

**Programa Ambiente  
dos EEA Grants na  
Comunidade**



*O Impacto da  
Inovação Aplicada*

The Programme Environment, Climate Change and Low Carbon Economy was created following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for the application in Portugal of the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism (EEA Grants) 2014-2021 in the program areas Environment and Ecosystems, Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change.

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway are the Donor Countries belonging to EFTA.



Environment Programme Operator



**SECRETARIA-GERAL  
DO AMBIENTE**

Donor Country Programme Partner



**Innovation  
Norway**



## The Environment Programme supported pilot projects and the testing of methodologies in three distinct areas:



Circular Economy:  
Construction and Demolition Waste  
Reducing Plastics



Biosphere Reserves



Climate Change Mitigation  
and Adaptation

**Funding**  
**28.882.353 €**

**85% EEA Grants**  
**(24.550.000 €)**

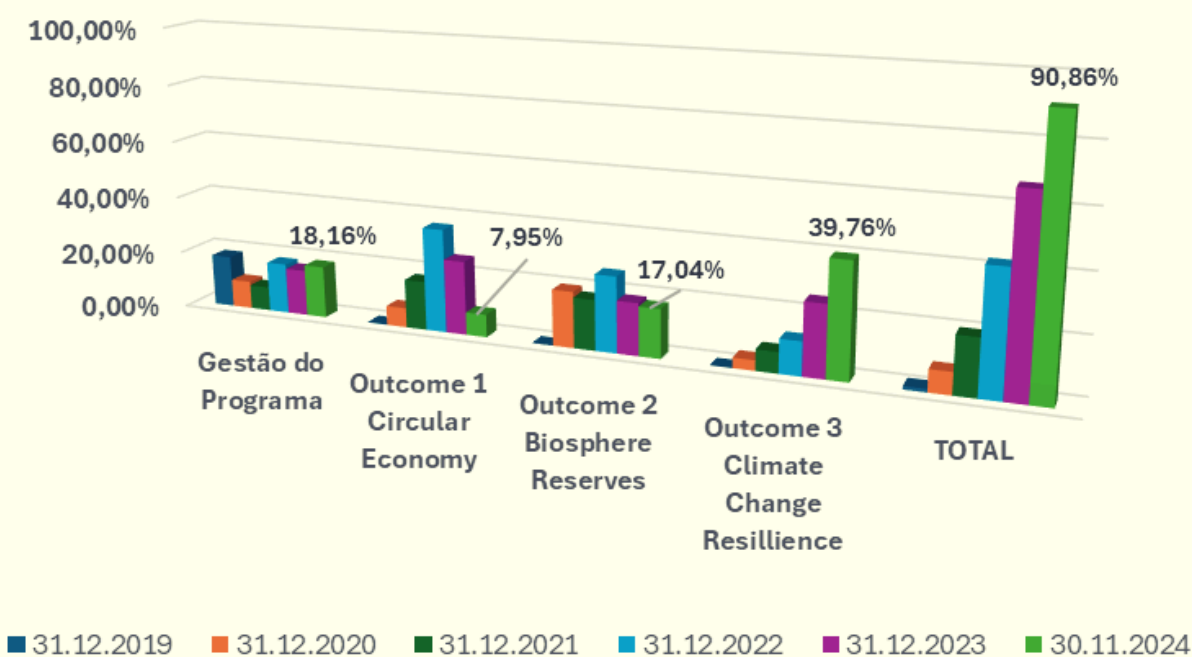
**15% Portugal**  
**(4.332.352,94€)**

### Strategic objectives of the Environment Programme:

- Ensure a good environmental status of ecosystems in Portugal
- Reduce the adverse effects of pollution and other harmful human activities on the environment
- Increase resilience to climate change through mitigation and adaptation measures for a low-carbon economy
- Reduce economic and social disparities
- Strengthen cooperation relations with Donor Countries



