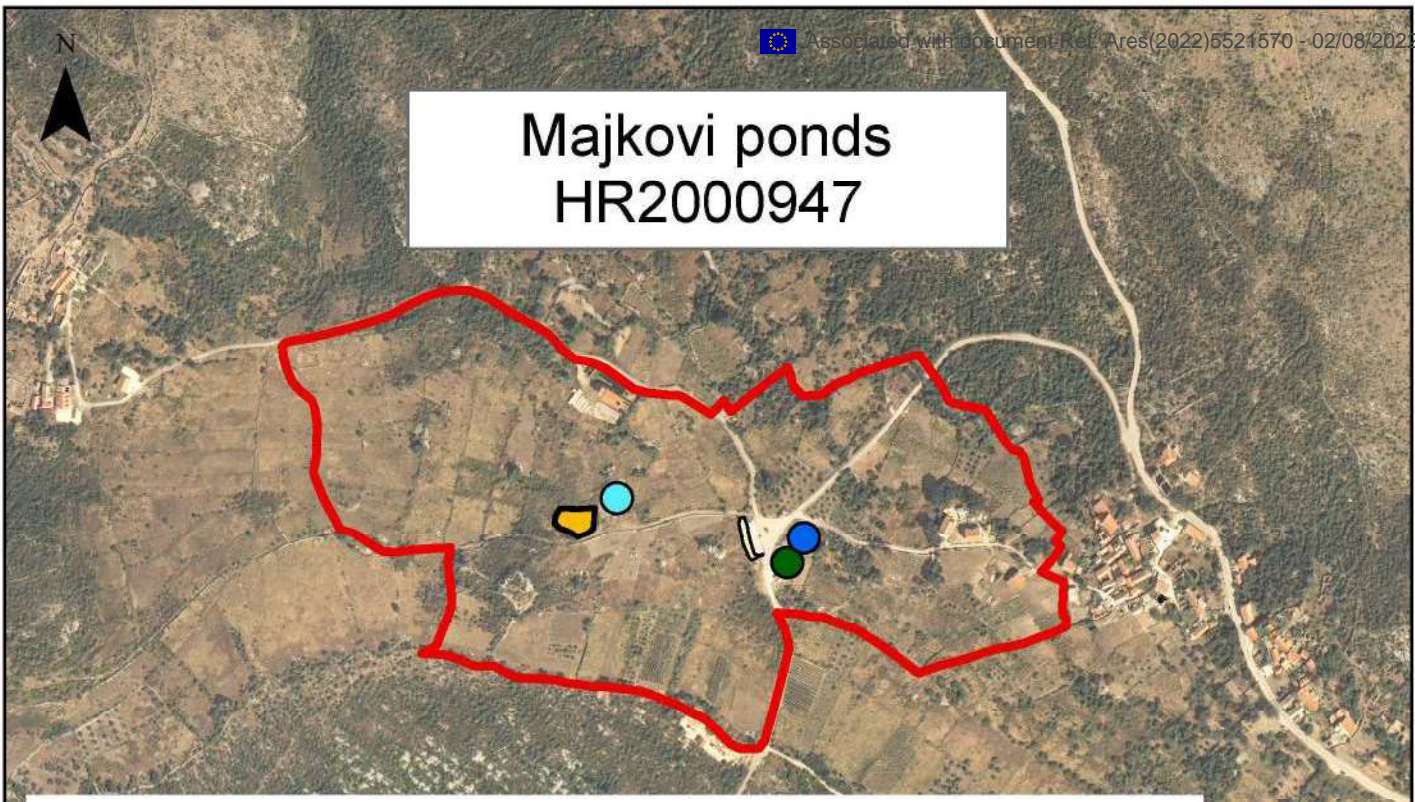
**Legend**

- T.4.2 Assess and remove IAS threats
- Konavle pond
- T.4.2 Assess and remove IAS threats - WP4
- T.5.2 Monitoring of the restored and managed water bodies - WP5
- Konavle ponds
- T.2.4 Control succession at ponds, canals and nesting sites - WP2
- T.2.5 Provide wetlands and nesting sites enhancements - WP2
- T.4.2 Assess and remove IAS threats - WP4
- T.4.3 Mitigating unsustainable fishery and patenting selective fish trap - WP4
- T.5.3 Monitoring the success of *M. rivulata* habitat interventions - WP5
- T.2.3 (Hydrogeological study of 3 ponds and) Restoration of the ponds and canals - WP2
- T.2.4 Control succession at ponds, canals and nesting sites - WP2 - only selected sites
- Konavle agricultural fields - potential activities
- T.4.1 Secure nesting sites in collaboration with the landowners - WP4
- T.5.3 Monitoring the success of *M. rivulata* habitat interventions - WP5
- Project area of influence
- HR2000946 Konavle field






# Majkovi ponds HR2000947



## Legend


 Majkovi pond church

- T.2.3 (Hydrogeological study of the 3 ponds and) Restoration of the ponds and canals - WP2
- T.2.4 Control succession at ponds, canals and nesting sites - WP2
- T.2.5 Provide wetlands and nesting sites enhancements - WP2
- T.4.2 Assess and remove IAS threats - WP4
- T.5.2 Monitoring of the restored and managed water bodies - WP5
- T.5.3 Monitoring of the success of *M. rivulata* habitat interventions - WP5
- T.7.1 Volunteering - WP7

 Majkovi pond DVD

- T.2.4 Control succession at ponds, canals and nesting sites - WP2
- T.2.5 Provide wetlands and nesting sites enhancements - WP2
- T.4.2 Assess and remove IAS threats - WP4
- T.5.2 Monitoring of the restored and managed water bodies - WP5
- T.5.3 Monitoring of the success of *M. rivulata* habitat interventions - WP5
- T.7.1 Volunteering - WP7


 Volonter/interpretation center

 Majkovi\_nesting\_sites

- T.2.4 Control succession at ponds, canals and nesting sites - WP2
- T.2.5 Provide wetlands and nesting sites enhancements - WP2
- T.5.3 Monitoring of the success of *M. rivulata* habitat interventions - WP5
- T.7.1 Volunteering - WP7

 Majkovi\_road\_Tunnel

- T.2.5 Provide wetlands and nesting sites enhancements - WP2
- T.5.3 Monitoring of the success of *M. rivulata* habitat interventions - WP5

 HR2000947 Majkovi ponds

0 90 180 270 Meters



N



# Prljevići village HR2000555




## Legend

 Prljevići pond

- T.2.3 (Hydrogeological study of the 3 ponds and) Restoration of the ponds and canals - WP2
- T.2.5 Provide wetlands and nesting enhancements - WP2
- T.4.2 Assess and remove IAS threats - WP4
- T.5.2 Monitoring of the restored and managed water bodies - WP5
- T.5.3 Monitoring of the success of *M. rivulata* habitat interventions - WP5
- T.7.1 Volunteering - WP7

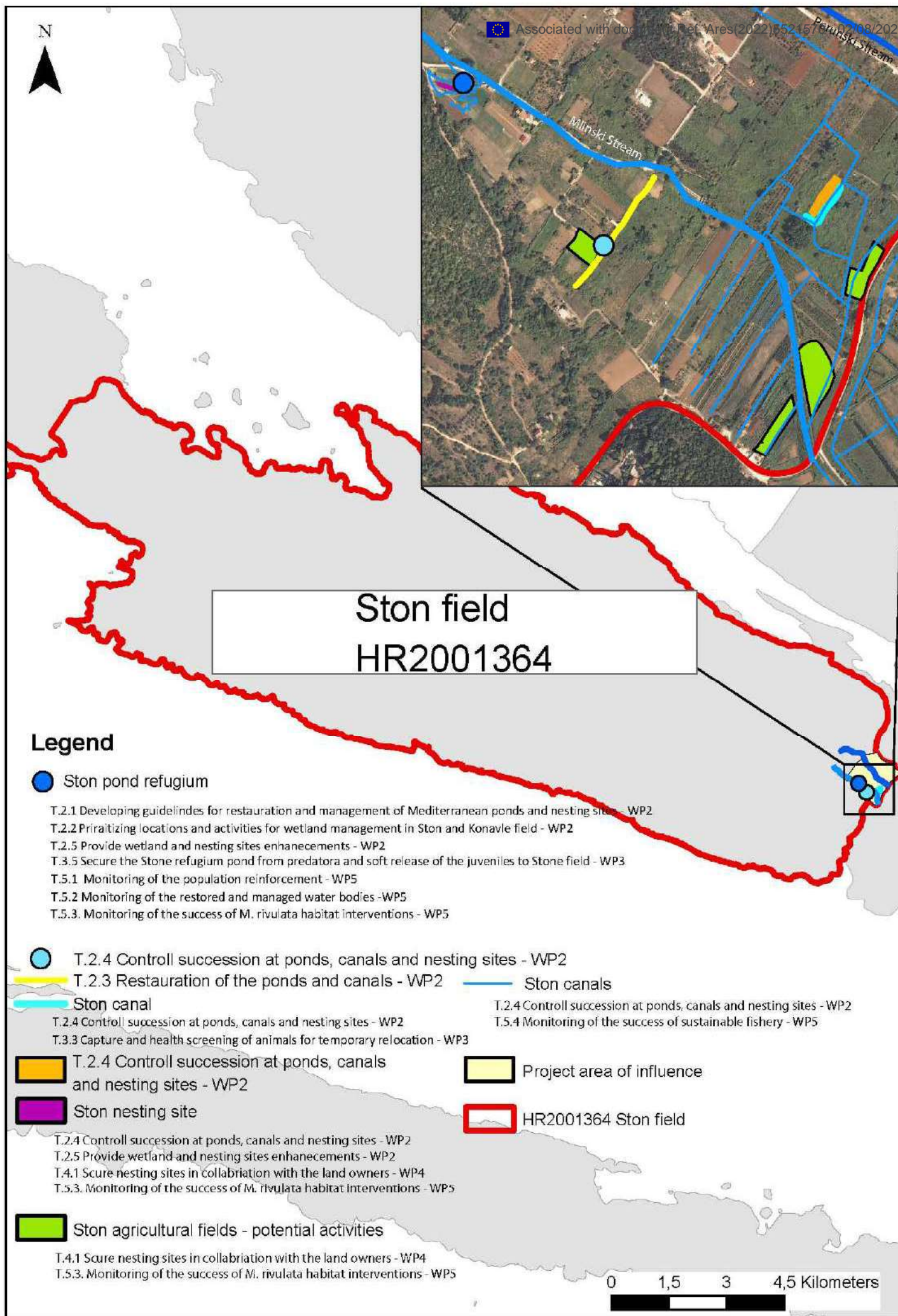
 Prljevići\_nesting\_site

- T.2.4 Control succession at ponds, canals and nesting sites - WP2
- T.2.5 Provide wetlands and nesting sites enhancements - WP2
- T.5.3 Monitoring of the success of *M. rivulata* habitat interventions - WP5

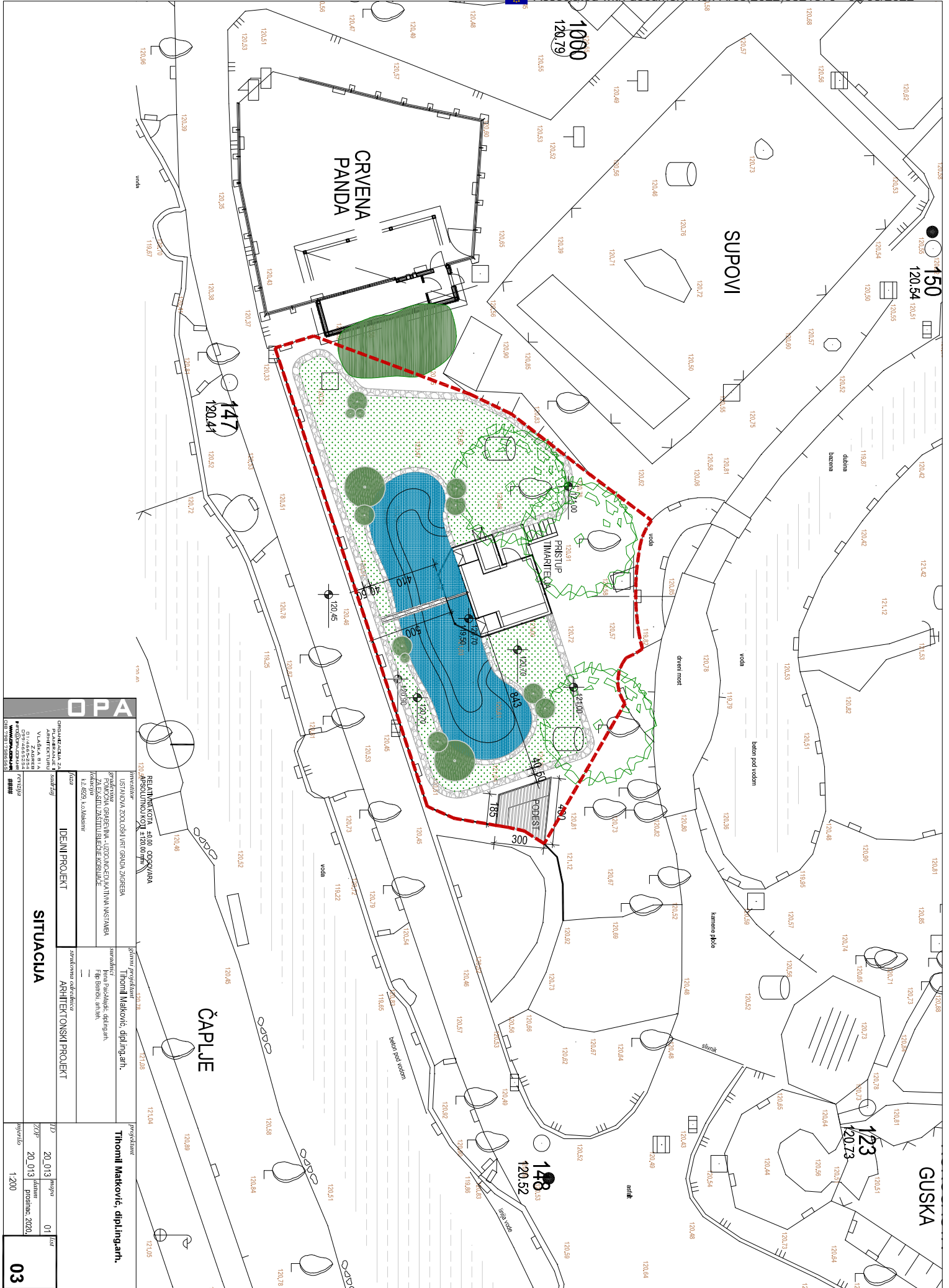
 HR2000555 Prljevići village



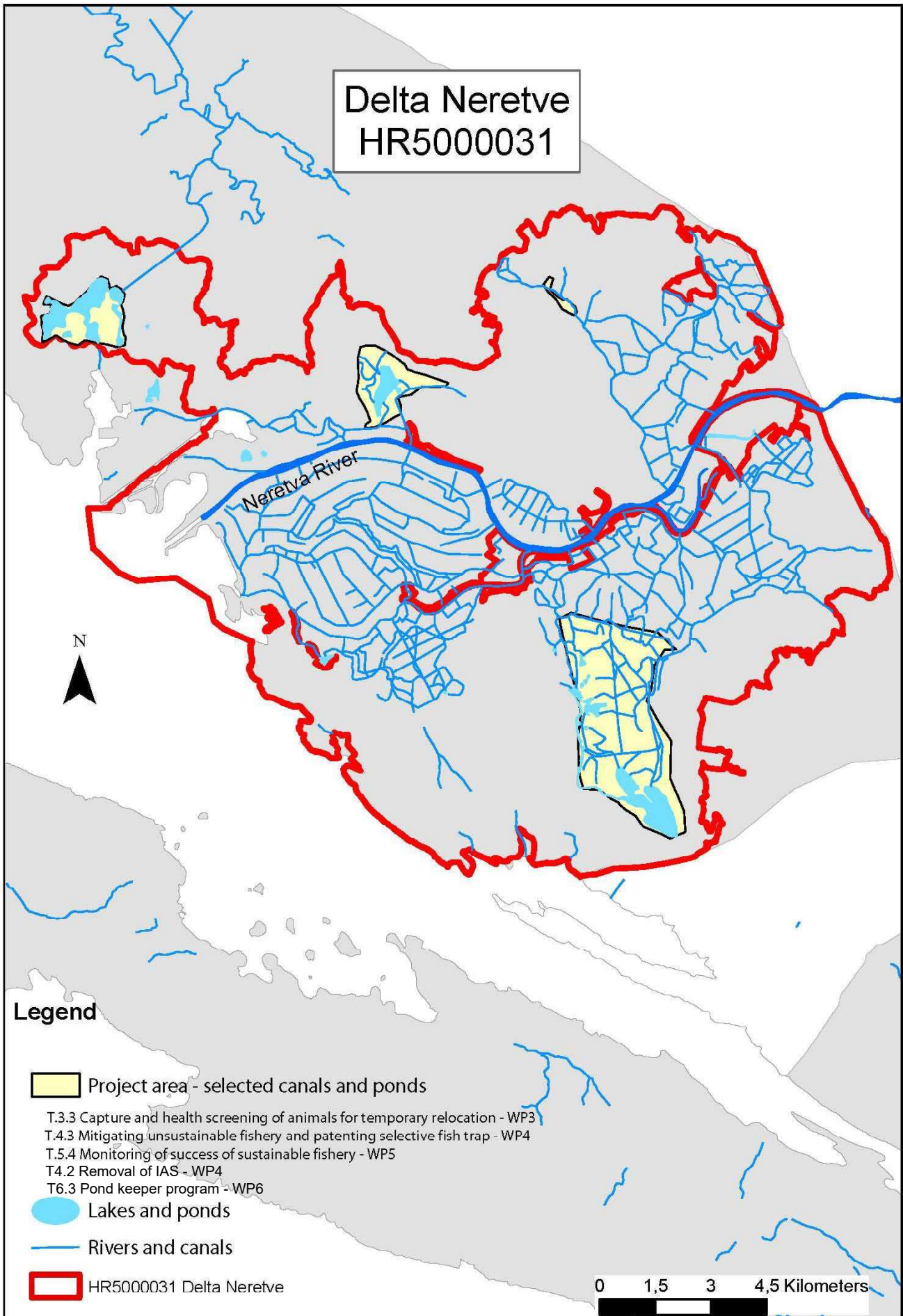








<b>OPA</b>		<b>RELATIVNA KOTA: +0,00</b> ABSOLUTNA KOTA: 120,00 (1000)	
OSNOVNA KATA PLANIRANJE I ARHITEKTURA V. Luk, Z. Štrben D. Štrben, K. Štrben BEOGRAD, 2020 OP. 178/17.2/2020.034		INVESTICija URBANIZACIJA I POSREDOVANJE K. Štrben, K. Štrben BEOGRAD, 2020 OP. 178/17.2/2020.034	
<b>IDEJNI PROJEKT</b>		<b>SITUACIJA</b>	
Ime: <b>ARHITEKTONSKI PROJEKT</b>		Ime: <b>ARHITEKTONSKI PROJEKT</b>	
Izdava: <b>Thomilj Matković, diplom. arh.</b>		Izdava: <b>Thomilj Matković, diplom. arh.</b>	
Sadržaj: <b>Priloga: detaljan plan i preseki, arh. vizuelizacija</b>		Sadržaj: <b>Priloga: detaljan plan i preseki, arh. vizuelizacija</b>	
Ime: <b>ARHITEKTONSKI PROJEKT</b>		Ime: <b>ARHITEKTONSKI PROJEKT</b>	
Datum: <b>20.01.2020.</b>		Datum: <b>20.01.2020.</b>	
Mesto: <b>BEOGRAD, PRILOG.</b>		Mesto: <b>BEOGRAD, PRILOG.</b>	
Skala: <b>1:200.</b>		Skala: <b>1:200.</b>	
Projekat: <b>120.034.</b>		Projekat: <b>120.034.</b>	
Faza: <b>IDEJNI PROJEKT.</b>		Faza: <b>IDEJNI PROJEKT.</b>	
Arhitektonski projekat: <b>ARHITEKTONSKI PROJEKT.</b>		Arhitektonski projekat: <b>ARHITEKTONSKI PROJEKT.</b>	
Inženjerski projekat: <b>ARHITEKTONSKI PROJEKT.</b>		Inženjerski projekat: <b>ARHITEKTONSKI PROJEKT.</b>	
Arhitektonski projekat: <b>ARHITEKTONSKI PROJEKT.</b>		Arhitektonski projekat: <b>ARHITEKTONSKI PROJEKT.</b>	
Inženjerski projekat: <b>ARHITEKTONSKI PROJEKT.</b>		Inženjerski projekat: <b>ARHITEKTONSKI PROJEKT.</b>	





**REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**  
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY  
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

NATURE PROTECTION DIRECTORATE

CLASS: 612-07/21-05/21  
REG.NO.: 517-10-1-22-6  
Zagreb, 6 June 2022

UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB  
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE  
attn. Ms Dragica Šalamon, PhD

SUBJECT: LIFE for *Mauremys* Project – „*Mauremys rivulata* - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in the Dubrovnik-Neretva County“

Dear Ms Šalamon,

Following your request dated 20 May 2022 and additional information provided on 25 May 2022 regarding the need for clear commitment from the competent ministry to update the SDF for HR2001364 JI dio Pelješca to include *Mauremys rivulata* before the end of the LIFE for *Mauremys* Project, below please, find our reply.

