

## SECTION B - DETAILED DESCRIPTION

### B.1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

#### Brief History of the Project

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Protection of nature and of biodiversity is one of the most important problems we are facing last decades, so it's vital to substantially strengthen the knowledge base for preservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Especially our region's mountain configuration and the fine flora offer an excellent environment for the development of a rich fauna population in wild forests, where many species of animals and birds survive today.

ThiroPedia project places careful attention to the question of hunting in Greece, Italy and other Mediterranean countries in general, where the sport seems to constitute a serious threat to fauna. The majority of hunters lack even a basic Knowledge of the species, knowledge of methods for sustainable prevention and preservation of this important natural heritage. Their inability to identify various species results in the slaughter every year of rare, protected species.

From the other side, the hunting according to EU and international scientific experience can be an important parameter for sustaining the equilibrium of the ecosystems. The EU has recognized the need to start a new dialogue with a view to developing co-operation between governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with the conservation and wise and sustainable use of our wild birds.

For this reason a 'Sustainable Hunting Initiative' was launched by the Commission in 2001 aiming at improved understanding of the legal and technical aspects on hunting as well as developing a programme of scientific, conservation and awareness raising measures to promote sustainable hunting under the directive.

#### Background of the project (problems/target groups/challenges to be addressed)

The maximum total number of characters is 4500

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Number of characters 2672

ThiroPedia is addressing the problem of sustainable hunting, by combining EU and national policy issues, local experience, interactive tools for promotion of natural heritage, advanced learning and information applications for achieving the sustainability of wild life in both regions.

In order hunting to be sustainable, should need to be well integrated into all the activities of the countryside tourism, ecotourism and environmental related works, as well as accepted by the public while respecting biodiversity (in part through the Natura 2000 management plans).

Wildlife territory managers and hunters have every interest in preserving the habitats and diversity of the species living on their territories and must therefore be considered capable of providing solutions to the challenges of biodiversity. Sustainable hunting together with the appropriate management of wild life territories provide undeniable added value to our natural heritage.

However, these truths must be explained to society which all too often is unaware of them and misunderstands their vital function. A constructive dialogue between wildlife managers and the different rural stakeholders is fundamental, requiring honesty and transparency.

ThiroPedia project's partners believe that what is needed at a first stage is a significant change in the mindset of hunters and the general public related of the environment. This can only be achieved through better education all around, thus creating full awareness as to the environment being a beneficial resource. This, of course, begins in schools and continues through life long actions.

From the other side, hunting tourism can develop into an economic and social force of considerable impact in underdeveloped rural, remote and agriculturally marginal areas. At the same time, a significant potential for abuse and malpractices is inherent in hunting tourism: corruption, fraud, overshooting of quotas, bad management, loss of wildlife numbers and biodiversity.

This is why ThiroPedia's target of raising awareness through the provision of clear and reliable information and by open and constructive dialogue between these stakeholders is essential to the success of the sustainable wild life in both regions.

In this respect, ThiroPedia involves hunters together with a regional stakeholder group which is highly representative of regional communities, with close links to good environmental practices, and covering a broad spectrum of socio-economic backgrounds. Raising awareness at hunters is therefore an efficient way to transmit the aims of the network to our rural actors at local level, living in and around Natura 2000 sites.

### Objectives of the Project

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THIROPEDIA project aims at

- collecting, digitizing and exploiting the related information for hunting and its environmental sustainability value,
- creating interactive applications for the promotion and protection of the fauna biodiversity of both regions targeting wider population, visitors, children, new hunters, ecotourists and scientists,
- making available to the wider possible public the EU, National and International best practices, directives and methodologies for sustain promote and protect the rich wild fauna.

The collected information will be presented to the general public by two means a web map based knowledge system and on 3D interactive multimedia panels placed in special "environmental education centers" in both countries, thus exploiting the learning advantages of innovative presentation and training methods.

The most innovative concept in this project is the idea of a newly focused instructional interface that will be using interactivity to improve learning. Experience indicates that the learner becomes more involved if exposed such an environment, where true interactivity, both in the interface and in the presentation methodology, will further enhance learning and retention.

