

# CENTRO DE ESTUDOS SOCIAIS

Laboratório associado

**FCT**

Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia  
MINISTÉRIO DA EDUCAÇÃO E CIÊNCIA

## Common lands in Portugal

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Universidade de Coimbra

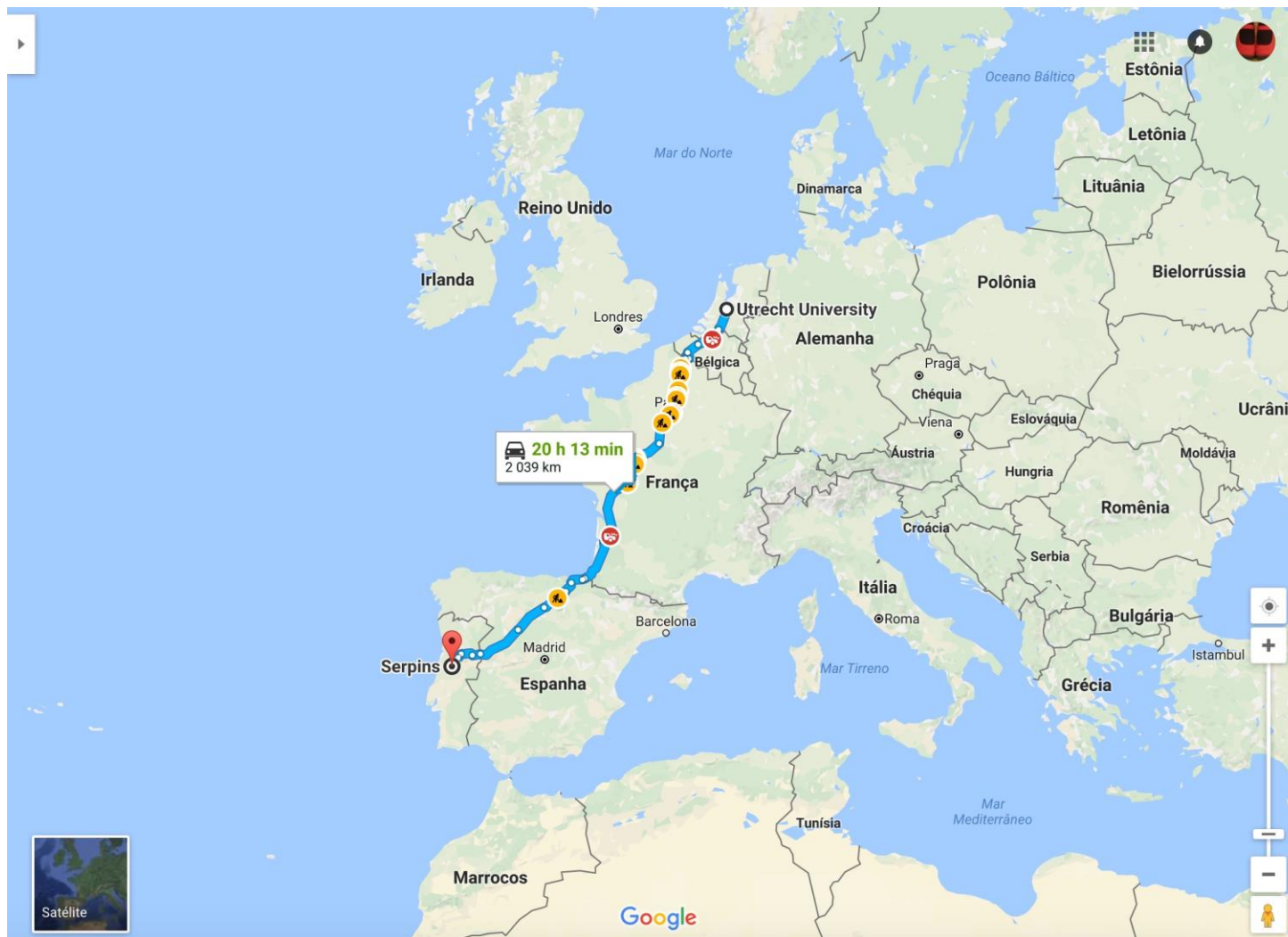


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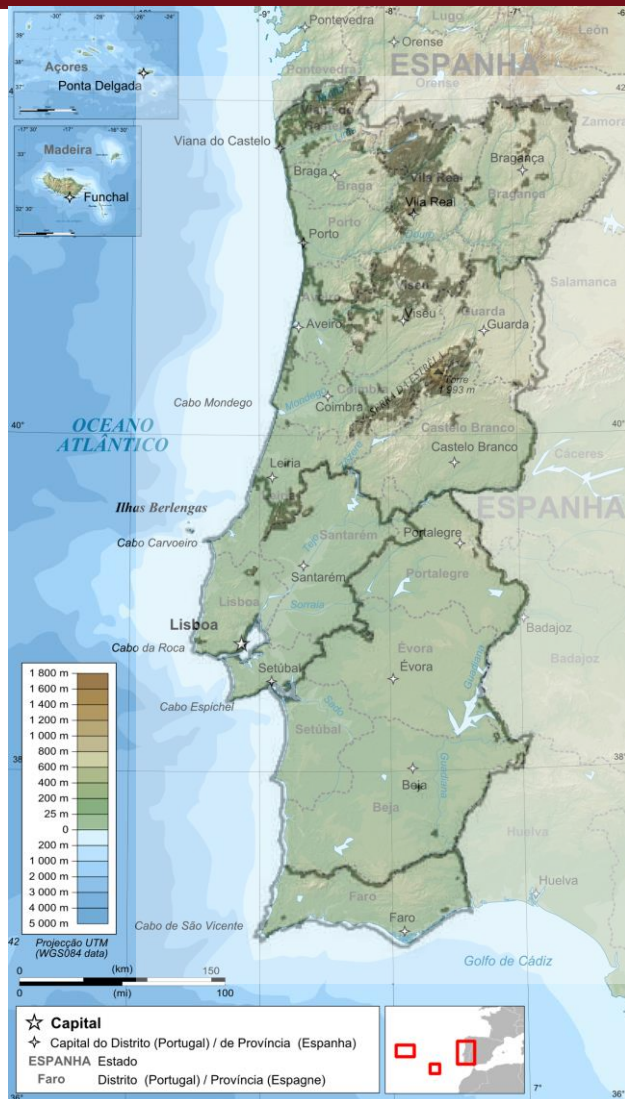
## **PORTUGAL**

- 1. Where are the common lands?**
- 2. Where are the commoners?**
- 3. Forms of governance**
- 4. Resources**
- 5. Map of state and non-state actors**
- 6. Ongoing and future work**

# Portugal - Utrecht



# Portugal and baldios



**1441 Baldios in 2013\***

**500 000 hectares**

Average Area: 423 ha (PNVTC, 2010)

999 under forest regime (Source: ICNF)

727 registered as collective persons (Source: RNPC)

