LIFE ELIA – Creating green corridors

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1. The project – Loss of biodiversity

70ies "Loss of diversity is a scientific evidence"

1970 : creation of nature reserves

1970 - 1990 : creation of Natura 2000

 # 2012 : launching of the LIFE ELIA-RTE project

-> mixing challenges of the private sector and biodiversity issues

1. The project - General features

Project type : LIFE+ Biodiversity (EU instrument)

Duration : 5 years (9/2011 – 8/2016)

Total budget : 2.550.000 €

European commission (46 %)

Walloon Region (32 %)

ELIA (18 %)

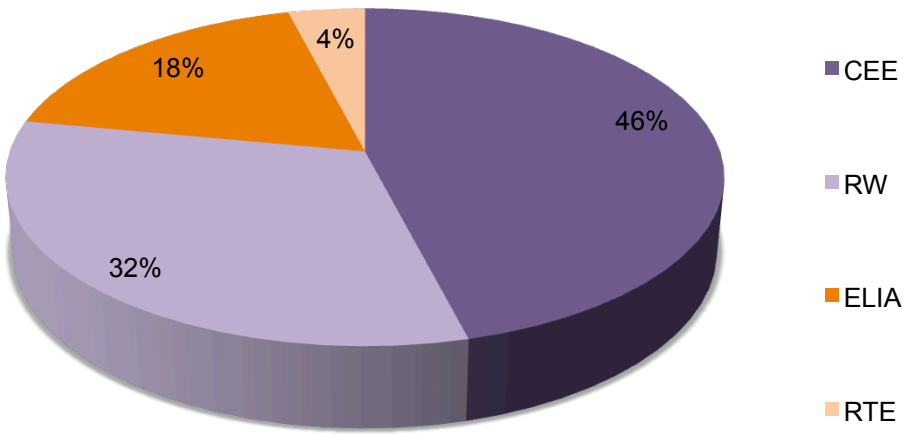
RTE (4 %)

