



UNIVERSIDADE
DE ÉVORA

EUROPEAN WEEK OF REGIONS AND CITIES
THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND THE NEW ENTREPRENEURIAL
AND SOCIAL REVOLUTION
9- 12 OCTOBER 2017 - BRUSSELS



PERSPECTIVES FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN ALENTEJO

VASCO FITAS DA CRUZ

RURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, ÉVORA UNIVERSITY, PORTUGAL

vfc@uevora.pt

ALENTEJO:

- One third of the national territory
- Important border line with the Spanish regions of Andaluzia and Extremadura and also an extensive Atlantic coast line of 170 km
- More than 25% of the Alentejo territory includes sites of Special Protection Areas (Natura2000)
- Dynamic business in new productive sectors, especially the manufacturing industry, tourism, new emerging technologies as renewable energy



ALENTEJO:

- In recent years the traditional agricultural and agri-food structure has been gradually change as result of the multipurpose development enterprise of Alqueva.
- The export profile of the region relies on recovery activities related with natural resources and was increased by the industrial complex of Sines
- The main export products are mineral products, agricultural and food products and chemical industries products
- The most important trade market is the Intra-Community trade (82% of the importations and 76% of the exportations)

-

-

CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN ALENTEJO

Alentejo is a region that is deeply based in its culture and traditional practices, which in many cases are leading to what we today designate as circular economy practices

Alentejo is strongly engaged with Circular Economy Models. Our aim is to be one of the references regions for Circular Economy

From the first hour we collaborate with the Portuguese Ministry of the Environment within the framework of the Action Plan for Circular Economy that was present in 21 of June and whose public discussion ended recently on the 30th of September



Liderar a transição

[plano de ação para a economia circular em Portugal: 2017-2020]



CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN ALENTEJO

The key regional sectores identified for Alentejo are:

- **Aeronautical Industries**
- **Agriculture and agri-food chain**
- **Buildings and Constructions**
- **Cork**
- **Extractive activities (mines and quarries)**
- **Metalomechanics**
- **Tourism**

FORUM FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY OF ALENTEJO

Created, on 5th of June, by CCDRA with the support of Évora University, ISQ and BCSD

- **The main objective is to instigate the circular economy in Alentejo through a discussion forum of regional partners (Business centers, Regional administration, Companies, Industries and Universities and Technological centers) to discuss the opportunities and constraints of EC in the region**
- **With the involvement of the partners the Forum also aims to define strategies, disseminate business models, identify good practices and ongoing initiatives looking forward the implementation and dissemination of circular initiatives, strengthening regional competitiveness.**

It is intended that this initiative has an interregional and cross-border territorial scope, with the aim of promoting the sharing of experiences and synergies with the adjacent Spanish regions

-

Some planned initiatives and ongoing projects

- .
- Draw a project that allows the definition of a regional strategy for EC in Alentejo, integrating the different Economic sectors
- Re-use and recycling of plastics from agriculture for urban furniture
- Re-use of wastes from construction and ornamental stones sectors
- Utilization of wastewater from animal products industries
- Project URSA (EDIA) – Use of wastewater and composting in agriculture
- Project in the framework of Urban Innovative Action program (CIMAC) – Circular Economy of Plastics

ALENTEJO CIRCULAR



Açores



Madeira



Porto e Norte

Centro de Portugal

Lisboa

Alentejo

Algarve



OLIVE OIL
PRODUCTION



SWINE
PRODUCTION



WINE
PRODUCTION

ALENTEJO CIRCULAR



- **GOAL:**

- Sensitive and mobilize Alentejo economic agents in the ranks of olive oil, wine and pig's farming.



Adoption of the **Circular Economy model!**

- It was launched on November 14th and aims the creation of values in agricultural and agroindustrial farm through the transfer of knowledge about practices and technologies for an efficient use of resources and recovery of waste.

Our Concerns

- **Circular Cities or Regions vs Circular Territories (no border lines)**
- **Legal barriers (need of an adaptative regulamentation to improve EC practices)**
- **Complementarity between various sectors of activity**



Thank you for your attention