

**Patrizia Rossi**

**director, Parco Naturale Alpi Marittime, I**

# **EGTC Alpi Marittime/Mercantour: European Park**



**[www.parcoalpimarittime.it](http://www.parcoalpimarittime.it)  
[www.mercantour.eu](http://www.mercantour.eu)**



Types de zones protégées / Tipi di aree protette

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Parc national, zone centrale               | Parco nazionale, zona centrale                            |
| Parc national, zone périphérique           | Parco nazionale, zona periferica                          |
| Parc naturel régional                      | Parco naturale regionale                                  |
| Réserve naturelle                          | Riserva naturale  |
| Protection particulière                    | Protezione particolare                                    |
| Réserve de biosphère (Mali)                | Riserva della biosfera (Mali)                             |
| Site diplômé par le Conseil de l'Europe    | Area insignita del Diploma Europeo dal Consiglio d'Europa |
| Zone d'application de la Convention Alpine | Limite di applicazione della Convenzione delle Alpi       |
| Limite d'Etat                              | Confine di Stato  |

Seuls les espaces protégés d'une superficie supérieure à 100 ha sont représentés sur la carte  
Sulla carta sono riportate soltanto le aree protette con superficie superiore a 100 ha



**France,  
South**

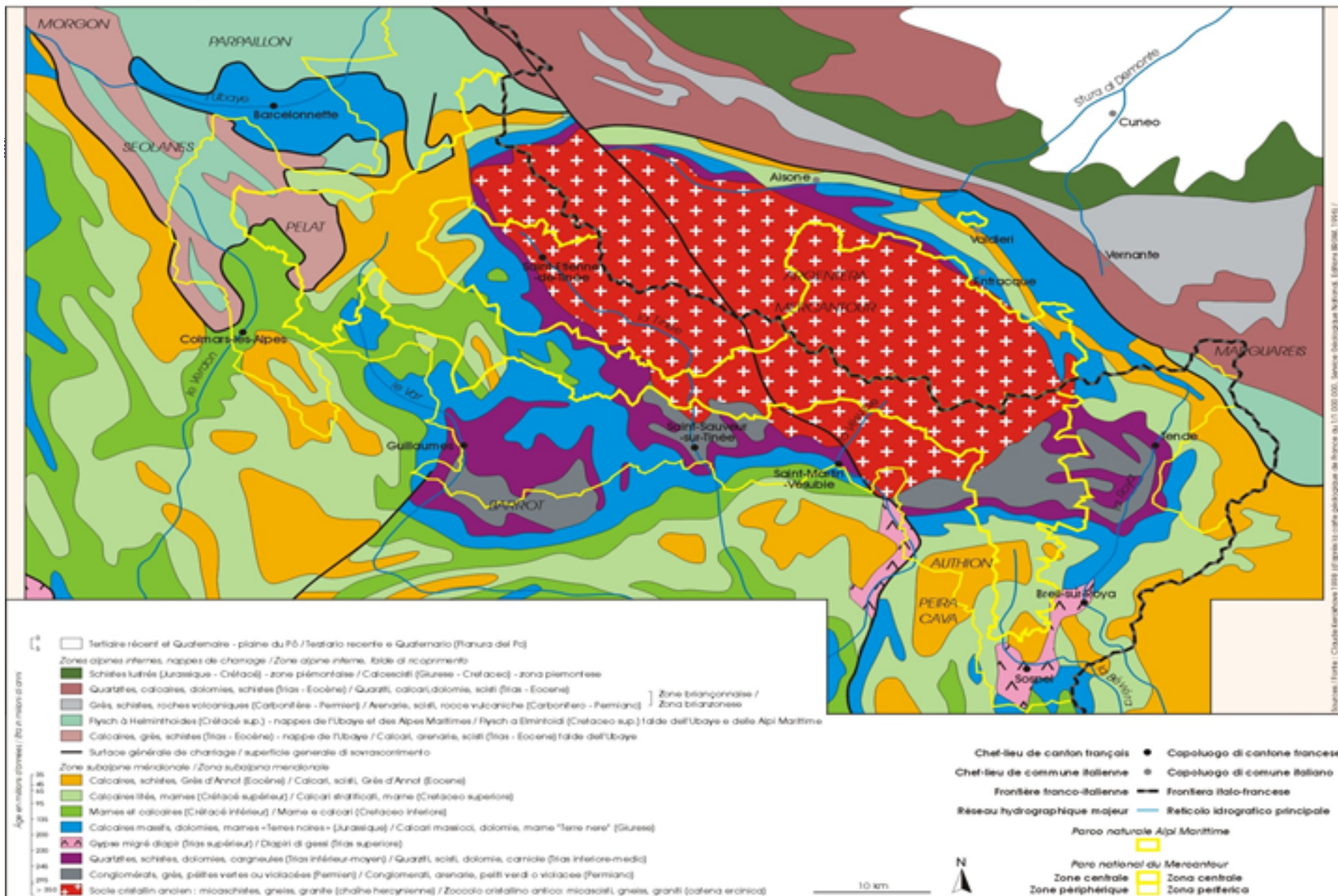


**Italy,  
North**

From the sky, mountains don't show frontiers...