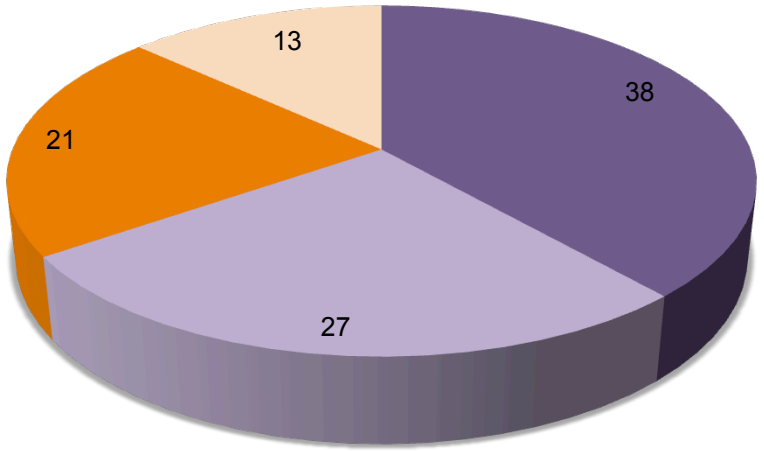
1. The project - General features

Initial budget
2.550.000 €

Actual budget
3.200.000 €

+ 650.000 €





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1. The project - Team

7 dynamic people

1 general coordinator

1 scientific coordinator

1 field coordinator

3 field workers

1 communication-networking

1. The project - Facts and figures

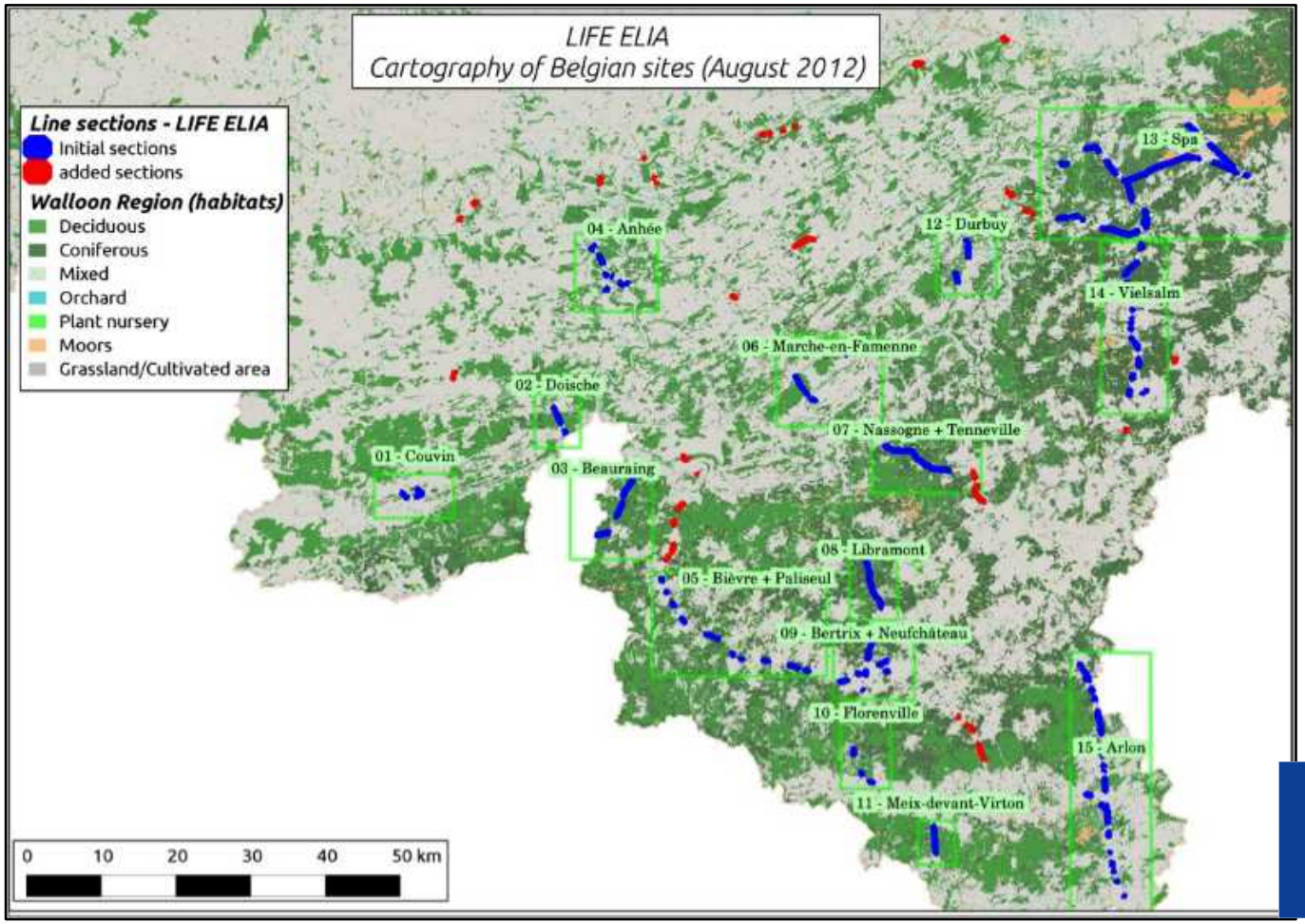