The project aims at successfully raising awareness and knowledge among local communities (hunters, environmentalists, social intermediaries, school teachers, students, farmers, local bodies etc.) for conservation of wild fauna, its relation with sustainable hunting, ecotourism, hunting tourism and NATURA 2000 management plans. As a result of the project efforts, the issue of biodiversity conservation will be established at regional, interregional and national level in both countries.

### Expected Outputs (tangible and visible results or products relating to project activities)

The maximum total number of characters is 2000  
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ThiroPedia aims at developing and delivering the 4 tangible following results:

- 1) A detailed knowledge base for fauna of both regions with georeferencing information utilising ontology management and GIS technologies
  - 2) A complete multilingual knowledge base about EU and national policies for sustainable hunting, NATURA legislation combined with a list of scientific sources for rare species
  - 3) A web portal for accessing the information in an interactive way utilising web-map technology and advanced search mechanisms
  - 4) Two "Environmental Promotion Centers" (one in each region), a novel concept of interactive training centers, utilising the latest 3D, multimedia and interaction technology in order to attract childrens, students, hunters, scientists and tourists and provide added-value training and information services.
- The projects results will be disseminated with an extensive publicity, training and information action plan.

**Expected Results (direct and immediate effects resulting from the project)**

The maximum total number of characters is 2000

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*Number of characters* 888

Thiropedia project aims to achieve a significant impact to

- 1) Protection of the environment and fauna of both regions
- 2) Awareness about sustainable hunting and its environmental value to hunters and the general public, as well as awareness about EU legislation and policies for environments, birds, fauna and hunting
- 3) Bringing children's and students closer to the natural heritage
- 4) Easy of access to related information about natural resources with the development of a multilingual knowledge portal for hunting and environmental protection

5) Interactive Environmental Learning as an added education value for the general public with the installation of two modern centers utilising the latest technology on interactive e-learning like, 3D Autostereoscopic screens, children corners, multimedia applications etc.

6) Attracting eco-tourists to the environmental educational centers

## B.2 METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

### Project Methodology

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*Number of characters* 1685

#### PHASE 1: DATA COLLECTION AND FUNCTIONAL SPECIFICATIONS OF APPLICATION SCENARIOS

- 1) Collection, documentation and digitization of data related to fauna of both regions:
  - Books about fauna of the regions,
  - picture and video sources,
  - related projects, environmental protection laws and directives,
  - full data sets about protected Natura zones, biotopes,
  - any other educational material available from universities, hunting associations, environment protection centers etc.
- 2) Definition of scenarios for interactive simulations, training and e-learning courses from a team of researchers and scientists

#### PHASE 2: IMPLEMENTATION

Design and development of a digital knowledge base for the digitized material of WP1 based on ontologies and taxonomies targeting:

- 1) Access to knowledge through a multilingual web portal with multimedia capabilities,
- 2) GIS based visualization of seasonal distribution of fauna in both regions,
- 3) Design, development of a special center for interactive education and environmental protection of natural heritage of the region with reference to fauna and hunting,
- 4) Hosting of special interactive rooms at Hunting Associations of Epirus premises and Municipality of Erchie premises
- 5) Development of special interactive applications, presentations, videos and games for the media kit targeting special groups like children, scientists, students, visitors and hunters

#### PHASE 3: PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY OF RESULTS

Organization of four (2 scientific, 2 at environmental promotion centers) cross border events for promotion of projects results, interactive applications, environmental education, hunting and protection of fauna and natural resources

### Roles - Tasks of Partners

The maximum total number of characters is 2000  
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*Number of characters* 1496

All partners contribute in the research of common elements and promote the natural heritage and all projects' results  
Region of Epirus- Former Prefectures of Ioannina and Thesporia is responsible for the management of the project both in coordination, financial and technical issues. R. of Epirus- Former Pref. of Ioannina and Thesporia staff with external experts, will be responsible for the software specifications for knowledge portal and interactive applications and for setting up the Environ. promotion and Educational Centers.  
Mun. of Erchie will responsible for the project from the Italian side and will coordinate the actions for hosting of Interactive Environmental Education Center and data collection, knowledge management and interactive applications for its region.  
R. of Epirus - Former Pref. of Ioannina and Thesporia and Mun. of Leveranto will be the leaders of promotion and publicity issues, project's website and data collection for each specific region.

