

THE MANAROLA CINQUE TERRE FOUNDATION



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THE MANAROLA FOUNDATION PROFILE

The Foundation is born on **March 15, 2014**, 3 years after the terrible flood that seriously damaged Vernazza and Monterosso. The aim of the Foundation is to bring back the attention on the territory and to attract the tourists and inhabitants interest on the (fundamental) importance to preserve it. The Cinque Terre landscape is not only beautiful but unfortunately also very fragile.

Why the Foundation is born?

In the last fifty years due to changing economic conditions and the rapid depopulation of Cinque Terre, the land has begun to go back to what it once was before the construction of the terraces: trees have grown back where there once were grapes, there has been a significant rise in the number of landslides and terraced walls collapsing. The Manarola community for stopping this constant and slow declination, decided to create **an efficient, controlled and credible association that act to preserve the territory**. The Foundation is one of the few Foundation of participation and it is a no-profit organization, **that follows social purposes addressed to preserve and enhance the nature and the territory**.

The main focuses of the Foundation are:

- The hydrogeologic security
- The landscape and territory preservation

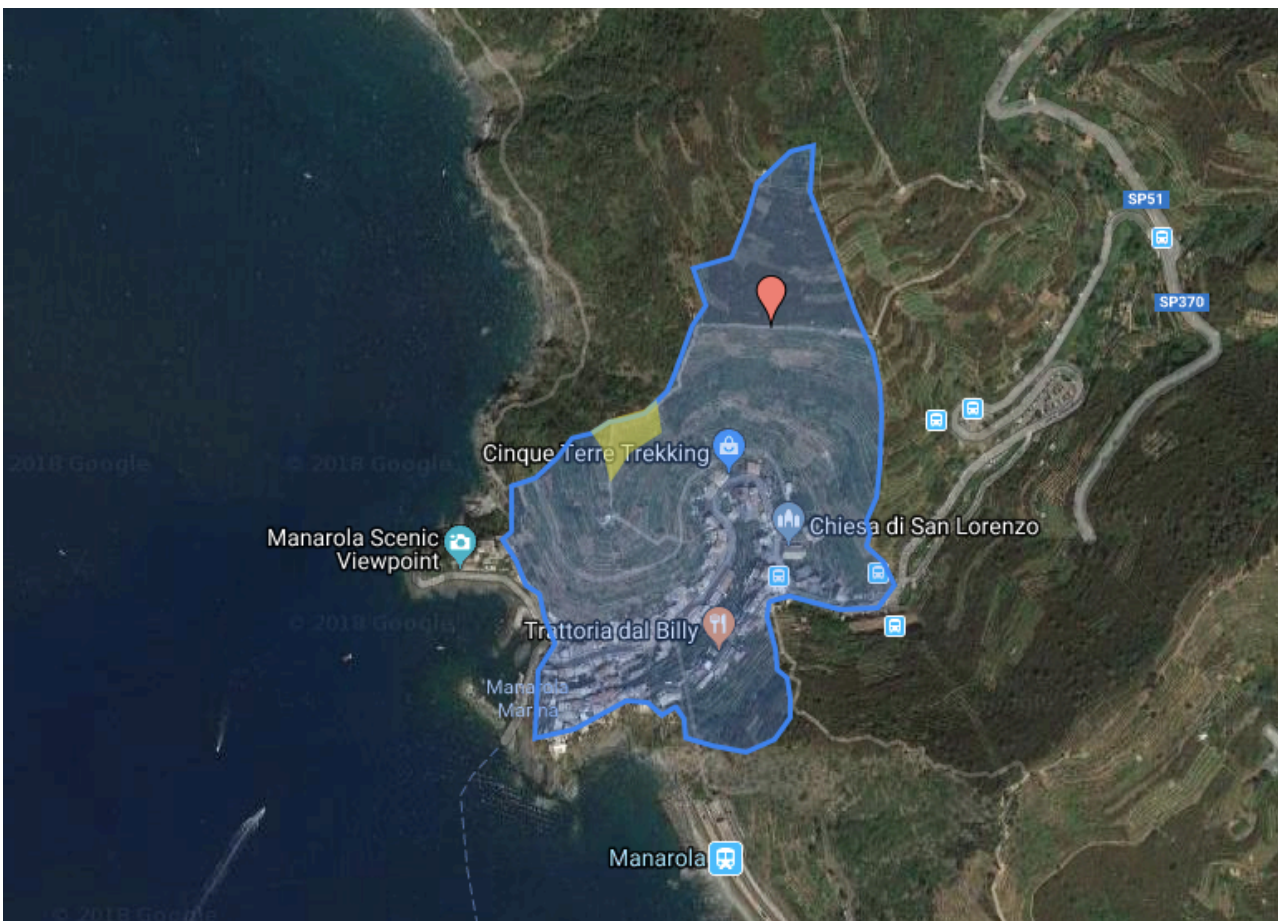
The founders are **126** (94 residents, 15 former residents and 17 no resident) of whom 110 through money deposit and 27 through fields donation. The **initial patrimony** consists in **50.000€**.

THE AREA OF INTERVENTION

The area of interest identified by the Foundation consists in **9.76 hectares**, in which the majority (7.64 hectares) of the land lies on the west side or in the famous “amphitheater”.