37 sites in forest areas

29 sites in Belgium

8 sites in France

1. The project - Facts and figures

213 km of high tension lines ***(155 km linear)***



Private

-

Public

50 % - 50 %

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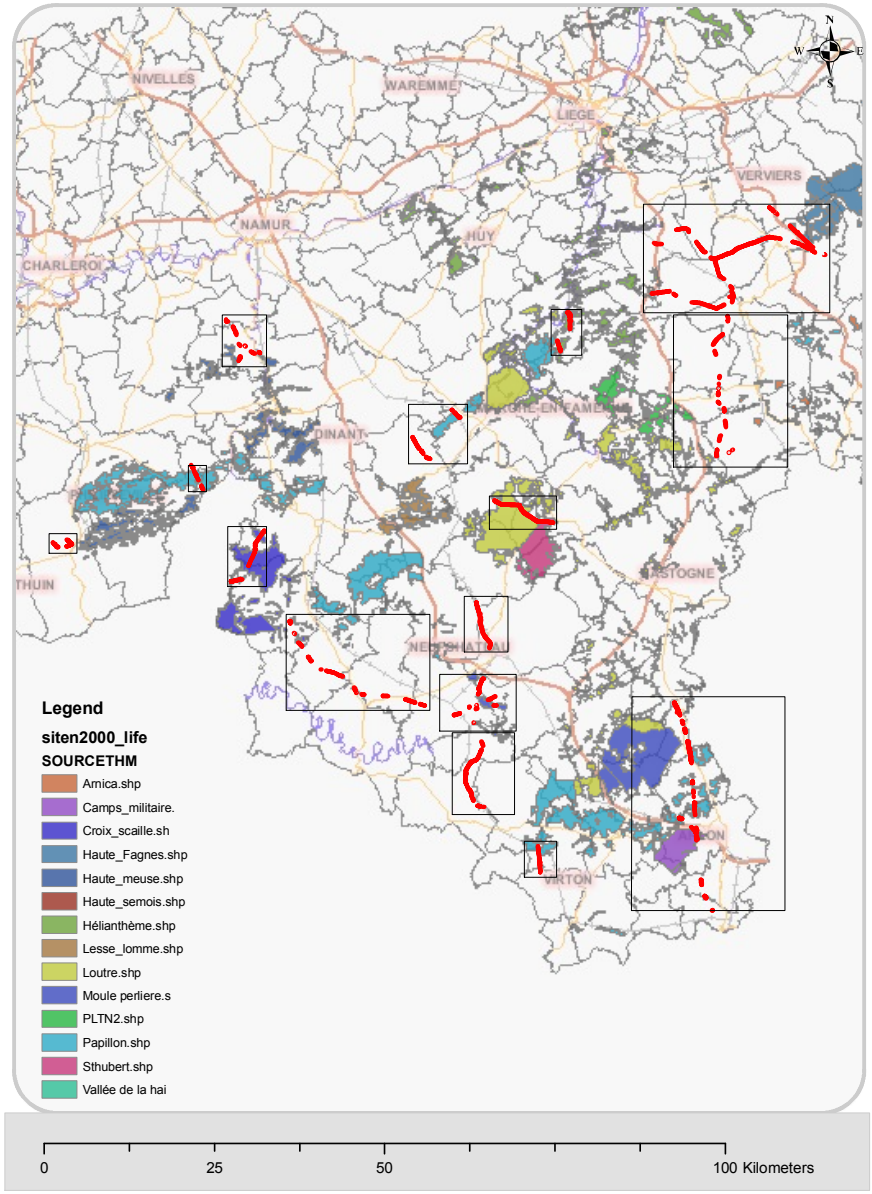
1. The project - Facts and figures



Connections with other nature projects :

previous LIFE

ongoing LIFE

others (Interreg…)

