



FLAG Factsheet: ALENTEJO LITTORAL

GAL Pesca Litoral Alentejano

Country: PORTUGAL

Region: ALENTEJO LITORAL

Area: 165 Km

Code: PT 210

Operational: 2007-2013 and 2014-2020 programming period

AREA

Description of the area and its main challenges

The area covers the municipalities of Alcácer do Sal, Grândola, Sines, Santiago do Cacém, Odemira. In economic terms, the FLAG area is characterised as having a **low business density**, with agriculture and tourism being the most important sectors. A restructuring of the local economy is, therefore, an essential element of any local development strategy.

The main challenges facing the area are socio-economic, and concern:

- **A decline in the economic and social importance of the fisheries sector**, which is made up largely of small to medium sized family businesses. The number of people dependent on the sector decreased by 42% over the last decade.
- **Gender issues:** the wives of local fishermen and shellfish farmers generally work at home, helping with sales, administration or other tasks, or sometimes serve as crew members. The economic crisis and rising unemployment in Portugal, have led to an increase in the number of women entering the fisheries sector.

Specific challenges arising include:

- Strengthening the appreciation of women as professionals in the fisheries and related sectors (equal opportunities);
- Increasing support for female entrepreneurship in particular to attract business investment;
- Improving the acquisition of skills and the creation of better local conditions for informal vocational training;
- Increasing supply of equipment and infrastructure to support children and older people.

Infrastructural investments: local municipalities have to provide infrastructure and equipment to meet the social, cultural and sporting needs and interests of local inhabitants. To improve the area's attractiveness, there is a need to invest in infrastructure and improve well-being and quality of life for the local community.

- **additional social concerns** such as the **isolation of the elderly, alcoholism and domestic violence**.

- an **unemployment rate of close to 15%** (2011) in some municipalities.

FLAG area

Population: 61 045 inhabitants (2011)

Population Density [Inhabitants/ km²]: 2.1 to 86.5 (from rural village to more densely populated areas)

Surface area [km²]: coastline extension of 165 Km

Coastal or inland: Six regions: one coastal and five inland (with fishing in the reservoirs of Campilhas, Vale do Gaio and Santa Clara)

Protected areas: Nature Reserves: the Sado River estuary, the Santo André Lagoon and the Sancha Lagoon. The Southwest Alentejano and Vicentine Coast Natural Park.

Employment in fisheries: 325 (2011)

Fishing: No information available

Aquaculture: No information available

Processing: No information available

Women employment in fisheries: 37 (2011)

STRATEGY

Short summary of the FLAG strategy

The **strategic goal** of the FLAG is to "**realise the potential of local resources and promote activities linked to the sea and water resources.**" From a territorial development and cooperation perspective, the main elements of the strategy will be considered in a cross-cutting way. These include:

- Mobilising local resources to improve the competitiveness and attractiveness of the area;
- The recognition and updating of formal and non-formal skills;
- Greater territorial and social cohesion;
- Sustainable management of coastal areas and water resources;
- Promoting entrepreneurship (through innovation), drawing on technical and traditional knowledge.

The FLAG strategy has four main strands, which focus on creating conditions to promote **tourism, entrepreneurship, innovation** and the **revitalisation** of the fisheries sector.

Importance of the following objectives for the strategy of the FLAG

Objective	Priority (1 is low, 5 is very high)	% of the budget allocated to them in the strategy
Adding value, creating jobs, and promoting innovation along the fisheries chain	5	<i>Information not yet available</i>
Supporting diversification	4	<i>Information not yet available</i>
Enhancing and capitalising on the environmental assets	1	<i>Information not yet available</i>
Promoting social well-being and cultural heritage	2	<i>Information not yet available</i>
Strengthening the role of fisheries communities in local development	3	<i>Information not yet available</i>

Project examples and ideas

Planned investments under the EMFF will focus on:

- Innovation in the use of maritime resources;
- Strengthening the competitiveness of the fisheries sector;
- Strengthening the competitiveness of the tourism sector;
- Improving the quality of local products;
- Preserving, conserving and enhancing local heritage, natural resources and the natural environment linked to fisheries;
- Promoting short circuits and local markets;
- Developing and promoting Marine Plans;
- Promoting educational and vocational qualification related to the sea.

Planned investments under the EAFRD will focus on:

- Supporting the business sector;
- Supporting the conservation, protection, promotion and development of the area's natural and cultural heritage.

Planned investments under the ESF will focus on:

- Supporting social entrepreneurship and employability;
- Supporting social inclusion.

Calls for projects

The FLAG will publish its first call for projects following publication of the relevant national legislation.

Thematic expertise and cooperation

One of the main objectives of the FLAG is to encourage local people and organisations to contribute to the development of the area and improve its visibility by engaging in a “**territorial marketing**” process. **Transnational cooperation** will play an important part in this and will also provide an opportunity for the FLAG to meet, discuss and learn new ways of working, promoting the area and improving skills.