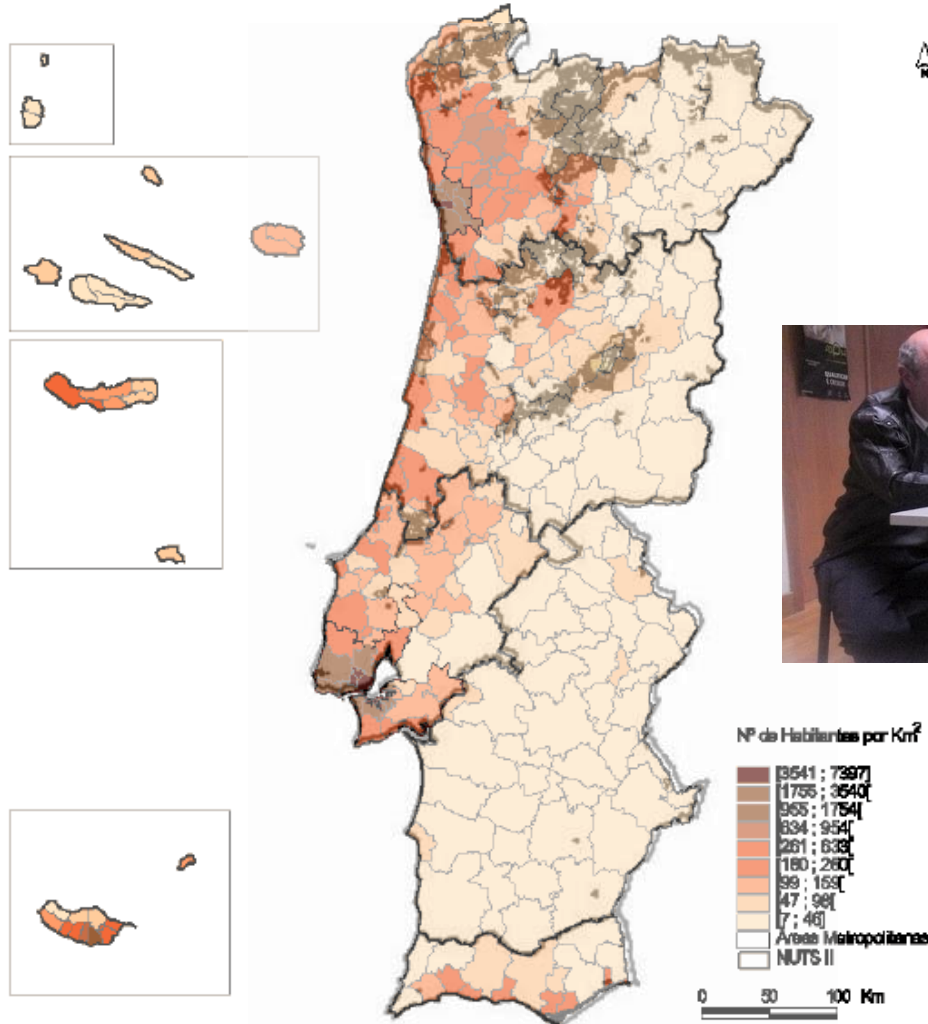
**Not included:**

- Baldios in the islands (separate administration)
- Non-forested lands

• 7638 Unidades de Baldio em 1938

• **Map source: <http://www.baladi.pt>**

# Where are the commoners?





# Forms of governance

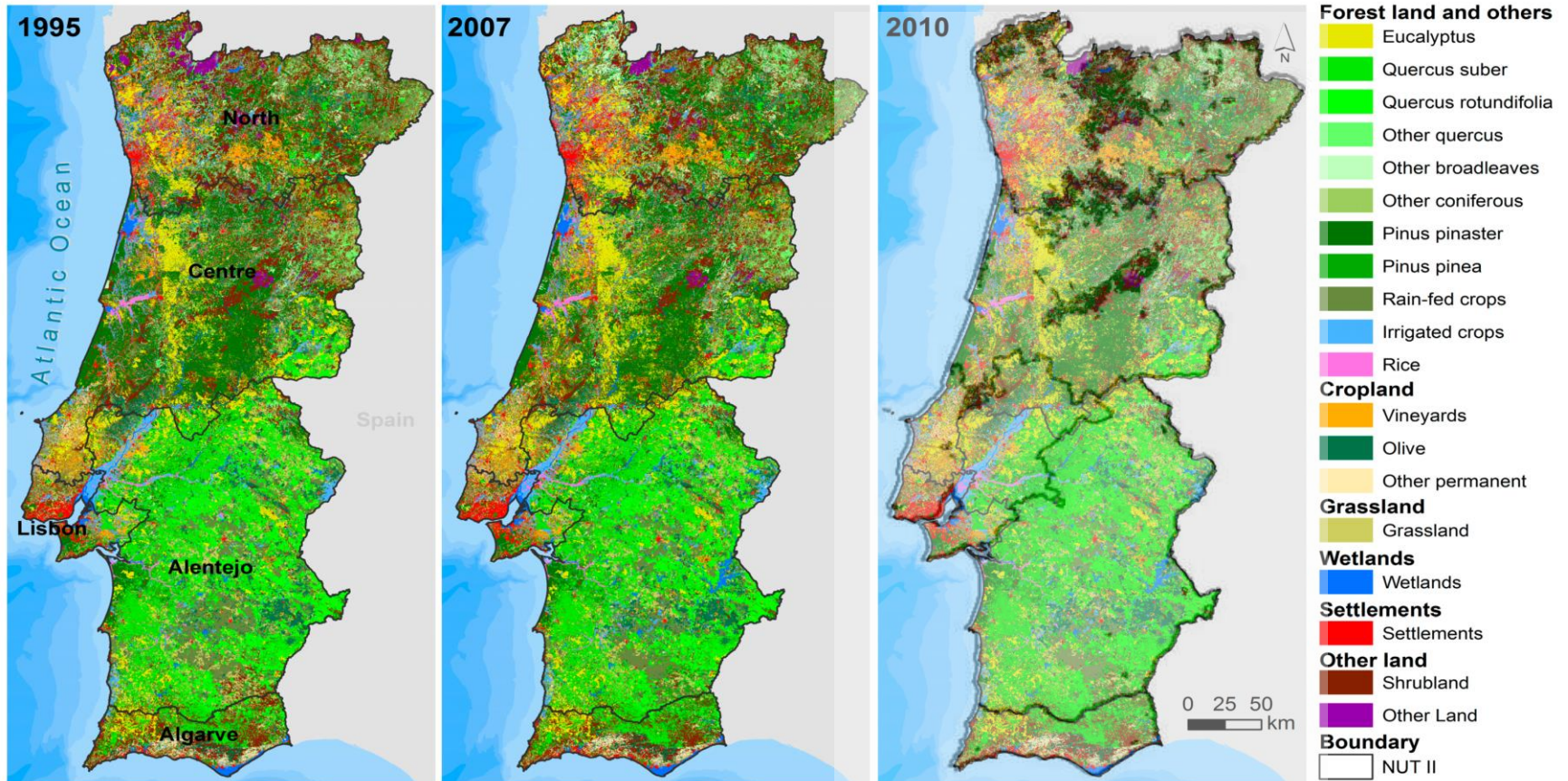
**Commoners** – all local users according to customary rights; entitled to usufruct and administration of the common lands while living in the area

**Commoners assembly** can democratically elect a managing council of commoners or delegate executive powers in the local government (typically, the parish)

Commoners can **administrate exclusively** their resources, or:

- co-administrate the forest with the State
- concession the lands to industrial companies

