

ARPA
Agenzia Regionale per la Prevenzione e l'Ambiente
dell'Emilia - Romagna

* * *

Atti amministrativi

Deliberazione del Direttore Generale n. DEL-2010-86 del 23/12/2010

Oggetto Direzione Tecnica. Presa d'atto dell'approvazione del Progetto "Adoption of quality water use in agro-industry sector" (Life AQUA). Approvazione del Grant Agreement sottoscritto con la Commissione Europea per la realizzazione del Progetto.

Proposta n. PDEL-2010-84 del 30/11/2010

Struttura proponente Direzione Tecnica

Dirigente proponente Belladonna Vito

Responsabile del procedimento Ferri Donatella

Questo giorno 23 (ventitre) dicembre 2010 (duemiladieci), presso la sede di Via Po n. 5, in Bologna, il Direttore Generale, Prof. Stefano Tibaldi, delibera quanto segue.

Oggetto: Direzione Tecnica. Presa d'atto dell'approvazione del Progetto "Adoption of quality water use in agro-industry sector" (Life AQUA). Approvazione del Grant Agreement sottoscritto con la Commissione Europea per la realizzazione del Progetto.

PREMESSO:

- che, nell'ambito del Programma LIFE09 promosso dalla Commissione Europea, Arpa Emilia-Romagna ha presentato la proposta progettuale "Adoption of quality water use in agro-industry sector", alla quale è stato attribuito il codice ENV/IT/000075;
- che tale proposta, denominata Life AQUA, è stata approvata ed ammessa a finanziamento dalla Commissione Europea, come da lettera della Direzione Generale Ambiente del 11/06/2010 acquisita agli atti;
- che Arpa Emilia-Romagna riveste il ruolo di beneficiario incaricato del coordinamento e pertanto unico soggetto responsabile nei confronti della Commissione Europea per la realizzazione del Progetto;
- che i soggetti beneficiari associati nel Progetto Life AQUA sono: Legacoop Emilia Romagna, Indica srl, Regione Emilia-Romagna – Direzione Generale Ambiente e Difesa del Suolo e della Costa, Legacoop Agroalimentare e Legacoop Agroalimentare Nord Italia;

PREMESSO INOLTRE:

- che in data 08/10/2010 è stato sottoscritto dalla Commissione Europea e da Arpa Emilia-Romagna, in qualità di beneficiario incaricato del coordinamento, il Grant Agreement, allegato sub A) al presente atto quale parte integrante e sostanziale, finalizzato a disciplinare la realizzazione del Progetto Life AQUA;
- che il Progetto ha durata di 30 mesi a decorrere dall'1/01/2011 e pertanto fino al 30/06/2013;
- che il costo complessivo stimato per la realizzazione del Progetto Life AQUA è pari ad Euro 807.720,00 coperto fino all'importo massimo di Euro 403.860,00 dalla Commissione Europea e per il rimanente importo attraverso cofinanziamento dei soggetti beneficiari;
- che i prospetti riepilogativi del budget complessivo del Progetto, nonché dell'articolazione tra i soggetti beneficiari, sono riportati in allegato al Grant Agreement sub A);
- che in particolare il budget complessivo assegnato ad Arpa Emilia-Romagna per la realizzazione del Progetto è pari ad Euro 235.820,00, coperto fino all'importo massimo di Euro 117.910,00 dal finanziamento comunitario e per l'importo di Euro 117.910,00 da proprio finanziamento;

- che Arpa, in qualità di beneficiario incaricato del coordinamento del Progetto Life AQUA, sottoscriverà con ciascuno dei beneficiari associati una convenzione finalizzata a disciplinare la collaborazione nell'ambito del Progetto, così come specificatamente previsto nel Grant Agreement allegato sub A);

CONSIDERATO:

- che i costi operativi esterni previsti a carico di Arpa Emilia-Romagna per la realizzazione del Progetto sono interamente coperti dal relativo finanziamento;
- che la quota di cofinanziamento a carico di Arpa è relativa alla copertura di spese di personale, così come dettagliato nell'allegato sub A);

CONSIDERATO INOLTRE:

- che gli obiettivi e le azioni proposte per la realizzazione del Progetto sono dettagliatamente descritti nel Grant Agreement allegato sub A);
- che la complessità tecnica e la rilevanza economica del Progetto di cui trattasi rende opportuna la costituzione di un gruppo di lavoro che ne segua ogni fase di realizzazione;

DATO ATTO:

- che per Arpa Emilia-Romagna il soggetto competente all'attuazione e alla gestione del Progetto Life AQUA è la Direzione Tecnica;
- che il budget assegnato ad Arpa Emilia-Romagna per la realizzazione del Progetto Life AQUA è gestito dalla Direzione Tecnica;
- che la Direzione Tecnica potrà, inoltre, nell'arco della durata del progetto coinvolgere nella realizzazione delle attività altre strutture di Arpa, previo accordo con i relativi Direttori in merito al monte ore previsto per l'impegno dei collaboratori individuati e al corrispondente trasferimento di quote di budget;

DATO ATTO INOLTRE:

- che così come previsto nel Grant Agreement allegato sub A) Arpa provvederà ad affidare a idoneo soggetto esterno le attività di certificazione di ogni costo connesso con il Progetto Life AQUA;

RITENUTO:

- opportuna la partecipazione di Arpa al Progetto Life AQUA garantendo il cofinanziamento di Euro 117.910,00, quota di costi non sostenuta dal finanziamento comunitario;
- di prendere atto dell'approvazione del Grant Agreement sottoscritto con la Commissione Europea, allegato sub A) con tutti i relativi allegati, finalizzato a disciplinare la realizzazione del Progetto Life AQUA;

- di individuare il Direttore Tecnico quale soggetto legittimato ad agire, in qualità di delegato del legale rappresentante di Arpa Emilia-Romagna, nell'ambito del Progetto Life AQUA nei confronti della Commissione Europea e dei beneficiari associati, in particolare sottoscrivendo con ciascuno dei beneficiari associati una convenzione finalizzata a disciplinare la collaborazione nell'ambito del Progetto, così come previsto nel Grant Agreement allegato sub A);
- di delegare al Direttore Tecnico l'adozione di ogni atto che si renda necessario per garantire lo svolgimento delle attività progettuali, nell'ambito del budget del progetto;
- di delegare alla Dott.ssa Donatella Ferri, Responsabile del CTR Acque Interne, la responsabilità del Progetto Life AQUA;

SU PROPOSTA:

- del Direttore Tecnico Ing. Vito Belladonna, il quale ha espresso, ai sensi del Regolamento per il Decentramento amministrativo, approvato con D.D.G. n. 65 del 27/09/2010, il proprio parere favorevole in ordine alla regolarità amministrativa del presente provvedimento;

DATO ATTO:

- del parere di regolarità contabile espresso dal Responsabile dell'Area Bilancio e Controllo economico, Dott. Giuseppe Bacchi Reggiani, ai sensi del Regolamento per il Decentramento amministrativo approvato con D.D.G. n. 65 del 27/09/2010;
- del parere favorevole espresso dal Direttore Tecnico Ing. Vito Belladonna e dal Direttore Amministrativo Dott.ssa Massimiliana Razzaboni reso ai sensi dell'art. 9, comma 5, della L.R. n. 44/95;
- che il responsabile del procedimento è la Responsabile del CTR Acque Interne Dott.ssa Donatella Ferri;

DELIBERA

1. di prendere atto dell'approvazione da parte della Commissione Europea del Progetto "Adoption of quality water use in agro-industry sector" (Life AQUA), ammesso a cofinanziamento ai sensi del Programma comunitario Life09;
2. di dare atto che Arpa Emilia-Romagna riveste il ruolo di beneficiario incaricato del coordinamento e pertanto unico soggetto responsabile nei confronti della Commissione Europea per la realizzazione del Progetto e che i soggetti beneficiari associati sono Legacoop Emilia Romagna, Indica srl, Regione Emilia-Romagna – Direzione Generale Ambiente e Difesa del Suolo e della Costa, Legacoop Agroalimentare e Legacoop

Agroalimentare Nord Italia;

3. di prendere atto dell'approvazione del Grant Agreement sottoscritto con la Commissione Europea, allegato sub A) al presente atto quale parte integrante e sostanziale con tutti i relativi allegati, finalizzato a disciplinare la realizzazione del Progetto Life AQUA;
4. di dare atto che il Progetto di cui trattasi ha durata di mesi 30 a partire dall'1/01/2011 e pertanto si concluderà il 30/06/2013;
5. di dare atto che il costo complessivo stimato per la realizzazione del Progetto Life AQUA è pari ad Euro 807.720,00, coperto fino all'importo massimo di Euro 405.831,00, dalla Commissione Europea e per il rimanente importo attraverso cofinanziamenti dei soggetti beneficiari, come dettagliatamente descritto nel Grant Agreement allegato sub A);
6. di dare atto che per Arpa Emilia-Romagna il soggetto competente all'attuazione e alla gestione del Progetto Life AQUA è la Direzione Tecnica;
7. di individuare il Direttore Tecnico quale soggetto legittimato ad agire, in qualità di delegato del legale rappresentante di Arpa Emilia-Romagna, nell'ambito del Progetto Life AQUA nei confronti della Commissione Europea e dei beneficiari associati, in particolare sottoscrivendo con ciascuno dei beneficiari associati una convenzione finalizzata a disciplinare la collaborazione nell'ambito del Progetto, così come previsto nel Grant Agreement allegato sub A);
8. di delegare al Direttore Tecnico Ing. Vito Belladonna l'adozione di ogni atto che si renda necessario per garantire lo svolgimento delle attività progettuali;
9. di delegare alla Dott.ssa Donatella Ferri, Responsabile del CTR Acque Interne, la responsabilità del Progetto Life AQUA.

PARERE FAVOREVOLE

IL DIRETTORE TECNICO

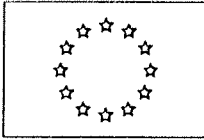
(F.to Ing. Vito Belladonna)

IL DIRETTORE AMMINISTRATIVO

(F.to Dott.ssa Massimiliana Razzaboni)

IL DIRETTORE GENERALE

(F.to Prof. Stefano Tibaldi)



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL ENVIRONMENT
Directorate E – International affairs
ENV.E-4 – Life Environment & Eco-innovation
Head of Unit

Brussels, 12 Oct. 2010
Ares(2010) 688204

Dott. Ssa Donatella FERRI
Arpa Emilia Romagna
Via Po, 5
40139 Bologna
Italia

E-mail : dferri@arpa.emr.it

Subject: Proposal LIFE09 ENV/IT/000075
"Adoption of quality water use in agro-industry sector"


Dear applicant,

I am happy to confirm that the grant you have requested to support the above project is definitively approved.

You will find enclosed a signed original of the grant agreement which will form the basis for the completion of the project.

The first prefinancing payment of the maximum allowable amount of grant will soon be paid.

I wish you success with your project and look forward to a fruitful collaboration.

Yours sincerely,

Hervé MARTIN

Enclosure : signed grant agreement



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL ENVIRONMENT
Directorate E - International Affairs
ENV.E.4 - LIFE Environment & Eco-Innovation
Head of Unit

Brussels, 12.10.2010

**NOTE TO LIFE BENEFICIARIES
ON COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION
(Please transmit to the project coordinator)**

The dissemination of LIFE and the results of LIFE projects is central to the success of our programme. The more a project makes itself known to its stakeholders, local and otherwise, the better your chance of achieving your objectives.

As part of our support to your efforts to communicate the work you are doing for nature and for the environment, I am pleased to enclose a set of LIFE bookmarks, memory stick, flag, stickers and post-its (note: this note is sent by post and by email so that you can access the web-site links referred to directly). The memory stick (4GB) contains administrative and communication tools as well as the various LIFE brochures.

I would like to draw your attention to various other LIFE products which you might find useful for your communication work: LIFE posters, leaflet, screen saver, nature video clip, flag, stickers (A4 to A8), communication factsheets and the various LIFE focus brochures (Nature brochures, Environment brochures, Third Country brochure).

Should you be organising an event, we can send you free of charge specific LIFE brochures (subject to availability), bookmarks (up to 500), stickers and flags (subject to availability). Please send your request at least a month in advance to ENV-LIFE-COMM@ec.europa.eu, specifying exactly how many of which product you would like to receive and the postal address to which they should be sent. You may also wish to advertise your event in the events section of the LIFE web site.

Please check that you, the coordinator, and each of your partners and associated beneficiaries receive the LIFE newsletter sent electronically every month. If some of you do not receive it and would like to, please send your email addresses to ENV-LIFE-COMM@ec.europa.eu. We send a copy of each new LIFE focus brochure to each project. If you, the coordinator or partner / associated beneficiary do not receive these and would like to, please send your full postal addresses to ENV-LIFE-COMM@ec.europa.eu.

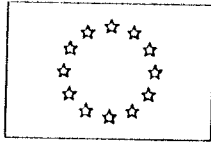
I invite you to refresh your acquaintance with the LIFE web site and its many chapters and sections and in particular the communication toolkit. You may also wish to visit the new LIFE Community forum where projects can discuss and exchange information.

With the help of our external communication team AEIDL, we are doing as much as we can to make LIFE and its exceptionally creative and fruitful projects both better known and better used. However, it is the combined efforts of the 600+ open LIFE projects that is the real driving force of LIFE dissemination. It is your work that is making the difference.



Hervé MARTIN

Enclosure: LIFE bookmarks, memory stick, post-its, flag, stickers



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT
Directorate E - International Affairs
ENV.E.4 - LIFE Environment & Eco-innovation

GRANT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER LIFE09 ENV/IT/000075

The European Union ("the Union"), represented by the European Commission ("the Commission"), itself represented for the purposes of signature of this agreement by Mr. Hervé MARTIN, Head of Unit, DG Environment,

of the one part,

and

Arpa Emilia Romagna
Via Po, 5
40139 Bologna
Italia

("the co-ordinating beneficiary"), represented for the purposes of signature of this agreement by Mr. Stefano Tibaldi, General Director,

and the following "associated beneficiaries":

- Legacoop Emilia Romagna, established in Italy;
- Indica srl, established in Italy;
- Regione Emilia-Romagna – Direzione General Ambiente e Difese del Suolo e della Costa, established in Italy
- Legacoop Agroalimentare, established in Italy;
- Legacoop Agroalimentare Nord Italia, established in Italy,

who have conferred powers of attorney for the purposes of the signature of the agreement to the representative of the co-ordinating beneficiary

of the other part,

HAVE AGREED

The **special provisions** and **common provisions** set out below and the following **Annexes**:

- Annex I** Description of the proposal
- Annex II** Standard statement of expenditure
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/toolkit/pmtools/lifeplus/reporting.htm>
- Annex III** LIFE logo
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/toolkit/comtools/resources/logos.htm>
- Annex IV** Standard audit report
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/toolkit/pmtools/lifeplus/reporting.htm>
- Annex V** Financial identification of the co-ordinating beneficiary
http://ec.europa.eu/budget/execution/ftiers_en.htm

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Financial support from Regulation (EC) N° 614/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 May 2007 concerning the Financial Instrument for the Environment (LIFE+) is hereby granted to project proposal No LIFE09 ENV/IT/000075, title: "Adoption of quality water use in agro-industry sector", received on 18.06.2010, ("the project") as described in Annex I. The grant is governed by the terms and conditions set out in the Special Provisions, the Common Provisions and the annexes to the agreement which the coordinating beneficiary hereby declares that he has taken note of and accepts.

Three identical copies of the grant agreement have been produced, each signed by the co-ordinating beneficiary.

The co-ordinating beneficiary accepts the grant and undertakes to do everything in its power to carry out the project, as described in Annex I, acting on its own responsibility.

Article 2

This agreement shall enter into force on the date when the last of the two parties signs.

The project shall run for 30 months from 01.01.2011 to 30.06.2013.

The total cost of the project is estimated at € 807.720, as shown in the provisional budget in Annex I. The provisional budget shall give a detailed breakdown of the costs that are eligible for the Union funding under the terms of Article 25 of the Common Provisions as well as the breakdown of all sources of finance. The financial support from the Union is hereby set at 50 % of the total eligible cost mentioned in Annex I with a maximum of € 403.860. The final amount of the grant is determined as defined in Article 28 of the Common Provisions.

Article 3

Done at Brussels in three copies, on .

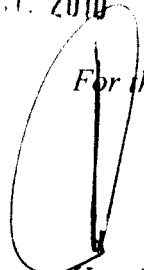
08 OCT. 2010

For the coordinating beneficiary,



Stefano Tibaldi
General Director

For the Commission,



Hervé MARTIN
Head of Unit



LIFE + Environment Policy and Governance

TECHNICAL APPLICATION FORMS

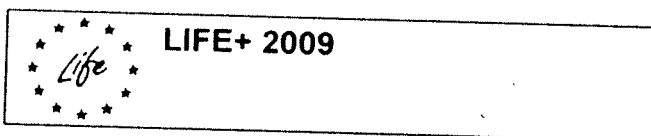
Part A – Administrative information

NOTES:

There are 5 sets of LIFE+ "Environment Policy and Governance" application forms: A, B, C and D (technical forms) and F (financial forms). The financial forms are in a separate Excel file.

While filling in the technical forms A – D, please respect the standard A4 format.

Whenever several copies of one form 2009-XY needs to be produced, please use the following naming convention per page: 2009-XY/1; 2009-XY/2 etc.



FOR ADMINISTRATION USE ONLY
LIFE+ 09 ENV/IT/075

PROJECT

Project title (max. 120 characters):
..... **AQUA. Adoption of Quality water Use in Agro-industry sector**

Project acronym (max. 25 characters): **AQUA**

The project will be implemented in the following:
Country(ies) **ITALY**

Administrative region(s)..... **Emilia-Romagna, Lazio**

Expected start date: **01/01/2011** Expected end date: **30/06/2013**

BENEFICIARIES

Name of the coordinating beneficiary (1): **ARPA EMILIA ROMAGNA**

Name of the associated beneficiary (2): **LEGACOOP EMILIA ROMAGNA**

Name of the associated beneficiary (3): **INDICA SRL**

Name of the associated beneficiary (4): **REGIONE EMILIA-ROMAGNA**

Name of the associated beneficiary (5): **LEGACOOP AGROALIMENTARE**

Name of the associated beneficiary (6): **LEGACOOP AGROLIMENTARE NORD ITALIA**

PROJECT BUDGET AND REQUESTED EC FUNDING

Total project budget: **807.720,00** €

Total eligible project budget: **807.720,00** €

EC financial contribution requested: **403.860,00** € (= ... **50** .. % of total eligible budget)

PROJECT POLICY AREA

You can only tick one of the following options:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste and natural resources |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Forests |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Chemicals | <input type="checkbox"/> Innovation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soil | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment and Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic approaches |

Coordinating Beneficiary Profile Information				
Short Name	ARPA ER		Beneficiary n°	1
Legal information on the Coordinating Beneficiary				
Legal Name	ARPA EMILIA ROMAGNA		Legal Status	
VAT No	04290860370		Public body	X
Legal Registration No	N.A.		Private commercial	
Registration Date	N.A.		Private non-commercial	
Legal address of the Coordinating Beneficiary				
Street Name and No	VIA PO, 5		PO Box	N.A.
Post Code	40139	Town/City	BOLOGNA	
Country Code	ITD55	Country Name	ITALY	
Coordinating Beneficiary contact person information				
Title	DOTT.SSA	Function	HEAD OF DEPARTMENT	
Surname	FERRI	First Name	DONATELLA	
E-mail address	dferri@arpa.emr.it			
Department / Service	INLAND WATERS DEPARTMENT – CENTRO TEMATICO REGIONALE ACQUE INTERNE			
Street Name and No	LARGO CADUTI DEL LAVORO, 6		PO Box	N.A.
Post Code	40122	Town/City	BOLOGNA	
Country	ITALY			
Telephone No	+39 051 5281222	Fax No	+39 051 5281261	
Coordinating Beneficiary details				
Year	2009			
Annual turnover	N.A.	Annual Balance Sheet Total	N.A.	
Number of employees	1032			
Website	http://www.arpa.emr.it/			
Brief description of the Coordinating Beneficiary's activities and experience in the area of the proposal				
<p>Arpa stands for Agenzia Regionale per la Prevenzione e l'Ambiente dell'Emilia-Romagna (Regional Agency for Environmental Prevention in Emilia-Romagna) established under Regional Law no. 44 of 19-4-1995 and subsequent amendments. ARPA is an environmental control technical support body to the Regional, District and Local Authorities and is administratively and technically independent. It is an instrumental organisation of the regional government having its own administrative, accounting and technical autonomy.</p> <p>ARPA ER's functions, activities and tasks cover all aspects concerning environmental control, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring of the various environmental components • management and surveillance of human activities and their territorial impacts • activities in support of the environmental impact assessment of plans and projects • creation and management of a regional environmental information system. <p>Also of great importance are the custom-made activities undertaken by ARPA ER on behalf of local clients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • soil, water and air quality improvement plans • complex territorial analyses • study and characterisation of ecosystems • research into themes about the development of eco-efficiency in production cycles (Life Cycle Assessment, Best Available Techniques, etc.). 				

The Agency's activities are aimed at local, regional and national institutional customers, the business world and private citizens. ARPA ER also collaborates with the Italian Agency for the Environment and Territory (ISPRA), the European Environmental Agency (EEA) and Italian, European and International institutes and research centres.

ARPA Emilia-Romagna has provided technical support to design the Water Protection Plan of Emilia-Romagna Region (Piano di Tutela delle Acque). In detail, ARPA has assessed the industrial uses of water in the Region, defined the programme of measures and evaluated the possible future scenarios of water extraction activities. As for the agro-industrial sector ARPA Emilia-Romagna has produced studies to assess, by analyzing the specific water consumption level per product unit, the efficiency of the main types of production in the region (milk processing, sugar manufacturing, tomato processing, etc.).

ARPA Emilia-Romagna also provide the technical inquiry for the Integrated Environmental Authorization (AIA) of the productive sites that are subjected to the IPPC Italian legislation (Directive 2008/1/EC), assessing the adequacy of production processes with regard to water consumption and appropriateness and sustainability of water extraction activities.



COORDINATING BENEFICIARY DECLARATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

1. The specific actions listed in this proposal do not and will not receive aid from the Structural Funds or other Community financial instruments. In the event that any such funding will be made available after the submission of the proposal or during the implementation of the project, my organisation will immediately inform the European Commission.
2. My organisation (*add name*)ARPA EMILIA ROMAGNA has not been served with bankruptcy orders, nor has it received a formal summons from creditors. My organisation is not in any of the situations listed in Articles 93.1 and 94 of Council Regulation 1605/2002 of 25/06/2002 (OJ L248 of 16/09/2002).
3. My organisation (which is legally registered in the European Union) will contribute (*add amount*) ...117.910,00..... € to the project. My organisation will participate in the implementation of the following actions (*add action code(s)*): 1. Project management and monitoring 2. International review of methodologies and best practices 3. Water saving Panel establishment and modelling of the Water Saving Kit 4. Local application of the Water Saving Kit and testing 5. Evaluation of project results 6. Communication and dissemination of results and methodology. The estimated total cost of my organisation's part in the implementation of the project is (*add amount*) ...235.820,00..... €.
4. Should one or more associated beneficiary or co-financier reduce or withdraw its financial contribution, my organisation will ensure that a corresponding additional contribution is made available.
5. My organisation will conclude with the associated beneficiaries and co-financiers any agreements necessary for the completion of the work, provided these do not infringe on their obligations, as stated in the grant agreement with the European Commission. Such agreements will be based on the model proposed by the European Commission. They will describe clearly the tasks to be performed by each associated beneficiary and define the financial arrangements.
6. I am aware that my organisation is solely legally and financially responsible to the Commission for the implementation of the project (Article 4 of the Common Provisions).

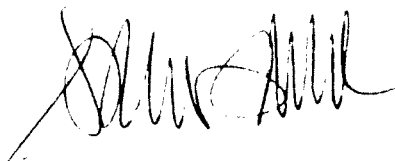
I am legally authorised to sign this statement on behalf of my organisation.

I have read in full the Common Provisions (attached to the Model Grant Agreement provided with the LIFE+ application files).

I certify to the best of my knowledge that the statements made in this proposal are true and the information provided is correct.

At Bologna on 31/05/2010

Signature of the Coordinating Beneficiary:



Name(s) and status of signatory: Tibaldi Stefano – General Director.

ARPA - Direzione Tecnica
Largo Caduti del Lavoro, 6
40122 - BOLOGNA
Tel. 051 5281211 - Fax 051 5281261
P. IVA e C.F. 04290860370

ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARY DECLARATION (complete for each Associated Beneficiary)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

1. My organisation (*add name*) ... LEGACOOP EMILIA ROMAGNA... has not been served with bankruptcy orders, nor has it received a formal summons from creditors. My organisation is not in any of the situations listed in Articles 93.1 and 94 of Council Regulation 1605/2002 of 25/06/2002 (OJ L248 of 16/09/2002).
2. My organisation (which is legally registered in the European Union) will contribute (add amount)79.450,00..... € to the project. My organisation will participate in the implementation of the following actions (add action code(s)): 1. Project management and monitoring 3. Water saving Panel establishment and modelling of the Water Saving Kit 4. Local application of the Water Saving Kit and testing 5. Evaluation of project results 6. Communication and dissemination of results and methodology. The estimated total cost of my organisation's part in the implementation of the project is (add amount) ...158.900,00..... €.
3. My organisation will conclude with the coordinating beneficiary an agreement necessary for the completion of the work, provided this does not infringe on our obligations, as stated in the grant agreement with the European Commission. This agreement will be based on the model proposed by the European Commission. It will describe clearly the tasks to be performed by my organisation and define the financial arrangements.
4. For the purposes of the implementation of the agreement regarding this project between the European Commission and the coordinating beneficiary:
 - a) My organisation grants power of attorney to the coordinating beneficiary, to act in our name and for our account in signing the above-mentioned agreement and its possible subsequent riders with the European Commission. Accordingly, my organisation hereby mandates the coordinating beneficiary to take full legal responsibility for the implementation of such an agreement.
 - b) My organisation hereby confirms that we have taken careful note of and accept all the provisions of the above agreement with the European Commission, in particular all provisions affecting my organisation and the coordinating beneficiary. In particular, my organisation acknowledges that, by virtue of this mandate, the co-ordinator alone is entitled to receive funds from the Commission and distribute to my organisation the amount corresponding to our participation in the action.
 - c) My organisation hereby agrees to do everything in our power to help the coordinating beneficiary fulfil his obligations under the above agreement. In particular, my organisation hereby agrees to provide him whatever documents or information may be required, as soon as possible after receiving his request.
 - d) The provisions of the above agreement, including this mandate, shall take precedence over any other agreement between my organisation and the coordinating beneficiary which may have an effect on the implementation of the above agreement between the coordinating beneficiary and the Commission.

I am legally authorised to sign this statement on behalf of my organisation.

I have read in full the Common Provisions (attached to the Model Grant Agreement provided with the *LIFE+* application files).
I certify to the best of my knowledge that the statements made in this proposal are true and the information provided is correct.

AtBologna..... on....31/05/2010

Signature of the Associated Beneficiary:

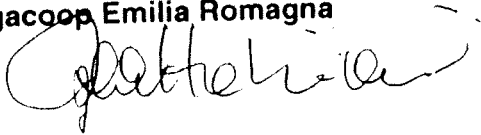
Name(s) and status of signatory:

.....

Paolo Cattabiani

Presidente

Legacoop Emilia Romagna



ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARY DECLARATION (complete for each Associated Beneficiary)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

1. My organisation (*add name*) ... INDICA SRL ... has not been served with bankruptcy orders, nor has it received a formal summons from creditors. My organisation is not in any of the situations listed in Articles 93.1 and 94 of Council Regulation 1605/2002 of 25/06/2002 (OJ L248 of 16/09/2002).
2. My organisation (which is legally registered in the European Union) will contribute (*add amount*)97.750,00..... € to the project. My organisation will participate in the implementation of the following actions (*add action code(s)*): 1. Project management and monitoring 2. International review of methodologies and best practices 3. Water saving Panel establishment and modelling of the Water Saving Kit 4. Local application of the Water Saving Kit and testing 5. Evaluation of project results 6. Communication and dissemination of results and methodology. The estimated total cost of my organisation's part in the implementation of the project is (*add amount*) ...195.500,00..... €.
3. My organisation will conclude with the coordinating beneficiary an agreement necessary for the completion of the work, provided this does not infringe on our obligations, as stated in the grant agreement with the European Commission. This agreement will be based on the model proposed by the European Commission. It will describe clearly the tasks to be performed by my organisation and define the financial arrangements.
4. For the purposes of the implementation of the agreement regarding this project between the European Commission and the coordinating beneficiary:
 - a) My organisation grants power of attorney to the coordinating beneficiary, to act in our name and for our account in signing the above-mentioned agreement and its possible subsequent riders with the European Commission. Accordingly, my organisation hereby mandates the coordinating beneficiary to take full legal responsibility for the implementation of such an agreement.
 - b) My organisation hereby confirms that we have taken careful note of and accept all the provisions of the above agreement with the European Commission, in particular all provisions affecting my organisation and the coordinating beneficiary. In particular, my organisation acknowledges that, by virtue of this mandate, the co-ordinator alone is entitled to receive funds from the Commission and distribute to my organisation the amount corresponding to our participation in the action.
 - c) My organisation hereby agrees to do everything in our power to help the coordinating beneficiary fulfil his obligations under the above agreement. In particular, my organisation hereby agrees to provide him whatever documents or information may be required, as soon as possible after receiving his request.
 - d) The provisions of the above agreement, including this mandate, shall take precedence over any other agreement between my organisation and the coordinating beneficiary which may have an effect on the implementation of the above agreement between the coordinating beneficiary and the Commission.

I am legally authorised to sign this statement on behalf of my organisation.

I have read in full the Common Provisions (attached to the Model Grant Agreement provided with the *LIFE+* application files).
I certify to the best of my knowledge that the statements made in this proposal are true and the information provided is correct.

At ...Ferrara on.....31/05/2010

Signature of the Associated Beneficiary:

Name(s) and status of signatory: Alessandra Vaccari, Chief Executive.....

INDICA srl
Sede legale: Via Bologna, 498 - 44100 FERRARA
Sede operativa: Via Montebello, 10 - 44100 FERRARA
Tel. 0532-241437
P. IVA e C.F. 01715980387

ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARY DECLARATION (complete for each Associated Beneficiary)

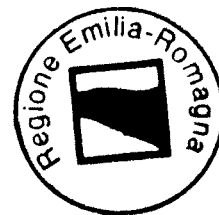
The undersigned hereby certifies that:

1. My organisation REGIONE EMILIA-ROMAGNA – DIREZIONE GENERALE AMBIENTE E DIFESA DEL SUOLO E DELLA COSTA has not been served with bankruptcy orders, nor has it received a formal summons from creditors. My organisation is not in any of the situations listed in Articles 93.1 and 94 of Council Regulation 1605/2002 of 25/06/2002 (OJ L248 of 16/09/2002).
2. My organisation (which is legally registered in the European Union) will contribute 48.000,00 € to the project. My organisation will participate in the implementation of the following actions (add action code(s)): 1. Project management and monitoring 3. Water saving Panel establishment and modelling of the Water Saving Kit 5. Evaluation of project results 6. Communication and dissemination of results and methodology. The estimated total cost of my organisation's part in the implementation of the project is 96.000,00 €.
3. My organisation will conclude with the coordinating beneficiary an agreement necessary for the completion of the work, provided this does not infringe on our obligations, as stated in the grant agreement with the European Commission. This agreement will be based on the model proposed by the European Commission. It will describe clearly the tasks to be performed by my organisation and define the financial arrangements.
4. For the purposes of the implementation of the agreement regarding this project between the European Commission and the coordinating beneficiary:
 - a) My organisation grants power of attorney to the coordinating beneficiary, to act in our name and for our account in signing the above-mentioned agreement and its possible subsequent riders with the European Commission. Accordingly, my organisation hereby mandates the coordinating beneficiary to take full legal responsibility for the implementation of such an agreement.
 - b) My organisation hereby confirms that we have taken careful note of and accept all the provisions of the above agreement with the European Commission, in particular all provisions affecting my organisation and the coordinating beneficiary. In particular, my organisation acknowledges that, by virtue of this mandate, the co-ordinator alone is entitled to receive funds from the Commission and distribute to my organisation the amount corresponding to our participation in the action.
 - c) My organisation hereby agrees to do everything in our power to help the coordinating beneficiary fulfil his obligations under the above agreement. In particular, my organisation hereby agrees to provide him whatever documents or information may be required, as soon as possible after receiving his request.
 - d) The provisions of the above agreement, including this mandate, shall take precedence over any other agreement between my organisation and the coordinating beneficiary which may have an effect on the implementation of the above agreement between the coordinating beneficiary and the Commission.

I am legally authorised to sign this statement on behalf of my organisation.

