Creating the European Nature Academy for applied Blended LEarning

PROJECT IN A NUTSHELL
- SHORT NAME: LIFE ENABLE
- TOTAL BUDGET: € 1,6m
- DATES: START 1.8.2021 / END 31.07.2024
- LED BY EUROPARC Federation WITH 7 PARTNERS FROM 7 COUNTRIES
- 8 IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS,
- 5 COMMUNICATION ACTIONS &
- 5 PROJECT MANAGEMENT ACTIONS
- 39 DELIVERABLE OUTPUTS

ABOUT LIFE ENABLE

This forward-looking three-year project is designed to **build practical nature management capacity among Natura 2000 and Protected Area managers.** The project aims to **equip individuals and their organisations with the competencies they require to meet the challenges and opportunities of nature management in the coming decade.**

The primary purpose of the project is to **enable all Natura 2000 and Protected Area managers, to become more effective, competent and confident nature management professionals.** The project will use a **blended learning approach** to build capacities in core competencies required for effective nature management. Particular attention will be directed towards **the management practices required by forest and marine ecosystem managers.**

PROJECT'S PARTNERS

The project is led by **The EUROPARC Federation** with the direct involvement of **seven** partners:

1. **Alfred Toepfer Akademie für Naturschutz**
2. **E.C.O. Institute of Ecology**
3. **FUNGOBE, Fundación Interuniversitaria Fernando González Bernáldez para los espacios naturales**
4. **Metsähallitus, Parks and Wildlife Finland**
5. **MedPAN Network of Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas managers**
6. **Propark Foundation for Protected Areas**
7. **TESAF, University of Padova, The Department of Land, Environment, Agriculture and Forestry**

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HOW THE PROJECT WILL WORK

The project will develop **practical ways to enable Natura 2000 and protected area managers to meet the complex and multiple challenges faced by nature in Europe.**
A range of actions will be implemented to support practical capacity building for effective nature management, including development of a competence-based training framework, new tools and learning quality standards.

The project will create the new **'European Nature Academy',** a European training programme for nature managers. The Academy will **provide innovative and creative online learning opportunities, combined with safe and carefully selected face-to-face learning when possible.**
According to their learning needs and interests, participants will be able to progress through basic, foundation and practitioner level courses covering various subjects and including a 'train the trainer' course.

LIFE ENABLE will provide a strong evidence base about **what can, could and should be provided for applied nature management capacity building.** The project will test blended learning tools and approaches essential to the **long-term protection of Europe's biodiversity and our shared natural heritage.**

LIST OF ALL ACTIONS

A. IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

- **A1** Establish the European Nature Academy training system framework: the Project Coordination Unit & Expert Groups

- **A2** Produce a Gap Analysis of capacity development needs based on a stock-take of current learning provision

- **A3** Produce and test an online training needs analysis tool to create capacity building training programmes at organisational, regional and national levels

- **A4** Create the European Nature Academy training hub and tools to support the network of European training sites

- **A5** Develop competence-based capacity building courses, content and needs-based learning programmes

- **A6** Develop a maintenance plan, including a feasibility study and option appraisal, to support sustainable development of the training system at European level post-project

- **A7** Develop tools to raise awareness about the European Nature Academy, promote the training system and the learning hub and the participation of Natura 2000 site managers

- **A8** Promote a range of actions at local level to create new employment opportunities

B. ACTIONS FOR COMMUNICATION AND FOR DISSEMINATION OF PROJECT LESSONS (OBLIGATORY)

- **B1** Create the website and associated social media activities

- **B2** Communication & networking activities with other LIFE/ Non-LIFE funded projects

- **B3** Guidelines for replicability & recommendations for future capacity building

- **B4** International networking to disseminate project results

- **B5** Produce the project's Layman's Report

C. PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING OF THE PROJECT PROGRESS (OBLIGATORY)

- **C1** Project management and reporting

- **C2** Audit Review

- **C3** After-LIFE Plan

- **C4** Qualitative & quantitative Key Project Indicators (KPIs)

- **C5** Socio-economic impact assessment