The river turtle (*Mauremys rivulata*) management plan was adopted on November 29, 2021. and forms the basis of the Life for *Mauremys* project proposal. In the long run, the goal of the management plan is primarily to achieve a favourable conservation status of this species. Taking into account that the species is endangered at the national level (EN) and that its conservation status according to the assessment of conservation status of the habitats and species targeted by the Habitats Directive for the period 2013-2018 is estimated as unfavourable - bad (U2) a clear need for effective conservation measures was recognized. This unfavourable status is, among other things, result of a significant decrease in the number of river turtle population in the area of Stonsko polje since late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Therefore, the management plan envisages a number of related activities aiming to increase the population in the Stonsko polje area. In addition to establishing an ex situ conservation program for river turtles repopulation in the Stonsko polje, the activities envisage the necessary restoration of aquatic habitats (ponds and watercourses) as well as nesting habitats, which consequently contributes to improving habitat quality for other species.

Bearing in mind the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030 and the goal set: that trends and the conservation status of habitats and species should be without deterioration, and at least 30% of them in good condition or at least showing a positive trend, foreseen activities in Stonsko polje, would contribute greatly to achieving this goal and therefore the implementation of these activities is considered crucial.

If multi-year monitoring confirms that re-population measures were successful i.e. the presence of stable population of *Mauremys rivulata* in the Natura 2000 site HR2001364 JI dio Pelješca,

Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development will, by the end of the project, amend the SDF accordingly and initiate the procedure of Amendments to the Regulation on ecological network and competencies of public institutions for ecological network management.

Sincerely yours,

DIRECTOR

Igor Kreitmeyer



LIFE PROPOSAL

Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County (LIFE for Mauremys)  
LIFE-2021-SAP-NAT, Nature & Biodiversity - Standard Action Projects (SAP)

31.05.2022

PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY

PRORAČUN	A. Personnel costs	B. Subcontracting	C. Purchase costs	C.2 Equipment	C.3 Other goods, works and services	E. Indirect costs	Total sum
	A.1 Employees	B.1 Subcontracting	C.1 Travel and subsistence	C.2 Equipment	C.3 Other goods, works and services	E. Indirect costs	
1 - FAZ	211,768	33,140	41,593	9,253	102,568	27,841	425,563
2- ZOO	147,103		27,978	14,401	273,514	32,410	495,406
3- HV	47,128		28,682	6,391	210,902	20,517	313,620
4 - HYLJA	175,824		50,983	35,674	31,500	20,579	314,560
5 - DUNEZ	288,022		21,014	51,775	181,160	37,938	582,239
<b>Total sum</b>	<b>869,245</b>	<b>33,140</b>	<b>170,250</b>	<b>117,494</b>	<b>799,644</b>	<b>139,284</b>	<b>2,131,407</b>



LIFE PROPOSAL

Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County (LIFE for Mauremys)  
LIFE-2021-SAP-NAT, Nature & Biodiversity - Standard Action Projects (SAP)

PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY

31.05.2022

PRORAČUN WP	TASK	Beneficiary	1 - FAZ	2- ZOO	3- HV	4 - HYLJA	5 - DUNEZ	Total sum
WP1	Project management and coordination	108,155	11,493	22,686	58,882	43,139		244,355
	T.1.1 Partnership agreement and project reporting	3,628						3,628
	T.1.2 Project co-ordination and meetings, administrative management	101,529	11,493	20,510	58,412	29,237		221,181
	T.1.3 Risk management and contingency planning	1,340						1,340
	T.1.4 Data management	1,658						1,658
	T.1.5 Acquiring permits and public procurement			2,176				2,176
WP2	Restoring and improving habitats	21,720	65,973	147,456	44,978	470	13,902	16,548
	T.2.1 Developing guidelines for restoration and management of Mediterranean ponds and nesting sites	8,377	5,311	1,455	23,172		30,953	69,268
	T.2.2 Prioritizing locations and activities for wetland management in Ston and Konavle field	3,918	804	6,113	11,822	167		11,822
	T.2.3 Restoration of the ponds and canals	1,837	2,287	84,185	7,415	21,094		116,818
	T.2.4 Control succession at ponds, canals and nesting sites	4,709	5,147	14,573	5,147	19,415		43,844
	T.2.5 Provide wetlands and nesting sites enhancements	2,879	57,571	41,130	8,424	63,505		173,509
WP3	Reinforcement of Ston field population	68,686	225,078		7,350		22,406	323,520
	T.3.1 Developing plans for ex-situ reproduction and Ston population reinforcement	4,125			1,632		4,725	10,482
	T.3.2 Preparing the breeding site facility in ZOO	804	30,405					31,209
	T.3.3 Capture and health screening of animals for temporary relocation	53,058	32,320		5,718			91,096
	T.3.4 Housing the founders in Zagreb: breeding, laying of the eggs, and incubation ex-situ	10,699	55,292					65,991
	T.3.5 Secure the Ston refugium pond from predators and soft release of the juveniles to Ston field		107,061					124,742
WP4	Addressing the other threats	70,838	4,015	2,551	7,356		17,681	124,742
	T.4.1 Secure nesting sites in collaboration with the landowners	34,611					48,828	133,588
	T.4.2 Assess and remove IAS threats	11,213	3,590				25,034	51,789
	T.4.3 Mitigating sustainable fishery and patenting selective fish trap	25,014	425	2,551	7,356		6,616	39,837
WP5	Monitoring and evaluation	82,927	19,046	58,515	68,045	44,164		272,697
	T.5.1 Monitoring of the population reinforcement	19,244	18,255		6,552	4,680		48,731
	T.5.2 Monitoring of the restored and managed water bodies	1,670		58,515	13,810	13,154		86,149
	T.5.3 Monitoring the success of M. rivulata habitat interventions	44,959	791		47,683	15,151		108,584
	T.5.4 Monitoring Of the success of sustainable fishery	11,850						19,669
	T.5.5 Project impact on ecosystem condition and services	6,204				3,360		9,564
WP6	Public awareness, dissemination, and networking	43,252	113,671	56,415	103,910	127,182		444,430
	T.6.1 Project visibility materials and dissemination	32,083	53,560	29,721	57,970	29,987		203,321
	T.6.2 Educational events, programs, locations and materials	7,715	56,582	16,598	39,770	81,102		201,767
	T.6.3 Networking with other LIFE and/or non-LIFE projects	3,454	3,529	10,096	6,170	16,093		39,342
WP7	Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results	2,144	23,720	5,480	3,460	123,468		158,272
	T.7.1 Volunteering		9,513			101,068		110,581
	T.7.2 Private land conservation agreements and new actions	804						804
	T.7.3 Impacting other Mauremys Mediterranean habitats	1,340	14,207	5,480	3,460	22,400		46,887
Z - Indirect Cost		27,841	32,410	20,517	20,579	37,938		139,284
	Indirect Cost	27,841	32,410	20,517	20,579	37,938		139,284
<b>Total sum</b>		<b>425,563</b>	<b>495,406</b>	<b>313,620</b>	<b>314,560</b>	<b>582,259</b>		<b>2,131,407</b>

LIFE PROPOSAL

Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County (LIFE for Mauremys)  
 LIFE-2021-SAP-NAT, Nature & Biodiversity - Standard Action Projects (SAP)

31.05.2022

Project budget	PARTNERS	1 - FAZ	3 - HV	4 - HVI A	2 - ZOO	Total sum
<b>WP1 Project management and coordination</b>	<b>5 - DUNEZ</b>	<b>108,155</b>	<b>22,666</b>	<b>58,882</b>	<b>11,493</b>	<b>244,355</b>
T.1.1 Partnership agreement and project spending		3,628				3,628
A.1 Employees						
FAZ Project Coordinator		1,608				1,608
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
Asst - service of asst		2,020				2,020
T.1.2 Project co-ordination and meetings, administrative management		29,237	20,510	58,412	11,493	221,181
A.1 Employees						
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2		5,880				5,880
DUNEZ Project Coordinator		12,831				12,831
FAZ Project Administrator		92,880				92,880
FAZ Project Coordinator		1,340				1,340
HV Expert 1			3,560			3,560
HV Expert 2			2,930			2,930
HV Project Coordinator			4,440			4,440
HVI A Administrator				14,104		14,104
HVI A Assistant in Monitoring and Education				4,884		4,884
HVI A Educator				688		688
HVI A Project coordinator				19,834		19,834
HVI A Senior Expert				4,744		4,744
ZOO Expert - Conservation and Reptiles					1,921	1,921
ZOO Project Coordinator and Visibility					4,624	4,624
C.1 Travel and subsistence						
1 person participating in DU project meetings: Plane 120EUR, PerDiems: 80,97 EUR, Accommodation: 80,97 EUR, Transport: 100,00 EUR, Toll: 10,00 EUR, Taxi: 10,00 EUR, Total: 272,94 EUR, PerDiems: 644, Accommodation: 844 EUR		846		3,284		3,284
2 persons participating in kick off meeting for 2 days in Dubrovnik, Plane ticket: 332 EUR, PerDiems: 107, Accommodation: 266 EUR			705			705
2 persons participating in kick off meeting for 3 days in Dubrovnik, Travel 430 EUR, Toll: 69 EUR, PerDiems: 161,94, Accommodation: 161,94 EUR		823		874		874
2 persons participating in kick off meeting for 3 days in Dubrovnik, Travel expenses 430, Toll: 69 EUR, PerDiems: 215, Accommodation: 161 EUR					874	874
3 persons participating in 4 project coordination meeting, Gas: 1340 EUR, Toll: 252 EUR, PerDiems: 956 EUR, Accommodation: 2400 EUR			2,454			2,454
5 persons participating in 4 coordinating meetings: Gas: 317 EUR, Toll: 60 EUR, PerDiems: 959, Accommodation: 1118 EUR		5,889				5,889
Project meetings						
C.2 Equipment						
2 Chairs, 2 PCs with OS and office applications for two new project assistants		2,612				2,612
1800 ml of water for the project coordinator, administrator and field team		2,600				2,600
3 mobile phone for the project coordinator, administrator and field team		1,453				1,453
transportable laptops, gps, robust film camera and similar field equipment			6,391			6,391
2 sets of laptop computer with a docking station (1,450 Euros), GPS device (800 Euros), camera and parts (945,50 Euros)						
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
Office consumables - yearly expendable office supplies: maps, folders, notebooks, printing (paper...)		1,587				1,587
Organization of the coordination meeting (catering and conference room rent)		2,025				2,025
T.1.3 Risk management and contingency planning						
A.1 Employees						
FAZ Project Coordinator		1,340				1,340
T.1.4 Data management						
A.1 Employees						
FAZ Project Coordinator		1,340				1,340
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
Storage licence - Dropbox yearly licence		318				318
T.1.5 Acquiring permits and public procurement						
A.1 Employees						
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1		13,902				13,902
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2		5,880				5,880
DUNEZ Project Coordinator		5,880				5,880
HVI A Project coordinator		455				455
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
Public procurement announcements in official bulletin			2,176			2,176
Public procurement announcements and tendering documentation - offer received		1,687				1,687
technical support in public procurement procedures and tendering documentation						
<b>WP2 Restoring and improving habitats</b>		<b>135,134</b>	<b>21,720</b>	<b>147,456</b>	<b>44,978</b>	<b>415,261</b>
T.2.1 Developing guidelines for restoration and management of Mediterranean ponds and nesting sites		30,953	8,377	1,455	5,311	69,268
A.1 Employees						
DUNEZ Expert 1		2,730				2,730
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1		6,220				6,220
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2		6,720				6,720
DUNEZ Project Coordinator		3,987				3,987
FAZ Expert - Regenerative Agriculture		2,814				2,814
FAZ Project Coordinator		3,350				3,350
HVI A Assistant in Monitoring and Education				9,176		9,176
HVI A Project coordinator				10,716		10,716
ZOO Animal Keeper					765	765
ZOO Expert - Conservation and Reptiles					2,938	2,938
C.1 Travel and subsistence						
1 person travelling to workshop on wetland Guidelines for 3 days = A1.1 - in Dubrovnik: Plane 120EUR, PerDiems: 80,97 EUR, Accommodation: 80,97 EUR						
1 person travelling to 3 meetings on guidelines in Dubrovnik for 4 days: Gas: 335 EUR, Toll: 63 EUR, PerDiems: 106 EUR, Accommodation: 300 EUR		282				282
1 person travelling to workshop on Dubrovnik for 4 days: Gas: 335 EUR, Toll: 63 EUR, PerDiems: 106 EUR, Accommodation: 300 EUR						
2 persons participating in workshop on nesting sites Guidelines-A1.3 - for 3 days in Dubrovnik: Plane 240, PerDiems: 161,94 EUR, Accommodation: 161,94 EUR		1,692				1,692
2 persons participating in workshop on nesting sites Guidelines for 3 days in Dubrovnik, Gas: 1289 EUR, Toll: 206 EUR, PerDiems: 483 EUR, Accommodation: 483 EUR				2,460		2,460
2 persons participating in workshop on wetland Guidelines for 3 days in Dubrovnik, Gas: 430 EUR, Toll: 69 EUR, PerDiems: 161 EUR, Accommodation: 161 EUR				820		820
3 persons participating in workshop on Guidelines for 3 days in Dubrovnik, Gas: 317 EUR, Toll: 60 EUR, PerDiems: 240, Accommodation: 639 EUR				1,455		1,455
5 persons participating in 1 day workshop on Guidelines in Zadar (3 days), Gas: both direction 470 km) 337 EUR, Toll: 63 EUR, PerDiems: 70 km) 337 EUR, PerDiems: 70 km) 337 EUR, Accommodation: 404 EUR, Accommodation (5 people x 2 nights): 675 EUR		1,480				1,480
5 persons participating in 3 meetings (community meetings) on Guidelines in 2 x Ston (both direction 120 km) and 1 x Makovci (both direction 70 km), Gas: 69 EUR, PerDiems: 15 people x 3 days): 405 EUR		474				474
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
organization of the workshops (catering and conference room rent) for 5 meetings and workshops (1619 EUR per meeting)		8,097				8,097

