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## **Rural development between “institutional spaces” and “spaces of resources and vocations”: Park Authorities and LAGs in Sicily**

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### **Abstract**

This paper addresses the subject of the reference frames of territorialisation processes determined by local development initiatives. Its purpose is to offer a survey on a central issue: which spatial frames of reference influence or justify the choices of LAGs in the definition and delimitation of local development spaces.

The paper is about the case of Sicily, presenting some possible interpretations of an evolution of the development space from “institutional space” to “space of resources and vocations”. The paper will highlight the relation between the spaces of natural parks and the spaces of LAGs in the Participatory Local Development Strategies.

**Keywords:** *territorialisation, local development, LAGs, natural park, Participatory Local Development Strategies*

### **Introduction**

It has been argued [Martorana 2017] that *the landscape resources are fundamental to the development of tourism in rural areas; that Park Authorities, as institutional bodies responsible for the environmental and landscape protection of*

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<sup>1</sup> For the purpose of the attribution of the two Authors' contributions to this article, it is specified that C. Falduzzi is the Author of the paragraphs 'Introduction'. The 'objects' of observation: LAGs and regional natural parks between development and protection' and 'Rural development territories and natural parks in Sicily: two geographies compared'. G.S. Martorana is the author of the paragraphs 'The landscape as a mere denomination: an unfinished territorialisation' and 'Space of rules and space of strategy'.

*the territory, represent the frame of reference for the construction of territorial partnerships underlying the Leader approach but that, nevertheless, the LAGs’ strategic choices in the Participatory Local Development Strategies highlight, in general, the difficulty in considering the landscape as a central and autonomous development factor.*

The relevance of Park Authorities as subjects responsible for the protection and enhancement of the environmental assets – which in turn are important for the socio-economic development of a territory – allows, at least in theory, to give these bodies a remarkable territorialising function and a key role in the development of local policies based on the Clld<sup>2</sup> approach as the LAGs’ ones are in the current European programming period.

On the basis of these assumptions, it is therefore legitimate to ask ourselves some questions: given the presence on the Sicilian LAGs territories of bodies whose main task is the protection of environmental assets, and given that these bodies, on the basis of the Clld approach, should participate proactively in the elaboration of the Participatory Local Development Strategies (PLDs), has all this led LAGs to choose, among the thematic areas identified by the Sicilian region, those immediately linked to the protection of these assets? Has the presence of Park Authorities oriented the LAGs themselves towards clearly environmental strategic choices? Have Park Authorities, on the territories where they have performed their specific activities of protection, been a territorialising frame so effective as to be an unavoidable reference for the choices of the thematic areas by the LAGs? Or have they not?

In Sicily, it must be said (below referenced, paragraph “The ‘Objects’ of observation: LAGs and regional natural parks between development and protection”), a process of legislative reform of natural parks and park authorities is now under way. On the subject of the regional legislation, it has been pointed out that: *it cannot be maintained [...] that the current legislation has proved equally effective in achieving the two other essential targets envisaged: the controlled economic development of the protected territory and its enjoyment by the citizens and the local populations*<sup>3</sup>. This remark appears important to understand the reality of the Park Authorities in Sicily and also to better understand why the connection the Authors assumed existed between, on the one hand, the Park Authorities as “guardians” of environmental assets and, on the other, the LAGs and their development strategies, does not become manifest (see below, paragraph “The landscape as a mere denomination: an unfinished territorialisation”).

Ultimately, it is theoretically true that local development can be achieved, for example, through the promotion of sustainable tourism in areas subject to environmental protection and/or through the promotion and innovation of agri-food supply chains in areas subject to environmental protection.

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<sup>2</sup> Community Led Local Development.

<sup>3</sup> In: [http://www.siciliaparchi.com/\\_specialePoliticaAreeProtette.asp?voce=B](http://www.siciliaparchi.com/_specialePoliticaAreeProtette.asp?voce=B).

However, it is obvious that pursuing local development by clearly and directly involving the protected assets in strategies to them expressly dedicated represents a clearer and more immediate way. If this has not happened, if the overall view of the relationship between LAGs and Park Authorities suggests the existence of two separate paths of territorialisation, then, as maintained (see below, paragraph “Space of rules and space of strategy”), specific and in-depth analysis is necessary.

Moreover, for the 2014-2020 programming period the Sicilian LAGs had the possibility to select through their Participatory Local Development Strategies (PLDs) up to three thematic areas out of ten. Therefore the LAGs’ PLDs could easily have included, alongside more recurrent thematic areas (i.e. agri-food supply chains and sustainable tourism), different thematic areas as well. Other thematic areas could have given a specific declension to the ones mentioned above, in order to connote and specify them on the basis of the territory features and, in the specific case here discussed, those of the territories included in the Park Authorities.

### **The ‘objects’ of observation: LAGs and regional natural parks between development and protection**

Local development processes create territory or, more precisely, referring to the categories identified by Raffestin [Raffestin 1984], “deterritorialise” and “reterritorialise” [on the model of territorialisation, see also Turco 1988 and Magnaghi 2000, 2001].

The processes of territorialisation, deterritorialisation and reterritorialisation have already been highlighted in the literature that has dealt with local development<sup>4</sup>, and have been observed also in Sicily. On the island, the first experiences of local development linked to the negotiated planning season (the reference is in particular to “Territorial Pacts for Employment” and to “Territorial Integrated Projects”) were carried out within geo-political “frames” of provincial type [Martorana 2014, 2015].

A sort of “break” of the provincial frames began to emerge already from the beginning of the 2007-2013 European Community planning period: the boundaries of the Regional Provinces no longer represented the space for the containment of local development processes. The deterritorialisation of the province originated new territorialisations, new spaces for the development of the vast sub-regional area. Phenomena as the creation of “new” territories raise questions regarding the determining factors of the reterritorialisation process. We must ask ourselves, in short, which are the catalysts of the territorial aggregation and we must also take into

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<sup>4</sup> On the relationship between territoriality and local development see: Dematteis 2001, Dematteis & Governa 2005.

For an analysis of the construction of the European territory in connection with the issues of development, cohesion and governance, see: Governa, Janin-Rivolin, & Santangelo 2009.

For in-depth analysis on the territorial organization models in the European unified space, see: Bonavero & Dansero 1998.

account the restrictions<sup>5</sup> set by the different levels of rules to these processes of “creation” of the territory.

This brief dissertation, drawing inspiration from the case of the Sicilian Local Actions Groups (LAGs), will try not so much to answer these questions, but to trace a path of study through some suggestions deriving from an analysis of the relationship between the geography of the territories of rural development expressed by the Leader approach and the geography of the natural parks in Sicily. As you will see, the idea that to the deterritorialisation corresponded a reterritorialisation characterized by a paradigm shift – a shift from the space of institutions to the space of resources – is probably too naive. In any case, it is insufficient to explain complex phenomena in which resources and vocations are differently interpreted and expressed by multi-player arenas characterized by interests and levels of strength that are very different and sometimes difficult to compose.

