



## **OUTPUT FACT SHEET**

## Pilot actions (including investment, if applicable)

Version 2

Project index number and acronym	CE926 - CEETO
Lead partner	Regione Emilia-Romagna - Servizio Aree Protette, Foreste e Sviluppo della Montagna
Output number and title	O.T2.5 Pilot Actions in Sölktäler Naturpark
Investment number and title (if applicable)	
Responsible partner (PP name and number)	Naturpark Sölktäler (SNP. PP04)
Project website	https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/CEETO.html
Delivery date	11.2019





#### Summary description of the pilot action (including investment, if applicable) explaining its experimental nature and demonstration character

Due to an increasing tourism volume it is important that measures for the control of the visitors are set in advance in order to develop anticipatory measures to protect nature in the best possible way. In addition it is necessary to create awareness about the special habitat and to draw attention to where the tourists go. There are three main goals set which are reducing the impacts of humans while traveling, in particular with visitor stream management measurements, the raising awareness and maintaining the alpine pastures. Since the alpine pastures have a very important tourist role and are therefore an economic factor, it is important that they are in good and wellmaintained condition. After all, they are the flagship and tourist attraction of a region. The monitoring program should evaluate the human impact on valleys and leading species of several sensitive habitats (div. grouse species) and find the relative frequency in the different valleys using visitor counting as a method. Additionally the abundance of the wildlife should be verified and constantly reviewed, even the different impacts on different species. The positions of the counters were installed on the four most frequented hiking trails.

In addition, a pilot action was launched with the aim of raising awareness of the special habitats within the nature park. To this end, various information brochures have been designed to convey knowledge about the uniqueness of the landscape and the natural habitats (see appendix Ski Tour Folder, Leaflet or Placemat). The main objective of raising awareness was to provide and pass on information through various tools as shown in the appendix with some examples.

#### NUTS region(s) concerned by the pilot action (relevant NUTS level)

The pilot actions are concerning Sölktäler Nature Park area which is in the NUTS AT222region (Bezirk Liezen/district of Liezen). The pilot actions do not address the entire SI044 region, but only the municipality Sölk consisting of the villages Stein an der Enns, Größsölk, Fleiß, Mössna, St. Nikolai, Kleinsölk and Hinterwald.

Country (NUTS 0): AT

Region (NUTS 2): AT22, Steiermark Sub-Region (NUTS 3): AT222, Liezen

#### Investment costs (EUR), if applicable

Investment costs arose from equipment partly paid by CEETO (under the "Afa" - depreciation for assets only the partial costs incurred during the life of CEETO): The total amount of certified EUR 4.289,24 is made up by following:

Spective: 1.819,84 Signs ski tours: 522,60

Canvas: 40,--

Recording device for CEETO film: 72,92

Light barrs: 1.833,88





## Expected impact and benefits of the pilot action for the concerned territory and target groups and leverage of additional funds (if applicable)

At the moment the data were collected and entered into Excel tables, which have to be prepared for a more detailed overview.

In the counting phases the records of the counters are complete, i.e. a lot of data is expected. The data is helpful in determining how many people use the hiking trails in the nature park and how they can be controlled. This means that visitors can be guided by suggestions, correctly advertised paths and, above all, clearly marked paths. But also quiet zones for wild animals can be designated and communicated accordingly.

The data should enable a status quo analysis of summer and winter use. From this, future management strategies will be derived. Seasonal rest periods should be maintained as rest periods. Tourism activities should be limited to individual months in summer and winter.

The pilot action is used to determine the status quo and will be evaluated at the end of the five years and also in between as short term measures. The status quo can be used as base of a target-performance comparison. As short-term goals, small measures can be set that allow better control of tourists. Put differently, the ski tour folder, which was redesigned in winter 2018/2019, is already a result of the previous status quo analysis and contains as a result already changes of the routes and extensions of the rest zones as well as informative contents about the habitats of the animals on site.





## Sustainability of the pilot action results and transferability to other territories and stakeholders.

The sustainability of the results is given by a transferability of the results. This can serve as a basis for a further investigation, for example of the habitats of wild animals. In 2018, for example, another project "Regional.Netz.Natur" was launched. This project aims to bring together all stakeholders involved in the use of nature. A superior network for the entire region has been established. On the one hand, this should provide a platform for the exchange of opinions and information, and on the other hand, it should provide a basis (figures, facts, and data) that is recognized by everyone for various visitor guidance projects. Within the framework of this project, wildlife habitats of sensitive game species were modelled. With the participation of wildlife biologists from the nature park, potential winter habitats of chamois were modelled, for example, on the basis of presence data in winter. These can be made available as a decision basis for quiet zones. The nature park will use these data in the planning of zoning within the framework of the five-year management plans.

In addition, the locations of deer feedings and official wildlife rest zones were located in the nature park. These are included in the zoning and were already taken into account during winter management. The data is also used as the basis for a 5-year management plan.

The primary aim is to control tourist flows in endangered regions so that their awareness to learn and appreciate the added value of nature through the measures introduced in the pilot actions.

## Lessons learned and added value of transnational cooperation of the pilot action implementation (including investment, if applicable)

If the pilot actions were coordinated and planned internally, there were no problems in implementation. However, only the weather situation can be identified, which made the data collection in winter 2018/2019 more difficult, as it was not possible to reach the site of the investigation due to the masses of snow and it was not possible to check the effects of the ski mountaineers until summer due to the long snow cover.

