



# LIFE Biodiv'Paysanne

*Project for the preservation and the consideration of biodiversity and the services provided by ecosystems, in the natural and agricultural environments of the Occitanie region (France)*

# The challenges

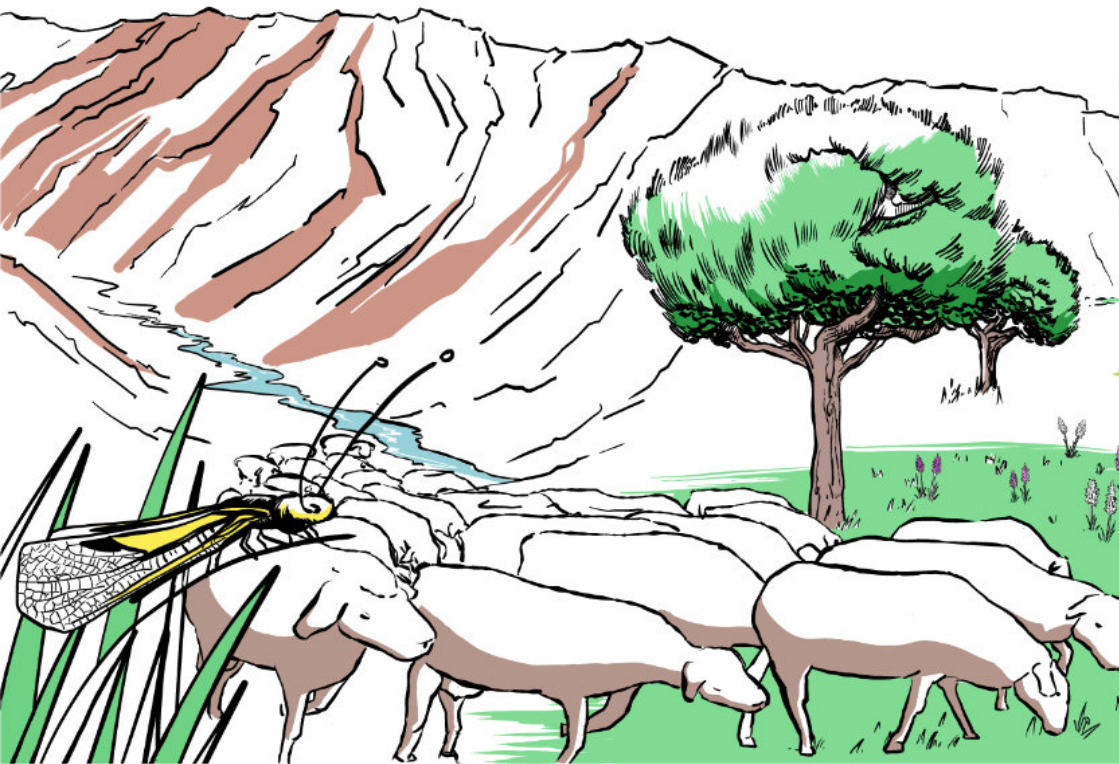
**Preserving biodiversity threatened by the artificialisation of environments, the intensification of agriculture or the agricultural loss.**

## *For the natural environments*

The network of sites hosts remarkable fauna and flora heritage challenges. The project aims to improve the conservation status of 24 habitats (forests, ponds, etc.), and more than 80 species of Community interest (insects, birds, amphibians, bats, plants, etc.). Its objective is to preserve and restore ecosystems and their services such as pollination or the preservation of water quality.

## *For the agricultural environments*

The project aims to strengthen the contribution of agriculture to the maintenance and improvements of biodiversity, through the commitment of farmers of the Occitanie region in an agroecological transition process and the experimentation of economically viable practices that enhance natural resources.





# The sites of the LIFE Biodiv'Paysanne

These are natural areas representative of the diversity of the regional ecosystems, such as heathlands and shrubs, dry grasslands, meadows, forests or wetlands. The project also relies on a network of 60 farms with a variety of animal and crop productions.