Before getting into the heart of the dissertation, it is necessary to provide some references on the “objects” of our observation (Park Authorities and LAGs).

The concept of park, in general, is connected to the idea of protecting an area with clearly delimited boundaries and within which there are assets that the legal system deems worthy of protection. Therefore there are natural, archaeological, historical parks, etc. The protection essentially consists of a specific regulation of human activities permitted or prohibited in the park area.

In Sicily the basic rules concerning the protection of natural areas through the establishment of parks and reserves are contained in the Regional Law No. 98/81, which was followed by other laws<sup>6</sup>. After the issuing of the national framework-law No. 394/91 and after the reform of the Title V of the Italian Constitution [Constitutional Law No. 3/01] the entire regional legislative system relating to the protection of natural areas needs now to be updated: at the Sicilian Regional Assembly lie various bills of law and the revision of the overall governance structure relating to protected or protectable natural areas is at last forthcoming.

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<sup>5</sup> Consider, for example, the fact that in the 2007-2013 European Community planning period the territorial aggregations corresponding to Local Action Groups (LAGs) were predetermined by “rational” criteria imposed by the Sicilian Region and defined as NAT – Nuclei di Aggregazione Territoriale (Territorial Aggregation Unit). The Sicilian Region, through these criteria, not only predetermined the maximum number of LAGs in Sicily, but pre-defined territorial partitions to which the LAGs would have to comply to. In the following planning period (2014-2020), even if the NAT criterion is no longer applicable, a limit has been imposed on the number of inhabitants (between 60,000 and 150,000 inhabitants), which can be waived (up to 200,000 inhabitants) for high population density areas, homogeneous areas (from a social and economic point of view), territories eligible in the previous planning period but then left out, isolated territories that would not have alternative possibilities of aggregation. It is evident that these limits, besides strongly influencing the concepts of place-based development and bottom up governance, are presented – for the purposes of our analysis – as constraints to the processes of reterritorialisation.

<sup>6</sup> Among which the Regional Law No. 14/88, the Regional Law No. 71/95, the Regional Law No. 10/00. Moreover in Sicily are protected, in addition to the natural areas of the regional parks and reserves, also marine areas, wetlands, Sites of Community Importance (Sic), Special Protection Areas (Spa), geosites.

Currently, from a management point of view, the reserves are entrusted to various entities<sup>7</sup> while the park areas are entrusted each to a Park Authority. Park Authorities are non-economic public entities subject to the Region's supervision. Each Park Authority has its own organisation regulations, and rules disciplining the activities that can be performed and the prohibitions in force in each area of the park. The regional regulations establish that the territory of the park is divided into several areas<sup>8</sup> with different levels of protection. Consequently, within the different areas, production activities are prohibited or permitted subject to the level of protection and the type of activity, and with predetermined methods. It is clear that the park can be considered as a space in which an institution (the Park Authority) operates with decisive competences in terms of limits to the economic activities – and therefore also social, cultural and political – of the local communities.

The table below provides the list of regional natural parks in Sicily, with their year of establishment, the Municipalities that have territories in the park area and their extension in hectares.

Tab. 1. Sicily: natural end regional parks. Elaboration of the Authors

<i>Park</i>	<i>Year of establishment</i>	<i>Municipalities that have territories in the park area</i>	<i>Extension in hectares*</i>
Parco dell'Etna	1987	Adrano, Belpasso, Biancavilla, Bronte, Castiglione di Sicilia, Giarre, Linguaglossa, Maletto, Mascali, Milo, Nicolosi, Pedara, Piedimonte Etneo, Ragalna, Randazzo, Santa Maria di Licodia, Sant'Alfio, Trecastagni, Viagrande, Zafferana Etnea (all within the province of Catania)	58.000

<sup>7</sup> They are either the former Regional Provinces or entities for the protection/management of protected natural areas (C.A.I., Club Alpino Italiano Regione Sicilia; C.U.T.G.A.N.A., Centro Universitario per la Tutela e la Gestione degli Ambienti Naturali ed Agroecosistemi; G.R.E., Gruppi Ricerca Ecologica; Italia Nostra; Legambiente; Lipu; Rangers d'Italia; W.W.F.).

<sup>8</sup> The areas [article 8, Regional Law No. 98/81 and subsequent changes] are: area A, of integral reserve, in which the natural environment is preserved in its entirety, that is in the totality of its natural attributes; area B, of general reserve, in which it is forbidden to construct new buildings, expand existing buildings, carry out territorial transformation works, and in which the park managing entity can allow agri-silvo-pastoral uses and infrastructures strictly necessary (access roads, improvement works and reconstruction of natural environments); C areas, of protection, in which are allowed only buildings, building transformations and land transformations that are specifically aimed at the enhancement of the park's institutive purposes, such as tourist-accommodation facilities, cultural structures, parking areas; D areas, of control, where are allowed, if compatible with the purposes of the park and in accordance with the regulatory framework issued by the park authority (Park Council), construction activities, industrial, commercial, agri-silvo-pastoral activities, people's circulation and stay, scientific research, sports, recreational and educational activities. In the parks are prohibited, except for specific exceptions, some activities [article 17, Regional Law No. 98/81 and subsequent changes], such as the capture, killing, damage or disturbance of animal species, the modification of the water regime, the carrying out of advertising activities, the cultivation of quarries, the introduction of weapons or explosives, the lighting of outdoor fires.

Parco delle Madonie	1989	Caltavuturo, Castelbuono, Castellana Sicula, Cefalù, Collesano, Geraci Siculo, Gratteri, Isnello, Petralia Soprana, Petralia Sottana, Polizzi Generosa, Pollina, San Mauro Castelverde, Scillato, Sclafani Bagni (all within the province of Palermo).	40.000
Parco dei Nebrodi	1993	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Acquedolci, Alcara Li Fusi, Capizzi, Caronia, Cesarò, Floresta, Galati Mamertino, Longi, Militello Rosmarino, Mistretta, Raccuja, Sant’Agata di Militello, Santa Domenica Vittoria, San Fratello, San Marco d’Alunzio, Santo Stefano di Camastra, San Teodoro, Tortorici, Ucria (province of Messina);</li> <li>– Bronte, Maniace, Randazzo (provincia di Catania);</li> <li>– Cerami, Troina (province of Enna)</li> </ul>	86.000
Parco fluviale dell’Alcantara	2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Calatabiano, Castiglione di Sicilia, Randazzo (province of Catania)</li> <li>– Francavilla di Sicilia, Gaggi, Graniti, Giardini Naxos, Malvagna, Mojo Alcantara, Motta Camastra, Roccella Valdemone, Taormina (province of Messina)</li> </ul>	2.000
Parco dei Monti Sicani	2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Bivona, Burgio, Cammarata, San Giovanni Gemini, Santo Stefano Quisquina, Sambuca di Sicilia (province of Agrigento)</li> <li>– Castronovo di Sicilia, Chiusa Sclafani, Contessa Entellina, Giuliana, Palazzo Adriano, Prizzi (province of Palermo)</li> </ul>	44.000

