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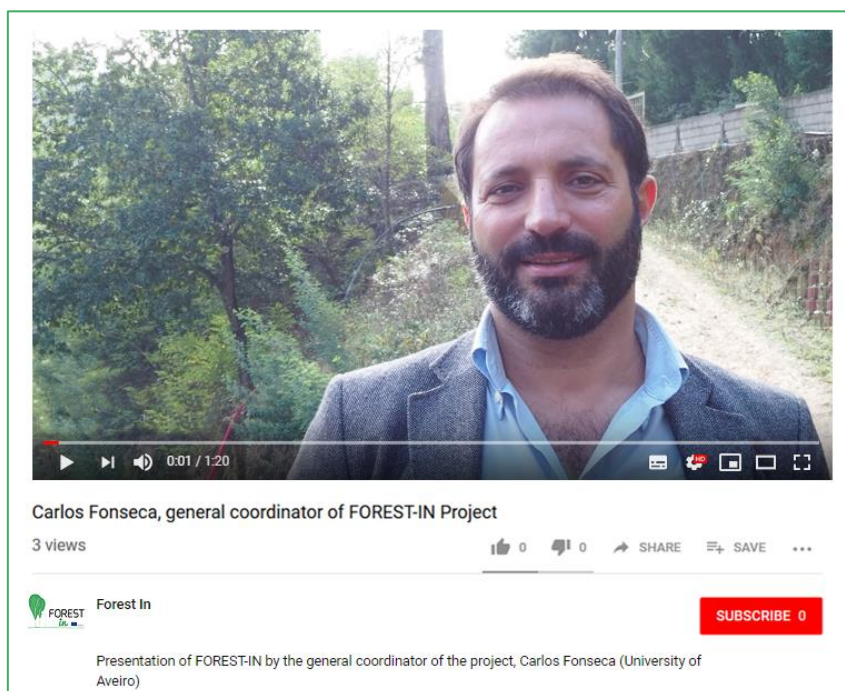
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Editor's note

In this occasion, “Editor’s note” will be “Editor’s video”, as the Project Coordinator, Carlos Fonseca (Professor and Researcher at Department of Biology, University of Aveiro), presents the project objectives and project partners in a brief speech recorded at the end of the 1st Trainig Course of FOREST-IN project, held in Albergaria-a-Velha.

The framework, the installations of a curious initiative of recovery of a forest space, from industrial use, to leisure use: an old paper grade pulp mill by the river Caima, converted into a special and charming recreational resort. (Click on the image to see the video).



Carlos Fonseca
Project general coordinator
Department of Biology
University of Aveiro



Our training activity: Satisfaction for the great acceptance of the first courses in Portugal

The FOREST-IN project closed 2018 with great success of participation in the first training courses carried out in October and November in the Portuguese towns of Albergaria-a-Velha, in the UNIMADEIRAS facilities (entity member of this Erasmus+ project) and at Lousã, in the Centre for Forestry Operations and Techniques (COTF).

In both courses the participants, mostly owners of small forest properties, had the opportunity to be trained in sustainable forest management; in conservation and biodiversity; in monitoring and evaluation of maintenance work and management of their holdings, as well as in good practices and occupational safety.

On the other hand, in these courses, other aspects with which the participants had the opportunity to familiarize themselves were forestry and spatial planning (to be integrated into their routines and management habits). All this, not only through the theoretical sessions, but also with numerous field activities and discussion and work sessions that resulted in a "very enriching" exchange of experiences, in the words of the participants themselves.

The FOREST-IN project aims to promote good practices and forestry education through international workshops and technical visits, tutorials and the creation of a mobile application aimed at assisting in the decision-making process for sustainable forest management. All this is integrated into a concerted strategy involving the forest community and the general public. The pedagogical techniques (innovative and personalized) are based on a horizontal and participatory learning model.

During 2018, FOREST-IN also held two multiplier events, one at Galicia in February and another in French Provence in June, as well as the two courses this Autumn in Portugal (Albergaria-a-Velha and Lousã).

IMAGES GALLERY:

- Albergaria-a-Velha training course [photos](#).
- Lousã training course [photos](#).





Upcoming events: Galicia (Spain) and France will host this Spring the next training events

The **Galicia Forestry Association** will host the third course aimed at forest managers, both owners and technicians between 11 and 15 March. The training activity, which includes conferences, practical sessions and field visits, seeks to improve the knowledge of participants in forest management.

