



**THE OLIVE GROVES OF THE SLOPES
BETWEEN ASSISI AND SPOLETO**

Landcare Europe online event on GIAHS, September 15 2022

Pietro Clarici | Azienda Agraria Clarici, Foligno ITALY

Azienda Agraria Clarici (Foligno, Italy)



Foligno (Umbria, Italy)



Azienda Agricola e Frantoio Clarici

Foligno



Assisi - Spoleto Olive Belt (Umbria, Italy)

 **ASSISI**
Assisi

 **SPELLO**
Spello

 **FOLIGNO**
Foligno

 **TREVI**
Trevi

 **CAMPELLO SUL CLITUNNO**
Campello Sul Clitunno

 **SPOLETO**
Spoleto



Umbria (Italy)

Italia

📍 ASSISI

📍 SPELLO

FOLIGNO 📍 Azienda Agraria e Frantoio Clarici

📍 TREVI

CAMPELLO SUL CLITUNNO 📍

📍 SPOLETO

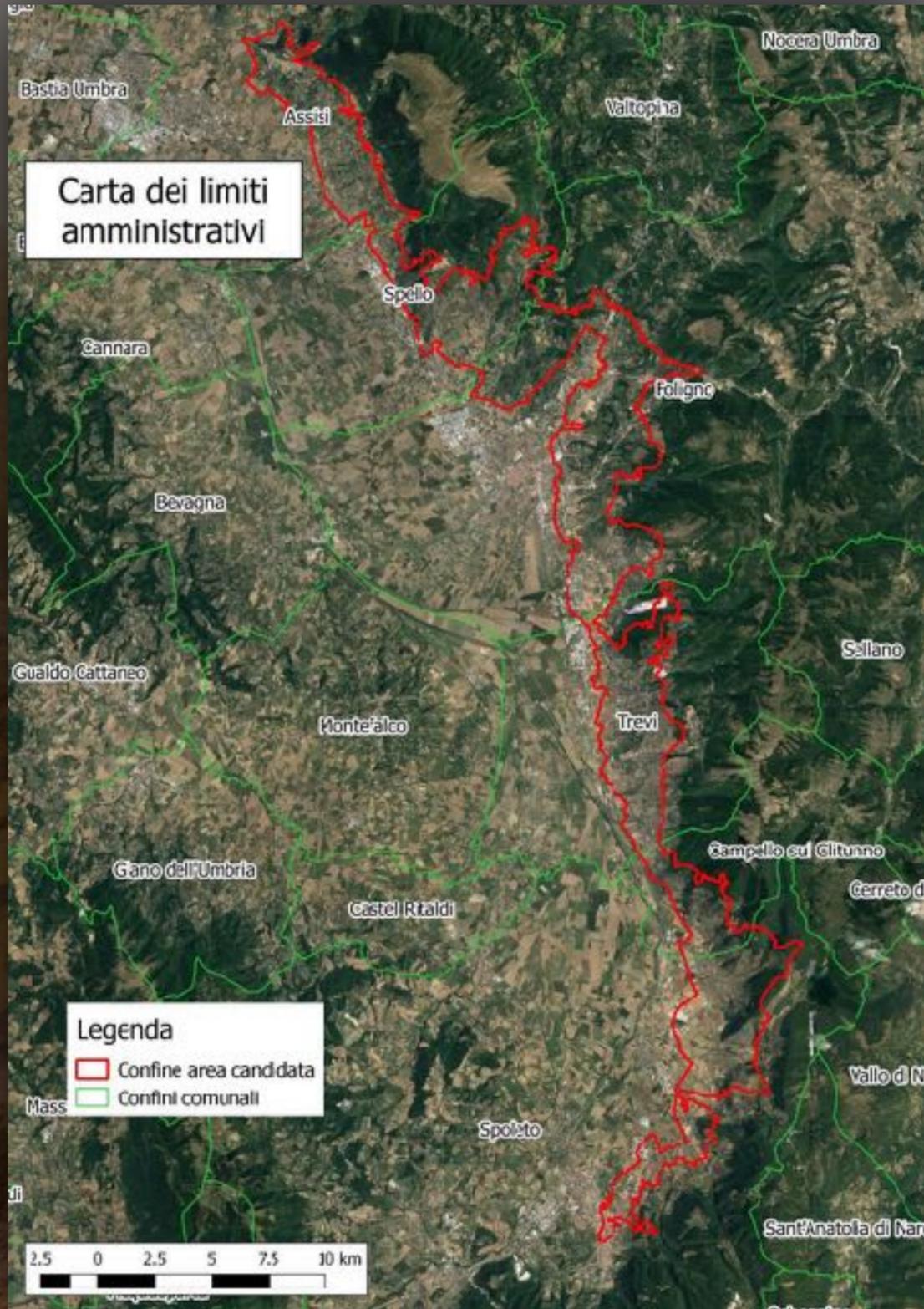


Italy

Italy
Assisi
Foligno
Spoleto

ASSISI - SPOLETO
OLIVE BELT





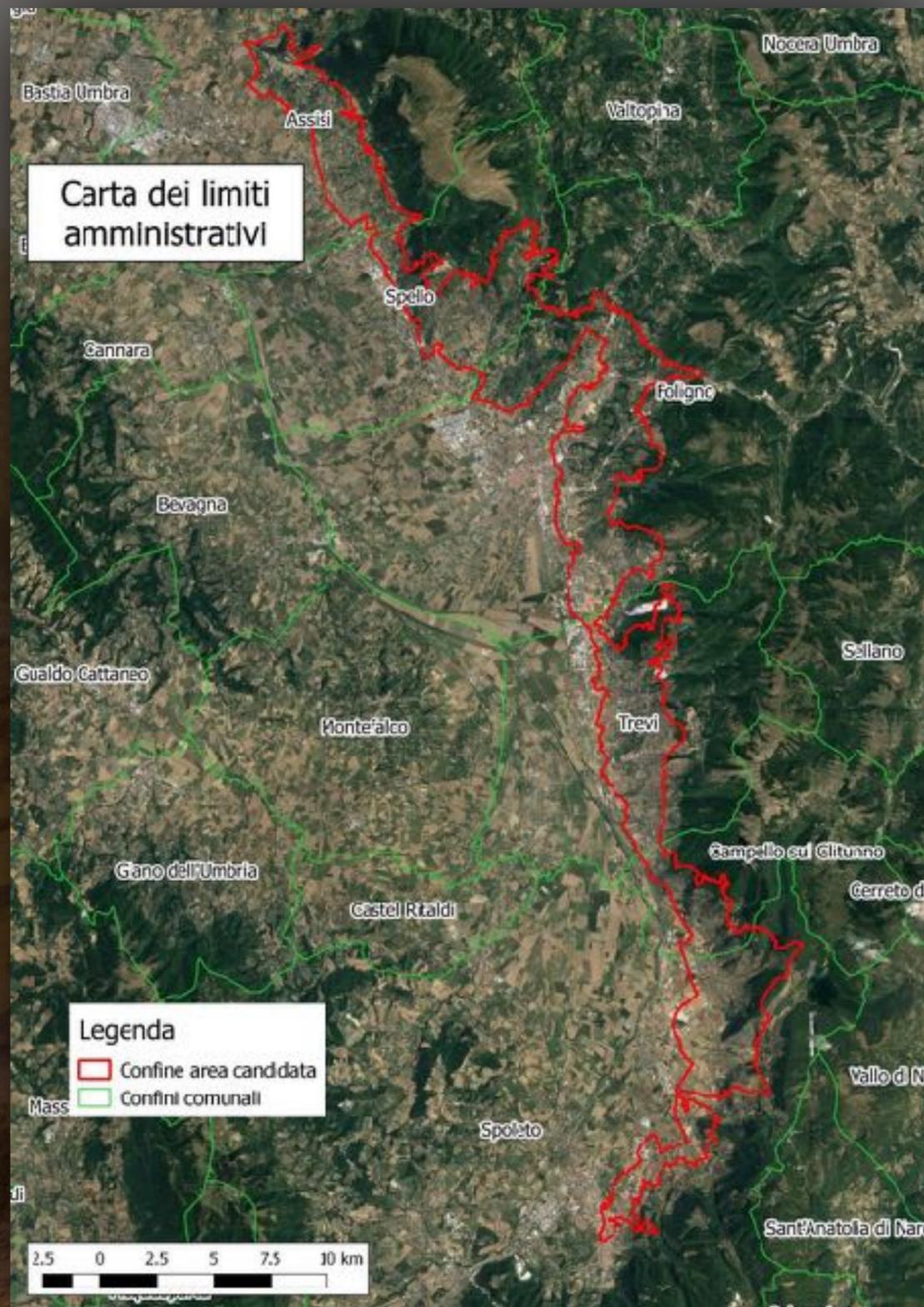
THE OLIVE GROVES OF THE SLOPES BETWEEN ASSISI AND SPOLETO

40

KILOMETERS

6

MUNICIPALITIES



**THE OLIVE GROVES
OF THE SLOPES
BETWEEN ASSISI
AND SPOLETO**

1,5 M

OLIVE TREES

4225

FARMS



OUR MAIN VULNERABILITIES

1. Small average farm size
2. Farm owners/workers aging, still inadequate generational turnover
3. High production cost due to constant maintenance, lower yield and traditional agricultural practices