# Geology: structural unity





The Alps of the Mediterranean:  
snow at 50 km from the sea

# NATURAL MOSAIC

flora and fauna from arctic-alpine domain and afro-mediterranean together



# CULTURAL MOSAIC

Architecture and landscapes reflect  
two cultures:            alpine



and mediterranean





# The steps of co-operation

The two parks were established in the '80ies on King Vittorio Emanuele's hunting reserves

twinning: 10 July 1987

European Council Diploma award:  
16 October 1993  
(renewed every 5 years)

Partnership Charter:  
signed 6 June 1998

June 2006: Common Action Plan  
approved, agreement with Region and  
Ministry of environment for EGTC

April 2010: approval project PIT

May 2013: establishment of EGTC





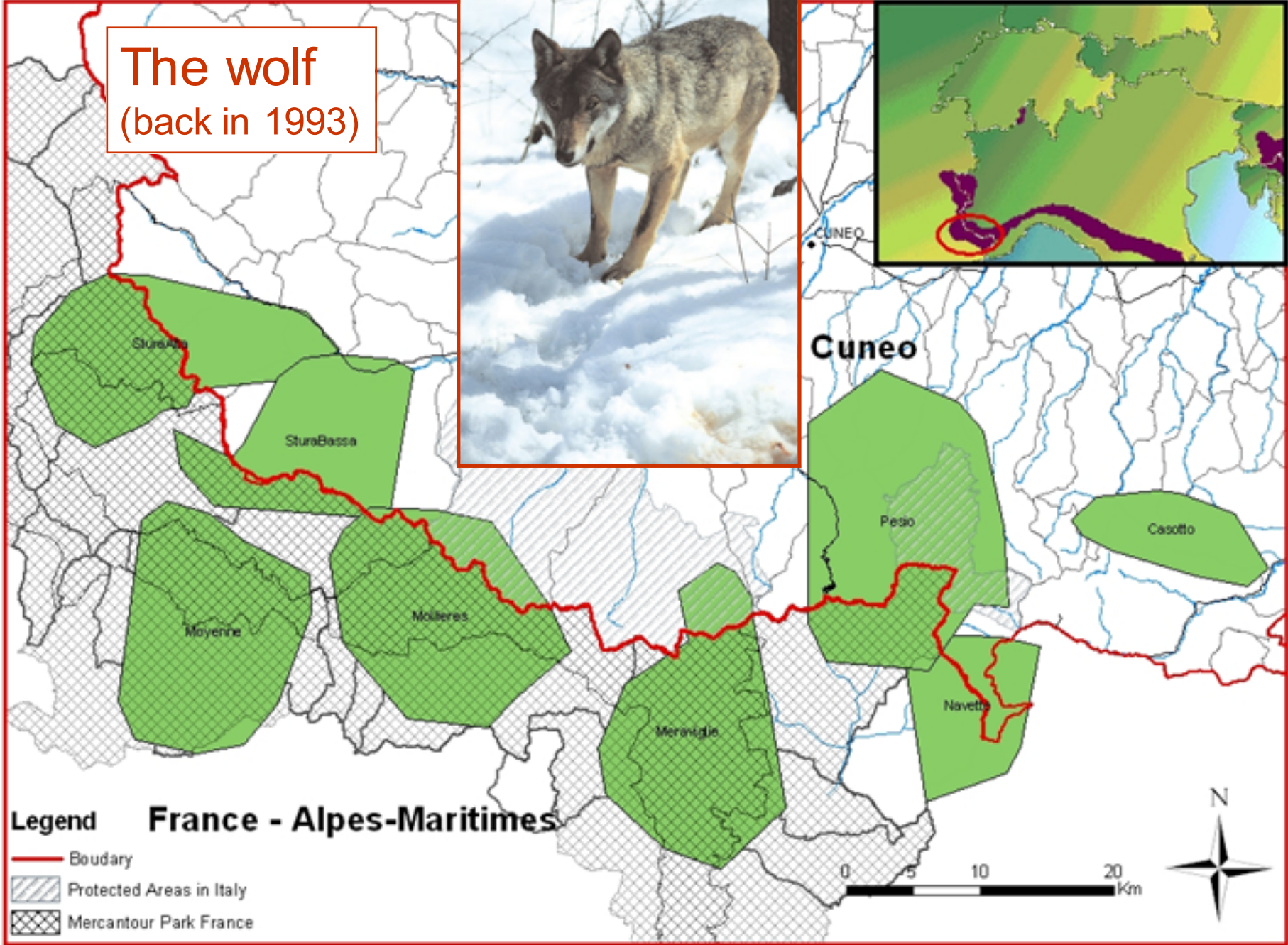
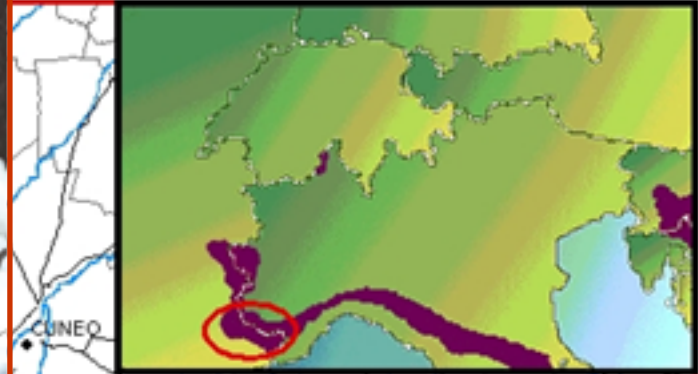
**Cooperation  
begins with concrete  
wildlife management  
operations:**

