Po River Basin District Authority

CEWP, Bruxelles, 2nd February 2026

“You need to understand the Po to understand Italy “ *Guido Ceronetti*

PO RIVER HYDROGRAPHIC DISTRICT

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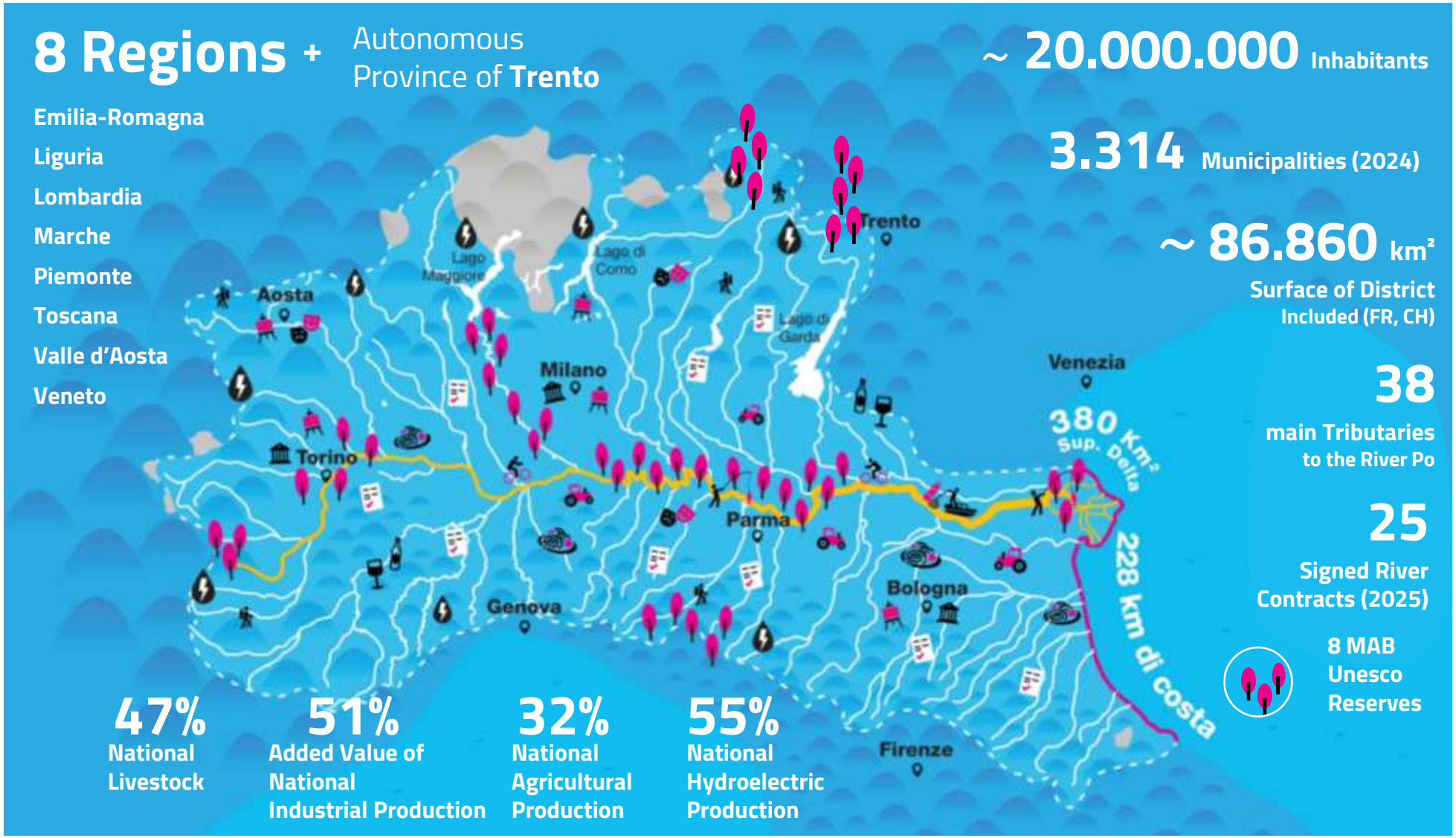

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PO RIVER DISTRICT BASIN AND CLIMATE CHANGE

In reference to climate change scenarios based on global and regional climate forecasting models, the District is located **in the climatic transition zone between the Mediterranean and Northern Europe**, in which **uncertainty about the future climate** is higher than in other European areas.

