

Carlingford Lough

NORTHERN IRELAND

Located on the East Coast of Ireland straddling the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. The case study is a coastal embayment surrounded by mountains.



Couesnon Catchment and Estuary

FRANCE

The Case Study includes the Couesnon river catchment located in North-Western France in the Armorican massif. This small river catchment discharges into the bay of Mont-Saint-Michel.



ALICE

4 KEY DEMONSTRATION SITES ACROSS THE ATLANTIC AREA

Paiva River

PORTUGAL

Paiva river is a tributary of the Douro, situated in Northern Portugal and it is considered one of the least polluted in Europe.



Pas, Miera & Asón Catchments

SPAIN

The study case encompasses Pas, Miera and Asón river basins and estuaries, located in Northern Spain. The basins are enclosed in the oriental part of the Cantabrian Cordillera.



Where we want to go

GOALS

Contribute to a common methodology to assist local and regional actors with coastal and inland landscape management.

Designing Blue-Green Infrastructure Networks (BGINs)

Developing methods to model multiple ecosystem services

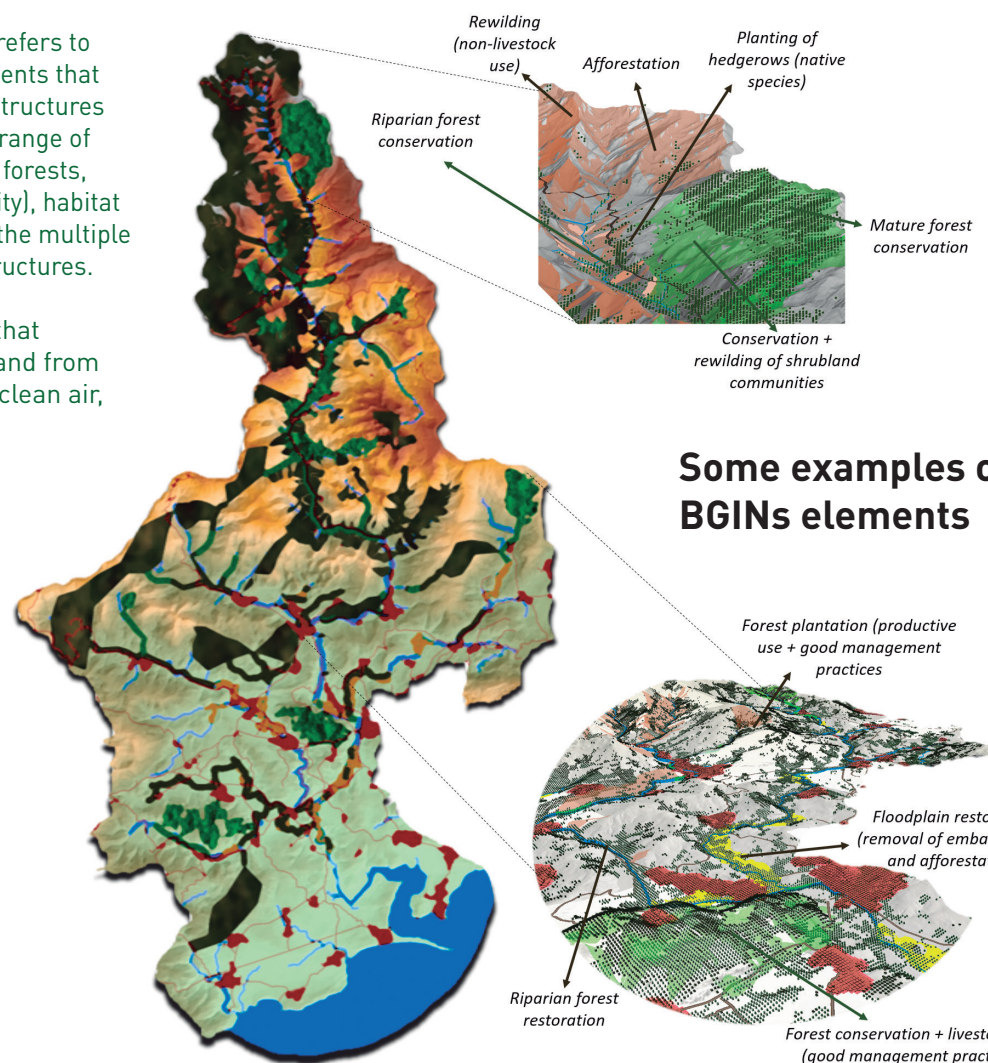
Identifying economic and social barriers on BGINs investments

Blue-Green Infrastructure Network (BGIN) refers to all natural and semi-natural landscape elements that can form a green-blue network. These infrastructures are designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services. Restoration of coastline forests, retention of nutrients (to improve water quality), habitat improvement for target species are some of the multiple functions provided by blue and green infrastructures.

Ecosystem Services (ES) are the benefits that humans obtain from natural environment and from properly-functioning ecosystems, such as clean air, purified water and food provision.

BGIN elements

- To be conserved**
 - Hillside ecosystems
 - Riparian and other lineal habitats
- To be restored**
 - Hillside areas
 - Foodplains
 - Riparian areas
- Water bodies**
 - Water courses
- Population centre**
 - Road



Some examples of BGINs elements

How are we getting that

MEANS

Integrate social, economic and environmental analytical tools and models.

Satellite images, GIS data and modelling frameworks
MAPPING AQUATIC AND TERRESTRIAL FORMATIONS

Multi-model platform
ENHANCING THE PREDICTIVE CAPACITY

Social learning
BETWEEN RESEARCHERS AND STAKEHOLDERS



Improving the management of ATLANTIC LANDSCAPES: accounting for biodiversity and ecosystem services

ALICE

ALICE partners will work across the four case studies and project work packages, ensuring the use of local knowledge and making models and approaches comparable across countries:



ALICE

– 5 countries of the Interreg Atlantic region: Portugal, Spain, France, UK and Ireland.

– 14 research centres, NGOs and private companies with skills in Earth and Social Sciences, Economics and Resource Management.

– 4 key demonstration sites across the Atlantic area.

An integrative landscape management approach incorporating socioeconomic and climate change scenarios is critical to ensure the suitable investments in Blue-Green Infrastructure Networks and maximise their benefits.

ALICE will identify and provide solutions to overcome the economic and social barriers that may limit investment in Blue-Green Infrastructure Networks and will improve the characterisation of biodiversity and ecosystem services at the land-sea interface of the Atlantic Region and beyond.

OUTPUTS

Practical guidance on Blue-Green Infrastructure Networks (BGINs) investment in coastal, rural and urban planning to increase Ecosystem Services (ES) delivery;

User-friendly integrative modelling platform that facilitates ES evaluation by managers, stakeholders and business communities;

New methods for habitat mapping and conservation monitoring using remote sensing and ecological modelling tools;

Guidance to identify thresholds controlling ES delivery under realistic scenarios of global change;

Innovative participatory approaches for decision support to realistically inform environmental policy;

Practical guidance for developing an integrated EU policy agenda such as:

- HABITATS DIRECTIVE
- COMMON AGRARIAN POLICY
- MARINE STRATEGY FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE
- WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE
- FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT AND EU 2020 BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