\* Source: [www.greenreport.it/news/aree-protette-e-biodiversita/osservazioni-proposte-sulla-situazione-dei-parchi-regionali-siciliani/](http://www.greenreport.it/news/aree-protette-e-biodiversita/osservazioni-proposte-sulla-situazione-dei-parchi-regionali-siciliani/) (2016)

As highlighted elsewhere [Martorana 2017], the Local Action Groups (LAGs) are the local organizations responsible for implementing the rural development policies (Leader)<sup>9</sup>. These are organizations based on partnerships between public and private entities representing the territory<sup>10</sup>. Their *modus operandi* must be inspired by the principles of broad participation of local players in local development programming processes. Part of the literature has seen into the LAGs a proto-institutional or quasi-institutional nature. They carry out a governance activity of the territory according to a bottom up approach [D’Amico, La Bella, Martorana et al. 2014]. For the purposes of our analysis, of the twenty-two Sicilian LAGs approved by the Sicilian Region for the 2014-2020 planning period only the LAGs whose territory falls, even only partially, in the park area have been taken into consideration.

This brief examination of the nature of the two “objects” of observation already shows that, at least in appearance, the Park Authority has a function of protection and safeguard, while the LAG has a function of local development. On the other hand, the relationship between environmental resources and local development is, at

<sup>9</sup> The Leader (Liaison Entre Actions de Développement Rural) was born in the early 90's as a Community Initiative (Ci). Financed in the early stages through the Global Grant, it marked the beginning of a new rural development policy based on an integrated and participatory territorial approach.

<sup>10</sup> Interesting studies on partnerships for the rural development in Europe to be found in: Esparcia, Moseley & Noguera 2000; Cavazzani & Moseley 2001; Moseley 2003..

least abstractly, evident. Consequently, it is also evident the relevance that policies for the protection of the environment and landscape have for local development purposes. This would make the Park Authorities players of the local development. To the LAGs, in turn, has been acknowledged a role of policy makers in the landscape and environmental field. This would lead to a possible synergy between LAGs and Park Authorities, on which, however, repulsive drives are probably caused by the unaccomplished undertaking of the roles just described by one and the other. In other words, it is very likely that at present the rural communities represented by the LAG keep perceiving the park as an area of regulation and that the Park Authority, closed in its role of regulatory institution, does not fully perceive its possible functions of local development player, beyond the mere and formal participation in LAGs' partnerships.

### Rural development territories and natural parks in Sicily: two geographies compared

The following map<sup>11</sup> represents the areas of the Sicilian territory where the regional natural parks and some Sicilian LAGs stand.

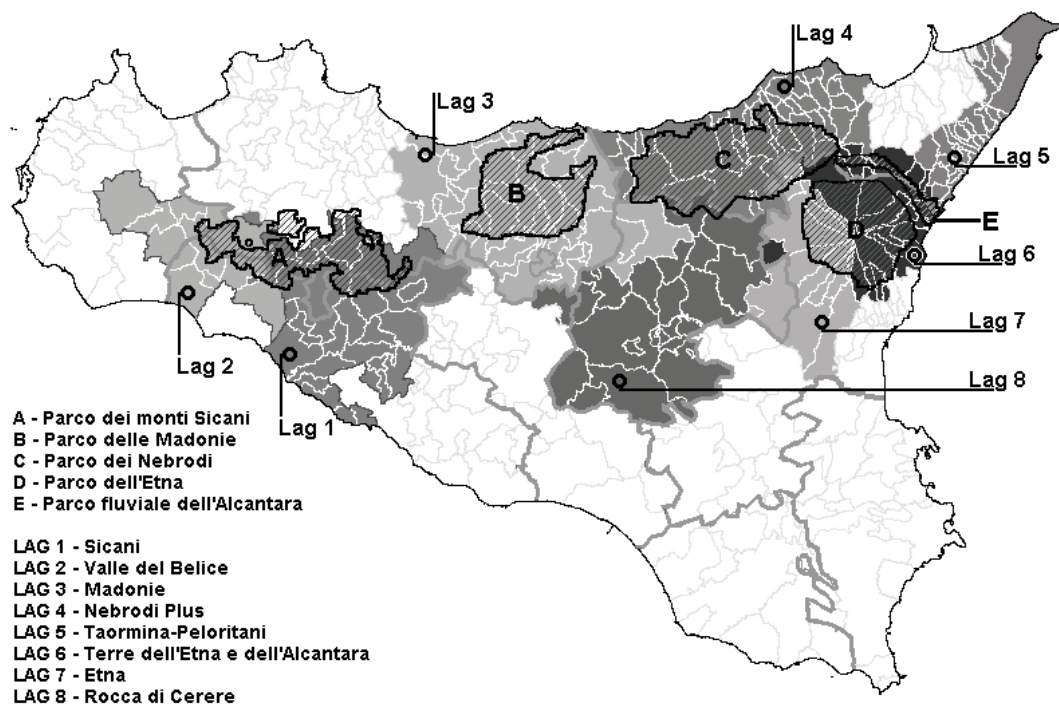


Fig. 1. Map of the Sicilian natural parks and related LAGs. Source: elaboration of the Authors

<sup>11</sup> It is a map with a purely symbolic value and a merely representative value, therefore not accurate under the exquisitely geographic profile.

The areas of the parks are represented by a diagonal line screening and black borders. Except for the Parco Fluviale dell’Alcantara, all the parks sit on mountain areas.

As far as the LAGs are concerned, we chose to represent on the map only those having Municipalities with territories falling at least in part within natural parks, in line with the objective of this article’s survey. The territories of the LAGs are in shades of gray.

For an in-depth analysis of the territories of the LAGs and of the Parks see annexes No. 1 and 2.