Hunting Association of Epirus staff in cooperation with external expert will lead the task of data collection for fauna of the region of Epirus, EU and national directives and prepare a special room for the hosting of the Environmental Promotion and Education Center.  
Municipality of Villa Castelli staff in cooperation with external expert will participate with other partners in data collection, interactive application specifications, and will be in charge of final testing and evaluation of the project portal.

**Work Packages / Actions**

WP/ Action Code	WP/ Action Title	Start	End	Cost
<b>WP 1</b>	<b>Management &amp; Coordination</b>	<b>01/11/2011</b>	<b>31/10/2013</b>	<b>75.100,00 €</b>
Action 1.1	Preparation Activities	01/06/2009	31/12/2009	0,00 €
Action 1.2	Project Management	01/11/2011	31/10/2013	54.600,00 €
Action 1.3	Technical Management & Quality Assurance	01/11/2011	31/10/2013	20.500,00 €
Action 1.4				0,00 €
Action 1.5				0,00 €
<b>WP 2</b>	<b>Information &amp; Publicity</b>	<b>1/11/2011</b>	<b>31/10/2013</b>	<b>69.200,00 €</b>
Action 2.1	Publicity Strategy and Actions	01/11/2011	31/10/2013	7.100,00 €
Action 2.2	Training and Workshops	01/11/2011	31/10/2013	38.100,00 €
Action 2.3	Interactive Media Kits	01/11/2012	31/10/2013	24.000,00 €
Action 2.4				0,00 €
Action 2.5				0,00 €
<b>WP 3</b>	<b>Data Collection and Application Scenarios</b>	<b>01/11/2011</b>	<b>30/06/2012</b>	<b>108.450,00 €</b>
Action 3.1	Data Collection and Digitalization	01/11/2011	30/06/2012	70.250,00 €
Action 3.2	Interactive Application Scenarios	01/12/2011	30/06/2012	38.200,00 €
Action 3.3				0,00 €
Action 3.4				0,00 €
Action 3.5				0,00 €
<b>WP 4</b>	<b>Application Implementation</b>	<b>01/03/2012</b>	<b>31/10/2013</b>	<b>219.450,00 €</b>
Action 4.1	Knowledge Database and Interactive Portal	01/03/2012	31/07/2013	90.300,00 €
Action 4.2	Environmental Education Centers	01/09/2012	31/10/2013	129.150,00 €
Action 4.3				0,00 €
Action 4.4				0,00 €
Action 4.5				0,00 €
<b>WP 5</b>		<b>00/01/1900</b>	<b>00/01/1900</b>	<b>0,00 €</b>
Action 5.1				0,00 €
Action 5.2				0,00 €
Action 5.3				0,00 €
Action 5.4				0,00 €
Action 5.5				0,00 €
<b>WP 6</b>		<b>00/01/1900</b>	<b>00/01/1900</b>	<b>0,00 €</b>
Action 6.1				0,00 €
Action 6.2				0,00 €
Action 6.3				0,00 €
Action 6.4				0,00 €
Action 6.5				0,00 €

