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ELABORATION OF MONITORING PLANS FOR PROTECTED PLANT SPECIES OF WESTERN CRETE, GREECE

Within the framework of the LIFE-NATURE-2004 project *A Pilot Network of Plant Micro-Reserves in Western Crete (Chania Prefecture)*, monitoring plans were elaborated for the Annex II (Directive 92/43/EEC) priority plant species *Androcymbium rechingeri*, *Anthemis glaberrima*, *Bupleurum kakiskalae*, *Cephalanthera cucullata*, *Hypericum aciferum*, *Nepeta sphaciotica* and the priority habitat type 9370, Palm groves of *Phoenix*. Monitoring is to take place within the boundaries of the respective 7 micro-reserves, already established in the field (in 3 pSCIs). The stages of the elaboration of the plans have been: a) collection of existing information on the species' biology, taxonomy, distribution and habitats; b) preparatory field work aiming to improve knowledge on species life cycle, phenology, population size, distribution pattern, habitat and threats; and c) compilation of plan. The monitoring plans include: a) summary of each species' biology, detailed population, growth and reproduction data, description of habitat and threats and assessment of its conservation status (new IUCN categories); b) establishment of monitoring rationale, methods and parameters; c) guidelines for the establishment of permanent plots and meteorological dataloggers, in each micro-reserve, for long-term monitoring and d) instructions for parameter estimation and analysis of results.