PARTNER	5 - DUNEZ	1 - FAZ	3- HV	4 - HYL A	2- ZOO	Total sum
Other cost - consumables		50				50
<b>T.2.2 Prioritizing locations and activities for wetland management in Ston and Konavle field</b>		<b>167</b>	<b>3,918</b>	<b>6,113</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>11,822</b>
A.1 Employees		3,350				3,350
FAZ Project Coordinator			1,513			1,513
HV Expert 1			1,238			1,238
HV Expert 2			1,887			1,887
C.1 Travel and subsistence		282				282
1 person participating in workshop on wetland Guidelines for 3 days in Dubrovnik. A1.2 - Plane 120 EUR; PerDiems: 80,97 EUR; Accommodation: 80,97 EUR					804	804
1 person traveling to meeting on prioritizing locations in Dubrovnik for 4 days. Gas: 335 EUR; Toll: 63 EUR; PerDiems: 106 EUR; Accommodation: 300 EUR					820	820
2 persons participating in meeting on prioritizing locations and activities for 3 days in Dubrovnik. Gas: 430 EUR; Toll: 69 EUR; PerDiems: 161 EUR; Accommodation: 161 EUR					1,455	1,455
3 persons participating in meeting on prioritizing locations and activities for 3 days in Dubrovnik. Gas: 317 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PerDiems: 240 EUR; Accommodation: 839 EUR		167				167
5 persons participating in 1 day meeting on Prioritizing locations in Ston. Gas (both direction 120 km): 32 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 1 day): 135 EUR			285			285
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
Consumables for the 2-days working meeting (workshop food for 15 people, coffee break + lunch sandwich)		21,094	1,837	84,185	7,415	116,816
<b>T.2.3 Restoration of the ponds and canals</b>						
A.1 Employees		5,915				5,915
DUNEZ Expert 1		3,185				3,185
DUNEZ Expert 2		2,940				2,940
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1		2,940				2,940
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2		2,940				2,940
DUNEZ Project Coordinator		5,642				5,642
FAZ Project Coordinator		1,340				1,340
HV Expert 1			1,869			1,869
HV Expert 2			1,554			1,554
HV Project Coordinator			2,331			2,331
Monitoring and Education			1,850			1,850
HVLA Project coordinator			1,880			1,880
ZOO Animal Keeper			340			340
ZOO Expert - Conservation and Reptiles			339			339
C.1 Travel and subsistence		215				215
1 person participating in hydrogeological study for 2 days in Dubrovnik - C1.1 - Plane 120 EUR; PerDiems: 53,88 EUR; Accommodation: 41 EUR					282	282
1 person participating in the restoration of the ponds for 3 days in Dubrovnik - C1.2 - Plane 120 EUR; PerDiems: 80,97 EUR; Accommodation: 80,97 EUR					1,608	1,608
1 person traveling for restoration activities for 4 days. Gas: 335 EUR; Toll: 63 EUR; PerDiems: 106 EUR; Accommodation: 300 EUR					2,895	2,895
2 person participating in the restoration of the ponds for 12 days in Dubrovnik. Gas: 1288 EUR; Toll: 206 EUR; PerDiems: 844 EUR; Accommodation: 725 EUR			2,533			2,533
2 person participating in the restoration of the ponds for 6 days. Gas: 317 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PerDiems: 240 EUR; Accommodation: 161 EUR					820	820
4 persons participating in hydrogeological study for 3 days in Dubrovnik. Gas: 430 EUR; Toll: 69 EUR; PerDiems: 161 EUR; Accommodation: 161 EUR		154				154
4 persons participating in hydrogeological study for 3 days in Dubrovnik. Gas: 430 EUR; Toll: 69 EUR; PerDiems: 161 EUR; Accommodation: 161 EUR					964	964
4 persons participating in hydrogeological study for 3 days in Dubrovnik. Gas: 430 EUR; Toll: 69 EUR; PerDiems: 161 EUR; Accommodation: 161 EUR					964	964
site visits for restoration of the ponds 5 persons for 2 days to Makovi. Piljevici and Ston (both direction 120 km). Gas: 48 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 1 day): 135 EUR		318				318
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
Hydrogeological study for 3 locations						
The price is for one study and is estimated considering offers for similar studies procured by Hrvatske vode as a part of last years procurement plan			7,989			7,989
Pond restoration - 3 locations - works						
The price of work is estimated by a civil engineer working for Hrvatske vode who is the territorial authority.			67,909			67,909
<b>T.2.4 Control succession at ponds, canals and nesting sites</b>		<b>19,415</b>	<b>4,709</b>	<b>14,573</b>	<b>5,147</b>	<b>43,844</b>
A.1 Employees		5,005				5,005
DUNEZ Expert 1		3,185				3,185
DUNEZ Expert 2		2,940				2,940
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1		2,940				2,940
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2		2,940				2,940
DUNEZ Project Coordinator		4,004				4,004
FAZ Expert - Regenerative Agriculture			1,742			1,742
FAZ Project Coordinator			2,144			2,144
HV Expert 1			801			801
HV Expert 2			696			696
HV Project Coordinator			999			999
Monitoring and Education			296			296
HVLA Project coordinator			2,650			2,650
ZOO Animal Keeper			1,318			1,318
HVLA Project coordinator			1,318			1,318
C.1 Travel and subsistence		823				823
2 persons participating in maintaining the succession at nesting sites for 3 days. Travel: 430 EUR; PerDiems: 161,94; Accommodation: 161,94 EUR					955	955
2 persons participating in maintaining the succession at nesting sites for 4 days. Gas: 430 EUR; Toll: 69 EUR; PerDiems: 215; Accommodation: 242 EUR					1,455	1,455
3 persons participating in maintaining the succession at ponds for 3 days. Gas: 316 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PerDiems: 240 EUR; Accommodation: 839 EUR		1,341				1,341
5 persons participating in control of succession on nesting sites in Makovi, Piljevici and Ston for 8 days. Gas (8x 120 km): 261 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 8 days): 1080 EUR						
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
Succession control in Konavle field and Ston locations - works						
The price of work is estimated by a civil engineer working for Hrvatske vode who is the territorial authority.			10,652			10,652
<b>T.2.5 Provide wetlands and nesting sites enhancements</b>		<b>63,905</b>	<b>2,879</b>	<b>41,130</b>	<b>8,424</b>	<b>113,509</b>
A.1 Employees		5,278				5,278
DUNEZ Expert 1		3,185				3,185
DUNEZ Expert 2		2,940				2,940
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1		2,940				2,940
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2		2,940				2,940
DUNEZ Project Coordinator		5,399				5,399
FAZ Project Coordinator		1,876				1,876
HV Expert 1			1,632			1,632
HV Expert 2			1,332			1,332
HV Project Coordinator			1,998			1,998
Monitoring and Education			4,070			4,070
HVLA Project coordinator			2,444			2,444
ZOO Animal Keeper			1,700			1,700
ZOO Expert - Conservation and Reptiles			4,407			4,407
C.1 Travel and subsistence		661				661
1 person traveling for securing nesting sites for 3 days. Travel: 430 EUR; Toll: 69 EUR; PerDiems: 80,97 EUR; Accommodation: 80,97 EUR					282	282
1 person traveling for securing nesting sites in Piljevici and pond in Makovi for 3 days. C2.1 - Plane 120 EUR; PerDiems: 80,97 EUR; Accommodation: 80,97 EUR					955	955
2 person traveling for securing nesting sites in Piljevici and pond in Makovi for 4 days. Gas: 430 EUR; Toll: 69 EUR; PerDiems: 215 EUR; Accommodation: 242 EUR					1,464	1,464
2 persons participating in securing nesting sites for 3 days. Gas: 317 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PerDiems: 240 EUR; Accommodation: 839 EUR					955	955
3 persons securing Ston reproduction center and Piljevici nesting site for 3 days. Gas: 317 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PerDiems: 240 EUR; Accommodation: 839 EUR					2,910	2,910
5 persons for 1 day participating in securing Ston reproduction center. Gas (return 120 km): 32 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 1 day): 135 EUR		167				167
5 persons participating for 1 day in providing basking in Ston, Makovi, Piljevici and Konavle. Gas: 50 EUR; Per Diems: 185 EUR		185				185
5 persons participating in securing nesting in Piljevici and pond in Makovi for 1 day. Gas (return: 70 km): 20 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 1 day): 135 EUR		155				155
C.3 Other goods, works and services						

PARTNER	5 - DUNEZ	1 - FAZ	3- HV	4 - HVLA	2- ZOO	Total sum
Adjustment of the existing tunnel exit in Majkovi - works The price of work is estimated by a civil engineer working for Hrvatske vode who is the territorial authority.			33,288			33,288
Fences, nets - cost estimate	18,893					18,893
Nesting site "kaluziliste" works - cost estimate	4,049					4,049
Nesting sites equipment - offers received	2,024					2,024
on site cage construction works (cage covers 40m2 with fences of 2m)		60				60
Other cost - consumables					12,000	12,000
specialists and technical support for application - estimate based on the market prices	3,200					3,200
sun deck, salt ramps transport - estimations - offers received	15,000					15,000
sun deck, salt ramps works - cost estimate						
<b>WP3 Reinforcement of Ston field population</b>	<b>22,406</b>	<b>68,686</b>		<b>7,350</b>	<b>225,078</b>	<b>333,520</b>
<b>T.3.1 Developing plans for ex-situ reproduction and Ston population reinforcement</b>	<b>4,725</b>	<b>4,125</b>		<b>1,632</b>		<b>10,482</b>
A.1 Employees						
DUNEZ Expert 1	910					910
DUNEZ Expert 2	455					455
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	1,680					1,680
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	1,680					1,680
FAZ Project Coordinator		3,886				3,886
Assistant in Monitoring and Education					272	272
HVLA Assistant in Monitoring and Education					1,410	1,410
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
Consumables costs for 1 day meeting in ZG		189				189
workshop food for 15 people: coffe breaks + lunch sandwich		50				50
Other cost - consumables						
<b>T.3.2 Preparing the breeding site facility in ZOO</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>804</b>			<b>30,405</b>	<b>31,209</b>
A.1 Employees						
FAZ Project Coordinator		804				804
ZOO Animal Keeper					2,295	2,295
ZOO Project Coordinator and Reptiles					2,471	2,471
ZOO Project Coordinator and Vivacity					1,445	1,445
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
architectural planning - based on the received offer					15,600	15,600
construction supervision (5% of the investment for construction works)					5,353	5,353
municipal contribution for the new construction					3,000	3,000
<b>T.3.3 Capture and health screening of animals for temporary relocation</b>	<b>53,056</b>	<b>5,718</b>		<b>32,320</b>		<b>91,096</b>
A.1 Employees						
FAZ Expert - Fishery	5,790					5,790
Project Coordinator Fish Hazard	6,980					6,980
FAZ Project Coordinator	5,888					5,888
HVLA Assistant in Monitoring and Education		814				814
HVLA Project coordinator					2,726	2,726
C.1 Travel and subsistence						
1 person travelling for capture and temporary relocation of turtles for 3 days- C5.1 - Plane 120 EUR, PerDiems 60,97 EUR, Accommodation 60,97 EUR		282				282
2 person travelling for 2 times for capture and temporary relocation for 4 days. Gas 670 EUR, Toll 126 EUR, PerDiems 424 EUR, Accommodation 1200 EUR					2,420	2,420
3 person travelling for capture and temporary relocation of turtles for 10 days. Gas 859 EUR, Toll 137 EUR, PerDiems 437 EUR, Accommodation 644 EUR					2,178	2,178
3 persons travelling for IAS fish pathogen for 12 days, 430 EUR travel, Toll 89 EUR, PerDiems 971,86 EUR, Accommodation 1936,03 EUR					11,228	11,228
C.2 Other goods, works and services						
capture traps for 15 sampling assays for IAS pathogens		3,138				3,138
capture traps for 25 location samples for potential founders						
eDNA analysis for 25 location samples for potential founders						
Fish biohazard - other costs		10,500				10,500
Fish biohazard field and sampling consumables		2,024				2,024
External service for fishing equipment service (electro-aggregate)		5,600				5,600
Health lab consumables - yearly budget for expendables for curation and storing of biomaterial of ecto and endo pathogens and symbiotes		1,000				1,000
IAS health screening (16 individuals x 200,00 EUR)		2,178				2,178
preventive screening of pathogens (founders) - 8 individuals at the beginning and at the end of the project (16 x 500,00 EUR)					3,200	3,200
yearly health screening of 40 juveniles before transport to Ston (40 x 275,00 EUR)					8,000	8,000
yearly screening of naive population pathogens, development of the sampling protocol (2,000,00 EUR), sampling on the field and screening of the additional individuals (1,200,00 EUR) for comprehensive insight					11,000	11,000
yearly treatment of acropurpure animals - cost estimate					3,200	3,200
<b>T.3.4 Housing the founders in Zagreb: breeding, laying of the eggs, and incubation ex-situ</b>	<b>10,699</b>	<b>10,699</b>			<b>55,292</b>	<b>65,991</b>
A.1 Employees						
FAZ Expert - Fishery Monitoring	2,184					2,184
FAZ Project Coordinator	2,010					2,010
ZOO Animal Keeper					26,435	26,435
ZOO Expert - Conservation and Reptiles					12,656	12,656
C.2 Equipment						
2 incubators (like Grumbach BSR 160 8100 C1D7) x 4,327,00 EUR					8,654	8,654
boxes, aquariums and equipment (filtration, heating, UVB lighting, camera, pipes, sanitary material)						
water filter (1 X 1000 EUR)						
plastic tub 120x100 (3 X 168 EUR = 584 EUR)						
Twin controller (5 X 53 EUR = 265 EUR)						
heater Eheim Jaseer 150W (7 X 27 EUR = 189 EUR)						
titanium heater 300W (3 X 32 EUR = 96 EUR)						
powerhead Eheim compact ON 600 (6 X 75 EUR = 450 EUR)						
JBL CristalProfi 200 (6 X 31 EUR = 186 EUR)						
PVC (1 X 130 EUR = 130 EUR)						
Pro 15 SAW (14 X 47 EUR = 658 EUR)						
LR 150V (8 X 72 EUR = 576 EUR)						
camera (1 X 680 EUR = 680 EUR)						
shiff 130x50x170 / 4 (2 X 140 EUR = 280 EUR)						
stainless steel sink (1 X 387 EUR = 387 EUR)						
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
building running costs (electricity, food for animals, supplements) - cost estimate					5,747	5,747
Genetic and health screening founders - sequencing cost for maurvenys pöbgen genetics samples					1,800	1,800
Genetic lab consumables - yearly budget for genetics founder sampling expendables and sample curation					6,100	6,100
<b>T.3.5 Secure the Ston refugium pond from predators and soft release of the juveniles to Ston field</b>	<b>17,881</b>				<b>107,061</b>	<b>124,742</b>
A.1 Employees						
DUNEZ Expert 1	5,460					5,460
DUNEZ Expert 2	3,185					3,185
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	2,940					2,940
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	2,940					2,940

	5 - DUNEZ	1 - FAZ	3- HV	4 - HYLIA	2- ZOO	Total sum
<b>PARTNER</b>						
DUNEZ Project Coordinator	2,821					2,821
C.1 Travel and subsistence						
5 persons participating in temporary relocation for 2 days in Ston Gas (2 x return 120 km): 69 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 2 days): 270 EUR	335					335
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
construction works - architect's cost estimate					107,061	107,061
<b>WP4 Addressing the other threats</b>	<b>48,928</b>	<b>70,838</b>	<b>2,551</b>	<b>7,356</b>	<b>4,015</b>	<b>133,568</b>
<b>T.4.1 Secure nesting sites in collaboration with the landowners</b>	<b>17,178</b>	<b>34,811</b>				<b>51,989</b>
A.1 Employees						
DUNEZ Expert 1	6,188					6,188
DUNEZ Expert 2	7,000					7,000
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	1,638					1,638
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	2,856					2,856
DUNEZ Project Coordinator	2,856					2,856
FAZ Expert - Regenerative Agriculture	3,640					3,640
FAZ Project Coordinator	6,968					6,968
FAZ Project Coordinator	2,680					2,680
C.1 Travel and subsistence						
2 persons participating in sustainable agriculture in Dubrovnik-3days: Travel 430 EUR; PerDiems 161,94; Accommodation 161,94 EUR	2,469					2,469
C.2 Equipment						
laptop + working station laptop for data analysis						
2 persons participating in growth monitoring after reintroduction for 10 days, Gas 656 EUR; PerDiems 108 EUR; Accommodation 1268 EUR	2,600					2,600
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
Nematodes for field + gardening materials	4,503					4,503
Other cost - consumables	100					100
B.1 Subcontracting						
Regenerative agriculture advisory - regenerative agriculture HUB services for the landowners	15,291					15,291
<b>T.4.2 Assess and remove IAS threats</b>	<b>25,034</b>	<b>11,213</b>			<b>3,590</b>	<b>39,837</b>
A.1 Employees						
DUNEZ Expert 1	8,180					8,180
DUNEZ Expert 2	9,000					9,000
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	2,268					2,268
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	2,268					2,268
DUNEZ Project Coordinator	3,183					3,183
FAZ Expert - Fishery	4,825					4,825
FAZ Expert - Fishery Biohazard	3,750					3,750
FAZ Expert - Fishery Monitoring	2,275					2,275
ZOO Animal Keeper	765					765
ZOO Expert - Conservation and Reptiles	1,017					1,017
C.1 Travel and subsistence						
1 person travelling 2 times for removing invasive terrapins for 2 days: Gas 670 EUR; Toll 126 EUR; PerDiems 212 EUR; Accommodation 800 EUR	1,808					1,808
C.2 Equipment						
photo bags, traps (offers received)	5,938					5,938
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
IAS field trip consumables - readily expendables for IAS removal (plastic containers, expendable fishing gear)	363					363
<b>T.4.3 Mitigating sustainable fishery and patenting selective fish trap</b>	<b>6,616</b>	<b>25,014</b>	<b>2,551</b>	<b>7,356</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>41,962</b>
A.1 Employees						
DUNEZ Expert 1	910					910
DUNEZ Expert 2	910					910
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	840					840
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	840					840
FAZ Expert - Project Coordinator	1,692					1,692
FAZ Expert - Fishery Biohazard	5,018					5,018
FAZ Expert - Fishery Monitoring	4,050					4,050
FAZ Project Coordinator	1,820					1,820
HV Expert 1	1,340					1,340
HV Expert 2	356					356
HV Project Coordinator	296					296
HYLIA Assistant in Monitoring and Education	444					444
HYLIA Project coordinator	1,409					1,409
ZOO Animal Keeper	5,076					5,076
ZOO Expert - Conservation and Reptiles	425					425
C.1 Travel and subsistence						
2 persons participating in sector workshop: 3 days: Gas 430 EUR; Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems 215 eur; Accommodation 161 EUR	874					874
3 persons participating in sector workshop: 3 days: Gas: 317 EUR; Toll: 80 EUR; PerDiems: 240 EUR; Accommodation: 639 EUR	1,455					1,455
3 persons Patent and prototype of selective fyke net: 12 days: Travel 430 EUR; PerDiems 974,68 eur; Accommodation 1336,03 EUR	2,807					2,807
4 persons participating in sector workshop 3 days: Travel 430 EUR; Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems 323,88 eur; Accommodation 323,89 EUR	1,147					1,147
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
Organization of the workshops (catering and WIS room rent) for sector workshop	2,024					2,024
Other cost - consumables	60					60
Patent of selective fyke net - predated industrial design - taxes	4,049					4,049
Prototype fyke net - production 20 test fykes/net samples	4,723					4,723
<b>WP5 Monitoring and evaluation</b>	<b>44,164</b>	<b>82,927</b>	<b>58,515</b>	<b>68,045</b>	<b>19,046</b>	<b>272,697</b>
<b>T.5.1 Monitor the population reinforcement</b>	<b>4,680</b>	<b>18,244</b>		<b>6,552</b>	<b>18,285</b>	<b>48,711</b>
A.1 Employees						
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	2,520					2,520
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	420					420
FAZ Project Coordinator	4,020					4,020
HYLIA Assistant in Monitoring and Education	1,850					1,850
HYLIA Project coordinator	1,880					1,880
ZOO Animal Keeper	11,475					11,475
ZOO Expert - Conservation and Reptiles	6,780					6,780
C.1 Travel and subsistence						
2 persons participating in growth monitoring after reintroduction for 10 days, Gas 656 EUR; PerDiems 108 EUR; Accommodation 1268 EUR	2,600					2,600
C.2 Equipment						
5x field and protective clothing, 5x work boots, 5x raincoat, 3x showal, 3x fruit shears, 3x hoo, 25x work gloves, buckets	1,740					1,740
laptop - working station laptop for data analysis	2,600					2,600
C.3 Other goods, works and services						
Genetic + health screening of juvenile terrapins	11,490					11,490
Genetic lab consumables	405					405
sequencing cost for matrems juveniles genetics samples						
Genetic lab consumables						
yearly budget for genetics, hatching stamping expendables and sample curation						
<b>T.5.2 Monitoring of the restored and managed water bodies</b>	<b>13,154</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>58,515</b>	<b>13,810</b>		<b>86,149</b>
A.1 Employees						



