

## RECONECT

RECONECT

Regenarating ECOsystems with Nature-based solutions for hydro-meteorological risk rEduCTion

Hydro-meteorological monitoring activities in Portofino Natural Park (Italy) as a demonstrator of the H2020 RECONECT project: preliminary results.

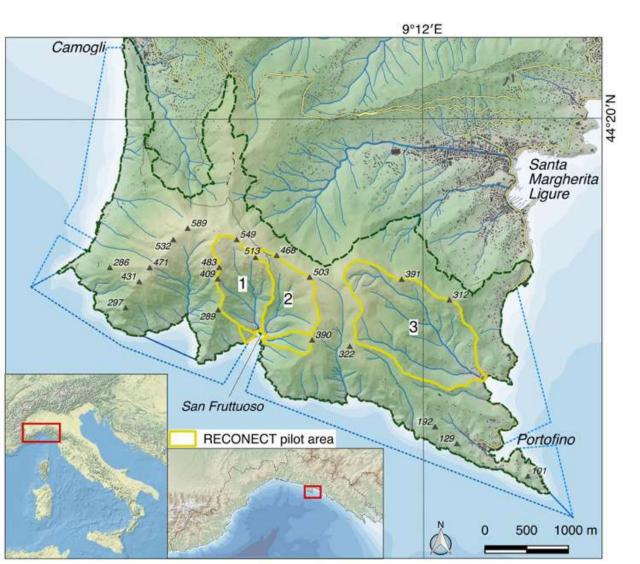
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## Demonstrator A Portofino Park, Italy





## Portofino cluster





**GISIG** 

Geographical Information Systems International Group

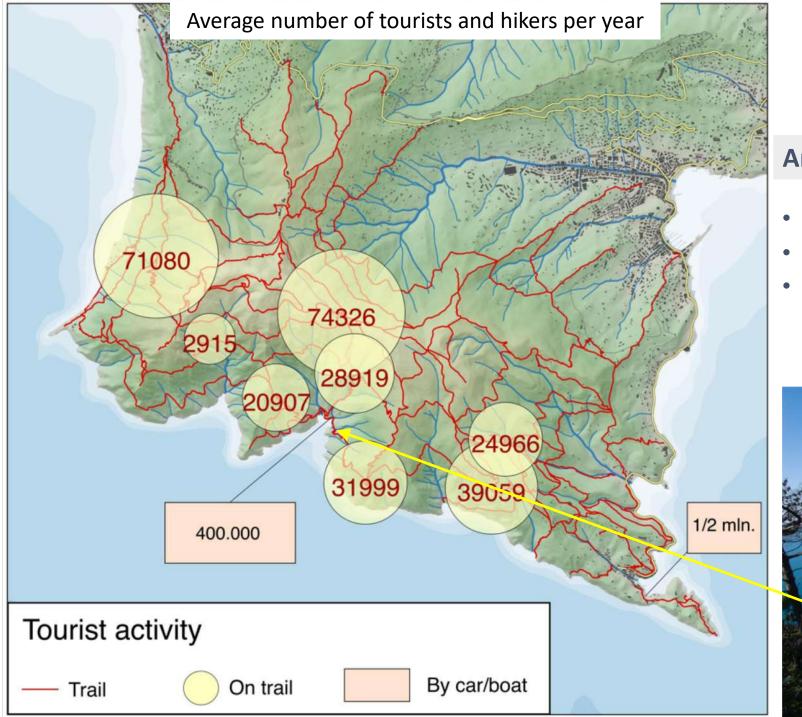


Istituto di Ricerca per la Protezione Idrogeologica National Research Council of Italy

### **Peculiar morphologic layout:**

- Small catchments
- Steep slopes
- Reduced time of concentration
- Peculiar microclimate
- Natural Park Nature 2000







