



Case study #18: Ervidel floodplain

Case study cluster: small streams and basins

Country: Portugal

Scientific partner: Instituto Superior de Agronomia,
Universidade de Lisboa

Implementation partner: Empresa de
Desenvolvimento e Infraestruturas do Alqueva, S.A.

Twinning case study: CS13 Sorraia floodplain:
similar approaches on riparian restoration

Website: www.edia.pt



Demonstration

- **Type of restoration:** Stream bank stabilisation, riparian restoration and pollinator habitat enhancement.
- **Size:** floodplain: 337.71 km²; catchment scale: 24.79 km²
- **Location(s):** Barranco do Xacafre
- **Value of the case:** riparian rehabilitation (underwood clearing), planting of native species, sowing of flowering fields, pollinator hotels
- **Stakeholders involved:** farmers of the irrigation valley
- **Sectors involved:** agricultural sector (farmers and land owners)

Implementation plans

- **Type of restoration:** riparian rehabilitation (planting of native species and weed control), habitat enhancement with nature-based solution structures for pollinators and key-species predators (bats, birds, spiders, carabids), installation of shelter boxes for bats, sowing flower fields and installation of hotels for insect pollinators

- **Costs:** 95,000€ (including planning, monitoring and construction costs) + 1500€ annual monitoring costs
- **Size:** approx. 30 ha
- **Scope:** to develop a prototype of ecoscheme contract for irrigation farmland, a monitoring protocol to evaluate restoration efficacy and to propose indicators for agro-environmental certification
- **Vicinity:** rural (Mediterranean floodplain valleys dominated by intensive agriculture and super-intensive olive groves)
- **Stakeholders involved:** agricultural sector (farmers and land owners)

Lessons learnt

- Address governance and land ownership constraints early
- Build strong partnerships with landowners
- Harness natural processes to deliver restoration