

Interreg



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Italia - Svizzera | Italie - Suisse | Italien - Schweiz

MAP-Rezia

# PHOTO CONTEST nature over BORDERS



**SUBMIT YOUR BEST SHOTS AND JOIN US IN PROMOTE BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION**

**1ST CATEGORY**

## LIVING WEBS

(Fauna, flora, fungi and invisible interactions)

**2ND CATEGORY**

## LANDSCAPES IN LISTENING

(Territories in transition)

**Win discount vouchers for the purchase of mountain and outdoor gear!**

**contest free of charge**

Visit the News section on the website [www.lombardia.stelviopark.it](http://www.lombardia.stelviopark.it) to read the **TERMS AND CONDITIONS** and download the **SUBMISSION FORM**.

For more details write to: [INTERREG.MAPREZIA@STELVIOPARK.IT](mailto:INTERREG.MAPREZIA@STELVIOPARK.IT)



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## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

“**Nature over borders**” is a photography contest created with the aim of exploring, through visual art, the deep connections between nature, territory, and Alpine communities. The initiative is part of the Interreg Italy–Switzerland VI-A Italia Svizzera - ID 0200061 - Project MAP-REZIA “Biodiversity Monitoring in the Protected Areas of Rezia”, which works to strengthen monitoring, protection, and management activities of alpine environments, particularly within protected areas.

The photographs collected will form the fragments of a single collective story, in which each image becomes a piece of the mosaic of Alpine biodiversity. Together, they will create a coherent and dynamic visual network that mirrors the very functioning of nature itself—founded on the interdependence of its components: cultural, ecological, genetic, and functional.

The goal is to give voice to perspectives capable of capturing and enhancing the often fragile beauty of Alpine biodiversity, understood not only as the variety of animal and plant species, but as a broader concept.

Through the participants’ gaze, “Nature over borders” becomes a tool for collective awareness: an invitation to see Biodiversity not merely as a backdrop, but as an active protagonist in shaping a new culture of sustainability and resilience within Alpine environments.

### 2. CATEGORIES OF THE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

**1st Category: Living Webs** (Fauna, flora, and invisible interactions)

This category is dedicated to all forms of life inhabiting the mountains: wild animals, rare plants, fungi, insects, lichens, trees and also to the often invisible relationships that bind them together (pollination, symbiosis, migrations, survival strategies). Each photo becomes a trace of this silent and precious network, which keeps the entire ecosystem in balance. **The goal is to show biodiversity not as a collection of isolated elements, but as a pulsating system of relationships.**

Domestic animals and photographs taken in non-Alpine settings are excluded.



