Università Ca'Foscari Venezia

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: **LIFE LAGOON REFRESH- Coastal lagoon habitat (1150*) and species recovery by restoring the salt gradient increasing fresh water input**

FUNDING PROGRAMME: **LIFE**

CALL: **LIFE NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY 2016**

SCIENTIFIC FIELD: **Environmental technology and green economy**

HOST DEPARTMENT/CENTRE: **Department of Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics- DAIS**

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: **Adriano Sfriso**

FINANCIAL DATA:

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
243.6286,00€	347.773,00€

ABSTRACT:

The concrete actions of recovery will be realized along the margin of the SCI Northern Venetian Lagoon, at the interface between lagoon and mainland. The measures identified to achieve the objectives of the project include:

- Diversion of a freshwater flow of approximately 1,000 l/s (action C1) from the river Sile into the lagoon. Such action is necessary for the recreation of a salt gradient typical of buffer areas between lagoon and mainland, that has been artificially prevented in the course of the historical site management.
- Variation of bottom morphology (action C2) through biodegradable structures, with a configuration designed in order to decrease the freshwater dispersion and favour reed bed development.
- Transplantation of turves or single rhizomes of *Phragmites australis* in order to accelerate reed bed formation (action C3).
- Transplantation of small clumps of *Ruppia cirrhosa*, an aquatic species characterizing habitats 1150* and highly fed upon by waterfowl, with high degree of conservation and adapted to low salinity, to trigger and accelerate the recolonization of the area (action C4).
- Decrease of the hunting and fishing pressure on an area of 70 hectares, banning all mobile hunting methods (e.g. tracking, stalking, pursuing) and introducing a strict fishing regulation.Local fishermen and hunters will be involved, via the main sector associations, in the actions of transplant reeds, of laying biodegradable structures and monitoring of bird and fish fauna, in order to raise awareness of these categories on the conservation and restoration of habitats and species. To this aim, preparatory actions include specific training courses (action A.7). Their activities will be supported by scientific and technical partners of the project .Project activities will be followed by an intensive environmental monitoring activity to verify the achievement of expected results and implement any useful corrective action (eg. regulation of freshwater flow). Parameters necessary to quantify recovery ecosystem services will be detected. The project also includes dissemination activities for both a general public and Italian and European specific targets.

Planned Start date	Planned End date
September 1th, 2016	August 31th, 2021

PARTNERSHIP:

1.	Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale- ISPRA	IT	Coordinator
2.	Ipros Ingegneria ambientale s.r.l.	IT	Partner
3.	Provveditorato Interregionale per le Opere Pubbliche (OO.PP) del Veneto , Trentino Alto Adige, Friuli Venezia Giulia	IT	Partner
4.	Regione Veneto- Direzione Ambiente (RV)	IT	Partner
5.	Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia (UNIVE)	IT	Partner