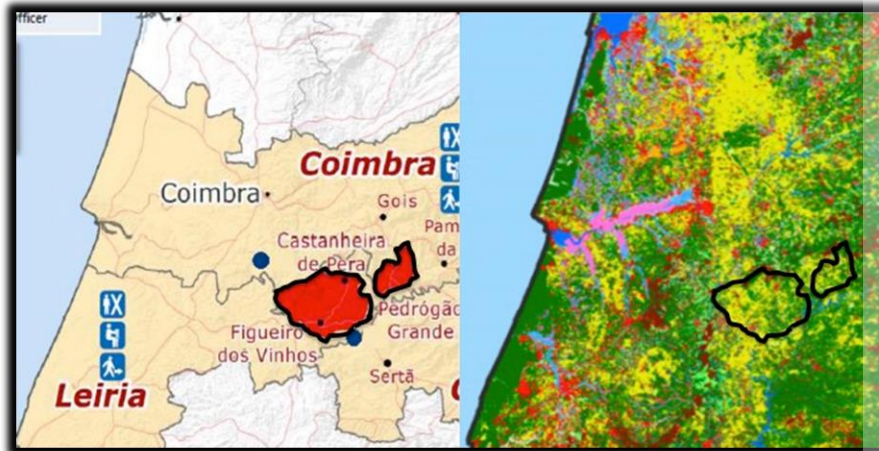
# Resources: Forests



Source: Meneses et al. Understanding Driving Forces and Implications Associated with the Land Use and Land Cover Changes in Portugal. *Sustainability* **2017**, 9, 351.