I have read in full the Common Provisions (attached to the Model Grant Agreement provided with the *LIFE+* application files).
I certify to the best of my knowledge that the statements made in this proposal are true and the information provided is correct.

AtBologna..... on.....



Signature of the Associated Beneficiary:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bortone".

Name(s) and status of signatory: Giuseppe Bortone – Direttore Generale Ambiente e Difesa del Suolo e della Costa

ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARY DECLARATION (complete for each Associated Beneficiary)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

1. My organisation (*add name*) ... LEGACOOOP AGROALIMENTARE ... has not been served with bankruptcy orders, nor has it received a formal summons from creditors. My organisation is not in any of the situations listed in Articles 93.1 and 94 of Council Regulation 1605/2002 of 25/06/2002 (OJ L248 of 16/09/2002).
2. My organisation (which is legally registered in the European Union) will contribute (*add amount*)36.750,00..... € to the project. My organisation will participate in the implementation of the following actions (*add action code(s)*): 1. Project management and monitoring 3. Water saving Panel establishment and modelling of the Water Saving Kit 5. Evaluation of project results 6. Communication and dissemination of results and methodology.. The estimated total cost of my organisation's part in the implementation of the project is (*add amount*) ...73.500,00..... €.
3. My organisation will conclude with the coordinating beneficiary an agreement necessary for the completion of the work, provided this does not infringe on our obligations, as stated in the grant agreement with the European Commission. This agreement will be based on the model proposed by the European Commission. It will describe clearly the tasks to be performed by my organisation and define the financial arrangements.
4. For the purposes of the implementation of the agreement regarding this project between the European Commission and the coordinating beneficiary:
 - a) My organisation grants power of attorney to the coordinating beneficiary, to act in our name and for our account in signing the above-mentioned agreement and its possible subsequent riders with the European Commission. Accordingly, my organisation hereby mandates the coordinating beneficiary to take full legal responsibility for the implementation of such an agreement.
 - b) My organisation hereby confirms that we have taken careful note of and accept all the provisions of the above agreement with the European Commission, in particular all provisions affecting my organisation and the coordinating beneficiary. In particular, my organisation acknowledges that, by virtue of this mandate, the co-ordinator alone is entitled to receive funds from the Commission and distribute to my organisation the amount corresponding to our participation in the action.
 - c) My organisation hereby agrees to do everything in our power to help the coordinating beneficiary fulfil his obligations under the above agreement. In particular, my organisation hereby agrees to provide him whatever documents or information may be required, as soon as possible after receiving his request.
 - d) The provisions of the above agreement, including this mandate, shall take precedence over any other agreement between my organisation and the coordinating beneficiary which may have an effect on the implementation of the above agreement between the coordinating beneficiary and the Commission.

I am legally authorised to sign this statement on behalf of my organisation.

I have read in full the Common Provisions (attached to the Model Grant Agreement provided with the LIFE+ application files).

I certify to the best of my knowledge that the statements made in this proposal are true and the information provided is correct.

At Roma on 31/05/2010

Signature of the Associated Beneficiary:

Name(s) and status of signatory:

Il Presidente

Giovanni Luppi
Giovanni Luppi



ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARY DECLARATION (complete for each Associated Beneficiary)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

1. My organisation (*add name*) ... LEGACOOOP AGROALIMENTARE NORD ITALIA... has not been served with bankruptcy orders, nor has it received a formal summons from creditors. My organisation is not in any of the situations listed in Articles 93.1 and 94 of Council Regulation 1605/2002 of 25/06/2002 (OJ L248 of 16/09/2002).
2. My organisation (which is legally registered in the European Union) will contribute (*add amount*)24.000,00..... € to the project. My organisation will participate in the implementation of the following actions (*add action code(s)*): 1. Project management and monitoring 2. International review of methodologies and best practices 4. Local application of the Water Saving Kit and testing 5. Evaluation of project results 6. Communication and dissemination of results and methodology. The estimated total cost of my organisation's part in the implementation of the project is (*add amount*)48.000,00..... €.
3. My organisation will conclude with the coordinating beneficiary an agreement necessary for the completion of the work, provided this does not infringe on our obligations, as stated in the grant agreement with the European Commission. This agreement will be based on the model proposed by the European Commission. It will describe clearly the tasks to be performed by my organisation and define the financial arrangements.
4. For the purposes of the implementation of the agreement regarding this project between the European Commission and the coordinating beneficiary:
 - a) My organisation grants power of attorney to the coordinating beneficiary, to act in our name and for our account in signing the above-mentioned agreement and its possible subsequent riders with the European Commission. Accordingly, my organisation hereby mandates the coordinating beneficiary to take full legal responsibility for the implementation of such an agreement.
 - b) My organisation hereby confirms that we have taken careful note of and accept all the provisions of the above agreement with the European Commission, in particular all provisions affecting my organisation and the coordinating beneficiary. In particular, my organisation acknowledges that, by virtue of this mandate, the co-ordinator alone is entitled to receive funds from the Commission and distribute to my organisation the amount corresponding to our participation in the action.
 - c) My organisation hereby agrees to do everything in our power to help the coordinating beneficiary fulfil his obligations under the above agreement. In particular, my organisation hereby agrees to provide him whatever documents or information may be required, as soon as possible after receiving his request.
 - d) The provisions of the above agreement, including this mandate, shall take precedence over any other agreement between my organisation and the coordinating beneficiary which may have an effect on the implementation of the above agreement between the coordinating beneficiary and the Commission.

I am legally authorised to sign this statement on behalf of my organisation.

I have read in full the Common Provisions (attached to the Model Grant Agreement provided with the *LIFE+* application files).
I certify to the best of my knowledge that the statements made in this proposal are true and the information provided is correct.

At Bologna on 31/05/2010

Signature of the Associated Beneficiary:

Name(s) and status of signatory:

Il Presidente

Giovanni Luppi



LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance 2009 – A5/1

ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARY PROFILE (Complete for each Associated Beneficiary)

Associated Beneficiary profile information				
Short name	LEGACOO ER		Beneficiary n°	2
Legal information on the Associated Beneficiary				
Legal Name	LEGACOO EMILIA ROMAGNA		Legal Status	
VAT No	80040130371		Public body	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal Registration No	N.A.		Private commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registration Date	N.A.		Private non-commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Legal address of the Associated Beneficiary				
Street Name and No	VIALE ALDO MORO, 16		PO Box	N.A.
Post Code	40127	Town/City	BOLOGNA	
Country Code	ITD55	Country Name	ITALY	
Brief description of the Associated Beneficiary's activities and experience in the area of the proposal				
<p>Emilia Romagna is one of Europe's top regions in terms of its number of cooperatives and it certainly has far more cooperatives than any other region in Italy. Statistics, in fact, show that just under one out every two inhabitants are members of at least one cooperative.</p> <p>Legacoop Emilia Romagna, a branch of the "Lega Nazionale delle Cooperative e Mutue" (Legacoop), is the main organisation that represents the cooperatives in this region and unites cooperatives and their economic subsidiaries in various sectors (industrial, agricultural and service sectors), that are responsible for organizing cooperative-based solutions to meet the needs of their members (producers, workers, consumers, inhabitants, users, retailers).</p> <p>The Legacoop ER, performs the following roles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ it represents the cooperatives in dealings with the authorities, other business organisations and workers' trade unions; ▪ it promotes cooperatives and backs up their establishment and development; ▪ it supports partners' development by providing advice and putting them in contact with tried and trusted technical and economic bodies (Regional Service Network) and finance companies in the cooperative system; ▪ it promotes and develops innovation and internationalization; ▪ it propagates the cooperative ethos in schools and universities; ▪ it ensures that cooperative principles are respected in the various cooperatives and that the Table of Values is adhered to. <p>Legacoop Emilia Romagna covers the entire region, and all the economic sectors, with a carefully structured network of local and sector-based Legacoop units that conduct the activities listed below in a coordinated fashion. The commitment of Legacoop ER in the project will guarantee the enlargement of the diffusion of the project outcomes and results to all the other economic sectors but the agro-industrial. The AQUA project in fact has selected the ago-industry and the agriculture production processes for the pilot phase because of their heavy water consumption and pollution, but it aims at producing public value, valid and expandable to other sectors as well.</p> <p>The table that follows summarizes in a series of figures the consistent level of cooperatives belonging to Legacoop in Emilia Romagna.</p>				
<i>Legacoop Emilia Romagna in figures (2007 and Mil €):</i>				
Sector	Coop.ve	Turnover	Members	Employees
Housing	50	271	146.341	175
Agro-industry	243	5.200	76.523	11.500
Manufacturing	152	7.900	9.015	18.831

Sector	Coop.ve	Turnover	Members	Employees
Services	290	4.000	53.207	65.700
Social	209	655	15.021	18.500
GDO	61	6.600	1.484.578	21.800
Retailers	17	2.600	1.074	15.291
Fishery	35	84	1.792	1.937
Others	204	252	2.326	1.284
Tot	1.261	27.562	1.789.877	155.018

Finally, another important feature of Legacoop, which it could grant to the project as well, it is represented by its very good and well established institutional relationships, grounded in years of collaborations with public authorities (the Emilia-Romagna Region above others) on the issues of sustainability. This aspect is definitely important to assure a smooth collaboration within the partnership consortium as well as a coherence of mission and of long term goals among the key partners.

ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARY PROFILE (Complete for each Associated Beneficiary)

Associated Beneficiary profile information				
Short name	INDICA		Beneficiary n°	3
Legal information on the Associated Beneficiary				
Legal Name	INDICA SRL		Legal Status	
VAT No	01715980387		Public body	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal Registration No	FE-191385		Private commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Registration Date	14/02/2007		Private non-commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal address of the Associated Beneficiary				
Street Name and No	VIA MONTEBELLO, 10		PO Box	N.A.
Post Code	44100	Town/City	FERRARA	
Country Code	ITD56	Country Name	ITALY	
Brief description of the Associated Beneficiary's activities and experience in the area of the proposal				
<p>Indica srl offers consulting services and support on the themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Accountability systems</u>, including environmental accountability (CLEAR), social and environmental reporting systems, sustainability and gender reports, instruments for public participation and stakeholder involvement (local Agenda 21 action plans, participatory reports); - <u>Environmental management systems</u>, support in developing and implementing environmental management systems during the whole process of obtaining EMAS and ISO 14001 certifications; - <u>Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)</u>, project development related to SA 8000 certification and ethical codes, support to Local Authorities to adopt CSR instruments; - <u>Energy and climate change</u>, development and implementation of instruments for local authorities environmental and energy policies making, in accordance with the Kyoto Protocol targets (energy savings, energy efficiency, renewable energies and local adaptation strategies); - <u>Carbon neutral</u>, support to organizations in the calculation of processes and products carbon footprint (CO₂ and CO₂ equivalent emissions), analysis of the best opportunities available for carbon reduction along the whole product life cycle and finally assistance in choosing the best opportunity offered in this market for offsetting the residual carbon emissions. - <u>Green public procurement and sustainable products</u>, support in the decision making for product processes and buying procedures that take into consideration the social and environmental impacts that the products might have in their whole life cycle, from the raw material extraction to the waste disposal (LCA, EPD, Carbon label, etc). <p>Indica and its staff of experts and professionals has a long term experience in the field of private-public partnership, due to a number of EU Life projects in which it took part where this issue was central (LIFE00 ENV/IT/000144 CLEAR, LIFE05 ENV/IT/000808 IDEMS, LIFE07 ENV/IT/000357 LACRe, LIFE07 ENV/IT/000451 LAKs), as well as due to its core activity undertaken at the local level in Italy.</p> <p>Moreover Indica boasts an important experience in techniques to overcome disagreement, manage diversity, facilitate dialogue. Thanks to this, it will contribute positively to the development of the actions in which it is involved and to overcome some main constraints and risks that could interfere with the implementation of the project related to the willingness of the different actors.</p>				

ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARY PROFILE (Complete for each Associated Beneficiary)

Associated Beneficiary profile information				
Short name	RER	Beneficiary n°	4	
Legal information on the Associated Beneficiary				
Legal Name	REGIONE EMILIA-ROMAGNA		Legal Status	
VAT No	80062590379		Public body	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Legal Registration No	N.A.		Private commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registration Date	N.A.		Private non-commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal address of the Associated Beneficiary				
Street Name and No	VIALE ALDO MORO, 52		PO Box	N.A.
Post Code	40127	Town/City	BOLOGNA	
Country Code	ITD55	Country Name	ITALY	
Brief description of the Associated Beneficiary's activities and experience in the area of the proposal				
<p>The Emilia-Romagna region has been working for many years on the issue of water management, collaborating and involving single companies and/or associations of producers. Moreover, it has developed the National Forum on Water Saving and Conservation that highlights the most modern, innovative policies for water saving and conservation at the national level.</p> <p>In 2005 the Emilia-Romagna Government approved the regional Water Protection Plan, which represents the main tool to achieve the objectives defined by the Water Framework Directive by 2015. The regional strategy is based on an integrated approach which connects the qualitative and the quantitative aspects ("twin track approach"). The Water Saving and Conservation Program is part of the Water Protection Plan.</p> <p>The Emilia-Romagna Government has developed concrete experiences in the following sectors: Communication and Dissemination (National Water Saving Forum; Water saving campaigns; Water saving kit distributions; Water saving spots; Fairs, workshops, seminars and exhibitions); Water Saving Pilot Projects; Eco-Incentives in the industrial sector; New and innovative regional domestic tariff method; Reduction water losses.</p> <p>The Region Emilia-Romagna has long experience in international and cross-border co-operation in particular in the LIFE, INTERREG A-B-C, INTERACT, IPA Programmes. The Emilia-Romagna Region has participated in 33 projects as Lead partners and in 102 projects as project partner. The General Direction for Environment and Soil and Coast Protection has been involved in several projects focused on different environmental issues and in particular on the development of new approaches to water management and water saving. Among the most recent projects there are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PlanCoast - Interreg III B CADSES (PP) ; • Beachmed - Interreg III C South (PP) • Cadsealand – Interreg III B CADSES (PP) • BVM - Interreg III B MEDOCC (PP). • Aqualabel – Life03 programme (PP). • SeqCure – Life06 programme (PP). • SedNet Demand driven, European Sediment Research Network - 5° Framework Programme. • eWATER – eContentplus programme (PP). • Wataclis – Life08 (CF). • Coast-Best – Life08 (CF). <p>In particular, two projects, Aqualabel and SeqCure, witness the involvement and experience of Emilia-Romagna Region in the field AQUA project issue.</p> <p>The project AQUALABEL is meant to create a specific compliance protocol aimed to provide environmental quality label for water delivered by waterworks. On one hand AQUALABEL has ensured a reduced environmental impact of management activities on water resources and on the other hand higher it has ensured standards for delivered drinking water. A pilot plant for drinking water distribution has been designed and built in the Municipality of Lizzano in Belvedere, the pleasant resort in the</p>				

Apennine Mountains in Emilia-Romagna, with the purpose of carrying out the operative procedures and checking the managing activities effect on water quality. The highly clear spring water resources of Lizzano area together with an accurate management of the pilot plant has provided a water to the tap that is as good as the spring water. The same collection, disinfection, distribution service of spring drinkable water has received the EPD pre-certification (Reg. No. S-EP-00038 of 15th January 2009). With regard to SeqCure project, it is a three-year project co-ordinated by CRPA S.p.A. aiming to contribute to the reduction of CO2 atmospheric emissions and increase carbon sequestration in the soil. The main goals of the project can be summarised as follows:

- the promotion of the use of organic residues (manure, sewage sludge, other materials) to fertilise energy crops, limiting their environmental impact and saving water resources;
- the monitoring of different agro-energy production cycles, starting with the production of biomass up to its conversion into energy and the disposal of the residues;
- the making of a method of calculation available for the estimation of greenhouse gas emissions/carbon sequestration deriving from changes in soil use;
- the increase of the knowledge of farmers and technicians in relation to greenhouse gas emissions/carbon sequestration and to energy and water use reduction resulting from farming practices and from agro-energy production cycles;
- the facilitation of the start-up of agro-energy production cycles which are sustainable both from the environmental and economic point of view.

ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARY PROFILE (Complete for each Associated Beneficiary)

Associated Beneficiary profile information					
Short name	ANCA			Beneficiary n°	5
Legal information on the Associated Beneficiary					
Legal Name	LEGACOOP AGROALIMENTARE 97101350581			Legal Status	
VAT No				Public body	
Legal Registration No	N.A.			Private commercial	
Registration Date	N.A.			Private non-commercial	x
Legal address of the Associated Beneficiary					
Street Name and No	VIA GUATTANI, 9			PO Box	N.A.
Post Code	00161	Town/City	ROMA		
Country Code	ITE43	Country Name	ITALY		
Brief description of the Associated Beneficiary's activities and experience in the area of the proposal					
<p>Founded in 1957, Legacoop Agroalimentare, Associazione Nazionale Cooperative per lo Sviluppo Rurale (National Association of Agri-Food Cooperatives for Rural Development - ANCA), represents cooperatives present in all Italian regions operating in different agri-food sectors – production, processing, distribution, supplying services and technical support for enterprises. Legacoop Agroalimentare "promotes, represents, assists, safeguards and coordinates associated cooperatives, in order to encourage their development in modern and efficient enterprises" (Statute, art. 2).</p> <p>In 2007, ANCA associates 1,119 cooperatives, with 196,821 members and 21,901 employees, and has an annual turnover of 7,2 billion €. Involved food production sectors are: agricultural and forest production, fruit and vegetable production, oil production, milk and cheese production, wine production, meat production, seed production and 'other production systems'.</p> <p>Main trends of recent years show a slow and progressive concentration process among the whole agricultural sector, and among Legacoop cooperatives as well.</p> <p>The Association is committed to promoting projects at all levels aimed at development, increasing employment, encouraging organizational restructuring and innovation, managerial training, technological innovation, sales and brand policies, and distribution and logistics networks.</p> <p>Member cooperatives aim at providing consumers certified guarantees on product quality and food safety; in fact, most of them are committed to providing transparent and coded information on their products' traceability.</p> <p>Therefore, growth, solidarity and safeguarding members, consumers and environment are the guidelines of the economic policies by which the Association fulfils its social role.</p>					
<i>Legacoop Agroalimentare cooperatives per food production sector</i>					
Sector	N. of Cooperatives	N. of Members	N. of Employees	Turnover (Min. €)	
Milk and cheese production	105	6.278	2.391	1.809	
Oil production	76	30.307	436	97	
Fruit, vegetable and flower production	129	18.844	4.531	872	
Services	161	64.289	3.180	1.297	
Wine production	94	41.017	1.932	679	
Meat production	124	8.033	4.163	1.663	
Other production systems	430	28.054	5.267	835	
TOT.	1.119	196.821	21.901	7.252	

The AQUA project exploits at maximum the institutional role as well as the networks of ANCA, assuring indeed the establishment of relationships with different organizations and institutions at the national level, which could generate the maximum convergence on agricultural cooperation strategic objectives, as well as a very wide diffusion of the results obtained, both at national level and international.

At national level, Legacoop Agroalimentare participates in a national coordination committee, which links 4 cooperatives organizations, and tries, when possible, to express as a single voice, sharing actions and strategies. The Association tries, through concrete actions, to make a positive contribution to the process aimed to reach cooperative unity, a process considered socially and politically valuable.

Legacoop Agroalimentare is strongly involved at European and International level.

At European level, Legacoop Agroalimentare is member of **COPA-COGECA**, the first European representative organization of farmers and their cooperatives. In particular, COGECA (General Confederation of Agricultural Cooperatives in the European Union) is the E.U. cooperatives umbrella organization, and it represents more than 40.000 agricultural cooperatives across 27 Member States, employing some 660.000 people and with a global annual turnover in excess of three hundred billion euros throughout the enlarged Europe.

COGECA's most important objectives are to:

- represent the general and specific interests of European agricultural, forestry, fisheries and agri-food cooperatives and to contribute to the development of cooperatives in general;
- influence decisions which affect agricultural cooperatives' activities by lobbying the E.U.'s public institutions and other organisations at E.U. and international level;
- promote the role of agricultural, forestry, fisheries and agri-food cooperatives;
- provide a platform for member organisations and cooperatives to hold political discussions and exchange views on policy issues and the added value of agricultural produce and businesses;
- seek solutions on important issues of common interest and promote them;
- facilitate and coordinate links between its members and its members' offices in Brussels as well as provide services for cooperative networking;
- promote discussions and exchanges of views with the Committee of Professional Agricultural Organisations in the European Union (COPA) in particular, as well as with other representative organisations at EU and international level;
- undertake legal, economic, financial, social or other studies of interest to agricultural, forestry, fisheries and agri-food cooperatives.

Ultimately, at international level, ANCA is affiliated to ICAO (International Cooperative Agricultural Organization), the democratic organization representing agricultural cooperatives and farmers worldwide. The ICAO, founded in 1951, is a sectoral organization of the ICA (International Cooperative Alliance). The ICA is an independent, non-governmental association which unites, represents and serves cooperatives worldwide. Founded in 1895, ICA has 221 member organisations from 85 countries active in all sectors of the economy, and together these cooperatives represent more than 800 million individuals worldwide.

In turn, the ICAO represents 47 agricultural cooperatives organizations from over 38 countries. The **ICAO** mainly aims to:

- exchange experience on specific activity fields by hosting international meetings such as seminars and workshops;
- promote the establishment of agricultural cooperatives in developing countries in order to increase food security;
- improve the distribution of agricultural products;
- take concrete action for preserving the environment.

ANCA is strongly committed in bilateral transfer of know-how and assistance projects devoted to strengthening of the agricultural cooperatives in several world areas.

Moreover, several agricultural member cooperatives are directly involved in cooperation to development and solidarity projects, as well as some important agricultural cooperatives have acquired relevant positions on international markets.

The commitment of Legacoop Agroalimentare in the project maximizes the European added value through the guarantee the adoption of a European based view and facilitates the dissemination of knowledge and experiences acquired.

Therefore the main contribution that Legacoop Agroalimentare will make to AQUA project is related to the dissemination actions.

It is finally important to highlight that the instruments of communication and innovation planned that Legacoop Agroalimentare will use, they already exist. This will assure the continuity of the actions and commitment also after the end of the project, since these instruments and actions are carried on anyway.

ASSOCIATED BENEFICIARY PROFILE (Complete for each Associated Beneficiary)

Associated Beneficiary profile information				
Short name	ANCA NI		Beneficiary n°	6
Legal information on the Associated Beneficiary				
Legal Name	LEGACOOOP AGROALIMENTARE NORD ITALIA		Legal Status	
VAT No	80080190376		Public body	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal Registration No	N.A.		Private commercial	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registration Date	N.A.		Private non-commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Legal address of the Associated Beneficiary				
Street Name and No	VIALE ALDO MORO, 16		PO Box	N.A.
Post Code	40127	Town/City	BOLOGNA	
Country Code	ITD55	Country Name	ITALY	
Brief description of the Associated Beneficiary's activities and experience in the area of the proposal				
<p>Legacoop Agroalimentare Nord Italia (new denomination of Legacoop Agroalimentare Emilia Romagna, an Association of Agri-Food Cooperatives for Rural Development) represents cooperatives present in all Emilia-Romagna region and North Italy territory and operating in different agri-food sectors – production, processing, distribution, supplying services and technical support for enterprises.</p> <p>It "promotes, represents, assists, safeguards and coordinates associated cooperatives, in order to encourage their development in modern and efficient enterprises" (Statute, art. 2).</p>				
<i>Member cooperatives per Emilia Romagna Region</i>				
<i>Region</i>	<i>N. of cooperatives</i>	<i>N. of members</i>	<i>Turnover (000 €)</i>	<i>N. of employees</i>
Emilia Romagna	248	70.962	4.887.821	12.769
TOTAL	1.119	196.821	7.252.395	21.901
Percentage	22,2%	36,1%	67,4%	58,3%
<p>The Regional Association, as well as the National, is committed to promoting projects at all levels aimed at development, increasing employment, encouraging organizational restructuring and innovation, managerial training, technological innovation, sales and brand policies, and distribution and logistics networks.</p> <p>Its peculiarity indeed is the proximity it has with the local cooperatives. Hence, the commitment of Legacoop Agroalimentare Emilia Romagna in the project, with the 248 cooperatives of the agro-industry sector it represents, will contribute to the involvement of the business world to the local application and testing phase. Its presence as partners of the project guarantees the participation of the agro-industry sector in the Emilia-Romagna region either as stakeholders during the development of the Water Saving Kit, thus providing precise and clear information about needs and state of the art of the sector, and as members of the Water Alliance and tester of the water saving kit proposed.</p> <p>Legacoop Agroalimentare Emilia Romagna is also member of a regional consultation board on agriculture, which brings together all the agricultural associations of the region and it's led by the regional Councillor for Agriculture.</p> <p>It is finally important to highlight that companies members of Legacoop Agroalimentare Emilia Romagna are indeed characterized by a long commitment to sustainability and environment, and among them there are some of the best practice in Italy in this field. They will contribute their know-how and skills to elevate the level of the project.</p>				

CO-FINANCIER PROFILE AND COMMITMENT FORM (Complete for each co-financier)

Not Applicable

Legal Name and full address on the co-financier	
N.A.	
Financial commitment	
We will contribute the following amount to the project: Euro
Status of the financial commitment	
N.A.	
Signature of the authorised person	
Name and status of the authorised person (obligatory):	N.A.
Date of the signature (obligatory):	N.A.
Authorised signature (obligatory):	N.A.

YOU MAY DUPLICATE THIS PAGE

OTHER PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR COMMUNITY FUNDING

Please answer each of the following questions :

- Have you or any of your associated beneficiaries already benefited from previous LIFE co-financing? (please cite LIFE project reference number, title, year, amount of the co-financing, duration, name(s) of coordinating beneficiary and/or partners involved):

LIFE97 ENV/IT/000106

Title: Demonstrative implementation on an innovative system of rational use and re-use of water in a residential building in Bologna

Acronym: AQUASAVE

Year of Finance: 1997

Project Administration Total Budget: 1,285,094.96 €; Life Contribution: 637,386.46 €

Duration: 15-NOV-1997 to 15-NOV -2001

Beneficiary: ENEA – Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and the Environment (Italy)

Project Partners: Municipality of Bologna (Italy), ARPA Emilia Romagna – Bologna (Italy), Corrado Scagliarini Architect (Italy), Hera (ex-Seabo) Group for energy, water and environment – Bologna (Italy), Azienda U.S.L. Bologna (Italy), Building Co-operative Society "Giuseppe Dozza" – Bologna (Italy).

The project aimed to use different water saving and recycling technologies in order to achieve a target of a 50 percent reduction of potable water consumption. This would be done in a residential complex and thus at a significant scale. In addition, through better environmental accounting, a reduction of energy, land and environmental resources consumption was sought.

LIFE98 ENV/IT/000098

Title: Information System for the Orientation of Local Actions

Acronym: I.S.O.L.A.

Year of Finance: 1998

Project Administration Total Budget: 504,212.51 €; Life Contribution: 453,224.72 €

Duration: 19-NOV-1998 to 19-MAY -2002

Beneficiary: Comune di Modena (Italy)

Project Partners: ARPA Modena (Italy), AUTODESK Munchen, ERVET (Italy).

The aim of the "ISOLA" project was to set up a computerised environmental information system that enables information on the environmental state of the territory (the so-called Environmental Balance Sheet) to be used together with information on urban planning (Eco-plan –the ecology plan) and on local action taken to safeguard the environment (Eco-management–under Agenda 21).

LIFE99 ENV/IT/000153

Title: Realization of an asbestos hazard map by historical data and monitoring of industrial sites dedicated to asbestos processing and utilization.

Acronym: AMOS

Year of Finance: 1999

Project Administration Total Budget: 389,666.73 €; Life Contribution: 155,866.69 €

Duration: 01-NOV-1999 to 01-NOV -2002

Beneficiary: Istituto per il Trattamento dei Minerali – CNR (Italy)

Project Partners: ENEL Ricerca – Area Ambiente S.p.A (Italy)

The aim of the project was to produce an "asbestos hazard map" of Italy in order to identify the zones at greatest risk, which would be of great use to the various local Health Authorities and similar agencies located in such areas in order to develop specific remediation actions in these zones.

LIFE00 ENV/IT/000144

Title: City and Local Environmental Accountability and Reporting

Acronym: CLEAR

Year of Finance: 2000

Project Administration Total Budget: 964,315.00 €; Life Contribution: 927,679.42 €

Duration: 01-OCT-2001 to 01-OCT -2003

Beneficiary: Comune di Ferrara (Italy)

Project Partners: Comune di Cavriago, Comune di Bergeggi, Comune di Ravenna, Comune di Reggio Emilia, Comune di Rovigo, Comune di Pavia, Comune di Grosseto, Comune di Modena, Comune di Salsomaggiore, Comune di Castelnuovo dei Monti, Comune di Varese Ligure, Provincia di Reggio Emilia, Provincia di Bologna, Provincia di Modena, Provincia di Napoli, Provincia di Torino, Provincia di Ferrara, Regione Emilia Romagna, Les EcoMaires (France).

The project led to the elaboration of environmental accounting methods and developed a tool, which can be formally linked to the planning, budgeting and accounting processes of a city or local authority.

LIFE00 ENV/IT/000215

Title: T O R R E - Organized tourism recover rural ecology

Acronym: TORRE

Year of Finance: 2000

Project Administration Total Budget: 582,752.00 €; Life Contribution: 265,629.00 €

Duration: 20-OCT-2001 to 19-OCT -2004

Beneficiary: Comune di Faenza (Italy)

Project Partners: Agrisystem (Italy), ARPA (Italy), ASCOM (Italy), Caviro (Italy), Confcooperative (Italy), ENEA (Italy), Terre Naldi (Italy), C.T.F. (Italy), University of Bologna Biology Dept. (Italy).

The T.O.R.R.E. (Tourism Organised Rural Recovery Ecology) project centred on land rehabilitation, environmental monitoring and the promotion of sustainable tourism initiatives, able to involve a large amount of relevant stakeholders.

LIFE00 ENV/NL/000810

Title: Eco-labels for Sustainable Tourism in Europe: demonstrating how Eco-labels can move the European tourism market towards sustainability

Acronym: eco-label

Year of Finance: 2000

Project Administration Total Budget: 1,804,918.00 €; Life Contribution: 882,858.00 €

Duration: 01-JAN-2001 to 30-JUN -2004

Beneficiary: European Centre of Eco Agro Tourism Nederland

Project Partners: The European Network for Sustainable Tourism Development, ECOTRANS (D), International Friends of Nature NFI (A), Stattreisen Hannover (D), Agenzia Regionale Prevenzione e Ambiente dell'Emilia-Romagna ARPA-ER (Italy).

The general objective of the project was to demonstrate that eco-labelling can be an effective instrument in moving the European tourism industry and consumers towards sustainability.

LIFE00 ENV/S/000852

Title: European ecoBudget pilot project for local authorities steering to local sustainability

Acronym: ecoBudget

Year of Finance: 2000

Project Administration Total Budget: 2,330,660.00 €; Life Contribution: 1,022,765.00 €

Duration: 01-SEP-2001 to 31-AUG -2004

Beneficiary: Växjö Kommun (Sverige)

Project Partners: Heidelberg municipality (Germany), Dresden municipality (Germany), Lewes district council (UK), ARPA Environmental Protection Agency of the Emilia-Romagna Region (Italy), Amaroussion municipality (Greece), Comune di Bologna (Italy), Comune di Ferrara (Italy) Kalithea municipality (Greece).

The project is a direct response to establish new environmental budgeting systems which allow for the management of natural resources as economical resource.

As with financial budgets, ecoBudget applies an annual cycle, which follows the customary budgeting procedures of local governments, and includes two instances of ratification by the city council.

LIFE03 ENV/IT/000327

Title: Production and use of high quality compost in the Ferrara area : optimisation of the flow of wastes and agricultural/environmental monitoring.

Year of Finance: 2003

Project Administration Total Budget: 669,529.00 €; Life Contribution: 267,811.60 €

Duration: 01-NOV-2003 to 31-OCT -2007

Beneficiary: Recupera S.r.l. (Italy)

Project Partners: ARPA Bologna (Italy), CAFER Scarl (Italy)

The project was set up to go some way to meeting the objectives of the 6th EAP with regard reducing the production of wastes in a given territory, increasing awareness on the use of the resources "Water" and "Ground" and promoting integration between environmental policies and productive activities.

LIFE03 ENV/IT/000333

Title: Environmental certification of water resource distributed by waterworks systems

Acronym: Aqualabel

Year of Finance: 2003

Project Administration Total Budget: 1,129,723.00 €; Life Contribution: 560,791.00 €

Duration: 01-NOV-2003 to 01-NOV -2006

Beneficiary: Provincia di Bologna (Italy)

Project Partners: Regione Emilia-Romagna (Italy), Agenzia di Ambito per i Servizi Pubblici di Bologna (Italy), Comune di Lizzano in Belvedere (Italy), Federgasacqua (Italy), Associazione Cultura Turismo Ambiente (Italy), ENVIS Bologna, (Italy).

