



## LIFE Biodiver'Cité et resilience la restauration écologique au service des habitants

(Biodiver-city & resiliency, ecological restoration at the service of the citizenship)

### PROJECT SUMMARY

Biodiversity loss is particularly important in urban and suburban areas, and Bordeaux Métropole (BM) is no exception. Following the development of the Biodiver'Cité 2017-2020 strategy, BM wanted to take action by rolling out operations to combat threats to biodiversity, in particular artificialisation of land, climate change, light and noise pollution and intensive agriculture.

5 restoration projects will be set up on 4 sites (6907 ha): agroecological exploitation, dike retreat, reduction of light and noise pollution, reversing artificialisation of land and renaturing and reopening water networks. These projects will have a positive effect on species and habitats with a poor conservation status at the European and French level, in particular *Mustela lutreola*, *Coenagrion mercuriale*, *Epidalea calamita*, *Emys orbicularis*, *Euphydryas aurinia*, *Lampetra planeri*, Lowland hay meadows (6510) and Hygrophilous megaphorbs (6430). They will also positively impact residents' living environment and quality of life, reduce flood risk, provide sustainable energy, increase food resilience, reduce urban heat islands and improve the provision of ecosystem services in the city. An essential aspect of the project is demonstrating the financial benefits of these operations by incorporating the valuation of ecosystem services.

In view of its impact on habitats and species with unfavourable conservation status, its consideration of ecosystem services and its intervention in a variety of environments (urban, agricultural, forestry), the project fits perfectly with the objectives of the LIFE programme and responds to priorities 1 & 2 of the Nature and Biodiversity call for projects.

Restoration projects are, therefore, based on methodologies that combine nature and resilience to highlight the value of biodiversity conservation for humans. This is why the project is called LIFE Biodiver'Cité & Résilience, ecological restoration for the benefit of the inhabitants LIFE-BCR.

The project has various objectives:

- O1: improve the functionality of the global ecological network: restoration of 1200m of land corridors and rehabilitation of 2600m linear blue network.
- O2: improve the quality of habitats (wetlands, nature in cities and aquatic environments) and develop sustainable farms adapted to the effects of climate change: restoration of 250ha of wetlands, creation of a sustainable farm of 182 ha, rehabilitation of 1800m of hedges.
- O3: reduce threats to biodiversity.
- O4: increase the provision of ecological services (pollination, islands of freshness, flood flow mitigation, carbon capture and recreational services), including the deartificialisation of 11.5ha in urban areas and restoration in natural areas.



- O5: promote the passage to action by demonstrating the financial balance of restoration operations in the medium/long term and the interest of society by integrating ecological services into the balance sheets.

## PROJECT CONSORTIUM

- BORDEAUX METROPOLE
- Fédération de Peche et de protection du milieu aquatique de Gironde, France
- LPO, France
- European Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) International, Belgium
- Association Cistude Nature, France
- Conservatoire d'espaces naturels de Nouvelle-Aquitaine, France

## ROLE OF SERE

- Networking and dissemination of LIFE BCR best practices across the ecological restoration community at the EU level, including at the SERE biannual Conference, SERE membership, EUROCITIES working group and Oppla community.
- Developing a European-wide transferability and replication strategy and a Networking Technical Note, jointly with Bordeaux Metropole, using online co-creative approaches with interested practitioners and professionals of urban and periurban restoration in the SERE network.
- Identify and advise specific potential cities with replication sites across Europe via workshops and bilateral exchanges identified via surveys, virtual advising and in-person visits of LIFE BCR experts (up to 5 cities). The replication strategy will define the procedures.
- Jointly with LIFE BCR partners, organisation of one or more webinars connected to LIFE BCR, Technical Notes on Networking for Urban and Periurban Restoration, and on strategies towards standards for urban and periurban restoration and a LIFE BCR policy briefs, technical and scientific articles.
- Contribute to the After-LIFE Plan.

## TIMELINE & FUNDING

- Project budget: 5,898,984.90 €
- EU contribution budget (LIFE Programme): 3,539,387.90€
- SER Europe Budget: 32,000 € (LIFE grant + project support)
- Start date: 01.12.2022
- End date: 30 November 2027



## PROJECT WEBSITE

<https://www.bordeaux-metropole.fr/metropole/projets-en-cours/nature-environnement/preserver-nature/protger-biodiversite-programme>