



CASE STUDY N°23



The Provence Living Lab operates in the Massif des Maures, a Mediterranean forest landscape facing increasing ecological stress due to climate change, recurrent droughts, floods, and wildfires, as well as fragmented ownership and declining forest-based economies. The initiative seeks to revitalize the living connection between people and forests by combining ecological resilience, social inclusion, and cultural regeneration.

The Living Lab addresses both environmental and relational challenges: abandonment of forest management, fuel accumulation and fire risk, weakened cork oak and chestnut systems, generational disengagement, and declining awareness of forests' ecological and cultural value. Its approach integrates knowledge, observation, artistic expression, environmental education, and hands-on experimentation to reconnect communities—especially young people—with forest ecosystems.

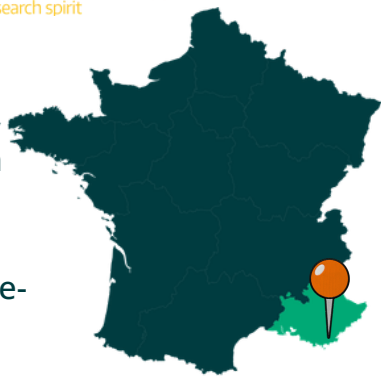
Through collaboration among forest owners, shepherds, hunters, agroforestry producers, artists, educators, and scientists, the Living Lab promotes sustainable forest-based livelihoods (such as cork, chestnuts, pine sap, and strawberry tree products) and adaptive forestry models resilient to climate extremes. By fostering co-creation, shared purpose, and an inclusive narrative of hope around Mediterranean forests, the initiative aims to rebuild stewardship and ensure long-term ecological, economic, and social sustainability in the territory.



Organisation: Provence Model Forest (Forêt Modèle de Provence), in collaboration with Cesefor Foundation

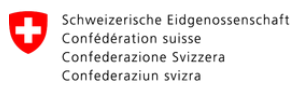
Sector: Forestry

Location: Massif des Maures, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region, France



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