PARTNER	5 - DUNEZ	1 - FAZ	3- HV	4 - HYL A	2- ZOO	Total sum
DUNEZ Expert 1	1,001					1,001
DUNEZ Expert 2	455					455
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	4,620					4,620
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	1,680					1,680
FAZ Project Coordinator		670				670
HV Expert 1			801			801
HV Expert 2			666			666
Project Coordinator			999			999
HV Assistant in Monitoring and Education				3,182		3,182
HVLA Project coordinator				3,290		3,290
C.1 Travel and subsistence					7,338	7,338
2 persons monitoring biology for 36 days. Gas: 2577 EUR; Toll: 472 EUR; PerDiems: 1933; Accommodation: 2416 EUR						
3 persons monitoring biology for 3 days. Gas: 316 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PerDiems: 240 EUR; Accommodation: 839 EUR					1,455	1,455
C.2 Equipment						5,398
Data loggers (offers received)						5,398
C.3 Other goods, works and services						39,947
Monitoring - Sampling and analysis of macrophytes and macroinvertebrates on 5 locations						39,947
Monitoring of water level and quality on 3 locations, 4 times a year for 4 years						39,947
The price is for one contract and is estimated considering offers for similar services procured by Hrvatske vode as a part of last years procurement plan						39,947
The price is for one contract and is estimated considering offers for similar services procured by Hrvatske vode as a part of last years procurement plan						14,647
<b>T.5.3 Monitoring the success of M. rivulata habitat interventions</b>						
A.1 Employees	15,151	44,959		47,683	791	108,584
DUNEZ Expert 1	1,820					1,820
DUNEZ Expert 2	1,365					1,365
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	4,200					4,200
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	2,520					2,520
FAZ Expert - Soil Quality		11,954				11,954
Project Coordinator		2,010				2,010
HVLA Project coordinator					692	692
HVLA Project coordinator					6,956	6,956
ZOO Expert - Conservation and Reptiles					791	791
C.1 Travel and subsistence						1,936
1 persons 6 days agriculture at nesting in DU- D3.3- Rane 120 EUR; PerDiems: 161,64 EUR; Accommodation: 202,43 EUR						1,936
2 persons 4 days nesting sites in DU travel 430 EUR; Toll: 69 EUR; PerDiems: 215,92 EUR; Accommodation: 242,91 EUR						958
3 persons monitoring usage of nesting sites for 8 days. Gas: 859 EUR; Toll: 137 EUR; PerDiems: 430; Accommodation: 483 EUR					1,910	1,910
5 persons participating in monitoring of the habitat interventions in Majkovci, Plovidi and Konavle for 8 days. Gas: 289 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 8 days): 1080 EUR						1,969
5 persons participating in monitoring the Stora reproduction center, for 16 days. Gas (3 x return 120,00 km): 318 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 16 days): 2159 EUR						2,677
C.2 Equipment						1,200
Software with GIS and office applications for monitoring activities						1,200
Data loggers, laptop and camera for monitoring activities						35,674
C.3 Other goods, works and services						2,551
books for monitoring activities, gmail and dropbox storage and monday platform for better communication						2,551
Soil quality lab consumables		15,015				15,015
B.1 Subcontracting						13,086
Peabody monitoring + regenerative HUB Vojakovec expertise service of for regenerative agriculture						13,086
<b>T.5.4 Monitoring Of the success of sustainable fishery</b>						
A.1 Employees	7,919	11,850				19,669
DUNEZ Expert 1	1,820					1,820
DUNEZ Expert 2	455					455
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	3,864					3,864
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	1,680					1,680
FAZ Expert - Fishery		965				965
FAZ Expert - Fishery Biohazard		750				750
FAZ Expert - Fishery Monitoring		910				910
FAZ Project Coordinator		804				804
C.1 Travel and subsistence						8,421
3 persons travelling for fish trap usage in DU for 12 days 430 EUR travel, Toll: 69 EUR; PerDiems: 971,06 EUR; Accommodation: 1336,03 EUR						8,421
<b>T.5.5 Project impact on ecosystem condition and services</b>						
A.1 Employees	3,360	6,204				9,564
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	2,520					2,520
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	840					840
FAZ Expert - Fishery Monitoring		637				637
FAZ Project Coordinator		804				804
B.1 Subcontracting						4,763
Eco system services analysis (expert services for eco system service analysis (6 reports))						4,763
<b>WP6 Public awareness, dissemination, and networking</b>						
T.6.1 Project visibility materials and dissemination	127,182	49,282	56,415	103,910	113,671	444,450
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	23,997	34,063	23,121	37,970	35,360	235,511
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	3,864					3,864
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	5,890					5,890
DUNEZ Project Coordinator	7,280					7,280
FAZ Project Coordinator		4,020				4,020
HV Expert 1			1,869			1,869
HV Expert 2			1,554			1,554
HV Project Coordinator			2,331			2,331
HVLA Assistant in Monitoring and Education				5,180		5,180
HVLA Project coordinator				8,648		8,648
ZOO Animal Keeper				3,655		3,655
ZOO Expert - Conservation and Reptiles				1,356		1,356
ZOO Expert - Education and Volunteering Programme				4,048		4,048
ZOO Project Coordinator and Visibility				17,340		17,340
C.1 Travel and subsistence						990
1 person participate 5 days for project result dissemination-ET.4- Travel expenses 340 EUR; PerDiems 400 EUR; Accommodation: 250 EUR						990
1 person participate in a conference for project presentation. Travel expenses: 1200 EUR; PerDiems: 1050 EUR; Accommodation: 1200 EUR (3 persons altogether for 3 different conferences)						3,450
2 person participate in 2 events per 5 days for result dissemination-ET.4 Travel expenses: 240 EUR; PerDiems: 211,53 EUR; Accommodation: 450 EUR (2 persons altogether for 2 different conferences)						907
2 person participate in a conference for project presentation. Travel expenses: 1137 EUR; PerDiems: 1600 EUR; Accommodation: 1021 EUR (2 persons altogether for 2 different conferences for 10 days)						3,994
3 persons travel for 3 times for the project presentation. Gas: 1005 EUR in total. Toll: 189 EUR; PerDiems: 717 EUR; Accommodation: 1800 EUR						3,711
C.3 Other goods, works and services						12,963
Concept, visual identity, design, copyright, proofreading, photos and illustrations and print of all the promo materials (brochure, project boards etc.).						12,963

PARTNER	5 - DUNEZ	1 - FAZ	3 - HV	4 - HVLA	2 - ZOO	Total sum
Design and print of all the promotional materials (brochure, handouts, project boards etc.) The price is for one contract and is estimated considering offers for similar services procured by Hrvatske vode for the magazines they regularly issue Production of educational and informative plates from stickers on a forex base, which includes digital printing on matt PVC foil and UV lamination, forex 10mm, forex 5 mm, forex 3 mm, allcobaord base, installation - J / M m2, 25 pcs, unit price 40 e = 1000e			19,873			19,873
Roll-up system 100x200 (silver or black) with visual, which includes digital printing on polyprop satin, roll-up system with transport bag, pcs 15, 1200E Production and printing of brochures, which includes graphic design, proofreading, prepress, translation into English - 4,000E Cotton bags with printing, graphic design, digital printing and the bag itself, 10e pcs, 200pcs = 2,000 E T-shirt printing which includes graphic design and prepress, shirt printing, 940 shirts 180g, 11E pcs, 100 pcs = 1,100E Production of badges, design and production, 59 mm, pac 500, 2E pcs = 1000E 1200E for other promotional stationery products					20,000	20,000
design of promotional materials (brochure, notebooks, pens, t-shirts, caps, pens, metal pin badge, cups, bags) Laymans report LIFE for Mauremys web site development Printing of promo materials Re-priming project promo and educational materials (2 yearly bulk sum for all the additional printing of the prepared educational and promotional items)		3,030 2,699 437 20,000			3,000 19,238	3,030 2,699 437 20,000
<b>T.6.3 Educational events, programs, locations and materials</b>	<b>81,102</b>	<b>7,715</b>	<b>16,568</b>	<b>39,770</b>	<b>56,582</b>	<b>201,767</b>
A.1. Educational events	8,400					8,400
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	8,400					8,400
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	7,280					7,280
DUNEZ Project Coordinator		6,164				6,164
FAZ Project Coordinator			267			267
HV Expert 1						222
HV Expert 2						333
HV Project Coordinator						3,652
HVLA Assistant in Monitoring and Education						2,872
HVLA Project coordinator						2,880
ZOO Animal Keeper						2,210
ZOO Expert - Education and Volunteering Programme						5,152
ZOO Project Coordinator and Visibility						7,803
C.1 Travel and subsistence						1,417
1 person participating in Mediterranean wetland week, Gas, 390 EUR; Toll, 188 EUR; PerDiems, 239 EUR; Accommodation 600 EUR						705
1 person participating in agriculture seminars for 2 days in Dubrovnik E2.2 - plane 120 EUR; PerDiems 53,98 EUR; Accommodation 60,737 EUR		705				705
1 person participating in Mediterranean wetland week for 3 days- E2.1 - plane 120; PerDiems 80,97 EUR; Accommodation 80,97 EUR		846				846
2 person participating in Mediterranean wetland week for 12 days, Travel expenses 1289 EUR; toll 206 EUR; PerDiems 544 EUR; Accommodation 725 EUR						2,865
5 persons participating in Mediterranean wetland week for 3 days, Gas, 390 EUR; Toll, 188 EUR; PerDiems 239 EUR; Accommodation 600 EUR						1,451
C.3 Other costs, works and services	1,431		1,455			2,886
design and production of Mauremys mascot - 1 piece based on the offer received design and production of souvenirs (500 pieces - 6 EUR per piece) Design, production and site installation of the information boards - offers received Designing, drawing and writing the booklet The price is for one contract and is estimated considering offers for similar services procured by Hrvatske vode for the magazines they regularly issue Educational and didactic materials for Wetland days - sustainable agri and fytchvels			7,653			7,653
Mauremys days (4 events) - organization of the event, catering, materials promotion - 1,250.00 EUR cost per event Mauremys days (4 events) - based on the offer received Mediterranean wetland week - reception 3 predavanja u Walkov, Ston, Konavle, 3 dana svaki put, ukupno 9 predavanja 9x catering sala 15000 kn, ukupno 135000 kn preparation (design and proofreading), production and printing of didactic children book (500 x 10 EUR) Printing costs						17,940
The price is for one contract and is estimated considering offers for similar services procured by Hrvatske vode for the magazines they regularly issue printing of educational materials Production of the educational film - offer received			6,658			6,658
	18,893					18,893
<b>T.6.3 Networking with other LIFE and/or non-LIFE projects</b>	<b>16,093</b>	<b>3,454</b>	<b>10,096</b>	<b>6,170</b>	<b>3,529</b>	<b>39,342</b>
A.1. Educational events	5,460					5,460
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	3,444					3,444
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	7,189					7,189
DUNEZ Project Coordinator		1,474				1,474
FAZ Project Coordinator			890			890
HV Expert 1						740
HV Expert 2						1,110
HV Project Coordinator						370
HVLA Assistant in Monitoring and Education						430
HVLA Educator						840
ZOO Expert - Conservation and Raptiles						1,243
ZOO Expert - Education and Volunteering Programme						552
ZOO Project Coordinator and Visibility						1,734
C.1 Travel and subsistence						1,980
1 persons participating in international meetings, for 5 days, E2- Travel 340 EUR; PerDiems 400 EUR; Accommodation 250 EUR 2 persons participating in 2 international conferences and 2 national conferences, 3995 EUR; PerDiems 700 EUR; Accommodation, 2661 EUR 2 persons participating in 2 international meetings for 10 days, Travel expenses 1208 EUR; PerDiems 1611 EUR; Accommodation 1611 EUR			7,356			7,356
<b>WP7 Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results</b>	<b>123,468</b>	<b>2,144</b>	<b>5,480</b>	<b>3,460</b>	<b>23,720</b>	<b>158,272</b>
<b>T.7.1 Volunteering</b>	<b>101,068</b>				<b>9,573</b>	<b>110,641</b>
A.1. Educational events	1,001					1,001
DUNEZ Expert 1	455					455
DUNEZ Expert 2	3,444					3,444
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	3,444					3,444
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2						510
ZOO Animal Keeper						7,268
ZOO Expert - Education and Volunteering Programme						2,350
A.5 Volunteers						1,735
Volunteers C.1 Travel and subsistence C.2 Other costs, works and services Table design, production and installations, 16 boards						7,287

PARTNER	5 - DUNEZ	1 - FAZ	3- HV	4 - HYL A	2- ZOO	Total sum
Equipment for volunteers (10 volunteers) - 27000 kn Elaboration: 5x shovels, 5x hoe, 10x fruit scissors, 20x work gloves, buckets - 7000 kn 10x work shoes (working shoes and boots) - 10000 kn 10x work clothes (pants, T-shirt, fleece jacket) - 5000 kn 10x raincoat - 5000 kn	3.600					3.600
Volunteering and interpretation centre equipment- incubator x2 - 103000 kn • aquarium with the stand x2 - 22500 kn • containers x2 - 1050 kn • cold thermometer x2 - 1800 kn • cold water supply and drainage 470 kn • gripping mat - 30 kn • Air conditioning 8000 kn • filter and heater x2 - 3700 kn • UVB light x2 - 3750 kn • Food for freshwater terrapins x35 - 4200 kn • Laptop for projection and meeting (with installed Windows and Office tools) - 10000 kn • TV for projection of movie and educational materials for volunteers, aswell for coordinating meetings if needed - 10000 kn • panels - 2500 kn • books and other educational resources - 2000 kn • microphone with stand for hybrid meetings x2 - 1500 kn • workshop table, meeting table - 5000 kn	24.000					24.000
C.3 Other goods, works and services Food for Minutata in the volunteering centre - cost estimate Refreshments for volunteers for 5 actions - 5 x 100 EUR Transport for volunteers and refreshments for volunteers for 5 actions (minibus x5) Volunteering and interpretation centre - works - architect's cost estimate	567 500 1.300 53.120					567 500 1.300 53.120
<b>T.7.2 Private land conservation agreements and new actions</b>		804				804
A.1 Employees FAZ Project Coordinator		804				804
<b>T.7.3 Impacting other Mauremys Mediterranean habitats</b>	22.400	1.340	5.480	3.460	14.207	46.887
A.1 Employees DUNEZ Project Assistant 2 DUNEZ Project Coordinator FAZ Project Coordinator HV Expert 1 HV Project Coordinator HYLA Assistant in Monitoring and Education ZOO Animal Keeper ZOO Expert - Conservation and Reptiles ZOO Expert - Education and Volunteering Programme ZOO Project Coordinator and Visibility	4.788 12.740 1.340 1.780 1.780 2.220 1.110 2.350 595 2.712 2.760 4.335					4.788 12.740 1.340 1.780 1.780 2.220 1.110 2.350 595 2.712 2.760 4.335
C.1 Travel and subsistence 2 persons participate in 2 conferences, travel expenses: 1.005 EUR, Accommodation: 800 EUR, Per Diems: 1.200 EUR 5 persons participating in 3 conferences for 3 days, travel expenses: 12 x 2 x 30 EUR = 720 EUR, Accommodation: 12 x 2 x 40 EUR (night) = 1000 EUR, conferences fee: 2 x 200,00 = 400,00 EUR 5 persons participating in 3 conferences, gas (return: 1200 kn), 329 EUR, Toll (both directions): 60 EUR, Per Diema ( 5 people x 3 days) = 404 EUR, Accommodation (5 people x 2 nights): 674 EUR C.3 Other goods, works and services 2 persons participating in 2 conferences, 4 conference fee x 200,00 EUR	3.400 1.472					3.400 1.472
<b>Z - Indirect Cost</b>					800	800
E. Indirect costs DUNEZ Overheads FAZ Overheads HV Overheads HYLA Overheads ZOO Zagreb Overheads	37.938 37.938 37.938	27.841 27.841 27.841	20.517 20.517 20.517	32.410 32.410 32.410	139.284 139.284	139.284 139.284 37.938 27.841 20.517 20.517
<b>Total sum</b>	<b>582.259</b>	<b>425.663</b>	<b>313.620</b>	<b>314.560</b>	<b>495.406</b>	<b>2.131.407</b>





WP	T2.6.1	4-HVLA	HVA Educator	2,500	2,500		2,500		2,500			
WP1	T2.6. Project implementation	5-DHZE	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62		
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62
WP2	T2.6. Project implementation	5-DHZE	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62		
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	
WP3	T2.6. Project implementation	5-DHZE	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62		
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62		
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62		
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62		
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62		
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62		
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	
			1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	1.1.62	







**LIFE PROPOSAL**

**Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species o  
Standard Action Projects (SAP)**

31.05.2022

PARTNER	Unit cost (EUR)	A. Personnel costs			Employee cost	Number of person-days	Volunteer cost
		A.1 Employees	A.5 Volunteers				
<b>1 - FAZ</b>		<b>1,719</b>		<b>211,168.00</b>			
FAZ Expert - Fishery	193.00	86		16,598.00			
FAZ Expert - Fishery Biohazard	150.00	86		12,900.00			
FAZ Expert - Fishery Monitoring	91.00	86		7,826.00			
FAZ Expert - Regenerative Agriculture	134.00	86		11,524.00			
FAZ Expert - Soil Quality	139.00	86		11,954.00			
FAZ Project Administrator	108.00	860		92,880.00			
FAZ Project Coordinator	134.00	429		57,486.00			
<b>2-ZOO</b>		<b>1,290</b>		<b>147,103.00</b>			
ZOO Animal Keeper	85.00	602		51,170.00			
ZOO Expert - Conservation and Reptiles	113.00	344		38,872.00			
ZOO Expert - Education and Volunteering Programme	92.00	215		19,780.00			
ZOO Project Coordinator and Visibility	289.00	129		37,281.00			
<b>3- HV</b>		<b>516</b>		<b>47,128.00</b>			
HV Expert 1	89.00	172		15,308.00			
HV Expert 2	74.00	172		12,728.00			
HV Project Coordinator	111.00	172		19,092.00			
<b>4 - HYLA</b>		<b>2,047</b>		<b>175,824.18</b>			
HYLA Administrator	82.00	172		14,104.00			
HYLA Assistant in Monitoring and Education	74.00	521		38,554.00			
HYLA Educator	86.00	531		45,666.00			
HYLA Project coordinator	94.00	774		72,756.00			
HYLA Senior Expert	96.82	49		4,744.18			
<b>5 - DUNEZ</b>		<b>3,295</b>		<b>288,022.00</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>2,350.00</b>	
DUNEZ Expert 1	91.00	508		46,228.00			
DUNEZ Expert 2	91.00	253		23,023.00			
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	84.00	844		70,896.00			
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	84.00	845		70,980.00			
DUNEZ Project Coordinator	91.00	845		76,895.00			
Volunteers	47.00		50			2,350.00	
<b>Total sum</b>		<b>8,867</b>		<b>869,245.18</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>2,350.00</b>	

LIFE PROPOSAL

Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County (LIFE for Mauremys)  
LIFE-2021-SAP-NAT, Nature & Biodiversity - Standard Action Projects (SAP)

PERSON-DAYS

Zbroj od B: Number of person-days/Number of travels	WP1 Project management and coordination	WP2 Restor and improving habitats	WP3 Reinforc of Sten field population	WP4 Addressing the other threats	WP5 Monitoring and evaluation	WP6 Public awareness, dissemination and networking	WP7 Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results	Ukupni zbroj
<b>A.1 Employees</b>								
5- DUNEZ	356	900	251	460	372	661	295	3295
1- FAZ	902	124	185	230	175	87	16	1719
3- HV	120	195	10	12	27	102	60	516
4- Hyla	511	412	58	73	205	748	40	2047
2- ZOO	33	101	479	23	202	291	161	1290
<b>Ukupni zbroj</b>	<b>1922</b>	<b>1732</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>1889</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>8867</b>

PERSON-MONTH

Zbroj od B: Number of person-days/Number of travels	WP1 Project management and coordination	WP2 Restoring and improving habitats	WP3 Reinforcement of Sten field population	WP4 Addressing the other threats	WP5 Monitoring and evaluation	WP6 Public awareness, dissemination and networking	WP7 Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results	Ukupni zbroj
<b>A.1 Employees</b>								
DUNEZ	17,80	45,00	12,55	23,00	18,60	33,05	14,75	164,75
FAZ	45,10	6,20	9,25	11,50	8,75	4,35	0,80	85,95
HV	6,00	9,75	0,00	0,60	1,35	5,10	3,00	25,80
Hyla	25,55	20,60	2,90	3,65	10,25	37,40	2,00	102,35
ZOO Zagreb	1,65	5,05	23,95	1,15	10,10	14,55	8,05	64,50
<b>Ukupni zbroj</b>	<b>96,10</b>	<b>86,60</b>	<b>48,65</b>	<b>39,90</b>	<b>49,05</b>	<b>94,45</b>	<b>28,50</b>	<b>443,35</b>

