



LIFE LiveAdapt - Adaptation to Climate Change of Extensive Livestock Production Models in Europe

LIFE17 CCA/ES/000035

[Project description](#) [Environmental issues](#) [Beneficiaries](#) [Administrative data](#)
[Read more](#)

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Project description:

Background

Climate change is having a substantial negative impact on the agricultural industry, especially in southern Europe. Increased temperatures and change in precipitation patterns (longer dry periods and more heavy rainfalls) are having a detrimental impact on the livestock of farmers from this region. The main impacts identified include:

- Heat stress suffered by the animals that reduces their productivity and leads to increased operational costs as farmers need to provide adequate living conditions;
- Deterioration of pastures due to intense heatwaves, as well as torrential rains and soil erosion;
- Lower water availability and quality;
- Changes in the diseases and pests that livestock have to cope with; and
- Greater risks for species that are not capable of adapting.

Climate change will negatively impact most agroecosystems and, if the regions in which this takes place are not capable of adapting livestock management systems, this poses a serious threat to local biodiversity, human health, animal health, eco-tourism, resource efficiency and the quality of the produce of these industries.

Objectives

The LIFE LiveAdapt aims to demonstrate innovative technologies for livestock rearing that are adapted to the effects of climate change. These include the testing and use of improved water collection systems and better livestock management through the use of ICT and higher quality pastures. In this way, the

project will identify, adapt and transfer the best practices introduced to combat climate-related risks for livestock in southern Europe. Best practices will also cover waste, agro-forestry, energy efficiency, energy production, desertification, animal health and biodiversity enrichment.

The end goal is to define innovative updated business models for the extensive exploitation of livestock adapted to the future climate scenarios. This includes cooperation with other sectors such as tourism. This objective aims to further promote environmentally friendly and high-quality goods that have an added value in the market, along with short food chain distribution and changes in consumer behaviour. To fulfil its objectives, the project plans to train and advise farmers on efficient adaptations and the use of ICT, as well as create an open and dynamic learning platform. The project will thus contribute to implementing the EU Strategy on adaptation to climate change, along with European rural development and energy efficiency policy.

Expected results:

- A validated system for efficient collection, management and use of water;
- A validated system for reducing the amount of evaporation from water stores on site;
- A validated system for the efficient management of extensive livestock exploitations through the use of ICTs;
- A guide for the improvement of animal and pasture health, which has been validated with tested, innovative practises;
- Over 30 best practices that have been adapted, validated and transferred to stakeholders in Spain, Portugal and France;
- Five innovative business models adapted for extensive livestock exploitations;
- Collect and use over 75 000 litres per year (Pilot 1);
- Reduce water evaporation from water stores (e.g. farm ponds) by 70% (Pilot 1);
- Reduce the cost in pilot ELE by 10% (Pilot 2);
- Reduce CO emissions by 10% on pilot farms;
- Improve pasture quality in 10 extensive farms over the project lifetime;
- Reinforce populations of local fauna (e.g. native dung beetles and earth worms) in the 10 extensive farms;
- Increase the CO storage capacity of the 10 extensive farms; and
- Improve water and waste management, biodiversity, pastures, soils and CO storage capacities, as well as reduce energy consumption, GHG emissions and costs on over 50 farms after the project has been concluded.

Results

[Top](#)

Environmental issues addressed:

Themes

Climate change Adaptation - Natural resources and ecosystems
Climate change Adaptation - Sectoral adaptation (industry-services)
Climate change Mitigation - GHG reduction in non EU ETS sectors

Keywords

Agriculture, waste management, decision making support, emission reduction, risk management, water resources management, carbon sequestration, energy efficiency

Target EU Legislation

- Water
- COM(2012)673 - "A Blueprint to Safeguard Europe's Water Resources"
- Directive 2000/60 - Framework for Community action in the field of water policy (23.10.2000)
- Climate Change & Energy efficiency
- COM(2011)112 - "A Roadmap for moving to a competitive low carbon economy in 2050" (08.03.2011)
- COM(2013)216 - EU Strategy on adaptation to climate change (16.04.2013)
- Directive 2012/27 - Energy efficiency (25.10.2012)
- COM(2014)15 - Policy framework for climate and energy in the period from 2020 to 2030 (22.01.2014 ...)

Natura 2000 sites

Not applicable

[Top](#)

Beneficiaries:

Coordinator	Universidad de Córdoba
Type of organisation	Research institution
Description	Universidad de Córdoba (UCO) is a non-profit higher education and research institution that promotes innovation, research and technological developments for social and economic progress. It employs 2 500 people and has 193 research units. The institution has

been involved in several agricultural and livestock orientated projects, both nationally and internationally. The Department of Ecological Livestock at UCO is referenced by the 'Adaption of livestock to Climate Change in Spain'.

Partners

Fundación Entre Tantos, Spain QUERCUS – Associação Nacional de Conservação da Natureza, Portugal SMARTDEHESA SL, Spain Associação de Defesa do Património de Mértola, Portugal GABINETE DE GESTIÓN INTEGRAL DE RECURSOS SL, Spain AGRONATURA SERVICIOS FORESTALES Y AGRARIOS SL, Spain INSTITUT DE L'ELEVAGE, France Federación Española de la Dehesa, Spain

[Top](#)

Administrative data:

Project reference	LIFE17 CCA/ES/000035
Duration	03-SEP-2018 to 03-SEP -2022
Total budget	2,207,025.00 €
EU contribution	1,324,211.00 €
Project location	Galicia(España) Asturias(España) Cantabria(España) País Vasco(España) Navarra(España) Rioja(España) Aragón(España) Madrid(España) Castilla-León(España) Castilla-La Mancha(España) Extremadura(España) Cataluña(España) Comunidad Valenciana(España) Baleares(España) Andalucía(España) Murcia(España) Ceuta y Melilla(España) Canarias(España) Île,de,France(France) Champagne-Ardenne(France) Picardie(France) Haute-Normandie(France) Centre(France) Basse-Normandie(France) Bourgogne(France) Nord-Pas-De-Calais(France) Lorraine(France) Alsace(France) Franche-Comté(France) Pays de la Loire(France) Bretagne(France) Poitou-Charentes(France) Aquitaine(France) Midi-Pyrénées(France) Limousin(France) Rhône-Alpes(France) Auvergne(France) Languedoc-Roussillon(France) Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur(France) Corse(France) Guadeloupe(France) Martinique(France) Guyane(France) Réunion(France) Norte(Portugal) Centro(Portugal) Lisboa e vale do Tejo(Portugal)

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[Top](#)

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Project web site - 2	Project's Facebook page
Project web site - 2	Project's Twitter page

[Top](#)

[Project description](#) [Environmental issues](#) [Beneficiaries](#) [Administrative data](#)
[Read more](#)