

# European Restoration Flagships

*The Benefits of Restoration: A European Perspective*

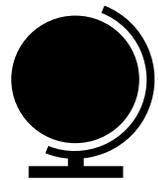
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6 April 2022

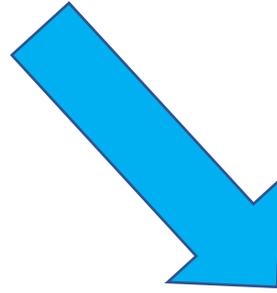
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# Overarching project

“Leading the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030” - joint leadership with FAO & UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, to catalyze large-scale restoration of ecosystems globally



Global focus



## European Restoration Flagships (ERF) project



Focussed on the Pan-Europe area

UNEP will implement the project with its partner UNEP-WCMC

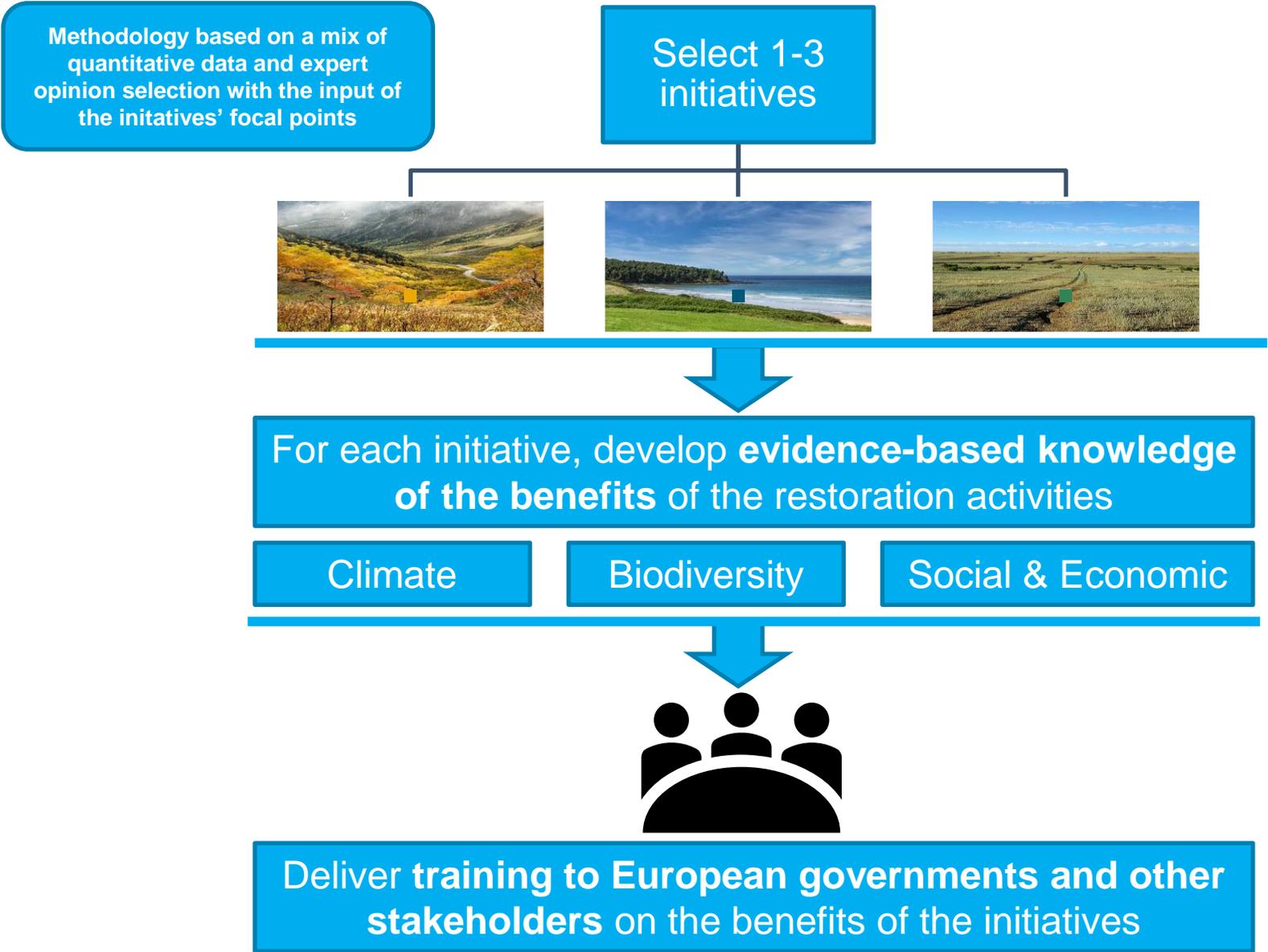
## PROJECT GOAL

**Promote the implementation of landscape and seascape restoration programmes across Europe**

By illustrating the realised and potential **benefits** of selected initiatives

By providing **networking** opportunities to the stakeholders

# PROJECT ACTIVITIES



1  
November  
2021

2  
April  
2022

3  
May  
2022

# SELECTED EUROPEAN INITIATIVES

## Altyn Dala

*Goal:* preserve and enhance the grassland landscapes of Kazakhstan and re-establish fully functional ecosystems of the steppe, semi-desert and desert.

Grassland  
Ecosystems



## Carpathian Mountains (Carpathian Convention)

*Goal:* comprehensive policy and cooperation to guarantee protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians.

Mountain  
Ecosystems



## European Regional Seas

*Goal:* improve management of EBSAs and establishment of effective MPAs in North-East Atlantic, Black, Caspian, Baltic and Mediterranean Seas

### Gokova Bay

*Goal:* remove barriers to the recovery of marine ecosystem from Gökova Bay to Cape Gelidonya, triggering the revival of healthy ecosystem processes

### Danube Delta

*Goal:* improve the ecological integrity and ecosystem functioning of 40,000 ha of wetland and terrestrial habitat in the Danube Delta region by re-establishing key natural processes.

Sea and  
Coastal  
Ecosystems



# ACTIVITIES IN PROGRESS

## Activity 2

### ANALYSIS OF THE BENEFITS

- Analysis of the benefits
- Materials for the trainings event