The Aqualabel project aimed to develop a "quality and environmental management" label for water distributed in waterworks systems, according to ISO14024 standards. The project planned to define operational modes of distribution and production systems for drinking water. It aimed to define strategies for water system management that balance the local and industrial interests.

LIFE04 ENV/IT/000479

Title: Environmental Management through Monitoring and Modelling of Anoxia

Acronym: EMMA

Year of Finance: 2004

Project Administration Total Budget: 1,858,089.02 €; Life Contribution: 903,709.00 €

Duration: 01-OCT-2004 to 30-SEP -2007

Beneficiary: Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Istituto di Scienze Marine, Bologna (Italy)

Project Partners: CNR-ISMAR-TS (Italy), UNIPM (Italy), ARPA-DAPHNE (Italy), Comune Rimini (Italy), Regione Emilia Romagna (Italy), ASTER (Italy), GESTURIST (Italy), COOP Pescatore (Italy), COOP Bussola (Italy), MBS Ljubljana (Slovenia), CNR-ISMAR-AN (Italy).

The EMMA project aimed to develop a local integrated strategy for reducing the environmental and socio-economic impact of hypoxia and /or anoxic seasonal events (i.e. no or low oxygen conditions) in the marine and coastal zones of the North Adriatic Sea.

LIFE05 ENV/IT/000808

Title: Integration and Development of Environmental Management Systems

Acronym: IDEMS

Year of Finance: 2005

Project Administration Total Budget: 815,000.00 €; Life Contribution: 407,500.00 €

Duration: 01-OCT-2005 to 30-MAY -2008

Beneficiary: Comune di Ravenna (Italy)

Project Partners: Comune di Ferrara (Italy), Comune di Mantova (Italy), Municipality of Amaroussion (Greece), Coordinamento Agende 21 Locali Italiane (Modena, Italy), City of Dresden (Germany), Växjö kommun (Sweden), City of Heidelberg (Germany).

The project defines a system of integrated management, capable of a more effective and efficient planning, management and assessment of the impacts of the interventions on the urban environment, thus informing environmental policy making. The project innovatively proposes to integrate the three tools existing in environmental management, accountability and budgeting, namely EMAS, CLEAR and ecoBudget.

LIFE06 ENV/IT/000266

Title: Integrated systems to enhance sequestration of carbon, producing energy crops by using organic Residues

Acronym: SeqCure

Year of Finance: 2006

Project Administration Total Budget: 1,917,051.00 €; Life Contribution: 955,989.00 €

Duration: 01-DEC-2006 to 28-FEB -2010

Beneficiary: CRCentro Ricerche Produzioni Animali - CRPA S.p.A. (Italy)

Project Partners: Fondazione CRPA Studi e Ricerche ONLUS - Fondazione CRPA (Italy), Terremerse co-operative (Italy), Azienda Sperimentale Vittorio Tadini- AAS Tadini (Italy), Azienda Agraria Sperimentale "Stuard" - AAS Stuard (Italy), Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry MPI-BGC, Confederazione Italiana Agricoltori Piacenza (Italy).

The main objective of this project is to demonstrate how organic residues such as sewage sludge and manures can be used in the agricultural production of plant biomass as a source of renewable energy, thus contributing to a reduction in CO2 emissions to the atmosphere, as well as the sequestration of significant amounts of carbon in soil.

LIFE07 ENV/IT/000357

Title: Local Alliance for Climate Responsibility

Acronym: LACRe

Year of Finance: 2007

Project Administration Total Budget: 593,992.00 €; Life Contribution: 296,996.00 €

Duration: 01-JAN-2009 to 31-DEC -2010

Beneficiary: Provincia di Livorno (Italy)

Project Partners: Provincia di Ferrara (Italy), Coordinamento LA 21 (NGO) Italy, Impronta Etica (NGO) Italy.

LACRe will spread and demonstrate innovative policy approaches, methods and tools through the elaboration of a Climate Alliance Action Plan agreed in partnership with local actors. This will set out interventions in fields such as energy efficiency in buildings, productive processes, logistic efficiency, and life-cycle impact of products and services. The Plans will set specific agreed commitments in terms of CO2 equivalent reduction.

LIFE07 ENV/IT/000451

Title: Local Accountability for Kyoto Goals

Acronym: LAKS

Year of Finance: 2007

Project Administration Total Budget: 1,304,758.00 €; Life Contribution: 652,379.00 €

Duration: 01-JAN-2009 to 31-OCT -2011

Beneficiary: Comune di Reggio Emilia (Italy)

Project Partners: Comune di Padova (Italy), Ajuntament de Girona (Spain), City of Bydgoszcz (Poland), Agenzia Regionale Prevenzione e Ambiente dell'Emilia Romagna - ARPA (Italy).

The LAKS project aims to support four cities to commit themselves on a long-term basis to significantly reduce greenhouse emissions, including the increase of the local authorities' capacity of planning, managing and reporting their commitments.

LIFE+08 INF/IT/000308

Acronym: Wataclac

Year: 2008

Total budget: 767.545,00 Euros (of which 25.000,00 Euros as Emilia-Romagna Region contribution)

Duration: 3 years

Beneficiary partner: AMBIENTE ITALIA S.r.l.(Italy)

LIFE+08 ENV/IT/000426

Acronym: Coast-Best

Year: 2008

Total budget: 1.730.501, 00 Euros (of which 96.900,00 Euros as Emilia-Romagna Region contribution)

Duration: 3 years

Beneficiary partner: Università "La Sapienza" di Roma (Italy)

- Have you or any of the associated beneficiaries submitted any actions related directly or indirectly to this project to other Community financial instruments? To whom? When and with what results, and how are these related to the present proposal?

None of the Beneficiaries of AQUA project has ever submitted any proposal related directly or indirectly to the current idea of the project to any EU Community program of financial instrument

- For those actions which fall within the eligibility criteria for financing through other Community financial instruments, please explain in detail why you consider that those actions nevertheless do not fall within the main scope of the instrument(s) in question and are therefore included in the current project.

This project focuses on the reduction negative impact of industry production, and specifically the agro-industry sector, on water quality and quantity, obtained through voluntary business actions influenced and supervised by local authorities. The benefits are therefore primarily public, since water in public resources and from its sustainable use depends at the end the life and prosperity on this earth. Moreover, project goals are in line with the objectives of the Sixth Community Environment Action Programme (6th EAP), as required by the Life+ Regulations. Finally, the project aims at supporting local authorities in meeting the environmental targets established in the Water Framework directive making the best use of public economic resources. In this case indeed conducting private business to improve their environmental standards with their own internal resources.

This approach justifies the choice of selecting the Life+ framework for financing the realization of the project.

However, to cover some specific actions included in the project, other financial instruments have been evaluated. However none of them have shown more coherence than Life+ with the aims of AQUA project.

The beneficiary and the partners have excluded the possibility of addressing the INTERREG IIC and IV C programmes, financed by the European Regional Development Fund, since the project dimension is national for the experimentation phase. In fact in an initial feasibility analysis undertaken before writing the project, it resulted that keeping a local testing phase could have led to much higher added value in terms of firms participation, partners collaboration and alliance efficiency and efficacy, development of the model. The European added value is part of the project but it is located in a specific action. Also, the INTERREG programme does not support a strong on the field action (the so called "pilot experimentations" as stated in the Programme manual), given this limitation the partnership has agreed in defining the LIFE+ programme as the most suitable framework for the proposal's submission.

The partners have also analyzed the possibility of financing this initiative under the CIP IEE programme, within the Integrated initiatives (action 4). However, this possibility has been excluded given the fact that the project aims at introducing a complex variety of initiatives, that see the integration and cooperation of different economic sectors, stakeholders and institutions. It would have been a relevant limitation to limited the adaptation discourse to energy.

Given the nature of the project which is not focused only on rural areas AQUA cannot benefit of the European Agricultural fund for rural development and since doesn't match directly or indirectly with fisheries cannot benefit of the European fisheries fund.

The partnership does not involve universities or research centres and the project key focus is not the development of new technologies, but the introduction within agro-industry companies of managerial, governance and innovative technologies to improve their water use. All within a CSR framework. For these reasons ACT not fulfil the objectives of the energy research action in the 7th framework programme .

For all the above mentioned reasons the partnership has chosen to present the AQUA project (Adoption of Quality water Use in Agro-industry sector) within the framework of the LIFE programme, which has proved to be the most coherent and in line with the forecasted actions.



LIFE + Environment Policy and Governance

TECHNICAL APPLICATION FORMS

Part B – Objectives and expected results

- No financial information should be included in these forms.
- All forms in this section may be lengthened, so as to include all essential information.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT (Max. 3 pages; to be completed in English)**Project title:**

AQUA, Adoption of Quality water Use in Agro-industry sector

Project objectives:

Having as starting point the Water Framework Directive and the norms that have been consequently issued at the local level on the topic of water conservation, the AQUA project aims at demonstrating that the negative impact of industry production, and specifically the agro-industry sector, on water quality and quantity can be sensitively reduced through voluntary business actions. In fact, a commonly shared problem is the lack at the national level (and Italy is an example) of mandatory targets of water consumption reduction tailored on the single industries. This causes a standstill situation, in which no companies want to take the first action (which of course means investments). The major witness of this problem in the Emilia-Romagna region, well known in Italy for its water scarcity, mainly caused by the excessive exploitation of the agricultural and livestock sector (Civita and Zavatti, ARPA Rivista n.3 2008), and subsidence problems, is the Regional Agency for Environmental Protection in Emilia-Romagna (ARPA). In fact it is the environmental controller and technical support body of regional, district and local authorities, as well as technical referent on environmental issues for the business world and private citizens justifies its interest and commitment in the project. Hence ARPA is the bridge between public authorities and the business world on the issue of water management, to reduce water stress on the territory. A feasible solution, according to ARPA, is promoting a coordinated action between local public authorities, responsible of setting the water conservation targets (in Italy included in the regional Water Protection Plan - PTA) and the business sector, principal water user and stakeholder. This is why ARPA promotes the AQUA project, whose strategy is to increase the flow of information and technical know-how among the business world, to introduce a "cradle-to-cradle" approach to industrial water management, and to adopt private-public partnerships as the instrument of governance for the common good.

The Emilia-Romagna region is considered a good place to realize the pilot project that will then be diffuse around Europe because it suffers from water scarcity, mainly caused by the excessive exploitation of the agro-industry sector, one of the most developed in the region, and subsidence, caused by its peculiar orography and for unsustainable anthropic actions (PTA 2005). This scenario is endangered even more by the local consequences of climate change. Starting off from these considerations and from a forecast of the tendency for water consumption up to 2016, the Water Protection Plan (PTA) issued by the Emilia-Romagna region in 2005, calls for the reduction by 10% within 2008 and 19% within 2016 of the water use by the industrial sector. The AQUA project recognizes the magnitude of the current local situation, which indeed can be extended to the entire Europe (EEA Report No. 2 2009) and the entire world, and strives to contribute to its improvement by acting directly on the final users applying CSR, corporate citizenship and the eco-efficiency discourse as main leverage.

On this bases the specific objectives of the AQUA project are:

- To contribute to the achievements of the objectives established in the Water Framework directive: specifically preventing deterioration of the status of surface and groundwater; improving the balance between abstraction and recharge of groundwater; adopting an integrated and water basin approach to water management.
- To improve water efficiency and increase water recycling in the agro-industry sector, on a territorial basis, that is including in the boundaries of analysis the agricultural activities upstream or downstream.
- To create a new form of human capital (focusing on water management and protection), which could favour further forms of collaboration on the preservation or managements of public goods developing a positive milieu for private-public cooperation (e.g. Public Private Partnership, News social partnerships, etc.) for the management of common goods, based on the experiences already realized by the Emilia-Romagna region.

- To introduce, test and diffuse innovative and cost effective approaches and techniques for reducing water consumption and pollution based on a "cradle to cradle" approach.
- To increase the awareness of the business sector on environmental threats linked to water scarcity and water quality.
- To fill the gap of information, insufficient expertise and scarcity of financial and human resources which make it difficult for SMEs to fully exploit the business opportunities offered by a sound water management.

Actions and means involved:

The steps and the methodologies that will be adopted in the project to reach a reduction in water consumption and water stress are:

1. **Project management and monitoring:** the overall objective of this action is to provide a successful coordination and management of the individual action and activities in order to accomplish the project's goals within the budget constraints in order to obtain an efficient project management of the partners monitoring, reporting and auditing.
2. **International review of methodologies and best practices:** this action aims at providing the project with the relevant background of knowledge, giving it a solid basis for the following actions, mainly action 3, as it concerns the development of the Water Saving Kit.
3. **Water saving Panel establishment and modelling of the Water Saving Kit:** this action represents one of the key moments of the project, as it implies the creation of the Water saving Panel, and the definition of the Water Saving Kit that will be then implemented by the industries subscribing the Alliance, and will support them in reducing their water consumption and dependency. The techniques included in the tool will be the most advanced, and will be based on a "cradle-to-cradle" approach which looks at the whole water cycle on a regional (or water basin) scale.
4. **Local application of the Water Saving Kit and testing:** during this action the Kit previously developed will be locally applied by the companies that will subscribe the Water Alliance. They will evaluate its effectiveness, in terms of costs and resource savings.
5. **Evaluation of project results:** This action aims at evaluating the outcomes of the project and in particular the results of the local application of the Water Saving Kit. It will be looking mostly at the effectiveness of the co-operation between companies, other water users, and project partners in terms of communication, exchange of know-how among subscribers and above all the trickle down effect from the panel members to the participants in the alliance. Also the cohesion of the alliance and the working mechanisms adopted will be evaluated.
6. **Communication and dissemination of results and methodology:** the objective of this action is to communicate the results of the project at a local, national and European level. This process can be divided in three levels according with the specific target group, i.e. other local or national authorities, which could replicate the project or apply the instrument of the partnership; the wider business sector, in Italy and in Europe; citizens and civil society.

Expected results (outputs and quantified achievements):

Developing public-private partnership the AQUA project aims at persuading local industries in engaging in actions of water conservation effecting their industrial processes. These results will be achieved through strategies of water conservation which the industries of the regional agro-industry sector will test with the support of a Panel of experts financed by the project, and that will then be popularized toward the other sectors at the national and international level thanks to the channels of the partners. The Panel will coordinate and support the phase of definition of the Water Conservation Kit, will revise and approve the water conservation strategies, assuring their efficacy in terms of water conservation.

The expected benefits for industries, quoting Asano and Visvanathan analyses (Asano and Visvanathan, 2001), are both environmental and economical, and are one of the success factors of the AQUA project. In details:

1. Reduction in freshwater withdrawal and consumption on a territorial basis.
2. Minimization of wastewater discharge by reclaiming wastewater, thereby reducing clean-up costs and discharge liabilities.
3. Recovery of valuable by-products.
4. Improvement of the profit margin by cost reduction.
5. Enhancement of corporate image, public acceptance and environmental responsibility.

Finally there is another important expected result of this project, relevant for its long term influence, that is the attitude of the local community, and in particular of the industrial sector, of cooperating with the public sector for the protection of the common goods (as water). This will contribute to the development and demonstration of innovative policy approaches, technologies, methods and instruments based on a broader stakeholder involvement.

Hence the benefits of this project will fall, with a positive trickle down effect, on:

- **the firms of the agro-industry sector** engaged in the project through the participation of ANCA NI to the partnership. It will have the chance of taking part in a process of new technologies development and testing; that will get training on environmental issues (as water saving and water efficiency methods, innovative water measurement techniques as blue, green grey water, etc.), all these leading to water and cost savings. Moreover they will gain trust from consumers and the local community, and finally will be exposed to an arena (the Water saving Panel) of experts where sharing knowledge, best practices, problems and solutions.
- **the other economic sectors**, benefiting of the innovation and tools developed in the AQUA project mainly thanks to the diffusion done by Legacoop among its associated cooperatives and the firms participating to the regional table of entrepreneurship which it leads.
- **Local authorities**. They in fact will be supported in the realization of their environmental policies, to locally contribute to the meeting of the European targets for water protection; will gain from the development and demonstration of innovative policy approaches based on private-public partnership, new methods and instruments of stakeholder engagement of a broader basis. Furthermore human and social capital will be created during and by the project, and business and local authorities reliability and trust will be strengthened by the collaboration foreseen in the AQUA project.
- **Local communities**, will gain from a more sustainable use of environmental resources, water specifically, and from higher levels of awareness on environmental issues. The approach, as highlighted above, it always will be a territorial one, focusing on the water basins of the Emilia-Romagna region, as required in the Water framework directive, since that is the optimal management level for water.
- **Italian national government** will be facilitated in the integration of the Italian normative system with the targets and writs included in the Water Framework directive, which have not been acknowledged yet, since it could count on the technologies and the best practices deriving from the AQUA project.
- **European citizens and businesses**, will have new best practices to tackle a problem, as water protection, that is a global and European priority.
- **The EU** will be facilitated in achieving the targets set in the Water Framework Directive.

The project's expected results can be quantified and analysed thoroughly as follows. The project firstly aims at improving the current situation toward the targets set by the EC and the region. Secondly it aims at enhancing local business knowledge and skills on water management issues.

It is of course difficult to quantify with precision the results that will be obtained, however here is what we expect to achieve.

Agro-industry sector:

- Sure involvement of 6 of the biggest companies of the region.

Company	Turnover (M€)	Associates	Employees
Fruttigel	120	17	771
Granarolo	850	More than 750	1600
Italcarni The first slaughterhouse in Italy	200	70	176
Conserve Italia First transformation Industry in Italy, with the 45% of the market share	600		
Terre Emerse	120	1600	388
Unipeg One of the biggest slaughterhouse in Italy	386	1550	300
CAC			

Table 3: Details regarding the companies that have already shown their interest in taking part in the project.

Due to the time constraints for providing these answers and taken into account the uncertainty of having the project financed, it has been decided by the beneficiary, in agreement with the partners, to concentrate resources and efforts in having the official letter signed by few but important cooperatives. The choice of these 6 industries is motivated by their dimension (they are the biggest realities of their sector in the region) and the visibility and educative potential they have toward the other SME located in the territory. It was in fact difficult and extremely time consuming to contact many small enterprises during the project development. But these 8 companies, being cooperatives, involve in the company structure thousands of smaller associates, as it is indicated in the table above, which will take part in some of the project activities, and will be affected and influenced by the achievements. Furthermore, the majority of their associated are farmers (Terre Emerse, Fruttigel, Conserve Italia), which makes easier their involvement to find solution for water re-use.

- Expected engagement of other 10/15 small and medium enterprises located on the more stressed areas.
- Water savings: between 10 and 15% of the water used by the companies subscribing the Alliance, according with the potential innovations and improvement (only acting on the businesses water circuits or introducing also water re-use) . For details see answer number 11.
- Trainings on environmental issues (as water saving and water efficiency methods, innovative water measurement techniques as blue, green grey water, etc.): 17 meetings, more than 40 hours.
- Exposure to an arena of experts where sharing knowledge, best practices, problems and solutions: 10 meeting of the Panel and a continuous possibility to be in contact with the experts.
- Other more than 1000 agro-industrial companies in Italy will be involved and informed of the results of the project during the dissemination phase, through the network of ANCA, and other 2/3000 in Europe through the COPA-COGECA associates.

Other economic sectors:

Through the international network and national role of Legacoop, all the other industrial sectors will potentially benefit from the know-how and technology development of the AQUA project. In particular the project aims at reaching:

- the main business associations, through the table of entrepreneurship led by Legacoop. In fact, for tourism and services: Confcommercio, Confesercenti; for the SME UnionApi; representing the agricultural sector: CIA, Coldiretti, CopAgri, Confagricoltura; and for the handcraft sector: CASA, CNA, CLAAI, Confartigianato. We expect to rise awareness of around 4/500 companies of other economic sectors.
- The cooperative movement around Italy will also benefit from the development of the kit and its testing. They will be informed directly by Legacoop. We expect to enlarge benefits to around 4/500 companies of other economic sectors.

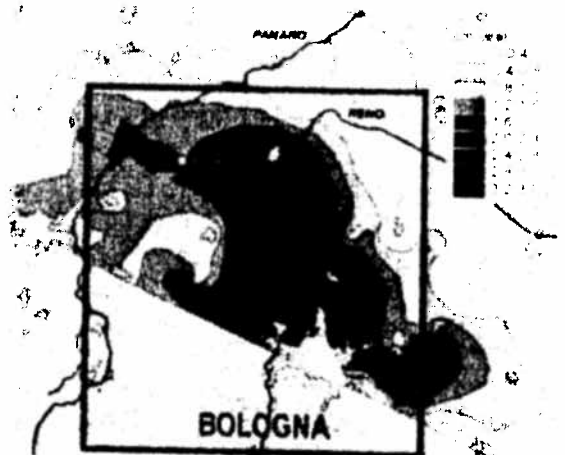
Local authorities

- The most relevant benefit which can be quantified is the contribution to the achievement of the Regional Water Protection Plan targets for 2016, shown in the table above (table 2). According with the regional data water reduction should be of around 25% of the actual consumption to meet the target. This project aims at achieving between 5 and 15% savings for the companies in the Alliance. If we consider that all the biggest water users are targeted by the project, and also the agricultural sector will be involved (first water user as shown above), the benefit for the local authorities corresponds to the improvement of the BAU scenario toward the achievement of the target set in the regional Water Protection Plan.

Local communities

Two are the main benefits for the local community:

- Reducing water exploitation will shrink the problem of subsidence which now a day is hampering the stability and the life of citizens. The image illustrate, as an example, the situation in the Bologna province, where the ground lowers 2,5 cm per year.
- On the second hand less water stress on the territory will result in lower costs for the local citizens who pay, in their water bill, the investment done by local



...ensure the satisfaction of water demand for civil use. Around the 40% of the investments foreseen by ATO5 (the territorial agency which controls water and waste on the region) for the period 2009-2012 are focused on achieving equilibrium between demand and supply.

Italian government and EU

- From the Italian point of view, reducing water withdrawing from water table is going to benefit directly the Italian government (and the Italian citizens) as well. In fact only from 2003 to 2006 the Italian government has given to the Emilia Romagna region more than € 17,5 million to fight against subsidence.
- From a sustainability point of view, the reduction of around 20-30% of companies water uptake will contribute to the achievement of the Water framework directive targets, as described above for Local Authorities. This will turn into an improvement of the overall environmental situation for the local ecosystems.

Can the project be considered to be a climate change adaptation project?

Yes X

No

ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM TARGETED

According with the Water Framework Directive (DIRECTIVE 2000/60/EC) "Water is not a commercial product like any other but, rather, a heritage which must be protected, defended and treated as such".

However, water resources in the European Community are under increasing pressure from the continuous growth in demand and at the same time the significant decrease in water quality, due to human activities.

Industrial use of water increases with country income, going from 10% for low- and middle-income countries to 59% for high-income countries (UNESCO, "Water for People, Water for Life", 2003). The agro-industry sector is the one having the greater impact. Water is used by industry in a myriad of ways: for cleaning, heating and cooling; for generating steam; as a raw material; as a solvent; and as a constituent part of the product itself (e.g. in the beverage industry). The water that evaporates in the process must also be considered in accurate assessments as well as the water that remains in the product, by-products, and the solid wastes generated along the way. The balance is discharged after use as wastewater or effluent.

Nevertheless, agriculture, in certain countries as Spain, Italy, Portugal and Greece, exceeds 70% of total water withdrawal.

Both these sectors are characterized by a great level of inefficiency, due to a inadequate internal water management as well as to the lack of communication and coordination between the two. In fact the quality of water needed for each sector operations often would allow the exchange and reuse of water among them, giving space to much more sustainable water management.

Moreover the industrial sector presents a problem, which is widely witnessed in Italy, that is a standstill situation regarding improvements in industrial water management. This is mainly caused by the fact that mandatory targets of water consumption reduction tailored on the single industries do not exist (as for instance happen for GHG emissions). They are directed to the industrial sector, as it was a single entity. Thus no companies have incentive to take the first action (which of course means investments and costs). The promotion of a coordinated action between local public authorities, responsible of setting the water conservation targets (in Italy included in the regional Water Protection Plan) and the business sector, principal water user and stakeholder, is considered to be a feasible solution to solve this deadlock.

This partnership will allow to anticipate, according with the Integrated Product Policy (IPP), environmental threats as water scarcity as well as to respond to eventual emergencies, as subsidence, which in the Emilia-Romagna territory is a very severe problem as described below, and droughts.

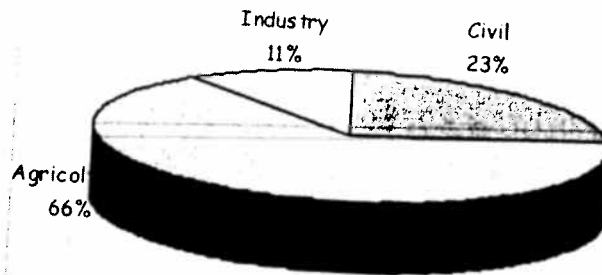
Furthermore, great concern is for the negative impact of industry on the water environment. Water quality is deteriorating in many rivers worldwide, and the marine environment is also being affected by industrial pollution. Much of the water used by industry is in fact usually disposed directly into a stream, canal, river, or to sea. In some cases it is disposed to sewer (which may be discharged, untreated, further downstream, or may be routed to the nearest municipal sewage treatment plant), or it is treated by on-site wastewater treatment plants, before being discharged to a watercourse. Of course of major concern are the situations in which the industrial discharge is returned directly into the water cycle without adequate treatment.

In Italy, one of the more important concentration of agro-industry businesses (clusters) is found in the Emilia-Romagna region. They historically have been one of the causes of the economic development and wealth of the area, but at the same time have highly contributed to the depletion of its water resources. In a recent research (Ecodistretti 2009) carried on by a pool of

from different Italian regions, called Rete Cartesio, in fact it is shown that water consumption and water pollution are both important characteristics of this sector.

In particular, the Emilia-Romagna region suffers a situation of water stress caused by an elevate exploitation of the resource, as reported in the project documents, which is causing, among other problems, a phenomenon of subsidence. The Emilia-Romagna water withdrawal situation can be summarized as follow:

- Agriculture: 66%
- Civil: 23%
- Industry: 11%



The agro-industrial cluster has the higher demand (around 38% of the total industrial uptake). The table below shows water withdrawals and highlight the impact of the agro-industry in comparison to the others.

Type of Activity	Piacenza	Parma	Reggio-Emilia	Modena	Bologna	Ferrara	Ravenna	Forli-Cesena	Rimini	Total
Agro-industry	6.7	48.8	5.0	9.2	5.1	6.6	11.8	5.6	1.2	100
Bulb and paper	0.0	0.6	0.6	1.9	8.7	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.0	13
Chemistry	0.2	1.8	1.3	1.6	2.7	10.3	26.6	0.8	0.1	45
Glass and ceramic	1.4	3.3	4.6	8.7	1.6	0.5	1.1	0.8	0.7	23
Metal products	2.0	2.3	4.5	5.7	7.0	1.3	1.8	1.6	0.9	27
Other	2.6	5.5	9.4	10.1	11.0	2.7	4.8	5.0	2.4	53
Total	13	62	25	37	36	22	46	14	5	261

Table 1: The units are million m³/year.

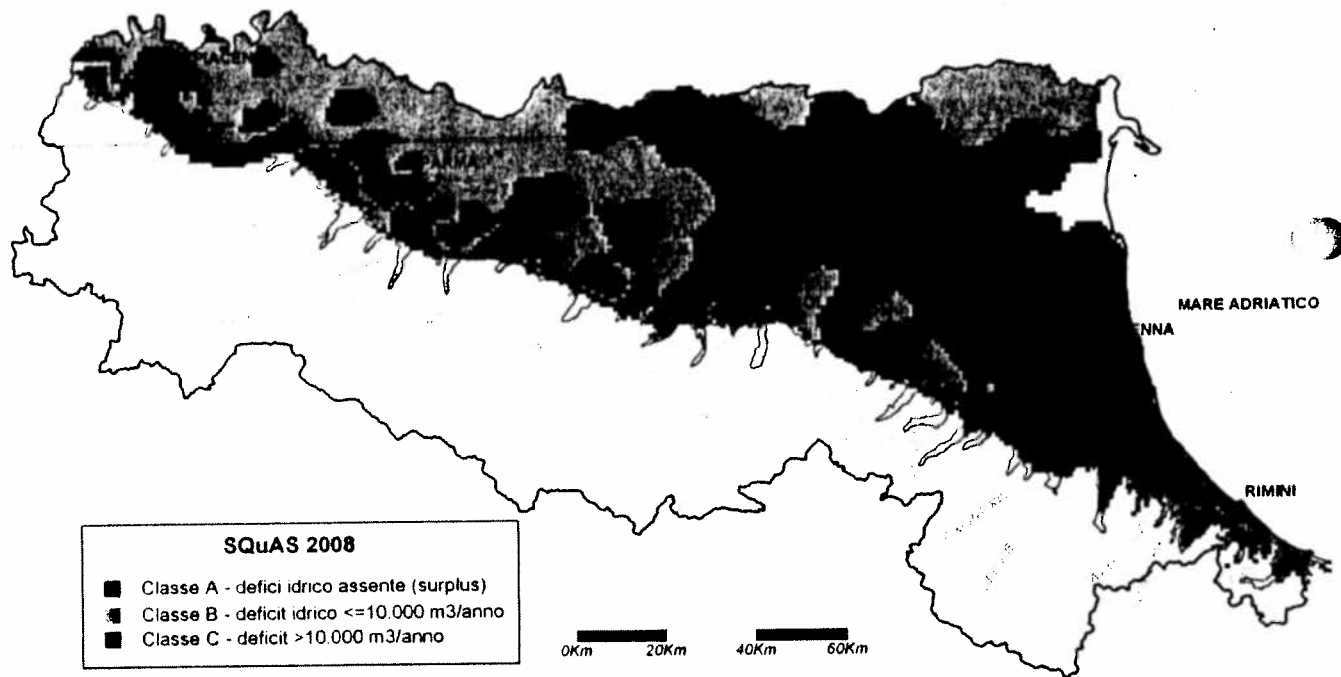
The manufacturing sector, highly influenced by the agro-industrial cluster, is far behind the targets set by the Water Protection Plan of the Emilia-Romagna region, which draws from the European Water Framework directive 2000/60/CE. The table below shows the data of the agro-industry sector in the Emilia Romagna region in 2004, compared to the regional targets:

Provinces	Mean withdrawal 2008	Water Protection Plan targets for 2008	Actual withdrawal 2004	Water Protection Plan targets for 2016
Piacenza	14.0	14.2	11.2	9.3
Parma	46.0	41.7	45.8	35.2
Reggio-Emilia	24.1	21.1	16.2	15.1
Modena	35.0	31.6	25.5	19.5
Bologna	25.1	24.0	14.6	14.9
Ferrara	7.2	7.3	6.9	4.7
Ravenna	17.0	16.4	14.8	6.0
Forli-Cesena	8.2	8.9	8.1	3.5
Rimini	3.1	3.1	1.9	2.7
Total	180	168	145	111

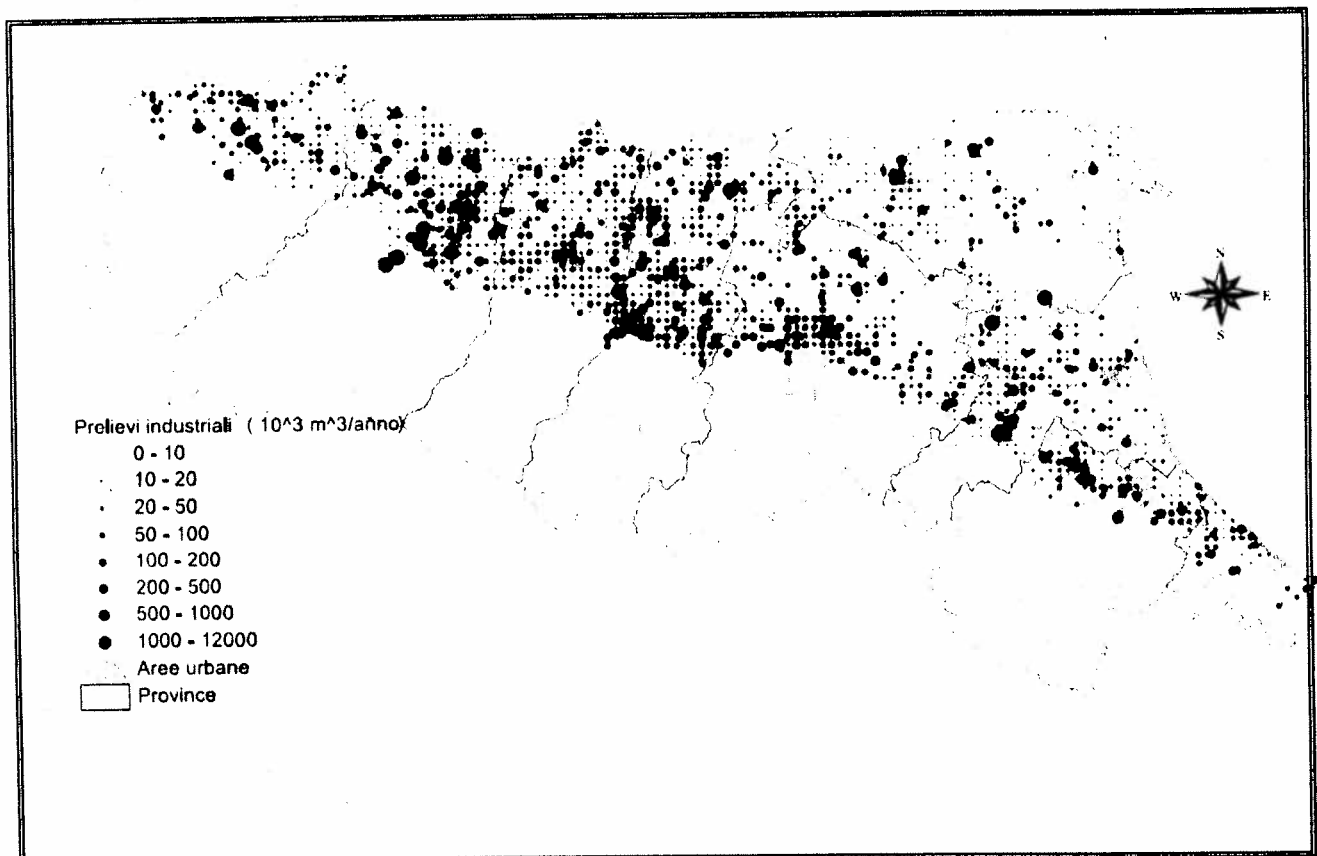
Table 2: Data are expressed in million of m³ /year and regard the agro-industry sector in the Emilia Romagna region.

