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#### New Voices New Visions New Values

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# Agriculture, Parks and Biodiversity

Castro Verde (Portugal)
Case Study

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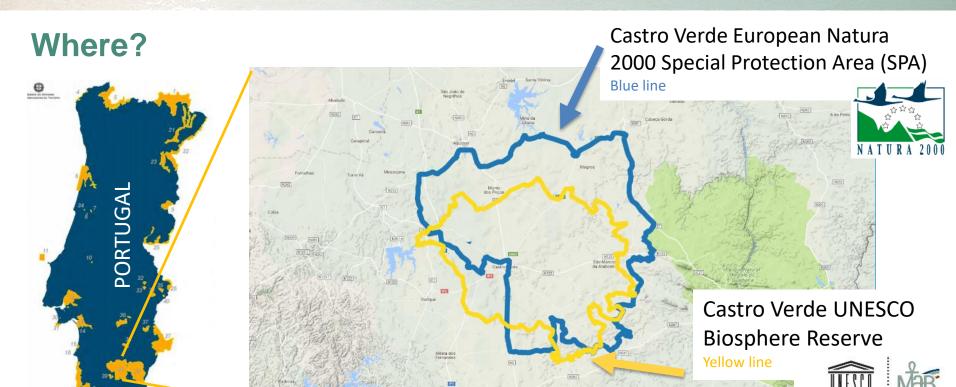






















## Landscape: Grasslands in rotation with Dry Cereal Crops Cereal Steppes or Pseudo Steppes



**Autumn** 











## Landscape: Grasslands in rotation with Dry Cereal Crops Cereal Steppes or Pseudo Steppes







Winter











### Landscape: Grasslands in rotation with Dry Cereal Crops **Cereal Steppes or Pseudo Steppes**







**Spring** 









### Landscape: Grasslands in rotation with Dry Cereal Crops **Cereal Steppes or Pseudo Steppes**







Summer











#### **Castro Verde Plains**











#### Why?

## **Endangered Steppe Birds highly dependent upon the** maintenance of extensive farming crops and grasslands



Lesser Kestrel

**Great Bustard** 



Little Bustard



Black-bellied Sandgrouse







#### How?



 A Management Plan was set for each farm, establishing guidelines to promote biodiversity (nesting sites and water availability) and farming practices to be promoted with the collaboration of farmers.

















#### How?

- Scientific studies carried out to provide information on farming activities (hay cutting, harvest, ploughing) and its compatibility with bird biological cycle;
- An agroenvironmental measure, under the Rural Development Program of the European CAP (Common Agriculture policy), was proposed (ongoing since 1995) around 190 farms with 30.0000 hectares.















#### How?

- Local Land Management Plan of Castro Verde, set in 1993, established extensive farming as the main guideline for the rural areas;
- Promotion of several activities to value local culture.

































































Strengths	Weaknesses
High involvement from local communities (farmers, municipalities/council, schools, etc)	Dependent upon national and European policies due to low farming income revenue
Low environmental impact providing several ecosystem services	Requires time to involve farmers and establish common understandings











#### **Discussion Topics**

- How to compensate farmers for providing biodiversity?
- Should tourism contribute?

#### Workshop conclusions suggestions

 Understand which farming practices are beneficial for biodiversity and nature conservation to promote their recognition and reward farmers for their work;

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## Thank you for your attention!

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