

# Main Conclusions

**José A Juanes**

*IHCantabria*

*Instituto de Hidráulica Ambiental de la Universidad de Cantabria*

**Final Session, Project LIFE CONVIVE**

**Santander, 24 September 2020**

- ✓ It is possible to apply sustainable management approaches within the Natura 2000 network.
- ✓ Balance between conservation and socioeconomic issues must be considered at a local scale. Specific ecosystem services analyses based on scientific knowledge will be required in order to focus the more sustainable solutions.
- ✓ Restoration of tidal dynamics is the most critical action to improve biodiversity and habitats conservation in estuarine systems.
- ✓ Salt-based methods seems to be an alternative to herbicides, but their efficiency must be improved. In the meanwhile, more specific studies on actual risks derived from the local use of glyphosate must be carried out.

- ✓ Re-growth control and seed growth inhibition appear as essential actions to control invasive species.
- ✓ Green filters may provide a sustainable solution for improving water quality in low renovation estuarine systems exposed to treated effluents. Further applications of this technology is expected.
- ✓ Conservation and restoration actions on estuaries may be an important source of green jobs and tourism opportunities in coastal communities.
- ✓ Environmental education is the best option to increase public awareness regarding sustainability of estuarine ecosystems.

- ✓ Direct networking activities are the most valuable way to interact and interchange ideas, knowledge, solutions. Creation of a working group on estuarine conservation and restoration may facilitate further advances on this topic.
- ✓ Administrative issues (permits, EIA, procurement procedures) have been the most important bottleneck in the Development of the conservation actions and have supposed a risk for the established objectives.
- ✓ COVID19 has highlighted the importance of the adaptative capacity in different actions (monitoring, networking, dissemination) and require an special consideration in the final assessment.