PERSON-DAYS

Zbroj od B: Number of person-days/Number of travels	WP1 Project management and coordination	WP2 Restoring and improving habitats	WP3 Reinforcement of Sten field population	WP4 Addressing the other threats	WP5 Monitoring and evaluation	WP6 Public awareness, dissemination and networking	WP7 Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results	Ukupni zbroj
<b>A.1 Employees</b>								
5- DUNEZ	356	900	251	460	372	661	295	3295
DUNEZ Expert 1	42	90	102	30	62	87	16	429
DUNEZ Expert 2	120	185	40	63	25	102	60	516
DUNEZ Project A:	70	185	55	71	211	211	41	844
DUNEZ Project B:	140	185	55	71	85	211	98	845
DUNEZ Project C:	146	202	31	87	239	140	845	845
1- FAZ	902	124	185	230	175	87	16	1719
FAZ Expert - Fishery	30	51	30	5	5	86	86	300
FAZ Expert - Fishery Biohazard	29	86	52	5	5	86	86	300
FAZ Expert - Fishery Monitoring	29	86	52	5	5	86	86	300
FAZ Expert - Regenerative Agri	24	45	24	45	17	86	86	300
FAZ Expert - Soil Quality	34	86	34	52	86	86	86	300
FAZ Project Admi	860	42	102	30	62	87	16	860
FAZ Project Coord	42	90	102	30	62	87	16	429
3- HV	120	195	40	63	25	102	60	516
HV Expert 1	40	65	4	4	9	34	20	172
HV Expert 2	40	65	4	4	9	34	20	172
HV Project Coordi	40	65	4	4	9	34	20	172
4- Hyla	511	412	58	73	205	748	40	2047
Hyla Administrati	172	172	172	172	172	172	172	172
Hyla Assistant in	66	208	14	19	76	123	15	521
Hyla Educator	8	30	30	30	493	493	531	531
Hyla Project coordi	216	174	44	54	129	132	25	774
Hyla Senior Exp	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49
2- ZOO	33	101	479	23	202	291	161	1290
ZOO Animal Keeper	33	33	338	14	135	69	13	602
ZOO Expert - Coh	17	68	136	9	67	23	24	344
ZOO Expert - Education and Volun	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
ZOO Project Coord	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
<b>Ukupni zbroj</b>	<b>1922</b>	<b>1732</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>1889</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>8867</b>

PERSON-DAYS

Zbroj od B: Number of person-days/Number of travels	WP1 Project management and coordination	WP2 Restoring and improving habitats	WP3 Reinforcement of Sten field population	WP4 Addressing the other threats	WP5 Monitoring and evaluation	WP6 Public awareness, dissemination and networking	WP7 Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results	Ukupni zbroj
<b>A.1 Employees</b>								
DUNEZ	17,80	45,00	12,55	23,00	18,60	33,05	14,75	164,75
DUNEZ Expert 1	0,00	10,40	3,50	8,40	2,55	0,00	0,55	26,40
DUNEZ Expert 2	0,00	6,00	2,00	3,15	1,25	0,00	0,25	12,65
DUNEZ Project Assistant 1	3,50	9,25	2,75	3,55	10,55	10,55	2,05	42,20
DUNEZ Project Assistant 2	7,00	9,25	2,75	3,55	4,25	10,55	4,90	42,25
DUNEZ Project Coordinator	7,30	10,10	1,55	4,35	0,00	11,95	7,00	42,25
FAZ	45,10	6,20	9,25	11,50	8,75	4,35	0,80	85,95
FAZ Expert - Fishery	0,00	0,00	1,50	2,55	0,25	0,00	0,00	4,30
FAZ Expert - Fishery Biohazard	0,00	0,00	1,45	2,60	0,25	0,00	0,00	4,30
FAZ Expert - Fishery Monitoring	0,00	0,00	1,20	2,25	0,85	0,00	0,00	4,30
FAZ Expert - Regenerative Agri	0,00	1,70	0,00	2,60	0,00	0,00	0,00	4,30
FAZ Expert - Soil Quality	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	4,30	0,00	0,00	4,30
FAZ Project Admi	43,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	43,00
FAZ Project Coord	2,10	4,50	5,10	1,50	3,10	4,35	0,80	21,45
3- HV	6,00	9,75	0,00	0,60	1,35	5,10	3,00	25,80
HV Expert 1	2,00	3,25	0,00	0,20	0,45	1,70	1,00	8,60
HV Expert 2	2,00	3,25	0,00	0,20	0,45	1,70	1,00	8,60
HV Project Coordinator	2,00	3,25	0,00	0,20	0,45	1,70	1,00	8,60
Hyla	25,55	20,60	2,90	3,65	10,25	37,40	2,00	102,35
Hyla Administrator	8,60	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	8,60
Hyla Assistant in Monitoring and t	3,30	10,40	0,70	0,95	3,80	6,15	0,75	26,95
Hyla Educator	0,40	1,50	0,00	0,00	0,00	24,65	0,00	26,55
Hyla Project coordinator	10,80	8,70	2,20	2,70	6,45	6,60	1,25	38,70
Hyla Senior Expert	2,45	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	2,45
ZOO	1,65	5,05	23,95	1,15	10,10	14,55	8,05	64,50
ZOO Animal Keeper	0,00	1,65	16,90	0,70	6,75	3,45	0,65	30,10
ZOO Expert - Conservation and R	0,85	3,40	6,80	0,45	3,35	1,15	1,20	17,20
ZOO Expert - Education and Volun	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
ZOO Project Coordinator and Visi	0,80	0,00	0,25	0,00	0,00	4,65	0,75	6,45
<b>Ukupni zbroj</b>	<b>96,10</b>	<b>86,60</b>	<b>48,65</b>	<b>39,90</b>	<b>49,05</b>	<b>94,45</b>	<b>28,50</b>	<b>443,35</b>

LIFE PROPOSAL

Mauremys rivulata - conservation of the umbrella species of the Mediterranean wetlands in Dubrovnik-Neretva County (LIFE for Mauremys)

	Zbroj od B:	Number of	Number of
	Number of	person months	person months
	Number of		
	Number of		
<b>A.1 Employees</b>	<b>1922</b>	<b>96,10</b>	
WPI Project management and			
T.1.1 Partnership	12	0,60	
T.1.2 Project co-ordination	1740	87,00	
T.1.3 Risk management	10	0,50	
T.1.4 Data management	10	0,50	
T.1.5 Acquiring personnel	150	7,50	
WPI Restoring and improving habitats	<b>1732</b>	<b>86,60</b>	
T.2.1 Developing indicators	551	28,05	
T.2.2 Prioritizing knowledge	76	3,80	
T.2.4 Control success	308	15,40	
T.2.6 Provide wetland	430	21,50	
T.2.3 Restoration of	357	17,85	
WPI Reinforcement of	<b>973</b>	<b>48,65</b>	
Stone field population			
T.3.1 Developing indicators	102	5,10	
T.3.2 Preparing the	62	3,10	
T.3.3 Capture and	151	7,55	
T.3.4 Housing the	462	23,10	
T.3.5 Secure the	196	9,80	
WPI Addressing the	<b>798</b>	<b>39,90</b>	
other threats			
T.4.1 Secure nesting	266	13,30	
T.4.2 Assess and	307	15,35	
T.4.3 Mitigating the	225	11,25	
WPI Monitoring and	<b>981</b>	<b>49,05</b>	
evaluation			
T.5.1 Monitoring of	305	15,25	
T.5.2 Monitoring of	201	10,05	
T.5.3 Monitoring of	305	15,25	
T.5.4 Monitoring of	117	5,85	
T.5.5 Project impact	53	2,65	
WPI Public awareness, dissemination, and	<b>1889</b>	<b>94,45</b>	
T.6.1 Project visit	821	41,05	
T.6.2 Educational	799	39,95	
T.6.3 Networking with	269	13,45	
local community, replication, and			
exploration of project	<b>572</b>	<b>28,60</b>	
T.7.1 Volunteering	183	9,15	
T.7.2 Private land	6	0,30	
T.7.5 Impacting on	383	19,15	
<b>Ukupni zbroj</b>	<b>8867</b>	<b>443,35</b>	



Overview of Work Packages

Work Package No	Work Package Title	Participant No	Participant Short Name	Start Month	End Month	Person-Norms
1	WP1 Project management and coordination	1	FAZ	1	48	96.10
2	WP2 Restoring and improving habitats	5	DUNEZ	1	48	86.60
3	WP3 Reinforcement of Stone field population	2	ZOO	1	48	48.88
4	WP4 Addressing the other threats	4	HYLA	1	48	39.80
5	WP5 Monitoring and evaluation	1	FAZ	12	48	49.05
6	WP6 Public awareness, dissemination, and networking	4	HYLA	1	48	94.45
7	WP7 Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results	1	FAZ	1	48	28.60
<b>Total</b>						<b>443.35</b>

Participant No

- 1 SVEUČILIŠTE U ZAGREBU AGRONOMSKI FAKULTET
- 2 USTANOVA ZOOLOŠKI VRT GRADA ZAGREBA
- 3 HRVATSKE VODE
- 4 UDRUGA HYLE
- 5 JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE ZAŠTICENIM DUELOVIMA PRIRODE DUBROVACOKONRETIVANSKEZI DUNEZ

A-1 Employees	WP1 Project management and coordination	WP2 Restoring and improving habitats	WP3 Reinforcement of Stone field population	WP4 Addressing the other threats and evaluation	WP5 Public awareness, dissemination, and networking	WP6 Monitoring and evaluation	WP7 Sustainability, replication, and exploitation of project results	Ukupni zbroj
DUNEZ	17.80	45.00	12.55	23.00	18.60	33.05	14.75	164.75
FAZ	45.10	6.20	9.25	11.50	8.75	4.35	0.80	86.95
HV	6.00	8.75	0.00	0.60	1.35	5.10	3.00	25.60
HYLA	23.55	20.60	2.90	3.65	10.25	37.40	2.00	102.35
ZOO Zagreb	1.65	5.05	23.95	1.15	10.10	14.55	8.05	64.50
<b>Ukupni zbroj</b>	<b>96.10</b>	<b>86.60</b>	<b>48.65</b>	<b>39.90</b>	<b>49.05</b>	<b>94.45</b>	<b>28.60</b>	<b>443.35</b>

Lead Participant Short Name	Start Month	End Month	Person-Months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4			
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>WP1 Project management and coordination</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>96.10</b>																
T.1.1 Partnership agreement and coordination	ALL	1	48																
T.1.2 Project co-ordination and risk management	ALL	1	48																
T.1.3 Risk management and coordination	ALL	1	48																
T.1.4 Data management	ALL	1	48																
T.1.5 Acquiring permits and publications	DUNEZ	1	12																
<b>WP2 Restoring and improving habitats</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>86.60</b>																
T.2.1 Developing guidelines for habitat management	ALL	1	24																
T.2.2 Prioritizing locations and actions	HV,DUNEZ,FAZ	1	42																
T.2.3 Restoration of the ponds and waterways	ALL	1	36																
T.2.4 Control succession at ponds and wetlands	ALL	8	48																
T.2.5 Provide wetlands and nesting sites	DUNEZ	1	48																
<b>WP3 Reinforcement of Ston field ponds</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>48.65</b>																
T.3.1 Developing plans for ex-situ conservation	DUNEZ, Hyla, ZOO	4	6																
T.3.2 Preparing the breeding sites	Hyla, DUNEZ, FAZ	1	12																
T.3.3 Capture and health screening	ZOO, FAZ, DUNEZ	10	46																
T.3.4 Housing the founders in ZOO	Hyla, DUNEZ, FAZ	1	46																
T.3.5 Secure the Ston refugium	ZOO	35	48																
<b>WP4 Addressing the other threats</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>39.90</b>																
T.4.1 Secure nesting sites in colonies	Hyla	5	24																
T.4.2 Assess and remove IAS threats	FAZ, DUNEZ	1	48																
T.4.3 Mitigating sustainable fish farming	Hyla, FAZ	1	18																
<b>WP5 Monitoring and evaluation</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>49.05</b>																
T.5.1 Monitoring of the population	FAZ, ZOO, DUNEZ	12	48																
T.5.2 Monitoring of the restored habitats	HV, Hyla	3	48																
T.5.3 Monitoring the success of restoration	DUNEZ, HV, ZOO	20	44																
T.5.4 Monitoring of the success of restoration	DUNEZ, Hyla	12	44																
T.5.5 Project impact on ecosystem services	DUNEZ, Hyla	1	46																
<b>WP6 Public awareness, dissemination and education</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>94.45</b>																
T.6.1 Project visibility materials and communication	ALL	1	46																
T.6.2 Educational events, programs and materials	ALL	1	46																
T.6.3 Networking with other LIFE projects	ALL	1	46																
<b>WP7 Sustainability, replication, and dissemination</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>28.60</b>																
T.7.1 Volunteering	DUNEZ, Hyla	6	48																
T.7.2 Private land conservation	ALL	1	41																
T.7.3 Impacting other Mauremys species	ALL	30	48																
<b>Total</b>			<b>443.35</b>																

## Detailed Budget Table

### LIFE21-NAT-HR- LIFE for Mauremys

**Important:**

You may add rows but no additional tabs. This may result in your proposal being considered inadmissible.  
Please ensure that the file can be printed on a format of 1 page wide (number of pages depending on the number of participants).  
Please make sure that the figures in this table are consistent with the total budget provided in part A section 3 of the application.  
In case of inconsistencies, part A will prevail.

### Staff effort allocation

Fill in the effort per work package and Beneficiary/Affiliated Entity.  
Please indicate the number of person-months over the whole duration of the planned work.  
Adapt the columns to the number of work packages in your proposal.  
Identify the work-package leader for each work package by showing the relevant person-month figure in bold.

Participant Number/Short Name	WP1	WP2	WP3	WP4	WP5	WP6	WP7	Total
1. FAZ	<b>45.1</b>	6.2	9.25	11.5	<b>8.75</b>	4.35	<b>0.8</b>	<b>85.95</b>
2. ZOO-Zg	1.65	5.05	<b>23.95</b>	1.15	10.1	14.55	8.05	<b>64.5</b>
3. HV	6	9.75	0	0.6	1.35	5.1	3	<b>25.8</b>
4. HYLA	25.55	20.6	2.9	<b>3.65</b>	10.25	<b>37.4</b>	2	<b>102.35</b>
5. DUNEZ	17.8	<b>45</b>	12.55	23	18.6	33.05	14.75	<b>164.75</b>
<b>Total person-months</b>	<b>96.1</b>	<b>86.6</b>	<b>48.65</b>	<b>39.9</b>	<b>49.05</b>	<b>94.45</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>443.35</b>

### Personnel costs

Present your estimated "Personnel costs" split into 3 categories as per the table below. If you do not have any personnel costs falling under "A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries" or "A.5 Volunteers", all personnel costs should be budgeted under "A1. Employees (or equivalent); A2. Natural persons under direct contract and A3. Seconded Persons".

For A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries: please note that as per Annex 2a of the LIFE General Model Grant Agreement (MGA), a unit cost is applied to this cost category. The units are the days spent working on the action (rounded up to the nearest half-day) and the amount per unit (daily rate) is calculated according to the following formula: {EUR 5 080 / 18 days = EUR 282,22 per day} multiplied by {country-specific correction coefficient of the country where the beneficiary is established}

Note that the country specific correction coefficient to use is the one applied for the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA). Yearly rates are published in the Horizon Europe Work Programme – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions under the funding and tender portal Reference Documents (work programme and call documents section), available at <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/reference-documents;programCode=HORIZON>.

For A.5 Volunteer Costs: a unit cost is also applied to this cost category. The units are the days spent working on the action (rounded up to the nearest half-day) and the amount per

Participant Number/Short Name	Country	Number of person months (staff effort per beneficiary)	Average monthly salary rate	A1. Employees (or equivalent); A2. Natural persons under direct contract and A3. Seconded Persons (costs)	A.4 SME owners and natural person (sole trader) beneficiaries (Unit costs in €)	Subtotal personnel costs without volunteers (A1+A2+A3+A4) - must be the same as in part A section 3	A.5 Volunteers (Unit costs) must be the same as in part A section 3	Total Personnel costs
1. FAZ	HR	86	2,457 €	211,168 €		211,168 €		211,168 €
2. ZOO-Zg	HR	65	2,281 €	147,103 €		147,103 €		147,103 €
3. HV	HR	26	1,827 €	47,128 €		47,128 €		47,128 €
4. HYLA	HR	102	1,718 €	175,824 €		175,824 €		175,824 €
5. DUNEZ	HR	165	1,763 €	288,022 €		288,022 €	2,350 €	290,372 €
<b>Total</b>		<b>443</b>		<b>869,245 €</b>	<b>0 €</b>	<b>869,245 €</b>	<b>2,350 €</b>	<b>871,595 €</b>

### Subcontracting

Give details on subcontracted action tasks (if any) and explain the reasons why (as opposed to direct implementation by the participants).  
Subcontracting — Subcontracting means the implementation of action tasks, i.e. specific tasks which are part of the action and are described in Annex 1 of the Grant Agreement.  
Note: Subcontracting concerns the outsourcing of a part of the action to a party outside the Consortium. It is not simply about purchasing goods or services. We normally expect the participants to have sufficient operational capacity to implement the project activities themselves. Sub-contracting should therefore be exceptional.  
Include only subcontracts that comply with the rules (i.e. best value for money and no conflict of interest; coordinator tasks can normally not be subcontracted).