- important stakeholders and key persons are necessary for the development and implementation of the pilot actions (e.g. land owners);
- big effort is needed to encourage the main stakeholders for their participation within the actions and activities, but their help must be guaranteed to finalize the actions;
- good cooperation between all involved is another objective that emerges as the pilot actions develop.





#### Contribution to/ compliance with:

- relevant regulatory requirements
- sustainable development environmental effects. In case of risk of negative effects, mitigation measures introduced
- horizontal principles such as equal opportunities and non-descrimination

Relevant regulations were applied by visitor guidance measures. These were usually applied on a voluntary basis, and attempts were also made to provide information on compliance.

The visitor guidance measures were published in winter brochures about ski tours, signs on site and information about social media. Basic information on the necessity of maintaining rest zones and adventure zones was included. Also, in summer a tourist guidance was tried with an alpine pasture and a hiking brochure. In doing so, importance was attached to including local added value (visits to alpine pastures and alpine huts).

These measures will be evaluated over the next few years. If there is a need for further action on these measures, they will be adapted locally.

In the case of awareness-raising measures, seminars with local significance were held in particular. Here, residents should be made aware of the value of their landscape. They should also be encouraged to intensify local offers and other activities. In particular, one of the objectives was to make it easier for women to return to working life in addition to bringing up children.

References to relevant deliverables (e.g. pilot action report, studies), investment factsheet and web-links

If applicable, additional documentation, pictures or images to be provided as annex

All information about the CEETO project are available on the official homepage of the CEETO project: <a href="https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/CEETO.html">https://www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/CEETO.html</a>

For further information please see the listed documents below and the appendix:

- D.T2.4.2 Report on the purchase of thematic equipment
- D.T2.4.3 report on monitoring workplan implementation
- D.T2.2.3 Action Plan
- D.T2.4.1 Monitoring Workplan



### **Appendix**

1. Ski Tour Folder



Front side



Back side



# TAKING **COOPERATION** FORWARD

#### 2. Leaflet











Information über nachhaltigen Tourismus









## TAKING **COOPERATION** FORWARD

#### Nachhaltiger Tourismus

Tourismus ist stark von der natürlichen Attraktivität der Umgebung abhängig. In diesem Zusammenhang ist die gemeinsame Nutzung von den natürlichen Rohstoffen, Dienstleistungen als auch Infrastrukturen ein wichtiger Faktor innerhalb von Gemeinschaften. Nachhaltiger Tourismus beinhaltet eine zukunftsgerechte Gestaltung des Tourismus und bezeichnet eine Art des Reisens und der Entwicklung von Tourismusangeboten, die sich positiv auf Natur, Kultur und Bevölkerung auswirkt indem sie wirtschaftliche Chancen für die Bevölkerung braucht es entsprechende Managementsysteme die Umwelt-, Wirtschafts- und soziale Einflussfaktoren ganzheitlich berücksichtigen.



CEETO (Central Europe Eco-Tourism – Zentraleuropäischer Ökotourismus) ist ein Projekt zur Förderung innovativer Tourismusmodelle und beschäftig sich damit, dass die Naturschutzzonen in gemeinsamer Arbeit erhalten bleiben und in diesem Zug bestmöglich dem Tourismus zugänglich gemacht werden. Die Strategie zielt darauf ab, speziell auf nachhaltigen Tourismus ausgelegte Management- und Monitoring-Tools offenzulegen. CEETO för-

dert den Ökotourismus für eine nachhaltige Entwicklung der Region und den Erhalt der Natur. Der Erhalt der bestehenden Alminifratrukturen und der unberührten Natur soll durch touristische Lenkungsmaßnahmen gesichert werden. Der Wert von "Leben in und mit der Natur" kann nur weitergegeben werden, wenn er von der einheimischen Bevölkerung selbst getragen wird. Durch ein lokales praxisnahes Ausbildungsangebot soll dieses Bewusstsein wieder stärker angeregt werden.



Der Naturpark Sölktäler liegt in den Niederen Tauern und umfasst eine Fläche von 28 800 ha. Neben dem kristallinen Gestein der Niederen Tauern gibt es hier sogar Marmor, ein Grund für die besonders hohe Artenvielfalt der Vegetation. Kennzeichnend für den Naturpark sind die moorreiche Landschaft und die zahlreichen Seen in den verschiedenen Höhenlagen. Eine weitere große Attraktion des Naturparks ist der Sölkpass, der die beiden parallel verlaufenden Täler (Ennstal und Murtal) miteinander verbindet. Der früher bezeichnete Säumerweg diente dem Transport und Austausch von Salz und Wein sowie Getreide. Großes Ziel des Naturparks Sölktäler ist es, vermehrt auf Qualität statt auf Quantität zu setzen. Zusammen mit den Bewohnern soll der besondere Lebensraum, Flora und Fauna präsentiert werden. Das Bewusstsein für die Natur soll geweckt und gesteigert werden. Mit der Zusammenarbeit mit CEETO wird dies möglich gemacht, beispielsweise durch den Erhalt von Almen.







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#### 3. Placemats









