



Promosso da



In collaborazione con



Finanziato dall'Unione europea



Short Final Report: Soil reGeneration (ID#280)

Publishable Summary

Soil reGeneration” is a pilot action coordinated by Comune di Alleronia within the Green Community Umbra Etrusca, an intermunicipal cooperation network in the south-west region of Umbria, Central Italy. The project was implemented in partnership with FELCOS Umbria and Ecomuseo del Paesaggio Orvietano, and in collaboration with ARPA Umbria and CNR-IRET as associated partners. The project tested innovative approaches to participatory soil governance. Twelve municipalities, over 17 associations, and five school communities were actively engaged. By integrating scientific data with local ecological knowledge, Soil reGeneration developed several shared tools: a *Territorial Management Agreement (TMA)*, a youth-led *Soil Community Map*, *Fuzzy Cognitive Maps (FCMs)*, participatory SWOT analyses, and photographic documentation of key sample areas and soil landscape sequences. The educational component was central: students participated in interpretive walking trails, hands-on soil labs, a bootcamp, and a World Soil Day 2025 call to action. A project blog collected their reflections and stories. In total, over 113 students and 12 teachers were directly involved, with more than 45,000 citizens reached indirectly. This widespread engagement fostered a renewed culture of soil care and civic responsibility, strengthening intergenerational dialogue and collaboration among local stakeholders. The project promoted regenerative land use practices and a shared long-term vision for soil protection and ecological transition. Among the key results: the formal adoption of the TMA, a replicability analysis launched in a second intermunicipal territory (Trasimeno), and the creation of policy and educational tools designed to inspire similar efforts in other rural areas. The initiative gained national recognition during the *Stati Generali delle Green Communities*, a high-level public event focused on the strategic role of local communities in sustainability and resilience. Organized in conjunction with the publication of *Rapporto Montagne Italia 2025*, the event brought together Regione Umbria, UNCEM (National Union of Mountain Communities), and other key actors, offering visibility to Soil reGeneration as a model for participatory and integrated territorial governance. As part of its dissemination and advocacy actions, the project also intersected with the “*No Dam Campaign*” concerning the proposed 56-meter-high dam in the “Torre Alfina gorge” near Alleronia. On June 27, 2025, Alleronia City Council unanimously approved a motion opposing the dam, citing environmental, landscape, geological, and hydrogeological fragility in an area hosting three protected natural areas (Selva di Meana, Monte Rufeno Reserve, Bosco del Sasseto) and six Natura 2000 sites. The Council called for meaningful consultation with institutions, associations, and local communities and emphasized the need for integrated, co-designed water management solutions that respect the ecological and cultural richness of the area. The mayor and city council pledged to take all possible steps, within their remit, to prevent the dam’s construction and support alternative solutions rooted in dialogue and territorial stewardship.



Funded by
the European Union