# Financial execution, by priority area, by year



Calls above €200,000/project



SGS up to €200,000/project



Predefined Projects



Applications



Approved Applications



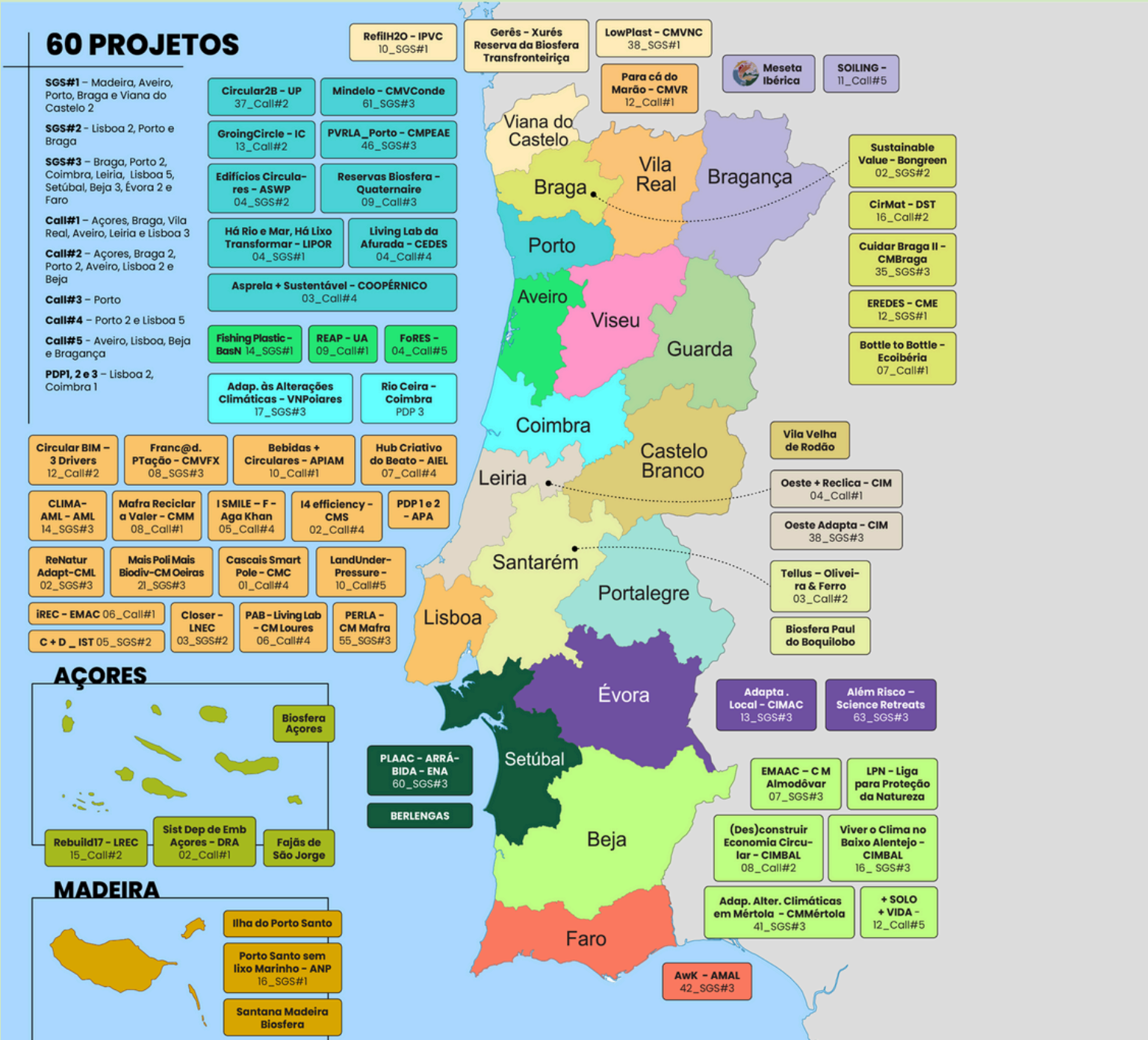
Supported Projects





60 projects  
supported

Environment  
Programme  
throughout the  
National territory



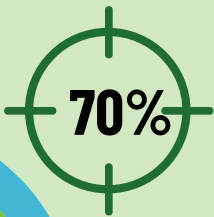
Funded projects  
40% Lisbon  
28% North Region  
16% Center Region



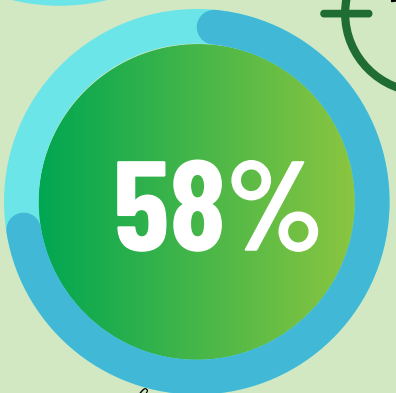


# Results

## Increased application of circular economy principles



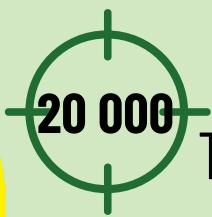
Construction and demolition waste avoided by the supported sectors