Participant Number/Short Name	Subcontract Description	Cost (€)	WP	Justification (Why is subcontracting necessary?)
1. FAZ	Analysis of ecosystem services - 3 reports	4,763 €	5	such analyses are not provided by any of the partners
1. FAZ	Regenerative agriculture advisory by HUB	15,291 €	4	exp. based serv.:the only regenerative HUB cert. in HR

1. FAZ	Pedology biodiv. Monitoring by HUB	13,086 €	5 soil biodiversity monit. in regenerative management
	<b>Total estimated costs</b>	<b>33,140 €</b>	
If subcontracting for the entire project goes beyond 30% of the total eligible costs, give specific reasons.		Insert text	
<b>Other direct costs</b>			
Please complete the table below for each participant. If required add further tables at the end of this work sheet (one per participant). Please ensure that the information provided is sufficient to assess the relevance of the costs in relation to the activities proposed. For major cost items add lines below, in order to provide a detailed breakdown within one cost category. For major items listed in the justification column, indicate the work package / task to which they belong. For equipment and infrastructure, please explain if the cost represents the full cost or the depreciation.			
<b>FAZ</b>	<b>Cost (€)</b>	<b>Justification</b>	
Travel & subsistence			
	823 €	WP1 T1.2	2 persons participating in kick off meeting for 3 days in Dubrovnik; Travel 430 EUR; Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems 161.94; Accomodation 161.94 EUR
	846 €	WP1 T1.2	1 person participating in DU project meetings;Plane 120EUR; PerDiems: 80.97 EUR; Accomodation 80.97 EUR - 3 travels
	1,692 €	WP2 T2.1	2 persons participating in workshop on nesting sites Guidelines- A1.3 - for 3 days in Dubrovnik;Plane 240; PerDiems: 161.94 EUR; Accomodation 161.94EUR - 3 travels
	282 €	WP2 T2.1	1 person participating in workshop on wetland Guidelines for 3 days - A1.1 - in Dubrovnik;plane 120EUR; PerDiems: 80.97 EUR; Accomodation 80.97 EUR
	282 €	WP2 T2.2	1 person participating in workshop on wetland Guidelines for 3 days in Dubrovnik, A1.2 ; Plane 120 EUR; PerDiems: 80.97 EUR; Accomodation 80.97 EUR
	282 €	WP2 T2.3	1 person participating in the restauration of the ponds for 3 days in Dubrovnik - C1.2 -;Plane 120 EUR; PerDiems: 80.97 EUR; Accomodation 80.97 EUR
	215 €	WP2 T2.3	1 person participating in hydrogeological study for 2 days in Dubrovnik - C1.1 -; Plane 120 EUR; PerDiems: 53.98 EUR; Accomodation 41 EUR
	661 €	WP2 T2.5	1 person traveling for securing nesting sites for 3 days; Travel 430 EUR, Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems 80.97 EUR; Accomodation 80.97 EUR
	282 €	WP2 T2.5	1 person traveling for securing ston reproduction center for 3 days- C2.1 -; Plane 120EUR; PerDiems 80.97 EUR; Accomodation 80.97 EUR
	2,807 €	WP4 T4.3	3 persons Patent and prototype of selective fyke net 12 days; Travel 430 EUR; Toll 69 EUR; Perdiems 971.66 eur; Accomodation 1336.03 EUR
	1,147 €	WP4 T4.3	4 persons participating in sector workshop 3 days; Travel 430 EUR; Toll 69 EUR; Perdiems 323.88 eur; Accomodation 323.89 EUR
	823 €	WP2 T2.4	2 persons participating in maintaining the succession at nesting sites for 3 days; Travel 430 EUR; Toll69 EUR; Perdiems 161.94; Accomodation 161.94 EUR
	11,228 €	WP3 T3.3	3 persons traveling for IAS fish patogen for 12 days;430 EUR travel, Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems: 971.66 EUR; Accomodation 1336.03 EUR, 4 travels
	282 €	WP3 T3.3	1 person traveling for capture and temporary relocation of turtles for 3 days- C5.1.-; Plane 120 EUR; PerDiems: 80.97 EUR; Accomodation 80.97 EUR
	2,469 €	WP4 T4.1	2 persons participating in sustainable agriculture in Dubrovnik-3days; Travel 430 EUR; Toll 69 EUR; Perdiems 161.94; Accomodation 161.94 EUR - 3 travels
	729 €	WP5 T5.1	1 persons 4 days Growth monitoring of the hatchling terrapins in Ston Travel 430 EUR, Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems: 108 EUR; Accomodation 122EUR
	958 €	WP5 T5.3	2 persons 4 days nesting sites in DUTravel 430 EUR, Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems: 215.92 EUR; Accomodation 242.91EUR
	1,936 €	WP5 T5.3	1 persons 6 days agriculture at nesting in DU- D3.3- plane 120 EUR, PerDiems: 161.94 EUR; Accomodation 202.43EUR, 4 travels
	8,421 €	WP5 T5.4	3 persons traveling for fish trap usage in DU for 12 days;430 EUR travel, Toll69 EUR; PerDiems: 971.66 EUR; Accomodation 1336.03 EUR; 3 travels
	907 €	WP6 T6.1	2 person participate in 2 events per 5 days for result dissemination- E1.4 Travel expenses 245 EUR; PerDiems 211.53 EUR; Accomodation 450 EUR (2 persons altogether for 2 different conferences)
	990 €	WP6 T6.1	1 person participate ,5 days for project result dissemination- E1.4 - Travel expenses 340 EUR; PerDiems 400 EUR; Accomodation 250 EUR
	705 €	WP6 T6.2	1 person participating in agriculture seminars for 2 days in Dubrovnik E2.2 -,plane 120 EUR; PerDiems 53.98 EUR; Accomodation 60.737 EUR, 3 travels
	846 €	WP6 T6.2	1 person participating in Mediterranean wetland week for 3 days- E2.1 -;plane 120; PerDiems 80.97 EUR; Accomodation 80.97 EUR - 3 travels
	1,980 €	WP6 T6.3	1 persons participating in international meetings, for 5 days;E3- Travel 340 EUR; PerDiems 400 EUR; Accomodation 250 EUR - 2 travels
Equipment (incl. infrastructure)			
	2,600 €	WP4 T4.1	full cost: laptop - working station laptop for data analysis
	2,600 €	WP5 T5.1	full cost: laptop - working station laptop for data analysis
	2,600 €	WP1 T1.2	full cost: 2 laptops for the project team members
	1,453 €	WP1 T1.2	full cost: 3 mobile phones for the project coordinator, administrator and fieldteam

Other goods, works and services				
	2,020 €	WP1	T1.1	Audit - service of audit
	1,587 €	WP1	T1.2	Office consumables - yearly expendable office supplies (maps, folders, notebooks, printing paper...)
	318 €	WP1	T1.4	Storage licence - Dropbox yearly licence
	189 €	WP2	T2.1	Consumables costs for 1 day meeting in ZG (workshop food for 15 people: coffe brake + lunch sandwich )
	50 €	WP2	T2.1	Other costs
	286 €	WP2	T2.2	Consumables for the 2-days working meeting (workshop food for 15 people: coffe brake + lunch sandwich )
	60 €	WP2	T2.5	Other costs
	189 €	WP3	T3.1	Consumables costs for 1 day meeting in ZG workshop food for 15 people: coffe brake + lunch sandwich
	50 €	WP3	T3.1	Other costs
	3,138 €	WP3	T3.3	obtaining data for 15 sequencing assays for IAS pathogens
	1,000 €	WP3	T3.3	External service for fishing equipment servicing (electro-agregate)
	10,500 €	WP3	T3.3	Delta Neretva potential founders - eDNA e-DNA analysis for 25 location samples for potential founders
	5,600 €	WP3	T3.3	Fish biohazard field and sampling consumables
	2,178 €	WP3	T3.3	Health lab consumables - yearly budget for expendables for curation and storing of biomaterial of ecto and endo patogens and symbionts
	2,024 €	WP3	T3.3	Fish biohazard - other costs
	6,100 €	WP3	T3.4	Genetic and health screening founders - sequencing cost for mauremys popgen genetics samples
	405 €	WP3	T3.4	Genetic lab consumables - yearly budget for genetics founder sampling expendables and sample curation
	4,503 €	WP4	T4.1	Nematodes lab + gardening materials
	100 €	WP4	T4.1	Other costs
	363 €	WP4	T4.2	IAS field trip consumables - yearly expendables for IAS removal (plastic containers, expendable fishing gear)
	4,049 €	WP4	T4.3	Patent of selective fyke net - protected industrial design + taxes
	4,723 €	WP4	T4.3	Prototype fyke net + production 20 test fyke-net samples
	60 €	WP4	T4.3	Other costs
	11,490 €	WP5	T5.1	Genetic + health screening of juvenile terrapins sequencing cost for mauremys juveniles genetics samples
	405 €	WP5	T5.1	Genetic lab consumables yearly budget for genetics hatchling sampling expendables and sample curation
	15,015 €	WP5	T5.3	Soil quality lab consumables
	2,699 €	WP6	T6.1	LIFE for Mauremys web site development
	20,000 €	WP6	T6.1	Re-Printing project promo and educational materials (2yearly bulk sum for all the additional printing of the prepared educational and promotional items)
	437 €	WP6	T6.1	Printing the Laymans report (500pc - 400Eur)
	3,030 €	WP6	T6.1	Laymans report
Financial support to third parties				
Land purchase				
<b>Total</b>	<b>153,414 €</b>			
<b>ZOO-Zg</b>	<b>Cost (€)</b>	<b>Justification</b>		
Travel & subsistence				
	4,948 €	WP1	T1.2	3 persons participate in 4 project coordination meeting ; Gas: 1340 EUR; Toll: 252 EUR; PerDiems: 956 EUR; Accomodation 2.400 EUR
	804 €	WP2	T2.1	1 person traveling to 3 meetings on guidelines in Dubrovnik for 4 days; Gas 335 EUR, Toll 63 EUR; PerDiems: 106 EUR; Accomodation 300 EUR
	804 €	WP2	T2.1	1 person traveling to workshop in Dubrovnik for 4 days; Gas 335 EUR, Toll 63 EUR; PerDiems: 106 EUR; Accomodation 300 EUR
	804 €	WP2	T2.2	1 person traveling to meeting on prioritizing locations in Dubrovnik for 4 days; Gas 335 EUR, Toll 63 EUR; PerDiems: 106 EUR; Accomodation 300 EUR
	804 €	WP2	T2.3	1 person traveling for restauration activities for 4 days; Gas 335 EUR, Toll 63 EUR; PerDiems: 106 EUR; Accomodation 300 EUR
	804 €	WP2	T2.3	1 person traveling for restauration activities for 4 days; Gas 335 EUR, Toll 63 EUR; PerDiems: 106 EUR; Accomodation 300 EUR
	1,464 €	WP2	T2.5	2 person traveling for securing reproduction site for 5 days; Gas 335 EUR, Toll 63 EUR; PerDiems: 266 EUR; Accomodation 800 EUR
	2,420 €	WP3	T3.3	2 person traveling for 2 times for capture and temporary relocation for 4 days; Gas 670 EUR, Toll 126 EUR; PerDiems: 424 EUR; Accomodation 1200 EUR
	1,808 €	WP4	T4.2	2 person traveling 2 times for removing invasive terrapins for 2 days; Gas 670 EUR, Toll 126 EUR; PerDiems: 212 EUR; Accomodation 800 EUR
	3,450 €	WP6	T6.1	1 person participate in a conference for project presentation; Travel expenses: 1200 EUR; PerDiems: 1050 EUR; Accomodation 1200 EUR (3 persons altogether for 3 different conferences)
	3,711 €	WP6	T6.1	3 persons travel for 3 times for the project presentation; Gas: 1005 EUR in total: Toll: 189 EUR; PerDiems: 717 EUR; Accomodation 1800 EUR
	1,417 €	WP6	T6.2	1 person participate in Mediterranean wetland week; Gas: 390 EUR; Toll: 188 EUR; PerDiems: 239 EUR; Accomodation 600 EUR
	1,735 €	WP7	T7.1	1 person traveling to 2 working meetings on volunteering activities in Dubrovnik for 9 days in total; Gas 670 EUR, Toll 126 EUR; PerDiems: 239 EUR; Accomodation 700 EUR



	3,005 €	WP7	T7.3	2 persons participate in 2 conferences; Travel expenses: 1005 EUR; Accomodation 800 EUR; PerDiems 1.200 EUR
Equipment (incl. Infrastructure)				
	5,747 €	WP3	T3.4	full cost: Boxes, aquariums and aquarium equipment (filtration, heating, UVB lightning, camera, pipes, sanitary material); aquarium 120x50x45 (6 X 153 EUR = 918 EUR); plastic tub 120x100 (3 X 196 EUR = 588 EUR); T twin controller (5 X 53 EUR = 265 EUR); heater Eheim Jaeger 150W (7 X 27 EUR = 189 EUR); titanium heater 300W (3 X 32 EUR = 96 EUR); powerhead Eheim compact ON 600 (6 X 75 EUR = 450 EUR); JBL CristalProfi i200 (6 X 31 EUR = 186 EUR) PVC (1 X 130 EUR = 130 EUR); Pro T5 54W (14 X 47 EUR = 658 EUR) LR 75W (8 X 72 EUR = 576 EUR); LR 150 W (4 X 91 EUR = 364 EUR) camera (1 X 660 EUR = 660 EUR); shelf 130x50x170 / 4 (2 X 140 EUR = 280 EUR); stainless steel sink (1 X 387 EUR = 387 EUR)
	8,654 €	WP3	T3.4	full cost:2 incubators (like Grumbach BSR 160 8100 CTD7) x 4.327,00 EUR
Other goods, works and services				
	12,000 €	WP2	T2.5	repellents and technical support for application - estimate based on the market prices
	38,000 €	WP2	T2.5	on site cage construction works (cage covers 40m2 with fences of 2m)
	15,600 €	WP3	T3.2	architectural planning - based on the received offer
	5,353 €	WP3	T3.2	construction supervision (5% of the investment for construction works)
	3,000 €	WP3	T3.2	municipal contribution for the new construction
	3,200 €	WP3	T3.3	veterinary screening of native population pathogens, development of the sampling protocol (2.000,00 EUR), sampling on the field and screening of the additional individuals (1.200,00 EUR) for comprehensive insight
	8,000 €	WP3	T3.3	preventive screening of pathogens (founders) - 8 individuals at the beginning and at the end of the project (16 x 500,00 EUR)
	11,000 €	WP3	T3.3	veterinary health sreening of 40 juveniles before transport to Ston (40 x 275,00 EUR)
	4,500 €	WP3	T3.3	veterinary treatment of sick/injured animals - cost estimate
	3,200 €	WP3	T3.3	IAS health screening (16 individuals x 200,00 EUR)
	1,800 €	WP3	T3.4	building running costs (electricity, food for animals, supplements) - cost estimate
	107,061 €	WP3	T3.5	construction works - architec's cost estimate
	20,000 €	WP6	T6.1	design and print of promotional materials (brochure, project information boards) Production of educational and informative plates from stickers on a forex base, which includes digital printing on matt PVC foil and UV lamination, forex 10mm, forex 5 mm, forex 3 mm, alucobond base, installation - J / M m2, 25 pcs, unit price 40 e = 1000e Roll-up system 100x200 (silver or black) with visual, which includes digital printing on polyprop satin, roll-up system with transport bag, pcs 15, 1200E Production and printing of brochures, which includes graphic design, proofreading, prepress, translation into English - 4.000E Production of visuals on PVC tarpaulin, which includes digital printing on PVC tarpaulin of 510 g, welded edges and mounting brackets, mounting, 7000 E, 17.5E per m2 Cotton bags with printing, graphic design, digital printing and the bag itself, 10e pcs, 200pcs = 2,000 E T-shirt printing which includes graphic design and prepress, t-shirt printing, polo shirts 180g, 11E pcs, 100 pcs = 1.100E Production and printing different paper materials (flyers, notes etc.) = 1500E Production of badges, design and production, 59 mm, psc 500 , 2E pcs = 1000E 1200E for other promotional stationery products
	5,000 €	WP6	T6.2	preparation (design and proofreading), production and pring of didactic children book (500 x 10 EUR)
	3,000 €	WP6	T6.2	design and production of souvenirs (500 pieces - 6 EUR per piece)
	25,000 €	WP6	T6.2	Mauremys film production - based on the offer received
	2,000 €	WP6	T6.2	design and production of Mauremys mascot - 1 piece based on the offer received
	5,000 €	WP6	T6.2	Mauremys days (4 events) - organization of the event, catering, materials promotion - 1.250,00 EUR cost per event
	800 €	WP7	T7.3	2 persons participating in 2 conferences. 4 conference fee x 200,00 EUR
Financial support to third parties				
Land purchase				
<b>Total</b>	<b>315,893 €</b>			
<b>HV</b>	<b>Cost (€)</b>	<b>Justification</b>		
Travel & subsistence				
	705 €	WP1	T1.2	2 persons participating in kick off meeting for 2 days in Dubrovnik; Plane ticket: 332 EUR; PEDIEMS: 107; Accomodation: 266 EUR
	2,454 €	WP1	T1.2	3 persons participating in coordination meetings Gas: 317 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PEDIEMS: 959; Accomodation: 1118 EUR
	1,455 €	WP2	T2.1	3 persons participating in workshop on Guidelines for 3 days in Dubrovnik; Gas: 317 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PEDIEMS: 240; Accomodation: 839 EUR
	1,455 €	WP2	T2.2	3 persons participating in meeting on prioritizing locations and activities for 3 days in Dubrovnik; Gas: 317 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PEDIEMS: 240; Accomodation: 839 EUR
	2,533 €	WP2	T2.3	2 person participating in the restauration of the ponds for 6 days Gas: 317 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PEDIEMS: 479 EUR; Accomodation: 1678 EUR
	1,455 €	WP2	T2.4	3 persons participating in maintaining the succession at ponds for 3 days; Gas: 316 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PEDIEMS: 240 EUR; Accomodation: 839 EUR
	2,910 €	WP2	T2.5	3 persons securing Ston reproduction center and Prijevici nesting site for 3 days; Gas: 317 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PEDIEMS: 240 EUR; Accomodation: 839 EUR

	1,455 €	WP4	T4.3	3 persons participating in sector workshop 3 days; Gas: 317 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PEDIEMS: 240 EUR; Accommodation: 839 EUR
	1,455 €	WP5	T5.2	3 persons monitoring biology for 3 days; Gas: 316 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PEDIEMS: 240 EUR; Accommodation: 839 EUR
	3,994 €	WP6	T6.1	2 persons participation in 2 conferences
	1,455 €	WP6	T6.2	3 persons participating in Mediterranean wetland week for 3 days; Gas: 316 EUR; Toll: 60 EUR; PEDIEMS: 240 EUR; Accommodation: 839 EUR
	7,356 €	WP6	T6.3	2 persons participating in 2 international conferences and 2 national conferences; Travel expenses: 3995 EUR; PEDIEMS: 700 EUR; Accommodation: 2661 EUR
Equipment (incl. infrastructure)				
	6,391 €	WP1	T1.2	full cost:transportable laptops, gps, robust film camera and similar field equipment 2 sets of laptop computer with a docking station (1.450 Euros), GPS device (800 Euros), camera and parts (945,50 Euros)
Other goods, works and services				
	2,176 €	WP1	T1.5	Public procurement announcements (8) in official bulletin
	7,989 €	WP2	T2.3	Hydrogeological study for 3 locations The price is for one study and is estimated considering offers for similar studies procured by Hrvatske vode as a part of last years procurement plan
	67,909 €	WP2	T2.3	Pond restauration - 3 locations - works The price of work is estimated by a civil engineer working for Hrvatske vode who is the territorial authority.
	10,652 €	WP2	T2.4	Succession control in Konavle field and Ston locations - works The price of work is estimated by a civil engineer working for Hrvatske vode who is the territorial authority.
	33,288 €	WP2	T2.5	Adjustment of the existing tunnel exit in Majkovi - works The price of work is estimated by a civil engineer working for Hrvatske vode who is the territorial authority.
	39,947 €	WP5	T5.2	Monitoring - Sampling and analysis of macrophytes and macroinvertebrates on 5 locations The price is for one contract and is estimated considering offers for similar services procured by Hrvatske vode as a part of last years procurement plan
	14,647 €	WP5	T5.2	Monitoring of water level and quality on 5 locations, 4 times a year for 4 years The price is for one contract and is estimated considering offers for similar services procured by Hrvatske vode as a part of last years procurement plan
	19,973 €	WP6	T6.1	Design and print of all the promotional materials (brochure, handouts, project boards etc.) The price is for one contract and is estimated considering offers for similar services procured by Hrvatske vode for the magazines they regularly issue
	6,658 €	WP6	T6.2	Printing costs The price is for one contract and is estimated considering offers for similar services procured by Hrvatske vode for the magazines they regularly issue
	7,663 €	WP6	T6.2	Designing, drawing and writing the booklet The price is for one contract and is estimated considering offers for similar services procured by Hrvatske vode for the magazines they regularly issue
Financial support to third parties				
Land purchase				
<b>Total</b>	<b>245,975 €</b>			
<b>HYLA</b>	<b>Cost (€)</b>	<b>Justification</b>		
Travel & subsistence				
	874 €	WP1	T1.2	2 persons participating in kick off meeting for 3 days in Dubrovnik; Travel expenses 430; Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems 215; Accommodation 161 EUR
	10,000 €	WP1	T1.2	Project meetings
	3,284 €	WP1	T1.2	2 persons participating in 4 project coordination meeting for 12 days in Dubrovnik; Travel expenses 1718; Toll 275 EUR; PerDiems 644; Accommodation 644 EUR; 4 travels
	820 €	WP2	T2.1	2 persons participating in workshop on wetland Guidelines for 3 days in Dubrovnik; Gas 430 EUR, Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems: 161 EUR; Accommodation 161 EUR
	2,460 €	WP2	T2.1	2 persons participating in workshop on nesting sites Guidelines for 3 days in Dubrovnik; Gas 1289 EUR, Toll 206 EUR; PerDiems: 483 EUR; Accommodation 483EUR; 3 travels
	820 €	WP2	T2.2	2 persons participating in meeting on prioritizing locations and activities for 3 days in Dubrovnik; Gas 430 EUR, Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems: 161 EUR; Accommodation 161 EUR
	820 €	WP2	T2.3	2 persons participating in hydrogeological study for 3 days in Dubrovnik; Gas 430 EUR, Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems: 161 EUR; Accommodation 161 EUR
	2,865 €	WP2	T2.3	2 person participating in the restauration of the ponds for 12 days in Dubrovnik; Gas 1288 EUR, Toll 206 EUR; PerDiems: 644 EUR; Accommodation 725 EUR; 3 travels
	955 €	WP2	T2.4	2 persons participating in maintaining the succession at nesting sites for 4 days; Gas: 430 EUR; Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems 215; Accommodation 242 EUR
	955 €	WP2	T2.5	2 person traveling for securing ston reproduction center for 4 days; Gas 430 EUR, Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems 215 EUR; Accommodation 242 EUR
	955 €	WP2	T2.5	2 person traveling for securing nesting sites in Prljevići and pond in Majkovi for 4 days; Gas 430 EUR, Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems 215 EUR; Accommodation 242 EUR
	2,178 €	WP3	T3.3	2 person traveling for capture and temporary relocation of turtles for 10 days; Gas 859 EUR; Toll 137 EUR; PerDiems 537 EUR; Accommodation 644 EUR; 2 travels
	874 €	WP4	T4.3	2 persons participating in sector workshop 3 days; Gas 430 EUR; Toll 69 EUR; PerDiems 215 eur; Accommodation 161 EUR