1. SMALL FARM SIZE

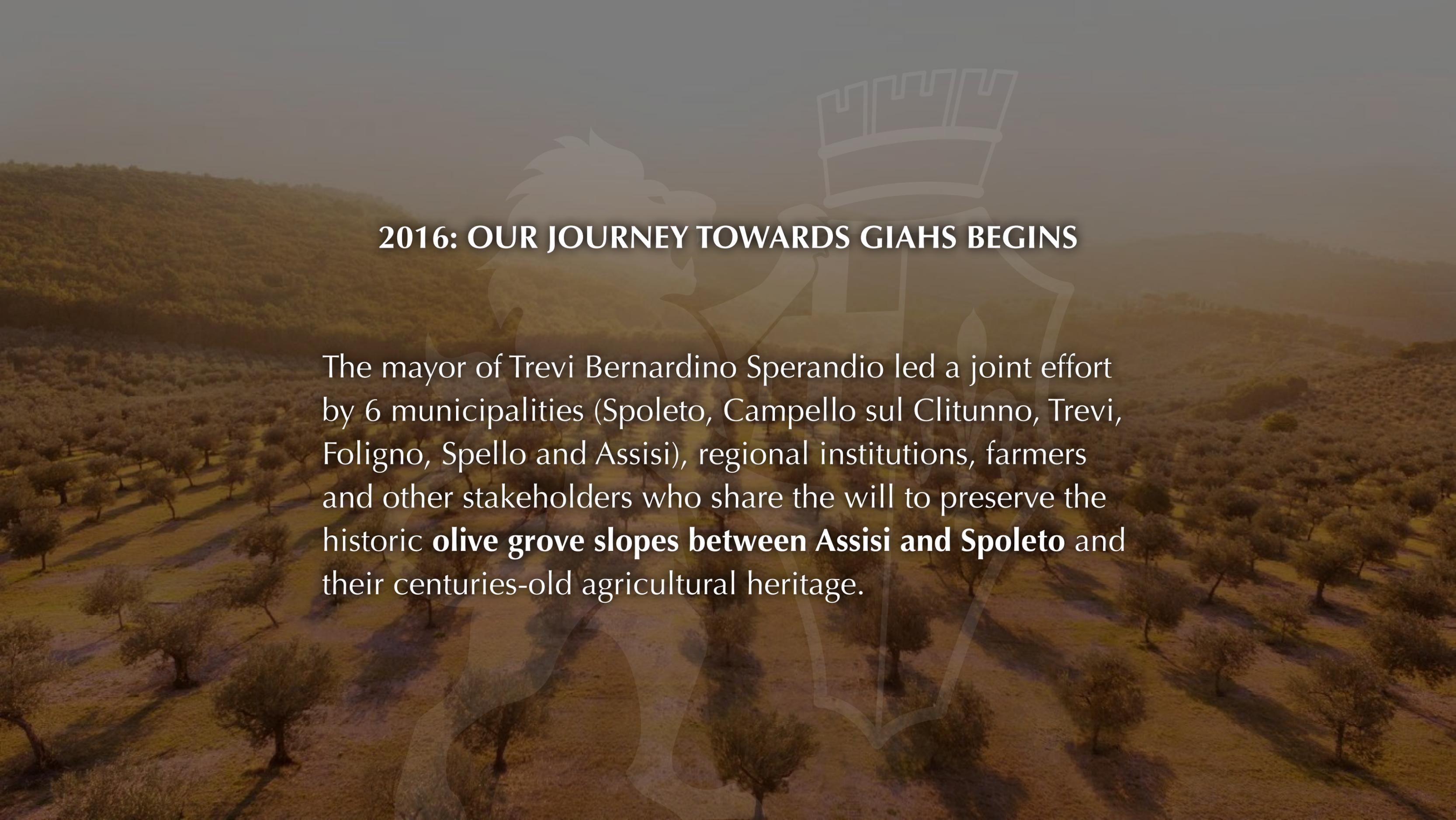
- Family owned and sized for little more than self-consumption, farmers/owners often retired and aging
- Prone to abandonment and sub-optimal management, which can affect neighboring groves
- Have great social value, but need constant support from local institutions, farming unions and local agronomists
- An opportunity for new jobs: supporting the creation of small-scale local agricultural contractor companies

