

FACTSHEET | DEMO7 CENTRAL ALENTEJO, PORTUGAL

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE RESTORATION IN CENTRAL ALENTEJO REGION



The DEMO7

Addresses key ecological and environmental challenges in rural landscapes, focusing on the restoration and conservation of Mediterranean water streams, including riparian woodlands and adjacent Montado habitat areas. The project is structured around two main sub-demonstrations designed to strengthen the region's ecological resilience.

sub-DEMO7.1

Targets the ecological restoration of Mediterranean streamside vegetation, aiming to improve habitat connectivity and restore ecological balance.

sub-DEMO7.2

Responds to biodiversity loss and increased wildfire risk by implementing restoration efforts in the Montado, a unique agrosilvopastoral system known for its rich biodiversity and cultural value. Together, these initiatives span approximately 26287 m² of rural private land, working to mitigate wildfire risks, enhance ecological health, and reinforce the resilience of Central Alentejo's distinctive landscapes.



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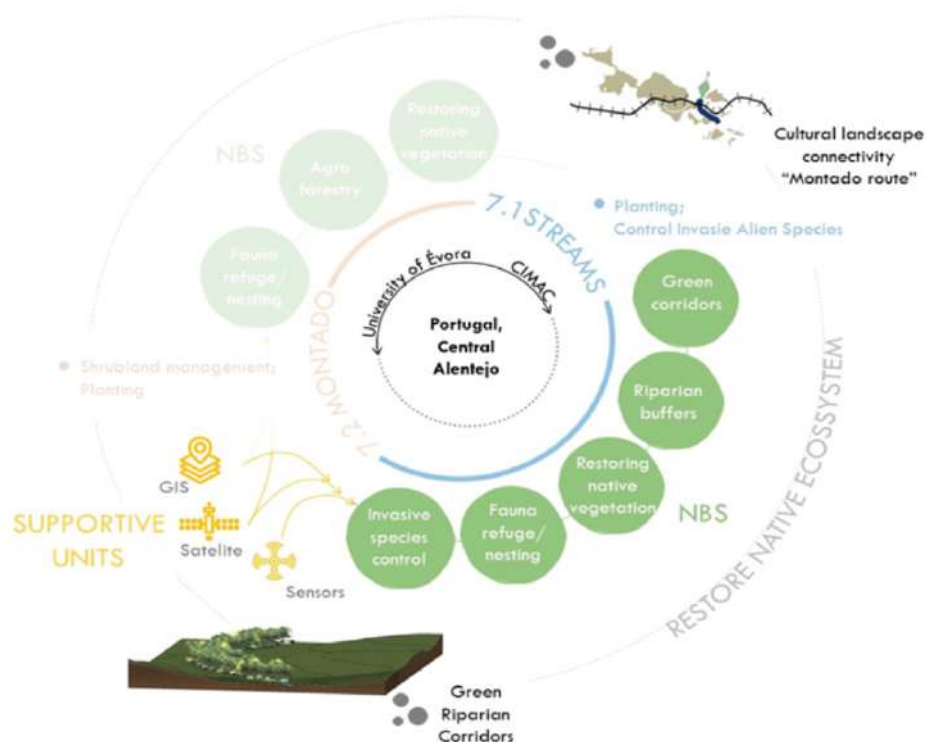
Towards Sustainable Mediterranean Streams: Restoring Riparian Vegetation



What is being done at sub-DEMO7.1?

This sub-DEMO is focused on conserving, restoring, and enhancing Mediterranean streamside vegetation, in line with regional climate change priorities. The project uses a comprehensive ecological restoration approach, implementing key Nature-based Solutions such as establishing green corridors, riparian buffers, and restoring native vegetation over 50948 m². It also includes controlling invasive alien species on 1052 m² and creating fauna refuges and nesting areas within 30 m².

Rainwater is used for the natural maintenance of these green areas. The system is supported by GIS mapping, satellite data, and sensors monitoring soil and atmospheric conditions to maximize benefits. These interventions contribute to broader conservation and climate mitigation goals, reflecting a strong commitment to ecological balance and sustainability on public rural land. Covering over 50948 m², this NbS system aims to promote the conservation, restoration, and enhancement of riparian.





