

# LIFE Maronesa

## Governance, Information and Climate Action Project - a sustainable model for extensive livestock farming



CASAL DA  
BOUÇA





## Geographical Area of Intervention



The geographical area of intervention of the LIFE Maronesa project covers the following municipalities:

- ✓ Vila Pouca de Aguiar;
- ✓ Ribeira de Pena;
- ✓ Mondim de Basto;
- ✓ Vila Real.

Vila Pouca de Aguiar - **demonstration area**

**Areas of replication** of the sustainable production model in the Baldios (community lands) and in follower producers.

## Problematic and Challenges

In recent decades, the abandonment of grazing areas in the mountains, in particular the communal areas of the community lands, has resulted in an increase in the growth of scrubland and the loss of good quality perennial pastures. These factors, combined with current climatic trends, increase the risk of forest fires and reduce carbon storage in soils through the erosion effect caused by fires.



# Actions implemented

## First Half

- ✓ C1 - Management of common land through infrastructure, prescribed burning and mechanical shredding
- ✓ C2- Management of hay meadows and livestock farms
- ✓ D - Climate monitoring of exclusion plots
- ✓ E1 - Public awareness and communication activities
- ✓ E2 - Technical dissemination and networking

## Second Half

- ✓ C3 - Commercialization strategy
- ✓ C4 - Economic and social valorization of the extensive model
- ✓ C5 - Transferability and replication
- ✓ D - Climate, economic, behavioral change and project impact monitoring
- ✓ E1 - Public awareness and communication activities
- ✓ E2 - Technical dissemination and networking





# Implementation actions for producers (C2) and community lands (C1)

## MOUNTAIN LAND MANAGEMENT AND FARMLAND PRODUCTIVITY

- ✓ Actions to improve the hay meadows (application of lime and phosphorus)– C2
- ✓ Actions to convert areas of scrubland (prescribed burning and mechanical shredding)– C1

## ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

- ✓ Anti-stress cattle handling system – C1
- ✓ Herd management with GPS collars– C2
- ✓ Animal management (electric and permanent fencing)– C2
- ✓ Route passageways – C1

## INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

- ✓ Water retention with improvement and creation of natural ponds and watercourse – C1
- ✓ Mobile water dispensers– C2
- ✓ Mobile cattle feeders for mountain dispersion– C2



# STRATEGY FOR THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL VALORISATION

## Who can join?

Producers who fulfil the obligations defined in the specifications for each label.



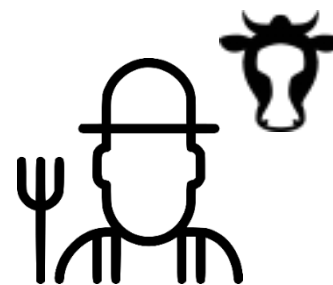
Checking the criteria on farms

## Who will check that the criteria are met?

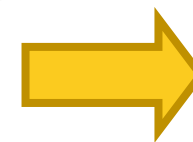
Entity responsible for each region



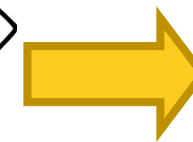
## What is the circuit?