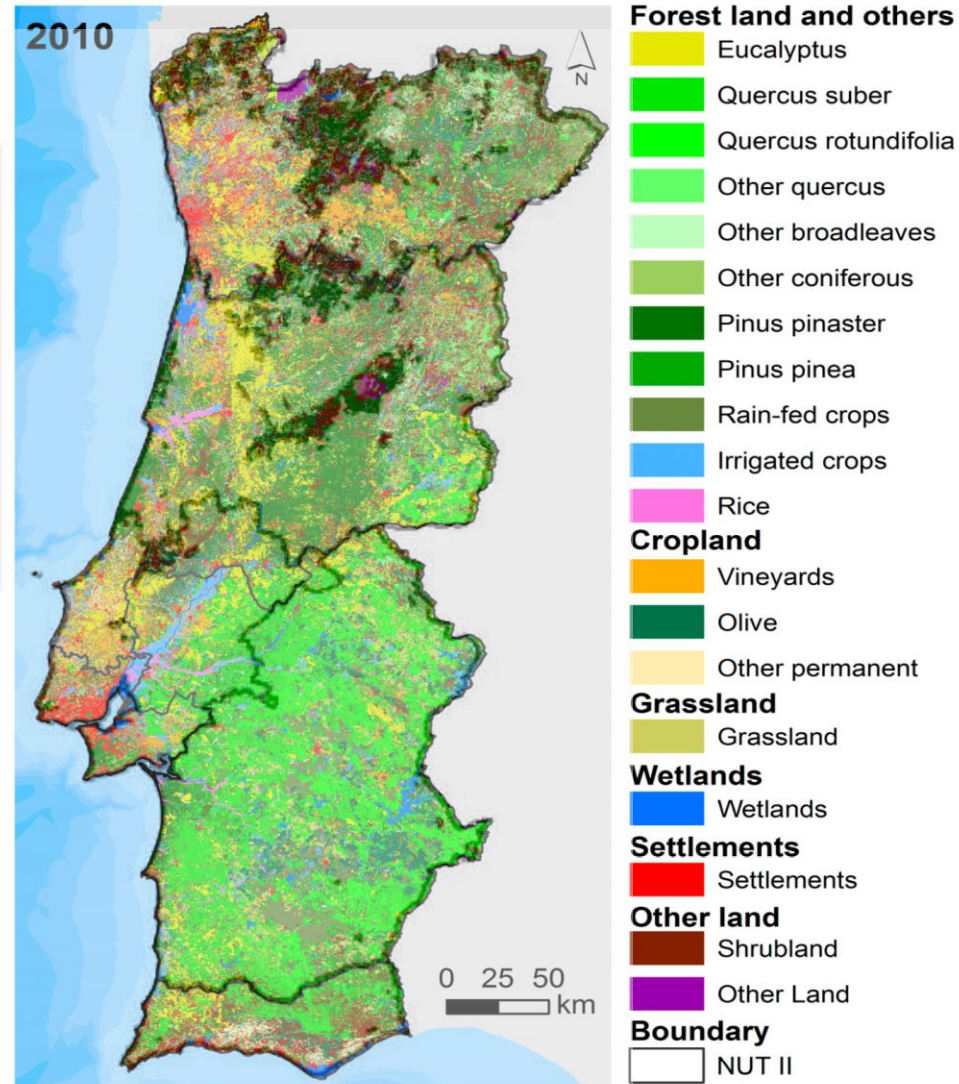


# Pedrógão grande fires



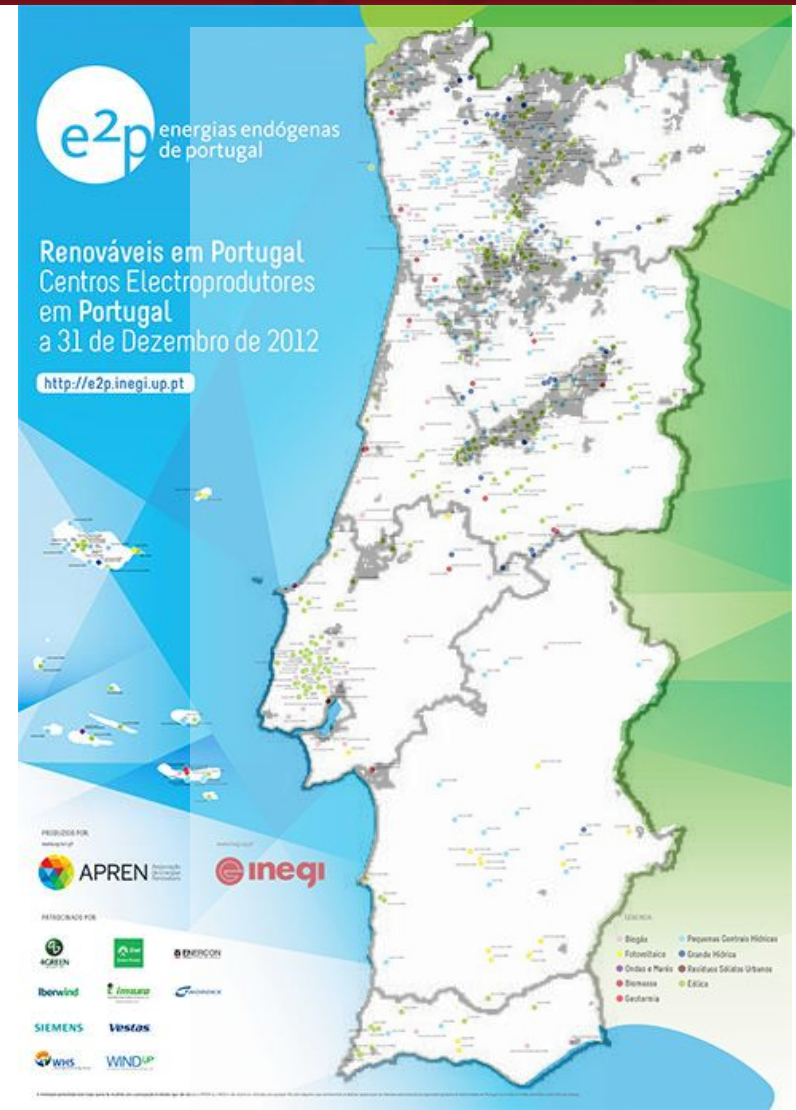
*The fires in Portugal's neo-Australian landscapes*

