

Technical Factsheet | VAIA Project

The Project

This initiative is being implemented in the **Municipality of Valdisotto (Province of Sondrio)**, in the Valtellina region, the source area of Levissima natural mineral water. Developed in collaboration with the municipal administration, the Alta Valtellina Forestry Consortium, and the University of Milan, the project involves the remediation and reforestation of **part of the 115 hectares of forest** damaged by Storm Vaia in 2018. The initiative includes forest restoration and habitat recovery activities, with the objective of contributing to the conservation of the local forest ecosystem.

Investment

Total investment: **€1.1 million**

Investment Timeline

2023–2025 | €684,000

Launch of remediation activities, including the removal of fallen trees and bioengineering works to stabilize exposed slopes. Reforestation activities were carried out in areas requiring forest regeneration, alongside the implementation of preventive forest maintenance measures.

2026–2027 | €200,000

Additional reforestation and preventive forest maintenance activities across further forest parcels.

2028–2033 | €192,000

Annual contribution of €32,000 to the Alta Valtellina Forestry Consortium to support ongoing forest maintenance activities.

Expected Benefits

- Restoration of forest areas damaged by Storm Vaia.
- Contribution to rainwater management through forest restoration activities.
- Enhancement of natural water infiltration processes into the soil.
- Support for the conservation of local habitats and biodiversity.
- Generation of an estimated water benefit exceeding 1 million m³ over the 2023–2033 period.

Measurement, Monitoring and Reporting

- Scientific monitoring of forest restoration activities and biodiversity indicators is conducted annually by the University of Milan.
- The water benefit generated by the project is assessed annually by Bluerisk, an independent third-party organization, which issues a certificate reporting the actual water benefit volumes achieved.

The project's implementation 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.