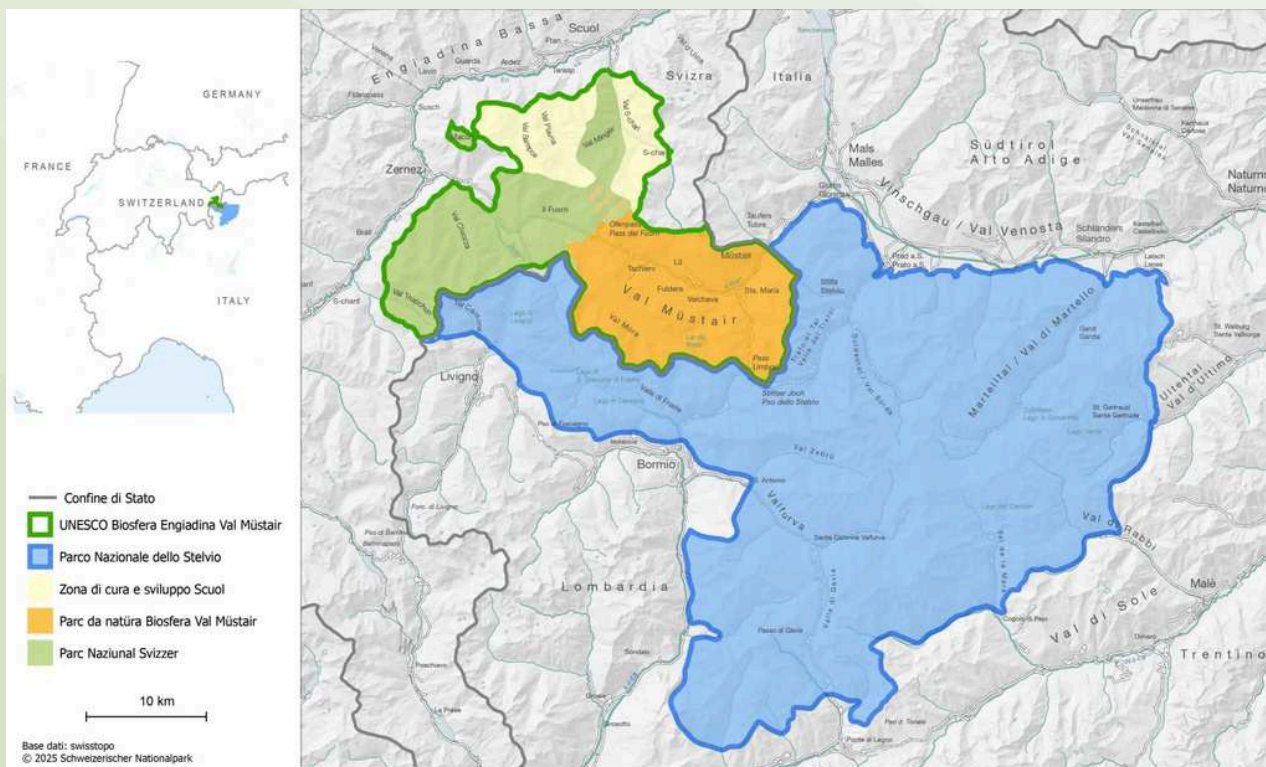
**MAP-Rezia**

**2nd Category: Listening Landscapes (Changing Territories)**

This section welcomes photographs of Alpine landscapes in transformation: slopes, valleys, waterways, forests, and pastures that tell the story of time, climate, and the changing seasons. These are not merely “beautiful views,” but glimpses that speak of change and of the coexistence between natural elements and human traces. Here, the landscape is seen as a subject that listens and responds, that preserves memory and adapts—becoming itself a witness and interpreter of biodiversity.

**Photographs must necessarily depict the Rhaetian region, within the following protected areas: Stelvio National Park, Swiss National Park, and the Val Müstair Biosphere Nature Park.** The name of the protected area and the location portrayed in the photograph must be clearly indicated.

**Below is the geographical area of the three protected sites (Stelvio National Park, Swiss National Park, Val Müstair Biosphere Nature Park) included in the Interreg MAP-Rezia project:**



Photographs taken outside the Interreg MAP-Rezia region will not be admitted to the contest.



### 3. TYPE OF IMAGES

The contest accepts works in **digital JPG format**, with the short side having a minimum dimension of 1600 pixels.

Photographs may be either in **color or black and white**. Normal adjustments to color balance, tone, contrast, saturation, and levels are permitted. **Photomontages or retouched images are not allowed**. Frames, dates, signatures, and superimposed text on photographs are also not permitted.

**At the time of submission, entries must not have received awards** in other national or international photography competitions. Photographs that do not comply with the parameters listed above will not be accepted for the contest.

Participants agree, upon request by the organizers, to provide the original camera files (RAW, JPEG, DNG, or TIFF) for the purpose of verifying the authenticity of the subject. Failure to provide the requested files may result in disqualification at the sole discretion of the jury.

Each author is personally responsible for the content of the submitted work, releasing the organizers from any liability. Participation in the contest implies that the submitted images do not infringe upon any third-party rights. The photographer therefore guarantees that they have obtained the necessary permissions for images depicting people and/or property where specific consent is required.

### 4. RIGHTS

The ownership and rights of the images are and remain with the authors of the images themselves. By participating in the contest, the authors authorize ERSAF – Stelvio National Park and the Swiss National Park to distribute the works free of charge solely and exclusively for the purpose of promoting and enhancing the Interreg MAP-Rezia project, namely through communications on online platforms such as the websites and social media of the project and of the aforementioned parks, as well as through free printed publications. The two parks may not transfer the usage rights to third parties without the authors' agreement.

**Personal data:** Participation in the “Nature over Borders” photography contest, within the framework of the Interreg MAP-Rezia project, requires the submission of essential personal information. Providing this data is a necessary condition for participation in the contest.



The aforementioned personal data will be processed – in compliance with EU Regulation 2016/679 (G.D.P.R.) – using both paper and electronic tools, in order to ensure their security and confidentiality. Data will be used exclusively for the purposes of participating in this contest, namely for identifying the winners, crediting the authors of the photographs in cases where the works are exhibited or published, and for other communications related to the contest and the activities of the organizing Parks.