<https://christiankull.net/2017/06/22/fire-portugal/>

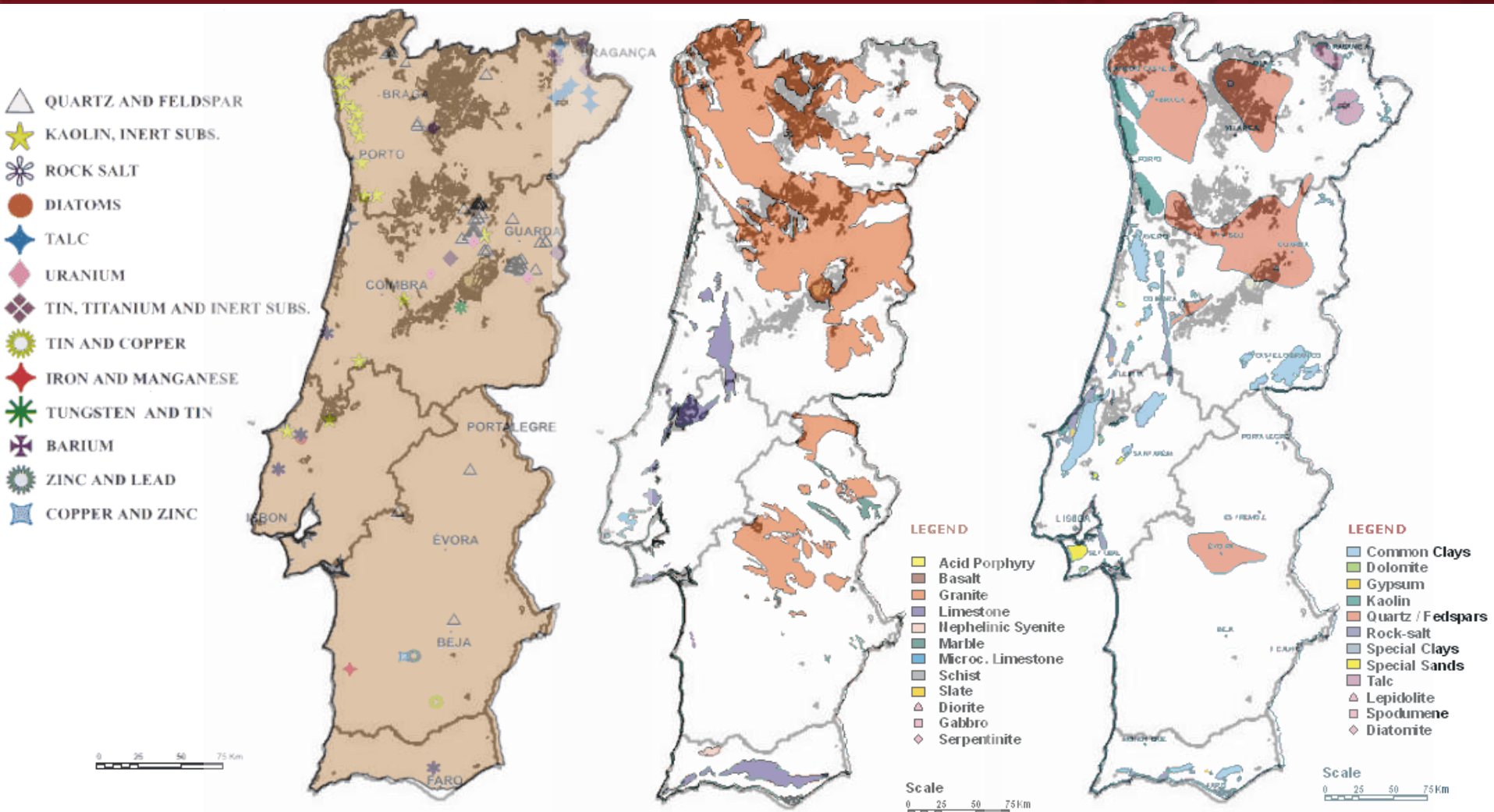




# Resources: Wind



# Resources: Stone and Minerals



Source: [http://www.Ineg.pt/CienciaParaTodos/edicoes\\_online/diversos/portugal\\_geology/texto](http://www.Ineg.pt/CienciaParaTodos/edicoes_online/diversos/portugal_geology/texto)

# Resources: Protected areas

## âmbito nacional

### Parque Nacional

- 1 Peneda-Gerês

### Parques Naturais

- 2 Montesinho
- 3 Litoral Norte
- 4 Alvão
- 5 Douro Internacional
- 6 Serra da Estrela
- 7 Tejo Internacional
- 8 Serras de Aire e Candeeiros
- 9 Serra de São Mamede
- 10 Sintra-Cascais
- 11 Arrábida
- 12 Sudoeste Alentejano e Costa Vicentina
- 13 Vale do Guadiana
- 14 Ria Formosa

### Reservas Naturais

- 15 Dunas de São Jacinto
- 16 Serra da Malcata
- 17 Paul de Arzila
- 18 Berlengas
- 19 Paul do Boquilobo
- 20 Estuário do Tejo
- 21 Estuário do Sado
- 22 Lagoas de Santo André e Sancho
- 23 S.C.Marim - V.R.S. António

### Paisagens Protegidas

- 24 Serra do Açor
- 25 Arriba Fóssil da Costa da Caparica

### Monumentos Naturais

- 26 Cabo Mondego
- 27 Portas de Ródão
- 28 Pegadas de Dinossáurios de Ourém/Torres Novas
- 29 Carenque
- 30 Pedra da Mula
- 31 Lagosteiros
- 32 Pedreira do Avelino

## âmbito regional/local - DL 19/93

### Paisagem Protegida

- 33 Albufeira do Azibo
- 34 Como do Bico
- 35 Lagoas de Bertandios e São Pedro de Arcos
- 36 Serra de Montejunto

## âmbito regional/local - DL 142/2008

### Parque Natural Regional

- 37 Vale do Tua

### Reserva Natural Local

- 38 Paul da Tornada
- 39 Estuário do Douro

### Paisagem Protegida Regional

- 40 Litoral de Vila do Conde e Reserva Ornitológica do Mindelo
- 41 Serra da Gardunha

