

# Expert Group on Adaptation to Climate Change

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Forests – Adaptation to Climate Change

**Portugal** *Highlights*



# *How do you contribute with your work in your country/organization to climate change adaptation activities?*

- As *Coordinator* of the **Working Group on Forests in the context of the ENAAC 2020** (*Estratégia Nacional de Adaptação às Alterações Climáticas 2020 - National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change 2020*)
  - Working Group's strategic objectives:
    - increase resilience, reduce the risks and maintain the production capacity of forest goods and services
    - to improve and transfer knowledge amongst forest stakeholders
    - to monitor and assess climate change impacts

Portugal



# *How do you contribute with your work in your country/organization to climate change adaptation activities?*

- As **Head of the Forest Management Division** of ICNF (Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e das Florestas) has institutional and more encompassing competences, such as:
  - assisting in the definition of sustainable forest management policies in a multifunctional perspective
  - elaboration of guidelines to assist preparation of **forest management plans**
  - promotion of studies, programs and action plans focused on soil conservation and combat erosion & desertification
  - promotion of associations or other forms of organizing the sector and of different models for joint management of forest areas and monitoring the national forest certification schemes
  - cooperation with other entities to carry out land registry and spatial restructuring of forest holdings

*NOTE: **Forest Management Plans** are key instruments for the overall sustainable development of forest resources; are adjusted to the local reality of each forest holding and can foresee actions with a view to climate change adaptation*

- **ICNF/Institute for Nature Conservation and Forests – the national forest authority** and national authority for nature conservation and biodiversity

Portugal



# Please describe a successful example of climate change adaptation measures implemented in your country/by your organization

- **ICNF/forest administration** – mainly two separate work streams in this subject:
  - elaboration of guidelines namely related to climate change adaptation measures
  - law and forest-related policies' enforcement

*NOTES: ICNF also has management functions in state owned forests (around 2% of the total forest area) and in communal areas (around 6%); ICNF participates/is partner in several projects namely related to adaptation to climate change*

*(<http://www.icnf.pt/portal>)*

- Three examples of CC adaptation measures:

- **AdaptforChange** - Improve the success of reforestation in semi-arid areas: adaptation to climate change scenario
- **LIFE Montado & Climate: A need to Adapt** - Introduce innovative adaptation technologies in Montado and Dehesa (Portugal + Spain)
- **ClimAdaPT.local** – Elaboration of Municipal Strategies for Adaptation to Climate Change in Portugal – 26 municipalities, including Lisbon

Portugal



# *Please describe a successful example of climate change adaptation measures implemented in your country/by your organization*

- ***AdaptforChange*** - *Improve the success of reforestation in semi-arid areas: adaptation to climate change scenario*  
<http://echanges.fc.ul.pt/projetos/adaptforchange/about.html>
  - Focus - Alentejo region (Mainland South)
  - Main objective - decreasing the cost-benefit of reforestations in the semi-arid
  - Particular attention - actions of demonstration of soil and water conservation
  - Approach - involvement of the interested parties, putting together science of semiarid ecology, knowledge acquired in the past as well as adjustment of efforts, energy, production models and technics to each place
  - Production of e-books of best practices - e.g.: “Good practices for soil and water conservation in drylands” and “Good practices for reforestations in drylands”

Portugal



# *Please describe a successful example of climate change adaptation measures implemented in your country/by your organization*

- ***LIFE Montado & Climate: A need to Adapt*** - Introduce innovative adaptation technologies in Montado and Dehesa  
<https://life.apambiente.pt/>
  - Focus – Montado and Dehesa - *Quercus suber* and *Quercus rotundifolia* agroforestry systems (Portugal + Spain)
  - Demonstration of sustainable and profitable integrated land (ILU) use systems
  - ILU systems' contribution to socioeconomic development, environmental services, biodiversity conservation and carbon sequestration
  - Development of commercialization channels, sustainability and carbon certification, as well as marketing plans for regional production

Portugal



# *Please describe a successful example of climate change adaptation measures implemented in your country/by your organization*

- ***ClimAdaPT.local*** – *Elaboration of Municipal Strategies for Adaptation to Climate Change in Portugal*

<http://climadapt-local.pt>

- Municipal Strategies for Adaptation to Climate Change - relevant tool to municipal planning
- Scope - beyond forest-related issues
- Professional training to municipalities' collaborators - awareness raising to local climate change adaptation is expected
- Expand number of Municipalities with Municipal Strategies for Adaptation to Climate Change (currently 26 municipalities)
- Cover the whole country

Portugal



# *Is there a national strategy (does your organization have a strategy) on adaptation of forests to climate change?*

- **ENAAC 2010 - National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change 2010**
  - Report on adaptation of forests to climate change , built with stakeholders  
<http://www.icnf.pt/portal/florestas/ppf/resource/docs/alt-clima/rel-florest-enaac>
- **ENAAC 2020 - National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change 2020**
  - Revised version of ENAAC 2010 (1<sup>st</sup> phase) – acquired experience, fill in the gaps
  - ENAAC 2020 facilitates the articulation of the different sectors and interested parties to improve knowledge on climate change, implement adaptation measures and promote the integration of adaptation into sectoral policies
  - Inclusive Strategy - integrates and articulates with relevant sectors and interested parties (vast and varied number of public and private stakeholders, NGOs and Academia are involved)
  - ENAAC 2020/**Working Group on Forests** *vis a vis* ENAAC 2010/Group “Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries”

Portugal





# *Is there a national strategy (does your organization have a strategy) on adaptation of forests to climate change?*

- **ENAAC 2020/Working Group on Forests**

- Output of the Working Group on Forests

- **reports** with proposals/recommendations of adaptation measures fit for its defined **strategic objectives** which are:

- to increase resilience, reduce the risks and maintain the production capacity of forest goods and services (by promoting resilience through forest planning and managing, decreasing the vulnerability to biotic and abiotic risks and maintaining capacity to provide goods and services)
    - to improve and transfer knowledge amongst forest stakeholders (by promoting knowledge transfer between science and forest implementation and increasing knowledge on potential impacts, response capacity and adaptation measures)
    - to monitor and assess climate change impacts (by monitoring ecosystem response to climate change as well as the suitability of policies, plans and instruments)

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# *What are major challenges related to climate change and forests in your country/organization?*

Major **challenges** – scientific knowledge and uncertainty of the **potential impacts** of climate change on forests particularly their capacity to continue providing a vast number of goods and services

## **In Portugal:**

- Productivity and geographical distribution of forest species
- Forest fires and other abiotic agents
- Biotic agents (invasive species, pests and diseases)
- Fishing and aquaculture resources from inland waters
- Game and hunting resources
- Environmental Services such as soil and water protection and biodiversity

Portugal