	2,822 €	WP5	T5.1	2 persons participating in growth monitoring after reintroduction for 10 days; Gas 859 EUR, Toll 137 EUR; PerDiems 537 EUR; Accomodation 1289 EUR; 2 travels
	7,338 €	WP5	T5.2	2 persons monitoring biology for 36 days; Gas 2577 EUR; Toll 412 EUR; Perdiems 1933; Accomodation 2416 EUR; 6 travels
	1,910 €	WP5	T5.3	2 persons monitoring usage of nesting sites for 8 days; Gas 859 EUR; Toll 137 EUR; Perdiems 430; Accomodation 483 EUR; 2 travels
	3,758 €	WP6	T6.1	2 person participate in a conference for project presentation; Travel expenses 1137 EUR; PerDiems 1600 EUR; Accomodation 1021 EUR (2 persons altogether for 2 different conferences for 10 days); 2
	2,865 €	WP6	T6.2	2 person participating in Mediterranean wetland week for 12 days; Travel expenses 1289 EUR; Toll 206 EUR; PerDiems 644 EUR; Accomodation 725 EUR; 3 travels
	4,430 €	WP6	T6.3	2 persons participating in 2 international meetings for 10 days; Travel expences 1208 EUR; Perdiems 1611 EUR; Accomodation 1611 EUR; 2 travels
Equipment (incl. infrastructure)				
	35,674 €	WP5	T5.3	full cost:Data loggers, laptop and camera for monitoring activities
Other goods, works and services				
	2,551 €	WP5	T5.3	books for monitoring activities, gmail and dropbox storage and monday platform for better comunication
	3,000 €	WP6	T6.1	design of promotional materials (brochure, notebooks, pans, t-shirts, caps, pans, metal pin bedge, cups, bags))
	19,238 €	WP6	T6.1	printing of promo materials
	6,711 €	WP6	T6.2	printing of educational materials
Financial support to third parties				
Land purchase				
<b>Total</b>	<b>118,157 €</b>			

DUNEZ	Cost (€)	Justification		
Travel & subsistence				
	5,889 €	WP1	T1.2	5 persons participating in 4 coordinating meetings; Gas (4 x return 1220 km): 1317 EUR; Toll ( 4 x both direction): 253 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 12 days): 1619 EUR; Accomodation (5 people x 12 nights): 2699 EUR
	474 €	WP2	T2.1	5 persons participating in 3 meetings (community meetings) on Guidelines in 2 x Ston (both direction 120 km) and 1 x Majkovi (both direction 70 km); Gas: 69 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 3 days): 405 EUR
	1,480 €	WP2	T2.1	5 persons participating in 1 day workshop on Guidelines in Zagreb (3 days); Gas (both direction 470 km): 337 EUR; Toll: 63 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 3 days): 404 EUR; Accomodation (5 people x 2 nights): 675 EUR
	167 €	WP2	T2.2	5 persons participating in 1 day meeting on Prioritizing locations in Ston; Gas (both direction 120 km): 32 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 1 day) : 135 EUR
	318 €	WP2	T2.3	site visits for restauration of the ponds 5 persons for 2 days to Majkovi, Prljevi and Ston (both direction 120 km); Gas: 49 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 2 days): 270 EUR
	154 €	WP2	T2.3	site visits 5 persons for 1 day to Majkovi and Prljevi- hydrogeological structure of ponds; Gas (both direction 70km: 19 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 1 day): 135 EUR
	1,341 €	WP2	T2.4	5 persons participating in control of succession on nesting sites in Majkovi, Prjevice and Ston for 8 days; Gas (8x 120 km): 261 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 8 days): 1080 EUR
	155 €	WP2	T2.5	5 persons participating in securing nesting in Prljevi and pond in Majkovi for 1 day; Gas (return 70 km): 20 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 1 day): 135 EUR
	167 €	WP2	T2.5	5 persons for 1 day participating in securing Ston reproduction center; Gas (return 120 km): 32 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 1 day): 135 EUR
	185 €	WP2	T2.5	5 persons participating for 1 day in providing basking in Ston, Majkovi, Prljevi and Konavle; Gas: 50 EUR; Per Diems: 135 EUR
	335 €	WP3	T3.5	5 persons participating in temporary relocation for 2 days in Ston; Gas ( 2 x return 120 km): 65 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 2 days): 270 EUR
	1,369 €	WP5	T5.3	5 persons participating in monitoring of the habitat interventions in Majkovi, Prljevi and Konavle for 8 days; Gas: 289 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 8 days): 1080 EUR
	2,677 €	WP5	T5.3	5 persons participating in monitoring the Ston reproduction center fo 16 days; Gas ( 3 x return 120,00 km): 518 EUR; Per Diems ( 5 people x 16 days): 2159 EUR
	1,431 €	WP6	T6.2	5 persons participating in Mediterranean wetland week for 3 days Gas: 72 EUR; Per Diems (5 people x 3 days): 405 EUR - 3 travels
	1,472 €	WP7	T7.3	5 persons participating in a training - capacity building for captive breeding in the long term in Zagreb; Gas (return 1220 km): 329 EUR; Toll( both directions): 63 EUR; Per Diems ( 5 people x 3 days): 404 EUR; Accomodation (5 people x 2 nights): 674 EUR
	3,400 €	WP7	T7.3	2 persons participating in 2 conferences for 5 days; Travel expenses (2 x 2 x 300EUR = 1200 EUR; Per Diems (2 x 10 x 30 EUR): 600 EUR; Accomodation ( 2 x 10 x 60 EUR/night): 1200 EUR; conference fee 2 x 200,00= 400,00 EUR; 2 travels
Equipment (incl. infrastructure)				
	2,612 €	WP1	T1.2	full cost:2 Chairs, 2 PC with OS and office applications for two new project assistants
	5,938 €	WP4	T4.2	full cost:photo traps, traps (offers received)
	1,740 €	WP5	T5.1	full cost:5x field and protective clothing, 5x work boots, 5x raincoat, 3x shovel, 3x fruit shears, 3x hoe, 25x work gloves, buckets
	5,398 €	WP5	T5.2	full cost:Data loggers (offers received)
	1,200 €	WP5	T5.3	full cost:1 laptop with OS and office applications for monitoring activities

	3,600 €	WP7	T7.1	full cost:Equipment for volunteers (10 volunteers) - 27000 kn Elaboration: 5x shovels, 5x hoe, 10x fruit scissors, 20x work gloves, buckets - 7000 kn 10x work shoes (working shoes and boots) - 10000 kn 10x work clothes (pants, T-shirt, fleece jacket) - 5000 kn 10x raincoat – 5000 kn
	24,000 €	WP7	T7.1	full cost:Volunteering and interpretation centre equipment, incubator x2 – 103000 kn • aquarium with the stand x2 - 22500 kn • containers x2 – 1050 kn • control thermometer x2 – 1800 kn • water hose for water supply and drainage 470 kn • gripping net – 30 kn • Airconditioning 8000 kn • filter and heater x2 - 3700 kn • UVB light x2 - 3750 kn • Food for freshwater terrapins x35 – 4200 kn • laptop for projection and meeting (with installed Windows and Office tools) – 10000 kn • TV for projection of movie and educational materials for volunteers, aswell for coordinating meetings if needed – 10000 kn • panels – 2500 kn • books and other educational resources – 2000 kn • camera for hybrid meetings – 500 kn • microphone with stand for hybrid meetings x2 – 1500 kn • workshop table, meeting table – 5000 kn
	7,287 €	WP7	T7.1	full cost;Table dizajn, production and installations, 15 boards
Other goods, works and services				
	2,025 €	WP1	T1.2	Organization of the coordinaton meeting (catering and conference room rent)
	1,687 €	WP1	T1.5	technical support in public procurement procedures and tendering documentation - offer received
	8,097 €	WP2	T2.1	organization of the workshops (catering and conference room rent) for 5 meetings and workshops (1619 EUR per meeting)
	4,049 €	WP2	T2.5	Nesting site "Kaljuzaliste" works - cost estimate
	15,000 €	WP2	T2.5	Sun deck, exit ramps works - cost estimate
	3,320 €	WP2	T2.5	Sun deck, exit ramps transport and instalations - offers received
	2,024 €	WP2	T2.5	Nesting sites equipment - offers received
	18,893 €	WP4	T4.3	Fences, nets - cost estimate
	2,024 €	WP6	T6.1	Organization of the workshops (catering and WS room rent) for sector workshop
	12,963 €	WP6	T6.2	Concept, visual identity, design, copyright, proofreading, photos and illustrations and print of all the promo materials (brochure, project boards etc.)
	18,893 €	WP6	T6.2	Production of the educational film - offer received
	17,940 €	WP6	T6.2	Mediterranean wetland week – workshops 3 predavanja u Majkovi, Ston, Konavle, 3 dana svaki put, ukupno 9 predavanja 9x catering i sala 15000 kn, ukupno 135000 kn
	9,986 €	WP6	T6.2	Design, production and site instalation of the information boards - offers received
	8,772 €	WP6	T6.2	Educational and didactic materials for Wetland days - sustainable agri and fyke-nets
	1,300 €	WP7	T7.1	Transport for volunteers and refreshments for volunteers for 5 actions (minibus x5)
	500 €	WP7	T7.1	Refreshments for volunteers for 5 actions - 5 x 100 EUR
	53,120 €	WP7	T7.1	Volunteering and interpretation centre – works - architect's cost estimate
	567 €	WP7	T7.1	Food for M.rivulata in the volunteering centre - cost estimate
Financial support to third parties				
Land purchase				
<b>Total</b>	<b>253,949 €</b>			

Proposal ID  
101071737

Call for Proposal  
LIFE-2021-SAP-NAT

Topic  
LIFE-2021-SAP-NAT-NATURE LIFE-AG

Type of Action

## LIFE Programme – Application Forms (Part C – KPI)

Horizontal KPIs for all LIFE applicants (Mandatory to report on all the KPIs of this section).

<p><b>Innovation</b></p> <p>Is your project proposal developing, demonstrating and promoting innovative techniques and approaches?</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>	<p><b>Governance</b></p> <p>Is your project proposal improving governance through enhancing capacities of public and private actors and the involvement of civil society?</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>	<p><b>Plans &amp; strategies</b></p> <p>Is your project proposal implementing key plans or strategies?</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>Catalytic effect - Financial</b></p> <p>Will your project trigger additional investments?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No</p>	<p><b>Catalytic effect - Spatial</b></p> <p>Will the results of your project be replicated beyond its intended geographical scope?</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>	<p><b>Catalytic effect - Thematic</b></p> <p>Will the results of your project be replicated (transferred) beyond its intended thematic scope?</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>Catalytic effect - Societal</b></p> <p>Will your project :</p> <p>a) Contribute to the development of new or existing national legislation, policies, regulations, incentives and voluntary commitments?</p> <p>b) Achieve a step-change in more effective compliance with and enforcement of Union environmental and climate legislation and/or in policy implementation?</p> <p>c) Achieve a step-change in awareness and support of environmental and climate matters?</p> <p>d) Establish a new macroregional or national model of cooperation (networking)?</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>	<p><b>Rio markers for climate, biodiversity and air quality</b></p> <p>Please indicate if your proposal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has climate change/ biodiversity/ air quality as their primary objective</li> <li>• Has climate change/ biodiversity/ air quality as their secondary objective and provide substantial contributions to these objectives</li> <li>• Does not contribute significantly to climate change/ biodiversity/ air quality</li> </ul> <p><b>Climate change</b> Not contributing</p> <p><b>Biodiversity</b> Primary Objective</p> <p><b>Air quality</b> Not contributing</p>	

### LIFE Programme - Context selection

Please select the EU Member State(s) or/and Associated Countries (if any) or/and potential Associated Countries (if any) that best describe the geographical context of your project proposal, i.e. the area(s) of work or/and area(s) of impact.

Please select the type of country you wish to add

EU Member States  
 Associated Countries



To Be Associated Countries

Croatia(HR)

Please select the EU Member State(s) or/and Associated Countries (if any) or/and potential Associated Countries (if any) that best describe the geographical context of your project proposal, i.e. the area(s) of work or/and area(s) of impact.

Please select the type of country you wish to add

- EU Member States
- Associated Countries
- To Be Associated Countries

Albania

If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.

**EU Country**

Croatia

**Typology**

SPA: Special Protection Area

**Natura 2000 sites**

HR1000031: Delta Neretve

If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.

**EU Country**

Croatia

**Typology**

SCI: Sites of Community Importance

**Natura 2000 sites**

HR2001364: JI dio Pelješka

If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.

**EU Country**

Croatia

**Typology**

SCI: Sites of Community Importance

**Natura 2000 sites**

HR2000947: Gornji Majkovi - lokve

If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.

**EU Country**

Croatia

**Typology**

SCI: Sites of Community Importance

**Natura 2000 sites**

HR2000555: Lokva u Prljevićima

If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.

**EU Country**

Croatia

**Typology**

SCI: Sites of Community Importance

**Natura 2000 sites**

HR2000946: Snježnica i Konavosko polje

If relevant, please select the Natura 2000 sites that your project will be addressing.

**EU Country**

Croatia

**Typology**

SCI: Sites of Community Importance

**Natura 2000 sites**

HR5000031: Delta Neretve

LIFE Programme - Annex II - Section 2 - Specific KPIs - (Please report on KPIs you consider relevant).

Please select the relevant indicators for your project. For each selected indicator please provide any required values and

comments. Please note that if you deselect an indicator, all values entered will be lost.

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water efficiency                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Water quality                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste management                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resource efficiency                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy savings                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewable energy                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soil quality                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Chemicals (environment)                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Chemicals (humans)                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Air quality                                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity (habitats) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity (number of Species) | <input type="checkbox"/> GHG emissions                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> GHG sequestration                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climate vulnerability (humans)              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biodiversity (Invasive Alien Species) | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment                         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other project specific KPIs      | <input type="checkbox"/> C2M projects                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Investments and Financing          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climate area vulnerability reduction        |   |   |

**Biodiversity (habitats)**

Area of habitats where loss of biodiversity is being halted and reversed

The start-value is pre-set to 0. In the end-value please provide an estimate of the area of habitats where loss of biodiversity is being halted and reversed due to your project, at project-end. The end-value is expected to be higher than the start-value, demonstrating an increase in the area positively affected, due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated number, 3/5 years after the project-end, to demonstrate if further area of habitats will be positively affected. Please also provide relevant comments (e.g. 3 most relevant habitats addressed , their areas, etc)..

Project-Start Value (Baseline)	Project-End Value	3/5 years beyond Project-End Value	Unit
0	0.36	0.46	km2

Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.

Concerns the ponds with surrounding meadow area for adjacent nesting sites. One additional pond restored in the Ston area 5 years after the project end.

**Biodiversity (habitats)**

Area of habitats where loss of biodiversity is being halted and reversed

The start-value is pre-set to 0. In the end-value please provide an estimate of the area of habitats where loss of biodiversity is being halted and reversed due to your project, at project-end. The end-value is expected to be higher than the start-value, demonstrating an increase in the area positively affected, due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated number, 3/5 years after the project-end, to demonstrate if further area of habitats will be positively affected. Please also provide relevant comments (e.g. 3 most relevant habitats addressed , their areas, etc)..

Project-Start Value (Baseline)	Project-End Value	3/5 years beyond Project-End Value	Unit
0	28.5	31.3	km2

Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.

Adequate management by the control of succession of the aquatic habitats and nesting sites considers: ¼ of Konavle field, total Majkovi, total Prijevići areas, 10 ha of Ston field amounting to 2848 ha in the 4 Natura 2000 sites. We expect the additional area of Konavle field to have efficient control of succession of the aquatic habitats and nesting sites considers 5 years beyond end-project.

**Biodiversity (number of Species)**

Number of species whose population loss is being halted and reversed

The start-value is pre-set to 0. In the end-value please provide an estimate of the number of species whose population loss is being halted and reversed due to your project, at project-end. The end-value is expected to be higher than the start-value, demonstrating an increase in the number of species positively affected, due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated number, 3/5 years after the project-end, to demonstrate if further species will be positively affected. Please also provide relevant comments (e.g. 3 most relevant species addressed , their populations, ranges/areas, etc).

Project-Start Value (Baseline)	Project-End Value	3/5 years beyond Project-End Value	Unit
0	1	2	Number of species

Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.

Project is focused on halting and reversing population loss of Mauremys rivulata. Because of the by-catch free fyke net that we are developing, distributing in Croatia and actively sharing the knowledge with targeted project supporters in Montenegro and Albania additional population loss of the Emys orbicularis is expected in the project area, but also outside. Additionally, planned dissemination of the tool has a potential to reach other Mediterranean freshwater species in Portugal, Spain, France and Italy: Mauremys leprosa, Emys trinacris.

**Biodiversity (Invasive Alien Species)**

Reduction in area occupied by invasive alien species .

In the start-value please provide the baseline at the start of the project (e.g. the area of the invasive alien species targeted by your project). In the end-value please provide the new estimated area of the invasive alien species due to the project, at project-end. The end-value is expected to be lower than the start-value, demonstrating a reduction in the area of the invasive alien species, due to the project actions. Please also provide the estimated area of the invasive alien species for the 3/5 years after the project end to demonstrate if further reduction would be achieved. Please also provide relevant comments (e.g. 3 most relevant IAS addressed, their populations, etc).

Project-Start Value (Baseline)	Project-End Value	3/5 years beyond Project-End Value	Unit
49.49	21	21	km2

Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.