Use of secondary materials increased in the supported sectors



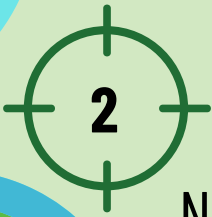
Number of jobs created



Tonnes of plastic recycled through all supported schemes/measures



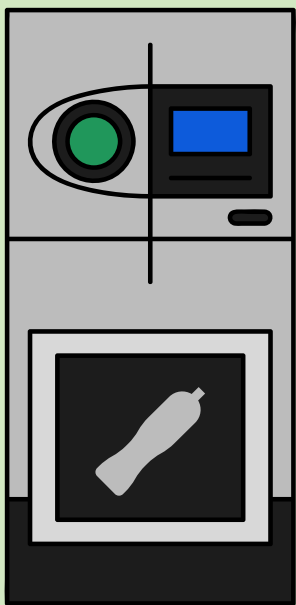
Number of retailers participating in the deposit refund system



Number of beverage industry organisations participating in the deposit-refund system



Number of voluntary schemes supported



# Results

## Aumento da aplicação dos princípios da economia circular

6

3

Number of CSOs supported

NGO



513

3

Number of awareness-raising campaigns carried out

35

5

Number of innovative solutions for increased resource efficiency piloted

14

5

Number of SMEs supported (+1 big company)

6

3

Number of demonstration buildings constructed

10

10

Number of business developing product declarations

6

5

Number of standards/best practices developed

Yes

Regulation governing the deposit-refund system developed

Regulation

# Results

## Enhanced sustainable development in Biosphere Reserves



Beneficiary Reserves



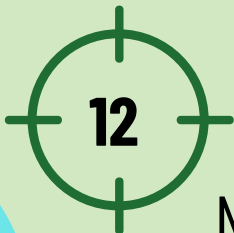
Hectares (12% Território Nacional)



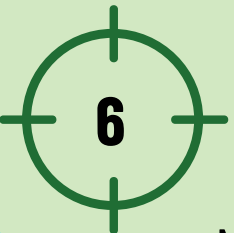
Species identified



Number of people benefitting from  
enhanced sustainable development in  
Biosphere Reserves



