

REGIONE
ABRUZZO



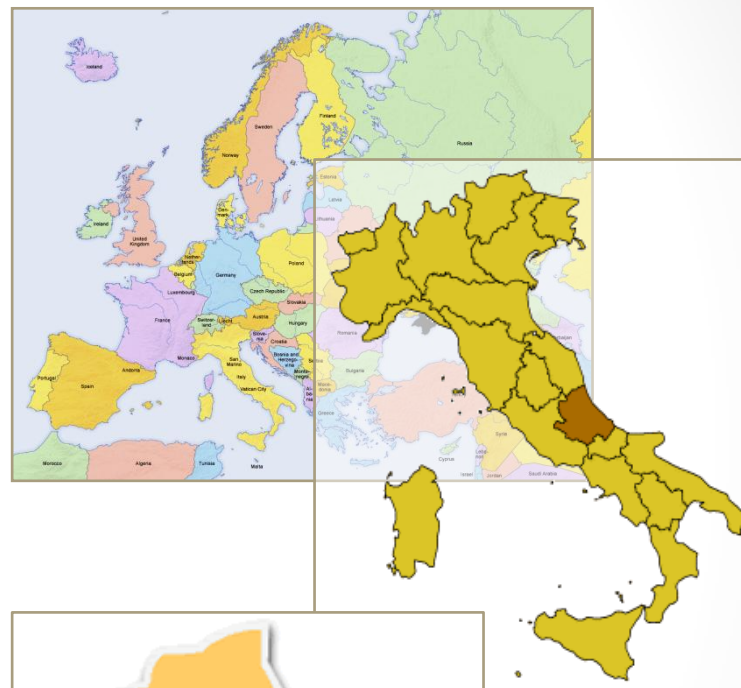
ESPON SEMINAR

«WHERE ARE EUROPEAN CITIES HEADING?
EVIDENCE FOR BETTER POLICY-MAKING»

7-8 DECEMBER 2016 - BRATISLAVA

The Region of Abruzzo: facts & figures

- ❑ **Total surface:** 1.079.512 Ha;
- ❑ **Mountains** in Abruzzo extend over 702.000 Ha;
- ❑ 475.000 Ha are **heavily wooded**;
- ❑ 130 km of **sea shore** (Adriatic sea);
- ❑ **People living in Abruzzo:** 1.326.513 (January 1, 2016);
- ❑ **305 municipalities** and **4 provinces**.



Submission of the TA proposal

- ❑ On 19th August 2016, Regione Abruzzo has submitted, as lead stakeholder, the ESPON Targeted Analysis proposal titled:
«Linking protected areas to territorial development. The role of networks of high-biodiversity areas in defining and implementing sustainable territorial strategies/policies».
- ❑ The proposal has been selected as one of the three stakeholder proposals to be implemented as ESPON Targeted Analysis (ranking first!).

The idea behind

- The idea was born from a series of activities of the Region in the field of **mountain cooperation**, in particular:
 - cooperation with the Italian Ministry of Environment, precisely **the Italian Delegation to the Alpine Convention**;
 - the participation to the **international conference** «The Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention: sharing the experiences. The Apennines a European mountain range» on 23 – 24 April 2014 in **Sarnano**, Macerata, Italy;
 - the sharing and disseminating of the objectives of **“The Sarnano Charter”** which was drafted during the meeting in Sarnano and which identifies objectives and further steps for the beginning of a mountain cooperation project for the Apennines.

It is worth to highlight that:

- ❑ The Italian Presidency has set up a **Task Force on International Mountain Cooperation** coordinated jointly by Italy and UNEP-Vienna;
- ❑ **Several meetings and workshops have been organized**, involving European mountain areas, such as the meeting of Sarnano;
- ❑ **The Italian activities on mountain cooperation** aims at promoting regionally-coherent measures for sustainable development of mountain areas and fostering the start-up of new experiences of mountain cooperation among transnational and interregional territories.

It is worth to highlight that:

- **The meeting of Sarnano** has been attended by:
 - the Alpine Convention and Carpathian Convention (as main organizers);
 - the ESPON contact point, as there was the idea to understand how the program could help policy makers in mountain areas to develop their own specific policies;
 - several stakeholders and administrators of the Apennines.

«The Sarnano Charter»

"The Sarnano Charter"

The Apennines, an European mountain range

Preamble

On the occasion of the International Conference *"The Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention: sharing the experiences. The Apennines, a European mountain range"*, scholars, researchers and experts on mountain issues met aiming at describing, interpreting and defining the Apennines. The Apennines become a cooperation project which may enhance active sharing of experiences with an European look and approach.