**Deliverables**

Action No	Deliv. No	Deliverable Title	Partner No	Partner's Contribution to Deliverable
1.1	1.1.1	Preparation Activities	LP	
1.2	1.2.1	Annual Reporting	LP	Annual Reporting Actions, coordination of deliverables, financial reporting
1.2	1.2.2	Annual Reporting	P2	Partner's Contribution to Annual Reporting
1.2	1.2.3	Annual Reporting	P3	Partner's Contribution to Annual Reporting
1.2	1.2.4	Annual Reporting	P4	Partner's Contribution to Annual Reporting
1.2	1.2.5	Annual Reporting	P5	Partner's Contribution to Annual Reporting
1.2	1.2.6	Management Handbook	LP	Management and Quality Assurance Procedures of the partner including its application to the project
1.2	1.2.7	Management Handbook	P2	Management and Quality Assurance Procedures of the partner including its application to the project
1.2	1.2.8	Management Handbook	P3	Coordination of Management and Quality Assurance Procedures of the partner including its application to the project
1.2	1.2.9	Management Handbook	P4	Management and Quality Assurance Procedures of the partner including its application to the project
1.2	1.2.10	Management Handbook	P5	Management and Quality Assurance Procedures of the partner including its application to the project
1.2	1.2.11	Project meetings	LP	Coordination of the project's meetings, reporting and minutes, decision making procedures
1.2	1.2.12	Project meetings	P2	Participation and preparation of the meetings
1.2	1.2.13	Project meetings	P3	Participation and preparation of the meetings
1.2	1.2.14	Project meetings	P4	Participation and preparation of the meetings
1.2	1.2.15	Project meetings	P5	Participation and preparation of the meetings
1.3	1.3.1	Project website and electronic communication mechanisms	LP	Responsible for the Greek part of the project site
1.3	1.3.2	Project website and electronic communication mechanisms	P3	Delivery of Project site, communication procedures, including deployment of the Italian and English part of it
1.3	1.3.3	Quality Assurance Handbook	LP	Definition of management processes, quality check procedures for technical and other deliverables
2.1	2.1.1	Publicity Strategy Handbook	LP	Definition of publicity strategy and deliverables from the greek side
2.1	2.1.2	Publicity Strategy Handbook	P4	Definition of the publicity strategy and deliverables from the italian side
2.1	2.1.3	Publicity Actions Final Report	LP	Final reporting including minutes of meetings, workshops presentation and summary of results
2.1	2.1.4	Publicity Actions Final Report	P2	Final reporting including minutes of meeting and actions at enviromental centers
2.1	2.1.5	Publicity Actions Final Report	P4	Final reporting including workshops, leaflets, posters and interactive media kits for the italian side
2.2	2.2.1	Project Workshops	LP	Organization of workshops and proceedings
2.2	2.2.2	Project Workshops	P2	Organization of workshops and proceedings
2.2	2.2.3	Project Workshops	P4	Leader of the organization of workshops for the italian side

<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.2.4</b>	Project Workshops	P5	organization of workshops and proceedings
<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.3.1</b>	Project's Media Promotion and Educational Kit	LP	Quality check of the media promotion and educational kit
<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.3.2</b>	Project's Media Promotion and Educational Kit	P2	Leader for the development of greek and english media kits and educational DVDs
<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.3.3</b>	Project's Media Promotion and Educational Kit	P4	Leader for the development of italian media kits and educational DVDs
<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.1.1</b>	Data Collection Report	LP	Leader of data collection and digitization process
<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.1.2</b>	Data Collection Report	P2	Data collection for the wild fauna of the region
<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.1.3</b>	Data Collection Report	P3	Data collection for the wild fauna of the region, leader from the italian side
<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.1.4</b>	Data Collection Report	P4	Data collection for the wild fauna of the region
<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.1.5</b>	Data Collection Report	P5	Data collection for the wild fauna of the region
<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.2.1</b>	Inter. Applications Functional Specifications of Scenarios	LP	definition of functional specifications of scenarios for interactive applications and software/hardware configuration for centers
<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.2.2</b>	Inter. Applications Functional Specifications of Scenarios	P2	Definition of functional specifications of scenarios for interactive application
<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.2.3</b>	Inter. Applications Functional Specifications of Scenarios	P3	Definition of functional specifications of scenarios for interactive application
<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.2.4</b>	Inter. Applications Functional Specifications of Scenarios	P5	Leader for the definition of functional specifications of scenarios for interactive applications
<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.1.1</b>	Knowledge Base	LP	Procurement of knowledge base software, data import quality check
<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.1.2</b>	Knowledge Base	P2	Data import and quality check for the greek side
<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.1.3</b>	Knowledge Base	P3	Data import and quality check for the italian side
<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.1.4</b>	Knowledge Base	P5	Data import and quality check, testing and evaluation
<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.1.5</b>	Interactive Portal	LP	Assessment and quality check of interactive portal services, greek and english part
<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.1.6</b>	Interactive Portal	P3	Deployment of interactive portal for accesing the knowledge base, overall management and italian part
<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.2.1</b>	Greek Environmental Center	LP	Procurement of "educational centers" equipment, software, hardware and final deployment, greek side
<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.2.2</b>	Greek Environmental Center	P2	Preparation of premises for the installation of applications of "Educational Center"
<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.2.3</b>	Italian Environmental Center	P3	Procurement of "educational centers" equipment, software, hardware and final deployment, italian side
<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.2.4</b>	Italian Environmental Center	P4	Participation in installation of services and training of the center
<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.2.5</b>	Italian Environmental Center	P5	Participation in installation of services and training of personnel of the center