Number of sustainable development  
plans for Biosphere Reserves  
developed



Number of Biosphere Reserves  
where measures have been  
implemented



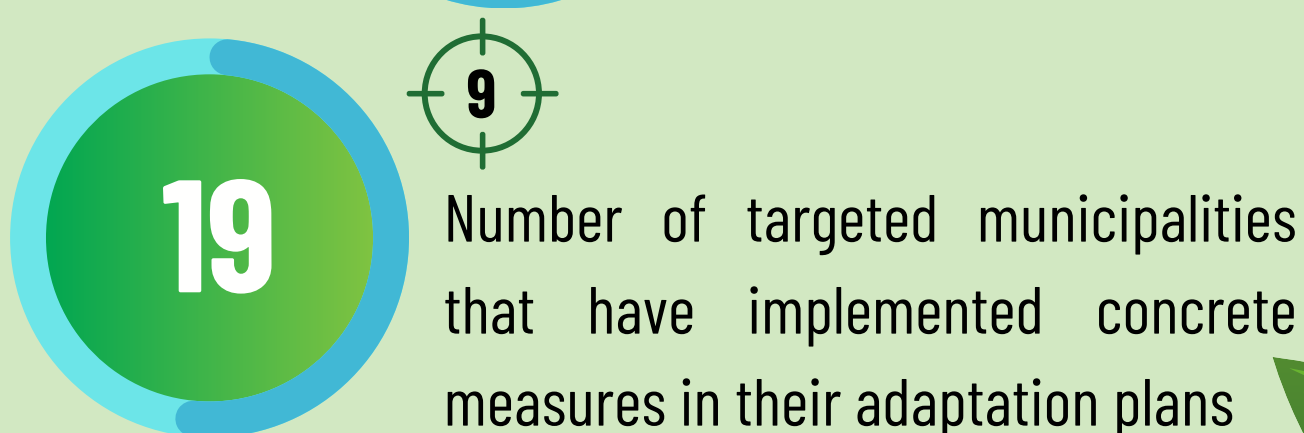
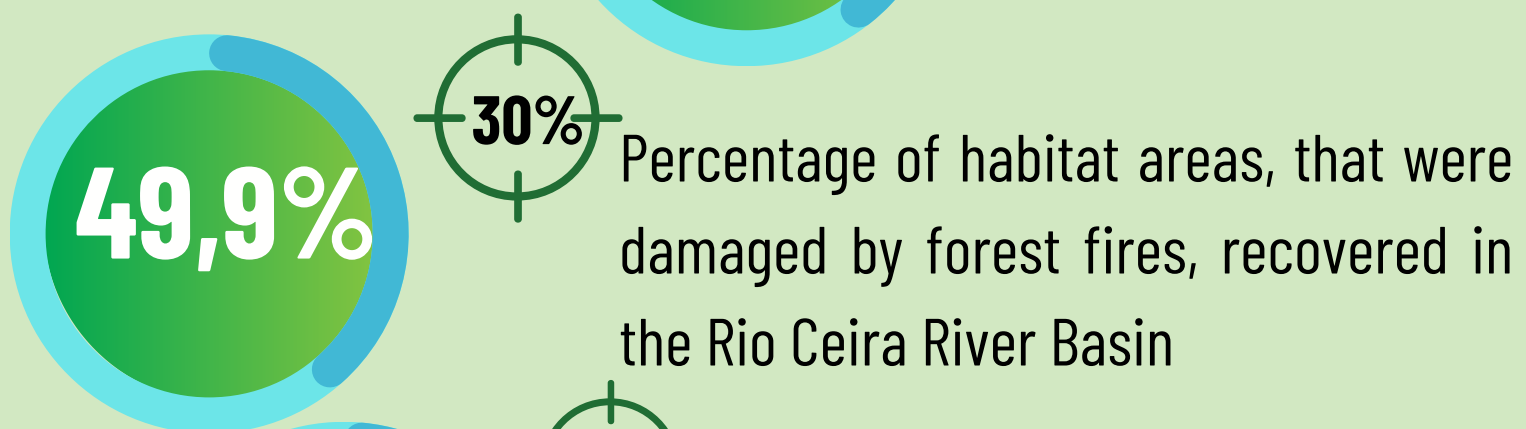
