HELP US KEEP OUR BEACHES IN GOOD CONDITION!

ARE YOU A PUBLIC AUTHORITY?
- Apply and share a sustainable beach management model.
- Plan functional parking areas to protect the beach.
- Avoid the use of exotic plants in public green spaces.

ARE YOU A TOURIST SERVICE PROVIDER?
- Avoid mechanical beach cleaning close to the dunes.
- Equip your area for waste recycling.
- Avoid the use of exotic plants for decoration.
- Invite visitors to use signposted access paths to reach the beach.

ARE YOU AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION?
- Promote the responsible use of beaches among local residents and visitors.
- Contribute to raising awareness on the problems of invasive alien species.

ARE YOU A LOCAL RESIDENT OR A VISITOR?
- Do not trample the dunes: follow the signposted routes.
- Use the recycling bins to dispose of your waste.
- Respect plants and animals and their habitat.
- Be aware of the beauty of the different habitats that surround you.
- Use the car parks in the indicated areas.
DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

- **Natura 2000** is a network of over 25,000 biodiversity conservation sites across the European Union.
- **Dunes** are formed thanks to the presence of plants such as marram grass and sea grass. These species create a natural barrier against the wind and trap grains of sand, ultimately forming and building the dunes.
- **Dunes** are extremely precious, as they naturally reduce the risk of erosion and flooding, protecting the hinterland from sea storms. Moreover, they harbour plant and animal species that are exclusive to these habitats, which are increasingly threatened worldwide.
- More than 80% of dune environments in Italy are at risk of disappearing.
- The Venetian *feathery fairy linen* (*Stipa veneta*) is an endemic species of the North Adriatic coast. Very few specimens remain in Veneto today and the species is at risk of extinction.

RISK FACTORS

Coastal ecosystems are very fragile and are among the most threatened in the world. Urbanisation, tourism, unsustainable beach management, pollution, abandoned waste, climate change, sea level rise, invasive alien species and poor awareness of the value of coastal habitats endanger dune systems, their biodiversity and function.

WHAT WE DO:

- Restore damaged dunes.
- Produce plant species for rebuilding the habitats of the entire dune system.
- Transplant plant species typical of dune habitats.
- Strengthen *Stipa veneta* populations.
- Remove invasive alien species.
- Reduce the impact of recreational activities by creating access routes.
- Environmental education and local stakeholder involvement to raise awareness of the importance of habitat conservation.
- Develop guidelines for the long-term management of beaches.
- Sign a memorandum of understanding with public administrations, tourist service providers and environmental associations to ensure the long-lasting sustainable management of beaches.

THE PROJECT

A 4-year project launched in September 2017, LIFE REDUNE aims to restore the integrity and ecological function of dune systems in 4 Natura 2000 sites on the Veneto coast.

The Venetian feathery fairy linen (*Stipa veneta*) — an endemic species of the North Adriatic coast.