### An outstanding area with high:

- Cultural, Historical value
- Aesthetic, Landscape value
- Socio-economic value

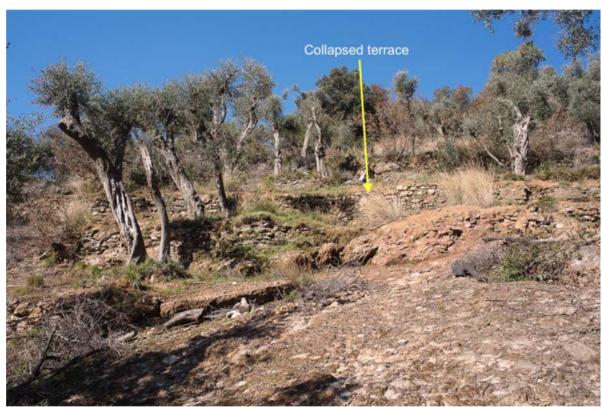




## San Fruttuoso Abbey complex

- The catchment basin was greatly influenced by the Benedictine abbey, founded in the X Century
- The steep slopes behind the Abbey complex were terraced, the stream networks modified and land use variations occurred





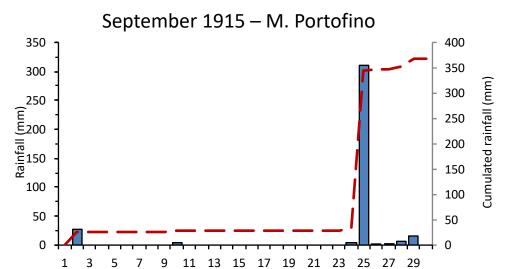


Heavy rainfalls on 25th September 1915 caused the partial collapse of San Fruttuoso Abbey, due to debris descending from the slopes.





Courtesy by Fondo Ambiente Italiano





Courtesy by Fondo Ambiente Italiano

Faccini et al., 2009; Parodi et al., 2017; Paliaga et al., 2020





The San Fruttuoso
Abbey complex
1905-2020







### Main geo-hydrological events (2000-2019)

- 6 Nov 2000
- 24 Nov 2002
- 31 Oct 2003
- 1 Jun 2007
- 4 Nov 2011
- 18 Jan 2014
- 26 July 2014
- 14 Oct 2016
- 25 Oct 2016
- 29 Oct 2018