## Activity 3

### DEVELOP & DELIVER TRAINING

- **Showcasing restoration benefits** to governments and other stakeholders (e.g., NGOs, funders) with the aim of catalysing new restoration initiatives across Europe.
- Providing the opportunity for restoration initiatives to **exchange experiences and lessons learned** with other initiatives, in particular on capacity building, upscaling initiatives, and financing.



# How the European Restoration Flagships and the UN Decade Flagships projects relate

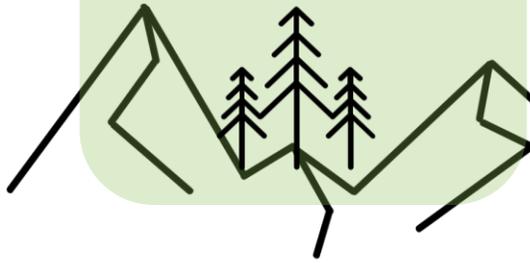
Being selected as a flagship for the European Restoration Flagships project is not a pre-requisite for participating in the UN Decade Flagships selection

...but

it offers the advantages of being exposed to a variety of stakeholders and provides evidence for making a case for the selection by the UN Decade Flagships

# Benefits of forest protection in the Carpathians

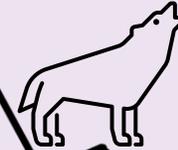
Supports carbon storage and carbon sequestration



Prevents erosion and landslides



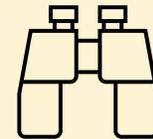
Preserves the populations of carnivores and other forest species



Improves water quality, groundwater levels and hydropower generation



Promotes eco-tourism and rural economics



# PROPOSED BENEFITS

## BIODIVERSITY



Increased population/biomass



Improved ecosystem connectivity



Improved ecosystem functioning



Reduced invasive alien species

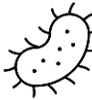


Survival of species

## CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

Increased carbon sequestration

## CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION



Increased resilience of populations



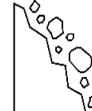
Reduced risk of wildfires



Reduced drought



Reduced risk of flooding



Reduced risk of erosion and landslides



Changed pattern of wild species consumption

## SOCIO ECONOMIC BENEFITS



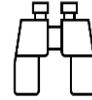
Reduced effects of criminal activities



Improved freshwater quality and supported functioning water cycle



Increased revenues from pre-existing local economic activities



Increased income from eco-tourism

# EUROPE RESTORATION FLAGSHIPS PROJECT

Thank you

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