



## **Workshop 4 – Natural (& unnatural?) alliances**

What types of alliances are required for effective nature management? With whom should these be formed and what capacities need to be built to make them work?



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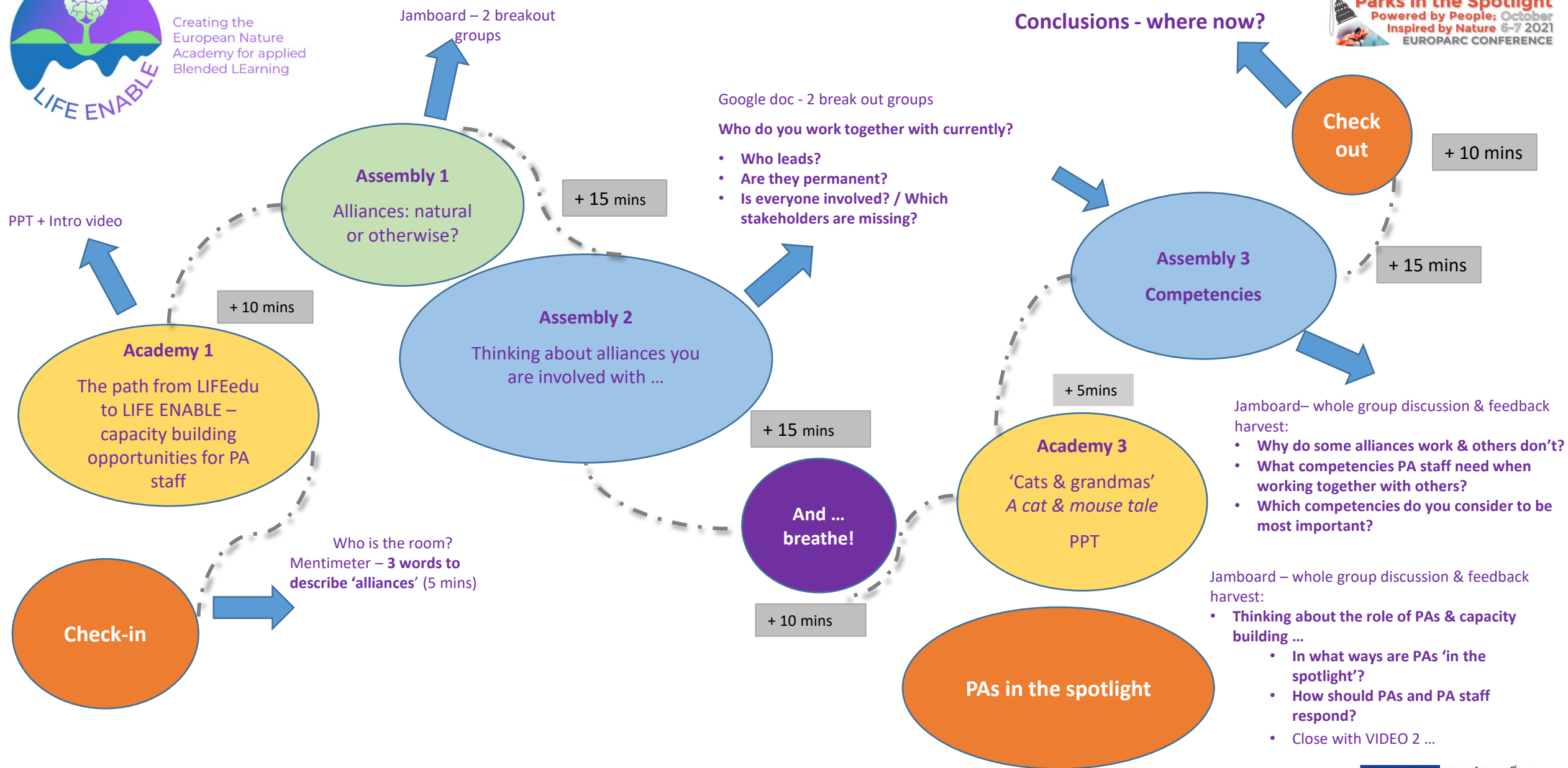
LIFE ENABLE  
Check in to Kick off!

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## Who's in our ZOOM room?

## Mentimeter ... In 3 words or short phrases ...

## What do 'alliances' mean to you?

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## A LIFE Preparatory Project

- ***LIFE e-Natura2000.edu: supporting e-learning & capacity building for Natura 2000 managers***
- Total budget: €845k
- Project period: 1.4.2018 to 31.07.2021
- Involves: 6 partners from 6 countries  
Participants from across the EU in private & public land
- With: 3 core groups of 20+ participants each  
... & 500 other 'casual users'
- 16 Actions with 23 project deliverables

## Project reports

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## What we achieved together

- High demand
- 3 purpose-built courses
- 75 participants, 19 countries
- 78 online presentations
- 25 video demos & 2 podcasts
- 27 external tutors
- 4 moodles, online TNA tool & new APP
- Virtual Summer School
- 2 virtual field trips



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## Main lessons learned ...