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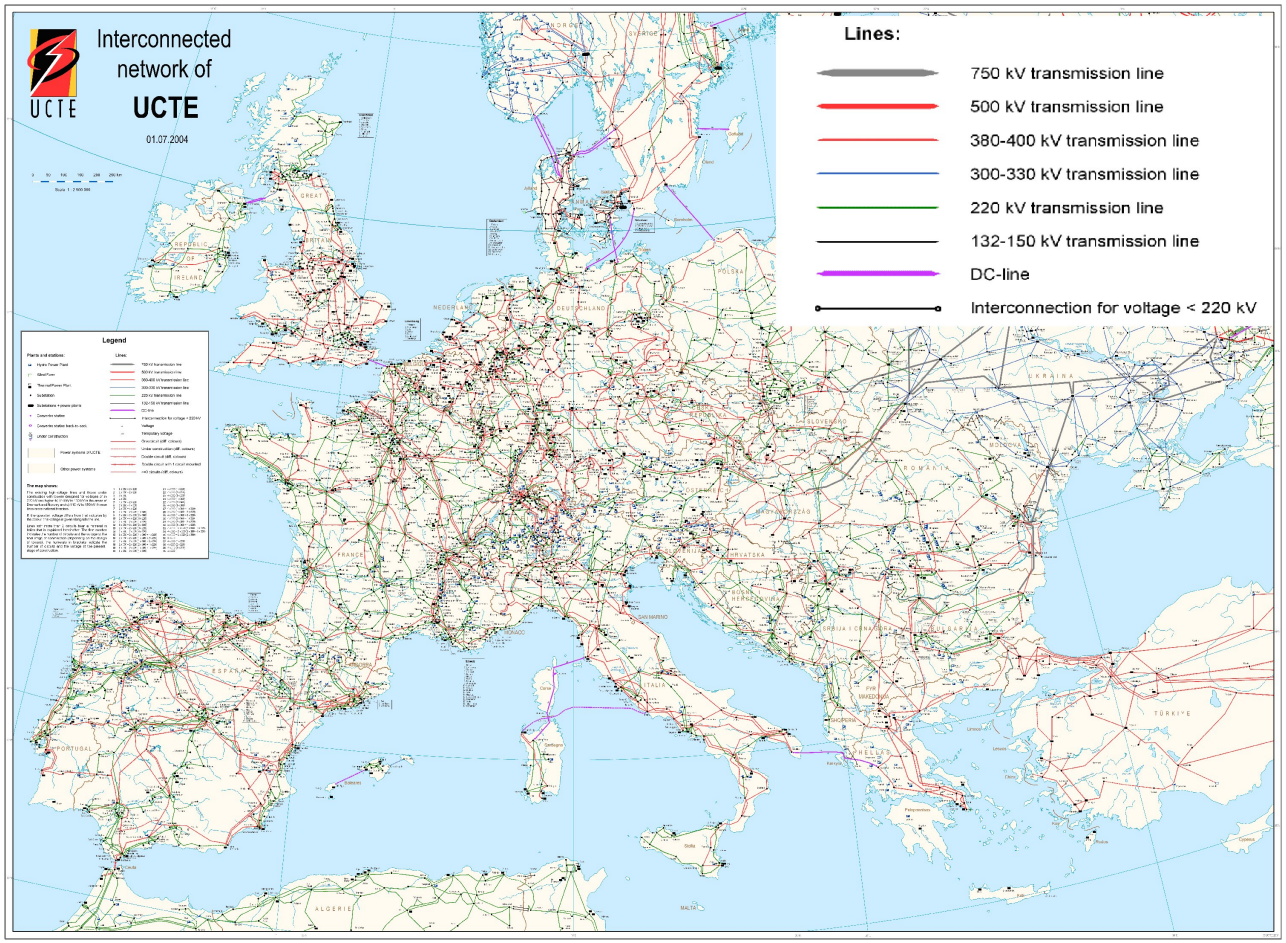
1. The project - Facts and figures