Property Emilia-Romagna region

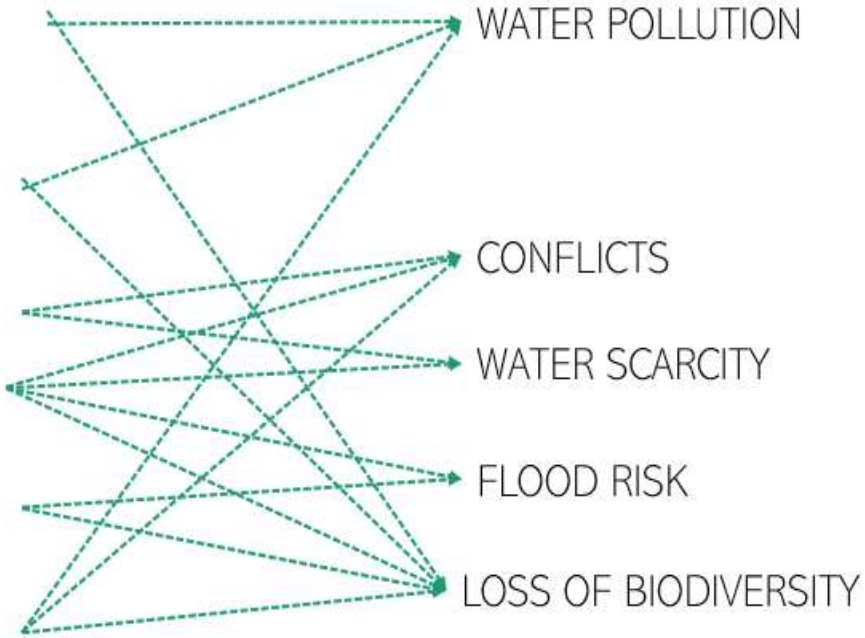
Area of the Italian territory with the greatest **climatic heterogeneity** and a **marked meteorological variability** and **extreme events,** with **heavy rainfall** and episodes of **severe water scarcity**

MAIN CRITICALITIES

Pressures

1. POINT DISCHARGES FROM URBAN SETTLEMENTS AND INDUSTRIES
2. DIFFUSED POLLUTION FROM AGRICULTURAL RUN OFF
3. WATER ABSTRACTION
4. CLIMATE CHANGE
5. HYDROMORPHOLOGICAL ALTERATIONS
6. PRESENCE OF INVASIVE SPECIES

Impacts



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ADBPO - Po River Basin District Authority

EU DIRECTIVES & REGULATIONS

Government

MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE E DELLA SICUREZZA ENERGETICA

Po River Basin District Authority

ADBPO

Regions

REGIONE PIEMONTE

Regione Lombardia

Regione Emilia-Romagna

REGIONE LIGURIA

REGIONE MARCHE

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THE ROLE OF ADBPO

River Basin Management Plan
Water Quality

→ Monitor, risk analysis, economic analysis, environmental status of water bodies, objectives and a programme of measures to reach these objectives

Water Balance Management Plan
Water Quantity

→ Identify common indicators to evaluate water balance

Flood Risk Management Plan
Hydrogeological Risk Mitigation

→ Past and future flood analysis, identification of areas at risk, prevention and mitigation measures

Plans currently being updated in compliance with the provisions of EU Directives

ADBPO ACTIVITIES

- Po River Basin Management Plan
- Flood Risk Management Plan
- Water Balance Management Plan
- Permanent Observatory on Water Uses in the Po River Basin

In-depth knowledge - best practice e new solutions - new technologies

win-win strategies - awareness - STKs engagement – partnership - governance

OUR COMMITMENT TO WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN THE DISTRICT

WATER QUALITY

Improve knowledge of nutrient transport to the sea and set target values for nutrient reduction

Define a permanent strategic enviromental monitoring network for water quality

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

Reduce the artificiality of the riverbed and give space back to the river to reduce the effects of channeling phenomena and reactivate natural process

Maintenance of ecological runoff

THE VALUE OF NATURE

Enhancement of wetlands and their role in mitigating climate change

knowledge of the ecological values and ecosystem services provided by the river system

ADBPO

OUR COMMITMENT TO WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN THE DISTRICT

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT

Improve knowledge for active flood management, identifying a set of synergistic actions that combine traditional solutions with morphological restoration and controlled overflow scenarios

WATER AVAILABILITY

Collection, updating and dissemination of data on availability and use, in coordination with district basin plans.
This allows the Basin Authority to express opinions on withdrawals, uses and possible compensation.
Forecast scenarios and management proposals are developed in the event of water scarcity.

GOVERNANCE

Raising awareness and working with authorities and stakeholders to establish a shared strategy that brings together existing and future projects, clearly defining priorities and actions.

UNESCO Po Grande MAB Reserve River Contracts
Nature Positive Network

ADBPO

EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Co-funded by the European Union

LIFE CLIMAX PO
Make the Change

rewet

LIFE NatConnect 2030

Cofinanziato dall'Unione europea

NATURA 2000

ADBPO

“Have you also learned that secret from the river,
that there is no such thing as time?
That the river is everywhere at the same time,
at the source and at the mouth, at the waterfall, at the ferry,
at the current, in the ocean and in the mountains, everywhere
and that the present only exists for it,
not the shadow of the past nor the shadow of the future“

"Siddhartha“, *Herman Hesse*

Thank you