**ibex (from 1987)**

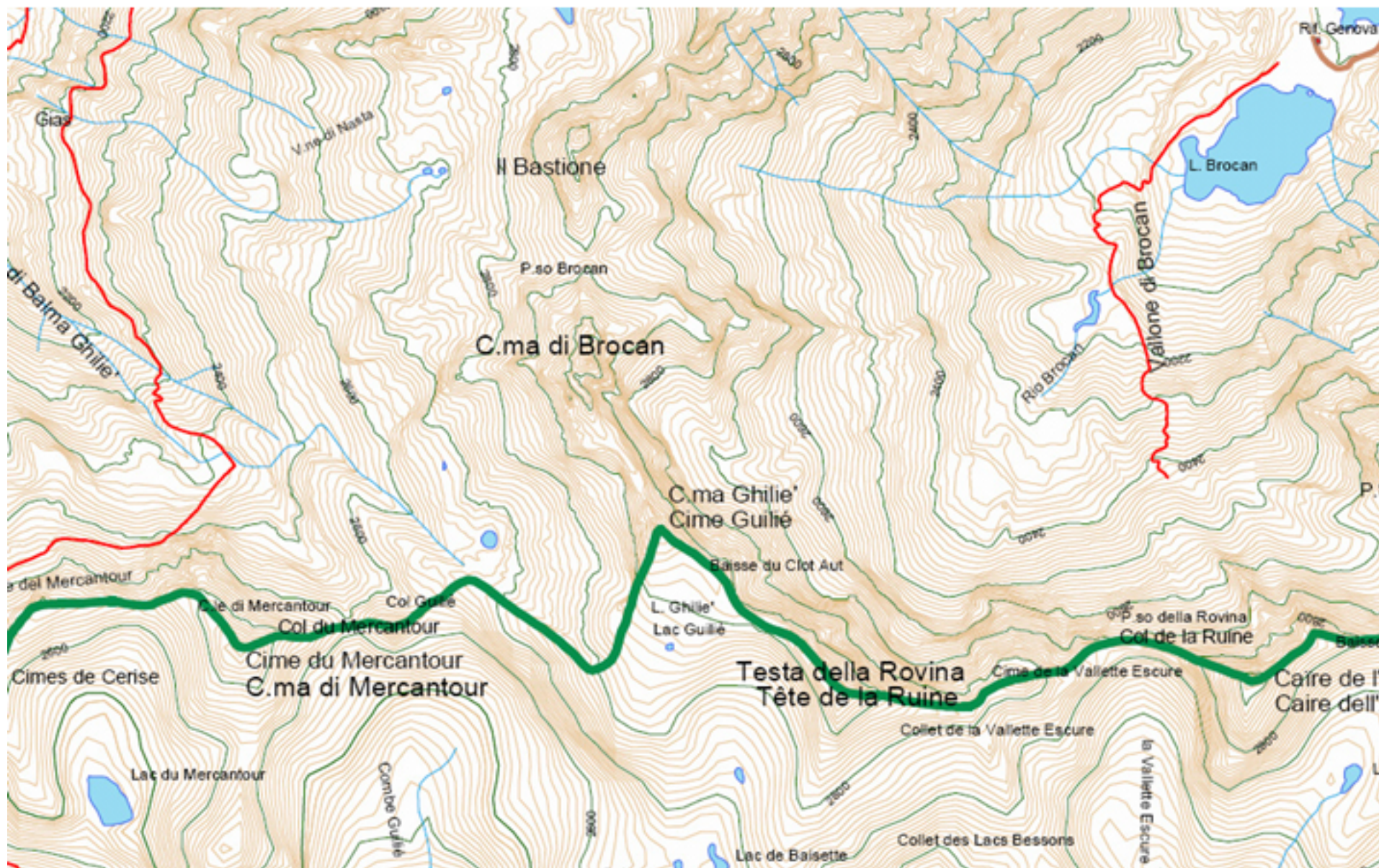
**bearded vulture  
(from 1993)**



The wolf  
(back in 1993)