2. LACK OF GENERATIONAL TURNOVER

- 60% of farm owners are over 60, 22% are over 75
- Young farmers are increasing, but they might choose more remunerative crops and initiatives
- Government must be involved at all levels (regional, national, EU) to subsidize young, professional farmers, and must prioritize projects that can be beneficial to the entire socio-economic fabric of the territory
- Schools and cultural institutions must reach out to younger generations to create future «ambassadors» of the area, by appealing to their renewed environmental sensibility

3. COST COMPETITIVENESS

- Dry stone walled terraces are part of the local identity, but conservation is challenging and expensive
- Historic olive groves need constant and professional care to maintain production to a sustainable level, generally not suited for mechanization
- The hydrological, ecosystem and cultural functions of the Assisi-Spoleto slopes must be recognized through specific funding, and academic institutions must be involved to provide best agricultural practices
- Higher relative cost of production is inevitable

An aerial photograph of a hillside covered in olive trees, with a faint watermark of a coat of arms (a crown above a shield with a lion) overlaid in the center. The text is centered over the image.

2016: OUR JOURNEY TOWARDS GIAHS BEGINS

The mayor of Trevi Bernardino Sperandio led a joint effort by 6 municipalities (Spoleto, Campello sul Clitunno, Trevi, Foligno, Spello and Assisi), regional institutions, farmers and other stakeholders who share the will to preserve the historic **olive grove slopes between Assisi and Spoleto** and their centuries-old agricultural heritage.

OUR GIAHS DESIGNATION TIMELINE

Feb 2016 - Constitution of the promoting committee

Jan 2017 - First meeting with all stakeholders

Feb 2017 - First FAO field visit

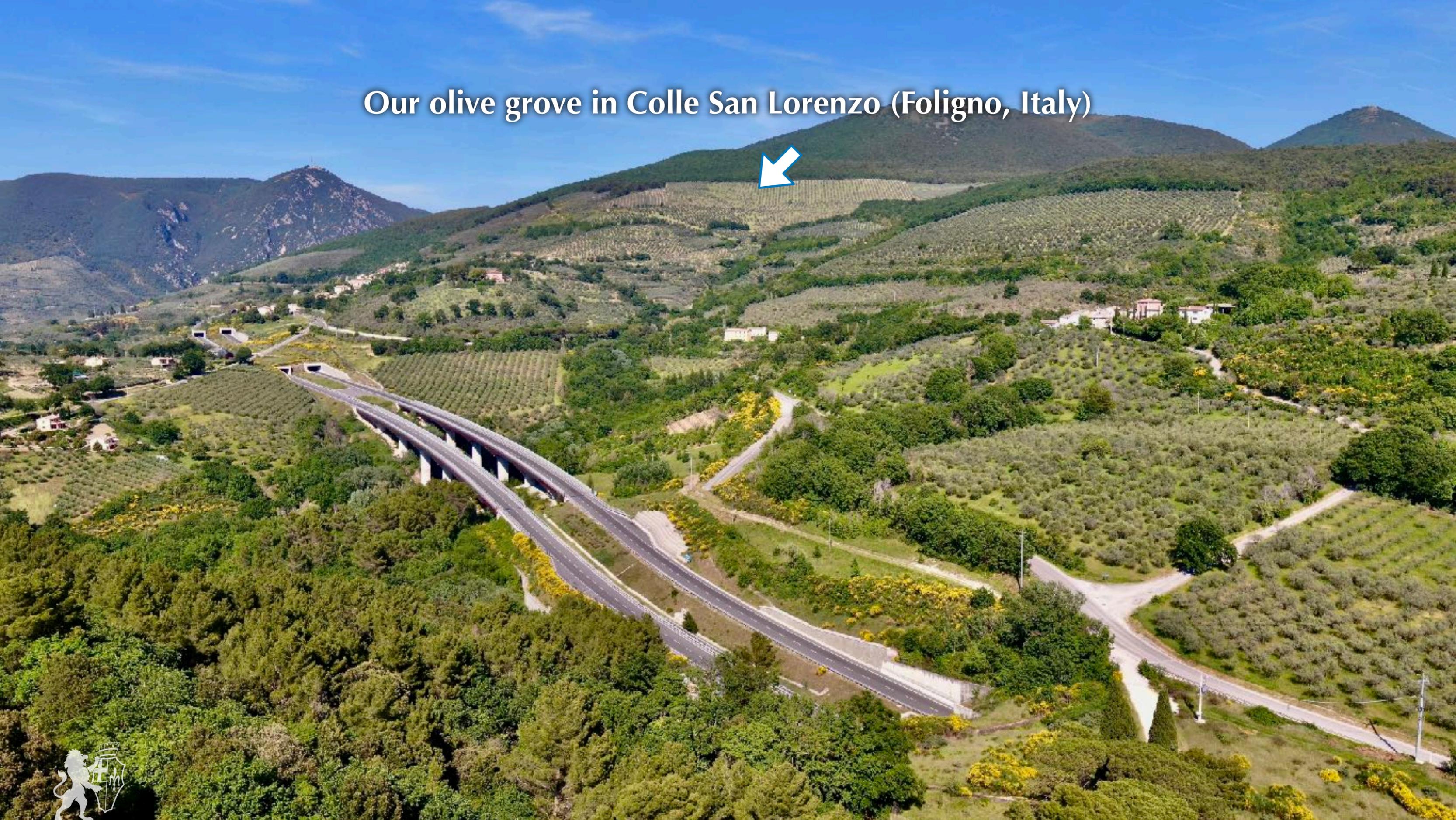
Sep 2017 - Application for National Register of Historic and Rural Landscapes