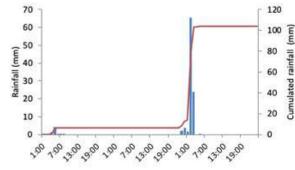




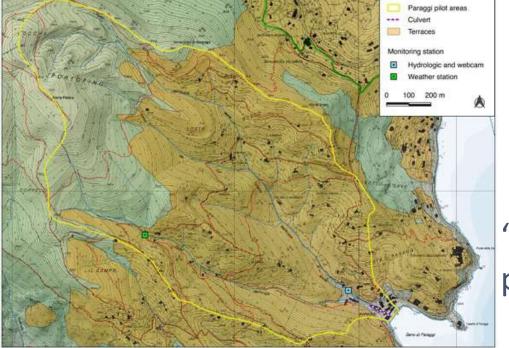






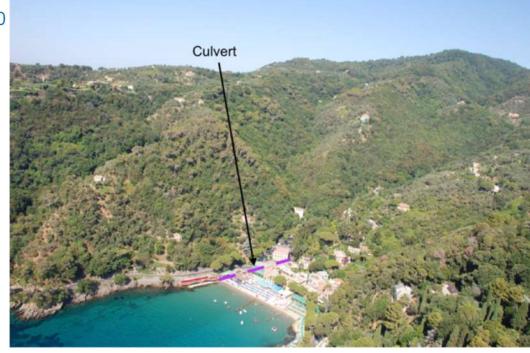


Mt Portofino, 24-26 July 2014





'Valle dei Mulini' pilot area

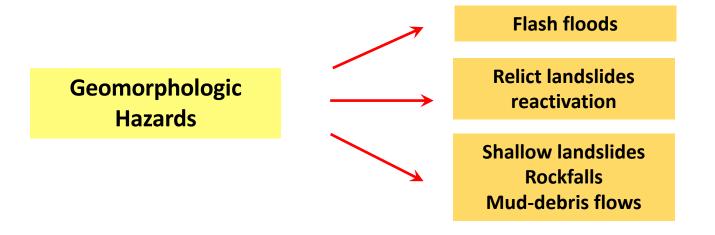








## Project drivers



### **Opportunity of engaging:**

Administrators and tourism facilities operators.

#### Main target:

Geo-hydrological risk reduction

Dry stone abandoned terraces as main source of slope instability

### NBS RISK REDUCTION STRATEGY: A CATCHMENT SCALE HOLISTIC ECOSYSTEM-BASED APPROACH

**Reduce** the linear erosion along the streams

**Reduce** the widespread erosion along the slopes and increase stability

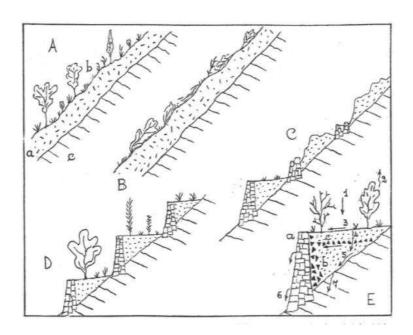
*Improve* hydraulic/geo-hydrological conditions