# Common maps, finally!



# A good financial instrument : INTERREG

	ITALY €	FRANCE €
INTERREG I 1991-1993	87.428,61	87.428,61
INTERREG II 1994-1999	2.147.333,36	2.534.697,52
INTERREG III 2000-2006	2.094.941,00	2.098.026,00
INTERREG 2007-2013 PIT	6.087.200,00	4.006.500,00
INTERREG 2007-2013 SINGLE PROJECTS	1.077.000,00	1.045.000,00
TOTAL	11.493.902,97	9.771.652,13



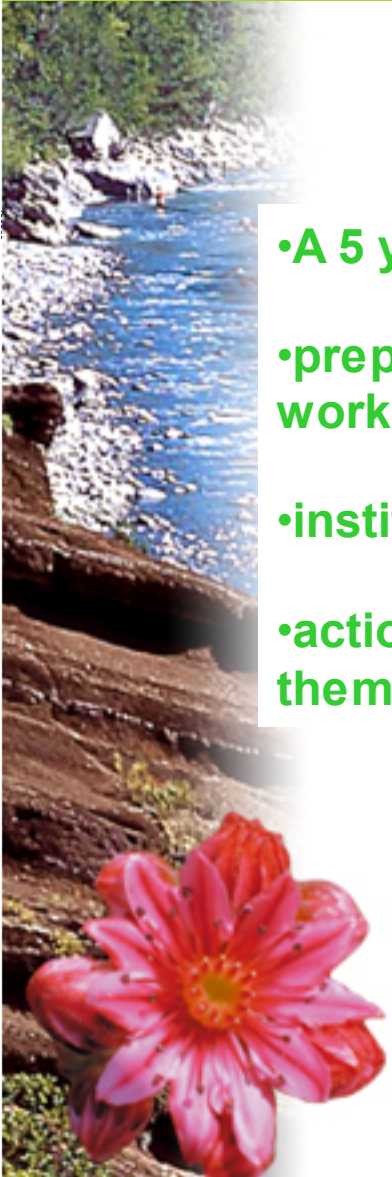
24 projects,  
for a total investment € 21.265.555,10

# common action plan

- A 5 years programme
- prepared in consultation with local stakeholders: 5 transfrontiers working groups
- institutional validation: approved by the councils of the two parks
- actions developed around 5 themes, with one « big project » for each theme

**Theme 1:** Making cooperation more formal and structured

**PROJECT:** establishment of a EGTC





## Objectif : un seul parc

Des siècles de relations entre les deux versants des Alpes  
Depuis la Préhistoire, l'Homme a habité ces montagnes, comme en témoignent les 36000 gravures rupestres datées des âges du cuivre et du bronze de la Vallée des Merveilles et de Fontanalès.  
Les régions de Nice et de Cuneo ont développé de nombreux échanges qui ont nécessité la création de voies de communication, comme la "Route du Sel".  
Pendant des siècles, sur les deux versants des Alpes du Sud, des modes de vie, des coutumes et des traditions très semblables se sont affirmés.  
C'est ainsi que s'est forgée dans l'Argentera-Mercantour une forte identité commune renforcée par l'usage de dialectes occitans très proches.



Parc national du Mercantour  
Création : 1979  
Superficie : 68 500 hectares  
6 vallées : Roya-Nièvre, Vinadio, Tinée, Aoste Val, Saas-Weinlen, Ubaye  
28 communes



Parc national  
des Alpes Maritimes  
Création : 1992, de l'ancien  
du Parc dell'Argentera (1980),  
de la Riserva del Bosco et  
des Laghi di Palancale (1979)  
Superficie : 28 000 hectares  
3 vallées : Veronengo, Cuneo, Stura  
4 communes



## Theme 1 Making cooperation more formal and structured

signature

AGREEMENT

PARK-REGION-

MIN ENVIRONMENT

transfrontier working group for

creation of EGTC

- Creation of a working group
- Feasibility studies
- application EU Reg.1082/2006

•23 may 2013 signature  
EGTC EUROPEAN PARK

# Signature GECT 23 may 2013





## EU Regulation 1082/2006

### Convention + Statutes

- **Assembly (the two Presidents + 2 members for each park)**
- **President (for 3 years)**
- **Direttore (for 3 years, viceversa)**