The Local Development Agency, ADL, has already developed cooperation projects and, up to the end of 2015, hosted visits from FLAGs from other countries interested in learning from the projects carried out in Alentejo Litoral.

The thematic areas of cooperation are already agreed but the specific projects and the budget are not yet defined.

Type of cooperation projects foreseen

Inter-territorial (within your Member state): Yes

Transnational: Yes

Sea basin: Yes

Budget available for cooperation [€]: Not yet defined

The **themes** under which the FLAG aims to develop national and transnational cooperation projects are:

Tourism and animation - the exchange of experiences between coastal areas in order to test new forms of territorial marketing (development of tools and methodologies for the management, promotion and marketing of tourism products linked to the activities of the sea).

Environment and natural resources - to promote the conservation and enhancement of the area's natural heritage and fisheries resources.

Cultural Heritage - to promote the sharing and exchange of traditional knowledge.

Skills and basic services for the coastal economy – to encourage cooperation and the exchange of experience between local development actors.

Innovation and the marketing of local products and services – promote innovation and the organisation of marketing channels for local products at regional, national and transnational level.

PARTNERSHIP

Lead partner or Responsible Legal Entity

ADL – Associação de Desenvolvimento do Litoral Alentejano (Leader LAG and FLAG Além Tejo 2007-2014)

Other key actors/organisations in the partnership

- Municipalities of: Alcácer do Sal, Grândola, Santiago do Cacém, Sines, Odemira,
- University of Évora; Polytechnical institute of Setúbal; Sines Tecnopolo – Associação Centro de Incubação de Empresas de Base Tecnológica Vasco da Gama; IEFP – Instituto de Emprego e Formação Profissional, IP
- Docapesca, Portos e Lotas, SA; Mútua dos Pescadores, CRL; AAPSACV – Assoc. De Armadores da Pesca Artesanal e do Cerco do Sudoeste Alentejano e Costa Vicentina; Associação de Mariscadores da Terra de Vasco da Gama; Associação Cultural e de Desenvolvimento de Pescadores e Moradores da Azenha do Mar; Instituto de Conservação da Natureza e das Florestas
- Associação Recreativa, Desportiva e Cultural das Lagoas e Praias; Juventude Desportiva do Carvalhal; ALSAB – Assoc. Desportiva Recreativa e Cultural da Lagoa de Santo André e Brescos; TAIPA-Organização Cooperativa para o Desenvolvimento Integrado do Concelho de Odemira, CRL; ADRAL – Agência de Desenvolvimento Regional do Alentejo SA; Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Sines; EPO – Centro Escolar e Empresarial do Sudoeste Alentejano, S.A.; Clube Bass Friends; Associação Estrela do Mar; Carrasqueira Mar – Comércio e Indústria de Produtos Alimentares, Lda.; Aquamar, SA.; Oceanic, Lda.; Ecoalga, Lda.; Cáritas Paroquial de Sines

% of public actors (seven partner entities on the decision-making body): 43% (two municipalities and one employment and professional education institute)

% of fisheries actors: 27%

% of other (non-fisheries) private / NGO sector actors: 33%

% of environmental actors: 7%

Number of individuals/organisations in partnership/ general assembly: 30

Number of individuals on main decision-making body/ board: 7 + 2 substitutes

Links with LEADER or other CLLD groups

FLAG territory is the same as (or overlaps with) one or several CLLD territory/territories	Yes
FLAG shares its legal structure with a Leader LAG/CLLD group. ADL manages both the FLAG (coastal CLLD) and LAG (rural CLLD)	Yes
FLAG shares certain (how many?) board members with a Leader LAG/CLLD group	Yes

ADL is the intermediate body for rural CLLD and is the managing partner for coastal CLLD. Other members of ADL are also members of the partnership that makes up the FLAG.	
FLAG and LAG have a common local development strategy (with separate sections for EMFF/ EAFRD/ other ESI funds) The coastal intervention area is part of the intervention area for rural CLLD. The strategies have aspects in common.	Yes
FLAG coordinates its work informally with nearby Leader LAG(s) ADL is also a Leader group. The Leader authorities cooperate and work within the framework of an interregional strategy. Cooperation projects also exist.	Yes

Budget information

Total public budget allocated to the FLAG for 2014-2020 (a+b) [€]: 2 003 595

(a) EMFF [€]: 1 703 056

(b) Member State co-financing [€]: 300 539

Source of co-financing? (national/ regional/ provincial): National

Multi-funding: Yes

ESF – € 678 167

EAFRD – €1 394 523

Contact information

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FLAG website www.adl.litoralalentejano.pt

Number of contracted staff in FLAG [FTE] *Not yet defined*

Language information

Language	Basic level	Intermediate level	Good level
English			X
French	X		
Spanish		X	
Portuguese			X