Identification of the farmer wishing to join



Criteria check



Product tracking and labelling

## What's the added value?



Promoting the environmental and social value of products among consumers



↑ Consumption



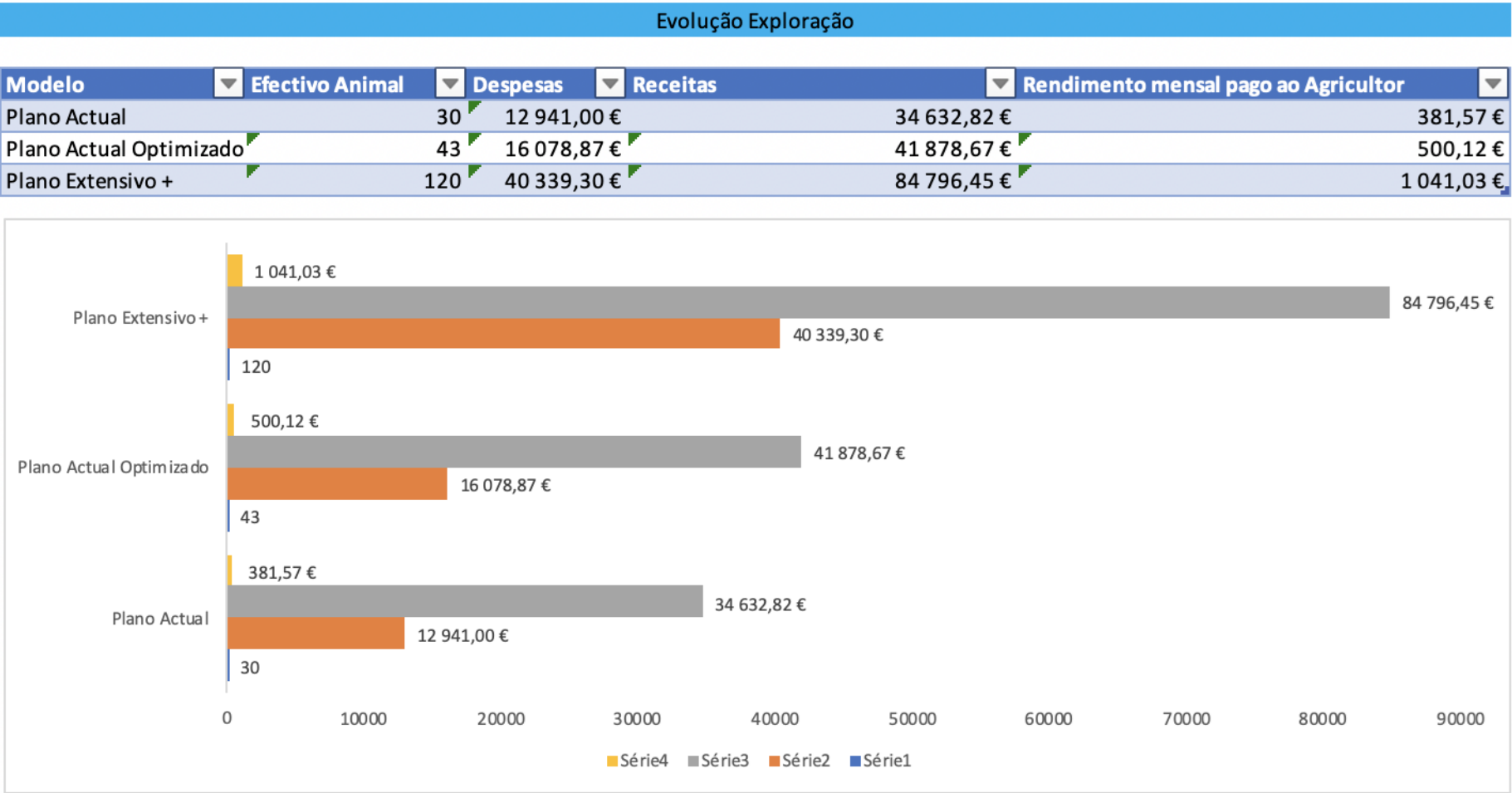
↑ Sales



# Economic monitoring and profitability of the extensive model

Conversion of livestock farm to an extensive system:

- More or less 8/9 months of mountain grazing
- 29% increase in hay meadow productivity
- Ca. 55% of EU aid





# A few performance indicators



	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Breeders	8	8	8	27	27
Number of Maronesas	425	447	536	619	670
Number of other bovine breeds	0	0	0	153	153
Mountain regions implemented	1	1	1	3	3
Local Butchers/Stores	1	1	1	3	8
Restaurants	0	1	2	6	11
Local tourism operators	0	0	1	2	2
National tourism operators	0	0	0	0	2
International tourism operators	0	0	0	0	1







# Thank you!

## LIFE Maronesa

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Coordinator :



Partners :



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