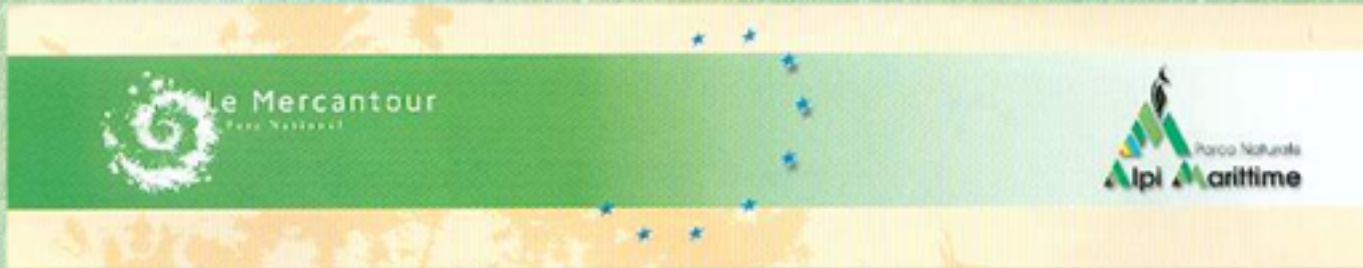
**Seat in Tende (F):  
following french legislation**

## Aims and tasks

- **European projects management**
- **Common unit for tenders**
- **Projects crossing the border**
- **UNESCO World Heritage**

# common visual identity

- evolution of common logo: from



to



- conception of a common sign-posting system
- first placement of common panels at transfrontier passes