The following table compares the different periods of establishment of the regional natural parks and of the operation of the LAGs to which Municipalities belong with territories in the park area:

Tab. 2. Park Authorities and LAGs, comparison between periods of establishment and operation. Elaboration of the Authors

<i>Park</i>	<i>Year of establishment</i>	<i>LAG</i>	<i>First period of operation</i>
D – Parco dell’Etna	1987		
B – Parco delle Madonie	1989		
C – Parco dei Nebrodi	1993		
		LAG 1 – Sicani LAG 3 – Madonie	1994-1999
E – Parco fluviale dell’Alcantara	2001	LAG 4 – Nebrodi Plus LAG 7 – Etna	2000-2006
		LAG 2 – Valle del Belice LAG 8 – Rocca di Cerere LAG 5 – Taormina-Peloritani	2007-2013
A – Parco dei Monti Sicani	2014	LAG 6 – Terre dell’Etna e dell’Alcantara	2014-2020

From the observation of the map (Fig. 1) and taking into account what is highlighted on Tab. 2, it can be noted that:

- the territory of the first park to be established (D – Parco dell’Etna, 1987), is **split** within the area of two LAGs (established much later than the park); a large area of the park sits on the territory of LAG 6 – Terre dell’Etna e dell’Alcantara (2014-2020) Municipalities; on a lesser degree it involves Municipalities belonging to LAG 7 – Etna (2000-2006); it is to be noted that LAG 6 was created 27 years after the establishment of the park and LAG 7 after 13 years;
- the territory of the second park in chronological order of creation (B – Parco delle Madonie, 1989) is **totally contained** in the area of many Municipalities belonging to LAG 3 – Madonie (1994-1999); this LAG was created five years after the establishment of the park;
- the territory of the third park (C – Parco dei Nebrodi, 1993) is **spread** on the area of several LAGs; most of it stands on the territory of Municipalities belonging to LAG 4 – Nebrodi Plus (2000-2006); to a lesser extent it affects (a few) Municipalities belonging to LAG 6 – Terre dell’Etna e dell’Alcantara



- (2014-2020), LAG 7 – Etna (2000-2006) and LAG 8 – Rocca di Cerere (2007-2013); LAG 4 was set up seven years after the establishment of the park;
- the territory of the fourth park in order of establishment (E – Parco fluviale dell’Alcantara, 2001) and at present the only river park, runs along the river bearing the same name; most of the park sits on the territory of Municipalities belonging to LAG 6 – Terre dell’Etna e dell’Alcantara (2014-2020) and to a minimum extent on the territory of Municipalities belonging to LAG 5 – Taormina-Peloritani (2007-2013); LAG 6 was created thirteen years after the date of establishment of the park;
  - the territory of the last park to be established (A – Parco dei Monti Sicani, 2014) is **split** within the area of two LAGs; most of it stands on the territory of the Municipalities belonging to LAG 1 – Sicani (1994-1999) and to a lesser extent on the territory of the Municipalities belonging to LAG 2 – Valle del Belice (2007-2013); in this case, the establishment of the LAG with several Municipalities involved in the park predates by far (twenty years) the creation of the park.

The data shown demonstrate that the non-coincidence between the two geographies is to be found both when the establishment of the LAGs was subsequent to that of the park (most of the cases) and also in the opposite case.

### **The landscape as a mere denomination: an unfinished territorialization**

The representation outlined above would allow us to maintain that the relationship between regional natural parks and LAGs, the former acting as territorialising frame of reference respect to the latter, is weak. The weakness of this relationship is due to the absence of a stable temporal correlation between the two entities and also to the fact that not all the Municipalities belonging to the LAGs have their own territory or parts of it in the park area. However, these two types of relationship (temporal and spatial) can be, for various reasons, misleading. The first reason is that the process of setting up a park follows rules that are functional to the need to protect some areas of high naturalistic value, while the constitutive process of a LAG follows rules that are functional to other objectives and instrumental to the choices made by the LAGs, choices that, in general, may or may not be closely connected with or pertain to the protection of environmental assets.

It is fair to point out that the protection of environmental assets is not institutionally conferred to the LAGs, least of all of the assets present in the park areas. This specific function is entitled to the park authorities. While it is clear that LAGs are under no “obligation” to choose thematic areas necessarily related to their territory’s “endowments” (in our case, the environmental and the landscape ones), on the other hand it is obvious (especially by examining the cases of a whole region) to expect the PIDs to take these endowments into account, at least in the majority of cases. Likewise, it is obvious to expect the strategic choices to be influenced by the presence of institutional entities (the Park Authorities in our case) in the CILD

process. However it was found that the formal presence, in the partnership, of Park Authorities at the time of the Plds' submission concerns only two of the LAGs examined: LAG 6 – Terre dell'Etna e dell'Alcantara (which has among its partners the Parco dell'Etna and the Parco fluviale dell'Alcantara) and LAG 7 – Etna (which has among its partners the Parco dell'Etna and Parco dei Nebrodi).

The existence of a natural park has often been felt by local communities more as a limit to the economic development rather than an element that could have oriented such development in a different way, enhancing different economic vocations or even minor, up to a certain moment, in the local context. One would have expected that, from a certain moment on, the presence of a natural park (or of a natural reserve or of sites of particular naturalistic or environmental value) would have become an element of growing interest, that the park itself would have become a more powerful “attractor/propeller” within the development strategies of the LAGs themselves. Such an expectation is realistic when one considers that natural and landscape assets, both alone and in association with cultural heritage, can be a factor in the strengthening of processes, for example in tourism development. One would have expected, especially considering the weakening of the “provincial containment” for the vast area, a transition from the institutional frame (the Provinces) to that of the resources (for example the Park Authorities)<sup>12</sup>.

Reasoning in these terms, the analysis of the strategies<sup>13</sup> developed by the LAGs examined for the current European planning period can offer useful elements of understanding and allows us to evaluate the function of the parks as “frames” in the territorialisation or reterritorialisation processes. See the table below.

As elsewhere noted on the thematic areas chosen by the Sicilian LAGs [Martorana 2017] none of the LAGs has chosen the thematic area *Care and protection of landscape, land use and biodiversity (animal and vegetable)*. Also the thematic areas appearing, although indirectly, more closely related to the protection and promotion of the landscape do not seem to be among the Sicilian LAGs' favorite choices. Indeed, only 4 LAGs<sup>14</sup> have chosen the thematic area *Enhancement and management of environmental and natural resources*, and only 6 LAGs have chosen the thematic area *Enhancement of cultural heritage and artistic heritage linked to the territory*.

Tab. 3 shows clearly that, in terms of frequency, the strategies chosen by the LAGs in question (those with territories in the park area) primarily concern the thematic areas “Development and innovation of local supply chains and systems

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<sup>12</sup> It should be noted that the Municipalities of the LAGs examined here mostly do not fall within a single Metropolitan City or a single Free Consortium.

<sup>13</sup> The regional planning, for the 2014-2020 period, established that the Participatory Local Development Strategies (Plds) must refer to ten predetermined thematic areas. The LAGs were under the obligation to choose three of those ten thematic areas.

<sup>14</sup> They are the following LAGs: Elimos, Taormina-Peloritani, Terre dell'Etna e dell'Alcantara, Valli del Golfo.

(agri-food, forestry, crafts, manufacturing)” and “Sustainable tourism”<sup>15</sup>. Then follow the thematic areas “Enhancement of cultural heritage and artistic heritage linked to the territory” and “Social inclusion of specific disadvantaged and/or marginal groups”. At the very bottom we find the thematic area “Enhancement and management of environmental and natural resources”.

