

APE, Appennino Parco d'Europa - *Appennini* Park of Europe

APE is a project, promoted by Legambiente, the Abruzzi Region and the Minister of Environment, Land and Sea in 1995, which aims to identify a model of sustainable growth in the whole *Appennini* Chain and to promote the enhancement of the entire system within the European context.

Starting from primary relevance of Italian Parks and protected areas, the project aims to give the *Appennini* Chain the same strength and value.

The key points are the following:

- Combining nature conservation with rural development and growth of work opportunities;
- Protecting and safeguarding our cultural and architectural heritage;
- Promoting the agro-industrial sector quality and developing local products;
- Enhancing local infrastructures.