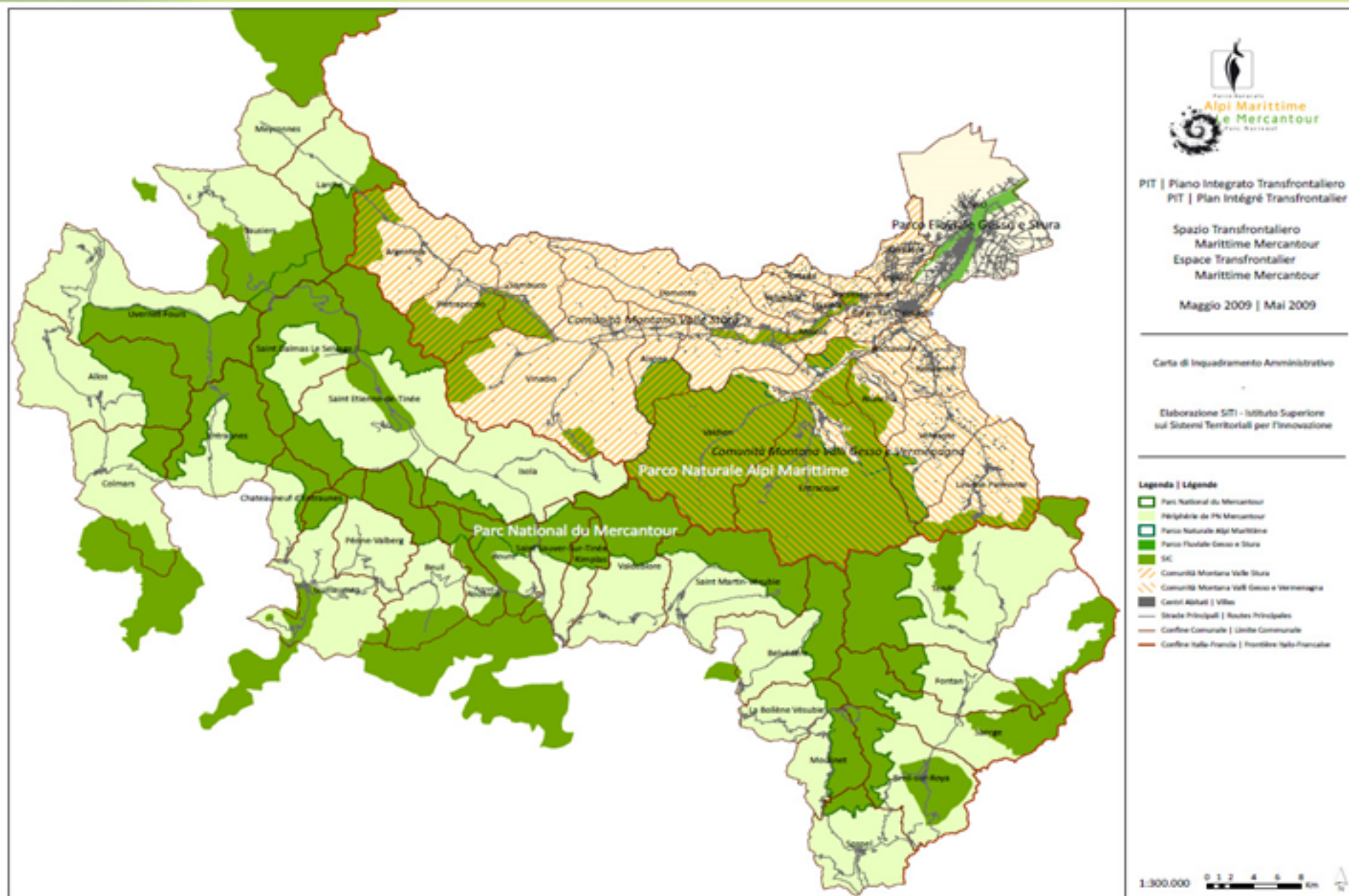


**Common sign-posting:  
from this....**

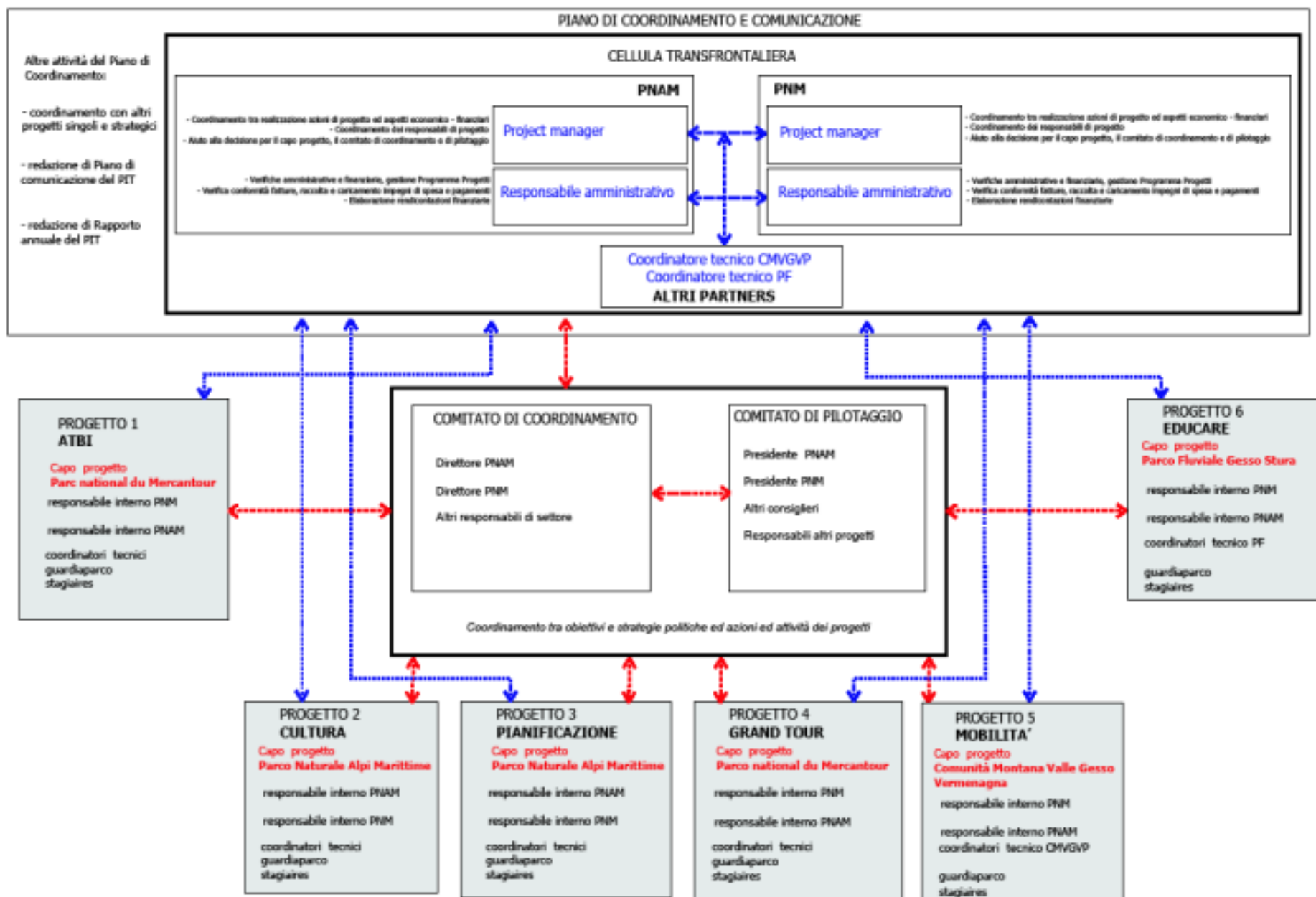