Talking about the Apennines is, in fact, already talking about Europe. From a geomorphological point of view, the Apennines are the inner heart of the Italian peninsula which join with the Northern Apennine area (that can also be defined as Ligurian-Lombard-Emilian area). Then, as regard at the biotic aspects, the Apennines are part of Europe, but they also incorporate Europe as a whole since, given the various influences, they host all the EU vegetation patterns, which penetrates in a very interesting spread of biodiversity.

In light of these considerations, some strategic recommendations emerged:

- the possibility of those who have experience in the field of partnerships and mountain cooperation, such as the Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention, to provide their expertise to the development of a feasible hypothesis of *governance* for the Apennines;
- the possibility of using information, data sets and existing tools, developed also within European programmes, in order to develop a scientific basis that could support an integrated strategic approach;
- the possibility to involve institutions and local authorities and to start a fruitful dialogue on inter-regional cooperation through the sharing of knowledge and testing of successful governance tools and good practices.

Purposes

Aiming at fostering a continuous debate on the Italian Apennine context based on an integrated approach, even in view of the new challenges and objectives borne in Europe, the following remarks could be the basis for an action plan for the Apennines as a European mountain range:

- the Apennines are a European mountain range showing geological, botanical, ecological, territorial continuity;
- the comparison to the European context and mountain cooperation at the international level is both a need and an opportunity for the development of the Apennines, aiming at asserting their European dimension. The Apennines are, in fact, already a macro-region of southern Europe, like other EU macro-regions such as the Alps;
- the efforts and the initiatives already emerged in the past have recognized the complexity and richness of the Apennines and showed the willingness to establish a dialogue between institutions, organizations and stakeholders for shared actions for sustainable development in the Apennines;

Cooperation in the Apennine area within institutions, research bodies and stakeholders, from a scientific and policy perspective, represent a fundamental basis for the sustainable development in the Apennines;

Why ESPON?

- ❑ The Region of Abruzzo is strongly convinced that **programmes and policies for mountain areas are needed at EU level.**
- ❑ This is why we have applied to the ESPON programme, a programme which aims at promoting and fostering a European territorial dimension in development and cooperation by providing evidence, knowledge transfer and policy learning to public authorities and other policy actors at all levels.

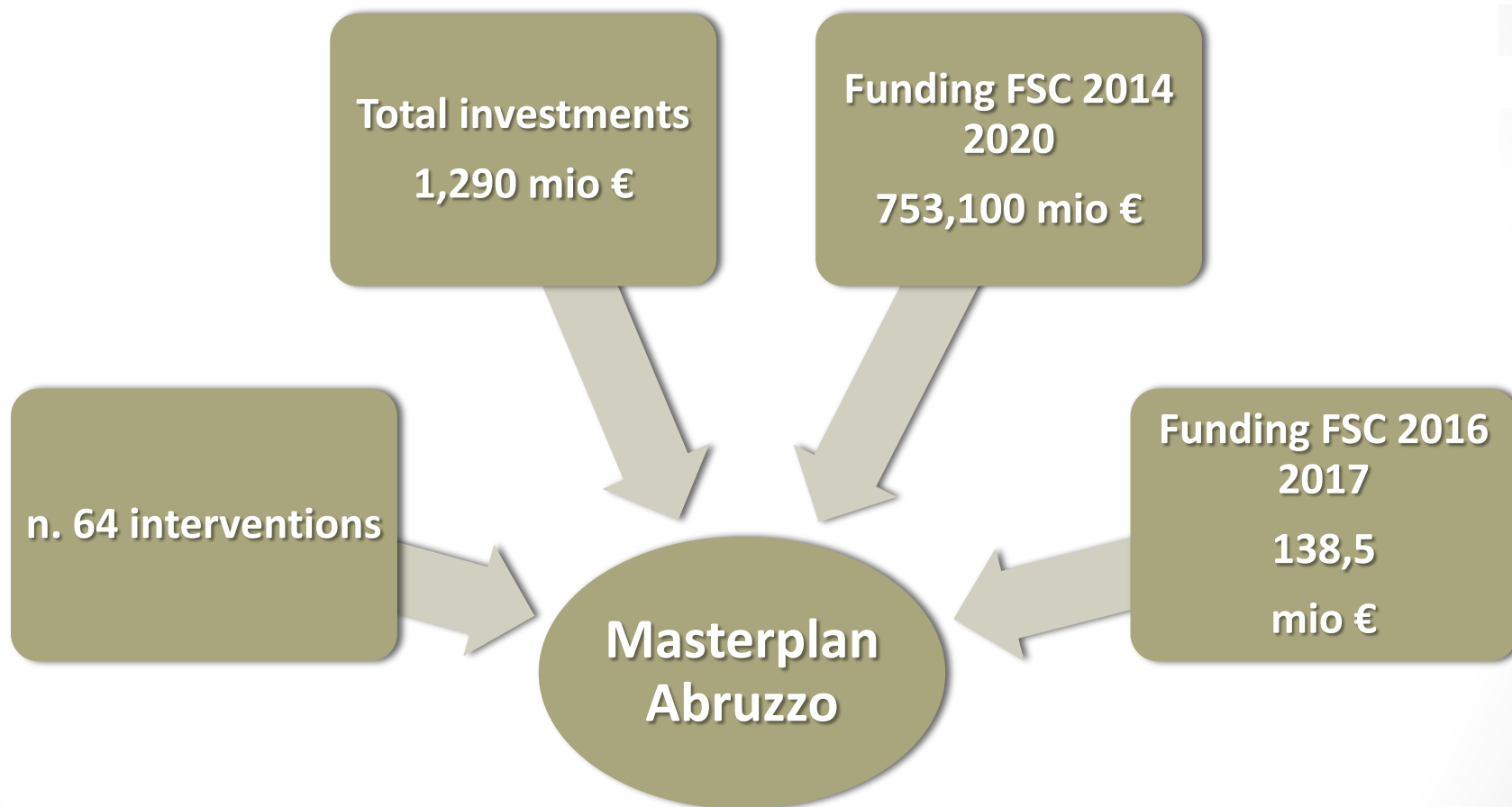
Why ESPON?