Footpath maintenance and erosion reduction



### **Terraces and dry-stone walls**

### From and old best practise



A = debris cover (natural) on the slope

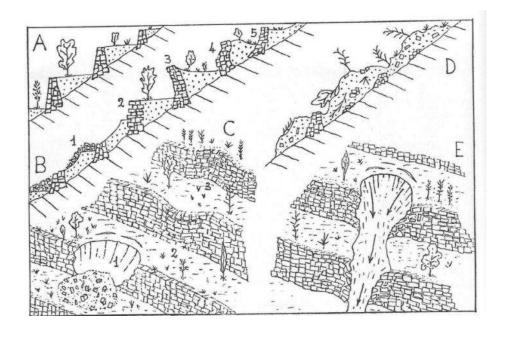
B = deforestation and slope preparation

C = dry stone-wall construction and soil fills

D = terraced slope, with orchards

E = some details

## to a potential hazard for soil degradation, due to land abandonment



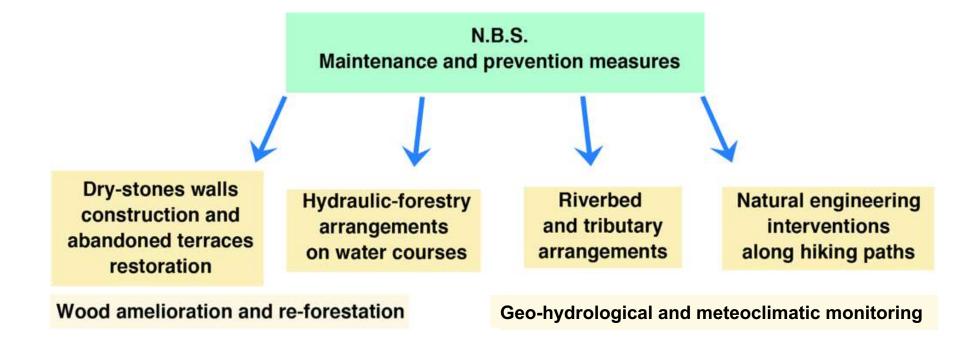
A = cultivated and integre terraces

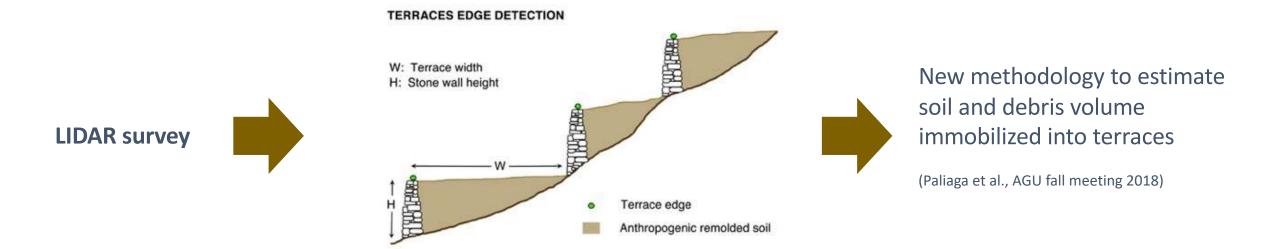
B, C = dry stone walls collapse along shear surfaces

D = complete collapsed slope with terraces

E = landslide for "domino effect" along slope with terraces





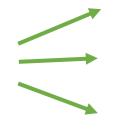




## Monitoring activities



Remote Sensing survey

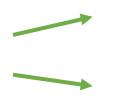


LIDAR survey → terraces detection

Orthophoto survey

IR orthophoto survey → vegetation status

On-site monitoring



3 weather stations

2 hydrologic stations



## The Monitoring activities Remote Sensing survey

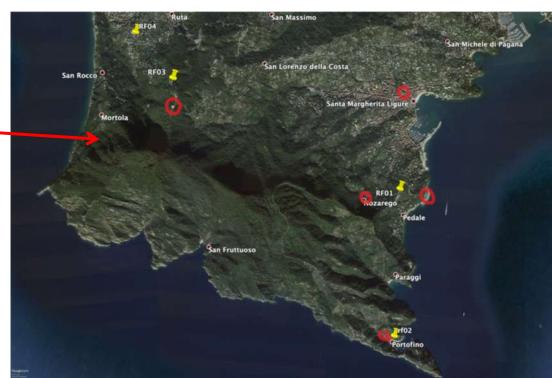
Eurosense a RECONECT partner





The survey has been performed in *February* 2020, but the lockdown prevented the ground — control to be completed. It is actually in progress due to restrictions reduction







# The Monitoring activities Remote Sensing survey preliminary results

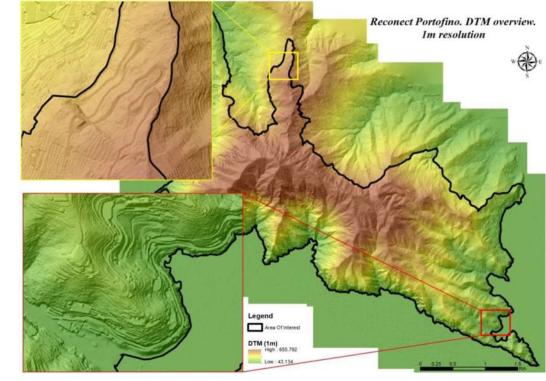
The high point density and top sensors quality will allow to obtain a **0.5 m** and **0.25 m DTM** after *points classification* in: ground, non-ground (includes vegetation, stone walls, buildings...), water and bridges.

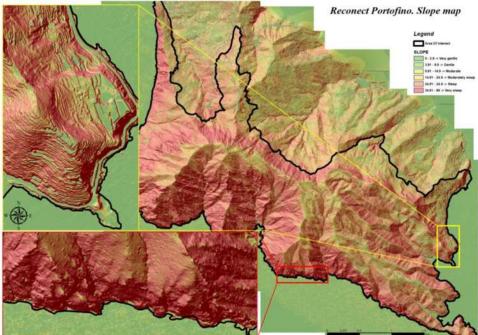
Data will allow a precise detection of terraces and a detail geomorphometric analysis.

From the aerial images RGB- and CIR- orthophotomosaic will be obtained.