Identified Nature-based Solutions



The identified Nature-based Solutions are those mentioned above, specifically:

- Green corridors
- Invasive alien species
- Riparian buffers
- Fauna refuge and nesting techniques
- Restoring native vegetation

Co-benefits

The sub-DEMO aims to enhance the health, connectivity, and resilience of riparian ecosystems, thereby supporting broader conservation goals and strengthening climate change mitigation efforts across the region. By focusing on these interconnected aspects, the sub-DEMO not only restores ecological balance but also improves the long-term sustainability and adaptability of these vital natural habitats. This integrated approach ensures that riparian areas can better withstand environmental pressures while contributing positively to regional biodiversity and climate resilience.

Sustainable Development Goals



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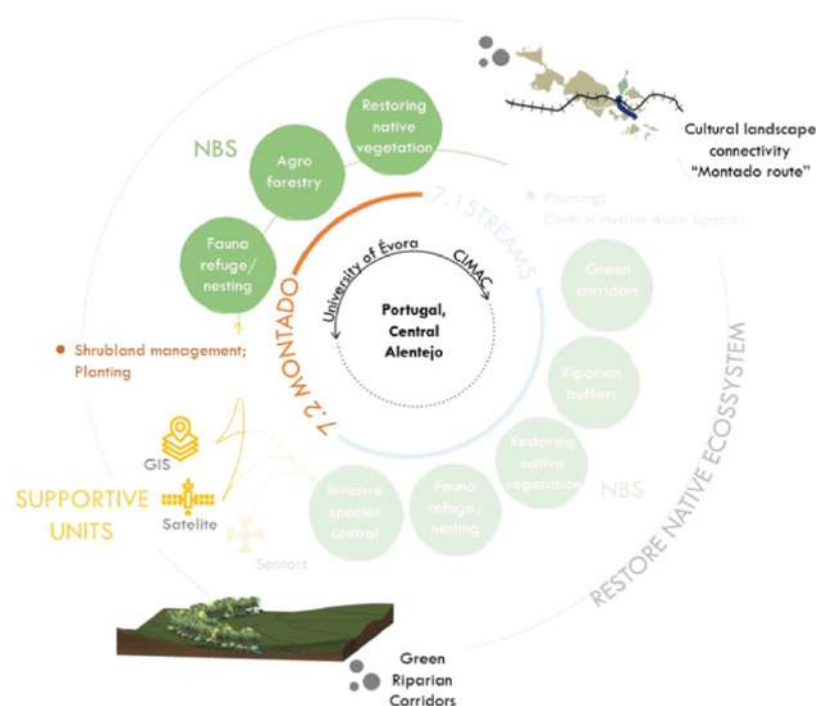
Enhancing Habitat Connectivity and Ecological Balance with NbS



What is being done at sub-DEMO7.2?

This sub-DEMO, is focused on restoring and enhancing the Montado ecosystem, a vital neighbor to Mediterranean water streams and one of Portugal's most iconic and biodiverse landscapes. The abandonment of traditional agrosilvopastoral practices has led to biodiversity loss and increased wildfire risk, making ecosystem restoration through Nature-based Solutions (NbS) a priority. Key interventions include restoring native vegetation and implementing agroforestry across 26287 m², as well as creating fauna refuges and nesting sites within a 30 m² area. These actions aim to strengthen habitat connectivity, restore ecological balance, and lower wildfire risk in the Montado region.

Rainwater is used as the main water source for maintaining these green areas naturally. The restoration efforts are crucial for improving the health and resilience of the Montado, supporting climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation in the region. By covering 26287 m² of rural private land, this NbS system helps safeguard the Montado's ecological functions and cultural heritage, while promoting sustainable land management for the future.





Identified Nature-based Solutions



The identified Nature-based Solutions are those mentioned above, specifically:

- Restoring native vegetation
- Fauna refuge and nesting
- Agroforestry

Co-benefits

Strengthen habitat connectivity, restore ecological balance, and reduce wildfire risk in the Montado region, supporting the long-term health and resilience of this unique agro-silvo-pastoral landscape. By enhancing ecological links and promoting a balanced environment, these actions help safeguard the region's rich biodiversity and maintain essential ecosystem services. At the same time, mitigating wildfire risk protects both natural habitats and local communities, contributing to the sustainable management and conservation of the Montado's cultural and ecological heritage

Sustainable Development Goals



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