- We believe that cross-border and interregional cooperation can foster mountain sustainable development because:
 - contributes to built an integrated multi-stakeholder cooperation process essential for the sustainable mountain development;
 - attracts the attention of governments and international communities and European funds;
 - improves the quality of life of the people who lives in mountain areas.

Activities of the Region with focus on mountain areas and inner lands

- ❑ **The Regional Plan of Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC)** - mapping of mountain areas and identification of interventions needed for making territories more resilient;
- ❑ Activities and interventions in the field of energy efficiency, energy saving, renewables and climate change foreseen within the **“Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy”** initiative;
- ❑ In 2011 (still ongoing) RA has launched a call for municipalities in the mountainous area related to the **funding of energy production from woodchips for public buildings**;
- ❑ Pilot project of the Municipality of Raiano (AQ): development of a platform for a **local market of Voluntary Carbon Credits, derived from the agro-forest heritage** of the Region.
- ❑ Promotion and coordination of **River contracts**;
- ❑ Interventions foreseen within the **«Masterplan Abruzzo»**, the technical document for interventions and funding shared with local stakeholders for the growth of the Region.

Masterplan: facts & figures



Fields of intervention: Infrastructures, Environment, Economic and Productive Development, Tourism and Culture

Some examples

Examples of interventions foreseen within the Masterplan for inner areas are provided in next slides.

A.1. Speed-rail link L'Aquila – Pescara (inner land and coast)

TOT. INTERVENTION (€)	EXISTING FUNDING(€)	Amount Masterplan	
		FSC PLANNED 2016-20	FSC PLANNED 2016-17
5.000.000,00	5.000.000,00	0,00	0,00



A.2. Speed-rail link Pescara – Roma

TOT. INTERVENTION (€)	EXISTING FUNDING(€)	Amount Masterplan	
		FSC PLANNED 2016-20	FSC PLANNED 2016-17
10.000.000,00	10.000,000,00	0,00	0,00



A.14. Securing Val Fino road street structure (connection between teramana cost and Gran Sasso park)