Participants may exercise, at any time, the rights provided for under Chapter III of the G.D.P.R., such as requesting the correction, update, or deletion of their data. Full information on the exercise of these rights is available in the privacy notice published on the institutional website of ERSAF at [www.ersaf.lombardia.it](http://www.ersaf.lombardia.it).

The Data Controller is:

ERSAF – Ente Regionale per i Servizi all'Agricoltura e alle Foreste

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## 5. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

The “Nature over Borders” photography contest is open to everyone, with the exception of individuals directly involved in the MAP-Rezia project, in any capacity, and their first-degree relatives, who are excluded from participation. Each participant may submit a maximum of four (4) photographs, with two (2) photos allowed per category.

## 6. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

**Entries must be submitted no later than July 30, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. (CET).**

To ensure sufficient quality, photographs must have a minimum resolution of 10 megapixels.

**Photos must be sent via e-mail to: [interreg.maprezia@stelviopark.it](mailto:interreg.maprezia@stelviopark.it)**, with the subject line: “Photo Contest Nature over Borders”, and must include the completed entry form in all its parts.

For the registration to be considered valid, participants must ensure they have received a confirmation e-mail from the contest secretariat acknowledging receipt of their submission.



## 7. PRIZES

The contest will award three (3) of the most beautiful and meaningful photographs in the category “Living Connections”, and one (1) winning photograph for each protected area (Stelvio National Park, Swiss National Park, Val Müstair Biosphere Nature Park) in the second category, “Listening Landscapes.”

Prizes will be awarded to photographs that stand out for:

- **Technical and compositional quality:** attention to light, focus, framing, and overall image construction.
- **Aesthetic value:** the ability to evoke emotion and convey beauty through the image.
- **Consistency with the objectives of the project and category:** photographs should portray Alpine biodiversity in all its dimensions – ecological, biological, and cultural – and contribute to raising awareness of the relationships that sustain this fragile natural balance.

### Category 1: “Living Connections”

- **1st Place: €250 voucher** valid for the purchase of mountain and outdoor equipment (backpacks, clothing, accessories);
- **2nd Place: €200 voucher** valid for the purchase of mountain and outdoor equipment (backpacks, clothing, accessories);
- **3rd Place: €150 voucher** valid for the purchase of mountain and outdoor equipment (backpacks, clothing, accessories).

### Category 2: “Listening Landscapes”

A single prize will be awarded to the winning photograph for each Protected Area:

- **Stelvio National Park: €250 voucher** valid for the purchase of mountain and outdoor equipment (backpacks, clothing, accessories);
- **Swiss National Park: €250 voucher** valid for the purchase of mountain and outdoor equipment (backpacks, clothing, accessories);
- **Val Müstair Biosphere Nature Park: €250 voucher** valid for the purchase of mountain and outdoor equipment (backpacks, clothing, accessories).



## 8. JURY

The best photographs will be selected in two (2) steps.

The **first selection** will be carried out by two representatives of the leader partners from MAP-Rezia project (Stelvio National Park and Swiss National Park).

The **final selection**, which will determine the winning photographs, will be made by a **technical panel including a professional photographer, a representative of the project lead partner (Stelvio National Park), and a biodiversity expert.**

The decisions of the jury are final and not subject to appeal.

At its sole discretion, the jury will exclude any photographs that can be reasonably presumed to have been taken in violation of current nature protection laws or park regulations, or that may have caused harm or disturbance to wildlife or flora, or posed an evident risk to them.

The jury may also, at its discretion, **highlight and commend photographs** that are deemed particularly noteworthy or of special interest.

## 9. INFO & CONTACTS

For any questions or additional information about the MAP-Rezia Photo Contest, participants may contact the organizers at the following e-mail address: [interreg.maprezia@stelviopark.it](mailto:interreg.maprezia@stelviopark.it)

**Participants are kindly requested to read and fully understand the terms and conditions before submitting their photographs.**



Follow us on Instagram!

For more information about the project, please visit the official website [INTERREG ITALY-SWITZERLAND / MAP-REZIA](https://www.interreg-italy-switzerland.com/).

Tel. +39 0342 900838 – Chiara Giari

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Communication Officer for the Interreg MAP-Rezia Project

*ERSAF – Direzione Parco Nazionale dello Stelvio*

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