**Location of Activities** (Description of the area targeted by the project, location of partners and activities, showing the geographical scope of the longer term effects (results and impacts)

The maximum total number of characters is 2000

(please do not exceed 1000 characters in each box)

*Number of characters* 1060

Implementation of project knowledge base will be done with joint cooperation of all partners, including support on data collection from all local environmental sources. Knowledge base will cover the R. of Epirus- Former Pref. of Ioannina and Thesporia, while from Italy will cover the Provinces of Brindizi and Lecce.

Environmental educational centers will be established:

- 1) GREECE: at premises of Hunting Association of Epirus
- 2) ITALY: at premises of of Erchie Municipality

Training and promotion will take place all over regions in 4 workshops (2 scientific and 2 for the general public at environmental centers).

Scope of the project is to cover the region of Epirus and Puglia, since the context of all proposed services, applications and cross-border events will cover also the neighbourhood provinces where wild fauna is surviving today. Those regions will include protected NATURA 2000 areas. Project impact will be transnational both to Italy and Greece, due to availability of the environment protection material through internet and other public media.



### B.3 MANAGEMENT

#### Lead Partner and Partners Competence (Experience, Structure, Personnel, Resources, etc.)

The maximum total number of characters is 3000

(please do not exceed 1000 characters in each box)

Number of characters 2554

The R. of Epirus- Former Pref. of Ioannina and Thesporia is a public entity. Its goal is to contribute to the economic, social and cultural development. The prefecture of Ioannina occupies 459 employees and it is located in the center of Ioannina city. The project will be coordinated by the "Directorate of European Programmes" which was established in 1995 and has experience in interregional partnerships and INTERREG project management. Recently has been certified with the EN ISO9001 for competency in project management.

The prefecture has all the necessary facilities, equipment, specialized personnel and meeting rooms in order to achieve its purposes. The prefecture through its organizational structure, the qualified personnel with accumulated experience in the field of international and European programs, has the ability to implement complex EU funded programmes and to manage and solve successfully all issues that may occur during the implementation of a program.

The Prefecture has participated in many cross-border cooperation programs, such as INTERREG I, II and III and has worked with partners from Italy and Albania. Among the projects which were materialized in the frame of INTERREG III are the following: IT-NET, POPULAR, SEALINK, SUL CAMINNO DI ENEA, GIPSY, INTRARADAR, MEDINTRADE.

Hunting Association of Epirus is a non profit organization dealing with the management of hunting actions throughout Epirus, protection of wild fauna from illegal hunting, as well as for consulting the local institutions how to protect the areas, teaching the new hunters and in general cooperating with government for hunting policies, sustainability of fauna actions etc.

Municipality of Erchie has got 27 municipal employees. They working, with the City Council to their main objective that is the economic, social and cultural growth and the improvement of the quality of life of inhabitants of Erchie.

Municipality of Leverano has experience in national and international projects, while is interested to participate in this one, aiming at increasing its abilities to implement more complex projects.