Feb 2018 - Admission in National Register of Historic Rural Landscapes and application for GIAHS program

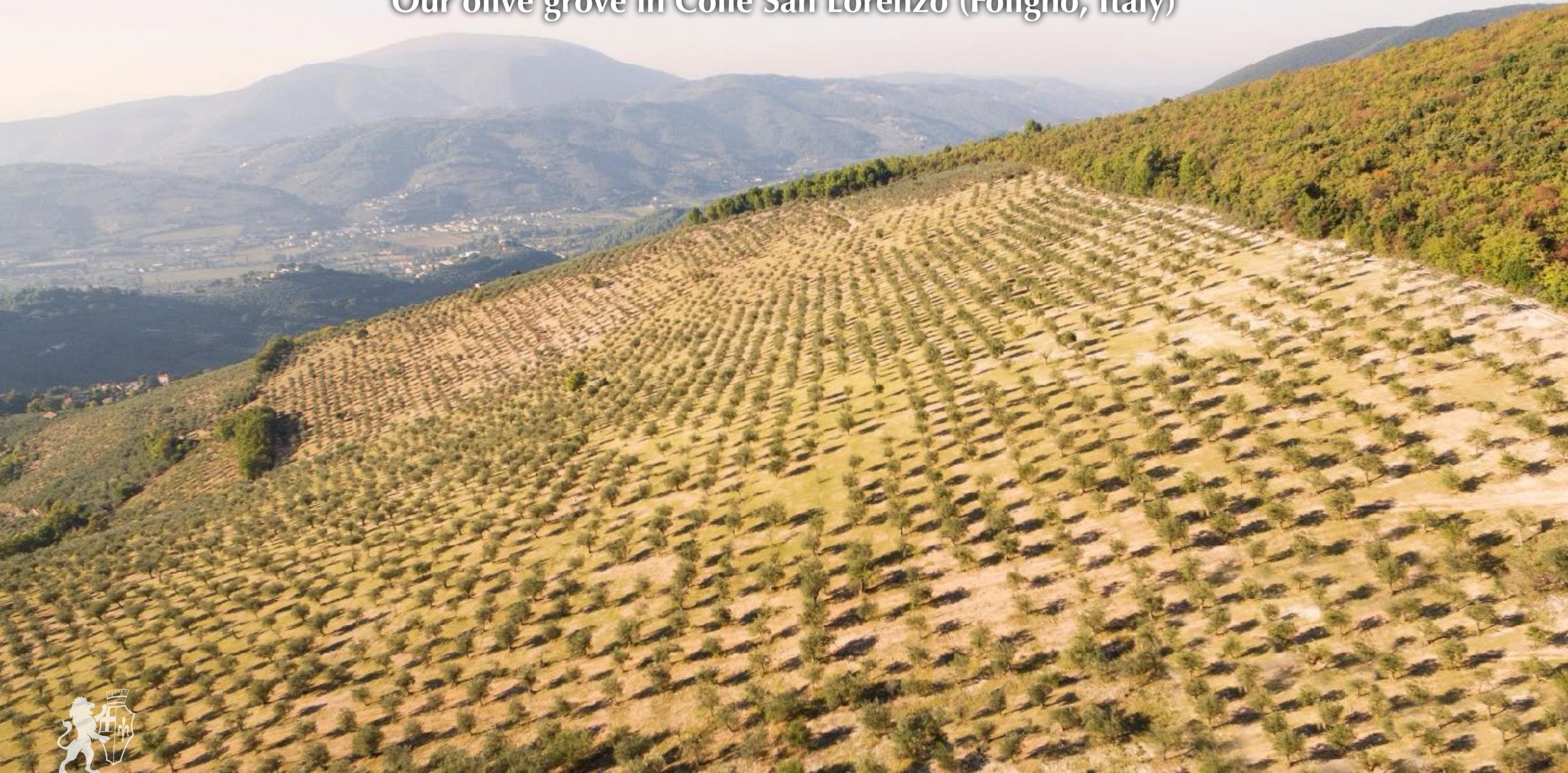
Apr 2018 - Second FAO field visit

Jul 2018 - Designation as first GIAHS site in Italy

Our olive grove in Colle San Lorenzo (Foligno, Italy)



Our olive grove in Colle San Lorenzo (Foligno, Italy)



THE RESULTS SO FAR (1/3)

Additional visibility due to GIAHS designation has helped convey a more accurate perception of how **challenging** and **labor-intensive** producing high-quality extra virgin olive oil with traditional methods can be.

Ensuring a **fair price** for farmers and oil-millers, establishing direct-to-consumer relationships and strongly differentiating our products will hopefully keep the historic olive groves self-sustainable for generations to come.

UMBRIA LA STRADA È IL VIAGGIO

DOVE Magazine - Italy

Todi, città
dell'olio, spicca
per la sua
inconfondibile
forma a cono,
con le case
distribuite lungo
il versante del
colle su cui sorge.

LA VIA DELL' OLIO

di ENRICO SARACINIA foto di GIOVANNI TAGINI

THE RESULTS SO FAR (2/3)

Eco-friendly and informed tourism is increasing. The Assisi-Spoleto slopes are an **ideal destination** for nature lovers: more than 70 kilometers of trails were mapped out, connecting all 6 municipalities of the GIAHS site and their historic, environmental and artistic heritage.

Olive groves are an **integral part** of this experience.



Trevi – Sassotivo

THE MOUNTAIN TRAIL