LiDAR system Riegl VQ 1560-II, with two 2 MHz sensors

Point density= up to 20 m<sup>-2</sup>





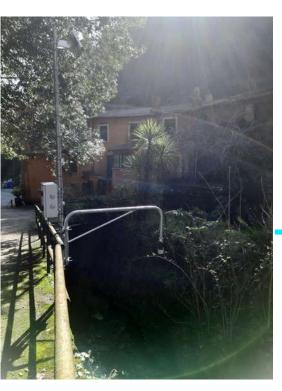


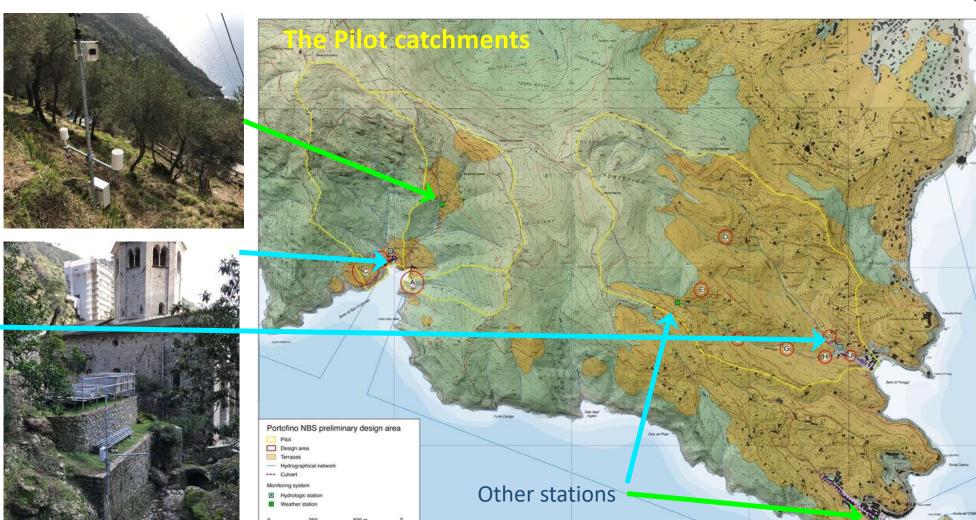
## Monitoring activities

On- site monitoring

**Data managment** — TeleControlNet – InterAct platform

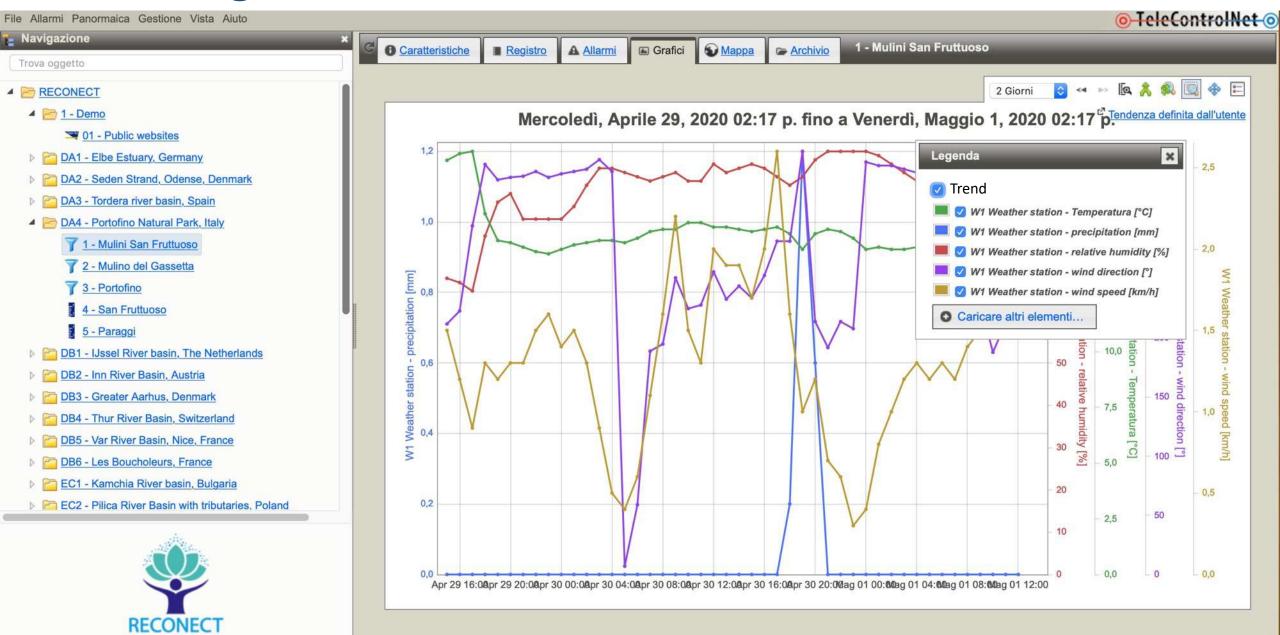






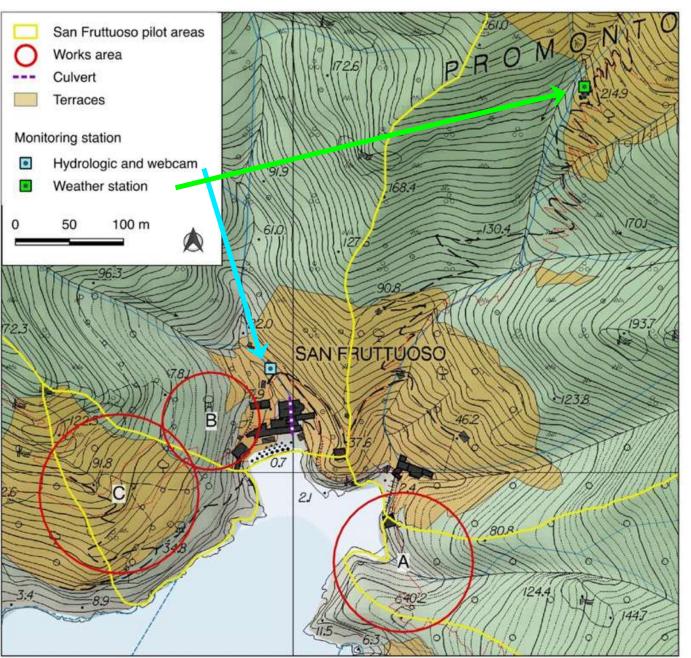


## Monitoring activities - data managment platform InterAct RECONECT partner

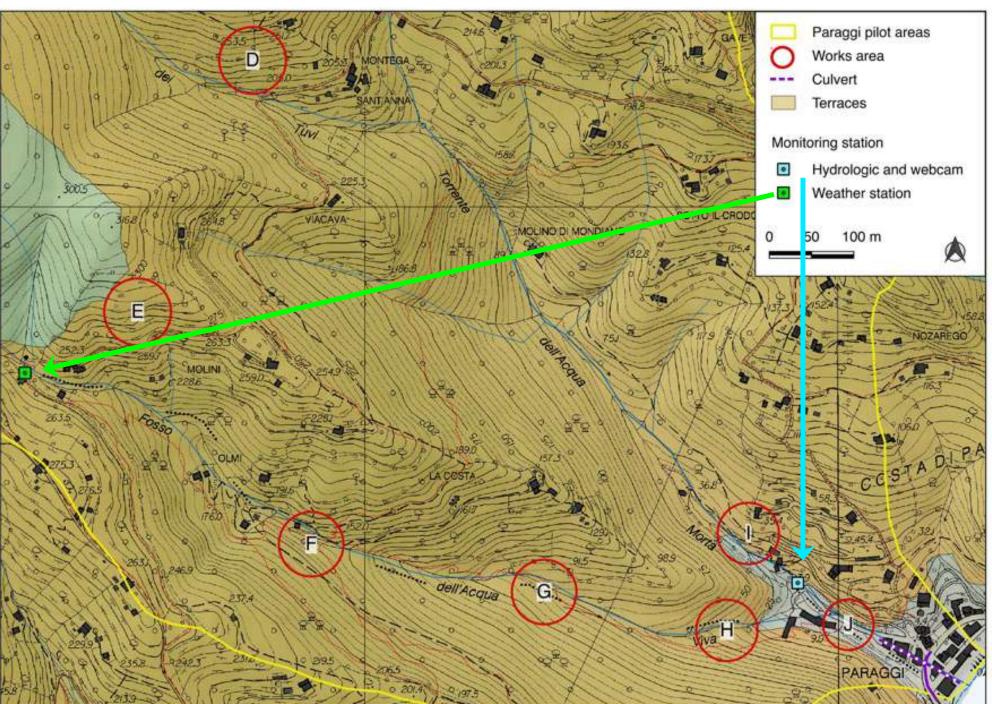




### **NBS** measures in San Fruttuoso area



- A) **Draining** running water in the compluvium with small stone walls in order to reduce erosion along the slopes; protection of the footpath and the Casa dell'Arco.
- B) Compluvium maintanance; wood amelioration, by removing allochthonous and degraded species; regeneration of holms (Quercus ilex L.), the climax species in the area that has positive effect on the stabilization of the conglomerate slopes; wood and stone weirs to reduce solid transport into the stream. Consolidation of rock slopes for footpath and building securing.