The Municipality of Villa Castelli has a staff of 20 persons. In the past it has managed 1 european cooperational project with PIC Interreg III A Greece Italy 2000-2006, within the project "Development of cross-border activities in partnership for the accommodation and the upgrading of the Source of Acheronta (Lakka Souliou - Greece) and the archaeological site of Petrosa Pezza (Villa Castelli - Italy) "for a total of € 1,086,000.00.

**Project Management & Coordination (structures, decision making procedures, internal communication, etc)**

The maximum total number of characters is 2000  
(please do not exceed 1000 characters in each box)

*Number of characters* 1656

The cooperation methods of Thiropedia are based on partner's previous experience in Interreg and other European collaborative projects. The partnership has opted for a simple management structure where the Lead Partner is responsible for assuring the overall progress of the project and each of the partners takes responsibility for the completion of a number of different Actions. Other partners will act as WP leaders, monitoring progress in the activities that related to their area of expertise.

All partners will be represented in a Steering Committee (SC), the main coordinating body between partners and will meet at least every 6 months and hold at least one teleconference per month. Day-to-day management will be done by the Project Management Team consisting of a Project Manager, Financial Manager and Communication Manager. These will coordinate general and progress management through regular meetings, teleconferences and e-mail communication.

The Project Management Team will be supported by a Project Management Office that will include both internal support staff expertise specialised in the implementation of Interreg projects and regional innovation policy measures, and external subcontractors with experience in interactive applications, knowledge management, digital museums and publicity measures. Costs for external expertise used are pooled to responsible partners, and contracted following public procurement rules of each country.

To facilitate smooth internal communication the partners will create different e-mail mailing lists as well a project intranet where documents, contact details, planning and tasks can be shared.

#### **B.4 INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY**

##### **Information and Publicity measures- external communication of project outputs, results etc.**

The maximum total number of characters is 2000

(please do not exceed 1000 characters in each box)

*Number of characters* 1742

Awareness measures and information actions will occur at the most appropriate level so as to ensure that publicity activities are focusing at the relevant target groups. Main focus will be at organization of Organization of cross border events for promotion of projects results, demonstration of Interactive applications, environmental education centres, sustainable hunting and protection of fauna and natural resources.

From the beginning of the project all partners will appoint the responsible for communication activities, designs proper and targeted information campaigns in 3 languages (EN, GR, IT), disseminate data, applications and services when available, arranges periodic meetings and workshops with special audience, general public and press representatives, establishes local and interregional information services by utilisation of IT instruments, websites and email services.

Target groups and audience can be general and/or special:

- General: the population of all regions, especially students, teachers, tourism SMEs, environmentalists, scientific community etc.
- Special: the participants in the hunting community, members of environmental protection NGOs, businessmen, especially of the Small and Medium sized tourism enterprises, professional groups whose action is related to the hunting, fauna etc.
- Public audience: all the bodies of the Public and Private Sectors implementing similar projects, all social and sectoral bodies operating as conveyors of transferring critical information for the protection of the environment, public opinion shapers who operate as intensifiers of the messages and the benefits arising from the implementation of the project at a regional, interregional and international level.

#### **B.5 MATURITY OF THE PROJECT**

##### **Preparatory activities, administrative activities undertaken etc.**

The maximum total number of characters is 2000

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*Number of characters* 478

Before submitting the project, an extensive consultation between partners has been done, while leading partners from both regions cooperates for managerial, administrative and technical issues. Hosting of Environmental Educational Centers has been proposed at premises of Hunting Association of Epirus and Erchie Municipality. All partners have signed their participation in the program, cofinancing agreements and all other administrative decision for submitting the proposal.

## B.6 SUSTAINABILITY OF RESULTS

### Sustainability of results and follow-up actions

The maximum total number of characters is 1000  
(please do not exceed 1000 characters in each box)

*Number of characters* 959

Project will develop 3 major results: the interactive portal for accessing the knowledge base for fauna and sustainable hunting and 2 Environmental Education Centers, one in each country. All partners have agreed that portal and centers will be sustained after the end of the project, since are considered of major importance. Environmental educational centers will be fully functional after the end of the project and will be operated by the responsible partners. Region of Epirus- Former Pref. of Ioannina and Thesporia and Municipality of Erchie will maintain the knowledge base in cooperation with local and national hunting and environmental associations. Training activities will be continued at Environmental Education Centers premises.