3 most relevant IAS addressed:

1. *Trachemys scripta*: present in all of the five NATURA2000 sites that are the total project area - all project sites in Natura2000 areas except for Delta Neretve will be completely cleared by the end of the project. Affected area after the project expected not to change because of the intensive education and awareness raising.
2. *Paspalum paspaloides*: currently known to be present in two NATURA2000 sites included in the project area (0.26 km<sup>2</sup>) and will be completely cleared by the end of the project. Re-introduction could occur via birds in case there are other affected areas nearby. Project activities include mapping of presence in the project area.
3. *Gambusia sp.*: currently known to be present in two NATURA2000 sites (0.26 km<sup>2</sup>) and will be partially cleared by the end of the project due to the trophic balance important for *Mauremys rivulata*. 5 years after the project, total 0.26 area should be cleared. Project activities include mapping of presence

#### Other project specific KPIs

Please enter your project's specific KPI title and provide clarifications in the comment box.

Please specify any other KPIs you wish to present that you consider relevant and not included in the existing KPI list.

Project-Start Value (Baseline)	Project-End Value	3/5 years beyond Project-End Value	Unit
558	598	638	total estimated number of <i>M.rivulata</i> animals in Croatia

Please provide stand-alone information to further clarify your input and briefly explain any assumptions/calculations. Please also ensure alignment with the main proposal text.

558 is the currently estimated *M. rivulata* population size in Croatia. Project activities focusing on removing direct and indirect threats and promoting species oriented management over the species range in the county will stabilize the population trend. Additionally, habitat reconstruction and population reinforcement will enable 40 additional animals in the locality where the species was considered to be locally extinct raising the number to 598 by the end of the project. Success of reinforcement can be verified 5 years after the project end when additional 4-5 nests in Ston pond vicinity providing at minimum 40 hatchlings would raise this number to 638 (conservative estimation). Stability of the rest of the population in Croatia would be further ensured through effective habitat management.

**ANNEX 2****ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR THE ACTION**

Forms of funding	Estimated eligible <sup>1</sup> costs (per budget category)										Estimated EU contribution <sup>2</sup>				
	Direct costs									Indirect costs	Total costs	EU contribution to eligible costs			Maximum grant amount <sup>6</sup>
	A. Personnel costs			B. Subcontracting costs	C. Purchase costs			D. Other cost categories		E. Indirect costs <sup>3</sup>		Funding rate % <sup>4</sup>	Maximum EU contribution <sup>5</sup>	Requested EU contribution	
	A.1 Employees (or equivalent)	A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries	A.5 Volunteers	B. Subcontracting	C.1 Travel and subsistence	C.2 Equipment	C.3 Other goods, works and services	D.1 Financial support to third parties	D.2 Land purchase	E. Indirect costs					
A.2 Natural persons under direct contract															
A.3 Seconded persons															
	Actual costs	Unit costs <sup>7</sup>	Unit costs <sup>7</sup>	Actual costs	Actual costs	Actual costs	Actual costs	Actual costs	Actual costs	Flat-rate costs <sup>8</sup>					
	a1	a3	a4	b	c1	c2	c3	d1a	d2	e = flat-rate * (a1 + a3 + b + c1 + c2 + c3 + d1a)	f = a + b + c + d + e	U	g = f * U%	h	m
<b>1 - FAZ</b>	211 168.00	0.00	0.00	33 140.00	41 593.00	9 253.00	102 568.00	0.00	0.00	27 840.54	425 562.54	60	255 337.52	255 337.52	255 337.52
<b>2 - ZOO-Zg</b>	147 103.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27 978.00	14 401.00	273 514.00	0.00	0.00	32 409.72	495 405.72	60	297 243.43	297 243.43	297 243.43
<b>3 - HV</b>	47 128.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	28 682.00	6 391.00	210 902.00	0.00	0.00	20 517.21	313 620.21	60	188 172.13	188 172.13	188 172.13
<b>4 - HYLA</b>	175 824.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50 983.00	35 674.00	31 500.00	0.00	0.00	20 578.67	314 559.67	60	188 735.80	188 735.80	188 735.80
<b>5 - DUNEZ</b>	288 022.00	0.00	2 350.00	0.00	21 014.00	51 775.00	181 160.00	0.00	0.00	37 937.97	582 258.97	60	349 355.38	349 355.38	349 355.38
<b>Σ consortium</b>	869 245.00	0.00	2 350.00	33 140.00	170 250.00	117 494.00	799 644.00	0.00	0.00	139 284.11	2 131 407.11		1 278 844.26	1 278 844.26	1 278 844.26

<sup>1</sup> See Article 6 for the eligibility conditions. All amounts must be expressed in EUR (see Article 21 for the conversion rules).

<sup>2</sup> The consortium remains free to decide on a different internal distribution of the EU funding (via the consortium agreement; see Article 7).

<sup>3</sup> Indirect costs already covered by an operating grant (received under any EU funding programme) are ineligible (see Article 6.3). Therefore, a beneficiary/affiliated entity that receives an operating grant during the action duration cannot declare indirect costs for the year(s)/reporting period(s) covered by the operating grant, unless they can demonstrate that the operating grant does not cover any costs of the action. This requires specific accounting tools. Please immediately contact us via the EU Funding & Tenders Portal for details.

<sup>4</sup> See Data Sheet for the funding rate(s).

<sup>5</sup> This is the theoretical amount of the EU contribution to costs, if the reimbursement rate is applied to all the budgeted costs. This theoretical amount is then capped by the 'maximum grant amount'.

<sup>6</sup> The 'maximum grant amount' is the maximum grant amount decided by the EU. It normally corresponds to the requested grant, but may be lower.

<sup>7</sup> See Annex 2a 'Additional information on the estimated budget' for the details (units, cost per unit).

<sup>8</sup> See Data Sheet for the flat-rate.

**ANNEX 2a**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON UNIT COSTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

**SME owners/natural person beneficiaries without salary** (Decision C(2020) 7115<sup>1</sup>)

Type: unit costs

Units: days spent working on the action (rounded up or down to the nearest half-day)

Amount per unit (daily rate): calculated according to the following formula:

{EUR 5 080 / 18 days = **282,22**}  
 multiplied by  
 {country-specific correction coefficient of the country where the beneficiary is established}

The country-specific correction coefficients used are those set out in the Horizon Europe Work Programme (section Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions) in force at the time of the call (see [Portal Reference Documents](#)).

**Volunteers** (Decision C(2019)2646<sup>2</sup>)

Type: unit costs

Units: days spent working on the action (rounded up or down to the nearest half-day)

Amount per unit (daily rate):

Country	Daily rate in €
Denmark, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Austria, Sweden, Liechtenstein, Norway	<b>157</b>
Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Finland, United Kingdom, Iceland	<b>131</b>
Czech Republic, Greece, Spain, Cyprus, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia	<b>78</b>
Bulgaria, Estonia, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia	<b>47</b>
Australia, Canada, Hong King, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Macao, New Zealand, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Switzerland.	<b>92</b>
Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Cook Islands, Dominica, Gabon, Grenada, Ivory Coast, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Lebanon, Libya, Mexico, Montenegro, Nigeria, Peru, Saint Kitts And Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent And the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Seychelles, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe	<b>45</b>
Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El	<b>32</b>

<sup>1</sup> Commission [Decision](#) of 20 October 2020 authorising the use of unit costs for the personnel costs of the owners of small and medium-sized enterprises and beneficiaries that are natural persons not receiving a salary for the work carried out by themselves under an action or work programme (C(2020)7715).

<sup>2</sup> Commission [Decision](#) of 10 April 2019 authorising the use of unit costs for declaring personnel costs for the work carried out by volunteers under an action or a work programme (C(2019)2646).



<p>Salvador, Georgia, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Micronesia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Palestine, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Senegal, South Africa, Surinam, Swaziland, Russia, Trinidad and Tobago, Vanuatu</p>	
<p>Algeria, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Myanmar, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo – Democratic Republic of the-, Cuba, Korea (DPR), Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji Island, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Moldova, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Niue, Pakistan, Palau, Philippines, Rwanda, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Solomon, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Timor-Leste – Democratic Republic of, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>

**ANNEX 3**

**ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES**

**USTANOVA ZOOLOSKI VRT GRADA ZAGREBA (ZOO-Zg)**, PIC 933554773, established in FAKULTETSKO DOBRO 1, GRAD ZAGREB 10000, Croatia,

**hereby agrees**

**to become beneficiary**

**in Agreement No 101071737 — LIFE21-NAT-HR-LIFE for Mauremys** ('the Agreement')

**between SVEUCILISTE U ZAGREBU AGRONOMSKI FAKULTET (FAZ) and the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

**and mandates**

**the coordinator** to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

**ANNEX 3**

**ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES**

**HRVATSKE VODE PRAVNA OSOBA ZA UPRAVLJANJE VODAMA (HV)**, PIC 950805835, established in ULICA GRADA VUKOVARA 220, ZAGREB 10000, Croatia,

**hereby agrees**

**to become beneficiary**

**in Agreement No 101071737 — LIFE21-NAT-HR-LIFE for Mauremys** ('the Agreement')

**between SVEUCILISTE U ZAGREBU AGRONOMSKI FAKULTET (FAZ) and the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

**and mandates**

**the coordinator** to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

**ANNEX 3**

**ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES**

**UDRUGA HYLA (HYLA)**, PIC 919396750, established in I LIPOVAC 7, ZAGREB 10000, Croatia,

**hereby agrees**

**to become beneficiary**

**in Agreement No 101071737 — LIFE21-NAT-HR-LIFE for Mauremys** (‘the Agreement’)

**between SVEUCILISTE U ZAGREBU AGRONOMSKI FAKULTET (FAZ) and the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** (‘EU executive agency’ or ‘granting authority’), under the powers delegated by the European Commission (‘European Commission’),

**and mandates**

**the coordinator** to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary

**ANNEX 3**

**ACCESSION FORM FOR BENEFICIARIES**

**JAVNA USTANOVA ZA UPRAVLJANJE ZASTICENIM DIJELOVIMA PRIRODE DUBROVACKO-NERETVANSKE ZUPANIJE (DUNEZ)**, PIC 897512774, established in BRANITELJA DUBROVNIKA 41, DUBROVNIK 20000, Croatia,

**hereby agrees**

**to become beneficiary**

**in Agreement No 101071737 — LIFE21-NAT-HR-LIFE for Mauremys** ('the Agreement')

**between SVEUCILISTE U ZAGREBU AGRONOMSKI FAKULTET (FAZ) and the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

**and mandates**

**the coordinator** to submit and sign in its name and on its behalf any **amendments** to the Agreement, in accordance with Article 39.

By signing this accession form, the beneficiary accepts the grant and agrees to implement it in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

SIGNATURE

For the beneficiary



ANNEX 4 LIFE MGA — MULTI + MONO

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR [PARTICIPANT NAME] FOR REPORTING PERIOD [NUMBER]

Eligible <sup>1</sup> costs (per budget category)											EU contribution <sup>2</sup>				Revenues	
Direct costs										Indirect costs	Total costs	EU contribution to eligible costs			Total requested EU contribution	Income generated by the action
A. Personnel costs			B. Subcontracting costs	C. Purchase costs			D. Other cost categories		E. Indirect costs <sup>2</sup>	Funding rate % <sup>3</sup>		Maximum EU contribution <sup>4</sup>	Requested EU contribution			
Forms of funding	A.1 Employees (or equivalent)	A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries	A.5 Volunteers	B. Subcontracting	C.1 Travel and subsistence	C.2 Equipment	C.3 Other goods, works and services	D.X Financial support to third parties	D.2 Land purchase	E. Indirect costs						
	A.2 Natural persons under direct contract															
	Actual costs	Unit costs <sup>5</sup>	Unit costs <sup>5</sup>	Actual costs	Actual costs	Actual costs	Actual costs	Actual costs	Actual costs	Flat-rate costs <sup>6</sup>						
	a1	a3	a4	b	c1	c2	c3	d1a	d2	e = flat-rate * (a1 + a3 + b + c1 + c2 + c3 + d1a)	f = a+b+c+d+e	U	g = f*U%	h	m	
XX – [short name beneficiary/affiliated entity]																

**The beneficiary/affiliated entity hereby confirms that:**  
 The information provided is complete, reliable and true.  
 The costs and contributions declared are eligible (see Article 6).  
 The costs and contributions can be substantiated by adequate records and supporting documentation that will be produced upon request or in the context of checks, reviews, audits and investigations (see Articles 19, 20 and 25).  
 For the last reporting period: that all the revenues have been declared (see Article 22).

<sup>1</sup> Please declare all eligible costs and contributions, even if they exceed the amounts indicated in the estimated budget (see Annex 2). Only amounts that were declared in your individual financial statements can be taken into account later on, in order to replace costs/contributions that are found to be ineligible.

<sup>2</sup> See Article 6 for the eligibility conditions. All amounts must be expressed in EUR (see Article 21 for the conversion rules).

<sup>3</sup> If you have also received an EU operating grant during this reporting period, you cannot claim indirect costs - unless you can demonstrate that the operating grant does not cover any costs of the action. This requires specific accounting tools. Please contact us immediately via the Funding & Tenders Portal for details.

<sup>4</sup> See Data Sheet for the reimbursement rate(s).

<sup>5</sup> This is the *theoretical* amount of EU contribution to costs that the system calculates automatically (by multiplying the reimbursement rates by the costs declared). The amount you request (in the column 'requested EU contribution') may be less.

<sup>6</sup> See Annex 2a 'Additional information on the estimated budget' for the details (units, cost per unit).

<sup>7</sup> See Data Sheet for the flat-rate.

## ANNEX 5

### SPECIFIC RULES

#### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR) — BACKGROUND AND RESULTS — ACCESS RIGHTS AND RIGHTS OF USE (— ARTICLE 16)

##### **Rights of use of the granting authority on results for information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes**

The granting authority also has the right to exploit non-sensitive results of the action for information, communication, dissemination and publicity purposes, using any of the following modes:

- **use for its own purposes** (in particular, making them available to persons working for the granting authority or any other EU service (including institutions, bodies, offices, agencies, etc.) or EU Member State institution or body; copying or reproducing them in whole or in part, in unlimited numbers; and communication through press information services)
- **distribution to the public** in hard copies, in electronic or digital format, on the internet including social networks, as a downloadable or non-downloadable file
- **editing** or **redrafting** (including shortening, summarising, changing, correcting, cutting, inserting elements (e.g. meta-data, legends or other graphic, visual, audio or text elements extracting parts (e.g. audio or video files), dividing into parts or use in a compilation
- **translation** (including inserting subtitles/dubbing) in all official languages of EU
- **storage** in paper, electronic or other form
- **archiving** in line with applicable document-management rules
- the right to authorise **third parties** to act on its behalf or sub-license to third parties, including if there is licensed background, any of the rights or modes of exploitation set out in this provision
- **processing**, analysing, aggregating the results and **producing derivative works**
- **disseminating** the results in widely accessible databases or indexes (such as through ‘open access’ or ‘open data’ portals or similar repositories, whether free of charge or not.

The beneficiaries must ensure these rights of use for the whole duration they are protected by industrial or intellectual property rights.

If results are subject to moral rights or third party rights (including intellectual property rights or rights of natural persons on their image and voice), the beneficiaries must ensure that they

comply with their obligations under this Agreement (in particular, by obtaining the necessary licences and authorisations from the rights holders concerned).

## **COMMUNICATION, DISSEMINATION AND VISIBILITY (— ARTICLE 17)**

### **Communication and dissemination plan**

The beneficiaries must provide a detailed communication and dissemination plan, setting out the objectives, key messaging, target audiences, communication channels, social media plan, planned budget and relevant indicators for monitoring and evaluation.

### **Additional communication and dissemination activities**

The beneficiaries must engage in the following additional communication and dissemination activities:

- **present the project** (including project summary, coordinator contact details, list of participants, European flag and funding statement and special logo and project results) on the beneficiaries' **websites** or **social media accounts**
- for actions involving equipment, infrastructure or works, display as soon as the work on the action starts a **printed or electronic sign** of appropriate size, with European flag and funding statement and special logo
- upload the public **project results** to the LIFE Project Results platform, available through the Funding & Tenders Portal .

### **Special logos**

Communication activities and infrastructure, equipment or major results funded by the grant must moreover display the following logo:

- the LIFE Programme logo



and

- for projects in Natura 2000 sites or contributing to the integrity of Natura 2000 network: the Natura 2000 logo



## **SPECIFIC RULES FOR CARRYING OUT THE ACTION (— ARTICLE 18)**

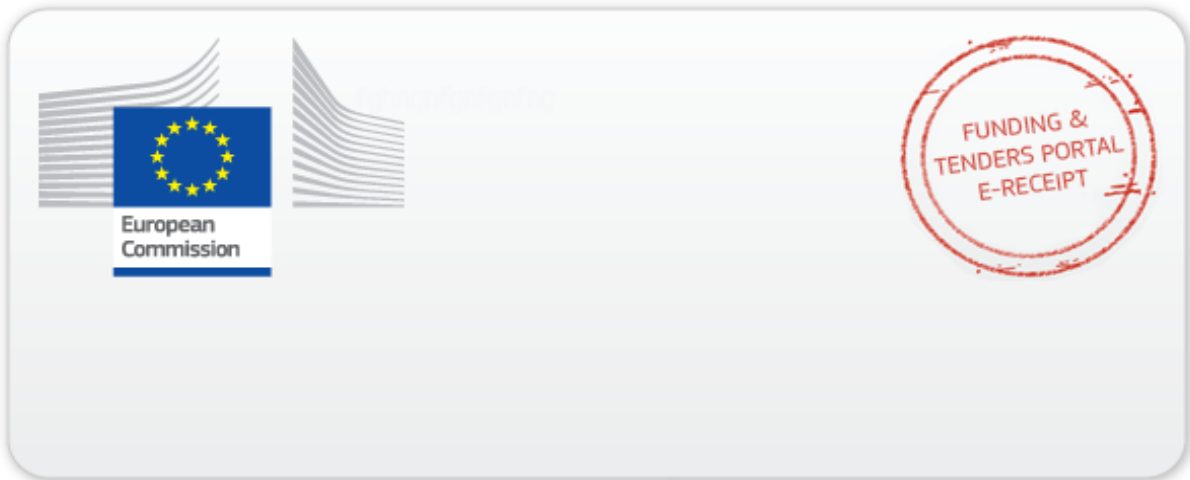
### **Durability**

Unless exempted by the granting authority, beneficiaries of Standard Action Projects, Strategic Nature Projects and Strategic Integrated Projects must commit to continue to use and maintain after the end of the action equipment bought and eligible at full costs, for activities pursuing the action's objectives. Such equipment must be used for these purposes — for at least five years after the end of the action (see Data Sheet, Point 1) or until the end of its economic lifespan (i.e. until it has been fully depreciated) — whichever is earlier.

### **Specific rules for blending operations**

When implementing blending operations, the beneficiaries acknowledge and accept that:

- the grant depends on the approved financing from the Implementing Partner and/or public or private investors for the project
- they must inform the granting authority both about the approval for financing and the financial close — within 15 days
- the payment deadline for the first prefinancing is automatically suspended until the granting authority is informed about the approval for financing
- both actions will be managed and monitored in parallel and in close coordination with the Implementing Partner, in particular:
  - all information, data and documents (including the due diligence by the Implementing Partner and the signed agreement) may be exchanged and may be relied on for the management of the other action (if needed)
  - issues in one action may impact the other (e.g. suspension or termination in one action may lead to suspension also of the other action; termination of the grant will normally suspend and exit from further financing and vice versa, etc.)
- the granting authority may disclose confidential information also to the Implementing Partner.



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