- C) **Stone walls recovery** and environmental engineering to slopes stabilization; proper plating of Mediterranean autochthonous shrub species to reduce erosion and improve slope stabilization.





## NBS measures in Paraggi area

- D) **Terraces recovery** to slopes stabilization and to avoid strong contribution of solid transport into the stream.
- E) Footpath maintanance and recovery; vegetation cleaning along the stream and water flow improvement.
- F) **Stone weirs** in order to reduce the flow energy and then the erosion along the stream.
- G) **Vegetation maintanance** along the stream and water flow improvement.
- H) Selective weir and small sediment trap to avoid saturating transport capacity of the culvert.



## NBS benefits/costs

## **Expected benefits/co-benefits**

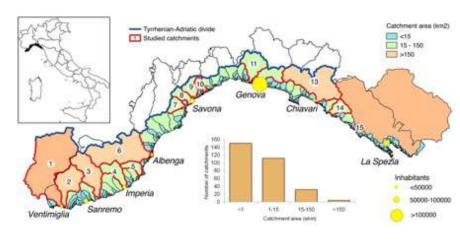
- Decrease exposure to geo-hydrological hazard infrastructures and cultural heritages
- Re-building/maintenance of dry-stone walls geo-hydrological risk reduction, landscape (terraces are part of the landscape and cultural heritage), re-incentivize agricultural activities
- Decrease the impacts of landslides and slopes instability at coastal sediment budget level
- Decrease the risk of injuries among park visitors
- Support the interaction with private land owners
- Integrate the proposed NBS with regional policies for land management/planning
- Improve the visibility and the governance model of the Park
- Improve the collaboration between the Park Authority and the main local actors



## **Upscaling**

The **geomorphological features** of the pilot area are **paradigmatic** of all *Liguria and Mediterranen area*:

- small catchments
- high slope gradient
- urbanization in the lower part
- stream terminal stretch completely culverted
- short time of concentration
- high geo-hydrologic risk



## Similar features in other Mediterranean areas:

- Sicily and Campania regions in Italy
- Balearic islands in Spain
- Cote d'Azur in France
- Greek Islands
- Montenegro coastal areas

## The risk reduction strategy:

Spread interventions at catchment scale - NBS







## Thank you for your attention!

### http://www.reconect.eu

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 776866.