Let's zoom out…**a european network !**



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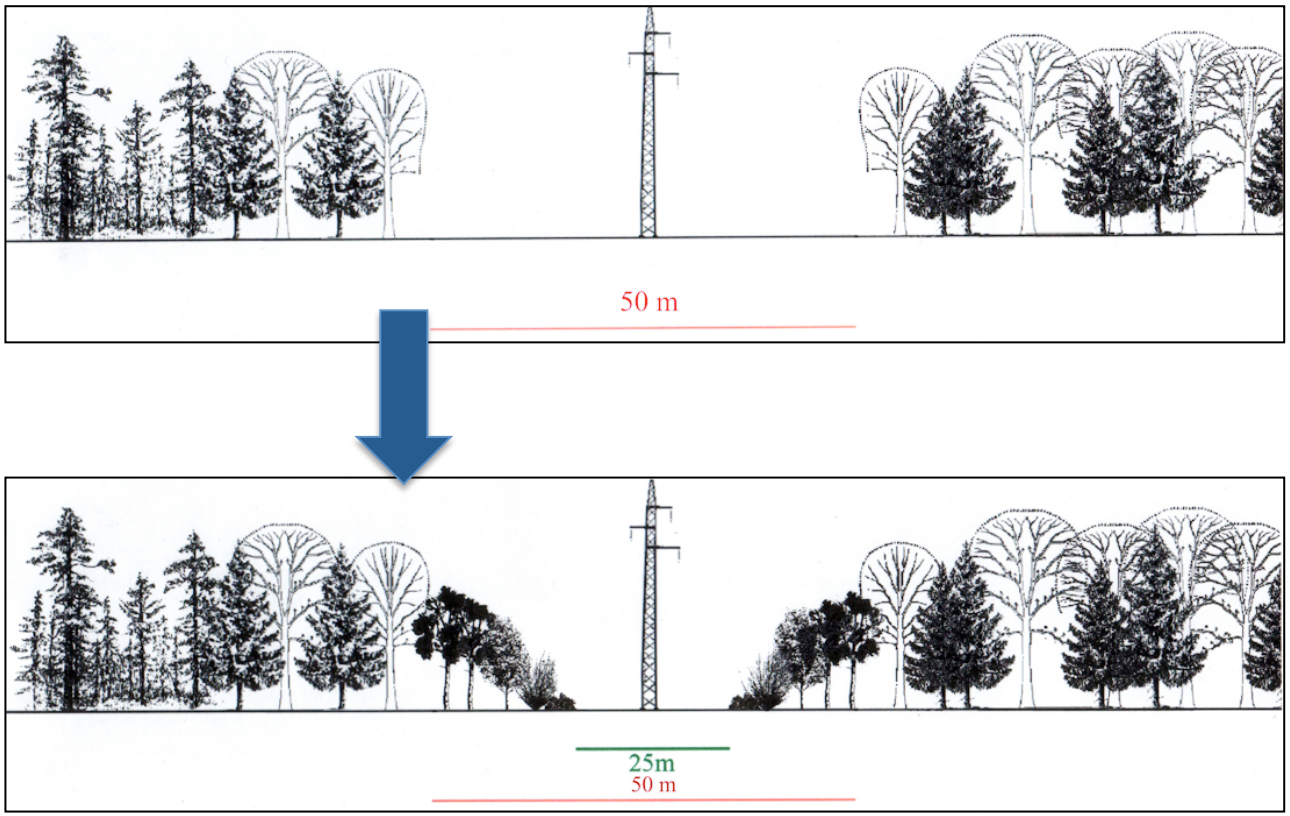
2. Actions - 1/ Edges

- from a U-shape to a V-shape



2. Actions - 1/ Edges

- from a U-shape to a V-shape
- with secondary species (less economic, more attractive for biodiversity)
- seed harvesting for local origin
- set up of 3 nurseries
- plantation on sites

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2. Actions - 1/ Edges

FINAL OBJECTIVE :

creation of 60 km of edges

restoration of 80 km of edges

2. Actions - 2/ Conservatory orchards

- conservation of local indigenous varieties

  # apple tree, pear tree and medlar tree

- fruit harvest for seed production
- plantation and creation of genetic local tanks for further use by forest owners and managers

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2. Actions - 2/ Conservatory orchards

FINAL OBJECTIVE :

creation of 20 ha of conservatory orchards

2. Actions - 3/ Habitat restoration

- restoration of :
  - # peats
    - (stoppers and dykes)
  - # moors
    - (soil removing)
  - # flowering meadows
    - (seed harvesting and sowing)

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2. Actions - 3/ Habitat restoration

FINAL OBJECTIVE :

restoration of 20 ha of natural habitats

2. Actions - 4/ Ponds

- digging ponds
- springboard area for biodiversity
    - # amphibians
    - # dragonflies
    - # birds
- …meeting safety standards

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2. Actions - 4/ Ponds

FINAL OBJECTIVE :

digging of 100 ponds

2. Actions - 5/ Invasive species

- invasive species control
- corridors are good for spreading, actions are :