Regarding the second environmental issue related to water consumption, i.e. subsidence, the agro-industry plays a key role as well. In fact around 45% of the total regional uptakes from water table are done by it. As reported in the regional Water Protection Plan the Padania Plain ground lowers by 2/3 mm/per year for tectonic reasons, but in certain areas it arrives to 2/3 centimetres, because of excessive water uptake (PTA 2005).

Two maps are provided to illustrate the water stress situation in the Region (the first one) compared to the industrial sectors withdrawal (the second one). If we image to overlap the two it is immediately noticeable the fact that the most elevate withdrawals occur where water is less present, endangering even more the situation.



Data elaborated by ARPA and Emilia-Romagna Region..



On the other hand, water quality is also a big issue. Groundwater controls made by ARPA have shown that 12% of the stations analyzed still lie on a level of "insufficient", measured using the environmental state of groundwater indicator. According with the Water Framework Directive, and the Italian legislation n. 152 of 2006, the status of all water courses should reach the level of "sufficient" within 2008, and "good" within 2016. As for the quantitative indicator, 20% of the stations have revealed to suffer form water scarcity.

Regarding surface water on the other hand, the 19% of the courses in the regional basin have reached an ecological status of "good" or also "high", while around 35% have a "sufficient" level. The rest, little below the half, still lie in a "scarce" status. If we look at the national situation then the presence of chemical pollutants still affects very much the ecological status of water courses.

The situation depicted so far is likely to be worsen by the climate change effects foreseen in this region. This is a common problem for the Mediterranean countries, i.e. climate change is expected to reduce rainfalls, thus impacting negatively of water quantity and indirectly also on water quality. The White Paper on adaptation foresees that Europe's high water stress areas will increase from 19% today to 35% by the 2070s.

This situation urges researches, innovation and commitment by water thirsty businesses, to find solutions to protect water resources.

The company already detected to be part of the Water Alliance and to test the kit in order to reduce and reuse water, are located in those territories.

STATE OF THE ART AND INNOVATIVE ASPECTS OF THE PROJECT

The Italian economic system is highly characterized by geographic concentrations of interconnected companies, specialized suppliers, service providers, and associated institutions in a particular field that are present in a nation or region. These clusters have arisen during the great economic development and growth of the 50's, and since then have survived strengthening their importance and specializing their offer. From a recent research (Ecodistretti 2009, Rete Cartesio) in Italy more than 200 clusters are active, and in the last 10 years they have provided occupation to more than 2 million people. These numbers show the importance in Italy of such realities. Moreover, Italian clusters often work in the "made in Italy" sector, in fact with a very high added value, and this makes these realities even more important for the overall Italian economy. This is the case of the agro-industry sector of the Emilia Romagna region, very famous for products as Parmigiano Reggiano cheese, ham, and fruits transformation.

The concentration of businesses in the same territory, whereas has represented a factor of economic success, it has often been cause of environmental stresses for the surrounding territories. The inquires named before (Ecodistretti 2009, Rete Cartesio) presents data on water consumption and pollution in these clusters. The agro-industry one, as presented in the previous part (see Environmental problem targeted) is among the higher water demanding sector.

This is the reason why the AQUA project selected this geographical area and this economic sector to develop and test a "Water Saving Kit" to spread then to all the sector in Italy and in Europe. In fact the characteristics of this industry is very similar in Europe, both for production techniques and for the heavily presence of SMEs.

Aware of deadlocked situation described above, the Emilia-Romagna region has been working for many years on the issue of water management, collaborating and involving single companies and/or associations of producers (agriculture associations such as Coldiretti and CIA, Legacoop, etc.). In fact the regional strategy on water saving and water quality has adopted a water cycle approach since many years (end of the '90s), thus favouring the communication between water users upstream and downstream, to maximise water recycling and re-use. These efforts have created positive and stable relations between companies, experts, farmers and local authorities, which will facilitate the development and the success of this project. The most relevant best practice of the Emilia-Romagna region on this issue, which is also been one of the drivers of the AQUA project, is the partnership established between the region with the Granarolo group (one of the biggest dairy company in Italy), the Bologna province and the Local reclamation Authority. The project, called RIARD (Riciclo industriale e Agronomico di acque reflue depurate), was launched in 2007 to demonstrate the high water saving potential obtainable recycling water purified by Granarolo internal purifier for irrigation. This is only one of the many innovations put in place by Granarolo in the last 10 years, which have allowed, according with a recent internal analysis of the group, to save around 1000% of water per year (measured on today production).

Granarolo has developed a best practice in terms of water reuse, described in the RIARD project, which has been used internally by the company to reach the water reduction targets they had established. Nevertheless this experience has not been further disseminated to or adopted by other companies, neither has it been modelled in order to make it easily applicable. Hence, the added value provided by the AQUA project lies in filling this gap of knowledge, spreading the technological progress already achieved by different realities (the Granarolo case is one of many examples), and thereafter enhancing the baseline scenario from which the regional agro-industrial sector takes off for further improvements. Moreover the creation of a network (the Alliance), which involves all the main subjects in the water cycle, can facilitate the definition and introduction of integrated solutions, more effective and efficient for the companies.

This is an important example of how water can be best managed by adopting an integrated water basin approach. The AQUA project will draw on this best practice and on the human capital it has created to obtain the expected results.

In the literature on water management there are a number of studies demonstrating that manufacturing industries can reduce their water use by recycling and reusing water, changing production processes and using more efficient technology, including measures to reduce leakage (Dworak *et al.*, 2007). However, often lack of information, insufficient expertise and scarcity of financial and human resources make it difficult for SMEs to fully exploit the business opportunities offered by a sound environmental management.

According with the Integrated Product Policy (IPP) this project aims at supporting companies to anticipate environmental threats, that is water scarcity due to excessive water exploitation and climate change, as well as to respond to eventual emergencies, as subsidence, which in the Emilia-Romagna territory is a very severe problem, and droughts.

The methodology will be bottom-up methodology, in the sense that pilot companies involved in the Water saving Panel will be asked to discuss water management issues, find out potential solution, map stakeholders involved in the cycle and evaluate the possibility of contacting and collaborating with them in a water recycling approach, test the strategy chosen and finally evaluate the results obtained. The whole cyclic process will be finalized to the Guidelines of the AQUA project.

Life-cycle and value chain approaches, as well as a territorial (water basin) analysis will always been used as frame methodologies. Integrating this concept into industrial processes in fact assure that products can become more environmentally friendly and less water thirsty in the most cost-effective way.

DEMONSTRATION CHARACTER

Having as starting point the Water Framework directive and the norms that have been consequently issued on the topic, the AQUA project aims to demonstrate that the negative impact of the agro-industry sector on water quality and quantity can be sensitively reduced by providing the right information to businesses and introducing a "cradle-to-cradle" approach to water management.

Often it is the lack of information, insufficient expertise and scarcity of financial and human resources that makes it difficult for SMEs to undertake actions or to find innovative technologies to reduce water use in their productive chain. By building a Panel formed by experts coming from different realities (scientific bodies, business representatives, public authorities) the project wants to demonstrate that flexible multi-skills teams can be a win-win solution. In fact it can be an effective way to support companies in becoming more environmental conscious and sustainable, and an efficient solution for local authorities to reach the EU and national targets on water.

The project also sets out from the belief that exchanging information and good practices is vital to improve the environmental performance of businesses and industries. This is why an international review of best practices and innovative technologies will be carried on before the beginning of the application phase.

Furthermore, as assessed in the UNDP report on the state of water resources (Water: a shared responsibility, UNDP 2006), voluntary systems have gone a long way towards demonstrating that industries can be both clean and profitable. This is not only a strong belief, but it is demonstrated by facts (see the named report). Often in fact voluntary targets and commitments, springing from a CSR policy, have been, for the business sector, more effective in the long term than national regulations. CSR instruments are very well spread and common among companies based in Emilia-Romagna, and this will be a factor of success of the project.

Another aspect that increases the demonstration character of the AQUA project is the fact that it can count on a number of instruments of communication and involvement already well settled among the partners. The partnership consortium has been structured to maximize this potential indeed.

The Emilia-Romagna region can provide the participation of the National Forum on Water Saving and Conservation (<http://www.forumrisparmioacqua.it>) developed by the region as a common platform for discussion and comparison of water conservation policies. The forum highlights the most modern, innovative policies for water saving and conservation at the national level. It is organized into thematic working groups, one specifically focused on the agricultural and industrial sectors. To expedite its work, the forum has a Website and it organizes an annual conference (held on World Water Day) and thematic workshops, produces newsletters and engages national and European experts. The Forum has been recognized by UNESCO in "The United Nations World Water Development Report 3: Water in a Changing World" as a notable experience of success for water saving and stakeholder engagement.

The role of the Forum (<http://www.forumrisparmioacqua.it>) is mainly to provide information, favour discussion and comparison of water conservation policies. That is why the project has foreseen to make use of it principally in the dissemination phase, using its channels and network throughout the project for specific aspects, as collecting information on new policies, promoting specific initiatives (e.g. conferences and the workshops that will be organized), or for the stakeholder engagement skills it has developed. However the Forum is an instrument of communication (recently included in the new Regional Law n. 27/2009) and it does not provide technical support to businesses, as the Water saving Panel will do. In fact the added value of AQUA project to this extent is to create a board of experts that will enter in the companies, will

support them in defining and apply the water saving kit, and will be a landmark for the whole project duration.

The instrument of the Forum will be used a lot in the project, since its beginning, in order to maximize the knowledge on its objectives, the methodologies adopted, the Water Saving Kit and the results obtained. The Forum has a working team specially focused on industrial processes. A representative of this group will be in the Panel, with the role of contact between the project needs and evolution, and the Italian realities and best practices.

Moreover, the presence of the National Association of Agri-Food Cooperatives for Rural Development (ANCA) assures the involvement of Copa-Cogeca - General Confederation of Agricultural Cooperatives in the European Union - which has in fact already shown its interest in supporting ANCA in the diffusion of the results of the project with an official letter sent to the ANCA headquarter in Rome. The presence of Legacoop ER - the main organisation that represents the cooperatives in Emilia Romagna region and unites cooperatives and their economic subsidiaries in various sectors - will guarantee the diffusion of the results of the project and the tools developed to the other economic sectors, as well as to the larger industrial universe, outside the cooperative realities, thanks to its role of leader of the regional table of entrepreneurship.

The bottom-up methodology embedded in the Water Saving Kit which will be elaborated in the panel and then distributed and tested in the companies that have demonstrated their interest, represents a strong factor of success for the transferability potential of the system developed and of the Guidelines that will be drawn from these experiences.

EU ADDED VALUE OF THE PROJECT AND ITS ACTIONS

Europe's food and drink industry includes some 280.000 companies which support 4 million jobs. The sector covers a diverse range of different products which contribute to its estimated annual turnover of over € 800 billion. It is recognised as one of Europe's most important and dynamic industrial sectors.

These data demonstrate the high potential of diffusion and great EU added value this project has.

Furthermore, the fact the SMEs dominate the food industry makes exchange of information and good practices even more relevant for improving the global environmental performance of this sector. Information and communication campaigns, during the project and at its conclusion, have been planned with this aim. Also, the presence of Legacoop ER, which works in strictly connection with other Regional Entrepreneurial Associations on environmental issues and which is part of many networks of enterprises around Europe, and of the Association of Agri-Food Cooperatives for Rural Development (ANCA), which represents the 19.5% of the total Italian agri-food cooperatives, with an annual turnover of 7,2 billion €, through the support of Copa-Cogeca, whose members associations come from the most of the European countries, maximize the European added value. In fact they will guarantee the adoption of a European based view and facilitate the dissemination of knowledge and experiences acquired, not only in the sector chosen by the project but at a multi-sector level, creating of human capital as provided in the Lisbon strategy.

The experience of this project and the work of the Water saving Panels will contribute to the development and testing of innovative techniques, based on a wide collaboration between experts and people involved in industrial water use. Furthermore it will provide support for better environmental governance by broadening stakeholder involvement on the achievement of European and national environmental targets.

The double project goal of reducing water use by the agro-industry sector and improving water quality is coherent with the European Water framework Directive. The coherence is assured during the whole project duration, as well as in the final environmental outcomes, because it will

be the targets set at the EU level will be the common ground where to build the specific targets set by firms participating in the project. The Panel of experts will in fact control that the targets are enough ambitious to concur to the achievement of the European strategy for water preservation.

For Italy, this is particularly significant because the national law has not yet acknowledged the European directive. This project therefore, in the methodology that proposes, has got an innovative and beneficial effect for the Italian environmental situation, but also for other European countries that lie in similar situations.

Finally an important beneficiary is the European (and global) society, since the water cycle, and all the environmental issues, are global by nature and benefits will therefore spread on a global basis.

EFFORTS FOR REDUCING THE PROJECT'S "CARBON FOOTPRINT"

The whole project has been thought to carbon neutral.

The activities foreseen in the project have been planned to have the lowest carbon footprint possible, and the fact the project will take place on a pretty small area (the regional territory of Emilia-Romagna) will facilitate the thing. Furthermore, from an operative point of view, the reduction of GHG emissions would be systematically pursued.

Meetings regard subjects acting in a circumscribed area (Emilia-Romagna region), and they will be held in central locations to favour the utilization of public transportation.

The exchange of material and information between the members of the alliance will be done through electronic presentations and the distribution of informatic copies. Paper prints will be avoided, if not necessary.

The activation of a website where each partner will be in fact able to post messages and news will help to dematerialize the whole process. Also a service to remind the partners about deadlines and meetings via phone text and e-mail messages will be provided.

In addition, paper prints will be avoided, if not necessary, by creating:

- Electronic access to documents
- Electronic final report in DVD and uploaded to USB keys
- Electronic communications between partners using innovative media including blogs, web conferences, google group, sms etc.

When paper copies will be needed FSC certified paper would be used. Furthermore, the project foresees the delivery to each member involved in the project of a USB key with the logo of the project to use to safe and exchange material.

The final Report to deliver at the end of the activities to the stakeholders and the local communities, and the Guidelines of the experience, will be also distributed in DVD or available for download in internet.

Meetings and events will be organized focusing the attention on the exclusive use of local and biological food and beverages.

All the emissions that won't be possible to further reduce will be offset buying certified carbon credits on the voluntary market.

Technologies introduced in the companies to reduce water use or improve water quality are not considered in the carbon footprint, since they are the core of the project, and cannot be avoided.

STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED AND MAIN TARGET AUDIENCE OF THE PROJECT (OTHER THAN PROJECT PARTICIPANTS)

Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) says that "Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family."

These include access to safe drinking-water.

The way in which the different economic sectors (agriculture, industry and civil) use water is strictly connected with the possibility of assuring the respect to Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Water is the essence of life and economy. Without water, human beings cannot live for more than a few days, it plays a vital role in nearly every function of the body, protecting the immune system and helping remove waste matter. And without water business activities, in particular the agro industry sector, would be forced to stop operations.

All this makes clear that the issue of water management implies the existence of a wide range of stakeholders. The success of the project itself depends from the participation of the stakeholders, first of all because this is provided for in the Water Framework directive and therefore it is a regional goal as well. On the second hand because the project is based on a water cycle approach, which needs the collaboration and participation of the subjects involved in the water cycle. To secure a wide stakeholder engagement many instruments will be adopted, and firstly the one already put in place by the Emilia-Romagna region, as the National Forum on Water Saving and Conservation named above.

Furthermore, the complexity and the innovative aspects of the issue tackled, makes it difficult for a single enterprise to act in an effective and cost-efficient way, above all if it is a small company. The members of the Water saving Panels will be selected bearing in mind the need to involve all the stakeholders and also all the skills and know-how necessary for the success of the project.

The AA1000 Stakeholder Engagement Standard will be an important reference throughout the whole project, and will assure the quality of the process.

There are two levels of involvement foreseen in the project: consultation for collecting information and spreading knowledge, and actual participation to the project results achievement.

The following table describes the main interlocutors explores the general categories included in the first project version of subjects, defining in details which subjects, their role in the water cycle and their tasks in the AQUA project.

Local administrations:

- Politicians, managers and employees of the departments directly involved in the project, and all other managers and technical experts.
- Institutions and organizations dependent from the local government including, Local Public Health Agencies, Utilities, Public transport sector, etc.

Subjects	Role in the water cycle	Tasks and added value in the AQUA project
Local administrations		
Municipalities in the Emilia-Romagna region	Legislative role	CONSULTATION
Provinces in the Emilia-Romagna region	Legislative role	CONSULTATION
Basin Authority	Coordination and governance role	CONSULTATION

water reclamation consortium	Superficial water governance	CONSULTATION
Health agency	Normative and control role	CONSULTATION

Businesses:

They are the key players of the project. From their commitment and participation will depend the success of the project. This is the reason why their involvement will be specifically researched.

The presence of Legacoop ER, ANCA NI and the national ANCA, as partners of the project guarantees the participation of the agro-industry sector in the Emilia-Romagna region, as well as a continuous contact with the Italian sector, either as stakeholders during the development of the Water Saving Kit, and as members of the Water Alliance and tester of the water saving kit proposed. Meetings have already been organized during the development of the project in order to verify the interest of the sector in the issue of water conservation and management, and positive responses have been collected. Companies members of Legacoop and ANCA are indeed characterized by a long commitment to sustainability and environment, and the project phases will be followed by a number of Legacoop multi-sector associated, thanks to the governance model of Legacoop which foreseen periodical meetings with the principle stakeholder of the Association.

Moreover Legacoop leads the regional table of entrepreneurship, that is an important arena of innovation and exchange on the issues of environment, sustainability and CSR. The firms that participate in the table have developed in the years very strong bonds based on know-how and information exchange, and a common background of values and commitments. It also has an agreement with UNIONCAMERE (the Italian association of Chambers of Commerce) for spreading the culture of social responsibility and environmental sustainability among the business world. This increase even more the Legacoop's appeal to the business sector.

Subjects	Role in the water cycle	Tasks and added value in the AQUA project
Businesses		
Business associations (Legacoop, ANCA, Confindustria, Coldiretti, CIA, Confagricoltori.)	Represent enterprises on the regional territory	CONSULTATION
Agro-industrial businesses	Water users and polluters	DIRECT INVOLVEMENT As for the objectives of the project, these subjects are considered central in the water cycle. Their involvement is necessary to find solutions to reduce water stress with innovative technologies and approaches. Their commitment is guaranteed by the presence in the project consortium of their local and national business association, ANCA and Legacoop.
Farmers	Water users and polluters	DIRECT INVOLVEMENT Farmers are water users. For the sake of the project they are positioned, in the water cycle, after the manufacturers, and will be engaged to find agreements for re-using water discharged by the firms. Their commitment is first of all guaranteed by the support, already obtained with the letters attached to this document, of 8 big cooperatives, 4 of them which has as associates thousands of small farmers. The tied bonds existing between the associates and the cooperatives will facilitate the definition of common solutions and agreements to test water re-use solutions.

The cradle-to-cradle methodology implies to look at the water cycle at a territorial level and highlight the potential connection existing between different users, in order to maximize re-use and minimize territorial exploitation of the resource.

Using this approach, farmers are target of the project, and in particular of the Water Alliance. They will indeed be asked to collaborate with the agro-industries located on the same territory to

and the best solution to re-use as input in their productive process (mainly irrigation) the output of the agro-industrial processing.

Therefore farmers will be directly involved in:

- action 3, with the 2 seminars for the establishment of the Panel (activity 3.1) and to define the general protocols to implement water re-use (activity 3.3),
- action 4, when mapping of the upstream and downstream subjects to involve in the project (activity 4.1), Water Alliance constitution (activity 4.2), and the adaptation of the Pilot Kit to the single realities (activity 4.3).

On the other hand they won't be targeted for direct water reduction initiatives, which are out of the scope of the AQUA project.

Scientific bodies and experts:

- Scientific and academic arena, since the project will promote the development and testing of new techniques for saving and recycling water in the agro-industry operations. They will be directly targeted in order to involve some representatives in the Water Saving Panel, and indirectly they will be stakeholder benefiting from the innovative techniques and models developed by the AQUA project. As for the first group, some relevant subjects as already been pointed out, as Prof. Masotti and his group of researchers at the Environmental and Sanitary Engineering Department at the Ferrara University and the experts of the LARA project, a regional laboratory which deals with water monitoring, modelling and innovation, which has its headquarter at the Ferrara University (<http://www.aster.it/lara.html>).

Civil society:

- Citizens of communities and cities in the Emilia-Romagna region, benefiting by a better water management on their territory;
- European citizens, who will gain benefits from the introduction of such an instrument to link firms to their environmental commitments, and possibly, from water saving;

This category of stakeholders is going to be involved starting from the beginning of the activities, throughout the whole period of development up to the end of the project, when the final results obtained will be communicated. Indeed one of the principal beneficiaries of this project is the civil society, both since water is a close cycle and the availability of water for the present and future generation depends on the use of water today.

The continuous connection between actors and communities is a fundamental part of any CSR policy.

Governmental level:

Governments are important stakeholders at all governmental levels. In fact, according with the Water Framework directive, water protection must be pursued at all levels of the water cycle. The AQUA project acknowledges this need, and therefore will try to keep informed public authorities at all levels of the development, methodologies and results obtained by the experimentation.

- other local and regional authorities could be interested in replicate the experience, since the environmental goals for water protection and the problems related to water exploitation are very similar in all Europe. The guidelines produced by this project could be an interesting output for them.

- National governments are other important interlocutors, since they have to take in the European directive. Central governments have a big role to play, both in setting targets but also in favouring the development of private or local initiatives for environmental protection, considering the responsibility of the private sector in environmental issues which has a trickle-down effect on many sectors of central interest.

- the European Union, as the subject that has issued the Water Framework Directive, the Integrated Product Policy and many other regulations in order to decouple resources consumption from production and economic growth, is clearly an important stakeholder.

The project foresees the development of specific instruments of communication and stakeholder involvement, as well as the use of instruments already managed by the single partners. Among these last ones, the most relevant is for sure the National Forum on Water Saving and Conservation developed and led by the Emilia-Romagna region, which already functions and its well known in Italy as a platform for discussion and comparison of water conservation policies. As regard to the firsts ones, on the other hand, the project will develop the following general instruments to communicate to all the stakeholders:

- Official conferences. Three conference are foreseen during the project. This will assure the visibility of the initiative and also the possibility for civil society to control the activities and the level of achievement of targets and commitments, and results. One, with a national appeal, is planned at the launch of the project and it will take place in Bologna. Another one will be done after the creation of the Water saving Panel, to give evidence to the participants and the businesses which decide to commit and collaborate to reduce water exploitation. A final conference then will be held in Brussels to give visibility to the results obtained and the techniques developed.
- Press conferences are also expected in key moments, to document the evolvement of the project. These will be hold in the partners beneficiaries cities according with specific necessities.
- Project official website; an internet active site will be implemented and constantly updated. This section will be managed by each partner in the sections dedicated. The website will be hold in Italian for what concern the sections where information are directly exchanged by partners. It is foreseen however an English section, progressively updated, to favour a wider dissemination of the details about the project.
- Newsletter; a project newsletter (6 releases foreseen) will be developed to inform and diffuse on a large scale the intermediate and final achievements. The newsletter will be sent via e-mail to all registered users of the website and diffuse through the partners' networks. In this case the nature of the partners consortium, with ANCA, Copa-Cogeca (European representative organization of farmers and their cooperatives which represents more than 40.000 agricultural cooperatives across 27 Member States) and Legacoop ER, with its network of cooperatives associated in, Emilia-Romagna region, will favour a wide diffusion.
- Project's leaflet; a brochure illustrating the project's objectives, outputs and outcomes expected, the list of the partners and their role will be distributed at the beginning of the project. This brochure will help the partners to inform local and general stakeholder about the project before the results and dissemination materials will be prepared. Notice boards describing the project and with a recognizable logo will be produced and displayed in places accessible to the public.
- Guidelines. At the conclusion of the local application a set of guidelines containing strengths and weaknesses of the project, advantages and drawbacks encountered by the developer partners, will be published and presented to the public and all the stakeholders. It is foreseen an Italian version to present in Italy and an English version to present at the Brussels conference and to disseminate abroad. The European network of Copa-Cogeca, formed by its partners, will be used to inform an as much wide arena as possible.

**EXPECTED CONSTRAINTS AND RISKS RELATED TO THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION
AND HOW THEY WILL BE DEALT WITH (CONTINGENCY PLANNING)**

Main constraints and risks that could interfere with the implementation of the project, and correspondent overcoming measures are:

Constraints and risks	Overcoming
Willingness of the companies to participate in the project, and in particular in the local application and testing phase	Water has a cost, therefore the expectation of water saving opportunities equals to money saving, which during a critical economic period as the one companies are experimenting now, is a fundamental driver. The project developers believe that this is an important driver, which will help to overcome such potential constrains. Furthermore the commitment of Legacoop and ANCA NI in the project, the first one representing about 1.300 cooperatives of different business sectors and the second one 1.150 of the agro-industry sector. Finally, Legacoop ER leads the Regional round table of entrepreneurship. Hence it has a very strong appeal on the participating companies.
Difficulties in developing the actions foreseen in the project plan	Support to all companies that have shown an interest in participate in the project with technical training and continuous monitoring. Also, to the companies will be asked to sign a Commitment charter containing targets and goals of the project.
Reluctance by enterprises' personnel to innovate systems and processes	The potential gains, both in terms of resources saving that in economic terms, will always be modelled and accounted, in order to support with numerical data the innovation process proposed to enterprises. Also capacity building activities are foreseen for the whole project duration.
Willingness of the different actors (Institutions, companies, NGOs) to go over their specific interests and manage their own differences, and to build a network of relationships, processes and innovative solutions to face the issue of water protection.	Deep involvement of all the parts since the definition of general structure of the Water saving Panel
Effectiveness of international dissemination being all the beneficiaries from one Member State	The solid international partnerships and networks of Legacoop, ANCA and the Emilia-Romagna region, are valid means of dissemination at the national and international level
Lack of financial resources to reach the long term goals of water saving	The commitment of the Emilia-Romagna region in the project, as well as the coherence between the project goals and the environmental policy carried on by the region since 2 legislatures, will guarantee the existence of forms of a support for the implementation of the actions.

CONTINUATION AND VALORISATION OF THE PROJECT RESULTS AFTER THE END OF THE PROJECT

- Which actions will have to be carried out or continued after the end of the project?
 - Mechanisms to ensure the continuity of the Water saving Panel, and also its enlargement;
 - Networking activities;
 - Water Saving Kit dissemination process.
- How will this be achieved, what resources will be necessary to carry out these actions?

The reason why we can be sure that the actions foreseen by the AQUA project and its objectives will continue to be pursued also after the end of the project, is that they are coherent with the regional sustainability policy carried on by the Emilia-Romagna region and in particular they are in line with the water saving targets included in the Water Protection Plan (PTA) issued in 2005. These regard the reduction by 10% within 2008 and 19% within 2016 of the water use by the industrial sector as regard to the tendency foreseen in the document. But it goes further recommending actions to reach these targets. Among them the mandatory introduction of instruments to measure water uptake, in particular from water table; the adoption of tariffs linked to water efficiency; economic and administrative incentives for companies introducing environmental policies or environmental management systems directed to water saving.

The fact that the AQUA project fits in the regional long term environmental strategy guarantees, as also demonstrated by the measures described in the regional Water Protection Plan, the existence of forms of a support, both direct and indirect, for the implementation of the actions.

Another valid rationale why it's very likely that the AQUA project, with its governance mechanisms as the Panel, and its instruments as the Water Saving Kit, will continue to be used and implemented is the economic advantages which directly derive from the adoption or participation in the project. In a period of decreasing of the marginal profits the possibility of cutting costs related to natural resources is a relevant form of incentive. To it, visibility and reputation are other two important incentives that will push companies to take action.

Other means that will assure the continuity of the actions and commitment also after the end of the project are represented by the instruments of communication and innovation that the Emilia-Romagna region, as direct partner in the project, and COPA-COGECA, as involved in the project though the Panel and even strongly through ANCA which is its national member, have already in place and commonly use. They will be exploited to disseminate the results obtained and the Water Saving Kit developed, also after the end of the project. The choice of using already existing instruments, as conferences, newsletters, magazines, working tables etc., will assure that no extra resources will be needed, since these instruments and actions are carried on anyway.

Here it follows a list of instruments that will be taken advantage of:

1. The National Forum on Water Saving and Conservation and its *thematic working groups* (water saving in civil, agricultural and industrial sectors; drinking water losses in distribution systems; and communication) is the principal mean of the Emilia-Romagna region, and, as said above, it has a very good national coverage, since it unifies public authorities and scientific bodies from all Italy, as well as an international appeal, as demonstrated by the quoting in the United Nations World Water Development Report 3: Water in a Changing World, by UNESCO.
2. The numerous networks where Legacoop is leader or member, as the Regional round table of entrepreneurship;
3. The numerous networks where ANCA is leader or member, as the "Green table" coordinated by the Prime Minister; the national observatory for the agri-cooperatives, which is an instrument of the Minister of Agriculture to monitor the evolution of the sector.

4. The numerous networks where ANCA NI is member, as a regional consultation board on agriculture, which brings together all the agricultural associations of the region and it's led by the regional Councillor for Agriculture. Moreover it collaborates to the magazine AGRIREGIONI EUROPA, which can then be used as a valid instrument of communication also after the end of the project.

- To what extent will the results and lessons of the project be actively disseminated after the end of the project to those persons and/or organisations that could best make use of them (please identify these persons/organisations)?

The subjects that could best make use of the Water Saving Kit developed and of the technologies and methods tested are described in details in action 6 (dissemination). Here they are briefly summarized:

- the agro-industrial sector (in Italy and abroad), which can directly adopt the instruments and innovations developed by the project, as well as engage in the path of improvement designed and tested through the Water Saving Kit;
- other local authorities, which can adopt the strategy of the private-public partnership as a way to involve businesses in actions for the common good;
- the Italian national government, which can also be the promoter of a wider strategy of private-public partnership for the conservation of common goods as the natural resources. Moreover, the Italian government, as responsible in front of the EC for the achievement of the targets set in the Water Framework directive, can benefit from the development of a tool as the Water Saving Kit which, as already declared above, aims at the same targets.
- Finally a subject that will make a good use of the results and lessons deriving from the AQUA project is the European Commission, as promoter of a sustainable water management in the industrial world and principal advocate, through legislations and strategies (the Integrated Product Policy, 6th Environmental Action programme), of the decoupling of industrial development from environmental degradation, water and natural resources consumption.

