

CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is considered globally as **one of the greatest challenges** humanity is facing today. Although the first-ever legally binding climate deal was signed in Paris by 195 countries, in December 2015, huge implementation challenges remain. We are finally beginning to address climate change in local, national and international policies and actions. Among other programs, the **European Union's LIFE Programme** has a component dedicated specifically to climate action. This sub-program, **LIFE+ Climate Action**, co-finances projects that help to develop and demonstrate effective technologies, tools and methodologies that meet EU climate and environmental policy targets.

The Fifth Assessment Report of IPCC has highlighted the **Mediterranean region as one of the most vulnerable in the world**, and a further tendency towards drier conditions is predicted. Here, a substantial warming (up to 1.5°C) and a significant decline of precipitation (up to 10%) is likely to occur between 2016–2035 compared to the reference period 1986–2005, although at local level changes might be even more dramatic. **Limiting climate change will require new strategies to both mitigate and adapt to changes** that are inevitable.



CONTACT US AND JOIN THE ADAPTATION!

-  ambiente@adpm.pt
-  www.lifemontadoadapt.com
-  fb.me/lifemontadoadapt
-  youtube.lifemontadoadapt.com
-  twitter.com/lifemontado



LIFE MONTADO -ADAPT

MONTADO & CLIMATE, A NEED TO ADAPT

The LIFE Montado-Adapt project is an initiative co-financed by the European Union through the LIFE Program 2014-2020, Climate Action Subprogramme, which supports projects that develop innovative ways of responding to the challenges of climate change in Europe.

The opinions expressed in this material reflect only the author's view and not necessarily the position of the European Commission, and it is not responsible for any use that may be made of such information.



FROM THE NEED
TO THE ADAPTATION



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WHAT IS LIFE MONTADO-ADAPT?

LIFE Montado-Adapt is a project that promotes the adaptation of the **Montado/Dehesa** system in Portugal and Spain, which main objective is to mitigate the consequences of climate change, increasing the sustainability at an economic, social and environmental level.

The project, coordinated by ADPM, has a team of **16 Technical and Scientific partners** - organizations with knowledge and technological solutions, that allow to observe and understand the evolution of the Montado/Dehesa under different perspectives, allowing the adaptation to be made according to its characteristics.



In the scope of the project will be developed and implemented **Integrated Land Use** systems in **12 Pilot Areas** in Portugal and Spain, which will be disseminated as examples of adaptation models.



WHAT IS THE INTEGRATED LAND USE?

It seems impossible to achieve sustainability with the land management systems used today. If the climate has already changed, the systems must also change. It is based on this premise that the LIFE Montado-Adapt establishes as priority the need for **adaptation processes** to the current and future climatic conditions, as well as the consequences thereof.

The **Integrated Land Use** is a process of adaptation of the Montado/Dehesa based on **5 pillars**:

-  **Diversify crop production** by alternating agricultural crops with forest ones;
-  **Diversify crops and varieties** by opting for the most resistant to the adverse climatic conditions and profitable from an economic point of view.
-  **Act in accordance with international standards** for the certification of products;
-  **Improve soil fertility** through different techniques, such as green manuring, mycorrhization, crop improvement, etc.
-  **Diversify the properties**, not only in terms of bio-products, but also eco-services.



PROJECT STEPS

The process of development and implementation of the Integrated Land Use has the **11 steps** below:

-  Evaluation of Pilot Areas
-  Definition of indicators and current situation
-  Development of the ILU systems
-  Training of owners/partners
-  Implementation of ILU in the 12 Pilot Areas
-  Cooperation considering market
-  **Replication - Development of ILU in other interested properties**
-  Implementation of certifications in the Pilot Areas
-  Marketing for products coming from the ILU
-  Evaluation of results (monitorization of indicators)
-  Recomendations to public policies and widespread dissemination