Tab. 3 – Thematic areas chosen by the LAGs to which belong Municipalities with territories in the park area. Source: elaboration of the Authors

	THEMATIC AREAS				
	Development and innovation of local supply chains and systems (agro-food, forestry, crafts, manufacturing)	Sustainable tourism	Enhancement and management of environmental and natural resources	Enhancement of cultural heritage and artistic heritage linked to the territory	Social inclusion of specific disadvantaged and/or marginal groups
LAG 1 - Sicani	X	X			X
LAG 2 - Valle del Belice	X	X		X	
LAG 3 - Madonie	X	X			X
LAG 4 - Nebrodi Plus	X	X		X	
LAG 5 - Taormina-Peloritani	X		X	X	
LAG 6 - Terre dell'Etna e dell'Alcantara	X	X	X		
LAG 7 - Etna		X		X	
LAG 8 - Rocca di Cerere	X	X			X

This last thematic area was chosen only by two of the eight LAGs<sup>16</sup> having a natural park as a possible economic, environmental and socio-cultural reference element or the Park Authority as a possible institutional frame in a process of territorialisation. Of these two LAGs that have chosen the thematic area in question one, LAG 6 – Terre dell'Etna e dell'Alcantara, has a very large territory in the area of the park of the oldest institution, namely the Etna Park; instead the other, LAG 5 – Taormina-Peloritani, has a minimal territory in a recently established park area, namely the Parco fluviale dell'Alcantara.

<sup>15</sup> For in-depth analysis on complex agri-food systems see: Dansero, et. all, Girgenti, Peano 2015.

An analysis on Alternative Food Networks (AFN), with study cases, is to be found in: Dansero, & Puttilli 2014]. On this subject see also: Barbera, Corsi, Dansero, et all. 2014; Barbera & Dagnes 2017.

<sup>16</sup> Among the LAGs in which none of the member Municipalities has territories in the park area, only two have chosen the thematic area “Enhancement and management of environmental and natural resources”. These are the LAG Elimos and the LAG Valli del Golfo. To the LAG Elimos adheres the Municipality of Marsala exclusively for the reserve and pre-reserve areas (protected and with high naturalistic value) of the Riserva Naturale Orientata (R.N.O., Oriented Natural Reserve) Isole dello Stagnone, whose area has been certified by the Municipality of Marsala in its City Council deliberation of adhesion to the LAG. The LAG Valli del Golfo was considered ineligible during the preliminary examination.

In Western Sicily the presence of the Parco dei Monti Sicani, established after the two LAGs referable to it (LAG 1 – Sicani and LAG 2 – Valle del Belice), seems to have been irrelevant, even with a lookout to the future, in these two LAGs' choices of thematic areas.

The same applies to what happened in Northern Sicily, where the existence of two great parks, Madonie and Nebrodi, does not seem to have played a key role in the choice of the thematic areas by LAG 3 – Madonie and LAG 4 – Nebrodi Plus.

We can ask ourselves if and to what extent the LAGs' choices have been affected by the presence of Park Authorities among its partners. These questions concern the broader theme of the factors (and the players) operating in the development of the LAGs' policies, when the LAGs are called, particularly in the current period of European planning, to elaborate their development strategies through a participatory process (bottom up). The topic of the role of the Park Authorities as frames of reference for the construction of the territorial partnerships that underlie the Leader approach has been addressed before in this same magazine [Martorana 2017], highlighting the difficulty, in the strategic choices of the Sicilian LAGs, to consider the landscape as a factor of central and autonomous development. An analysis of the influence that the different territorial connotations and public and private players have had in the participatory planning process of the Sicilian LAGs was carried out in a paper presented in September 2017 at the XXIX convention of the Società Italiana di Scienza Politica (Sisp) [La Bella, Martorana & Santoro, 2017]. In this paper it was observed that the strategic performances<sup>17</sup> of the Sicilian LAGs appear more successful when the LAGs have had previous experience of specific planning (in the Leader area) and when, in partnerships, the number of local public bodies (in particular the Municipalities) and network of companies (public and private) is high. On this same paper we also focused on the composition of the partnership of the Sicilian LAGs, an element considered important because in the Community Led Local Development (CILD) method the partnerships carry out the Participatory Local Development Strategy (PLDS). It has been observed that the four Sicilian LAGs that have chosen the thematic area “Enhancement and management of environmental and natural resources” include within their partnerships a number of “related players” (players related to this field) above the average of the other LAGs.

The analysis carried out so far confirms that the territorialisation processes linked to the two “objects” examined have followed separate paths. Geographical connections (overlapping park areas and LAGs' areas) are weak and have no obvious causal links. The LAGs have formed and have defined their territorial areas without clear references to the regional natural parks and therefore seem not to have

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<sup>17</sup> In the paper presented to Sisp, the “strategic performance” was intended as consistency between a specific thematic area chosen by a LAG and its specific territory. It was built by developing a performance index based on symmetry/asymmetry between context and thematic area.

taken into account the centrality of these resource systems for the development of rural territories.

Obviously these considerations would require further validation through, for example, qualitative methods of investigation that perhaps would clarify the reasons; however, what is highlighted here seems sufficient to support the hypothesis of a process of territorialisation that, in the case of the Sicilian LAGs, has not had among its determinants the systems of environmental and landscape resources represented by the park areas. An “unfinished” territorialisation, therefore, especially where it is noted that the iconic objects of the landscape (mountain chains, rivers, volcanoes) appear both in the names of the parks and in those of the LAGs. None of the LAGs examined here, despite having placed agri-food supply chains at the center of their strategy, chose, for example, the name “Land of wine” or “Land of oil”. The LAGs, instead, have chosen names that refer to the natural and landscape context. The impression is strong – referring to the categories of A. Turco<sup>18</sup> [1988] – that the territorialisation of the rural areas of the LAGs examined is still in a denomination phase with, perhaps, hints of reification and, in conclusion, still far from the structuring phase by which the territorialisation is accomplished.

### Space of rules and space of strategy

In literature it has been argued that the territory is an “invention of power” [Allies, 1980; Sack 1986]<sup>19</sup>. However, the Sicilian story of the natural parks and the LAGs, according to the analysis conducted here on their spatial relationships, could perhaps suggest that the interesting synthesis expressed by the two mentioned authors on the relationship between power and territory does not fully represent the dynamics between the two entities and that this dynamic, on the other hand, is circular and may also have opposite trends.

The park is above all a territory of resources: natural, environmental and landscape resources, homogeneous and contiguous. The delimitation of the park space is therefore, to a large extent, an act of science and technology. It is an action that defines a *bona fide*<sup>20</sup> space. After this space has been defined, the institution (park authority) that governs that space is being created through a system of rules, which in turn will generate other spaces, other boundaries, determined – to put it with Allies and Sack – by power, by the monopoly of force circumscribed by legal

<sup>18</sup> The Author claims that there is initially an unnamed space. Subsequently the places are being named (denomination) and in those places manufactured artifacts will be made (reification). Then, relationships will be created (structuring). In other words, the process of territorialisation does not end with the denominative action, but must integrate into one *unicum* material and immaterial resources.