Trevi – Sassotivo is the fifth section of the Olive Belt Trails – Spina Olivata. This section is the "mountain trail" because the mountains Trevisi are in the highest point in the area. In some places, such as the Campone, the mountain trails, they combine life with nature, the green landscape, the high sun, but it's not only mountains, but also some green landscapes, from grassy meadows to pine forests and olive groves.

The third route of the Olive Belt Trails features the amazing and beautiful historic groves on the high hills. The one in the Sassotivo Abbey, considered a "sacred thicket" and also included in the Gregorian Land Registry, is out of a fairy tale. Extending over 700 hectares or more, it has a significant ecological value as it is an example of an original Umbrian historic grove.

MAP

Start – The olive groves of the Olive Belt Trails start from the town of Trevi, the world's oldest high-quality olive oil. The olive oil was first produced here in the 15th century. There was the first olive oil mill in the world, and the olive oil was first produced here. The olive oil was first produced here, among other things, in the springs, the olive oil was first produced here.

Intermediate point – The village of Revigella is the highest point of the entire route, at more than 700 meters above sea level. The olive oil mill can be traced to the Late Middle Ages, the first record is a census in 1573, which reported 30 families and about 150 inhabitants.

End – Sassotivo Abbey is a medieval site in the mountains of the Olive Belt Trails. It was built in the 11th century and was the first grove of the Olive Belt Trails. The olive oil was first produced here in the 15th century. The olive oil was first produced here, among other things, in the springs, the olive oil was first produced here.