All these targets will be reached through:

- the National Forum on Water Saving and Conservation, which have as members other Italian regions and provides useful communication tools and systems for exchanging information, data and experiences as the annual conference held on World Water Day, the thematic workshops, and the newsletters.
- the Regional round table of entrepreneurship, led by Legacoop ER. The table is an important arena of innovation and exchange on the issues of environment, sustainability and CSR, whose members have developed in the years very strong bonds which can favour the dissemination of the results achieved.
- The INNOVACOOP project, whose institutional role is to promote innovation and internationalisation within cooperatives. It will then be in charged of spread the results and the innovations produced by the AQUA project after the end of it to all the cooperatives of the Legacoop universe.
- The European networks where Legacoop ER participates as the Cooperatives Europe, the biggest membership organisation in Europe promoting the co-operative model of enterprise for sustainable economic progress with social objectives;
- the national and European publications and newsletters which Legacoop ER and ANCA NI has got: La società Cooperativa, La cooperazione Italiana, the weekly newsletter Legacoop Informazione, the ANCA newsletter and the European magazine Infoeuropa.coop.
- the national ANCA networks, mainly through their membership in COPA-COGECA, which has already expressed its support to the AQUA project, "due to the life cycle approach in solving an environmental, economical and social problem that is becoming increasingly relevant throughout the European Union" (CC(09)5675:1 – TR/sl Brussels, 2nd September 2009) and its "commitment to assist ANCA in its implementation by providing and disseminating information using our usual channels" (ibid.).



LIFE + Environment Policy and Governance

TECHNICAL APPLICATION FORMS

**Part C – detailed technical description
of the proposed actions**

Important note:

- All calculations and detailed cost breakdowns necessary to justify the cost of each action should be included in the financial forms F. In order to avoid repeating the financial information (with the risk of introducing incoherencies), Part C should only contain financial information not contained in the financial forms.
- All forms in this section may be duplicated, so as to include all essential information.
- Any action that is sub-contracted should be just as clearly described as an action that will be directly carried out by the beneficiaries.

DETAILS OF PROPOSED ACTIONS

ACTION 1: Project Management and monitoring

Description (what, how, where and when):

The overall goal of this action is to provide an effective coordination and management of all the planned actions and activities, in order to accomplish in the best possible way the project goals and objectives within the budget constraints. More specifically:

- to proceed to the most productive use of the scarce resources allocated to the project;
- to assure a continuous connection between the European Commission policies and values and the project development;
- to detect and solve any critical problem or delay that will eventually occur;
- to maintain a technical control over the project;
- to successfully administer all financial transactions related to the project;
- to review and finalize all internal reports and deliverables;
- to provide the overall quality assurance of the project deliverables.

The project has ambitious goals that can only be achieved with a careful planning and dynamic co-ordination among the different actions and among the co-ordinating beneficiary (ARPA ER) and associated beneficiaries (Emilia-Romagna Region, Legacoop ER, Indica, ANCA and ANCA NI). The project will be led by a project manager (PM), who will have the ultimate project responsibility and the liaison with the EC. This role has been given to Ing. Donatella Ferri director of the Thematic Regional Centre of inland waters, due to her relevant qualifications in the field, acquired in years of experience on water resources both regarding environmental issues and health. Her role in the Centre is to provide water quality assessment and to develop for ARPA ER monitoring systems using network modelling and databases of pressure factors for estimating and forecasting.

All partners will contribute to specific project management functions, such as participating in project meetings, steering committee, technical working group, technical and administrative reporting, and nominating local project managers. Beneficiaries responsible for different actions will be responsible also for reporting monthly to the PM on the technical progress, achievements and status of the activities that they lead. One of the main tasks of the PM will be to ensure a smooth project progress, i.e. making sure that each activity and action provide the required inputs for the following actions.

Another driver of stability is going to be the political support to the project assured by the presence among the partners of the Emilia-Romagna region, which has got in its environmental policy since many years water protection.

The system of governance chosen for the AQUA project is a very simple one, in order to minimize duplications and at the same time covering all the competences and skills required to successfully carry on the project. It is formed by two boards: a technical working group (TWG) and a steering committee (SC).

The first one has the task of guaranteeing a continuous support on all the technical aspects of the project, and assuring a high level of correspondence to the CRS and environmental principles. The TWG will be composed by a manager and a technical expert from each partner, and it is responsible for reviewing and controlling during the whole duration of the project the technical and methodological aspects of the project.

The TWG members will meet at regular intervals to:

- coordinate the activities of the different action and activity;
- discuss and solve technical issues;
- define the technical directions of the project and identify new solutions;

- notify, for the SC approval, technical modifications in accordance with the aims of the project and different reallocation of resources;
- verify the correct implementation of the project and react to correct technical deviations;
- evaluate and approve the final technical results;
- ensure that the work plan is respected and to notify the SC of any deviations from the work plan;
- establish standards for the reports, presentations, and deliverables.

The second instrument of governance is a political body, with the task of guaranteeing the coherence of the project strategy throughout the whole duration. It also has the overall responsibility of meeting the objectives and benefits of the project and to keep the connection with the European and national environmental targets, as well as to assure conflict resolution. The participants will be one decision maker per partner plus the Project Manager.

In details the SC will:

- co-ordinate the work carried out, keeping strictly to the predefined timetable;
- be responsible for the efficient administration of the project;
- collect, monitor and integrate all the financial and administrative data from the partners, and prepare them for submission to the Commission;
- be the contact person for the project with the Commission;
- decide on actions and activities commencement and use of the project's resources;
- control and review the financial and technical progress;
- verify the correct development of the project plan and adopt appropriate actions to correct deviations from the schedule;
- discuss and approve the detailed plan for the next months' activities;
- decide on proposed modifications to the actions and activities in accordance with discussion with the Commission;
- promote and stimulate the establishment of contacts with other projects;
- promote and approve the attendance and the presentation of papers, at conferences and symposia.

The activities foreseen in this action are:

1.1 Administrative start-up of project; 1.2 Kick-off; 1.3 Monitoring; 1.4 Project meetings; 1.5 Reporting.

This action will be carried out from 01-01-2011 to 30-06-2013.

Methods employed:

The activity 1.1 aims at guaranteeing a sound and effective beginning of the activities. A contract will be drawn by the beneficiary (ARPA ER) to define duties and commitments of each partner. This will be discussed and signed in the starting stage. The involvement of all partners in this important preliminary phase will be assured by a workshop where each one will be asked to actively contribute. This will take place during the kick-off.

The administrative start up is functional for the management of all actions, since it sets a stable basis on which to build a shared vision of the work that is going to be undertaken.

The kick off (activity 1.2) will guarantee the operative start up of the project. The SC, the TWG and the administrative representatives will take part. To prepare this event the project manager will elaborate a detailed working and management Plan, where all the activities and responsibilities of each partner, as well as the general modalities of involvement of the private sector and the civil society, will be displayed. This is a fundamental instrument for the success of the all project. The document will also contain a section with a detailed local work plan, prepared by each partner and shared with the others. The work plan will be progressively updated on a quarterly basis (e.g. before each SC meeting).

The activity 1.3 is an action which will take place during the whole project and it depends directly on the project manager. In fact he has to verify the proper progress of the project. A "monitoring protocol plan", containing rules and modalities for monitoring and communication between partners and with European Commission, will be approved at the kick off meeting and it will be shared between partners. A contingency plan will be drawn up, and it will serve

as a tool for the PM to identify problems and delays during the project implementation and to identify the best solutions. The PM will monthly monitor the progress of all actions and activities under the other beneficiaries' responsibility and will update both the project progress indicators and the environmental indicators (when relevant).

Activity 1.4 also will persist during the whole project. It aims at co-ordinating partners at a strategic and technical level. It is a form of self-support of the project, managed by all the beneficiaries who, sharing their particular experiences, can provide solutions to each others. The project foresees 4 periodic SC meetings (plus the kick-off) and 10 TWG meetings. Due to the nature of the partners consortium, meetings won't impact much neither on carbon footprint, not or economic costs. They will be all held with the Emilia-Romagna region, more likely in Bologna, but 2 which will be organized in Brussels, in order to keep an international dimension for the project. These will occur after the creation of the Water saving Panel, in order to give it an international relevance, and at the end of the project.

The kick-off meeting will be held in Bologna.

Meetings will be planned by partners according to needs.

Activity 1.5 anticipates the constant communication among partners, beneficiaries, stakeholders and the EC. The Partners are well aware of the important, for the success of the project, to provide the Commission with a sufficient number of reports, to allow a continuous control of the progression of the project. Eventual discrepancies with the original plan and the solutions proposed to address such situations would be described in the reports. In accordance to the LIFE Provisions, the co-ordinating beneficiary will provide the reports detailed in the "activity reports foreseen" chart.

Constraints and assumptions:

No relevant constraints are expected. It is assumed that good collaboration will exist between partners, since there is an historical good relationship between them build on years of collaborations, the territorial and cultural belonging. However the PM will make sure that the work in each action is in line with the required inputs from other following actions, i.e. action 4 with respect to action 3. To this end the Project Manager will have to maintain detailed knowledge of the work done in the different actions by different partners

Beneficiary responsible for implementation: ARPA ER

Roles of all partners and external assistance	ARPA	Organization of the administrative start up and kick off. Monitoring of the project development, the single actions and activities. Organization of SC and TWG meetings, which are key moments for the positive and successful development of the project. In fact in these summits where important decisions are taken. The organization and preparation of such meetings is indeed very central for the project, and requires resources in terms of people and time. Recollection of all relevant information from the partners and drawing up of the reports for the Commission.
	Other partners	Contribution to the kick off organization and participation. Contribution and continuous communication to the lead partner for all the administrative aspects.
	External assistance	Contribution to the development and elaboration of the technical aspects that will be presented and discussed in the SC and TWG. Facilitation and management of these meetings. Support in maintaining the relations with the European Commission and the Monitoring Team. Assistance, on a monthly basis, to the preparation of the progress reports, including the related justifications of expenditures, and to the elaboration of the official progress reports and final report. Translations when needed.

Expected results (quantitative information when possible):

The effective management of the project and the partnership will be achieved through regular meetings both of the SC and of TWG.:

- 4 SC meetings (plus the kick-off)
- 10 TWG meetings

The effective management of the project and the partnership will be obtained through:

- the creation of a positive working environment and an effective network between partners;
- the inclusion of skilled and motivated people in the two boards.

Other expected results are:

- a detailed Work Plan
- a Monitoring protocol plan, containing rules and modalities for monitoring and communication between partners and with European Commission

Indicators of progress:

N° of participant to SC and TWG, N° of meetings of ST and TWG, % participation to the meetings, respect of time to present the reports to the project manager, respect of date to submit the progress, mid-term and final reports to the Commission by the coordinating beneficiary.

ACTION 2: international review of methodologies and best practices

Description (what, how, where and when):

This action aims at providing the project with a relevant background of knowledge, giving it a solid basis for the following actions, mainly action 3 for what concerns the development of the Water Saving Kit. This is why it has been planned as initial phase.

The specific goals to be achieved through this review are:

- To develop a learning process inspiring to best practices and EU requirement;
- To involve the "internal" key actors: political representatives, directors and decision makers of the business sector;
- To involve the "external" key actors: consumers, NGOs, etc.;
- To define tools and operative models to be adopted in the following actions;
- To build up local abilities, awareness and commitment in order to lead companies to take part in the Water Alliance;
- To build up local human capital to promote the preservation of the commons, hampering "the tragedy of the commons".

To do so the following key aspects will be analyzed:

- the overarching European legislation on water use and water quality standards, in order to assure a liaison between the objectives and priorities set at the EU level and the AQUA's project ones;
- the universe of knowledge, studies and best practices on this issue, in order to use these experiences as a starting point. Also, to collect and analyse different tools, methodologies and practices could be useful for the definition of the system.
- Tools and instruments provided by CSR literature and experiences to coordinate private and public efforts and commitments on a single end. Private-public partnership and new social partnerships in Europe will be analysed and use as point of departure to develop the model more fit for this project.
- The factors of success of the best practices selected in the field of commitment. This phase is quite relevant to minimize the margin of failure of the project and maximize the potential of success.

A wide preliminary research and market analysis has been undertaken during the writing phase of the AQUA project, in order to set the technological and knowledge baseline to use in the definition of the project activities and the water saving kit package. Moreover, due to the importance of food safety in the agro-industrial processing, the preliminary study served as well to identify the legal requirements and prohibitions that will have to be taken into consideration in defining the techniques and best practices that will be included in the kit.

Activities foreseen in this action are:

2.1 International review of the European legislation, water saving technologies, managerial tools and best practices in the field; 2.2 Reporting; 2.3 General training and capacity building.

This action will be carried out from 01-04-2011 to 30-06-2011.

Methods employed:

Activity 2.1 aims at collecting relevant material, information, know how and best practices to support and give a solid basis to the development of the entire project. Hence, an international review will be compiled, going in depth principally on the following key aspects:

- the overarching European legislation on water use and water quality standards, in order to assure a liaison between the objectives and priorities set at the EU level and the AQUA's project ones. They in fact will be the main drivers to define local water saving targets.
- A critical analysis of the most relevant experiences in Europe of water saving in the agro-industry sector, and in other sectors that present similarities to it. Collecting and analysing different tools, methodologies and practices could be useful for the definition of the system. The factors of success and the criticalities of the best practices selected will be

specifically pointed out. This in order to minimize the margin of failure of the project and maximize the potential of success.

- Tools and instruments provided by CSR literature and experiences to coordinate private and public efforts and commitments on a single end. Private-public partnership and new social partnerships in Europe will be analysed and use as point of departure to develop the model more fit for this project.

Three are the main instruments that will be taken as reference throughout the whole project duration as well.

1. The BAT references of the European IPPC Bureau, and in particular the two documents that explore the agro-industry sector: Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Reference Document on Best Available Techniques in the Food, Drink and Milk Industries (August 2006); and Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Reference Document on Best Available Techniques in the Slaughterhouses and Animal By-products industries (May 2005).
2. The best practice database created by Lab&Lab, a team of 50 experts coming from different realities of the Emilia-Romagna region (University, local authorities, private engineering companies, etc.), and available at the website address: <http://www.ravenna2008.it/lang/en/>. More than 500 best practice have been scanned to find the most useful for the project aims.
3. Finally the Granarolo experience, described in the RIARD project documents, have been analyzed, and its achievement, in terms of efficient water management and water reuse, has deeply influenced the development of this project. In fact the success obtained, both in terms of resource savings, in the last 10 years around 1000% of water per year (measured on today production) has been saved, and in terms of territorial and sector cooperation for the preservation of local environment, with the creation of human capital and local development, has to be capitalized and spread to other realities.

Beside these 3 important benchmark realities, here other websites or references that have already been mapped as valuable sources of best practices:

- 1- Water protection and management in UE:
http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/environment/water_protection_management/index_en.htm
- 2- European Environmental Agency: www.eea.eu.int
- 3- UK Environmental Agency: www.environment-agency.gov.uk
- 4- The Network of Water Conservation: www.watersave.uk.net
- 5- Thames Water – Water Wise website: www.thameswateruk.co.uk/waterwise/frameset.html
- 6- Centro Canario del Agua: www.fcca.es
- 7- Conserve H2O.org : www.conserveh2o.org
- 8- H2OUSE - Water Saver Home: www.h2ouse.net
- 9- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: www.epa.gov
- 10- "Water Efficiency" - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency :
www.epa.gov/water/water_efficiency.html
- 11- Water Use It Wisely: www.wateruseitwisely.com
- 12- Saving Water Partnership : www.savingwater.org
- 13- WaterWiser : www.awwa.org/waterwiser
- 14- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation – "Water Conservation" : www.usbr.gov/waterconservation

Finally, regarding the fields that have been briefly investigated in the project writing phase, and that will be more deeply analyzed during Action 2 of the project, they are indeed the more water intensive of the agro-industry processing, i.e.:

- cooling and cleaning
- water as a raw material, especially for the drinks industry
- process water, e.g. for washing raw materials, intermediates and products
- cooking, dissolving and transportation
- auxiliary water, e.g. for the production of vapour and vacuum
- sanitary water

ANCA NI is responsible for this action, but it will work in a close collaboration with Indica s.r.l. In fact the two partners have developed specific but complementary competences for the good of the project. The first one represents regional cooperatives operating in different agri-food sectors – production, processing, distribution, supplying services and technical support for

enterprises, since its foundation in 1974. While Indica s.r.l has a long term experience in the field of private-public partnership, due to a number of EU Life projects in which it took part where this issue was central (LIFE00 ENV/IT/000144 CLEAR, LIFE05 ENV/IT/000808 IDEMS, LIFE07 ENV/IT/000357 LACRe, LIFE07 ENV/IT/000451 LAKs), as well as due to its core activity undertaken at the local level in Italy.

All the material collected and analyzed will be put together in a report (activity 2.2) which will be used for the training activities (2 trainings are foreseen) undertaken during action 2.3 toward the members of the Panel (which by this time will be established). The exchange of knowledge is indeed essential for achieving relevant results, and in this case primarily for modelling and building the Water Saving Kit in action 4. The training will be undertaken by ANCA, both National and Regional Units, with the support of the experts of Indica. The first one will provide the technical knowledge, based on the information and experiences collected in the International Review, while the second will contribute to the capacity building activities through its didactic skills and competences. This last activity is going to be carried out through 2 workshops held in Bologna, where the most of the partners are located.

Constraints and assumptions:

Constraints can derive from the lack of best practices or innovative projects to report in the International review. This however can be overcome by collecting and reviewing methods and tools found in the CSR literature, as well as methodologies which led to other innovative processes, even though not directly linked to water saving, in order to pick the success factors from those.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation: ANCA NI

Roles of all partners and external assistance	ANCA NI	Analysis and research on an international basis for the elaboration of the international review. Collection of material and management of the team (in ARPA) that will draw up the document. Coordination and supervision on the training plan structure and topics.
	Other partners	ARPA: Drawing up of the international review document. INDICA: due to its experience on environmental sustainability, Indica will contribute with best practices at the international level, to insert in the review. Indica will also realize the training activities foreseen in activity 2.3.
	External assistance	Few technical contributions to the training will be assured by external experts. A team of engineers and agronomists will be asked to support the partners in the evaluation of the best practices to draw criteria and parameters for the replicability and applicability of the solutions identified.

Expected results (quantitative information when possible):

The collection, elaboration and dissemination among partners of the knowledge basis required to implement the project. This will be assured by the production of:

- an International review, arranged in an easily consultable format, which partners can then use when working with companies;
- a training plan, detailed for the different targets (staff of the public bodies, business managers, technicians, etc.)
- 2 trainings to the Panel members
- 2 workshops

Indicators of progress:

N° of best practices reviewed, N° of methodologies of water saving analyzed, N° of capacity building workshops, N° of participants for each partner, % of training event participants' satisfaction.

ACTION 3: Water saving Panel establishment and modelling of the Water Saving Kit

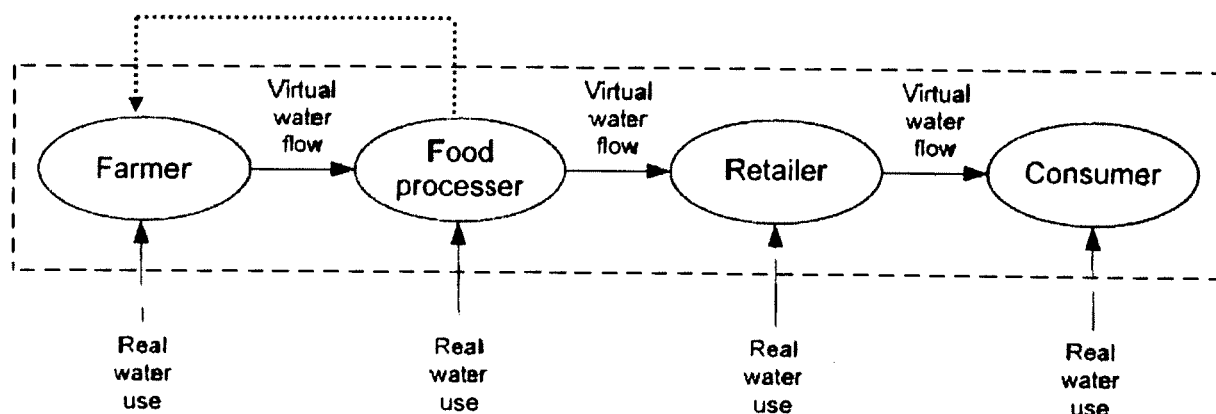
Description (what, how, where and when):

This action represents one of the key moments of the project. Its successful realization is the basis for the success of the whole project. In fact it implies the creation of the Water saving Panel, a body of experts that will support the companies in defining the targets and strategies to reduce water use, and the definition of the Water Saving Kit that will be then implemented by the industries subscribing the Alliance, and will support them in reducing their water consumption and dependency. The techniques included in the tool will be the most advanced, and will be based on a "cradle-to-cradle" approach which looks at the whole water cycle on a regional (or water basin) scale.

The Water Saving Kit will actually be composed of:

- a set of guidelines to accompany the companies joining the Water Alliance throughout the whole process, i.e. water auditing and measuring, setting of water reduction targets, identification of the methodologies and techniques to adopt and implementation, follow up, that is mainly measuring the results obtained and communicating them.
- A number of spreadsheets to support companies calculating their water footprint.
- A list of BAT that maybe implemented to reduce water use.
- A number of general protocols to establish collaboration with upstream or downstream water users.
- Indicators to evaluate cost-benefits and eco-efficiency of the different choices.

The cradle-to-cradle methodology starts from the analysis of the water use in the agro-industry sector (see figure below, black flow) and try to introduce improvements based on a life-cycle thinking approach. In particular the idea is to close the loop between water discharge from the food processing phase and water need for farmers activities (red dotted line in the figure below).



The opportunities offered by such an approach have already been studied in other European countries, as the European IPPC Bureau has shown in the BAT reference document quoted above. The Bureau in fact states: "in 1998 in Germany, the total industrial water consumption was 8500 million m³ of which 304 million m³ was used by the FDM (food, drink and milk) sector. Nevertheless, the actual amount of water used in the FDM sector in that period was reported to be 1730 million m³, i.e. more than the total consumption figure. This is because of the proportion of water that was recycled and re-used. On average, the number of times water was re-used in the German FDM sector increased from 3.4 times to 4.2 times between 1995 and 1998." (Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Reference Document on Best Available Techniques in the Food, Drink and Milk Industries, 2006).

Nevertheless in Italy we do not have many significant experiences of the application of this approach, behind the Granarolo one, that is why the AQUA project has a great potential of improve the water stress situation in the region.

In the light of the important role given to the Panel, its composition is extremely relevant for the success of the project. In fact the panel has the important role of:

- bring innovative approaches, knowledge, best practice and know how in the project;
- debate and define the tools and instruments included in the Water Saving Kit;

- technically assure its feasibility and applicability to the local reality of the Emilia-Romagna region;

- represent the needs and peculiarities of the different subjects involved in the project.

On these bases the Panel will be a flexible multi-skills and multi-stakeholder instrument, and will include experts coming from different realities (scientific bodies, business representatives, public authorities) selected for their previous experiences, and therefore for the substantial contribution they can give to the project.

For what concerns the scientific representation, it will be selected by ARPA among the experts and researches that have already collaborated with them, as for instance Prof. Masotti and his group of researchers at the Environmental and Sanitary Engineering Department at the Ferrara University of the Ferrara University, or from the LARA project, a regional laboratory which deals with water monitoring, modelling and innovation, which has its headquarter at the Ferrara University. Other experts will be selected at the beginning of the action.

The business representatives on the other hand will be technicians knowing very well the industrial processes, and in particular the agro-industrial sector. They will come from the Granarolo experience, one of the best practice on the territory, from Legacoop's and ANCA's associates, which have already expressed their willingness in the phase of project development, as well as they will be experts from the COPA-COGECA association, in order to assure the representation of the European companies of the agro-industry sector. Finally the Panel will have representatives from public authorities and civil society. The first ones will be directly contacted and selected by the public authorities partner in the AQUA project, on the basis of their knowledge and experiences on two issues: private-public partnerships and CSR, and water resources and conservation. There will also be some members of the TWG, in order to keep a continuous alignment between the work of the panel and the objectives of the AQUA project. The second delegates, the other hand, will be members of citizens associations and Ngo dealing with water issues. In fact the participation of representatives of this stakeholder group is particularly relevant when dealing with common goods protection.

Activities foreseen in this action are:

3.1 Identification of the stakeholder to involve in the Panel; 3.2 Panel establishment; 3.3 Definition and development of the Pilot Water Saving Kit

This action will be carried out from 01-04-2011 to 31-12-2011.

Methods employed:

Activity 3.1 will be carried out throughout 2 seminars in which local authorities, companies, universities' representatives and members of the civil society will be invited to discuss and agree on the establishment of a Panel for water saving in agro-industry sector. Moreover, these focus groups will be also used to find out local good practices or other potential members to bring added value to the Panel. The instruments and principles of stakeholders engagement defined within the "Accountability 1000 SES" method will be adopted as base line in defining the methodology of this action. In particular the action foresees co-operative processes to define the instruments and tools to be included in the Water Saving Kit.

A mapping process of all the organisations which could be interested in joining the Panel will be the output of this activity, and will support the following one. In fact activity 3.2 will result in the formal establishment of the Panel.

The Panel experts will work together for the elaboration of the Pilot Water Saving Kit (activity 3.3) that will be tested in the following action (4). It will be discussed and designed in 10 roundtables where all the Panel experts will be gather together and discuss the technologies, innovations and management tools to integrate in the Kit. 9 meetings will be held all in Bologna, and 1, the first one, will take place in Brussels, after the official presentation of the Panel. The Panel will also be presented with a public event in Bologna, in order to start attracting the attention of the companies that will then be contacted to participate in the Alliance. As for the kit, it will be composed of tools as well as guidelines to maximize their utilization. The techniques included in the tool will be the best available techniques (BAT), and will be based on a "cradle-to-cradle" approach which looks at the whole water cycle on a regional (or water basin) scale. It will help business to calculate their water footprint (or the water balance of their activities), identify which initiatives and approaches will most suit their needs, and it will help developers understanding opportunities for increasing impact through

consensus building and joint action. To do so, it will include a number of instruments/strategies as:

- **Water auditing** Conducting a water audit of an industrial plant or manufacturing facility clearly shows where the water supplied to the plant is being used, how much is used in each process, and where it ultimately ends up. Once a water audit has been done, it is possible to draw a flow chart and show the water balance across the plant, or over individual units of the process. This is usually the first step in finding innovative ways to save water on an industrial site.

- **Analysis to match water quality to use requirements** In many instances, the water used in industry is of an unnecessarily high quality for the use to which it is put. In industrial processes there are many applications where lower water quality could be used. This offers recycling opportunities. Around 50% of an industrial plant's water intake may be used for the purpose of process cooling (Water: a shared responsibility, UNDP 2006), a need that can often be met with lower quality water. Of course, regarding the sector taken into account in the project (agro industry), some evaluations should be done in advance, to divide the processes which are somehow connected to the final product (food), where food safety and quality restrictions decrease the margins of water saving, and those processes that on the other hand have not relations to the aliments. Analyzing these situations the AQUA project will allow companies to find out where water is used inappropriately, and where it's possible to save it.

- **Water recycling** Water recycling is the primary means of saving water in an industrial application: taking wastewater that would otherwise be discharged and using it in a lower quality application (often after treatment). Also in this case the principle of matching water quality to use requirements will be followed.

- **Using reclaimed water** A more indirect means of recycling water occurs when an industrial enterprise reuses the wastewater produced by another industrial plant close by (with a treatment step in between, if necessary). This is another analysis that will be carried on, where possible and compatibly with the food safety and quality restrictions, in the companies that will participate in the project.

Constraints and assumptions:

The main constraints are linked with the willingness of the different actors (Institutions, companies, NGOs) to take part in the Panel, go over their specific interests to work for a common good (water) and to build a network of relationships, where to cooperate, share know-how and skills in order to develop innovative solutions to face the issue of water scarcity and quality.

Indica s.r.l., has a long experience in techniques to overcome disagreement, manage diversity, facilitate dialogue, and it will assure their adoption.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation: Indica s.r.l.

Roles of all partners and external assistance	Indica	Organization and management of the 2 seminars to share the project objectives and select the experts. Indica staff will facilitate the discussion. Organization, set up and management of the 10 roundtables to define and design the Water Saving Kit. In this activity facilitation instruments are very useful and will be adopted with different modalities according with the aim of the roundtable.
	Other partners	ARPA: selection of the experts to involve in the Panel. ANCA and LEGACOOOP: selection of the business best practices (as Granarolo) to engage in the Panel. REGIONE ER: it will contact and involve the public authorities that have a role in the water cycle at the local level (i.e. the Basin Authority, the Water reclamation consortium and the local Health agency).
	External assistance	Elaboration of the spreadsheet and the calculation tools that will be part of the Kit. Definition of different protocols to define the agreement and collaboration between the upstream and downstream water users (mainly agro-industrial businesses and farmers).

Expected results (quantitative information when possible):

- A Water Saving Kit (please refer to question number 8 for details)
- 4-5 technical protocols to establish collaboration with upstream or downstream water users
- 10 indicators to evaluate cost-benefits and eco-efficiency of the different choices.

Indicators of progress:

N° and type of stakeholder involved in the Panel; N° of techniques and methodologies reviewed; N° of best practices collected and reviewed; Potential water savings obtainable with the Water Saving Kit (%).

ACTION 4: Local application of the Water Saving Kit and testing

Description (what, how, where and when):

Once defined and built up the Water Saving Kit, on the basis of a common agreement among all the parties in the Panel, it will be locally applied by the companies that will subscribe the Water Alliance. They will evaluate its effectiveness, in terms of costs and resource savings. This is a key moment of the project, thus a close up monitoring and evaluation activity should be carried on continuously by the TWG in order to assure an ongoing tuning of the kit to make it more effective and relevant to the necessities of the agro-industry sector.

The most relevant previous analysis done by ARPA and the Emilia-Romagna Region on the water saving potential for the industrial sector has been undertaken in 2002, comparing the actual consumptions, total and per product unit, of the worst performing companies, with the consumption of the best one, and comparing these best practices with the BAT references of the European IPPC Bureau.

The table below shows the evidences for the most water intensive agro-industrial processes:

Productive process category	Actual situation (2000)		Potential savings	
	Total water consumption (Mm ³ /y)	Water consumption per product unit (m ³ /t)	Water consumption per product unit (with BAT) (m ³ /t)	Total potential water saving (Mm ³ /y)
1511-1512	8.8	13	8	2.7
1513 Ham (raw)	5.0	12	8	1.5
Other types of ham		25	15	
1532 Tomatoes	26.5	13	8	10.2
-1533 Vegetables		30	15	
Fruits		15	10	
1551 Milk (for drinking)	10.4	2.5	2.0	1.6
Milk for cheese (Parmigiano/Grana Padano)		2.0	1.8	
Other products		5.5	4.5	
1583 Sugar	7.8	6.8	6.0	0.9
1591 (Alcoholics)	7.0	40	25	2.6
- 1592				
Total	65.5			19.5

Table 4: Data taken from Aggiornamento di elementi metodologici, ricognitivi ed elaborativi relativi ai bilanci idrici già effettuati, ARPA, RER, 2002.

In the third column (Water consumption per product unit with BAT) are estimated the potential savings per unit of product, while in the last the value is aggregated for the annual production. As we can see the potential savings, only introducing the best available technologies and approaches to water management, reach around the 30% of the total annual consumptions. Standardizing these findings and integrating them both with the know-how and literature reviews undertaken by the ARPA experts and with the opinions and experiences of the mayor cooperatives of ANCA, here the expected water savings which the project is most likely to achieve are:

- between 8% and 23%, by acting on the transformation processes of the companies, and introducing water re-use for agricultural activities;
- between 5% and 10% can be obtained by improving water transportation technologies;
- finally, the highest saving potential can be achieved acting on the product conservation phase: around 20-25% of reduction is achievable introducing cooling techniques that adopt evaporative condensers or evaporative cooling tower, and optimizing or closing the water circuit of the cooling devises.

Starting from the project partners wide experience and knowledge of the business world, it has been agreed that the targets won't be bidding for the companies signing the Alliance. If fact such a criterion risks to frighten the companies and to reduce feedbacks and participation.

The map of the different subjects and realities using water upstream and downstream will be initially drawn for those subjects that have already shown their interest in participating in the project, that is the companies that have signed the letter, and for those businesses singled out as heavy water users.

The map will show the upstream and downstream users, geographically relevant for the agro-industrial businesses. They will be the one that will be contacted and involved in the Alliance. The map will also be used to verify any important absence among the companies already involved.

Together with the geographical map of water users, that follows the basin water cycle, a number of criteria will be used to select the target of the alliance:

- **Average water demand**, the estimations of the volumes used by the biggest companies on the territory are available, and they will be used as a benchmark to evaluate the relevance of the company;
- **Water supply channels**, that is because water coming from water table has the highest impact on the local environment;
- **Efficacy of the productive processes**, this evaluation is of course not rigorous and it can be done only for the companies that fall under the IPPC regulation, or the one that have an EMAS certification, using the water consumption standards per product unit. It is valuable to make a first classification nevertheless.
- **Geographical localization of the withdrawal**, being more jeopardized the uptakes from locations that present already conditions of stress.