<sup>19</sup> According to Allies [1980], it is even a juridical invention of the XVIII century, used by European monarchies to limit the heterogeneity of places.

<sup>20</sup> The *bona fide* space is the one defined by natural boundaries. The *fiat* space is defined by artificial boundaries. The difference between natural and artificial boundaries poses problems of an ontological nature that have been addressed, among others, by A.C. Varzi [2007].

rules for the exercise of power. The government of space ultimately changes the space itself. Therefore a circular, complex and adaptive dynamic is being produced, very different from the representation immediately deriving from the direct relationship between the source of power and the “invention” of its space of expression.

A similar dynamic, although inverse, can be observed in the relationship between space and power in the LAGs. Here it is an act of will – presumably of a collective nature, without prejudice to the guiding principle of the Cllid – that gives life to a proto-institution or quasi-institution which in turn “invents” an area of rural development. This space, with its characteristics, needs, real or perceived homogeneities, ends up transforming itself from “*fiat space*” into “*bona fide space*” which in turn influences and defines the institution’s structure and how it regulates the space.

The observed misalignment between “resource space” and “institutional space” in the relationship between parks and rural development areas in Sicily may not be ascribed exclusively to the diversity between space of environmental resources and space of rural development<sup>21</sup>, or to the different “source” of power (local public institutions, in the case of parks; communities organised in proto-institutions, in the case of LAGs). Such a misalignment should be attributed, instead, to a different dynamic of the processes of territorialisation, deterritorialisation and reterritorialisation.

It can be assumed that at the base of this different dynamic there are currently two different conceptions of space and of the resources existing in it. On the one hand there would be the idea of a “space of protection”, in which the resources are susceptible to identification, taxonomisation and regulation through appropriate institutional structures of government. In this case, the driver of the territorialisation process is represented by the resources. On the other hand, there would be the idea of a “development space”, in which the resources are variously interpreted on the basis of the prevailing views and the consequent vocational structures of territorial players, both public and private. In this case, which is then that of the LAGs, space cannot be compressed or expanded on the basis of criteria that claim to be objective or rational (think of the cited experience of the now abandoned criterion of the NAT, established by the Sicilian Region for the 2007-2013 planning period<sup>22</sup>): this is the space of vocations<sup>23</sup>.

In the case of our objects of observation, we could say that for parks we are facing an area of regulation lacking a clear connection with the local development

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<sup>21</sup> Moreover, the territories managed by the Park Authorities, in fact, belong in typological terms to the rural classifications that are eligible for Leader rural development policies. This is almost always the case, with some exceptions (highlighted here, as the case of the Parco fluviale dell’Alcantara), of territories with non-specialised agriculture.

<sup>22</sup> See note No. 4.

<sup>23</sup> In this case, the distinction between resources and vocations inevitably invokes the categories used by Sen [1985] of the “endowments” and “titlements” that the Author places at the base of the development of the “capabilities” and the consequent “functionings”.

strategies; in the case of LAGs, on the other hand, we are facing an area of development where the weakness of the strategy<sup>24</sup> derives from the impossibility of transforming strategic guidelines into rules. Two separate stories of territorialisation, then, that of regional parks and that of LAGs, which are probably affected by factors such as: the widespread perception of protection restrictions as a limit to development strategies and the strong influence that the aims of politics have in the processes of territorialisation (local development systems represent an opportunity, through the captation of resources, in order to build consensus). It is evident that these factors should be the subject of specific in-depth analysis, however the impression that emerges here is that the dichotomy between the space of protection and the space of development can be connected to the paradoxes of regulation without strategy and strategy without regulation.

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<sup>24</sup> On the topic of strategic disease, see Martorana [2013], who examines hypotheses of conflicting strategies within the same local development systems and the creation, through weak planning, of crypto-territories and meta-territories.

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## Annexes

### Annexe No. 1 – Additional details on Figure No. 1

On the map the parks are marked with capital letters:

**A – Parco dei Monti Sicani**, in Western Sicily. The park sits on the territory<sup>25</sup> of 12 Municipalities falling within the Free Municipal Consortia<sup>26</sup> of Palermo and Agrigento. It is the most recent in order of establishment (2014)<sup>27</sup>.

**B – Parco delle Madonie**, in Central-Northern Sicily. The park sits on the territory of 15 Municipalities falling within the Metropolitan City of Palermo. It was established in 1989.

**C – Parco dei Nebrodi**, in Northern/North-Eastern Sicily. The park sits on the territory of 24 Municipalities falling within the Metropolitan Cities of Messina and Catania and in the Free Municipal Consortium of Enna. It was established in 1993.

**D – Parco dell'Etna**, on the Volcano of Mount Etna. The park sits on the territory of 20 Municipalities all falling within the Metropolitan City of Catania. It is the oldest in the order of establishment (1987).

**E – Parco fluviale dell'Alcantara**, in Eastern Sicily, along the Alcantara river. The park sits on the territory of 12 Municipalities falling within the Metropolitan Cities of Catania and Messina. It was established in 2001.

On the map, each LAG is marked with a number:

**LAG 1 – Sicani**, in Southeastern Sicily. The 29 Municipalities belonging to it fall into the Metropolitan City of Palermo and into the Free Municipal Consortium of Agrigento. It was already active in the period 1994-1999 with the "Terre Sicane" denomination. The territory of the LAG is 1,811.83 square kilometers<sup>28</sup>; in it there are 148,911 inhabitants<sup>29</sup>.

**LAG 2 – Valle del Belice**, in Southeastern Sicily. Its 12 Municipalities belong to the Free Municipal Consortia of Agrigento and Trapani. The LAG was active

<sup>25</sup> In general, the entire territory of a Municipality does not necessarily fall within the boundaries of a park.

<sup>26</sup> The pre-existing Regional Provinces have been replaced, for those of Catania, Messina and Palermo, by Metropolitan Cities and, as regards the other provinces, by Free Municipal Consortia. On the map the boundaries of the Metropolitan Cities and the Free Consortia (former provincial borders) have been highlighted in gray.

<sup>27</sup> Two previous establishing decrees, from 2010 and 2012, were canceled following rulings by the Regional Administrative Court (TAR).

<sup>28</sup> The data on the territory of each LAG are drawn or deducted from the documents of the Participatory Local Development Strategy (PLDs) of each LAG.

<sup>29</sup> The source of data on the number of inhabitants in each LAG is the National Institute of Statistics – Istat [2011].

already in the period 2007-2013. The territory of the LAG is 1,022.25 square kilometers; in it there are 68,495 inhabitants.

**LAG 3 – Madonie**, in Northern-Central Sicily. The 34 Municipalities belonging to it fall into the Metropolitan City of Palermo and in the Free Municipal Consortia of Caltanissetta and Enna. The LAG was active already in the period 1994-1999. The territory of the LAG is 2,429.58 square kilometers; in it there are 156,612 inhabitants.