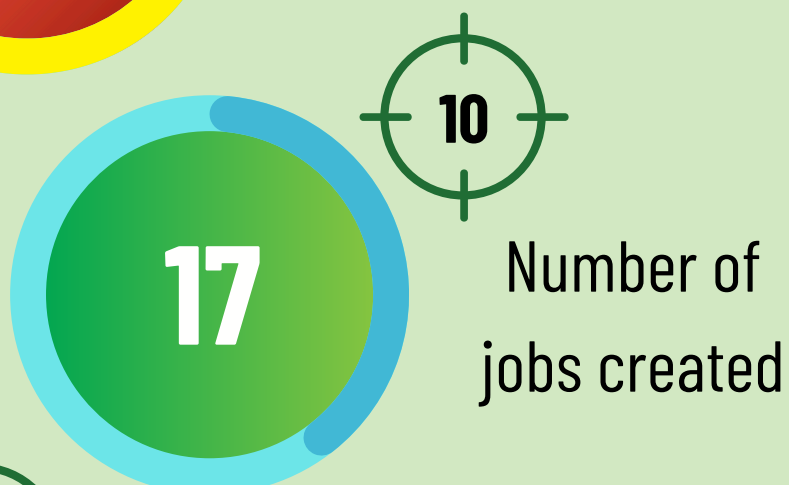
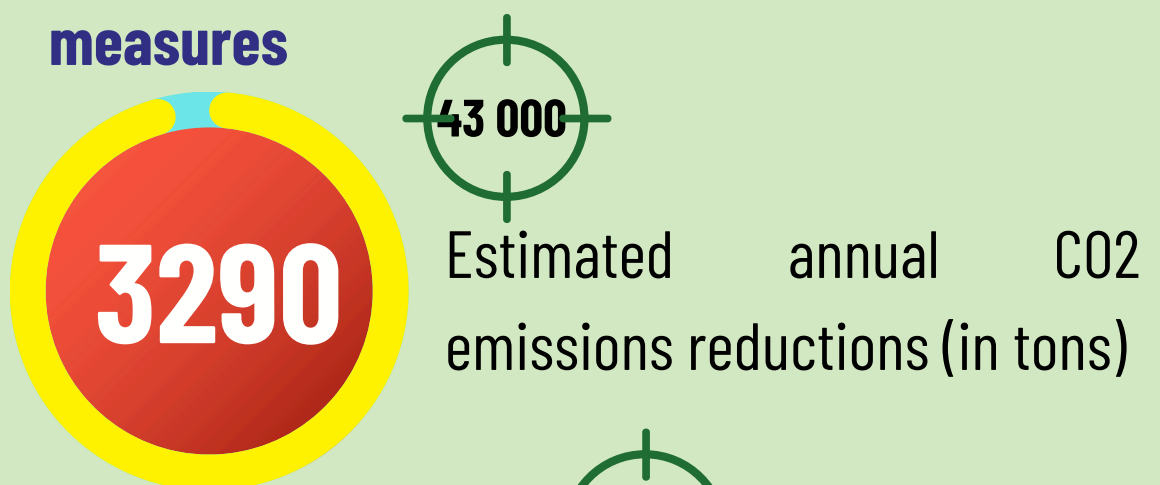
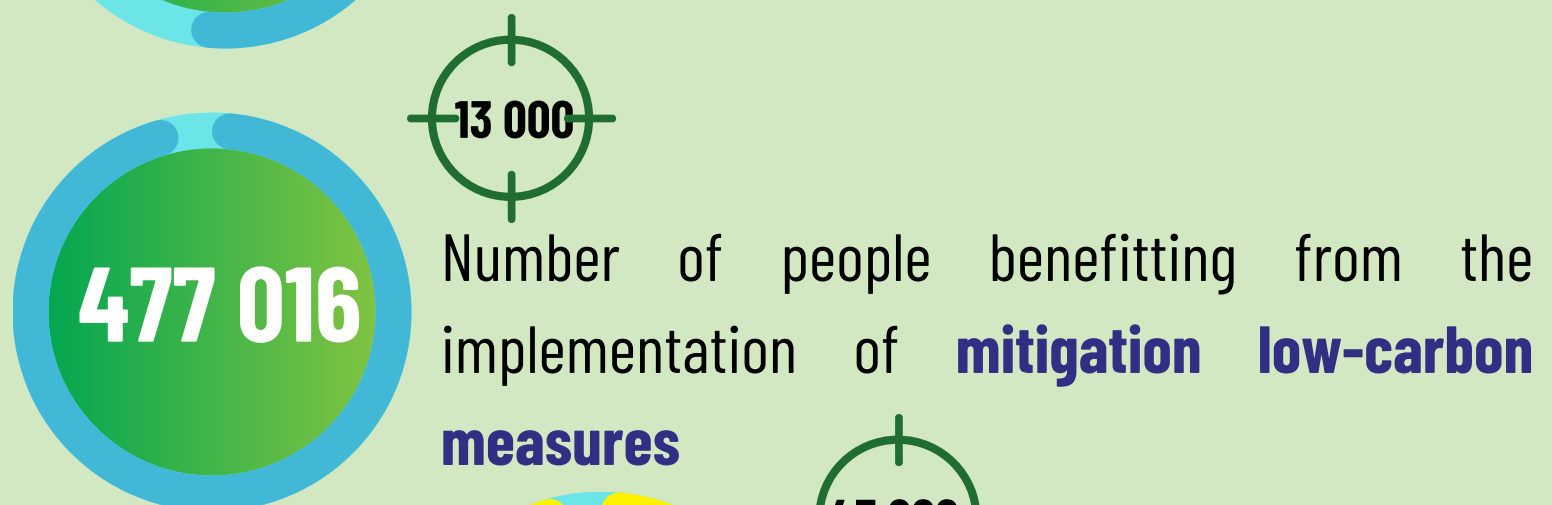
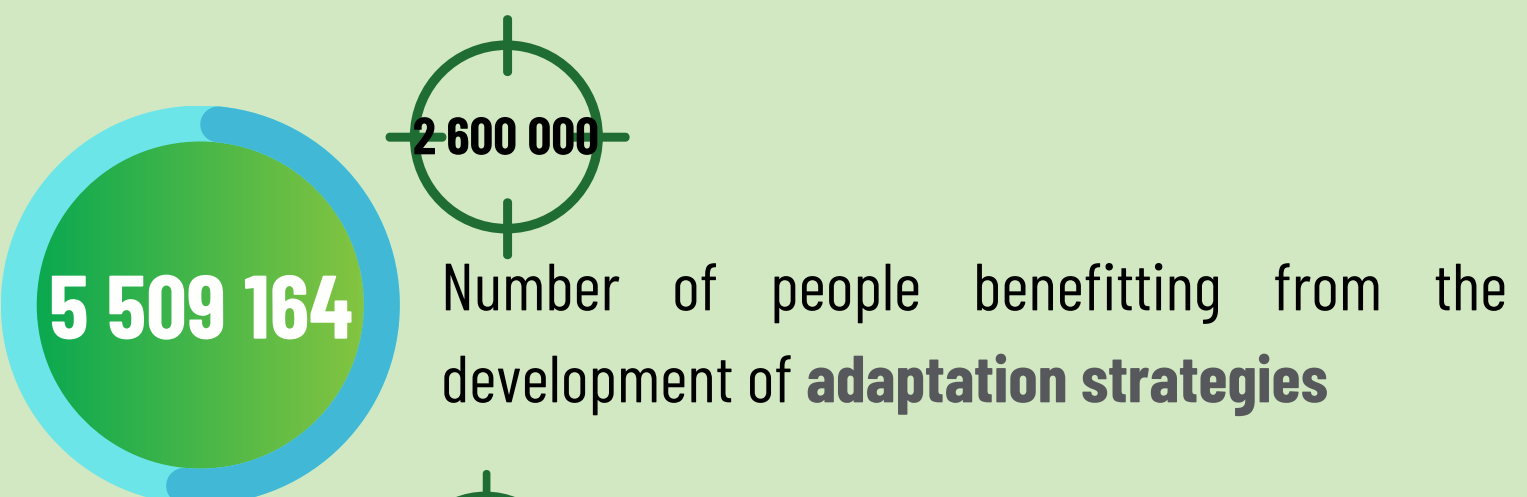
Number of professional  
staff trained





