

Addressing environmental and health challenges in the Valle Galeria in Italy

Case Study 1



Enforce





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Location

Valle Galeria, Rome, Italy



Local Context

- Northwest of Rome
- One of Italy's most environmentally compromised areas
- Once an agricultural hub, the area is now a convergence point for multiple highly impactful industrial activities.
- It is home to the former Malagrotta landfill, spanning 250 hectares, alongside petrochemical facilities, waste treatment plants, and other polluting operations, such as a refinery and an incinerator.
- Over five decades, these activities have created a deeply entangled web of environmental and health challenges.

Planned Actions

01

Mapping all existing environmental and health data, identifying gaps, and ensuring data accessibility.

02

Local committees, scientists, and authorities will co-develop strategies for targeted data collection.

03

Participatory tools will strengthen civic engagement, while legal advocacy and the creation of a protocol to integrate civic-collected data into enforcement processes will aim to enhance compliance mechanisms and inform policy development.



Key Conducted Activities

- Interviews in progress (with particular attention to epidemiologists, EO experts, legal experts and the scientific dimension of data collection)
- Co-designing actions with the Valle Galeria Libera Committee
- Collection and review of existing data (institutional reports, data from ARPA - Regional Agency for Environmental Protection)
- Systematisation and study of data already collected by local volunteers and support for new collections on emergencies
- Decision to monitor specific aspects based on local priorities: soil quality, biodiversity and fire hazards
- Graphical consolidation of all elements monitored in an environmental observatory that includes the enhancement of biodiversity, especially birdlife, and the monitoring of different environmental matrices



Expected Impacts

The project wishes to contribute to the area's transition toward sustainability, enhancing the quality of life for residents and positioning Valle Galeria as a model for community-led environmental advocacy and action.

By increasing the official recognition of civic monitoring data, the initiative intends to strengthen enforcement efforts and create a replicable framework for addressing similar challenges in other regions. Similarly, opportunities for reinforced communication and collaboration between citizens, scientists, and authorities are expected to foster a shared commitment to environmental restoration.



The Challenge

- Complexity of the use case
- Uncertainties due to the institutional juncture
- Willingness to add biodiversity monitoring



Partner Involved





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LinkedIn
ENFORCE

Project Coordination:
info@join-enforce.eu

Dr. Svetlana Klessova
Project Coordinator
G.A.C. Group France



Youtube
ENFORCE_EU

Prof. Chrysi Laspidou
Scientific Coordinator
University of Thessaly



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