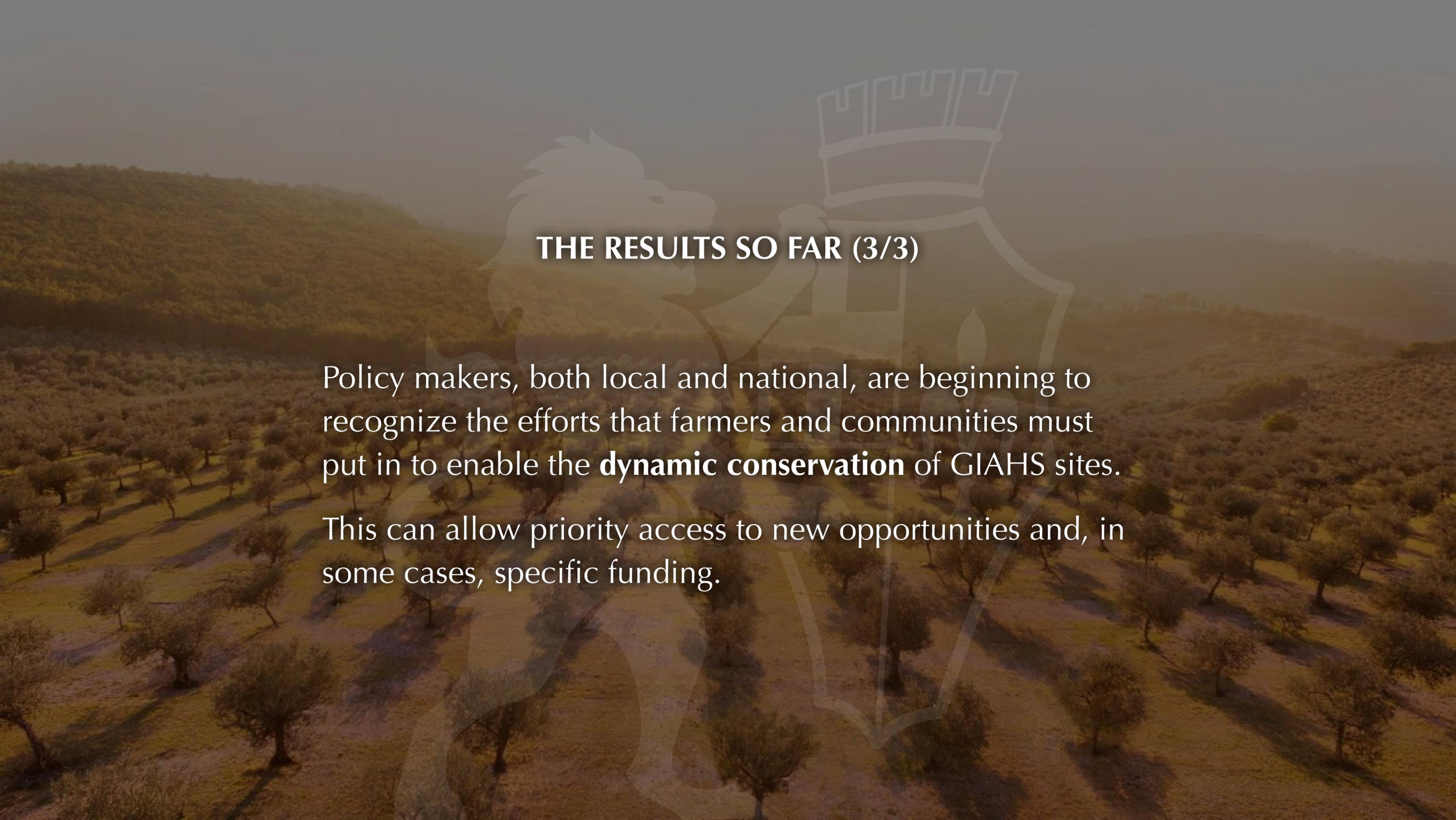
Trevi – Sassotivo

- MAP
- TECHNICAL DATA
- VIDEO
- GUIDES
- DO YOU KNOW THAT...
- WHAT IS NEW

I SENTIERI NELLA FASCIA OLIVATA (THE OLIVE BELT TRAILS)

sentierinellafasciaolivata.it

Independently developed in 2018, benefitting from Umbria ERDF Programme



THE RESULTS SO FAR (3/3)

Policy makers, both local and national, are beginning to recognize the efforts that farmers and communities must put in to enable the **dynamic conservation** of GIAHS sites.

This can allow priority access to new opportunities and, in some cases, specific funding.

Cultural participation in peripheral urban areas

Restructuring historic buildings to breathe new life into the suburbs and countryside all across Italy

Mission: Digitalisation, innovation, competitiveness, culture and tourism

Component: Tourism and culture 4.0

What is the goal of this investment?

The investment does not only have as its goal promoting the rural historical buildings with the finality of increasing the influx of tourists in suburban areas of the Country, but to also improve the protection of the surrounding landscape. Restructuring abandoned and decrepit buildings, will in fact create jobs, reduce the disparity between regions and alleviate the impact caused by the crisis, thanks to the promotion of local craftsmanship and agricultural products.

Close ^

Additional details

Said investment will stimulate the systemic process of re-qualification of historical rural buildings and protection of the landscape, both owned and managed by private entities as well as entities of the third sector. Many rural buildings and agricultural structures have, in fact, undergone a progressive process of abandonment, degradation and alteration that has compromised their distinctive characteristics and their relationship with the surrounding environment. By recovering the patrimony of the rural buildings, the measure will improve the quality of the rural territory, giving back to the community an underused building patrimony which is currently not accessible to the public. The patrimony, having been returned to the community, can be re-inserted into the economic and social fabric of the region, therefore promoting the local traits.