**....to this**



# Interreg PIT, a project for the territory



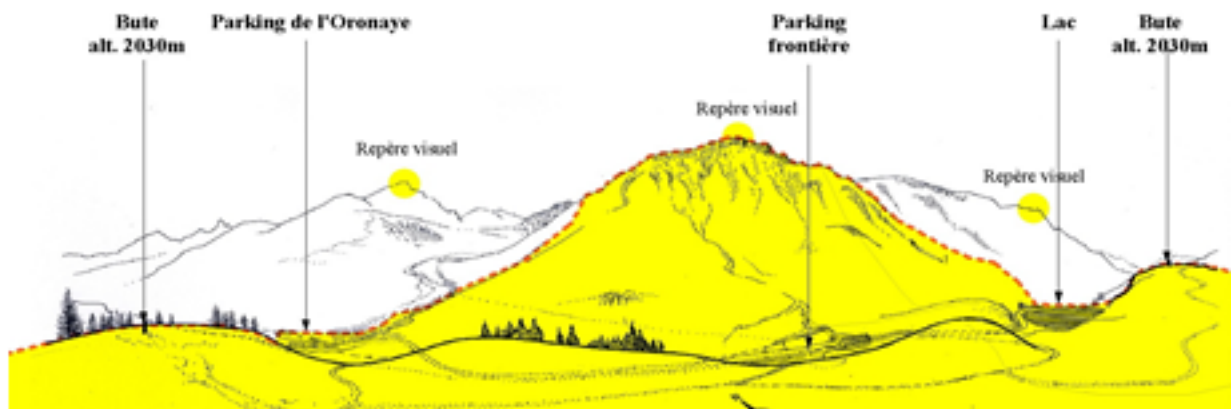
# 10.000.000 €, 16 partner, 7 integrated projects