Activities foreseen in this action are:

4.1 Mapping of the upstream and downstream subjects to involve in the project; 4.2 Communication and official signing of the Water Alliance; 4.3 General training and capacity building; 4.4 Adaptation of the Pilot Kit to the single realities; 4.5 Definition by each subscribers of a water conservation strategy; 4.6 Reporting.

This action will be carried out from 01-10-2011 to 31-10-2012.

Methods employed:

The AQUA project adopts a "cradle-to-cradle" approach to evaluate water consumption by the local agro-industry sector and also as a basis for the improvement tools included in the Water Saving Kit. This means that the overall evaluation of the success of the project should be given on a territorial basis (water basin) more than on a industry- or process-basis. This is why the first activity of this action entails the definition of the map of the different subjects and realities using water upstream and downstream, in the Emilia-Romagna territory. Specific and detailed environmental indicators are provided to carry on this activity (see indicators below). The AQUA project and in particular the Water Alliance will be presented to the subjects singled out, and it will be asked them to participate in the experimentation.

Activity 4.2 entails the officially signing by the interested companies of the Water Alliance. This step will represent the official commitment to the objectives of the AQUA project. A public event is foreseen as described in the dissemination action.

Activity 4.3 will be conducted through 2 local trainings and 3 workshops, as defined in a companies training plan elaborated at the beginning of the activity. Managers, decision-makers and technicians of all industries subscribers will take part and work together with the members of the Panel to internalize and adapt to each reality the Water Saving Kit. The trainings will continue also during activity 4.4 and 4.5, as support to the companies in the technical implementation of the actions and activities provided for.

Trainings and knowledge building is very relevant since it will establish the basis for the single subscribers of the Alliance to elaborate their water conservation strategy and targets. This will be done in the following activity (4.5), which represents the real heart of the action. In fact it is in this phase that the companies will officially commit themselves to reduce water consumption and improve their environmental performance as regard to water resources. The strategy, including the conservation targets and actions foreseen, will need to be officially approve by Board of directors in the case of companies. This step will increase the level of commitment of the subscribers and will make the Alliance a binding agreement. It is foreseen also a consequent validation by the Panel, which will take into consideration the level of commitment

or each strategy and the estimated improvements. This activity provides for initial internal water footprint evaluation, which will be done using the apposite instruments provided in the kit, an audit of the water management system adopted by the company, and, on the basis of these elements, the definition of a strategy of water conservation. The strategy will include management and governance improvements, technical actions (see as examples the what indicated in the previous action) as well as a phase of dialogue between the single company and the upstream and downstream water users in order to assure the maximization of the efficiency in water usage. This is considered a complete approach to water management.

Co-ordination meetings will be organized by Legacoop ER approximately every month to co-ordinate the subscribers, detect and solve criticalities.

The reporting activity (4.6) will produce a AQUA report, which will be drawn up in coherence with the GRI (Global Reporting Initiative) and AA 1000 (Accountability series) standards. The AQUA report will provide synthetic information on the commitments of each subscriber, the activities implemented and foreseen for the following years and some synthetic indicators to measure the outputs produced and the contribution to GHG emissions obtained. It will be a communicative instruments, to give visibility to the efforts of the firms, and also to informally bind them to their commitments.

Constraints and assumptions:

The effective and numerous participation of companies to the Alliance, and their real and continuative commitment to the targets of water reduction, can be the most relevant potential constraints of this action. However, this problem is easily overcome thanks to the participation of Legacoop ER, ANCA NI and the national ANCA. In fact the first one is the main organisation that represents cooperatives in this region and unites cooperatives and their economic subsidiaries in various sectors (industrial, agricultural and service sectors), and it leads the Regional table for entrepreneurship, where it has a great appeal on companies. ANCA NI and the national ANCA counts respectively 248 cooperatives operating in Emilia-Romagna and 1.119 Italy wide. These three subjects together can indeed guarantee a wide participation of the business world to the Alliance and their commitment to the individual obligations taken in the strategy of water conservation.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation: Legacoop ER

Roles of all partners and external assistance	Legacoop	Management and supervision of the local application of the Kit in the companies subscribing the Alliance. Supervision for the reporting activity foreseen in activity 4.6. in fact Legacoop has a traditional experience in accountability instruments, since it has got a Sustainability report since many years.
	Other partners	ARPA: Mapping of the upstream and downstream subjects to involve in the project. Definition of the contents of training plan. Indica: support to ARPA to organize the training and capacity building activities. Coordination and facilitation in the workshops. Support and continuous supervision in the very delicate phase of definition of the water conservation strategy done by the alliance members. ANCA: being the business association of the agro-industrial cooperatives in the Region, it will work on the involvement of its associates in the Alliance. Finally all partners will participate to the organization and realization of the public event to present the water saving strategies of the companies which have subscribed the alliance.
	External assistance	Experts of the different issues included by ARPA in the training plan, will give lectures in the 2 seminars and provide the technical know-how in the workshops, targeted to the Alliance members. Technical support for the application of the Kit in the businesses which have subscribed the alliance. Indica will use its external assistance to involve a technician for strengthening its support to companies defining their water conservation strategies, and for their evaluation.

Expected results (quantitative information when possible):

- 2 local trainings and 3 workshops, targeted to all managers, decision makers and technicians of all industries that have subscribed the Alliance
- 15-20 water conservation strategies (one for each company subscribing the Alliance)
- A 10-15% water saving per company involved in the local application

Indicators of progress:

N° of subjects mapped as water users; N° of businesses signing the Water Alliance; N° of agreements between upstream and downstream users; N° of Water Conservation Strategies approved by the Pane and N° of the one rejected; Existence of water saving techniques in the companies; Total water saving esteem (in m3).

Environmental indicators:

Water footprint of the area of experimentation defined on the basis of the adhesions collected. Furthermore, for each company signing the Water alliance, the following indicators will be calculated as starting point for the testing phase:

Water Withdrawals (m3); Water discharges (m3); Water recycled/reused (m3 and %); Weight on the territorial total withdrawal (%)

ACTION 5: Evaluation of project results

Description (what, how, where and when):

This action has a double value. From the one hand it aims at evaluating the overall outcomes of the project in order to disseminate an effective model. In this case the evaluation will be carried on in terms of model developed, its feasibility, team work and cohesion of the Panel, achievements and coordination among the subscribers of the Alliance. The importance of this action lays in the fact that a set of practical guidelines will be provided in order to enhance the possibility of exporting the project also in other local realities.

The second objective of the action is to evaluate the quantitative and qualitative results of the local application of the Water Saving Kit. These will clearly be still partial, but we believe it is very important to foresee a moment of evaluation for the companies to strengthen their level of commitment to the targets subscribed in the strategy. The evaluation in this case will look at the state of the art of the implementation of the strategy by the single subscribers of the Alliance.

The activities foreseen in this action are:

5.1 Evaluation of the overall experience; 5.2 Evaluation of the quantitative and qualitative outcomes obtained in terms of water saving; 5.3 Adaptation of the kit for the diffusion; 5.4 Approval.

This action will be carried out from 01-10-2012 to 31-03-2013.

Methods employed:

The first activity will be based on the continuous observations undertaken during the previous actions. It is extremely important moment which will put in place a critical process of awareness raising and knowledge building, which will result useful for the diffusion of the kit developed.

Activity 5.2 on the other hand will start after 6 months from the approval of the strategies of water conservation developed by the single Alliance subscribers. This is necessary for the companies to have a lag of time when they can start implementing the actions foreseen.

Both operational and environmental results will be evaluated. The firsts in terms of actual implementation of the actions, and the second ones in terms of qualitative water protection and quantitative water saving obtained. The Emilia-Romagna region, with the support of the ARPA experts will undertake this activity.

The methodology for the two evaluations will be shared by partners during a meeting of the TWG and the SC together, specifically organised for this aim. A specific stakeholder engagement process (done through focus groups, workshops, interviews, etc) is foreseen. A report synthesising the results of the evaluations will be produced, containing an analysis of obstacles and success factors; public satisfaction analysis; implementation and applicability perspectives, and will be then used for improving the guidelines.

Activity 5.3 will focus on the adaptation of the overall model, and specifically of the Water saving Kit, to the regional, national and international realities, in sight of international dissemination. The Emilia-Romagna region will undertake this activity by organization of 10 workshops, one for each province in Emilia-Romagna and one in Rome, involving local stakeholders. The ANCA NI will provide an useful support to the region in this phase, given its knowledge on the specificities of the local agro-industrial realities. All partners however will supervise this process through a continuous interaction process, facilitated by the proximity of their headquarters, in order to assure a wide applicability of the kit. The project partnership structure has been indeed selected with the aim of representing different realities and needs, because water conservation requires different actions and strategies according with the geographical area as well as industrial sector where they are applied. The contribution of each partner therefore will assure the water saving kit will have a very high potential for dissemination.

The kit, adjust with all the contributes and feedback receives by the different stakeholders and experts will be finally approved by the SC (activity 4.4).

Constraints and assumptions:

The constraints of this task can be pointed out in the internal involvement capacity of the beneficiaries and the skills of their technicians during the local evaluation stage and the capacity of the co-ordinating beneficiary of synthesizing the results of the individual experiences with the needs and peculiarities of other geographical areas and economic sectors to have an output which will be really exportable and useful.

Also the participation of stakeholders, experts and other companies to the focus groups should be carefully prepared and managed, to avoid the risk of a low involvement. However the fact that they will be carried on by the Region, with the participation of the regional associations ANCA and Legacoop is very likely to overcome the problem.

Moreover the task will be finalised in strict link with the Implementation and the Dissemination actions. Any obstacle will be monitored and solutions found with partner's consensus.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation: Emilia-Romagna Region

Roles of all partners and external assistance	Emilia-Romagna Region	Organization of the 10 workshop of evaluation (activity 5.3), mapping and selection of the stakeholder to involve.
	Other partners	ARPA: monitoring of the water conservation strategy applications, through a detailed report done by an external expert. Direct evaluation of the outcomes obtained, in quantitative e qualitative terms, done with different methodologies, already hypothesized in the project proposal, but that will be defined during the development of the actions. Indica: coordination of all the partners and collection of everybody's inputs for the adaptation of the Kit for diffusion. Guidelines drawing up. ANCA: support to the Region in the organization and management of the 10 workshops foreseen in activity 5.3.
	External assistance	ARPA will choose an external assistant for the monitoring and reporting of the overall experience, as provided for in activity 5.1. Facilitation of the debate among stakeholders and management of the 10 workshops. The experts that will have supported Indica in the elaboration of the Kit, i.e. the processing and definition of the data spreadsheets, will work here for the adaptation of the kit for diffusion.

Expected results (quantitative information when possible):

- Guidelines, obtained through the standardization and normalization of the models included in the Kit and of the results obtained

Indicators of progress:

N° of innovative technologies (BAT) adopted by companies; Water saved on a territorial basis (mq), divided per different sources of uptake (groundwater vs. surface water); Reduction in water direct discharges (mq); N° of stakeholders involved in the focus groups

ACTION 6: Communication and dissemination of results and methodology

Description (what, how, where and when):

The objective of this action is to communicate the results of the project at a local, national and European level. This process can be divided in two levels according with to the specific target group. The three main targets of the communication campaigns are:

- other local or national authorities, which could replicate the project or apply the instrument of the partnership as defined below. The European Union as promoter of the environmental and the sustainability policies adopted here as bases for this project. They are the target of the concrete results deriving from the local pilot application produced by the developer partners, in the form of the "Climate Alliance action plan"; and the Final Guidelines.
- The wider business sector, in Italy and in Europe. To the agro-industry sector the techniques and tools contained in the Water Saving Kit will be presented directly, since they are specifically thought for that sector. While the other sectors will be targeted with the model of Water Alliance and the methodological framework to tackle water saving, developed by the Panel on the basis of accountability, CSR and eco-efficiency principles. In both cases the margins of improvement in terms of cost and water saving will be emphasized.
- Citizens and civil society. In this case the Water Alliance and the Water Saving Kit will be communicated in terms of targets set, intermediary results and levels of engagement obtained.

For a more effective communication, in order to reach the wider possible audience, it is expected, as described above, to organise public conferences and give ample diffusion to all documents both at intermediary level and in the final phase.

In order to achieve a wider effect ANCA and Legacoop ER will use their national and international networks for circulating the information and to support the development of this action.

A recognisable logo will be decided at the beginning of the project and it will then be reported (with the EU LIFE logo) in any document in order to make the initiative always easy to be identified.

Public visibility is important also in order to tie more closely the partners of the alliance to their commitments.

Main stakeholders/targets of the dissemination can be classified as follows.

- Internal to the partners: Politicians, managers and technicians of the departments involved in the project, all other managers, technicians and purchasers.

- Business world: this category is clearly one of the principal target groups of the project, for the potential of contribution to the main project goals (water saving). Without their active participation the success of the project could be compromised.

- Local communities: Citizens, other enterprises (that have not taken part in the alliance) and other members of the civil society (Universities, NGOs, etc.)

- the Italian Government: being a EU member state it undergoes its legislation and environmental targets, as the ones included in the Water Framework Directive, hence it is an important stakeholder of this project and its results. Moreover, Italy has not yet acknowledged the requirements of the directive in the Italian normative system, but it is required to do it according to the European jurisdiction. The AQUA project and its results could indeed facilitate Italy in this task, by providing technologies and best practices as benchmark.

- Institutions: Regional, National and European Institutions involved in the issue of water protection or concerned with CSR policies for contributing to the UE (and world) targets on water protection. Other local authorities and institutions which have already developed similar national or international projects to promote strong relationship and networking between the private and public sector.

The European Union, as promoter of targets for preserving and improving water quality and quantity and as signatory of the Millennium Goals that will end in 2015, is also clearly a stakeholder in the project.

The activities foreseen in this action are:

6.1 Communication and dissemination plan; 6.2 Communication and dissemination kit; 6.3 Itinerary dissemination; 6.4 Dissemination of the project's results; 6.5 After-Life communication plan

This action will be carried out from 01-01-2011 to 30-06-2013.

Methods employed:

With activity 6.1 a communication and dissemination plan will be produced. The purpose of the plan is to provide an overall framework for managing and coordinating the wide variety of communications that will directly or indirectly take place as part of the program. It addresses communicators, audiences, messages, communication channels, feedback mechanisms and message timing. The dissemination plan will detail the communicators, audiences, messages, communication channels, feedback mechanisms and timing for each communications event. To reach a wide range of public will be included a communication campaign through national and local press, managed directly by the different partners according with their potential. Activity 6.2 foresees a communication and dissemination kit that will include:

Active Website

An internet active site will be implemented and constantly updated. It will be mainly in Italian, since the partners and the main potential users (industries participating in the Alliance) will be Italian. However is going to be managed also an English version of the general sections, progressively updated, to favour a wider dissemination of the details about the project. The site will have a specific section describing the on-going development of the project at local level, giving visibility to the industries participating in the Alliance and in the local application and used in the final part of the project to disseminate the results obtained. The main outputs will be translated in English.

The Active website will include two reserved sections, one targeted to partners for exchanging information among them, and the other for the Panel, in order to keep close contacts and favour their work also behind the actual meetings. Each partner, in the first case, and the members of the panel, will be able to post messages and news on the site. Also a service to remind the partners about deadlines and meetings via phone text and e-mail messages will be provided.

An interactive Web 2.0 section targeted to the project's external stakeholders will be foreseen to obtain additional information, feedbacks during the whole project and in particular during the actions 3, 4 and 5 to include the stakeholders point of view into the model to be developed and in the evaluation activities.

The coordinating beneficiary will guarantee that the website will be maintained and updated continually for 5 years after the end of the project, according to the LIFE+ regulations. The contents will concern information on dissemination outcomes (e.g. how many other local authorities will have adopted the system); local adaptation strategies that partners and other local authorities will approve year after year; synthetic information about adaptation actions implemented by each local body, etc.

Project's leaflet

A brochure illustrating the project's objectives, outputs and outcome expected and a description of the partners and their role will be printed at the beginning of the project. This brochure will help the partners to inform local and general stakeholder about the project before the results and dissemination materials will be prepared. 1.000 copies of the 1 A4 page leaflet will be printed in English to be distributed in Brussels and in the international events and 1.500 in Italian.

This is the only one information and dissemination material to be printed. FSC certified paper will be used to contain the carbon footprint.

Water Conservation Kit

The kit tested during action 4 and validated in action 5 will be diffused in electronic format to be disseminated in the final dissemination activity. An .html version to be consulted on the website and a PDF version will be released. The Guidelines will be elaborated in Italian and translated in English.

12 Notice boards describing the project, 2 per partner, will be produced and displayed in places accessible to the public.

Newsletter

A project newsletter (6 releases foreseen) will be developed to inform and diffuse on a large scale the intermediate results; the newsletter will be sent via e-mail to all registered users of the website and to partners networks, in Italy and in Europe.

Media communication kit

Standard communication materials will be produced by Coordinator beneficiary in Italian during the project development to guarantee a continuous and homogenous communication. 4 short articles for the press will be released to the during the project and at the end of it a final layman's report. The report, in paper and electronic format in English and in Italian will be 5-10 pages long and will present the project, its objectives, its actions and its results to a general public. 700 paper copies (500 in Italian and 200 in English) will be printed in FSC certified paper. Also a textile Roll-up with project's description will be carried out and used to present the project at national and international events (conferences, workshops, fairs, etc) to promote the project reducing the printed documents.

All the items above described will be included in a DVD and USB key (or other equivalent support) with the name and logo of the project. The DVD and USB Key will be used during the final dissemination activity to disseminate and spread the projects results. A total of 500 USB Keys and 1.000 DVD will be produced.

Activity 6.3 predicts a constant communication and dissemination activity carried out by the national ANCA, with the support of COPA-COGECA, and by the other partners trough their own networks.

A press conference will be organized in Bologna and in Brussels at the beginning and end of the project, at the same time of the organization of the Steering Committee meeting. This will guarantee a higher visibility to the project and to each partner's role and a wide media visibility.

Communication activities will be organized also to spread the AQUA report drawn during action 4, where the commitments of the companies subscriber and their efforts and awareness will de summarized and described.

Also the main public and project related meetings (e.g. conferences, public events and capacity building workshops) will be podcasted on the website, free for downloading, while relevant speeches of the project meetings (SC, TWG) will be uploaded on the area reserved to the partners. Videos of the key meetings and public events will be available on YouTube including the most relevant speeches.

Activity 6.4 aims to disseminate the project's results and to promote the realization of Water Alliances for water conservation in the industry sector toward other public authorities or businesses. Ample diffusion of the project's results will be guaranteed by a central and local dissemination programme. After the creation of the Water Saving Panel, in order to give it an international relevance and visibility, an event will be organized in Brussels, in which the AQUA project's aims and strategies will also be presented. In particular an initial international conference is foreseen in Bologna to launch the project and to collect contributions useful for the definition of the model and the alliance.

Again in Brussels the final international conference will also be organized, to present the results, addressed to members of the national commissions and governments, politicians, technicians from local governments, research centres, universities and international groups. ANCA, responsible of this action will organize it with the support of COPA-COGECA which has its headquarter there. In addition, a final event will be organized also in Bologna, to locally present the results of the project and give visibility to the companies participating. It will favour the spread the model and kit to other local communities and firms. A media advertisement and press publicity will also be developed.

Action 6.5, the after LIFE communication Plan, will be produced by coordinating beneficiary with the support of all partners. The plan will set out the actions to continue to communicate and disseminate the results of the project after the end of financed project. The plan will be drawn up in Italian and will be released in paper and electronic format. The plan will be included as separate chapter in the final report.

Constraints and assumptions:

The main constraints of this task are connected to economic and time resources. In fact it is important to keep a good timing between the project steps and actions and the communication activities, to use economic resources in an effective way and to adopt successful methods of diffusion.

Beneficiary responsible for implementation: ANCA

Roles of all partners and external assistance	ANCA	Press conference at the beginning and end of the project. The two in Bologna will be managed and organized directly by ANCA, while the two in Brussels will be done with the support of Cope-Cogeca, which is active in the city. <u>Evento a bruxelles per presentare il Water saving Panel</u>
	Other partners	ARPA: Organization of the initial conference for the launch of the project, done with the support of the region which has interest in demonstrating Legacoop: Organization of the final conference with the Emilia-Romagna Region: supports ARPA and Legacoop
	External assistance	ANCA will be supported by Cope-Cogeca for the organization of the press conferences and events that will be held in Brussels. Cope-Cogeca, working in the city, has a wide networks of businesses and institutions that will be contacted and invited to the events. External assistance will be needed also to translations activities. Support to ARPA and Legacoop for the organization of the initial and final event, with services as translations, layout and preparation of the material that will be distributed and video recording of the speeches. Editing of the guidelines will be given by Indica to external subjects.

Expected results (quantitative information when possible):

- a communication and dissemination plan
- a website of the project
- 2500 project's leaflets
- 12 notice boards
- 6 newsletter
- 4 short articles for the press
- a textile Roll-up
- 500 USB Keys with the project results
- 1.000 DVD with the project results

Indicators of progress:

The progress indicators of the results of the task are bound to communication material, including: N° of material products, N° of copies distributed, N° of inscriptions to the newsletter, N° of access to the WEB site, N° of access to Youtube. N° of podcast downloaded, N° of web group subscribers, N° of documents downloaded, N° of requests received, N° of dissemination events, N° of participants, N° of organisations which will adopt the standard, N° of papers published about the project.

DELIVERABLE PRODUCTS OF THE PROJECT

Name of the Deliverable	Code of the associated action	Deadline
Working and management Plan	1.1	02/2011
Monitoring Protocol Plan	1.3	02/2011
Stakeholder map	3.1	04/2011
International review	2.2	05/2011
Project leaflets	6.2	06/2011
12 Notice boards	6.2	06/2011
Pilot Water saving Kit	3.3	12/2011
Map of the upstream and downstream subjects to involve in the project	4.1	12/2011
Companies Training Plan	4.3	02/2012
AQUA report	4.6	10/2012
Evaluation report	5.2	01/2013
Layman report	6.2	06/2013
After-Life communication Plan	6.5	06/2013

MILESTONES OF THE PROJECT

Name of the Milestone	Code of the associated action	Deadline
Partnership agreements signing	1.1	02/2011
Kick-off meeting	1.2	02/2011
International review validation by SC	2.2	05/2011
Training and capacity building activities conclusion	2.3	06/2011
Panel establishment	3.2	06/2011
Website released	6.2	06/2011
Panel presentation in Brussels	6.4	06/2011
Signing of the Water Alliance	4.2	01/2012
Implementation of the 10 Workshops	5.3	03/2012

General water Saving Kit Approval by SC	5.4	03/2012
Panel validation of the water conservation strategies	4.5	06/2012
International conclusion conference in Brussels	6.4	06/2013
National conclusion conference	6.4	06/2013

ACTIVITY REPORTS FORESEEN

Please indicate the deadlines for the following reports:

- Inception Report (to be delivered within 9 months after the project start);
- Progress Reports n°1, n°2 etc. (if any; to ensure that the delay between consecutive reports does not exceed 18 months);
- Mid-term Report with payment request (only for project longer than 24 months)
- Final Report with payment request

Type of report	Deadline
Inception Report	06/2011
Mid-term Report	09/2012
Final Report	09/2013



LIFE + Environment Policy and Governance

TECHNICAL APPLICATION FORMS

Part D – Output indicator forms

Important note:

- The purpose of the D forms is to collect information for statistical purposes only (for the evaluation of the achievements of a project the EC will use the information contained in forms A, B and C). However, applicants should ensure that the information entered in the D forms corresponds as far as possible to the project outputs defined in proposal forms A, B and C.
- The forms in this section may not be duplicated.

LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance output indicators

OUTPUTS

Part 1 - Preparatory actions

Table 1

Types of preparatory actions	No.	Budgeted cost (€)
Feasibility studies		
Legislative reviews	1	10.000
Cost-benefit studies		
Market analysis		
Permit studies		
Permit applications		
Permits obtained		
Environmental impact assessment studies		
Scientific studies	1	10.000
Detailed engineering studies		
Monitoring actions		
Action plans	1	15.000
Management plans	1	10.000
Inventories & Studies	1	15.000
<i>Ex ante</i> environmental monitoring		
<i>Ex post</i> environmental monitoring	1	10.000
Other (please specify)		
Total budgeted cost (€)		70.000

OUTPUTS**Part 2 - Concrete actions***Table 2 - Main project deliverables (project implementation phase)*

Deliverable	No.	Budgeted cost (€)
Prototypes		
Pilot plants		
Techniques/Methodologies developed	1	70.000
Software		
Successful implementation of demonstration actions		
Monitoring techniques developed		
Monitoring performed	1	40.000
Guidelines	1	15.000
Manuals		
Others (please specify)		
Total budgeted cost (€)		125.000

Table 3 - Training activities

No. of training sessions	Total no. of persons trained	Budgeted cost (€)
17	100	15.000

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Table 5 - Media and other communication and dissemination work

Type of media	No.
Project website: average number of visitors per month	200
Press releases made by the project	10
General public article in national press	2
General public article in local press	1
Specialised press article	2
Internet article	5
TV news/reportage	
Radio news/reportage	
Film produced	
Film played on TV	
Film presented in events/festivals	
Exhibitions attended	
Information centre/Information kiosk	
Project notice boards	12
Other (please specify)	
Total budgeted cost (€)	14.000

Table 6 - Publications

Type of publication	No. published	No. of copies	Languages
Layman's report	1	700	Italian and English
Manuals			
Leaflets	1	2.500	Italian and English
Brochures			
Posters			
Books			
Technical publications			
Other: newsletters	6		
USB	1	500	Italian
DVD	1	1.000	
Total budgeted cost (€)	18.000		

Table 7 - Educational activities

Establishment involved	No. of students
Kindergartens/Primary schools	N.A.
Secondary schools	N.A.
Higher education establishments	N.A.
Total budgeted cost (€)	N.A.



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***Nature and Biodiversity
Environmental Policy and Governance
Information and Communication***

FINANCIAL APPLICATION FORMS

Proposal acronym: AQUA

NOTES:

Please refer to guidelines for applicants when filling in this form

FORM FA

Proposal acronym: AQUA

Budget breakdown categories	Total cost in €	Eligible Cost in €	% of total eligible costs
1. Personnel		379.770	47,02%
2. Travel and subsistence		33.980	4,21%
3. External assistance		282.000	34,91%
4. Durable goods			
Infrastructure	0	0	0,00%
Equipment	0	0	0,00%
Prototype	0	0	0,00%
5. Land purchase / long-term lease		0	0,00%
6. Consumables		52.000	6,44%
7. Other Costs		15.000	1,86%
8. Overheads		44.970	5,57%
TOTAL	807.720	807.720	100%

Contribution breakdown	In €	% of TOTAL	% total eligible costs
Requested Community contribution	403.860	50,00%	50,00%
Coordinating Beneficiary's contribution	117.910	14,60%	
Associated Beneficiaries' contribution	285.950	35,40%	
Co-financers contribution	0	0,00%	
TOTAL	807.720	100,00%	

Please fill in the forms FC to F7 first. In these forms you are allowed to add lines but you cannot alter the formulae. In this form you are only requested to fill in the amount of the overheads

Please refer to the relevant instructions given in the explanatory notes for filling in these forms

Important note: if the overheads cell appears in red, this means that the budgeted amount is above the maximum permitted 7% of the total eligible direct costs excluding land purchase and the overhead costs themselves.

FORM F1

Direct Personnel costs

Beneficiary number	Action number	Type of contract	Category/Role in the project	Calculation =>				A X B	% of total direct personnel costs for the project
				A	B	C = B/Producing days per month	Direct personnel costs		
				Daily rate (rounded to the nearest €)	Number of person-days	Number of person-months			
1	1	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	300	60	2,7	18.000	4,74%	
1	2	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	300	30	1,4	9.000	2,37%	
1	3	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	300	15	0,7	4.500	1,18%	
1	4	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	300	14	0,6	4.200	1,11%	
1	5	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	300	30	1,4	9.000	2,37%	
1	6	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	300	15	0,7	4.500	1,18%	
1	1	Perm / Full time	Senior Analyst, technical aspects	170	75	3,4	12.750	3,36%	
1	2	Perm / Full time	Senior Analyst, technical aspects	170	38	1,7	6.460	1,70%	
1	3	Perm / Full time	Senior Analyst, technical aspects	170	19	0,9	3.230	0,85%	
1	4	Perm / Full time	Senior Analyst, technical aspects	170	20	0,9	3.400	0,90%	
1	5	Perm / Full time	Senior Analyst, technical aspects	170	38	1,7	6.460	1,70%	
1	6	Perm / Full time	Senior Analyst, technical aspects	170	19	0,9	3.230	0,85%	
1	1	Temp / Full time	Analyst, technical issues	130	70	3,2	9.100	2,40%	
1	2	Temp / Full time	Analyst, technical issues	130	35	1,6	4.550	1,20%	
1	3	Temp / Full time	Analyst, technical issues	130	17	0,8	2.210	0,58%	
1	4	Temp / Full time	Analyst, technical issues	130	18	0,8	2.340	0,62%	
1	5	Temp / Full time	Analyst, technical issues	130	35	1,6	4.550	1,20%	
1	6	Temp / Full time	Analyst, technical issues	130	18	0,8	2.340	0,62%	
2	1	Perm / Full time	Pr. Supervisor, St. Comm. member	700	8	0,4	5.600	1,47%	
2	3	Perm / Full time	Pr. Supervisor, St. Comm. member	700	6	0,3	4.200	1,11%	
2	4	Perm / Full time	Pr. Supervisor, St. Comm. member	700	10	0,5	7.000	1,84%	
2	6	Perm / Full time	Pr. Supervisor, St. Comm. member	700	6	0,3	4.200	1,11%	
2	1	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	300	24	1,1	7.200	1,90%	
2	3	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	300	44	2,0	13.200	3,48%	
2	4	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	300	62	2,8	18.600	4,90%	

FORM F1

Proposal acronym: AQUA

Direct Personnel costs

Beneficiary number	Action number	Type of contract	Category/Role in the project	Calculation =>			A X B	% of total direct personnel costs for the project
				A	B	C = B/Productive days per month		
				Daily rate (rounded to the nearest €)	Number of person-days	Number of person-months	Direct personnel costs	
2	6	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	300	20	0,9	6.000	1,58%
2	4	Temp / Full time	Junior Analyst, data analysis	130	15	0,7	1.950	0,51%
2	6	Temp / Full time	Junior Analyst, commun. issues	130	15	0,7	1.950	0,51%
3	1	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	260	40	1,8	10.400	2,74%
3	2	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	260	40	1,8	10.400	2,74%
3	3	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	260	80	3,6	20.800	5,48%
3	4	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	260	20	0,9	5.200	1,37%
3	5	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	260	12	0,5	3.120	0,82%
3	6	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	260	14	0,6	3.640	0,96%
3	1	Temp / Full time	Technician, data analysis	140	33	1,5	4.620	1,22%
3	2	Temp / Full time	Technician, data analysis	140	32	1,5	4.480	1,18%
3	3	Temp / Full time	Technician, data analysis	140	138	6,3	19.320	5,09%
3	4	Temp / Full time	Technician, data analysis	140	34	1,5	4.760	1,25%
3	5	Temp / Full time	Technician, data analysis	140	28	1,3	3.920	1,03%
3	6	Temp / Full time	Technician, data analysis	140	31	1,4	4.340	1,14%
4	1	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	350	15	0,7	5.250	1,38%
4	3	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	350	5	0,2	1.750	0,46%
4	5	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	350	30	1,4	10.500	2,76%
4	6	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	350	25	1,1	8.750	2,30%
4	1	Perm / Full time	Technician, data analysis	250	11	0,5	2.750	0,72%
4	3	Perm / Full time	Technician, data analysis	250	13	0,6	3.250	0,86%
4	5	Perm / Full time	Technician, data analysis	250	30	1,4	7.500	1,97%
4	6	Perm / Full time	Technician, data analysis	250	33	1,5	8.250	2,17%
5	1	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	330	8	0,4	2.640	0,70%
5	3	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	330	10	0,5	3.300	0,87%

FORM F1

Direct Personnel costs

Beneficiary number	Action number	Type of contract	Category/Role in the project	Calculation =>		A Daily rate (rounded to the nearest €)	B Number of person-days	C = B/P Productive days per month Number of person-months	A X B Direct personnel costs	% of total direct personnel costs for the project
				A	B					
5	5	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	330	4	330	4	0,2	1.320	0,35%
5	6	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	330	32	330	32	1,5	10.560	2,78%
5	1	Temp / Full time	Junior Analyst, data analysis	80	40	80	40	1,8	3.200	0,84%
5	3	Temp / Full time	Junior Analyst, data analysis	80	34	80	34	1,5	2.720	0,72%
5	5	Temp / Full time	Junior Analyst, data analysis	80	20	80	20	0,9	1.600	0,42%
5	6	Temp / Full time	Junior Analyst, data analysis	80	120	80	120	5,5	9.600	2,53%
6	1	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	330	12	330	12	0,5	3.960	1,04%
6	2	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	330	18	330	18	0,8	5.940	1,56%
6	3	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	330	6	330	6	0,3	1.980	0,52%
6	4	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	330	10	330	10	0,5	3.300	0,87%
6	5	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	330	9	330	9	0,4	2.970	0,78%
6	6	Perm / Full time	Pr. Manager, St. Comm. member	330	12	330	12	0,5	3.960	1,04%
TOTAL =>							1775	80,7	379.770	100%