Total investment cost

€ 600 million



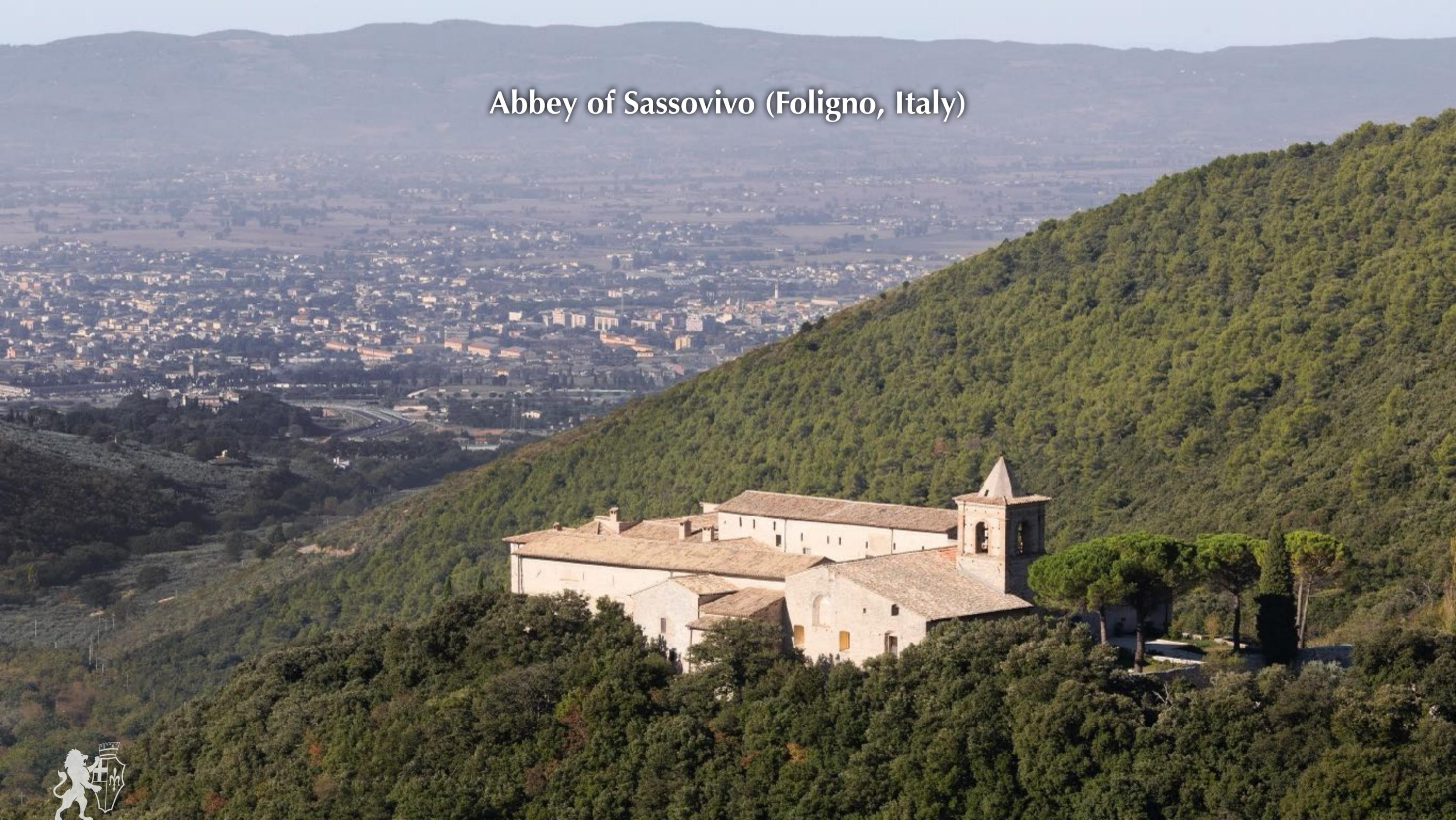
Reduce the gaps in standards of living

NATIONAL RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLAN (PNRR)

Renovation of historic rural buildings - 3900 works to be completed by Dec 2025

Priority was given to FAO GIAHS and UNESCO sites

Abbey of Sassovivo (Foligno, Italy)



Beato Alano Crypt, Sassovivo (Foligno, Italy)



FAO field visit - Sassovivo, Apr 2018





THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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