



No Waste

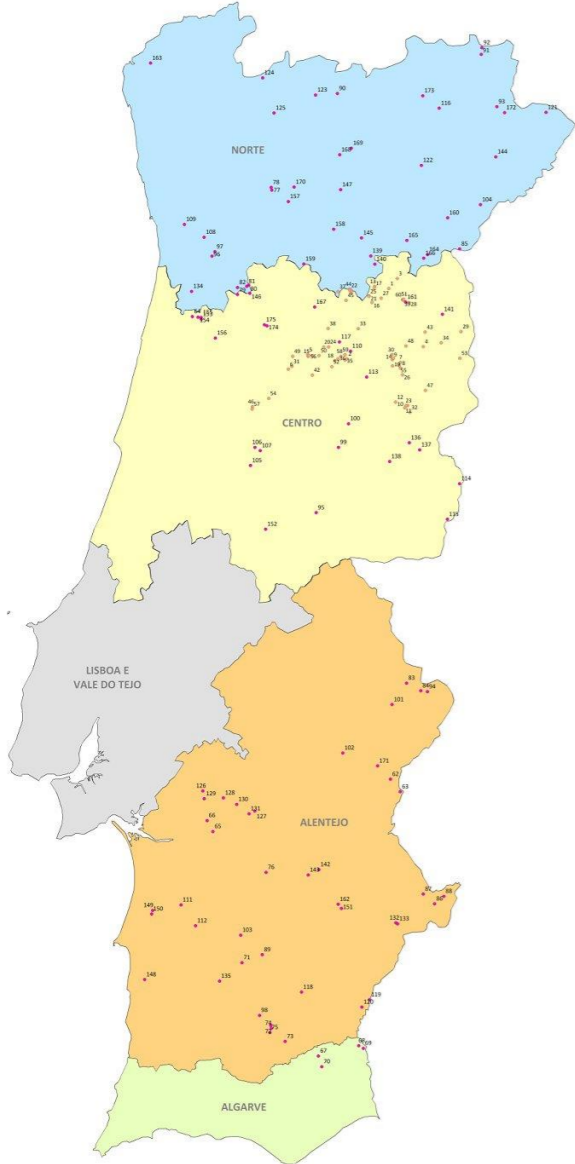
#2

January 2017

Newsletter of Project LIFE No_Waste

LIFE14 ENV/PT/000369 - MANAGEMENT OF BIOMASS ASH AND ORGANIC WASTE IN THE RECOVERY OF DEGRADED SOILS: A PILOT PROJECT SET IN PORTUGAL

>>> In the Spotlight: Recovering degraded mining soil in Portugal



Mining is an extractive industry, based on the removal of valuable constituents of the earth's crust and the provision of these commodities to downstream markets. Past mining operations led to soil degradation and were associated with a legacy of tons of abandoned metalliferous mine wastes and acid mine drainage (contributing to around 2% of soil contamination in Europe).¹ Mining solid and liquid wastes caused soil and water acidification and contamination, led to plant uptake of potentially toxic elements, promoted deterioration of soil ecosystems and functioning, and increased soil erosion.²

In Portugal, there are 175 degraded mining areas distributed throughout the country. So far, EDM, a partner of the LIFE No_Waste project, implemented 35 remediation projects as well as several pre- and post-rehabilitation monitoring plans. This corresponded to a public expenditure of around 118 million euros.³ [Read more >](#)

¹Panagos et al. (2013). *Journal of Environment and Public Health* 11. doi: 10.1155/2013/158764

²Gray (1997). *Environmental Geology* 30. doi: 10.1007/s002540050133

³Empresa de Desenvolvimento Mineiro, SA. <http://edm.pt/>

>>> Project updates



No_Waste project aims to develop new additives for reclamation of degraded soil, by testing innovative combinations of biomass ashes and organic wastes.

In line with the project timeline, we have already sampled and characterized soils from 3 mining areas in Portugal as well as several samples of ashes from residual forest biomass combustion and organic wastes (Project Action A.1). In addition, several mixtures of ash and organic waste materials have been prepared and tested in bench-scale experiments to assess their effectiveness in the recovery of soil functions (Project Action A.2).

>>> What else is new?

Dissemination events



22nd November 2016, 11:30 AM @ CESAM, University of Aveiro, Portugal | No_Waste public session for scientific audience by the project coordinator Sónia Rodrigues

Visit our [website](#) for more!