## Results

### Increased Climate Change resilience and responsiveness in targeted areas



## Results

### Increased Climate Change resilience and responsiveness in targeted areas

5

5

Number of Portuguese territories/regions included in the updated assessment

5

3

Number of targeted municipalities with mitigation measures implemented

39

4

Number of innovative mitigation/low-carbon measures supported

Yes

Flow monitoring programme in place

9

5

Number of Invasive Alien Species reduced

160

160

Number of professional staff trained

512 actions by river watchmen

4

3

Number of projects combating desertification piloted



# Comunication



Programme Operator's  
means of dissemination



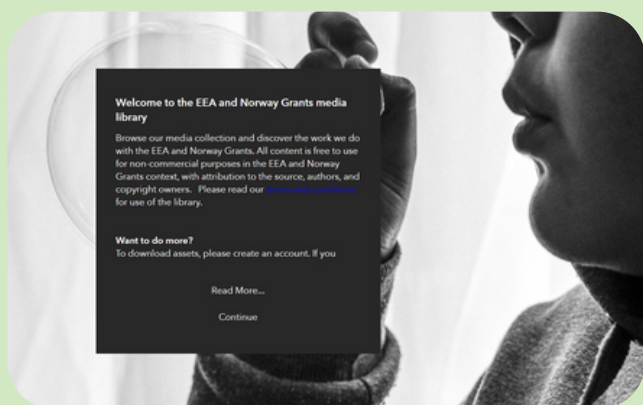
Average of 2 publications/week



Programme with greater  
prominence on EEA  
Grants Portugal channels



Social Networks where the  
Environment Programme is  
also present within the  
EEA Grants



EEA Grants Media  
Library update enables  
#OurStories



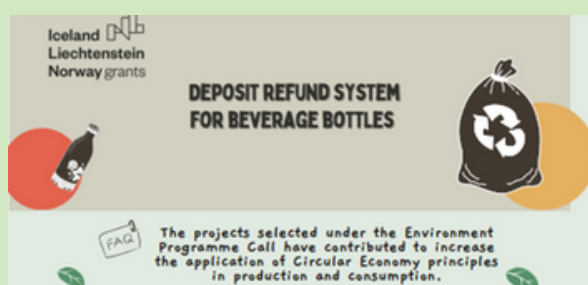
Commemorative plaques on  
projects with a physical  
component to promote the  
EEA Grants brand





# Comunicação

## Preparation of infographics regarding the Environment Programme Calls



### Annual Programme Reports

- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023

## Annual reports of the Environment Programme



## Area on the EEA Grants website dedicated to project results

### Scientific Meetings with the Projects.

#### Relevant documents

- Adaptation: From theory to practice: Increased climate change resilience and responsiveness in targeted areas (Outcome 3).
- Adaptation: Governance and Impact
- Analysis of the results of the questionnaire conducted to organizations financed by the PT\_Environment Programme
- Blue Book
- Dissertation – Deposit refund systems for beverage bottles and cans: a circular instrument? the Portuguese case.
- Dissertation – Pilot deposit reimbursement system for beverage packaging (PET and aluminum), at the University of Aveiro
- Document with questions and answers about the Quiz of DRS
- Ebook of the Matchmaking Event of February 28th
- Ebook of the launch of Programme Environment of May 29th
- Ebook of the Conference 'Breaking the Barriers in a Circular Economy', September 24th and 25th, in Oslo
- Green Evaluation Report
- Management and Control System
- Marketing and Communication Strategy EEA Grants 2022

