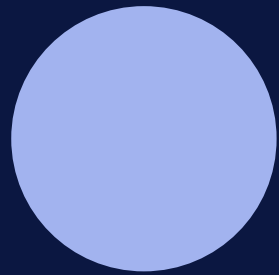


# // Equitable and sustainable messages to TA+2020 trought LinkPAs (Networks of Protected Areas, Green Infrastrucutres Policy, Territorial Cohesion)



# LinkPAs project results are coherent with the Report of the Independent Commission for Sustainable Equality | 2019-2024



- **NPAs are the backbone of the European Green Infrastructure (GI) strategy within the Cohesion Policy**
- NPAs are able to help bio-diversity conservation across Europe as they respect the specific characteristics of each area and its local identity within the post-2010 biodiversity policy.
- NPAs allow to adopt shared mitigation measures and policies to facilitate, in particular, the climate change adaptation, through management and sector development strategies, generally integrated within planning instruments (according to national/regional legislation)

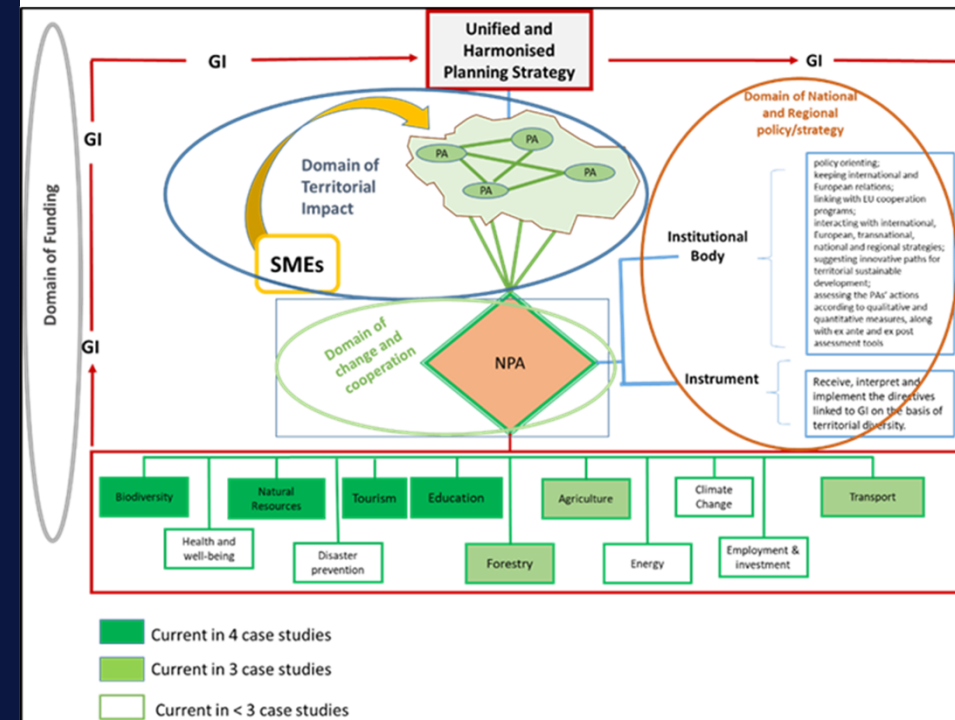
*In defining and implementing territorial development strategies, NPAs assigned and potential role depends on the territorial and policy context (i.e. countries with a planning system that integrates biodiversity concerns in all instruments; countries that adopt different planning tools for environmental and development plans; ....).*

In relation with NPAs:

- spatial planning focuses on the **connectivity and accessibility of the natural and cultural components by GI**: mainly to ensure conservation, environmental protection, landscape development and facilitate the transition towards sustainability
- spatial planning concentrates on the socio-economic interaction between established PAs and the territorial contexts: help to maintain the identity values of protected areas, often linked to resident communities

# 2

## Unified circular and harmonised planning strategy model based on GI policy: a management approach



# NPAs contribution in the general framework of GI

✓ by 4 domains:

## 1. National and regional policy/strategy

- are intermedium institutional (formal/unformal) bodies able to math policy and planning
- clearly define mission and objective that must be supported by a clear mandate in matter of GI
- contribute by several capacities and competences in planning activity
- Follow objectives, strategies and mandate needed to bridge the gap in peripheral areas
- focus on PAs policy role in matter of CC mitigation and Territorial Cohesion

## 2. Exchange and cooperation

- inspire the innovation of institutional capacity building working as a soft governace mechanism
  - work as most effective tools for sharing knowledge
  - act in cross policy sectors as: **Agriculture and Forestry** in order to promote multifunctional resilient agriculture and forestry; **Investment and employment** when it comes to promoted a better image of NPAs themselves; enhancing **Transport** by encouraging sustainable travelling (e.g. multimodal links and integration of transport systems); NPAs are connected to the **Ecoservices** in order to improve the resilience of these areas