  # surface soil removing

  # plant removal

  # canvas covering

  # innovative techniques

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2. Actions - 5/ Invasive species

FINAL OBJECTIVE :

treatment of 20 ha

2. Actions - 6/ Pasturing and mowing

- fencing
- contracting with local partners
- managing of natural habitats
- value added for education and tourism

2. Actions - 6/ Pasturing and mowing

FINAL OBJECTIVE :

implementation of 25 ha

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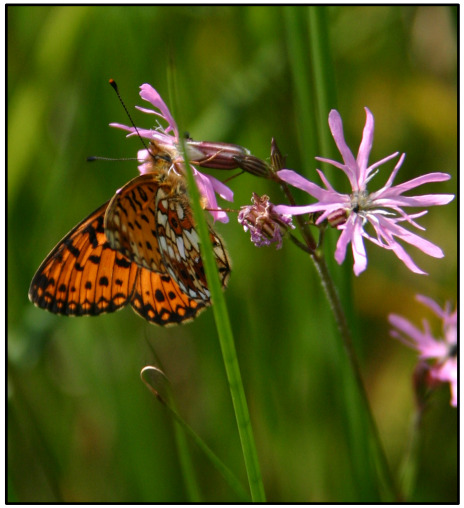
2. Actions - 7/ Flowering meadows

- contact zone between forest and open habitat
- wild seed harvesting and sowing
- contracting with local famers and beekeepers
- late mowing and low-density pasturing



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2. Actions - 7/ Flowering meadows

FINAL OBJECTIVE :

creation of 20 ha

3. Methodology

vegetation mapping

restoration plans

meeting with stakeholders

agreements

writing specifications and choice of operator

on site works

writing of post-work management

3. Methodology

 # vegetation mapping

restoration plans

meeting with stakeholders

agreements

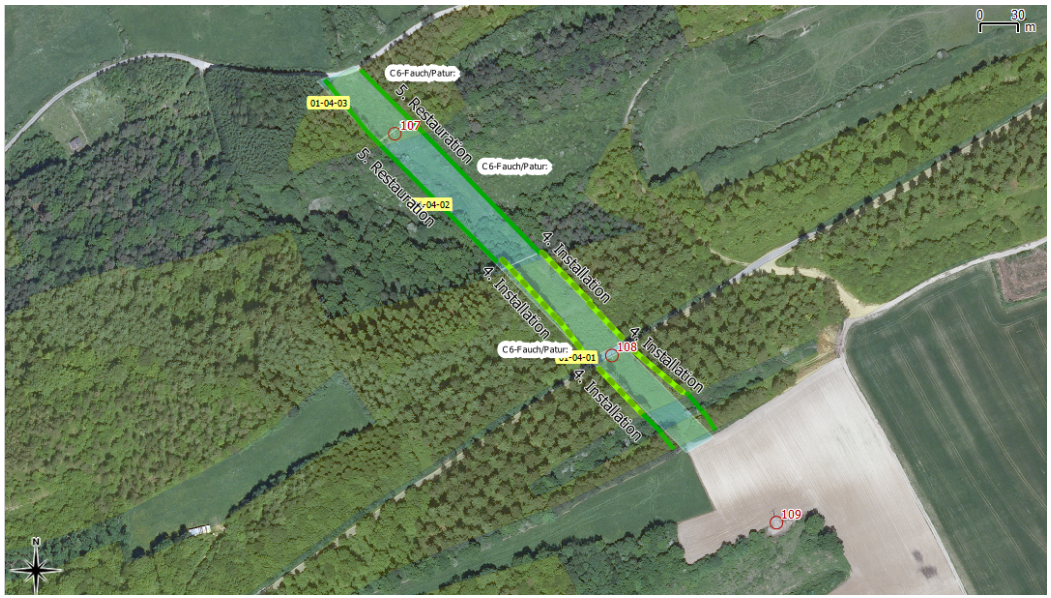
writing specifications and choice of operator

on site works

writing of post-work management

3. Methodology - Vegetation mapping

- vegetation mapping meets two needs
  - concerns for the electrical line safety
  - concerns for biodiversity
    - data on starting situation describing actual vegetation
    - data on restoration goals