Please refer to the relevant instructions given in the explanatory notes for filling in these forms

Travel and subsistence costs

Beneficiary number	Action number	Destination (From / To)	Outside EU (YES / NO)	Purpose of trips and travelling, duration of trip (in days)	Calculation =>			% of total travel and subsistence costs
					A Travel costs	B Subsistence costs	A + B Total travel and subsistence costs	
5	1	Roma - Bologna	NO	Kick-Off Meeting & 1st Steering Comm., 1 person, 1 day	100	150	250	0,74%
5	1	Roma - Bologna	NO	2nd St. Comm., 1 person, 1 day	100	150	250	0,74%
5	1	Roma - Bologna	NO	3rd St. Comm., 1 person, 1 day	100	150	250	0,74%
5	1	Roma - Bologna	NO	4th St. Comm., 1 person, 1 day	100	150	250	0,74%
5	6	Roma - Bologna	NO	National Panel Launch Conference & Press Conference, 1 person, 1 day	100	150	250	0,74%
1	6	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	International Panel Launch Conference, 1st Panel Meeting & Press Conference, 3 persons, 2 days	1.500	900	2.400	7,06%
2	6	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	International Panel Launch Conference, 1st Panel Meeting & Press Conference, 2 persons, 2 days	1.000	600	1.600	4,71%
3	6	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	International Panel Launch Conference, 1st Panel Meeting & Press Conference, 2 persons, 2 days	1.000	600	1.600	4,71%
4	6	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	International Panel Launch Conference, 1st Panel Meeting & Press Conference, 2 persons, 2 days	1.000	600	1.600	4,71%
5	6	Roma - Bruxelles	NO	International Panel Launch Conference, 1st Panel Meeting & Press Conference, 1 person, 2 days	500	300	800	2,35%
6	6	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	International Panel Launch Conference, 1st Panel Meeting & Press Conference, 1 person, 2 days	500	300	800	2,35%
5	3	Roma - Bologna	NO	Nine Panel Meetings planned in Bologna, 1 person, 1 day	900	360	1.260	3,71%
5	1	Roma - Bologna	NO	Ten Technical Working Group Meetings in Bologna, 1 person, 1 day	1.000	1.500	2.500	7,36%

Travel and subsistence costs

Beneficiary number	Action number	Destination (From / To)	Outside EU (YES / NO)	Purpose of trips and persons travelling, duration of trip (in days)	Calculation =>			% of total travel and subsistence costs
					A Travel costs	B Subsistence costs	A + B Total travel and subsistence costs	
1	3	Bologna - Roma	NO	One Focus Group Meeting & Press Conference in Rome, 2 persons, 2 days	200	600	800	2,35%
2	3	Bologna - Roma	NO	One Focus Group Meeting & Press Conference in Rome, 2 persons, 2 days	200	600	800	2,35%
3	3	Bologna - Roma	NO	One Focus Group Meeting & Press Conference in Rome, 2 persons, 2 days	200	600	800	2,35%
4	3	Bologna - Roma	NO	One Focus Group Meeting & Press Conference in Rome, 2 persons, 2 days	200	600	800	2,35%
6	3	Bologna - Roma	NO	One Focus Group Meeting & Press Conference in Rome, 1 person, 2 days	100	300	400	1,18%
2	3	From Bologna to the other Provinces in Emilia-Romagna	NO	Nine Focus Groups, one for every of the nine Provinces in the Emilia-Romagna region, 1 person, 9 local travels	900	180	1.080	3,18%
3	3	From Bologna to the other Provinces in Emilia-Romagna	NO	Nine Focus Groups, one for every of the nine Provinces in the Emilia-Romagna region, 1 person, 9 local travels	900	180	1.080	3,18%
4	3	From Bologna to the other Provinces in Emilia-Romagna	NO	Nine Focus Groups, one for every of the nine Provinces in the Emilia-Romagna region, 1 person, 9 local travels	900	180	1.080	3,18%
6	3	From Bologna to the other Provinces in Emilia-Romagna	NO	Nine Focus Groups, one for every of the nine Provinces in the Emilia-Romagna region, 1 person, 9 local travels	900	180	1.080	3,18%
1	1	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	First meeting with the EU Commission about project's progress, 1 person, 2 days	500	300	800	2,35%
3	1	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	First meeting with the EU Commission about project's progress, 1 person, 2 days	500	300	800	2,35%
1	1	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	Second meeting with the EU Commission about project's progress, 1 person, 2 days	500	300	800	2,35%

Travel and subsistence costs

Proposal acronym: AQUA

Beneficiary number	Action number	Destination (From / To)	Outside EU (YES / NO)	Purpose of travel/number of trips and persons travelling, duration of trip (in days)	Calculation =>	A			B		A + B		% of total travel and subsistence costs
						Travel costs	Subsistence costs	Total travel and subsistence costs	Subsistence costs	Total travel and subsistence costs			
3	1	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	Second meeting with the EU Commission about project's progress, 1 person, 2 days	500	300	800	800	300	800	2,35%		
5	1	Roma - Bologna	NO	National Final Conference & Press Conference in Bologna, 1 person, 1 day	100	150	250	250	150	250	0,74%		
2	1	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	International Final Conference in Bruxelles & Press Conference, 3 persons, 2 days	1.500	900	2.400	2.400	900	2.400	7,06%		
3	1	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	International Final Conference in Bruxelles & Press Conference, 2 persons, 2 days	1.000	600	1.600	1.600	600	1.600	4,71%		
4	1	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	International Final Conference in Bruxelles & Press Conference, 2 persons, 2 days	1.000	600	1.600	1.600	600	1.600	4,71%		
5	1	Roma - Bruxelles	NO	International Final Conference in Bruxelles & Press Conference, 2 persons, 2 days	1.000	600	1.600	1.600	600	1.600	4,71%		
6	1	Bologna - Bruxelles	NO	International Final Conference in Bruxelles & Press Conference, 1 person, 2 days	500	300	800	800	300	800	2,35%		
TOTAL =>						20.000	13.980	33.980	13.980	33.980	100%		

Please refer to the relevant instructions given in the explanatory notes for filling in these forms

External assistance costs

Beneficiary number	Action number	Procedure	Description	Costs (€)	% of total external assistance costs
1	1	Evaluation of offers	External audit	5.000	1,77%
1	1	Evaluation of offers	Administrative and financial support	20.000	7,09%
1	2	Evaluation of offers	Assistance for international review of best practices and training plan	5.000	1,77%
1	3	Evaluation of offers	Assistance for Water Saving Panel establishment and production of water saving kit	10.000	3,55%
1	4	Evaluation of offers	Assistance for the local application of water saving kit and testing	10.000	3,55%
1	5	Evaluation of offers	Assistance for evaluation of results and guidelines production	10.000	3,55%
1	6	Evaluation of offers	Assistance for the communication and dissemination actions	10.000	3,55%
2	1	Direct Treaty	Administrative and financial support	5.000	1,77%
2	4	Direct Treaty	Assistance for the local application of water saving kit and testing	50.000	17,73%
2	6	Direct Treaty	Assistance for action 6	8.000	2,84%
3	1	Direct Treaty	Administrative and financial support	15.000	5,32%
3	2	Direct Treaty	Assistance for international review of best practices and training plan	5.000	1,77%
3	3	Direct Treaty	Assistance for Water Saving Panel establishment and production of water saving kit	19.000	6,74%
3	4	Direct Treaty	Assistance for the local application of water saving kit and testing	10.000	3,55%
3	5	Direct Treaty	Assistance for evaluation of results and guidelines production	10.000	3,55%
3	6	Direct Treaty	Assistance for the communication and dissemination actions	13.000	4,61%
4	1	Evaluation of offers	Administrative and financial support	5.000	1,77%

External assistance costs

Beneficiary number	Action number	Procedure	Description	Costs (€)	% of total external assistance costs
4	3	Evaluation of offers	Assistance for Water Saving Panel establishment and production of water saving kit	5.000	1,77%
4	4	Evaluation of offers	Assistance for the local application of water saving kit and testing	5.000	1,77%
4	5	Evaluation of offers	Assistance for evaluation of results and guidelines production	5.000	1,77%
4	6	Evaluation of offers	Assistance for the communication and dissemination actions	3.000	1,06%
5	1	Direct Treaty	Administrative and financial support	5.000	1,77%
5	3	Direct Treaty	Assistance for Water Saving Panel establishment and production of water saving kit	3.000	1,06%
5	5	Direct Treaty	Assistance for evaluation of results and guidelines production	3.000	1,06%
5	6	Direct Treaty	Assistance for action 6, including the project web site creation and management	7.000	2,48%
6	1	Direct Treaty	Administrative and financial support	3.000	1,06%
6	2	Direct Treaty	Assistance for international review of best practices and training plan	6.000	2,13%
6	4	Direct Treaty	Assistance for the local application of water saving kit and testing	3.000	1,06%
6	5	Direct Treaty	Assistance for evaluation of results and guidelines production	2.000	0,71%
6	6	Direct Treaty	Assistance for the communication and dissemination actions	2.000	0,71%
1	3	Evaluation of offers	Fees for water saving panel experts	8.000	2,84%
2	3	Direct treaty	Fees for water saving panel experts	3.000	1,06%
3	3	Direct treaty	Fees for water saving panel experts	3.000	1,06%
4	3	Evaluation of offers	Fees for water saving panel experts	3.000	1,06%
5	3	Direct treaty	Fees for water saving panel experts	1.000	0,35%

FORM F3

Proposal acronym: AQUA

External assistance costs

Beneficiary number	Action number	Procedure	Description	Costs (€)	% of total external assistance costs
6	3	Direct treaty	Fees for water saving panel experts	2.000	0.71%
TOTAL =>				282.000	100%

Please refer to the relevant instructions given in the explanatory notes for filling in these forms

Proposal acronym: AQUA

Durable goods: Infrastructure costs

Beneficiary number	Action number	Procedure	Description	Actual cost	Depreciation (eligible cost)	% of total Infrastructure costs	#DIV/0!
				0		0	#DIV/0!
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TOTAL =>				0		0	#DIV/0!

Please refer to Articles 25.6 to 25.9 of the Common Provisions to see if the infrastructure in question is subject to depreciation and what depreciation rates should be applied

Please refer to the relevant instructions given in the explanatory notes for filling in these forms

FORM F6

Proposal acronym: AQUA

Consumables

Beneficiary number	Action number	Procedure	Description	Cost (€)	% of total Consumable Costs
2	6	Direct treaty	12 notice boards and "roll-ups" with logo and information about the project	3.000	5,77%
1	6	Evaluation of offers	brochures with information about the project's progress (at least 1.000 copies in English and 1.500 in Italian, posters for all the project's events)	4.000	7,69%
5	6	Direct treaty	web site creation and maintenance during the 30 months of project duration and also after its end for the next five years, utilising Italian and English as languages	1.000	1,92%
1	6	Evaluation of offers	water conservation kit, validated in action 5, with elaboration of six newsletters to be developed and diffused via web and partners' articles on local/national press and/or radio/TV media	10.000	19,23%
1	6	Evaluation of offers	Layman's report (700 copies of which 500 in Italian and 200 in English)	4.000	7,69%
2	6	Direct treaty	500 USB keys and 1.000 DVD with project results, to be disseminated during the project's life	3.000	5,77%
4	6	Evaluation of offers	two press conferences, of which one in Brussels and one in realisation of videos during all the official project's events, to be made available on web	3.000	5,77%
5	6	Direct treaty	dissemination material to be distributed at the international events planned in Brussels and Bologna	2.000	3,85%
3	6	Direct treaty	promotional material for the training sessions	4.000	7,69%
6	6	Direct treaty	communication material & photocopies for internal sessions (Panel meetings, Steering Comm, Techn Work. Gr., Kit Adapt. workshops, evaluation workshops, Water Alliance present)	3.000	5,77%
				4.000	7,69%
			TOTAL =>	52.000	100%

Please refer to the relevant instructions given in the explanatory notes for filling in these forms

Annex 1
Support letters

Bagnacavallo, 24 Marzo 2010

I, Marco Casalini, as President - Legal Representative of the company COOPERATIVA TERREMERSE SOC. COOP with legal address Via Cà del Vento, 21 Bagnacavallo (RA) in declare our interest in taking part in the project Adoption of Quality water Use in Agro-industry sector - AQUA (LIFE09 ENV/IT/075), by means of joining the Water Alliance and contributing to the realization of the project objectives, for what concerns our competences.

Il Presidente

Marco Casalini


TERREMERSE Soc. Coop.
Via Cà del Vento, 21
48012 BAGNACAVALLO (RA)

GRANAROLO

Spett.le

ARPA EMILIA ROMAGNA

Direzione tecnica

Dr.ssa Donatella Ferri

Responsabile CTR Acque Interne

largo Caduti del Lavoro, 6

40122 Bologna

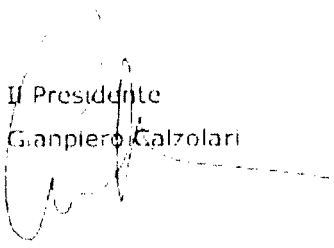
Bologna, 29 marzo 2010

Io, Gianpiero Calzolari, in qualità di Presidente dell'azienda Granarolo S.p.A. dichiaro il nostro interesse a partecipare al progetto Adoption of Quality water Use in Agro-industry sector - AQUA (LIFE09 ENV/IT/075), prendendo parte all'Alleanza per l'acqua e contribuendo attivamente, per ciò che ci compete, al raggiungimento degli obiettivi di progetto.

I, Gianpiero Calzolari, as President of the company Granarolo S.p.A declare our interest in taking part in the project Adoption of Quality water Use in Agro-industry sector - AQUA (LIFE09 ENV/IT/075), by means of joining the Water Alliance and contributing to the realization of the project objectives, for what concerns our competences.

Cordiali saluti

Il Presidente
Gianpiero Calzolari



Io Checcoli Egidio, in qualità di Presidente dell'azienda Fruttigel S.C.p.A., dichiaro il ns. interesse a partecipare al progetto Adoption of Quality water Use in Agro-industry sector – AQUA (LIFE09ENV/IT/075), prendendo parte all'Alleanza per l'acqua e contribuendo attivamente, per ciò che ci compete, al raggiungimento degli obiettivi di progetto.

I, Checcoli Egidio, as president of the company Fruttigel S.C.p.A. declare our interest in taking part in the project Adoption of Quality water Use in Agro-Industry sector - AQUA (LIFE09ENV/IT/075), by means of joining the Water Alliance and contributing to the realization of the project objectives, for what concerns our competences.

Il Presidente

Egidio Checcoli

FRUTTAGEL Società Cooperativa Agricola per Azioni

Sede: Via Nullo Baldini, 26 - 48011 ALFONSINE (RA) - C.P. n. 136 - Tel. 0544 866511 - Fax Servizi Generali: 0544 83609 - Fax Uff. Ricezione Ordini: 0544 866557
C.F. e Iscr. Reg. Impr. RA 01529420356 - P. IVA 01271980391 - REA RA: N. 132485 - C. ISO: IT 01271980391 - Albo Soc. Coop.ve a mutualità prevalente N° A104475
E-mail: segreteria@fruttigel.it - sito internet: www.fruttigel.it



**Cooperativa
Agricola
Cesenate**

Cesena, 30/03/2010

Spett.le

ARPA Emilia Romagna
Dr.ssa Donatella Ferri
Responsabile CTR Acque Interne
Direzione tecnica
Largo Caduti del Lavoro 6
40122 Bologna

Io, PIERSANTI GIOVANNI, in qualità di Presidente e Legale Rappresentante dell'azienda COOPERATIVA AGRICOLA CESENATE Società Cooperativa Agricola, con sede in Martorano di Cesena (FC) - Via Calcinaro, 1450 dichiaro il nostro interesse a partecipare al progetto Adoption of Quality water Use in Agro-industry sector - AQUA (LIFE09 ENV/IT/075), prendendo parte all'Alleanza per l'acqua e contribuendo attivamente, per ciò che ci compete, al raggiungimento degli obiettivi di progetto.

I, PIERSANTI GIOVANNI as the President and Legal Representative of the company COOPERATIVA AGRICOLA CESENATE Società Cooperativa Agricola with legal headquarters and operative offices in Martorano di Cesena (FC) Via Calcinaro, 1450 - Italy, declare our interest in taking part in the project Adoption of Quality water Use in Agro-industry sector - AQUA (LIFE09 ENV/IT/075), by means of joining the Water Alliance and contributing to the realization of the project objectives, for what concerns our competences.

C.A.C. Soc. Coop. Agr.
Il Presidente
(Giovanni Piersanti)

COOPERATIVA AGRICOLA CESENATE
Società Cooperativa Agricola
47020 Martorano di Cesena - Italia
via Calcinaro, 1450
tel. +39 0547 613511
fax +39 0547 381002
fax uff. comm. +39 0547 383417

numero tel. 800 2404069
c.c.a. n. 000577
R.E.A. Forlì-Cesena n. 31805
Albo delle Società Cooperative
a mutualità prevalente
Sett. Agricolo - n. A*01805
<http://www.caccesena.it>
e-mail: cac@caccesena.it

Iscritta al n. 1
elenco O.P.
Regione
Emilia Romagna
(L.R. 24/90).



Io, MORITZ PIGNATTI, in qualità di Direttore dell'azienda ITALCARNI Società Cooperativa Agricola dichiaro il nostro interesse a partecipare al progetto Adoption of Quality water Use in Agro-industry sector - AQUA (LIFE09 ENV/IT/075), prendendo parte all'Alleanza per l'acqua e contribuendo attivamente, per ciò che ci compete, al raggiungimento degli obiettivi di progetto.

I, MORITZ PIGNATTI, as Director of the company ITALCARNI Società Cooperativa Agricola declare our interest in taking part in the project Adoption of Quality water Use in Agro-industry sector - AQUA (LIFE09 ENV/IT/075), by means of joining the Water Alliance and contributing to the realization of the project objectives, for what concerns our competences.

ITALCARNI
Società Cooperativa Agricola
IL DIRETTORE

Carpi, 26/03/2010



COMMON PROVISIONS

2009

COMMON PROVISIONS

PART I - Legal and Administrative Provisions

Article 1 - References

All LIFE+ projects shall be carried out in accordance with, in order of precedence:

- Regulation (EC) No 614/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 May 2007 (LIFE+)¹,
- The special provisions of the grant agreement sent for signature to the coordinating beneficiary,
- These common provisions included in the grant agreement,
- The project proposal (hereinafter referred to as "the project") identified in the grant agreement (Annex I),

which form an integral part of the grant agreement.

Article 2 - Responsible Commission service and correspondence

- 2.1 For the purposes of implementation of the provisions set out below, the Commission shall be represented by the Directorate-General for the Environment in the person of its authorising officer or authorising officer by sub-delegation.
- 2.2 All correspondence must bear the identification number and project title and must be sent to the following address:

LIFE + projects on Nature & Biodiversity, LIFE + project on Information and Communication dealing with Nature and Biodiversity issues:

**European Commission
Directorate-General Environment
Unit ENV.E.3 - BU-9 2/58
B - 1049 Brussels**

LIFE + projects on Environment Policy and Governance, LIFE + project on Information and Communication not dealing with Nature and Biodiversity issues:

**European Commission
Directorate-General Environment
Unit ENV.E.4 - BU-9 2/1
B - 1049 Brussels**

A copy of all correspondence must be sent to the external monitoring team designated by the Commission.

Mail shall be considered to have been received by the Commission on the date on which it is formally registered by the responsible Commission unit referred above.

¹ OJ L 149, 9.6.2007, p. 1.

Article 3 - Participants

LIFE+ projects may involve four types of "participants", depending on their roles and obligations:

- coordinating beneficiary,
- associated beneficiary(ies),
- co-financier(s),
- subcontractor(s).

Article 4 - Role and obligations of the coordinating beneficiary

- 4.1 By "coordinating beneficiary" is meant the person or entity which is solely legally and financially responsible to the Commission for the full implementation of the project measures in order to achieve the project objectives and for the dissemination of the project results.
- 4.2 The coordinating beneficiary, through the mandate annexed to the grant agreement, is granted power of attorney by the associated beneficiaries, to act in their name and for their account in signing the grant agreement and its possible subsequent amendments with the Commission.
- 4.3 The coordinating beneficiary accepts all the provisions of the agreement with the Commission.
- 4.4 By virtue of the mandate signed, the coordinating beneficiary alone is entitled to receive funds from the Commission and distribute the amounts corresponding to the associated beneficiaries' participation in the project and as specified in the agreements established between the associated beneficiaries as stipulated in Article 4.8.
- 4.5 Whenever an associated beneficiary/co-financier reduces its financial contribution, it shall be incumbent upon the coordinating beneficiary, in agreement with its associated beneficiaries, to find the necessary resources to ensure correct implementation of the project. In no case shall the Commission increase its contribution or the rate of co-financing.
- 4.6 Notwithstanding the provisions in Article 24, the coordinating beneficiary shall contribute financially to the project.
- 4.7 The coordinating beneficiary shall be the single point of contact for the Commission and shall be the only participant to report directly to the Commission on the technical and financial progress of the project. The coordinating beneficiary shall therefore provide to the Commission all the necessary reports, in accordance with Article 12.
- 4.8 The coordinating beneficiary shall conclude with all associated beneficiaries agreements describing their technical and financial participation in the project. Such agreements shall be fully compatible with the grant agreement signed with the Commission, shall make a precise reference to the present common provisions and shall have, as a minimum, the contents described in the Guidelines issued by the Commission. They shall be signed by the coordinating beneficiary and the associated beneficiaries and notified to the Commission within nine months from the starting date of the project. The provisions of the grant agreement, including the mandate (Articles 5.2 and 5.3), shall take precedence over any other

agreement between the associated beneficiary and the coordinating beneficiary which may have an effect on the implementation of the above agreement between the coordinating beneficiary and the Commission.

Article 5 - Role and obligations of associated beneficiaries

- 5.1 The associated beneficiaries are exclusively the organisations identified as such in the project and committed to the project implementation through relevant forms. The associated beneficiary shall sign the agreement foreseen in Article 4.8 and be directly involved in the technical implementation of one or more tasks of the project.
- 5.2 The associated beneficiary, through the mandate annexed to the grant agreement, grants power of attorney to the coordinating beneficiary, to act in his name and for his account in signing the grant agreement and its possible subsequent amendments with the Commission. Accordingly, the associated beneficiary mandates the coordinating beneficiary to take full legal responsibility for the implementation of the agreement.
- 5.3 The associated beneficiary accepts all the provisions of the agreement with the Commission, in particular all provisions affecting the associated beneficiary and the coordinating beneficiary. In particular, he acknowledges that, by virtue of the mandate signed, the coordinating beneficiary alone is entitled to receive funds from the Commission and distribute the amounts corresponding to the associated beneficiary's participation in the action.
- 5.4 The associated beneficiary shall do everything in his power to help the coordinating beneficiary fulfil the coordinating beneficiary's obligations under the grant agreement. In particular, the associated beneficiary hereby shall provide to the co-ordinating beneficiary whatever documents or information (technical and financial) may be required, as soon as possible after receiving the request from the coordinating beneficiary.
- 5.5 Each associated beneficiary must contribute financially to the project and shall benefit from the financial contribution from the Commission in the conditions stipulated in the agreement foreseen in Article 4.8.
- 5.6 The associated beneficiaries shall not report directly to the Commission on the technical and financial progress unless explicitly requested to do so by the Commission.

Article 6 - Common obligations for both the coordinating beneficiary and the associated beneficiaries

- 6.1 The coordinating beneficiary and the associated beneficiaries shall maintain up-to-date books of account, in accordance with the normal accounting conventions imposed on them by law and existing regulations. For the sake of traceability of expenditure and income, an analytical accounting system (cost centre accounting) shall be put in place. The coordinating beneficiary and the associated beneficiaries shall retain, throughout the project and for at least five years after the final payment, all appropriate supporting documentation for all expenditure, income and revenue for the project as reported to the Commission, such as tender documents, invoices, purchase orders, proof of payments, salary slips, time sheets and any other documents used for the calculation and presentation of costs. This documentation shall be clear, precise and effective and shall be submitted to the

Commission when requested. The coordinating beneficiary shall retain copies of all supporting documents of all the associated beneficiaries.

- 6.2 The coordinating beneficiary and the associated beneficiaries shall ensure that all invoices include a clear reference to the project, linking them to the analytical accounting system.
- 6.3 The coordinating beneficiary and the associated beneficiaries shall ensure that the Community support is publicised, as detailed in Article 13.
- 6.4 The coordinating beneficiary and the associated beneficiaries shall share freely the know-how necessary for implementation of the project.
- 6.5 The coordinating beneficiary shall not act, in the context of the project, as sub-contractor or supplier to the associated beneficiaries. The associated beneficiaries shall not act, in the context of the project, as sub-contractor or supplier to the coordinating beneficiary or other associated beneficiaries.

Article 7 - Project co-financiers

- 7.1 Co-financiers shall only contribute financially to the project, shall not be directly involved in the technical implementation of the project and shall not benefit from the Community funding.
- 7.2 The coordinating beneficiary and/or its associated beneficiaries shall conclude with co-financiers any agreements necessary to ensure co-funding, provided these do not infringe the obligations of the coordinating beneficiary and/or associated beneficiaries, as stated in the grant agreement.

Article 8 - Subcontractors

- 8.1 For specific tasks of a fixed duration, a project may also include subcontractors, who shall not be considered as associated beneficiaries.
- 8.2 Subcontractors shall provide external services to the coordinating beneficiary and/or associated beneficiaries, who shall pay the full price corresponding to the service provided.
- 8.3 Subcontractors shall make no financial investment in the project and, therefore, shall not benefit from any intellectual property rights arising from the project.
- 8.4 Any public coordinating beneficiary/associated beneficiary must award subcontracts in accordance with the applicable rules on public tendering, in conformity with Community Directives on public tendering procedures.

For contracts exceeding €125 000, any private coordinating beneficiary / associated beneficiary shall invite competitive tenders from potential subcontractors and award the contract to the bid offering best value for money; in doing so it shall observe the principles of transparency and equal treatment of potential subcontractors and shall take care to avoid any conflict of interest.

The rules on tendering referred to in the previous two paragraphs shall also apply in case of purchase of durable goods.

- 8.5 All invoices issued by subcontractors shall bear a clear reference to the LIFE+ project (i.e. number and title or short title) and to the order/subcontract issued by the coordinating beneficiary/associated beneficiary. All invoices shall also be sufficiently detailed as to allow identification of single items covered by the service delivered (i.e. clear description and cost of each item).

Article 9 - Role of external monitoring teams

- 9.1 To follow up the project, the Commission shall be supported by external monitoring teams. The monitoring teams shall assist by following and assessing the project's progress and its coherence with the incurred costs. They shall act strictly as an advisory body to the Commission. The monitoring teams shall be independent from the projects. The monitoring teams shall verify the project's implementation and provide assessments of the reports submitted to the Commission.
- 9.2 Monitoring teams shall not be authorised to take any decision on behalf of the Commission. A recommendation or a statement provided by the monitoring teams to the coordinating beneficiary or to the associated beneficiaries cannot be interpreted as representing a position of the Commission.
- 9.3 The external monitoring teams shall act under the same confidentiality rules as those established between the participants in the project and the Commission (as stipulated in Article 20).

Article 10 - Civil liability

- 10.1 The Commission may not, under any circumstances or for any reason whatsoever, be held liable in the event of claims deriving from the grant agreement concerning any damage or injury while the project is being carried out. No claim for compensation or repayment accompanying such a complaint shall be accepted by the Commission.
- 10.2 The coordinating beneficiary shall exonerate the Commission from any liability connected to the relationship with their associated beneficiaries or to the agreements signed in this context.
- 10.3 The coordinating beneficiary and associated beneficiaries shall assume sole liability towards third parties, including for damage of any kind sustained by them while the project is being carried out.

Article 11 - Conflict of interest

- 11.1 The coordinating beneficiary and all associated beneficiaries undertake to take all the necessary measures to prevent any risk of conflicts of interest which could affect the impartial and objective performance of the grant agreement. Such conflicts of interest could arise in particular as a result of economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional reasons, or any other shared interest.
- 11.2 Any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interest during the performance of the grant agreement must be brought to the attention of the Commission, in writing, without delay. The coordinating beneficiary and all associated beneficiaries shall, without delay, take whatever steps are necessary to rectify this situation. The Commission reserves the right to check that the measures taken are appropriate and may itself take further action if this is deemed necessary.

Article 12 - Technical activity reports

12.1 The coordinating beneficiary must regularly inform the Commission on the progress and on the achievements of the LIFE+ project through the submission of the following reports:

- One inception report, to be delivered within nine months of the project start;
- One final report, to be delivered within three months of the project end;
- For projects with a duration exceeding 24 months and a Community contribution of more than € 300 000, one mid-term report, to be delivered, together with the request for mid-term pre-financing, after the threshold defined in Article 28.3 has been reached;
- Any progress reports needed to ensure that the delay between consecutive reports does not exceed 18 months.

Exceptionally, if the threshold defined in Article 28.3 is reached within the first nine months of the project duration, the inception report and the mid-term report might be merged into one.

Information concerning the technical and/or financial management of the project can be requested by the Commission at any time.

12.2 The form and contents of the reports shall be in accordance with the Guidelines issued by the Commission.

All reports shall contain the necessary information for the Commission to evaluate the state of implementation of the project, the respect of the work plan, the financial situation of the project and whether the project's objectives have been achieved or are still achievable. Inception, mid-term and final reports shall also contain the information described in the relevant Articles, 12.5 to 12.7.

12.3 All reports, in both paper and electronic versions, shall be simultaneously forwarded to the Commission and to the external monitoring team designated by the Commission, both of them receiving one complete copy of the technical reports, including annexes, and one copy of the statement of expenditure and income.

12.4 The coordinating beneficiary shall submit a copy of the final report to the Member State authorities. These latter also have the right to ask for a copy of the mid-term report.

12.5 Inception report

In addition to the information required in Article 12.2, the inception report shall contain an assessment as to whether the project objectives and work plan are still valid. On the basis of the inception report submitted by the coordinating beneficiary, and if the project's objectives are not achievable or the work plan is not feasible, the Commission may launch an early termination procedure, in accordance with Article 19.

12.6 Mid-term report

In addition to the information required in Article 12.2, the mid-term report shall contain a statement of expenditure and income and sufficient information to allow for a preliminary assessment of the eligibility of costs incurred so far.

12.7 *Final report*

In addition to the information required in Article 12.2, the final report shall contain a statement of expenditure and income and all the information necessary for the Commission to evaluate the eligibility of costs incurred and the sustainability in the future of the project results.

Article 13 - Communication actions, publicity for Community support and audio-visual products

- 13.1 The coordinating beneficiary and associated beneficiaries shall publicise the project and its results, always mentioning the Community support received. Details of this activity shall be given in each activity report.
- 13.2 The coordinating beneficiary and associated beneficiaries shall acknowledge the support given by the Community in all documents and media produced in the framework of the project, using the LIFE logo provided by the Commission. For audio-visual material, the credits at the beginning and/or at the end shall include an explicit and readable mention of the LIFE support (e.g. "With the contribution of the LIFE financial instrument of the European Community").
- 13.3 The LIFE logo may not be referred to as a certified quality label or eco-label. Its use shall be restricted to dissemination activities.
- 13.4 The coordinating beneficiary shall create a project website or use an existing website for the dissemination of project activities, progress and results. The web address where the main results of the project are available to the public shall be indicated in the reports. This website shall be online at the latest six months after the start of the project, shall be regularly updated and shall be kept for at least five years after the end of the project.
- 13.5 The coordinating beneficiary and associated beneficiaries shall erect and maintain notice boards describing the project at the locations where it is implemented, at strategic places accessible and visible to the public. The LIFE logo shall appear on them at all times.
- 13.6 For LIFE+ Nature projects, the obligations in Article 13.2 and in Article 13.5 also apply for the Natura 2000 logo. The project's importance in terms of establishing the Natura 2000 network must be described in the notice boards.
- 13.7 A summary of the project, including name and contact information of the coordinating beneficiary, will be placed on the LIFE website and made available to the general public.
- 13.8 All durable goods acquired in the framework of the project shall bear the LIFE logo unless otherwise specified by the Commission.
- 13.9 Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 20, the Commission shall be authorised to publish, in whatever form and in whatever medium, including the Internet, all the information related to the project or produced by the project that it considers relevant. The coordinating beneficiary and all associated beneficiaries shall grant the Commission the non-exclusive right to reproduce, to dub if necessary, to distribute or to use any audio-visual document produced by the project, completely or partly, without time limit, for non-commercial purposes, including during public events. Nevertheless, the Commission shall not be considered as "co-producer". The Commission reserves the right to use the photographs submitted in the various reports referred to in Article 12 to illustrate any

information material it produces. It undertakes to credit these by indicating the project reference number.