**LAG 4 – Nebrodi Plus**, in Northeastern Sicily. The 42 Municipalities belonging to it fall within the Metropolitan City of Messina. It was already active in the period 2000-2006. The territory of the LAG is 1,704.73 square kilometers; in it there are 148,589 inhabitants.

**LAG 5 – Taormina-Peloritani**, in the Northeastern part of Sicily. The 29 Municipalities belonging to it fall into the Metropolitan City of Messina. The Municipality of Messina also adheres to it, but only for part of the territory (agricultural areas 5 and 6)<sup>30</sup>. It was already active in the period 2007-2013 under the name "Peloritani". The territory of the LAG is 507.20 square kilometers; in it there are 90,104 inhabitants.

**LAG 6 – Terre dell'Etna e dell'Alcantara**, on the Northeastern slope of Mount Etna. The 26 Municipalities belonging to it fall into the Metropolitan Cities of Catania and Messina. It was established in the current European planning period (2014-2020). The territory of the LAG is 965.52 square kilometers; in it there are 176,130 inhabitants.

**LAG 7 – Etna**, on the Southwestern slope of Mount Etna. The 11 Municipalities belonging to it fall within the Metropolitan City of Catania and into the Free Municipal Consortium of Enna. It was already active in the period 2000-2006. The territory of the LAG is 1,045.26 square kilometers; in it reside 181,976 inhabitants.

**LAG 8 – Rocca di Cerere**, in the central area of Sicily. The 17 Municipalities belonging to it belong to the Free Municipal Consortia of Enna and Caltanissetta. It was already active in the period 2007-2013. The territory of the LAG is 2,185.76 square kilometers; in it reside 153,475 inhabitants.

## **Annexe No. 2 – Tables on the territories of Municipalities and park areas**

The following tables represent the Municipalities with territories falling within park areas and the LAGs to which these Municipalities adhere. The tables also include the Municipalities belonging to the LAGs but without territories in park areas (gray boxes).

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<sup>30</sup> On the map the municipal territory is represented in its entirety and not only for the agricultural areas affected by the LAG. This for the reasons highlighted in note No. 10.

Tab. A. Municipalities with territories falling within the Parco dei Monti Sicani and LAGs to which these Municipalities adhere. Elaboration of the Authors

<i>Municipalities that have Territories in the park area</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	Municipalities of LAG 1 - Sicani	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	Municipalities of LAG 2 - Valle del Belice	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>
Bivona	AG	Bivona	AG	Contessa Entellina	PA
Burgio	AG	Burgio	AG	Sambuca di Sicilia	AG
Cammarata	AG	Cammarata	AG	Gibellina	TP
Castronovo di Sicilia	PA	Castronovo di Sicilia	PA	Partanna	TP
Chiusa Sclafani	PA	Chiusa Sclafani	PA	Poggioreale	TP
Giuliana	PA	Giuliana	PA	Salaparuta	TP
Palazzo Adriano	PA	Palazzo Adriano	PA	Salemi	TP
Prizzi	PA	Prizzi	PA	Santa Ninfa	TP
San Giovanni Gemini	AG	San Giovanni Gemini	AG	Caltabellotta	AG
Santo Stefano Quisquina	AG	Santo Stefano Quisquina	AG	Menfi	AG
Contessa Entellina	PA	Alessandria della Rocca	AG	Montevago	AG
Sambuca di Sicilia	AG	Aragona	AG	Santa Margherita di Belice	AG
		Calamonaci	AG		
		Casteltermini	AG		
		Cattolica Eraclea	AG		
		Cianciana	AG		
		Joppolo Giancaxio	AG		
		Lucca Sicula	AG		
		Montallegro	AG		
		Porto Empedocle	AG		
		Raffadali	AG		
		Realmonte	AG		
		Ribera	AG		
		San Biagio Platani	AG		
		Santa Elisabetta	AG		
		Sant'Angelo Muxaro	AG		
		Siculiana	AG		
		Villafranca Sicula	AG		
		Bisacquino	PA		

Tab. B. Municipalities with territories falling within the Parco delle Madonie and LAGs to which these Municipalities adhere. Elaboration of the Authors

<i>Municipalities that have Territories in the park area</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	Municipalities of LAG 3 - Madonie	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>
Caltavuturo	PA	Caltavuturo	PA
Castelbuono	PA	Castelbuono	PA
Castellana Sicula	PA	Castellana Sicula	PA
Cefalù	PA	Cefalù	PA
Collesano	PA	Collesano	PA
Geraci Siculo	PA	Geraci Siculo	PA
Gratteri	PA	Gratteri	PA
Isnello	PA	Isnello	PA
Petralia Soprana	PA	Petralia Soprana	PA
Petralia Sottana	PA	Petralia Sottana	PA
Polizzi Generosa	PA	Polizzi Generosa	PA
Pollina	PA	Pollina	PA
San Mauro Casteverde	PA	San Mauro Casteverde	PA
Scillato	PA	Scillato	PA
Sclafani Bagni	PA	Sclafani Bagni	PA
		Alia	PA
		Blufi	PA
		Alimena	PA
		Aliminusa	PA
		Bompietro	PA
		Caccamo	PA
		Campofelice di Roccella	PA
		Cerda	PA
		Gangi	PA
		Lascari	PA
		Montemaggiore Belsito	PA
		Roccapalumba	PA
		Sciara	PA
		Termini Imerese	PA
		Valledolmo	PA
		Vallelunga Pratameno	CL
		Resuttano	CL
		Nicosia	EN
		Sperlinga	EN

Tab. C. Municipalities with territories falling within the Parco dei Nebrodi and LAGs to which these Municipalities adhere. Elaboration of the Authors