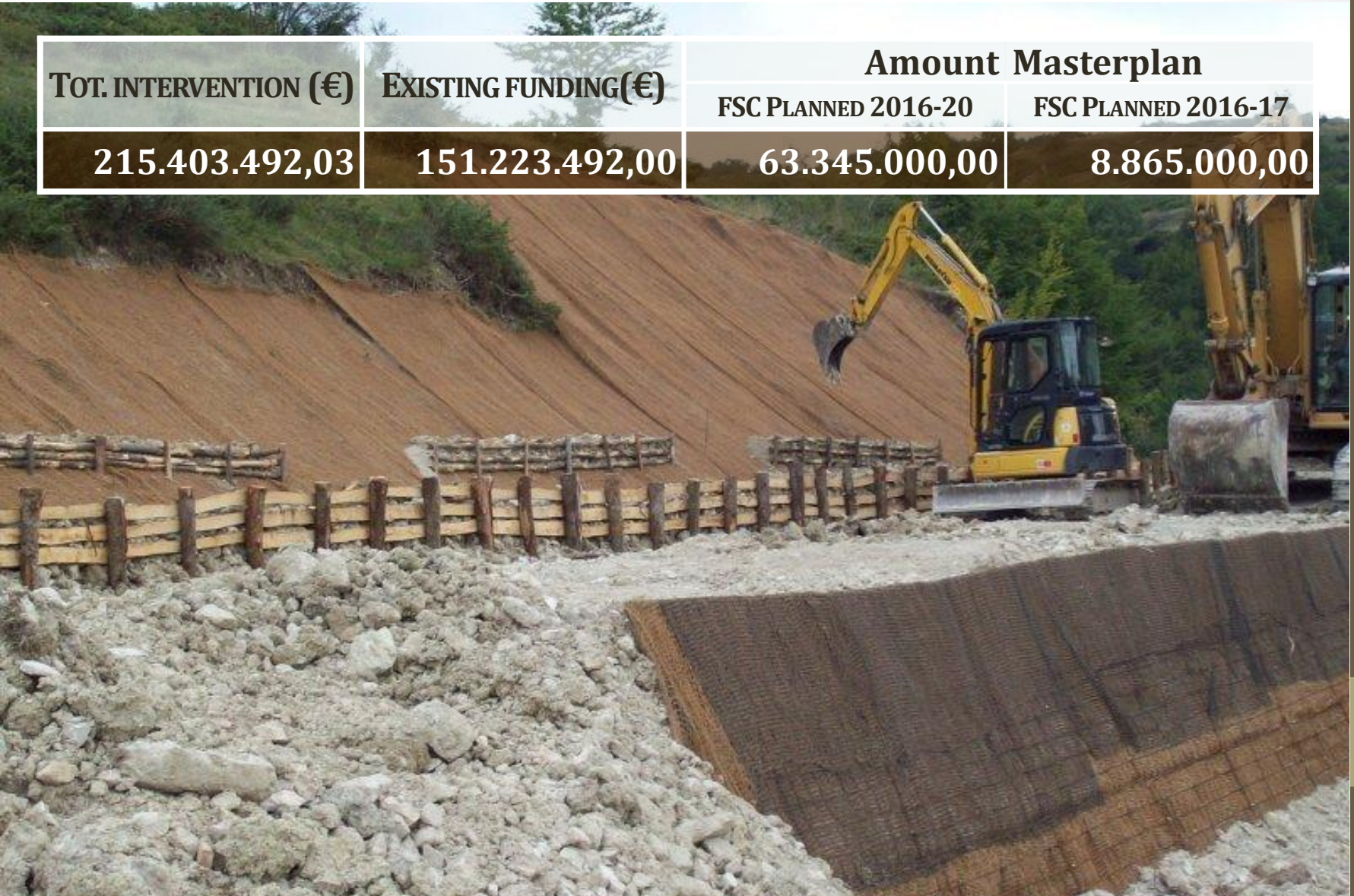
TOT. INTERVENTION (€)	EXISTING FUNDING(€)	Amount Masterplan	
		FSC PLANNED 2016-20	FSC PLANNED 2016-17
8.000.000,00	0,00	8.000.000,00	4.000.000,00