## Dissemination of scientific production of projects





# Good examples



Public policy at  
local level



Public policy  
National level



Biosphere Reserves  
Portal



Applied  
innovation



Management of  
the “Rio Ceira”  
Hydrographic  
Basin



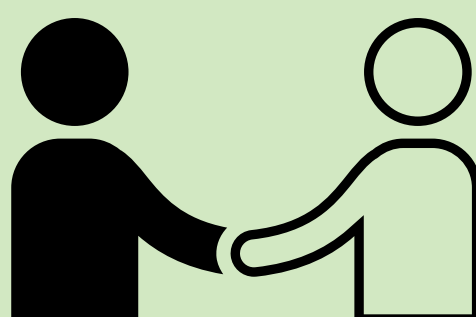
# Results

## Bilateral Relations Fund



(numa escala de 1-7)

Level of satisfaction  
with the partnership



Number of training  
courses co-organised  
by donor state and  
beneficiary state  
entities



(numa escala de 1-7)

Level of trust between cooperating  
entities in Beneficiary States and  
Donor States



Share of cooperating organisations  
that apply the knowledge acquired  
from bilateral partnership



Number of projects  
involving cooperation with  
a donor project partner





# Synergies and Bilateral Initiatives



**October 2018**

Visit to Norway to share experiences on forest fires, civil protection, sustainability and waste recovery policies.

**September 2019**

Matchmaking initiative on the application of the Circular Economy, Lisbon.



**February 2020**

Matchmaking initiative on "Living Labs for Low Carbon and Climate Change Mitigation", Lisbon.

**May 2022**

Synergies between the Environment and Blue Growth Programs - "Circular Economy and reduction of marine litter", Lisbon.



**June 2022**

Study visit to the Biosphere Reserves (Gerês-Xurés Cross-border).



# Synergies and Bilateral Initiatives



**November 2022**

Bilateral Business Opportunities/Matchmaking Event, Oslo.

**January 2023**

Environment and Blue Growth programmes together on project visits.



**SEMINAR**  
Applying Circular  
Economy Principles  
to the Construction Sector

Sharing  
some results  
Mid-term event  
'Environment  
Programme'

**October 2023**

Seminar "Circular Economy in the Construction Sector", Lisbon.

**May 2024**

Seminar "Projects of the Environment Program for Climate Adaptation", Évora.



**June 2024**

Business Cooperation and the European Green Deal.

**Setember 2024**

Environment Programme visit to Bergen, networking meeting with the 'Proptech Innovation & Sustainable Habitat Cluster'.





# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)



## Contribution of Environment Programme projects to the SDGs

**11** CIDADES E  
COMUNIDADES  
SUSTENTÁVEIS



### LIVING LABS FOR DECARBONIZATION

Ensure all citizens have access to smart lighting, sustainable mobility and decarbonization in their daily lives, reducing and mitigating the impact of climate change in cities.

**3 272 318€**  
**5 projects**

### CIRCULARITY EXPERIENCES FOR PACKAGING AND CONSTRUCTION WASTE

Implementation of a deposit and refund system for non-reusable packaging (plastic, aluminum and glass) and the circular economy in construction waste, allowing these materials to be removed from landfills and reducing their material footprint.

**12** PRODUÇÃO  
E CONSUMO  
SUSTENTÁVEIS



**10 440 122€**  
**7 projects**

**13** AÇÃO  
CLIMÁTICA



### ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE AT LOCAL LEVEL

Increasing the resilience and adaptive capacity of urban, riverside and rural areas to the effects of climate change and its impacts at local level.

**8 929 932€**  
**26 projects**

### REDUCE THE IMPACT OF PLASTIC IN THE OCEAN

Avoid significant adverse impacts on oceans, seas and marine resources, the proliferation of marine litter, fishing nets and equipment on the seabed that cause ghost fishing.

**14** PROTEGER A  
VIDA MARINHA



**1 993 017€**  
**24 projects**

**15** PROTEGER A  
VIDA TERRESTRE



### COMBATING DESERTIFICATION, SOIL CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY

Restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and limit biodiversity loss.

