

Technical Factsheet | Oasi del Gabbianello Project

The Project

The project focuses on the **Oasi del Gabbianello**, a protected natural area of local significance located in the Municipality of **Barberino di Mugello**.

Developed by **Acqua Panna** and the **Sanpellegrino Group** in collaboration with the Municipality of Barberino di Mugello and technical partner **Etifor**, the initiative covers an area of approximately **25 hectares**, including **8 hectares of water bodies**.

The project includes the restoration and expansion of wetlands, works to improve the oasis' water supply system, habitat maintenance activities, vegetation management measures, upgrades to visitor infrastructure, and the development of visitor trails and wildlife observation points. These activities are supported by ecological studies and dedicated environmental monitoring programmes.

Investment

Total investment: more than €2 million

Investment Timeline

2022-2025 | €1.3 million

Completion of preliminary studies, detailed design activities, and permitting procedures.

Implementation of the main ecosystem restoration and hydraulic interventions, including the expansion and renaturalization of wetlands, restoration of the Oasis' water supply system, creation of new habitats, reforestation with native species, and improvements to infrastructure supporting the management and public use of the area.

2026 | €120,000

Completion of activities aimed at enhancing the ecological and visitor value of the Oasis, including the restoration and expansion of wildlife observation points, the creation of new visitor trails and rest areas, the installation of educational signage, and upgrades to wayfinding systems.

Completion of the Oasis educational pathway and launch of environmental education programmes, guided tours, and community engagement initiatives.

2026-2030 | €608,000

Implementation of a multi-year maintenance programme covering wetlands, habitats, hydraulic infrastructure, and green areas developed as part of the project.

Implementation of a continuous scientific monitoring programme focused on biodiversity, habitats, and water resources, including the quantification of regenerated water volumes, periodic reporting, and independent validation of results.

Expected Benefits

Water Benefits

The activities implemented between 2022 and 2025 focused on the expansion and management of wetlands within the Oasis. Completed and planned activities through 2030 include the restoration and creation of more than **2 hectares of wetlands**, with the objective of increasing the total wetland area compared to the site's original configuration.

The evolution of the Oasis' hydrological characteristics will be monitored through a dedicated programme running until 2030, which includes the measurement of:

- Restored or created wetland area (ha)
- **Volumetric Water Benefit**
- Indicators related to the Oasis' water supply system
- Qualitative and quantitative characteristics of monitored water resources

Biodiversity Benefits

A naturalistic study conducted by the **University of Florence** identified **91 bird species**, including a heron nesting colony comprising more than **100 pairs of colonial herons**, as well as the presence of amphibian species of conservation interest, such as the **great crested newt**.

The 2026-2030 monitoring programme will assess annually:

- Number of species monitored
- Presence and population trends of target species
- Conservation status of habitats
- Evolution of native vegetation and reforested areas
- Any changes compared to the initial baseline, which will be reported in annual monitoring reports

Benefits for the Territory and Local Community

- Restoration of the Oasis educational centre
- Creation of new visitor trails
- Restoration and expansion of nature observation points
- Installation of educational and informational facilities

The actual use of the area will be monitored through indicators related to infrastructure utilization and environmental education activities.

Measurement, Monitoring and Reporting

The project is supported by a structured environmental monitoring system developed with the contribution of specialized scientific and technical partners and operating through 2030. Indicators are measured annually and compared against the baseline established through ecological, hydrological, and naturalistic studies conducted between 2022 and 2025.

Water KPIs

- Volumetric Water Benefit (volumes of water returned to the ecosystem)
- Restored or created wetland area (ha)
- Indicators related to the Oasis' water supply system

Biodiversity KPIs

- Number of species monitored
- Presence and trends of target species of conservation interest
- Habitat conservation status
- Evolution of native vegetation and reforested areas

Territory and Community KPIs

- Use of visitor infrastructure and trails
- Environmental education activities delivered
- Participation in visitor initiatives and local community engagement programmes

The design and implementation of project activities have been developed with the support of technical partner **Etifor**, based on scientific studies carried out by research institutions and universities. Monitoring and quantification of water-related indicators are supported by the **University of Florence (DAGRI Department)**, which prepares annual reports on the project's **Volumetric Water Benefit** and monitored hydrological indicators.

The water benefit generated by the project is assessed annually by **Bluerisk**, which issues a certificate reporting the actual water benefit volumes achieved following its analysis.

Project progress and related monitoring indicators will be independently verified on an annual basis by a qualified third-party provider. The outcomes of this verification process will contribute to ensuring the transparency and reliability of the information disclosed.