B.15. Hydraulic defense – whole region

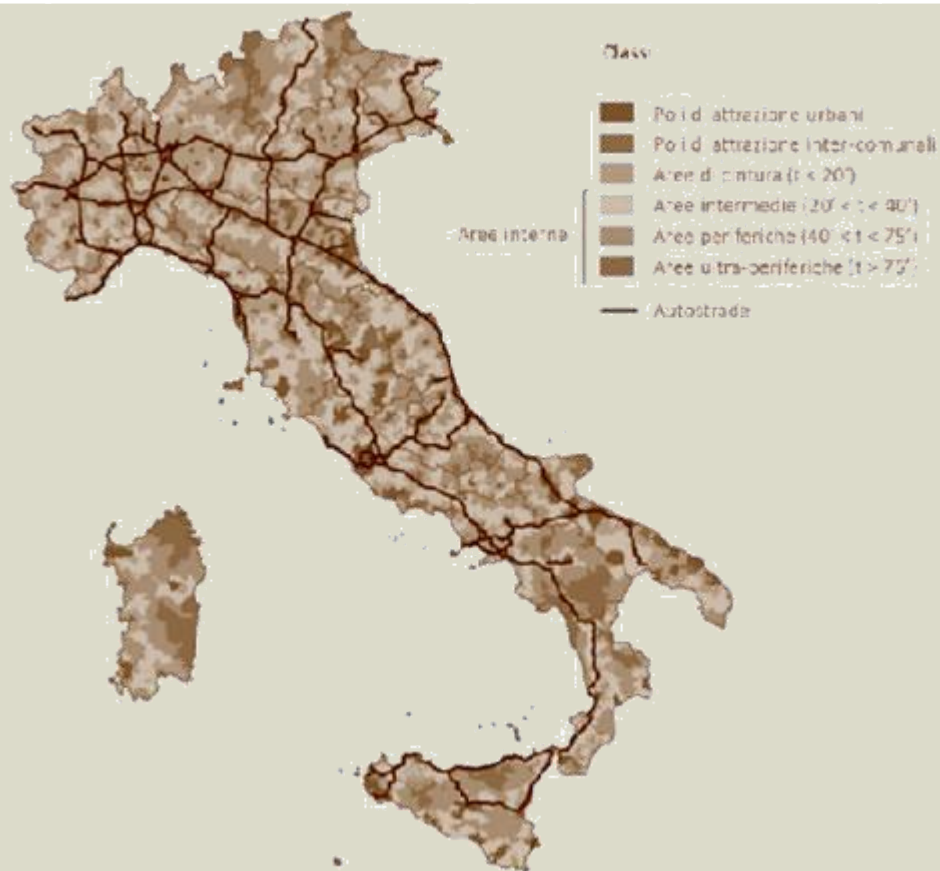
N. 148 interventions

TOT. INTERVENTION (€)	EXISTING FUNDING(€)	Amount Masterplan	
		FSC PLANNED 2016-20	FSC PLANNED 2016-17
215.403.492,03	151.223.492,00	63.345.000,00	8.865.000,00



D.6. Enhancement of sustainable and integrated tourism development strategy, with recovery of small municipalities of inland areas and revitalization of micro-companies

TOT. INTERVENTION (€)	EXISTING FUNDING(€)	Amount Masterplan	
		FSC PLANNED 2016-20	FSC PLANNED 2016-17
15.000.000,00	1.000.000,00	14.000.000,00	1.000.000,00



Going back to the submitted Targeted Analysis

- ❑ The TA proposal aims at **studying the territorial impacts in mountain areas of coordinated management of protected areas** (“Networks of protected areas” - NPAs) **and similar existing frameworks** as in the case of transboundary natural areas, Unesco sites, etc.

- ❑ **Stakeholders:**
 - Regione Abruzzo (lead stakeholder) (Italy)
 - EGTC - European Park Alpi Marittime Mercantour (France)
 - ALPARC – Alpine Network of Protected Areas (France)
 - Razlog Municipality (Bulgaria)
 - Administrative body for management protected areas of Maritime Alps (Italy)

Stakeholders

- ❑ With reference to the «network of protected areas», it has been fundamental to involve different levels and different organizations, namely:
 - **network at Pan-Alpine level (ALPARC);**
 - **protected areas and systems of governance which were born at transnational level (GECT Alpi del Mediterraneo and Parco Alpi Marittime);**
 - **regional level (Regione Abruzzo);**
 - **local level** through the involvement of a municipality (Razlog, Bulgaria).
- ❑ The aim is **to develop actions of coordination between protected areas** through the sharing of different experiences.
- ❑ **The different stakeholders, their experience and know-how are the starting point for understanding how networks of protected areas can work** to contribute to develop strategies for the territorial development, in particular for the policies of management of natural capital.

Conclusions

- The outputs and results of the Targeted Analysis are essential for:
 - the development and definition of strategies and policies already in place in Abruzzo not only in the field of inner areas, but also in the field of the management of the whole territory, adaptation to climate change, etc...
 - integrating the mountain strategy with other territorial policies;
 - enhancing the mountain cooperation in the Apennines and other EU mountains, even with a focus of the relationship with Balkan countries and the macroregional strategies (such as the Adriatic and Ionian Macroregion).

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Mario Mazzocca

Undersecretary for Environment, Regione Abruzzo

mario.mazzocca@regione.abruzzo.it

