FARCLIMATE

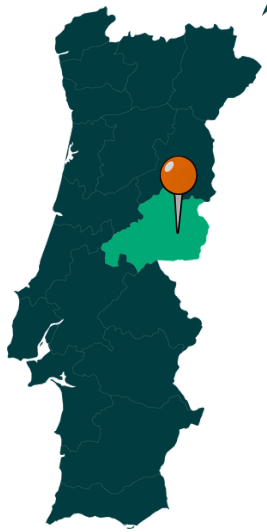


Câmara Municipal

Organisation: Municipality of Fundão

Sector: Agriculture

Location: Fundão, Portugal



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The Fundão case study focuses on strengthening climate resilience in a municipality where agriculture and forestry play a central role in the local economy. With over 3,200 companies—21% linked to agriculture, forestry, animal production, and related activities—the sector is both a key employer and a driver of regional identity. Fundão is nationally recognised for high-quality endogenous products, particularly cherries, which represent around 60% of Portugal's total production, alongside wine, cheese, olive oil, honey, mushrooms, and emerging crops such as almonds and cannabis.

However, the territory faces increasing climate-related risks, including rising temperatures, reduced frost hours, irregular rainfall, flooding, forest fires, soil erosion, and water scarcity. These changes threaten crop productivity, livestock health, forest ecosystems (notably the Natura 2000-designated Serra da Gardunha), and the long-term viability of the agri-food sector.

In response, Fundão positions itself as a Living Lab for sustainable development, promoting technological innovation, crop diversification, ecosystem management, and circular economy principles. Through initiatives such as the AgroTech Centre, the Seminary Experimental Farm, Smart Farming programmes, and IoT-enabled infrastructure, the municipality integrates research, entrepreneurship, and local knowledge to develop and test adaptive solutions. The overall objective is to safeguard livelihoods, enhance environmental resilience, and ensure sustainable rural development in the face of accelerating climate change.