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3. Methodology - Vegetation mapping

- high level of database interaction
  - data on owners, managers vegetation, goals, specifications, agreements…
  - can be integrated in mobiles

gedinne 1 div/gedinne/	C	14L3	91054C0014/00L003
gedinne 2 div/louette-st-denis	A	117C	91082A0117/00C000
		119S	91082A0119/00S000
		79K3	91082A0079/00K003
		87Y2	91082A0087/00Y002
gedinne 3 div/houdremont/	A	911A	91069A0911/00A000
		916A	91069A0916/00A000
		918C	91069A0918/00C000
		932A	91069A0932/00A000
gedinne 7 div/bourseigne-neuve/	A	18F	91020A0018/00F000
		24N	91020A0024/00N000
		24T	91020A0024/00T000
		25B	91020A0025/00B000
		25E	91020A0025/00E000
		27A	91020A0027/00A000
		34G	91020A0034/00G000
		559B	91020A0559/00B000
		569B2	91020A0569/00B002
		569K2	91020A0569/00K002
		572A	91020A0572/00A000
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		62R16	91105B0062/00R016

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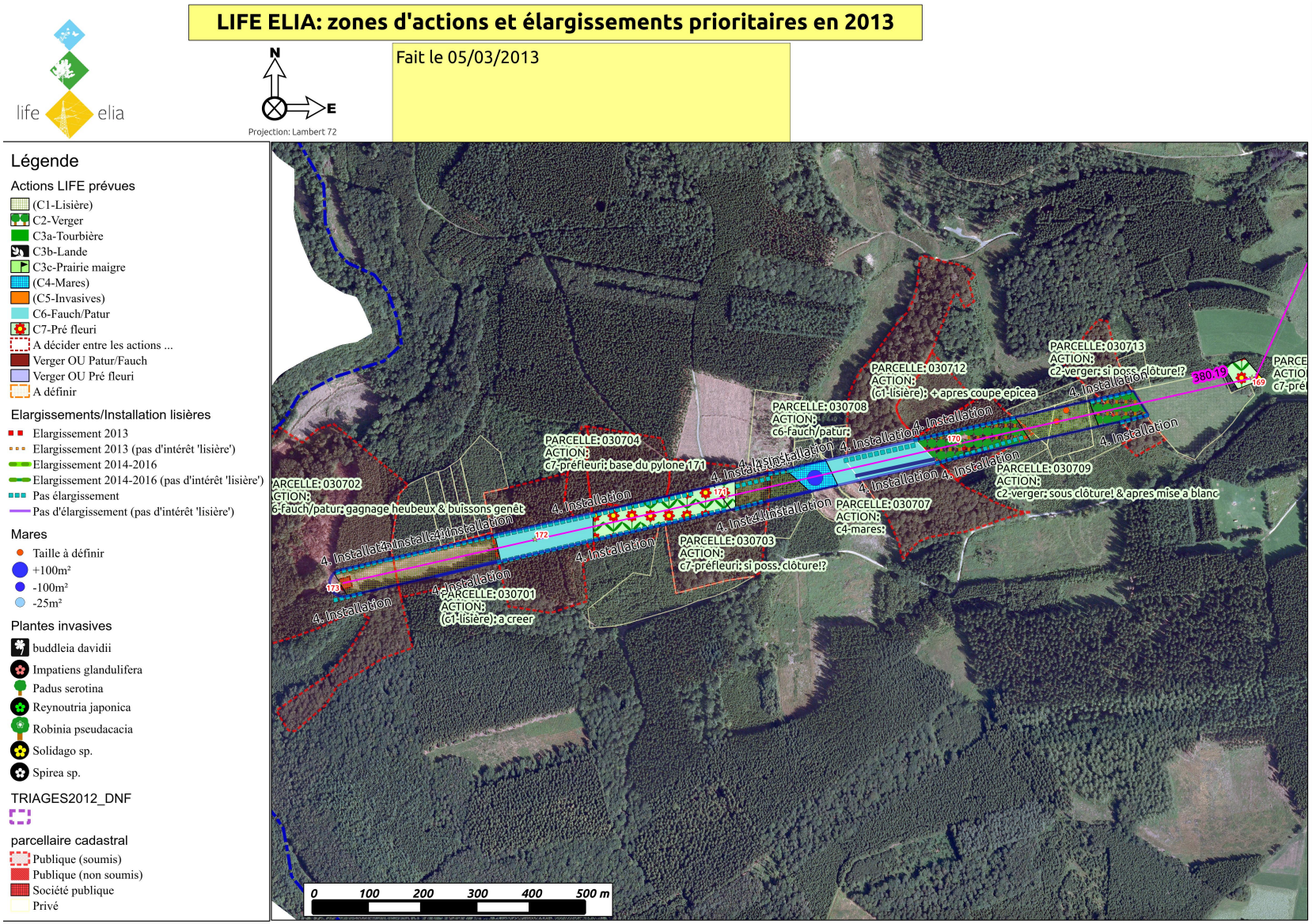
3. Methodology - Vegetation mapping