**2 378 775€**  
**7 projects**



# Listening to stakeholders

## EEA Grants: Future Mechanism

### "Define the Priorities?"



Sent E-mails



Responses



Response rate

The main priorities for future funding are ecosystem service-based projects with local impact, good maturity and an integrated approach.

## Lessons Learned from the Funding Mechanism

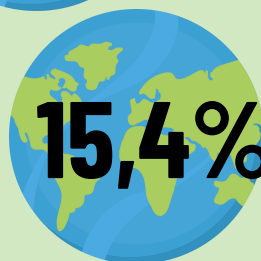
### EEA Grants 2014 – 2021



Sent E-mails



Responses



Response rate

Most beneficiaries are optimistic about the EEA Grants, except with regard to the degree of bureaucracy associated with management procedures.



## Objective of the new funding period

To contribute to a more sustainable society, promote the green transition and support the EU Green Deal.



## Government alignment

The Environment and Energy Government Area will lead policies in the areas of climate, energy, water, waste, biodiversity and coastal protection, with a focus on sustainability and cohesion.

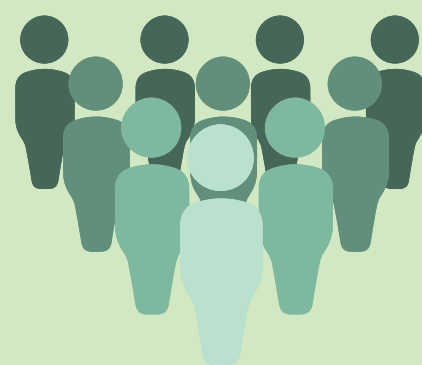


## Pillars of political action

**People at the centre:** involvement and adaptation of all communities.

**Combating Climate Change:** in line with the National Energy and Climate Plan 2030 and the Roadmap for Carbon Neutrality.

**Applied Innovation:** for clean technologies and sustainable practices.



## Challenges to face

**Triple planetary crisis:** climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss.

**Circular economy:** moving from a linear economy to a more resource-efficient model.

**Access to clean and sustainable energy:** ensuring affordable and reliable energy for all.



## Cross-cutting principles

**Equality and inclusion:** commitment to gender equality, social inclusion and support for the most affected groups.

**Youth empowerment:** involving young people in the transition towards a more sustainable future.





## Call for collective action

**Mobilization of all:** public and private sectors and citizens must collaborate.

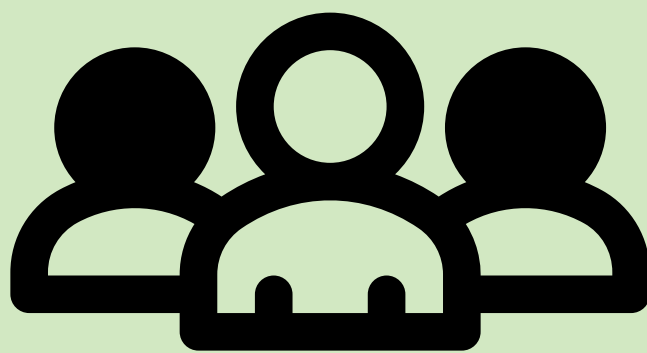
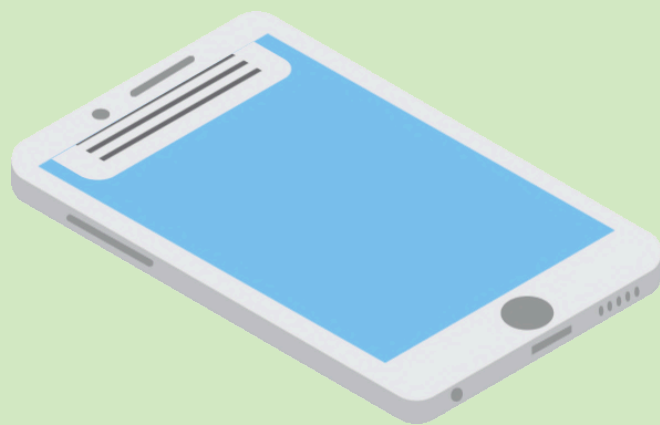
**Role of public institutions:** coordinate efforts across all levels of government.

**Cooperation with Donor Countries:** partnerships between entities.



## Impact on the general public

**Benefit for all:** future projects will be aimed at broadly benefiting society.



**Working together for a green competitive and inclusive Europe!**



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