Theoric and practical sessions will take place in Santiago de Compostela (Pilgrimage Museum, Platerías Square), and visits are planned to areas of concentration of plots of land in Oroso and Curtis (A Coruña), to the Pico Sacro demonstration forest (Boqueixón, A Coruña) and to the Fragas do Eume Natural Park. The conference scheduled for the afternoon of the 13th about Galician forests in the Natura 2000 Network will be at the Interpretation Centre of the Fragas do Eume Natural Park. In case of being a large group will move to another room, informing it in a timely manner.

The course, in which will participate owners and technicians from Galicia, from other Spanish regions, Portugal and France, will deal with various issues of forest interest, such as silvopastoralism, the 'banco de Terras' (Lands Bank), land consolidation, forest certification, medicinal plants or the practical management of forestry units. Attendance at the course is free of charge, but prior registration is required by sending an email to afg@asociacionforestal.org or calling 981 564 011.

Programme is available [here](#). Similar general contents (apart from the more specific ones), will be addressed in the fourth course, planned to be held **at France from 1 to 5 April**, around Provence Region. This course will be organized by our partner **Provence Model Forest Association**, and a tentative schedule will be soon at FOREST-IN website ('Events' section).

FOREST-IN action: some of our outcomes

Forestry technicians training package

To carry out the abovementioned activities, our partner **PEFC Spain** has developed a training package for a certified training course targeted at forestry technicians and other professional forest managers and staff. The objective is to provide forestry companies and organisations a ready-to-use course package, so that they train and capacitate their technicians and forestry decision-makers with updated information on sustainability forest management, forest certification processes, biodiversity conservation, valuation of nontimber products, multiple uses of the forest, forest economy, state-of-the-art forestry techniques, among other relevant matters.

Smallholders training package

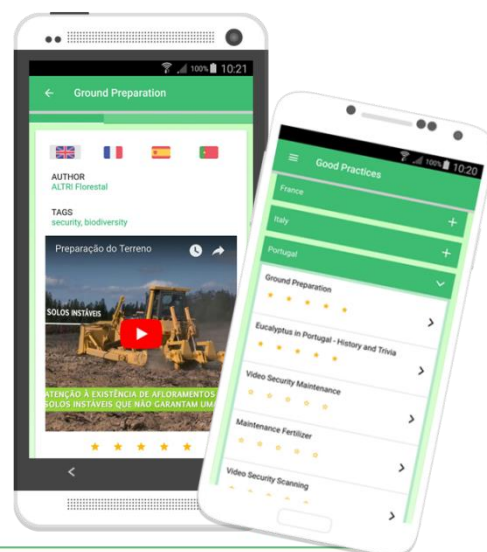
As in the Forestry technicians course, the training and work materials have been developed for the smallholders course, a task that has been taken up by **FSC International** (specifically, its delegation in Portugal). This course is addressed not only to smallholders, but also to other non professional forest owners and managers. On the other hand, this materials will provide forestry technicians and forest entities a ready-to-use course package, so that they can spread the FOREST-IN concept and replicate the training and raise awareness in their areas of influence.

The main concept is that forest is an aggregation being that, when correctly managed, largely allows achieving all components of sustainability (environmental, social and economical), providing all sorts of benefits for all. It is important to underpin to non professional forest owners and smallholders that there are multiple forestry solutions that can promote biodiversity and simultaneously provide income, besides the industrial exotic forestry model that is currently dominant. The course also demonstrates the advantages of managing certified forests, both in terms of environment and of income.

What's new in FOREST-IN App: feeding the tool

The project has among its outcomes the mobile application to help in the implementation of good practices to private forest owners in the sustainable management of their forest.

As maybe you know, the main functionality of this app is a service of short-video tutorials, in different languages, which represent a map of small training pills for any private owner in the countries



represented in the project (France, Portugal and Spain). The tool (also available for consultation through the project website <http://www.forest-in.eu>), has been updated in the last months, and new video tutorials have been uploaded. After these additions, the total amount of resources in the application reaches more than 225. Good practices, tools and useful contacts are the items with the highest number of entries

About FOREST-IN Project

INovative and Educational INformation for the Sustainable FOREST Management by Smallholders (FOREST-IN) project aims to promote good practices and forestry education through the realization of workshops and international technical visits, tutorials and a mobile app aimed at helping the decision making process for sustainable forest management. All embedded in a concerted strategy involving the forestry community and the general public. The pedagogical techniques will be innovative and customized to the target audience, based on a horizontal and participatory learning model.

Who we are

FOREST-IN is an international strategic partnership for forest education. Funding was submitted to the Erasmus+ Programme, the main financial mechanism of the European Commission for Education. The coordinator of this project is the University of Aveiro (Portugal), with these partners: Cesefor Foundation (Spain), PEFC Spain, FSC International, Unimadeiras (Portugal), The Galicia Forestry Association (Spain) and the Provence Model Forest Association (France).

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