All project's deliverables and results will be utilised for further projects related to the protection of wild fauna, ecotourism, hunting tourism, e-learning of childrens and students for environmental protection etc.

## B.7 CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION & ADDED VALUE

### Intensity of Cross-Border Cooperation

Please describe in which ways shall the partners co-operate (min two of the following four: joint development, joint implementation, joint staffing, joint financing) as well as the added value that will be accomplished through this co-operation

Joint Development

Joint implementation

Joint staffing

Join Financing

### Cross-Border cooperation and capitalization

The maximum total number of characters is 1000

*Number of characters* 880

Region of Epirus- Former Pref. of Ioannina and Thesporia experience in cross border cooperation includes many projects like: Community Initiative INTERREG-III GREECE-ITALY: Ecological Management Ecosystem (CO.LE.CO.MAN), Restoration-development and promotion of monuments of the Byzantine period in the regions of Epirus and Apulia (lead partner), INTERREG IIIA : In the Road of Enea.

The municipality of Erchie has been partner of INTERREG IIIA Greece-Italy 2000-2006, Measure 2.1.

The Municipality of Villa Castelli has managed 1 european cooperational project with PIC Interreg III A Greece Italy 2000-2006, within the project "Development of cross-border activities in partnership for the accommodation and the upgrading of the Source of Acheronta (Lakka Souliou - Greece) and the archaeological site of Petrosa Pezza (Villa Castelli - Italy)" for a total of € 1,086,000.00.

## B.8 COMPATIBILITY WITH EU AND NATIONAL POLICIES

### Consistency of the project with EU horizontal policies

#### Equal opportunities

Please state if the project will :

have its main focus on equal opportunities

be positive in terms of equal opportunities

be neutral in terms of equal opportunities

#### Sustainable Development

Please state if the project will :

it mainly focuses on Sustainable Development

be positive in terms of Sustainable Development

be neutral in terms of Sustainable Development

#### Environmental Impact (Please fill in the environmental indicators in Section F)

Please state if the project will :

it mainly focuses on Environment

be positive in terms of Environment

be neutral in terms of Environment

**Open Market**

Please state if the project will :

- it mainly focuses on fair competition / open market
- be positive in terms of fair competition / open market
- be neutral in terms of fair competition / open market

**Other EU, National, Regional and Local Policies (please specify)**

The maximum total number of characters is 2000

(please do not exceed 1000 characters in each box)

*Number of characters* 1778

The EU nature legislation on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora, has created a comprehensive scheme of protection for nature in the Union. It aims to ensure the long-term preservation of our wild fauna and flora through the protection of their habitats, especially through the designation of the most important sites within Europe, which forms the network of Natura 2000, as well as through controls of hunting and other forms of exploitation.

Indeed, there are many pressures on our wildlife like the loss and degradation of their habitats, which is the greatest threat that they are facing today.

Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds, commonly referred to as the Birds Directive, is the EU's oldest piece of nature legislation and one of the most important, creating a comprehensive scheme of protection for all wild bird species naturally occurring in the Union.

It was adopted unanimously by the Member States in 1979 as a response to increasing concern about the declines in Europe's wild bird populations resulting from pollution, loss of habitats as well as unsustainable use.

A 'Sustainable Hunting Initiative' was launched by the Commission in 2001 aiming at improved understanding of the legal and technical aspects of the Directive's provisions on hunting as well as developing a programme of scientific, conservation and awareness raising measures to promote sustainable hunting under the directive.

In 2004, the key partners – BirdLife International and FACE (the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU) – have reached an agreement on ten points which will enable hunting to continue within a well-regulated framework, whilst fully respecting the provisions of the Directive.