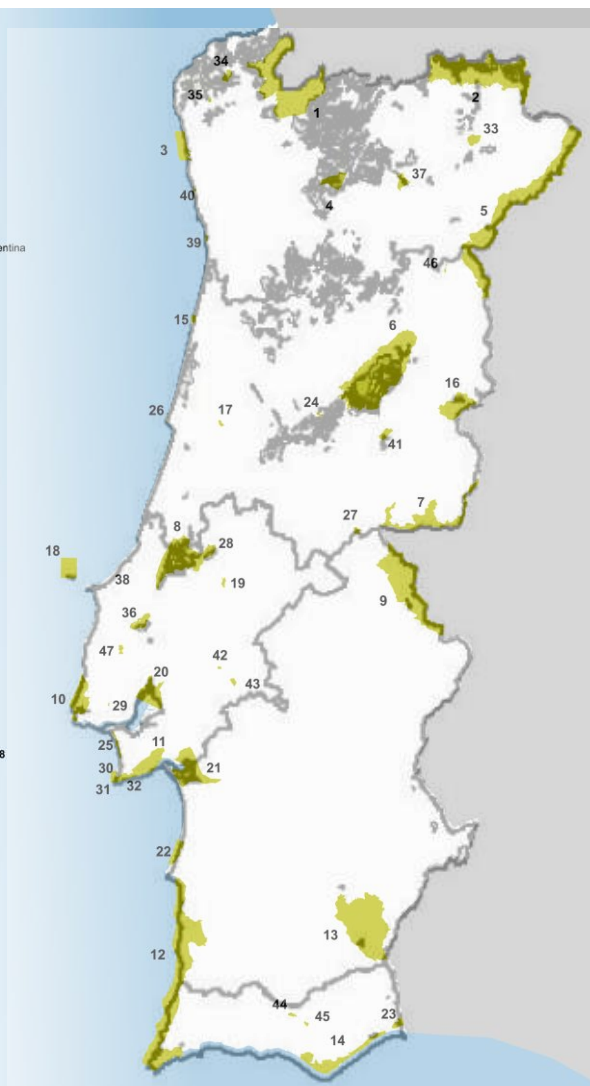
### Paisagem Protegida Local

- 42 Açude da Agolada
- 43 Açude do Monte da Barca
- 44 Rocha da Pena
- 45 Fonte Benémola
- 47 Serras do Socorro e Archeira