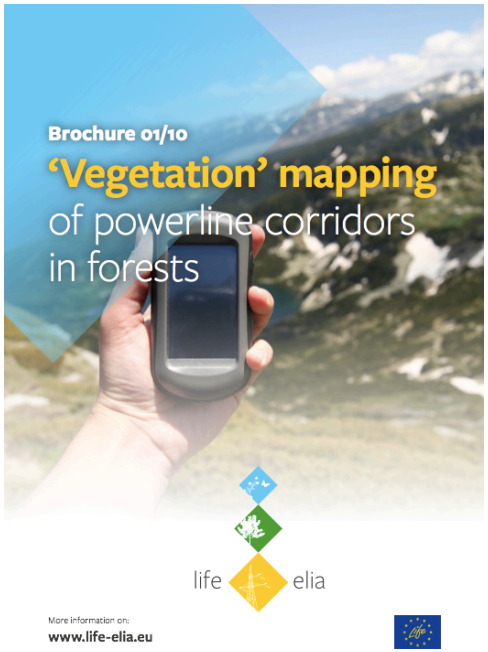
4. Publications

First of 10 brochures :

vegetation mapping

---> sharing of the know-how

---> sharing of experiences



37 news on project progress

european vade-mecum for best practices

upcoming cost/benefit analysis

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4. Publications - Website

www.life-elia.eu/en/

news

sites with :

* actions progress

* maps

publications

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4. Publications - Training and spreading

training sessions for Transport System Operator

videos (VIMEO)

leaflets

didactic panels

observation towers

5. Partnerships

How does it benefit ? (1/2)

For the Transport System Operator

strengthen the social responsibility (in and out)

positive point for new permits

less managing costs

For the municipalities

better landscape

touristic asset

5. Partnerships

How does it benefit ? (2/2)

For administration

areas of regulation application (certification, Natura 2000)

For environmentalist

actions for fauna and flora

network for biodiversity

For users

good for grazing/mowing (farmers)

good for game (hunters)

5. Partnership with european TSO

What type of partnership ?

between TSO and LIFE ELIA

based on different types of partnership

1. simple passive partnership
2. inputs for vade/mecum and stakeholders day
3. pilot sites in their own country

5. Partnership with european TSO

Results

previous contact and networking campaign

contacts with 12 countries :

France, Portugal, Spain, Germany, Finland, Eire, Slovenia, England, Poland, Austria, Switzerland and Luxembourg

6. Linear contexts and biodiversity

How do we contribute to linear infrastructures studies ?

by integrating biodiversity at all steps of the core business of a private company

by writing :

* a exhaustive cost/benefit analysis

* a best-practices document

by creating partnerships including stakeholders

by spreading our know-how around Europe

by developing mapping tools

www.life-elia.eu

Vimeo

LinkedIn

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SPW
Service public de Wallonie

elia
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Rte
Réseau de transport d'électricité

Life

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