



GREEN DEAL PROJECTS SUCCESS STORIES

 CLIMATE CHANGE & BIODIVERSITY WORKING GROUP

INNOVATIVE GOVERNANCE TOOL TO MANAGE AND PROTECT WETLANDS

October 2024



TransformAr project

The TransformAr project is focusing on providing resilience against rising sea levels. The project is also focusing on the Coastal Contract, which manages several municipalities as a single ecosystem, uniting private and public entities, alongside local communities.

#EUGreenDeal



ABOUT THE TRANSFORMAR PROJECT

In the western coast of Sardinia, the Gulf of Oristano hosts a dense system of rivers, lagoons and salt marshes, an essential ecosystem for mitigating global warming and providing resilience against sea level rise, flooding events, storms and extreme precipitation. To effectively fulfil their defence role, the wetlands ecosystem needs to be well managed and protected. The Coastal Contract emerged as an answer to this need, promoting integrated governance of the wetlands.

Within the framework of the TransformAr Project, MEDSEA is dedicated to enhancing the use of the Coastal Contract, broadening stakeholder engagement to enrich the Climate Change and Biodiversity Action Plan with diverse insights.



DESCRIPTION OF SUCCESS

The 7,700 hectares of protected areas across the 11 municipalities of the Oristano coast today are managed as a unique ecosystem, thanks to the Coastal Contract. This innovative governance tool goes beyond the constraints of municipal borders, bringing together the private sector, public entities and the local community in a collective commitment for the sustainable management of wetlands.

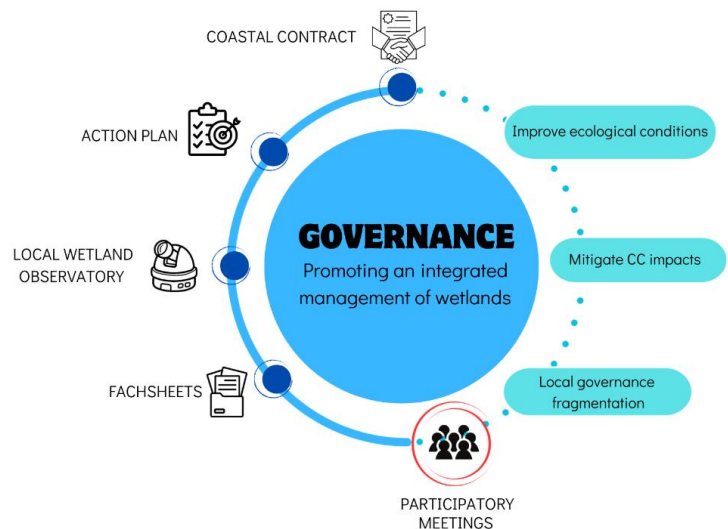
To support effective wetland management, the creation of the Local Wetland Observatory (LWO) was pivotal. This observatory serves as an essential tool for monitoring and decision-making, utilising scientific data as the cornerstone of this innovative approach.

Research and
Innovation



HIGHLIGHTS

- Project demonstrated innovative collaborative governance through the Coastal Contract, leveraging multi-level collaboration to address both environmental sustainability and economic growth.
- Increased awareness of the importance of wetlands strengthened the local cultural identity and promoted nature-based solutions for climate resilience.
- Creation of the Local Wetland Observatory ensured evidence-based decision-making, with scientific data supporting actions to meet the needs of ecosystems and communities.
- Project improved the quality of life for local communities by safeguarding natural resources and promoting sustainable practices.



IMPACT

The Coastal Contract establishes shared objectives for wetlands conservation across multiple stakeholders, thereby strengthening collaboration and ensuring a sustained commitment for the future. It preserves biodiversity and fosters innovative economic models based on the green economy, low carbon emissions and the adequate protection and enhancement of natural resources. This approach not only facilitates but also attracts local, national and international funds for wetland restoration.

Read more about this success story online

[Innovative governance tool to manage and protect wetlands](#)

Visit the project website

[TransformAr](#)