## âmbito privado

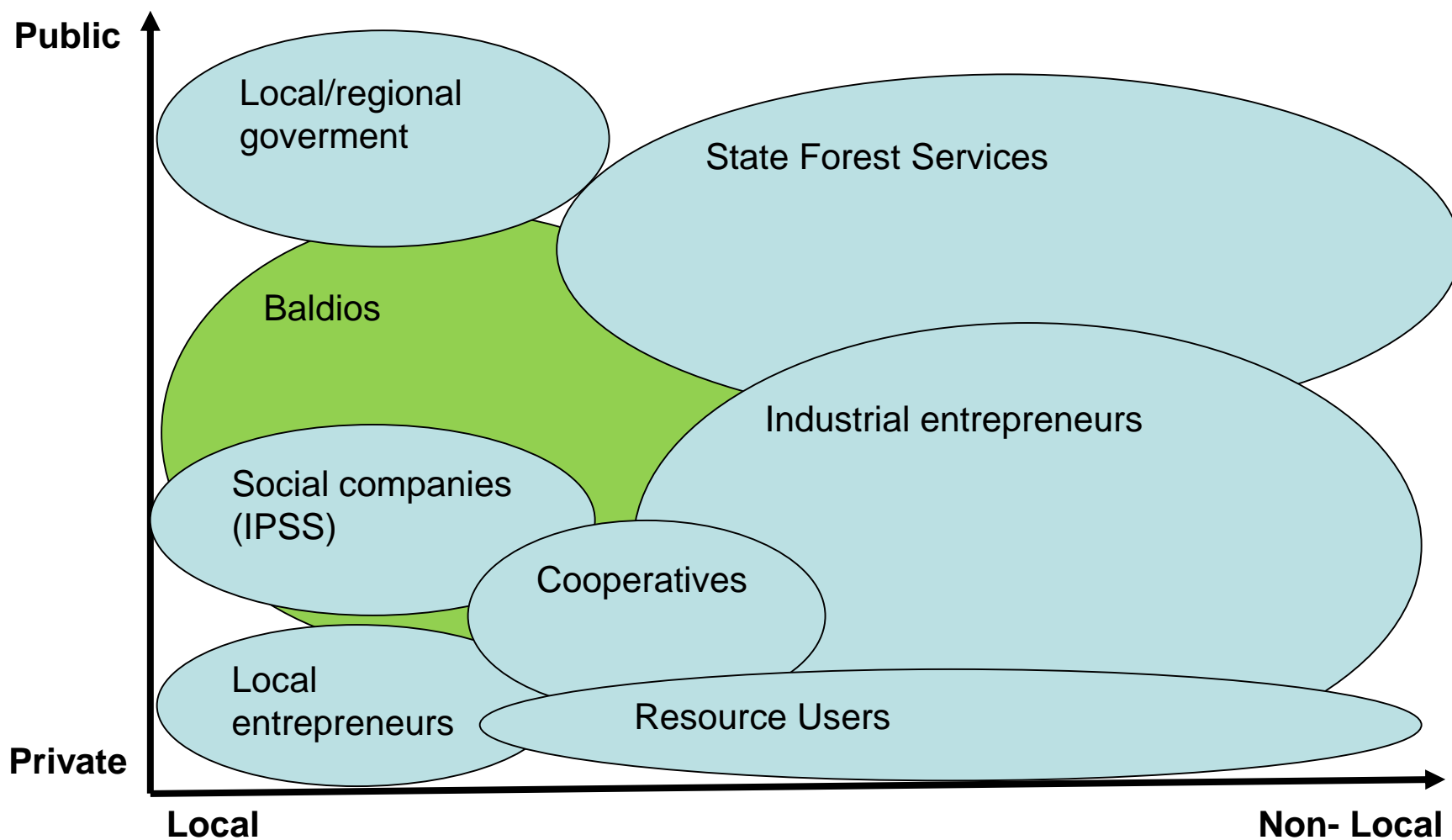
### Área Protegida Privada

- 46 Faia Brava





# Map of state and non-state actors



## Commoners-common lands connection



Article

### Mushrooming Communities: A Field Guide to Mycology in the Community Forests of Portugal

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**Abstract:** Forest community connections are crucial to ensure forest stewardship and sustainability. We explored the potential of mushrooming to enable such connections in contexts where these connections have been historically broken, alienating local people from forests. Taking the case of the recent devolution of a community forest (*baldios*) in central Portugal to the local population, we present a five-year pilot project to rework mycology from a mushroom-centered approach to a mushroom-in-*baldios* approach. Mushrooms were used as an entry-point to connect the forest ecology with the challenges of governance and community building. The devised activities provided an opportunity for people inside and outside the local community to adventure into the woods and find out more about their socio-ecological history, develop communal and convivial relationships and engage in the responsible gathering of wild mushrooms. However, the hosting of mushroomers to know, value and engage with the community forest recovery has constantly worked against the enclosure of mushrooms to provide marketable forms of leisure. The outcome of these activities depends on the relationships established between mushrooms, mycologists, local administrators, commoners and poachers, all operating within a framework that favors the eradication of resources instead of long-term relationships that sustain places.

**Keywords:** common lands; *baldios*; wild mushrooms; non-timber forest products; Portugal; community; community forestry; forest governance

#### 1. Introduction

Mushrooming in Portugal is a naturalistic tradition with the potential to engage its practitioners in a responsible relationship with the environment, especially forests. As the mycelia of mushrooms connect the trees with dead matter and lively microbes [1], their fruiting bodies provide the ground for people to experience nature, value it and intimately connect it to human sociability [2]. Such valuation of nature and the diverse creatures inhabiting the woods is essential to connect people to the stewardship of forests [3], especially when such connections have been broken resulting in the eradication of forest goods, socio-environmental degradation and, occasionally, land abandonment [4].