### 3. Starting from GI related policy sectors, Direct Territorial impact on:

- Nature/Biodiversity; Spatial planning; Urban policy; Agriculture; Forestry; Tourism and leisure; Transport infrastructure; Energy; Water/flood management and disaster risk reduction; Climate change; Marine and coastal policy,
- mainly Biodiversity; Conservation; Tourism and recreation; Education
- the relation with SMEs, citizens, stakeholders and NGOs

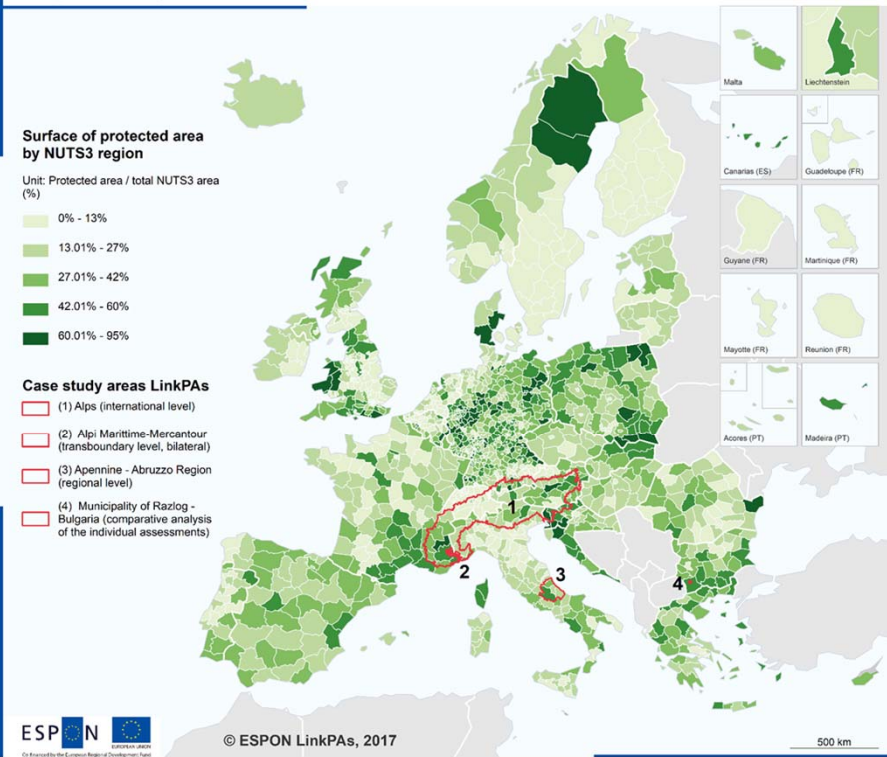
### 4. Founding and better regulation

- use adequate funding instruments, capacities and competences by fulfilling additional roles
- PAs are fully shaped and managed by NPAs, whereas concrete projects, changes in legislation, planning or administrative processes which require links to either corresponding funding programmes or appropriate strategies and policies

# 3

## Place evidence of PAs organisation by NET inspires a new narrative background towards TA+2020

### Proportion of protected areas



Regional level: NUTS3 2013  
Source: ESPON project LinkPAs, Eurac Research 2017  
Origin of data: Perimeter Alpine Convention: Eurac Research 2008  
Alpi Maritime-Mercantour: EEA 2017  
Abruzzo Region: EuroGeographics 2009  
Raziog boundary: ESPON Database 2010  
Statistical data on percentage of protected areas: Calculation based on Natura 2000 sites (EEA 2017), nationally designated areas (EEA 2017) and NUTS3-regions (Eurostat/ GISCO 2013)  
© UMS RIATE for administrative boundaries

- To improve the EU **GI** policy in order to make the EU Biodiversity Strategy more effective by common measures, introducing new multi-level (soft) governance models
- To catch different territorial dimensions (identity, traditions, legislation, regulations, attitudes, economic activities, etc.) in achieving **GI** policy aims by NPAs, also adopting ecoservices accounting within the framework of territorial diversity
- To support the designing and/or implementation of **GI** policy instruments to involve local business in territorial development, improving the development and growth of SMEs within PAs and in surrounding territories improving their international outlook
- To include **GI** in the EU Infrastructural Plans (mainly cross-border going over an “island” vision) stressing the Integrated Territorial Investment by Structural Funds (ESIF) access
- To focus on **GI** as an instrument in digital transition by NPAs mechanisms, able to reduce social exclusion (aging people, migrants, low incomm) mainly in peripheral depopulated areas with low accessibility but with high ecoservices production looking for CC adaptation and Green Economy implementation by Circular Economy
- To better enhance the nexus ‘economic development - environmental benefits’ in analysing PAs as producers of public goods (High Nature Value) in the **GI** framework
- To use **GI** as direct measure of the cultural societal wellbeing, investing in I&R, education, communication, dissemination
- To use NPAs as policy territorial actor able to planning (i.g. ecological corridors) in the **GI** framework adopting European strategic impact assessment processes (TIA and SEA) at different subsidiary levels



# Thank you

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