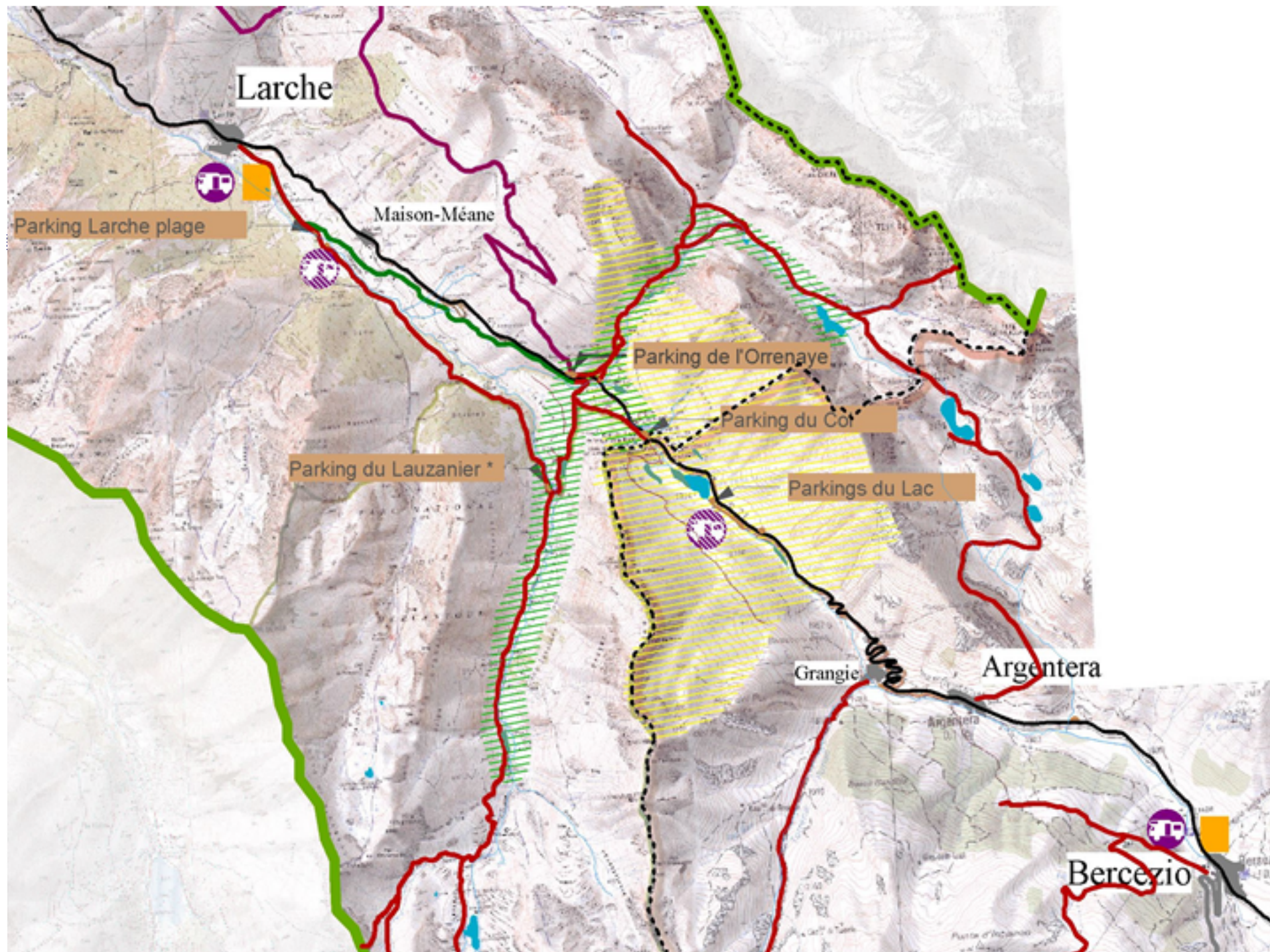


# Projects crossing the border:



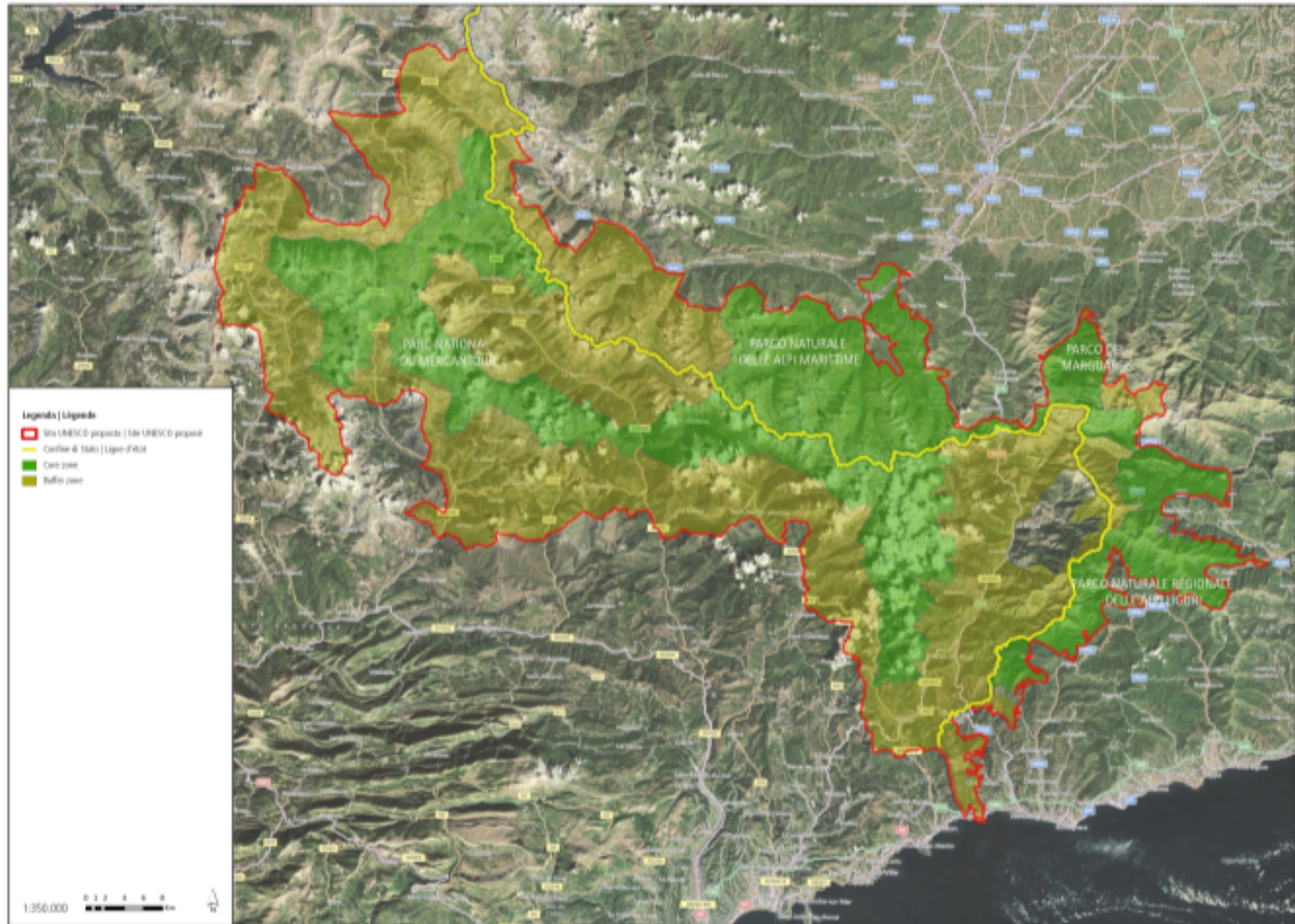
## Col de Larche -Maddalena







# UNESCO World Heritage



# UNESCO World Heritage

**PNM + PNAM, 4 more Italian partners :**

- **Parco del Marguareis (Piedmont)**
- **Parco Alpi Liguri (Liguria)**
- **Provincia di Imperia (Liguria)**
- **Area naturale protetta villa Hanbury (Liguria)**

**In preparation: agreement with EGTC for management of the whole proposed territory**



CONCLUSIONS  
nature without frontier,  
an european juridical  
instrument, but,  
most of all, a community  
of people working  
for the same purposes  
on both sides  
of the border