Mushrooming is a recreational practice mostly undertaken by city dwellers that seek refuge from overwhelming and emotionally exhausting lives, in search of communal ways to share the pleasures and wonders of knowing about mushroom's secrets, eating wild delicacies, and being together in nature. This definition of mushrooming corresponds broadly to mushroom picking by hobbyists [2],

### Education for Sustainability in the Context of Community Forestry

Rita Serra, Patrícia Ferreira, Iryna Skulska, Mayrén Alavez-Vargas, Anailton Salgado, João Arriscado Nunes and Raúl García-Barrios

#### Abstract

Community forestry in Portugal is emerging as a promising form of multifunctional forestry that combines scientific and technical knowledge with the participation of the local residents in decision-making. These forests are governed by collective property arrangements (*baldios*) based on millenarian traditional usufruct rights of a local community of commoners (*compertes*). Participation is open to all the new residents regardless of their gender, activity or status. However, during the 20th century the connection between the commoners and the commons was severely disrupted by the Forest Services by compulsory afforesting the lands with tree species unknown to the local populations and provoking the decline of collective agro-pastoral practices, which was most severe close to urban areas. We describe our experience with a community of *compertes* that recently gained back control of its common lands and initiated a project to revitalize a degraded forest in the mountains after four decades of co-management with the State. We also detail the specificities and challenges that in the context of community forestry are crucial for the residents to authentically construct and take part in a commons land narrative, and the educational activities we have jointly developed to activate meaningful engagement in collective practices, intergenerational responsibility and active citizenship.

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### Governança comunitária de florestas para crianças

kit pedagógico

Rita Serra e Patrícia Ferreira



## **Projects submitted:**

**CATA-VENTO: Socio-economic impacts of wind parks in community forests**

**CLEAR: Community-Led Initiatives for Landscape Care and Risk Prevention (INTERREG, led by Regional Government of Toscana, Itália)**





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