



**Volunteer**  
with the European Solidarity Corps  
for Activities in Portugal with Ecological Sense

projeto financiado pelo **Programa LIFE (LIFE17 ESC/PT/003)**



## LIFE VOLUNTEER ESCAPES

Project **LIFE Volunteer ESCAPES** - Volunteer with European Solidarity Corps for Activities in Portugal with Ecological Sense (LIFE17 ESC/PT/00003) is one of the four LIFE preparatory projects approved to explore **the potential of using volunteers of the European Solidarity for environmental protection activities**.

The project gathers a **wide partnership of organizations** which have former work in deployment and management of volunteers, for different kinds of nature and biodiversity conservation works, as well as organizations that have been promoting complementary works on environmental protection and sustainable development. Project's coordination is ensured by **MONTIS**, a nature conservation NGO that specifically focuses on private land conservation and land stewardship, in close cooperation with a set of other partners:

- national and local public administrations (**Agência Portuguesa do Ambiente**, I.P. the national agency in charge of environmental policies, and **Município de Torres Vedras**, a coastal municipality in central Portugal);
- nature conservation NGO's of local and national aim that rely on volunteering to undertake conservation works (**SPEA - Sociedade Portuguesa para o Estudo das Aves**, **Plantar uma Árvore – Associação**, **MARCA – Associação de Desenvolvimento Local**);
- other non-profit bodies that, on their activities and with their members, are active promoters of sustainable practices in economic activity (**BCSD Portugal - Conselho Empresarial para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável**, the national branch of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and **ROTA VICENTINA - Associação para a Promoção do Turismo de Natureza na Costa Alentejana e Vicentina**, an association dealing with sustainable tourism on the Vicentina Southwest Coast Natural Park);
- one SME working on environmental communication, which support the overall project needs on these issues, **PLAYSOLUTIONS - Audiovisuais**.

Summarizing the main expected outputs, and concerning volunteers, the project foresees to host **175 volunteers**, allowing to deploy new skills to all of them.

As for organizations, we expect each associated beneficiary's team to be further capacitated to undertake at least two new conservation activities compared to current settings, an **increased overall cooperation for conservation** embracing at least 105 external organizations (public and private), and **the continuity of deployment of an innovative joint volunteer scheme essayed** with a specific action, allowing to foster ESC volunteer use for nature conservation.

In what concerns conservation outputs, these are expected to include **conservation and restoration works on at least 91 ha of relevant habitats** (87 ha of which inside N2000), relevant contributes for **control/eradication of IAS in about 69 ha**, and **awareness raising and engagement of at least 3.870 additional individuals and organizations**, external to the project partnership. This will include active engagement with volunteering of **38 private companies, 47 public or non-profit organizations, and 20 land owners**. A major and enduring output is also foreseen on the general public, targeted by a **TV series, which is expected to be deployed on a national channel and viewed by at least 500.000 person**.

The offers for the volunteering programs launched by LIFE VOLUNTEER ESCAPES project can be found on social media of each association of the project, the LIFE VOLUNTEER ESCAPES Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/volunteer.escapes/>) and the website of the project <https://lifevolunteerescapes.org> where you can find more information about the project and the volunteering programs.

Those who are interested, with **ages between 18 and 30**, will have to register and apply through the **European Solidarity Corps** online system ([https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity\\_en](https://europa.eu/youth/solidarity_en)).





#### **MONTIS - Associação de Conservação da Natureza**

- Volunteering Places: Vouzela
- Contact person: Margarida Silva
- Email: [volunteer.escapes@gmail.com](mailto:volunteer.escapes@gmail.com)

#### **Agência Portuguesa do Ambiente, I.P.**

- Volunteering Place: Algarve
- Contact person: Paula Vaz
- Email: [paula.vaz@apambiente.pt](mailto:paula.vaz@apambiente.pt)

#### **BCSD Portugal - Conselho Empresarial para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável**

- Volunteering Place: Lisboa
- Contact person: Mafalda Evangelista
- Email: [mafalda.evangelista@bcdsportugal.org](mailto:mafalda.evangelista@bcdsportugal.org)

#### **MARCA – Associação de Desenvolvimento Local**

- Volunteering Place: Montemor-o-Novo
- Contact person: Lúcia Pereira
- Email: [lines@marca-adl.pt](mailto:lines@marca-adl.pt)

#### **Município de Torres Vedras**

- Volunteering Place: Torres Vedras
- Contact person: Margarida Frade
- Email: [margaridafrade@cm-tvedras.pt](mailto:margaridafrade@cm-tvedras.pt)

#### **Plantar Uma Árvore – Associação**

- Volunteering Places: Vila Pouca de Aguiar, Sintra
- Contact person: Miguel Teles, Mariana Dias, Jeff Anderson
- Email: [miguel.teles@plantarumaarvore.org](mailto:miguel.teles@plantarumaarvore.org), [mariana.dias@plantarumaarvore.org](mailto:mariana.dias@plantarumaarvore.org),

#### **PLAYSOLUTIONS - Audiovisuais Unipessoal, Lda.**

- Volunteering Place: Lisboa (Alfragide)
- Contact person: Pedro Ferreira
- Email: [pedromf@playsolutions.pt](mailto:pedromf@playsolutions.pt)

#### **ROTA VICENTINA - Associação para a Promoção do Turismo de Natureza na Costa Alentejana e Vicentina**

- Volunteering Place: Odemira
- Contact person: Irene Nunes
- Email: [irene.nunes@rotavicentina.com](mailto:irene.nunes@rotavicentina.com)

#### **SPEA - Sociedade Portuguesa para o Estudo das Aves**

- Volunteering Places: Sesimbra, Açores, Madeira
- Contact person: Alexandra Lopes
- Email: [alexandra.lopes@spea.pt](mailto:alexandra.lopes@spea.pt)