<i>Municipalities that have Territories in the park area</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	<i>Municipalities of LAG 4 – Nebrodi Plus</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	<i>Municipalities of LAG 6 – Terre dell'Etna e dell'Alcantara</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	<i>Municipalities of LAG 7 – Etna</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	<i>Municipalities of LAG 8 – Rocca di Cerere</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>
Acquedolci	ME	Acquedolci	ME	Santa Domenica Vittoria	ME	Bronte	CT	Cerami	EN
Alcara Li Fusi	ME	Alcara Li Fusi	ME	Randazzo	CT	Maniace	CT	Troina	EN
Capizzi	ME	Capizzi	ME	Castiglione di Sicilia	CT	Adrano	CT	Agira	EN
Caronia	ME	Caronia	ME	Linguaglossa	CT	Belpasso	CT	Aidone	EN
Cesarò	ME	Cesarò	ME	Giarre	CT	Biancavilla	CT	Assoro	EN
Floresta	ME	Floresta	ME	Mascali	CT	Ragalna	CT	Barrafranca	EN
Galati Mamertino	ME	Galati Mamertino	ME	Milo	CT	Santa Maria di Licodia	CT	Calascibetta	EN
Longi	ME	Longi	ME	Nicolosi	CT	Maletto	CT	Gagliano C/TO	EN
Militello Rosmarino	ME	Militello Rosmarino	ME	Pedara	CT	Paternò	CT	Enna	EN
Mistretta	ME	Mistretta	ME	Piedimonte Etneo	CT	Catenanuova	EN	Leonforte	EN
Raccuja	ME	Raccuja	ME	Sant'Alfio	CT	Centuripe	EN	Nissoria	EN
Sant'Agata Militello	ME	Sant'Agata Militello	ME	Trecastagni	CT			Pietraperzia	EN
San Fratello	ME	San Fratello	ME	Viagrande	CT			Piazza Armerina	EN
San Marco D'Alunzio	ME	San Marco D'Alunzio	ME	Zafferana Etnea	CT			Regalbuto	EN
Santo Stefano di Camastra	ME	Santo Stefano di Camastra	ME	Calatabiano	CT			Valguarnera Caropepe	EN
San Teodoro	ME	San Teodoro	ME	Fiumefreddo di Sicilia	CT			Villarosa	EN
Tortorici	ME	Tortorici	ME	Francavilla di Sicilia	ME			Santa Caterina Villarmosa	CL
Ucria	ME	Ucria	ME	Riposto	CT				
Santa Domenica Vittoria	ME	Brolo	ME	Santa Venerina	CT				
Randazzo	CT	Capo d'Orlando	ME	Gaggi	ME				
Bronte	CT	Capri Leone	ME	Giardini Naxos	ME				
Maniace	CT	Castel di Lucio	ME	Graniti	ME				
Cerami	EN	Castell'Umberto	ME	Malvagna	ME				
Troina	EN	Ficarra	ME	Mojo Alcantara	ME				
		Frazzanò	ME	Motta Camastra	ME				
		Gioiosa Marea	ME	Roccella Valdemone	ME				

<i>Municipalities that have Territories in the park area</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	<i>Municipalities of LAG 4 – Nebrodi Plus</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	<i>Municipalities of LAG 6 – Terre dell'Etna e dell'Alcantara</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	<i>Municipalities of LAG 7 – Etna</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	<i>Municipalities of LAG 8 – Rocca di Cerere</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>
		Librizzi	ME						
		Mirto	ME						
		Montagnareale	ME						
		Montalbano Elicona	ME						
		Motta d'Affermo	ME						
		Naso	ME						
		Patti	ME						
		Pettineo	ME						
		Piraino	ME						
		Reitano	ME						
		San Piero Patti	ME						
		San Salvatore di Fitalia	ME						
		Sant'Angelo di Brolo	ME						
		Sinagra	ME						
		Torrenova	ME						
		Tusa	ME						

Tab. D. Municipalities with territories falling within the Parco dell'Etna and LAGs to which these Municipalities adhere. Elaboration of the Authors

<i>Municipalities that have Territories in the park area</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	<i>Municipalities of LAG 6 - Terre dell'Etna e dell'Alcantara</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	<i>Municipalities of LAG 7 - Etna</i>	<i>Metropolitan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>
Adrano	CT	Castiglione di Sicilia	CT	Adrano	CT
Belpasso	CT	Giarre	CT	Belpasso	CT
Biancavilla	CT	Linguaglossa	CT	Biancavilla	CT
Bronte	CT	Mascali	CT	Bronte	CT
Ragalna	CT	Milo	CT	Ragalna	CT
Santa Maria di Licodia	CT	Nicolosi	CT	Santa Maria di Licodia	CT
Maletto	CT	Pedara	CT	Maletto	CT
Castiglione di Sicilia	CT	Piedimonte Etneo	CT	Maniace	CT
Giarre	CT	Randazzo	CT	Paternò	CT
Linguaglossa	CT	Sant'Alfio	CT	Catenanuova	EN
Mascali	CT	Trecastagni	CT	Centuripe	EN
Milo	CT	Viagrande	CT		
Nicolosi	CT	Zafferana Etnea	CT		
Pedara	CT	Calatabiano	CT		
Piedimonte Etneo	CT	Fiumefreddo di Sicilia	CT		
Randazzo	CT	Francavilla di Sicilia	ME		
Sant'Alfio	CT	Riposto	CT		
Trecastagni	CT	Santa Venerina	CT		
Viagrande	CT	Gaggi	ME		
Zafferana Etnea	CT	Giardini Naxos	ME		
		Graniti	ME		
		Malvagna	ME		
		Mojo Alcantara	ME		
		Motta Camastra	ME		
		Roccella Valdemone	ME		
		Santa Domenica Vittoria	ME		

Tab. E. Municipalities with territories falling within the Parco fluviale dell’Alcantara and LAGs to which these Municipalities adhere. Elaboration of the Authors

<i>Municipalities that have Territories in the park area</i>	<i>Metro-politan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	Municipalities of LAG 6 –Terre dell'Etna e dell'Alcantara	<i>Metro-politan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>	Municipalities of LAG 5 Taormina-Peloritani	<i>Metro-politan City or Free Municipal Consortium</i>
Calatabiano	CT	Calatabiano	CT	Taormina	ME
Castiglione di Sicilia	CT	Castiglione di Sicilia	CT	Ali	ME
Francavilla di Sicilia	ME	Francavilla di Sicilia	ME	Ali Terme	ME
Gaggi	ME	Gaggi	ME	Antillo	ME
Giardini Naxos	ME	Giardini Naxos	ME	Casalvecchio Siculo	ME
Graniti	ME	Graniti	ME	Castelmola	ME
Malvagna	ME	Malvagna	ME	Fiumedinisi	ME
Mojo Alcantara	ME	Mojo Alcantara	ME	Forza d'Agrò	ME
Motta Camastra	ME	Motta Camastra	ME	Furci Siculo	ME
Randazzo	CT	Randazzo	CT	Gallodoro	ME
Roccella Valdemone	ME	Roccella Valdemone	ME	Itala	ME
Taormina	ME	Giarre	CT	Letojanni	ME
		Linguaglossa	CT	Limina	ME
		Mascali	CT	Mandanici	ME
		Milo	CT	Messina	ME
		Nicolosi	CT	Monforte San Giorgio	ME
		Pedara	CT	Mongiuffi Melia	ME
		Piedimonte Etneo	CT	Nizza di Sicilia	ME
		Sant'Alfio	CT	Pagliara	ME
		Trecastagni	CT	Roccafiorita	ME
		Viagrande	CT	Roccalumera	ME
		Zafferana Etnea	CT	Roccavaldina	ME
		Fiumefreddo di Sicilia	CT	Rometta	ME
		Riposto	CT	Santa Teresa di Riva	ME
		Santa Venerina	CT	Sant'Alessio Siculo	ME
		Santa Domenica Vittoria	ME	Saponara	ME
				Savoca	ME
				Scaletta Zanclea	ME
				Spadafora	ME



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[DOI: 10.15584/topiarius.2018.6.6](https://doi.org/10.15584/topiarius.2018.6.6)