Article 14 - Spatial data

Electronic tools, which include spatial data and are produced in the frame of a LIFE+ project, shall comply with the Directive 2007/2/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 March 2007 establishing an Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community (INSPIRE)².

Article 15 - Amendment to the agreement

- 15.1 The coordinating beneficiary shall inform the Commission, in the technical reports or by letter, of any changes to the project as detailed in the grant agreement. Changes that would fundamentally alter the overall objectives of the project, that would call into question the grant award decision or that would be contrary to the equal treatment of applicants will not be accepted.
- 15.2 When the changes are substantial, written additional agreement by the Commission must be issued. Substantial changes are:
- Significant changes to the nature or content of actions and/or deliverables;
 - Changes of the legal status of the coordinating beneficiary or of an associated beneficiary;
 - Changes to the project partnership structure;
 - Changes to the duration of the project;
 - Changes to the provisional project budget, increasing by more than 10 % and € 30 000 the costs foreseen in one or more categories of expenditure. These thresholds shall apply to each of the three subcategories of durable goods. They shall not apply to the category of "overheads", for which the limit stipulated in Article 25.13 may not be exceeded.
- 15.3 In the cases foreseen in Article 15.2 the coordinating beneficiary shall submit a formal request for changes, in accordance with the Guidelines issued by the Commission. When a request for changes includes modifications of the project partnership and/or of the budget made available by an associated beneficiary or a co-financier, the associated beneficiary / co-financier involved shall also sign the modification request. The Commission reserves the right to accept or to refuse the request and may decide not to take into consideration any request received later than three months before the end of the project.

Article 16 - Delayed performance

- 16.1 The starting date of a project is the date indicated in the special provisions of the grant agreement, irrespective of the dates of signature of the grant agreement or of the payment of the first pre-financing.
- 16.2 The coordinating beneficiary shall inform the Commission, without delay and with full details, of any event that is liable to obstruct or delay the performance of the project. The parties concerned shall agree on the measures to be taken.

² OJ L 108, 25.4.2007, p. 1.

- 16.3 The Commission reserves the right to terminate the grant agreement or cancel the grant, where a significant delay would occur, that would lead to a reduction in the value of the results.

Article 17 - Postponement of the end date

- 17.1 A postponement of the end date of a project may be granted only in unforeseeable, exceptional circumstances, which make the implementation of one or more project actions impossible for a certain period of time.
- 17.2 A request for postponement of the end date of a project must be submitted in accordance with the Guidelines issued by the Commission and include sufficient information for the Commission to assess the justification for the delays and the feasibility of a revised work plan. The Commission reserves the right to accept or to refuse the request and may decide not to take into consideration any request received later than three months before the end of the project.

Article 18 - Reduction in performances and technical failures

The Commission reserves the right to reduce as appropriate the Community co-financing if substantial quantitative or qualitative reductions occur in the implementation of project actions.

Article 19 - Termination of the project

- 19.1 The Commission may terminate the grant agreement, without any indemnity on its part:
- should the coordinating beneficiary, for no valid technical or economic reason, fail to fulfil a substantial obligation incumbent on him under the terms of the grant agreement;
 - in the event of *force majeure* or if the action has been suspended as a result of exceptional circumstances;
 - if it becomes clear that the project will not achieve its objectives; or
 - if the coordinating beneficiary is responsible for substantial irregularities in the management of a project.
- 19.2 For the purpose of the termination of a project, the Commission shall apply a standard procedure or an urgent procedure.
- 19.3 Standard procedure
- The Commission will send a first registered letter in which it indicates that the termination procedure has been initiated, explains the reasons for this, enjoins the coordinating beneficiary to comply with the obligations set by the grant agreement and invites him to reply within thirty days of receipt of this first letter.
 - After evaluation of any comments submitted by the coordinating beneficiary, the Commission will either annul or suspend the termination procedure, or send a second registered letter in which it will notify the coordinating beneficiary that the project is terminated and set the new end date of the project.

If the Commission does not receive a reply to its first letter within thirty days from the date of its receipt the project is considered to have ended on that deadline.

In all cases where the procedure ends in termination of the project, a final report is due within three months of the new end date of the project.

19.4 Urgent procedure

The Commission may terminate the grant agreement, with immediate effect, without notice and without paying compensation of any kind if:

- The coordinating beneficiary is declared bankrupt, is wound up or is the object of similar proceedings;
- The coordinating beneficiary deliberately made false or incomplete statements to obtain the Community financial contribution provided for in the agreement;
- The coordinating beneficiary has, intentionally or by negligence, committed a substantial irregularity in performing the agreement, which causes or might cause a loss to the Community budget;
- The coordinating beneficiary commits fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity, to the detriment of the Communities' financial interests; or
- The coordinating beneficiary is found guilty of an offence involving his professional conduct by a judgement having the force of *res judicata* or is guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any justified means.

In this case, the Commission will notify the coordinating beneficiary through a registered letter that the project is terminated with immediate effect. A final report is due within three months of the new end date of the project.

- 19.5 Termination of the grant agreement for financial irregularities shall be without prejudice to the application of other administrative measures or penalties which may be imposed in accordance with Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests³.

In the event of termination of the grant agreement, the Commission may demand full or partial repayment of amounts already paid. Only the information available at the end of the procedures described in Articles 19.3 and 19.4 will be considered to determine the amount of eligible expenditure.

- 19.6 The coordinating beneficiary may terminate the project at any time by giving formal written notice, provided valid economic or technical reasons exist. The coordinating beneficiary shall be under an obligation to present a final report, at the latest three months after the above mentioned formal written notice, outlining the status of the implementation of the project and the reasons for termination, together with a final statement of expenditure and income, on the basis of which the Commission will determine the amount of eligible expenditure. If no reasons are given or if the Commission does not accept the reasons, the coordinating beneficiary shall be deemed to have terminated this agreement improperly and the Commission may ask for repayment of amounts already paid.

³ OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1.

Article 20 - Confidentiality

The Commission and the coordinating beneficiary/associated beneficiaries undertake to preserve the confidentiality of any document, information or other material communicated to them in confidence, disclosure of which could harm another party. The parties shall remain bound by this obligation beyond the closing date of the project. The personal data included in the project will be placed on an electronic management tool, which is made available to the European Commission, to other EU institutions and to an external monitoring team, which are bound by a confidentiality agreement. This management tool is used exclusively to manage LIFE projects.

Article 21 - Protection of data

- 21.1 The coordinating beneficiary has the right to access data and information in possession of the Commission which concern its project, and to request possible corrections.
- 21.2 The Commission, the coordinating beneficiary and the associated beneficiaries will respect Regulation (EC) no 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data⁴.
- 21.3 Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 20, the coordinating beneficiary shall be aware of the obligations set by the Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents⁵.

Article 22 - Ownership and exploitation of results

- 22.1 The coordinating beneficiary and/or its associated beneficiaries shall be the owners of documents, possibly patentable or patented inventions and expertise obtained pursuant to the project.
- 22.2 The Commission, with a view to promoting the use of techniques or models favourable to the environment, attaches great importance to the coordinating beneficiary making these documents, patents and know-how available in the Community as soon as they are available, on non-discriminatory and reasonable commercial conditions.
- 22.3 The Commission expects the coordinating beneficiary and/or its associated beneficiaries to comply with Article 22.2 for a period of five years after termination of the project.
- 22.4 Should the coordinating beneficiary, for no legitimate reason, refuse to give access to these products or to grant licences under these conditions, the Commission reserves the right to apply the rules in Article 19 or, if the project has ended, to demand full or partial repayment of the Community contribution.

⁴ OJ L 8, 12.1.2001, p. 1.

⁵ OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43.

Article 23 - Law applicable and competent court

The Community contribution shall be governed by the terms of the grant agreement, the Community rules applicable and, on a subsidiary basis, by the law of Belgium relating to grants.

The coordinating beneficiary may bring legal proceedings regarding decisions by the Commission concerning the application of the provisions of the grant agreement and the arrangements for implementing it before the Court of First Instance of the European Communities and, in the event of an appeal, the Court of Justice of the European Communities.

PART II - Financial provisions

Article 24 - Community financial contribution to the project

- 24.1 The amount of the Community financial contribution shall be determined by applying the percentage specified in the grant agreement to the eligible costs incurred.
- 24.2 Under no circumstances may the total amount paid by the Commission to the coordinating beneficiary exceed the maximum amount set for the Community contribution in the grant agreement, even if the total actual eligible costs of a project exceed the budget set in the grant agreement.
- The coordinating beneficiary shall ensure that no other direct or indirect European Union funding is used to co-finance the project. If such a situation occurs during implementation of the project the coordinating beneficiary must inform the Commission without delay about the measures it intends to take to comply with its obligation. The independent auditor provided for in Article 31 shall check the sources of the project financing.
- 24.3 Notwithstanding the obligations set in Articles 4.6 and 5.5, the coordinating beneficiary and the associated beneficiaries accept that the Community contribution may not have the purpose or effect of producing a profit. Profit shall be defined as a surplus of receipts over the costs of the project when the request is made for final payment.
- 24.4 Receipts are defined as funds received from the Commission, associated beneficiaries and co-financiers and direct revenues generated, exclusively and directly, by the project (such as participation fees for conferences, sales of timber, etc).
- The coordinating beneficiary must ensure that any receipts generated by and during the implementation of the project shall be counted as direct revenue to the project.
- Such direct revenue shall always be declared and the Commission shall reduce its financial contribution in order to balance total income against total expenses.
- 24.5 Without prejudice to the right to terminate the agreement under Article 19, and without prejudice to the right of the Commission to apply the penalties referred to in Article 27, if an action is not implemented or is implemented poorly, partially or late, the Commission may proportionally reduce the Community contribution initially provided for in line with the actual implementation of the action on the terms laid down in the grant agreement.
- 24.6 The bank account or sub-account used by the coordinating beneficiary must make it possible to identify funds paid by the Commission. If the funds paid to this account yield interest or equivalent benefits under the law of the State on whose territory the account is opened, such interest or benefits shall, if they are generated by pre-financing payments, be recovered by the Commission as specified in Article 24.7.
- 24.7 The coordinating beneficiary shall inform the Commission of the amount of any interest or equivalent benefits yielded by the pre-financing amount it has received from the Commission. This notification must be made when the request for payment of the balance of the grant is made. The interest shall not be treated as

direct revenue for the project and will be recovered by the Commission by offsetting it against the payment of the balance.

In addition, where the pre-financing payment exceeds € 750 000 the interest or equivalent benefits yielded at end of any calendar year will be communicated by the coordinating beneficiary to the Commission by 31 January in the subsequent year. Such interest will be recovered by way of a recovery order.

As an exception, where the pre-financing payment is lower than € 50 000 interest accrued will not be due to the Commission.

Interest yielded by pre-financing paid to Member States is not due to the Commission.

- 24.8 The coordinating beneficiary and its associated beneficiaries, if any, accept that the Community financial contribution shall not constitute a claim on the Commission and may not, therefore, be assigned to any other body or transferred to a third party in any way.

Article 25 - Eligible costs

25.1 To be considered eligible, costs must be:

- provided for in the budget of the project or have been authorised through an amendment to the grant agreement;
- directly linked to, and necessary for, carrying out the project covered by the grant agreement;
- reasonable and comply with the principles of sound financial management, in particular in terms of value for money and cost-effectiveness;
- compliant with applicable tax and social legislation; and
- actually incurred during the lifetime of the project, as defined in the grant agreement, be recorded in the coordinating beneficiary's or any associated beneficiaries' accounts or tax documents, and be identifiable and controllable.

A cost shall be considered as incurred during the lifetime of the project when:

- the legal obligation to pay was contracted after the signature of the grant agreement by the Commission;
- the implementation of the corresponding action started after the start date for the project and was completed before the end date (the only exceptions are the cost of the bank guarantee covering the period after the signature of the grant agreement and before the start of the project and for the six months after the project end date and the cost of the independent audit referred to in Article 31); and
- the cost has been fully paid before the submission of the final financial statement of expenditure and income.

- 25.2 Personnel costs shall be charged in respect of the actual time devoted to the project. They shall be calculated on the basis of the actual gross salary or wages plus obligatory social charges and any other statutory costs included in the remuneration, but excluding any other cost. The time, which each employee spends working on the project, shall be recorded on a timely basis using timesheets or an equivalent time registration system established and certified regularly by the coordinating beneficiary / associated beneficiary.

Service contracts with individuals may be charged to this category on condition that the individual concerned works in the coordinating beneficiary's/associated beneficiary's premises and under its supervision and provided that such practice complies with the relevant national legislation. The time which each individual spends working on the project, shall be recorded on a timely basis using timesheets or an equivalent time registration system established and certified regularly by the coordinating beneficiary / associated beneficiary. The eligible cost shall equal the actual payment made to the individual concerned in relation to the project.

Civil servants' salary costs may be funded only to the extent that they relate to the cost of project implementation activities that the relevant public organisation would not have carried out had the project concerned not been undertaken. The staff in question must be specifically seconded to a project and they must represent an additional cost with respect to existing permanent staff. Moreover, the sum of the public organisations' contributions (as coordinating beneficiary and/or associated beneficiary) to the project must exceed (by at least 2 %) the sum of the salary costs of the civil servants charged to the project.

25.3 Travel and subsistence costs shall be charged in accordance with the internal rules of the coordinating beneficiary or associated beneficiary.

25.4 External assistance costs relate to sub-contracting costs (work undertaken by external companies, renting of equipment or infrastructure, etc.).

Costs related to the purchase or leasing (as opposed to renting) of durable equipment, infrastructure or consumables supplied under subcontract shall not be charged to the budget item for external assistance. These costs shall be declared separately under the appropriate budget headings.

The costs of auditing by an independent auditor are charged to this category.

25.5 Depreciation charges relating to durable goods shall be considered only when the durable goods are:

- placed on the coordinating beneficiary's or associated beneficiary's inventory of durable goods,
- treated as capital expenditure in accordance with the tax and accounting rules applicable to the coordinating beneficiary or associated beneficiaries in the project,
- purchased or leased at normal market rates.

25.6 Notwithstanding the specific provisions in Article 25.7 and in Article 25.9, the coordinating beneficiary/associated beneficiary shall apply its internal accounting standard/rules to calculate the eligible depreciation charge, taking into account the type of infrastructure/equipment, the date of its purchase/manufacture/lease, the duration of the project and the rate of actual use for the purposes of the project. The independent auditor as required by Article 31 shall confirm that the actual depreciation charges which are recorded in coordinating beneficiary's / associated beneficiary's accounting systems are reported as project expenses.

However these eligible depreciation charges will be limited to the following ceilings:

- Infrastructure costs: 25% of the total purchase cost;
- Equipment costs: 50% of the total purchase cost.

- 25.7 As an exception to Article 25.6, for projects funded under LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance and LIFE+ Biodiversity, no ceiling applies to prototypes, for which 100% of the purchase costs are eligible for co-funding.
- A prototype is infrastructure and/or equipment specifically created for the implementation of the project and that has never been commercialised and/or is not available as a serial product. The prototype must play a crucial role in the demonstration activities of the project. Only components purchased and used within the life of the project may be declared.
- A prototype may not be used for commercial purposes during the life of the project and for five years after the project ends. Should the prototype or any of its components be used for commercial purposes (i.e. sold, leased, rented or used to produce goods or services) during, or within five years from the end of the project, this shall be declared. The costs of creating the prototype shall then be depreciated in accordance with Articles 25.5 and 25.6.
- 25.8 The depreciation charges relating to durable goods acquired before the starting date of the project shall be considered ineligible. Such costs are considered to be included in the "overheads" cost category.
- 25.9 For LIFE+ Nature projects, the costs incurred for durable goods by public authorities or non-governmental / private non-commercial organisations, intrinsically connected with implementation of the project and used to a significant degree within its duration shall be considered eligible in full. Such eligibility shall be subject to the coordinating beneficiary and associated beneficiaries undertaking to continue to assign these goods definitively to nature conservation activities beyond the end of the project co-financed under LIFE+ Nature.
- 25.10 For LIFE+ Nature projects, the costs related to land / rights purchases and leases shall be eligible and shall be accounted for separately from durable goods. The provisions in Article 35 shall apply.
- 25.11 Expenditure on consumable material shall relate to the purchase, manufacture, repair or use of any material, goods or equipment which is:
- not included on the inventory of durable goods of the coordinating beneficiary or associated beneficiaries in the project;
 - not treated as capital expenditure in accordance with the tax and accounting rules applicable to the coordinating beneficiary or associated beneficiaries in the project;
 - specifically related to implementation of the project (however general office consumables/supplies are considered to be included in the "overheads" cost category).
- 25.12 Other costs mean any costs necessary for the project, not falling within a defined category. Expenses listed must be verifiable and not above the actual costs. The costs incurred in effecting the bank guarantee, when required by the Commission, are charged to this category.
- 25.13 Overheads shall be eligible for flat-rate funding of a maximum of 7% of the total amount of eligible direct costs actually incurred, excluding land purchase/lease costs. They need not be supported by accounting documents. They shall be eligible as indirect costs which are intended to cover general indirect costs needed

to employ, manage, accommodate and support directly or indirectly the personnel working on the project.

Article 26 - Ineligible costs

The following costs shall not be regarded as eligible and therefore are not included by the Commission in the calculation of the total eligible cost:

- any cost incurred for an action which benefits from aid under other Community financial instruments;
- costs incurred in relation to activities not foreseen in the project or to modifications of actions, for which the written additional agreement foreseen in Article 15 was not issued;
- costs incurred for the purchase of durable goods or for the production of communication material, including notice boards and websites, not bearing the LIFE logo (and the Natura 2000 logo, when applicable);
- costs for which a coordinating beneficiary and / or associated beneficiary already receives an operating grant from the Commission during the period in question;
- any costs related to any action that can be considered as a compensatory measure which are the responsibility of a Member State and which are decided in relation to the Birds' and Habitats' Directives;
- costs relating to management plans, action plans and similar plans, drafted or modified in the context of a LIFE+ project, if the related plan is not legally operational before the project end date. This includes the completion, before the project end date, of all procedural/legal steps in Member States where such procedures are foreseen;
- costs in any category of expenditure over and above that foreseen in the budget plus 10% and € 30 000 (as referred to in Article 15.2);
- invoicing between associated beneficiaries and between associated beneficiaries and the coordinating beneficiary;
- costs which result from transactions between departments of associated beneficiaries or of the coordinating beneficiary except where it can be proven that such transactions represent the best value for money and exclude all elements of profit, VAT and overheads;
- exchange rate losses;
- unnecessary or wasteful outlays;
- distribution, marketing and advertising expenses to promote products or commercial activities, except where specifically indicated in the project;
- any provisions for possible future losses or liabilities;
- interest charges;
- doubtful debts;
- financial expenses or costs related to finding / obtaining alternative sources of co-financing;

- entertainment expenses, except such expenses accepted as being wholly and exclusively necessary for carrying out the work under the project;
- any costs relating to other projects financed by third parties;
- assets and services donated, including voluntary work;
- travel and accommodation expenses and any form of remuneration in the name of agents of the Community institutions and of the external monitoring teams;
- investments in major infrastructure;
- fundamental scientific research;
- licence or patent fees or other fees related to the protection of intellectual property rights;
- costs for EMAS and ECOLABEL registration procedures;
- land purchase, if not complying with the conditions set in Article 35.

This list is not exhaustive.

Article 27 - Financial penalties

By virtue of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities⁶, any coordinating beneficiary declared to be in grave breach of its obligations shall be liable to financial penalties of between 2% and 10% of the value of the grant in question, with due regard for the principle of proportionality. The coordinating beneficiary shall be notified in writing through a registered letter of any decision by the Commission to apply such financial penalties.

Article 28 - Methods of payment

28.1 The financial contribution from the Community shall be paid in two or three instalments.

28.2 A first pre-financing payment, equivalent to 40% of the maximum Community financial contribution. This payment is increased to 50% for projects with an implementation period of 24 months or less or a Community contribution of € 300 000 or less. Either contribution will be paid within 45 days of the receipt of:

- the grant agreement signed by both parties;
- a signed payment request stating the name and address of the coordinating beneficiary, the name and address of the bank, the bank account details, the project reference;
- depending on the coordinating beneficiary's financial viability as evaluated during the selection phase, a guarantee issued by a bank or an insurance company may be requested by the Commission during the revision phase. This guarantee will equal the amount of the first pre-financing and will cover the duration of the project plus six months. Its validity will be extended in the event of an extension of the project. In exceptional cases this guarantee could be replaced by joint and several guarantees by a third party. The guarantee is to be in the format set out in Annex II.

⁶ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p. 1 and OJ L 390, 30.12.2006, p. 1.

- 28.3 A mid-term pre-financing payment, equivalent to 30% of the maximum Community financial contribution, will be paid for projects with an implementation period of more than 24 months and a Community contribution of more than €300 000. This payment will be made on condition that at least 150% of the first pre-financing payment has been consumed (as a percentage of costs incurred) and that the payment has been requested at least nine months before the project's end date. The payment shall be made after the approval, by the Commission, of the inception report, the mid-term technical report and the statement of expenditure and income provided for in Article 12.

In exceptional cases when a first pre-financing has not been paid, the coordinating beneficiary may request a mid-term pre-financing payment on the condition that an amount equivalent to at least 60 % of the maximum contribution foreseen in the Special Conditions has been spent. The amount of this payment will then be determined by applying the percentage specified in the grant agreement to the eligible costs incurred at the date of the mid-term technical report and the statement of expenditure and income.

To approve the mid-term technical report and the mid-term statement of expenditure and make the payment, the Commission shall have 105 days commencing on the date of the receipt of:

- a signed request for payment stating the name and address of the coordinating beneficiary, the name and address of the bank, the bank account details, the amount requested, the project reference number and any reference specified by the coordinating beneficiary to identify payment;
- the official registration number, organisation, name and address of the auditor when required by Article 31;
- the corresponding statement of expenditure and income and the mid-term report (Article 12).

If no comments are received from the Commission by this deadline, the mid-term technical report shall be deemed to have been approved. Approval of the report accompanying the request for payment shall in no way imply the recognition of the regularity or of the authenticity, completeness and correctness of the declarations and of the information they contain.

- 28.4 The balance (final payment) shall be made after the approval, by the Commission, of both the final technical report and the statement of expenditure and income provided for in Article 12.

To approve the final technical report and the final statement of expenditure and make the payment, the Commission shall have 105 days commencing on the date of receipt of:

- a signed payment request stating the name and address of the coordinating beneficiary, the name and address of the bank, the bank account details, the amount requested, the project reference number and any reference specified by the coordinating beneficiary to identify payment;
- the corresponding statement of expenditure and income covering the entire project period and the final report (Article 12);
- an audit report if required by Article 31.

If no comments are received from the Commission by this deadline, the final report shall be deemed to have been approved. Approval of the report accompanying the request for payment shall in no way imply the recognition of the regularity or of the authenticity, completeness and correctness of the declarations and of the information they contain.

- 28.5 The Commission may suspend or reject the payment request within the 105-day period, counting from the date of receipt of the request for payment and the other documents required under Articles 28.2, 28.3 or 28.4. The Commission must give the coordinating beneficiary written notification of suspension.
- 28.6 If the abovementioned payment periods have been suspended, the time remaining shall begin to run again from the date when the additional information required is received.
- 28.7 In case of rejection of either the financial or technical part of the reports, the 105-day period shall begin to run again from the date of receipt of the new reports.
- 28.8 Commission payments shall be made in Euro (€).
- 28.9 All payments shall be made in the name of the coordinating beneficiary to the bank account indicated in Annex VII. Any change of account must be immediately communicated to the Commission.
- 28.10 The payment shall be considered made on the day it is debited from the Commission's bank account.
- 28.11 Without prejudice to possible suspension of the payment period the coordinating beneficiary may be entitled to late payment interest in accordance with Article 106 of the Implementing Rules to the Financial Regulation⁷.
- 28.12 If any amount is unduly paid to the coordinating beneficiary or if recovery is justified under the terms of the agreement, the coordinating beneficiary undertakes to repay the Commission the sum in question on whatever terms and by whatever date it may specify.
- 28.13 In the event of termination of the grant agreement in the cases specified in Article 19 the Commission may request full or partial repayment of sums paid to the coordinating beneficiary. The Commission shall determine the manner and the time limits for such full or partial repayment and will apply a criterion of proportionality.
- 28.14 Should the coordinating beneficiary fail to repay such amounts within the time limit set by the Commission, the Commission may increase the sums due by adding interest at the rate applied by the European Central Bank to its main refinancing operations plus three and a half percentage points. The reference rate to which the increase applies shall be the rate in force on the first day of the month of the final date for payment, as published in the C series of the Official Journal of the European Union.
- 28.15 Bank charges occasioned by the repayment of sums due to the Commission shall be borne entirely by the coordinating beneficiary.
- 28.16 The debit note drawn up by the Commission and transmitted to the coordinating beneficiary owing a repayment to the Commission shall be enforceable within the meaning of Article 256 of the EC Treaty.

⁷ OJ L 111, 28.4.2007, p. 13.

28.17 If payment has not been made by the due date, sums owed to the Commission may be recovered by offsetting them against any sums owed to the coordinating beneficiary, after informing him accordingly by registered letter with advice of delivery or equivalent, or by calling in the financial guarantee provided in accordance with Article 28.2. In exceptional circumstances, justified by the necessity to safeguard the financial interests of the Communities, the Commission may recover by offsetting before the due date of the payment. The coordinating beneficiary's prior consent shall not be required.

Article 29 - Statement of expenditure and income

- 29.1 Statements of expenditure and income shall be submitted on the occasion of mid-term and final reports. They shall cover the same time period as the corresponding technical report.
- 29.2 Statements of expenditure and income shall be presented in accordance with the Guidelines provided by the Commission. One copy shall be transmitted to the Commission and one to the external monitoring team designated by the Commission.
- 29.3 The coordinating beneficiary shall certify that information contained in requests for payment is full, reliable and true, that the financial documents submitted to the Commission comply with the common provisions, that the costs declared are the actual costs and that all receipts have been declared.
- 29.4 Documents justifying expenditure (e.g. invoices) do not have to be annexed to the statement of expenditure and income. The coordinating beneficiary shall, however, if requested, provide the Commission with all details, including invoices, which it might need for evaluation of the expenditure and of the corresponding activity report.
- 29.5 Only the Euro (€) shall be used in the statement of expenditure and income. The coordinating beneficiary or an associated beneficiary having their accounts in other currencies shall convert amounts into Euro using the exchange rate applied by the European Central Bank on the first working day of the year in which the expenditure is paid.

Article 30 - Value added tax

- 30.1 When the coordinating beneficiary or any of its associated beneficiaries is not in a position to recover the VAT paid under the project, this amount shall be considered eligible expenditure.
- 30.2 For VAT charges to be considered eligible the coordinating beneficiary must prove with legal documents that it and/or its associated beneficiaries must pay and may not recover the VAT for the assets and services required for the project.

Article 31 - Independent financial audit

- 31.1 An independent auditor, nominated by the coordinating beneficiary, shall verify the final statement of expenditure and income provided to the Commission when the maximum Community contribution set in the Special Provisions exceeds € 300 000.
- 31.2 The auditor shall verify compliance with national legislation and accounting rules and certify that all costs incurred comply with this grant agreement. The auditor

shall also check the sources of the project financing, and in particular that co-financing does not stem from other Community financial instruments. The work to be performed must be in accordance with, and in the format of, the Guidelines provided by the Commission.

Article 32 - Commission financial audit

- 32.1 The Commission, or any representative authorised by the Commission, may audit a coordinating beneficiary or associated beneficiary at any time during the project implementation period and up to five years after the final payment of the Community contribution, as referred to in Article 28.4.
- 32.2 The audit shall be carried out on a confidential basis.
- 32.3 The Commission or any authorised representative shall have access to the documentation required to ascertain the eligibility of the costs of the participants in the project, such as invoices, payroll extracts, purchase orders, proof of payment, time sheets and any other documents used for the calculation and presentation of costs.
- 32.4 The Commission shall take appropriate steps to ensure that its authorised representatives treat confidentially the data to which they have access or which are provided to them.
- 32.5 The Commission may verify the use made of the Community's financial contribution by the coordinating beneficiary and associated beneficiaries.
- 32.6 Information on the findings of the audit shall be sent to the coordinating beneficiary. The coordinating beneficiary may communicate its observations to the Commission within one month of receiving it. The Commission may decide not to take into account any observations conveyed after the deadline.
- 32.7 On the basis of the conclusions of the audit, the Commission shall take all appropriate measures it considers necessary, including the issuing of a recovery order regarding all or part of the payments made by it.
- 32.8 The Court of Auditors may verify the use made of the Community's financial contribution in the framework of this grant agreement, on the basis of its own procedures.
- 32.9 By virtue of Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96⁸ and Regulation (EC) No 1073/1999 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) may also carry out on-the-spot checks and inspections in accordance with the procedures laid down by Community law for the protection of the financial interests of the European Communities against fraud and other irregularities. Where appropriate, the inspection findings may lead to recovery decisions by the Commission.

Article 33 - Checks and inspections

- 33.1 The coordinating beneficiary and the associated beneficiaries undertake to allow Commission staff and persons authorised by the Commission appropriate access to their sites or premises where the project is being carried out and to all

⁸ OJ L 292, 15.11.1996, p. 2.

⁹ OJ L 136, 31.5.1999, p. 1.

documents relating to the technical and financial management of the operation. Access by persons authorised by the Commission may be subject to confidentiality arrangements to be agreed between the Commission and the coordinating beneficiary.

- 33.2 Such checks may be initiated up to five years after the final payment as referred to in Article 28.4.
- 33.3 Such checks shall be carried out on a confidential basis.
- 33.4 Coordinating beneficiaries and associated beneficiaries shall provide appropriate assistance to the Commission or its authorised representatives.

Article 34 - State aid

Any aid granted by the State or through State resources to the project covered by this agreement must comply with the rules laid down in Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty.

Article 35 - Land/rights purchase, land lease

- 35.1 Costs incurred for land/rights purchases, intrinsically connected with implementation of a LIFE+ Nature project and explicitly envisaged therein, shall be considered eligible in full provided that:
- purchase prices are based on market terms;
 - coordinating beneficiary and associated beneficiaries undertake to continue to assign the purchased assets definitively to nature conservation activities beyond the end of the project co-financed under LIFE+ Nature;
 - for land purchased as provided for in the project, the coordinating beneficiary shall ensure the entry in the land register includes a guarantee that the land will be assigned definitively to nature conservation. If in a given Member State the land register does not exist or it does not provide a sufficient legal guarantee, the coordinating beneficiary shall have a clause for the definitive assignment of the land to nature conservation included in the land sale contract. For countries where it would be illegal to include such a guarantee both in the land register and in the sale contract, the Commission may accept an equivalent guarantee, provided it offers the same legal level of protection in the long term and complies with the requirement contained in Annex I of the LIFE+ Regulation;
 - for land purchased by private organisations, the sales contract and/or its registration in the land register includes a guarantee that the land property will be transferred to a legal body primarily active in the field of nature protection, in case of dissolution of the private organisation or its incapacity to manage the land according to nature conservation requirements. For countries where it would be illegal to include such a guarantee in the land register or sales contract, the Commission may accept an equivalent guarantee provided it offers the same legal level of protection in the long term and complies with the requirement contained in Annex I of the LIFE+ Regulation;
 - in case of land purchased to be exchanged at a later date, the exchange is carried out before the end of the project at the latest and the provisions of the present article shall apply to the lands received through the exchange. The land purchased to be exchanged shall be exempt, at the stage of the mid-term

reporting, from the guarantee that the land will be assigned definitively to nature conservation.

- 35.2 The duration of a land lease shall either be restricted to the project duration or be at least of 20 years and shall be compatible with the needs of habitat and species protection. In the case of long-term lease of land, the lease contract shall clearly include all the provisions and commitments which will permit the achievement of its objectives in terms of habitat and species protection.

N. proposta: PDEL-2010-84 del 30/11/2010

Centro di Responsabilità: Direzione Tecnica

OGGETTO: Direzione Tecnica. Presa d'atto dell'approvazione del Progetto "Adoption of quality water use in agro-industry sector" (Life AQUA). Approvazione del Grant Agreement sottoscritto con la Commissione Europea per la realizzazione del Progetto.

PARERE CONTABILE

Il sottoscritto Dott. Giuseppe Bacchi Reggiani, Responsabile dell'Area Bilancio e Controllo Economico, esprime parere di regolarità contabile ai sensi del Regolamento Arpa sul Decentramento amministrativo.

Data 16/12/2010

Il Dirigente