The total surface of all the stone walls that needs to be maintained and supported results in 57,500 square meters; in other words, if we hypothesize that the average height of the walls is 2.5 meters, the overall amount of walls that exists in this zone would correspond to one stone wall that has the height and width of 2.5 meters: $(57,500/2.5) = 23,000$ meters. **Thus, this wall would extend for 23 kilometers.**

The intervention area has been delimited in order to concentrate all the human and financial resources for reaching the goals. The intervention area is located above the Manarola center: *Beccara vecchia*, *Beccara nuova*, *Campu road*, *Collora* and *Donega* roads, until *Segnale* (about 175 m a.l.s.).



HOW THE FOUNDATION WORKS

When the Foundation Manarola was formed, it received a start-up capital divided in money and fields. The Manarola Foundation, after signing rental contracts with the fields' owners in order to have the right to intervene, **recovers the abandoned terraces and rebuilds the dry-stone walls collapsed** and then it sublets the restored fields to the Agriculture Companies, using the unification process, useful in term of production increase. In the specific case of Cinque Terre landscape **the building of dry-stone walls and the vine cultivation** is mandatory in order to **preserve an entire ecosystem**. The dry-stone walls and the vineyards, with their deep roots, contribute to keep up the land that otherwise would be steep and vertical, preventing landslides triggering.

THE ACHIEVEMENTS

The results achieve by the Manarola Foundation in 4 years of activity:

Concrete results (the visible and measurable results)

- 7.809 square meter of land restored
- 418,50 square meter of dry-stone walls rebuilt
- 3.053 square meter of land granted to 4 local private companies
- 4.953 square meter of land granted in progress to Cooperativa Agricola Cinque Terre

Concrete secondary results (complementary to the primary goals of the Foundation):

- fence anti- wild boars, realized together the National Park of Cinque Terre

Not concrete results (not visible or measurable):

- 2 training courses completed, address to disadvantaged categories (not employed or asylum-seekers), that had formed people that now have a stable job.
- a training course - addressed to local people - organized in partnership with the National Park of Cinque Terre and focused on the building technique of the dry-stone walls, in order to transmit this ability and knowledge.
- the completion of the census of the area identified as "intervention area", thanks to the contribution of the surveyors Enrica Galletti, Diego Maggiani e Mirco Romagnani. The total intervention area consists of 107.431 square meter (about 11 hectares).

DONATIONS

Why is it important to support the Foundation?

The donations are used to increase the Foundation ability to carry on these vital projects: preserve the territory and guarantee its security, restoring fields and stone walls.

How do you become a member?


It is very simple. You can choose among three participation typology: **standard** (10€ donation), **supporting** (25€ donation) **honorary** (50€ donation). For sending the payment you have to go on the website www.fondazionemanarola.org and click on “Become a member” (payment via PayPal or credit card). Many local companies are become “Company Supporter” and they show the certificate on the front door.

In 2018, 54 local companies made a **contribution**, for a total amount of **7.800€**. This is the proof of the important role of the Foundation, that has been increasing through years, involving more people and supporters.

CONTACTS

: Fondazione Manarola Cinque Terre

 info@fondazionemanarola.org

 www.fondazionemanarola.org

LIFE CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROJECT

WHAT IS LIFE?

LIFE Climate Change Adaptation is the UE financial instrument for the environment and the climate. The Manarola Foundation partnered with the National Park of Cinque to support this project.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

This project has the goal to make the land more resilient against climate change effects through 3 main actions: cleaning up the abandoned fields, rebuilding the dry-stone walls and renovating the flood canals. The project is founded on an important preparatory work of the Foundation, that has identified the area of intervention. In summary, the project objectives are:

- Evaluate the impact of innovative approaches concerning the dry-stone walls construction methods, improvement of soil structure and farming techniques to update the traditional methods in a climate smart way;
- Foster and create capacity and expertise among local stakeholders, particularly the associations devoted to the preservations of the landscape, the construction workers, and the connected farming economy to make further interventions easier and more effective.

The duration of the project is estimated in 5 years.

BUDGET

The budget requested to the UE consists in 2 million of euro (55% of the total).

PARTNERS:

- PARCO NAZIONALE DELLE CINQUE TERRE: coordinating beneficiary
- FONDAZIONE MANAROLA: involved in the mobilization activities on the territory
- ITRB GROUP: collaborate to the project for its experience in European projects submission and for its managerial ability in approved projects
- A SCIENTIFIC PARTNER (University of Genoa): to guarantee a solid scientific approach on the project
- ENVIROMENTAL ASSOCIATIONS (Legambiente): together other local associations and local authorities will contribute to the replication of the project in other villages of Cinque Terre
- INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS (“Pedra Seca” Association in Spain and Andros island in Greece): for valuating the possibility to replicate the project in other places with similar conditions

EXPECTED RESULTS

- 5 hectares of terraces and 4,000 square meters of dry-stone walls will be recovered and given back to long-term sustainable agricultural use with improved soil surface, helping to preserve a unique habitat.
- A total of 9.7 hectares will enjoy a strongly improved resilience to flooding (5 hectares on intervention area plus the village below it), protecting 353 inhabitants and 5000 daily visitors.

- To foster integration and remedy the skill gap, 40 people with a migration background will be schooled in the dry-stone walls building techniques and their skills made available on the territory.
- The project will create 12 jobs in the construction phase and 55 permanent ones afterwards, and many indirect ones as the local economy is fully dependent on the preservation of the territory.