

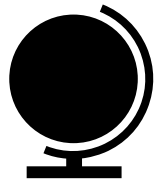
European Restoration Flagships

The Benefits of Restoration: A European Perspective

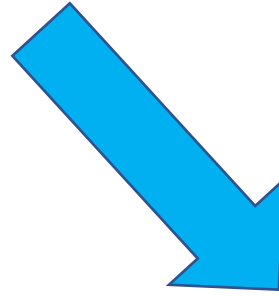
6 April 2022

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

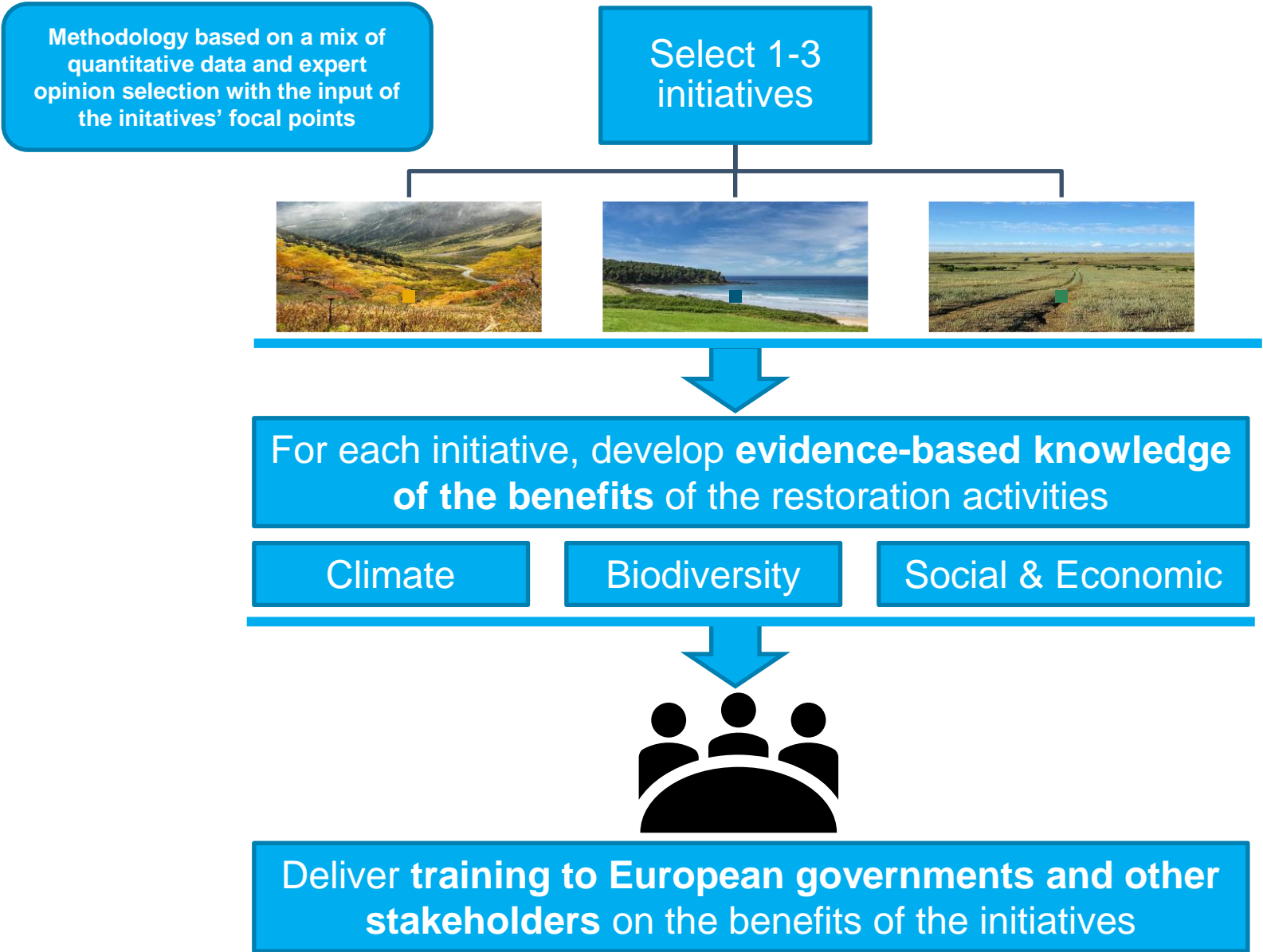
PROJECT GOAL

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

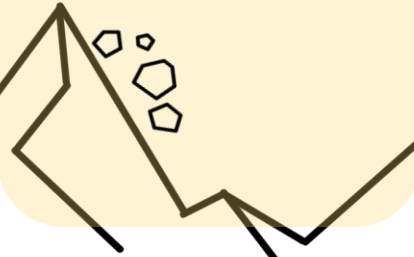
it offers the advantages of being exposed to a variety of stakeholders and provides evidence for making a case for the selection by the UN Decade Flagships

Benefits of forest protection in the Carpathians

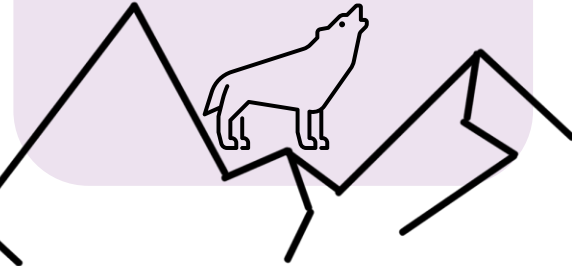
Supports carbon storage and carbon sequestration



Prevents erosion and landslides



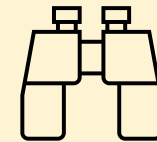
Preserves the populations of carnivores and other forest species



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

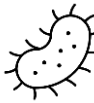


Survival of species

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



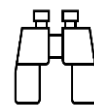
Reduced effects of criminal activities



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
