

## C11

### LIFE-RELICT

#### Management and conservation of *Prunus lusitanica* and *Rhododendron ponticum* in Portugal

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This communication presents the management measures implemented by the LIFE-RELICT Project in Portugal. This project began in October 2017, with the main objective of improving the conservation status of *Prunus lusitanica* and *Rhododendron ponticum* communities in the Portugal, through a set of management interventions, directed to the Serra da Estrela, Mata da Margaraça and Serra de Monchique. This project is being coordinated by the University of Évora and implemented with the Municipalities of Monchique and Seia, ADRUSE (a rural development association) and CICYTEX (Spanish research center).

Management measures include the restoration of old human made water channels “levadas”, fire risk minimization actions (control of the heliophilous vegetation and creation of quercíneas buffers) and control of invasive alien species (*Acacia dealbata* and *Hakea sericea*). It also expects to increase the areas occupied by these communities in the territories of Estrela and Monchique. Additionally, will be developed 2 pedestrian paths and environmental awareness action for the local population, with special incidence on the school population. Furthermore, the project hopes to replicate management interventions in other territories outside LIFE-RELICT areas. With this

propose, several contacts have already been established in order to ensure the basis for its implementation in the Municipalities of Mação and Oleiros.

## **References**

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