- Online learning here to stay
- Building bridges
- Network & share
- Competence-based learning
- Facilitation ... not teaching
- Training Needs Analysis
- Assessment & feedback
- Learning ... to be applied
- 96% of participants applying their learning

**LIFE e-Natura2000.edu**

**Building capacities for Natura 2000:  
Lessons from the project and  
guidelines for replicability**

Over three years, six European partners have worked together to design and test new approaches to build and develop the capacities of Natura 2000 professionals. From this experience, the main conclusions and recommendations for future competence-based learning initiatives are shared here.

To improve the effectiveness of Natura 2000 managers, before developing any capacity development programme, several questions must be answered:

- ✓ How can we know what the training needs of Natura 2000 managers are?
- ✓ What core functions require to be performed by managers and professionals for the efficient implementation of Natura 2000?
- ✓ What key competencies are specifically relevant for Natura 2000 professionals?

On this basis and by mobilizing the relevant expertise, tailor-made continuous professional development and learning programmes can be developed that will meet the specific training needs of Natura 2000 managers.

**Competence-based** approaches to capacity building are based around the acquisition of the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed for effective implementation of tasks and functions.

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# Check-in to Kick-off - LIFE ENABLE

Who are we?



Where now?

- European Nature Academy
- 10 competence-based blended learning courses
- Professional development & progression
- Individual, organisational, regional & national capacity building
- Practical, innovative, inspiring & impactful

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## A 'taster' for LIFE ENABLE

<https://youtu.be/OxvfxlO9ZQ4>

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**In our virtual ENABLE Academy 1 ...**

**In two groups – what are natural & un-natural alliances?**

- **Who do you identify as being natural (or logical?) allies for Protected Areas?**
- **Who would you categorise as being ‘un-natural’ allies?**

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In our virtual ENABLE Academy 2 ...

Thinking about the alliances you are involved with ...

List some examples ...

- Who leads?
- Are they permanent?
- Is everyone (who should be) involved?

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## TIME TO MOVE ... ... & REFRESH

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# ENABLING ... alliances



## Shifting positions

Saving Arctic Vole and (ground breeding) birds on Texel



[Source: The Economic Times]

## A love story



**For  
Animals,  
People and  
Our Natura2000 National Park**

**Once upon a  
time on a  
pristine  
island, called  
Texel, located  
in UNESCO  
world heritage  
site the  
Wadden sea...**

**In the dark ages...**



**Natura2000 site Dunes of Texel**

**Cats were killing wildlife**



[Source: RedBubble.com]

**... and we were killing cats**



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**But then, finally,  
we got to work!**

We formed a broad coalition with support base  
on every corner of the island & on every paw of  
animal interest

At that time volunteers started the Stray Cat Foundation  
Netherlands with a clear ambition:



The feral and wild stray cat  
will no longer occur in the  
Netherlands after 2040!

And the following approach:

Let us help you with your problem!



Insight # 3: Success comes  
down to people/individuals  
with vision and dedication

**Again: how  
remarkable!**



**Insight # 4: It takes time to  
get the right insight 'in sight'**

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**We  
invented  
the Fish  
& Chip  
drive-  
thru!**

People were invited to chip (animal-  
registration) their cats for free



This is a  
complete waste  
of energy, time  
and money if  
you consider the  
project-  
necessity of  
getting rid of  
wild cats in your  
N2000 site

[Source: Warnerbros.com]

Dear Fred,  
In your time it probably was. But for us it was a  
smart and COVID19 proof way to:

- Get attention for our ambition and the urgency
- Get sympathy for our unusual coalition (cross-  
pollination) & provide information
- Get some cats chipped which could also end up in  
one of our traps
- Give everything a positive vibe (see pictures)

Hope you understand,  
Kind regards,  
Team National park Dunes of Texel  
PS1 We had as much fun as watching The  
Flintstones  
PS2 Please stop eating extinct animals!



Insight # 7: Positive  
energy charges your  
ambition/project

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## Cats ... and grandmas?

**We chipped almost 500 cats,  
10-fold the number expected**

...followed by national television  
attention and questions in the house  
of representatives

Our coalition proved to be a success!

But following Fred Flintstone: this was not what  
we are here for

**Now we also had to do it: catch these  
haggard cats!**

And instead of having the regular hunters setting  
the traps, a group of mostly ladies with cat-  
sweaters was doing the job...



Insight # 8: Focus on  
common grounds  
not on differences

**Alliances ...  
... come in all forms  
... take time  
... need energy & commitment  
... & will to make them work**

**With the right ingredients ...  
Alliances can be ...**

***POWERFUL!***

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## In our virtual ENABLE Academy 3 ...

- Why do some alliances work & others don't?
- What competencies do PA staff need when working together with others?
- Which of these competencies do you consider to be most important?

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# Check-out ... ENABLE!



## Thinking about the role of PAs & capacity building ...

- In what ways are PAs 'in the spotlight'?
- How should PAs and PA staff respond?

## Make your alliances ...

## ... with LIFE ENABLE:

<https://youtu.be/oSseQurp1pg>

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