## In a summary

6 years of work

**2022**  
**to 2027**

Of the Occitanie region

**13**  
departments

**270**

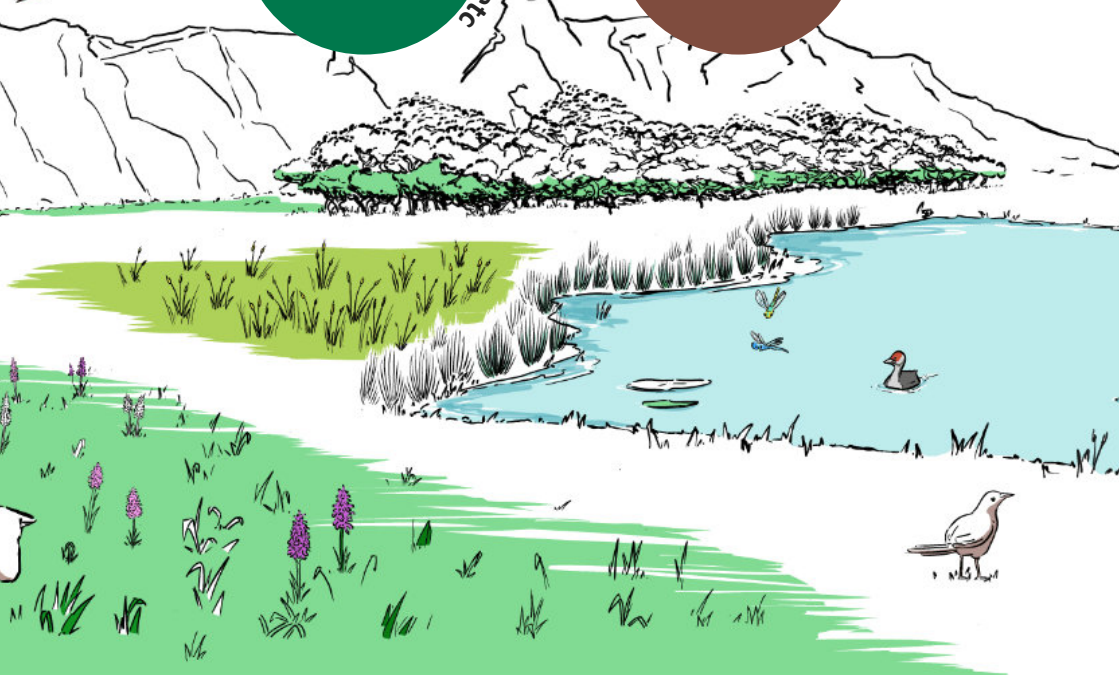
natural sites

Of grasslands, forests, wetlands, etc

**25 000**  
hectares

A network of

**60**  
farms



# The main actions

## \* Restoration of natural areas

*By mechanical engineering, pastoral management or free evolution, in line with a management plan drawn up for each site*

## \* Agroecological transition of farms

*Support for 60 farms (agroecologic diagnosis, improvement of practices and implementation of actions for biodiversity)*

## \* Multi-sites management

*Experimentation of a multi-sites plan management out of 12 site networks*

## \* Creation of a Civil Society of Agricultural Exploitation (SCEA)

*Experimentation of a new agricultural model based on the enhancement of natural resources and the preservation of biodiversity*

## \* Network strengthening of protected sites and the green and blue network

*Signing of agreements with private owners and purchases to preserve 2,700 hectares additional, some plots will be managed in partnership with farmers*

*Discover all 22 actions on the website  
<https://life-biodivpaysanne.fr/en/actions/>*



# An unifying project

Top of  
the file



Members of the village  
council ©La Fajolle council

## Marc San Francisco, Mayor of La Fajolle in Aude (11)

« The LIFE Biodiv’Paysanne project provides us with funding to continue our work of reopening natural environments and the preservation of biodiversity. For us, the protection of the environment is a duty towards the future generations. The idea is to leave a landscape and a natural environment as clean as we have found them, or even in a better state of conservation. »



Franck with Violette  
©E.Duckwitz - CEN Occitanie

## Franck Gaulard, natural areas management technician at CEN Occitanie

« The LIFE Biodiv’Paysanne is a great opportunity for our structure because it gives us the possibility to make things happen. With my colleague Erwan Glemarec, we consider ourselves as agricultural auxiliaries since we only reproduce agricultural actions but in natural environments. The project will allow us to go further and create an agricultural structure dedicated to the preservation of biodiversity. It's a logical sequence for the concretion of our ideas. »

## Salelles – Rieucros, organic farm in dairy polyculture-sheep breeding with baking transformation

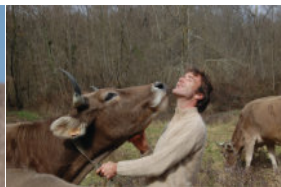
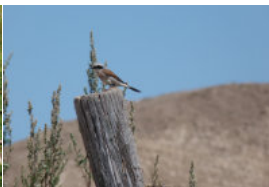
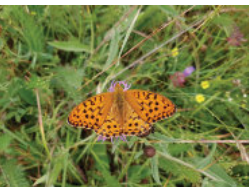
« The agroecological transformation of our ways of production and of our farm seems to us necessary and urgent. The LIFE Biodiv’Paysanne offers us a scientific robust framework in order to co-construct together the tools and the most relevant actions to improve biodiversity on our farm. The ecosystem services thus provided will improve our adaptability and resilience. Our commitment into the LIFE Biodiv’Paysanne is a way to “take action” and it makes us feel less powerless in the face of climate change, which we feel day by day in a very concrete and violent way because of our profession as farmers and our proximity to the nature. »



Nino, Léa et Ghislain,  
GAEC de Salelles-Rieucros  
©TDL Midi-Pyrénées

Find the full articles on the  
website in the section « What  
is it ? »

[https://life-biodivpaysanne.fr/  
en/what-is-it/](https://life-biodivpaysanne.fr/en/what-is-it/)



# Committed actors



Recognized association according to the Protection of the environment, which has been working for more than 30 years for the knowledge, the conservation of the natural heritage and the ecological transition of territories. CEN Occitanie is the coordinator of the LIFE Biodiv'Paysanne project.

It is accompanied by 6 associated beneficiaries, ANA-CEN Ariège, the Fédération des conservatoires d'espaces naturels, the Conservatoire Botanique National Pyrénées et Midi-Pyrénées, SOLAGRO, Terre de Liens Midi-Pyrénées and Terre de Liens Languedoc-Roussillon. The project relies on a network of engaged partners made up of farmers, actors from the agricultural world, environmental associations, local and regional authorities, natural areas managers, training centers, research laboratories which work for the preservation of the nature and for an agroecological transition of territories.



It is co-financed by the European Commission, the Occitanie Region, the Agence de l'eau Adour-Garonne and the Ministère de la Transition Écologique.



*The Financial Instrument For the Environment (LIFE) is a program of the European Commission entirely dedicated to supporting projects in the fields of environment and climate. The project LIFE Biodiv'Paysanne falls into the LIFE Nature & Biodiversity category, which concerns projects aimed to protect and restore nature in Europe and to stop and reverse the trend of erosion of biodiversity, in line with the EU Biodiversity Strategy on the 2030 horizon. It thus receives support from the European Commission for 60% of expenditure.*

[www.life-biodivpaysanne.fr/en](http://www.life-biodivpaysanne.fr/en)

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*The LIFE Biodiv'Paysanne project has received funding from the LIFE Programme of the European Union.*

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