DEHESA ECOSYSTEMS: DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES AND TOOLS FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT
LIFE 11/BIO/ES/000726

Life bioDehesa
Living dehesas, profitable dehesas

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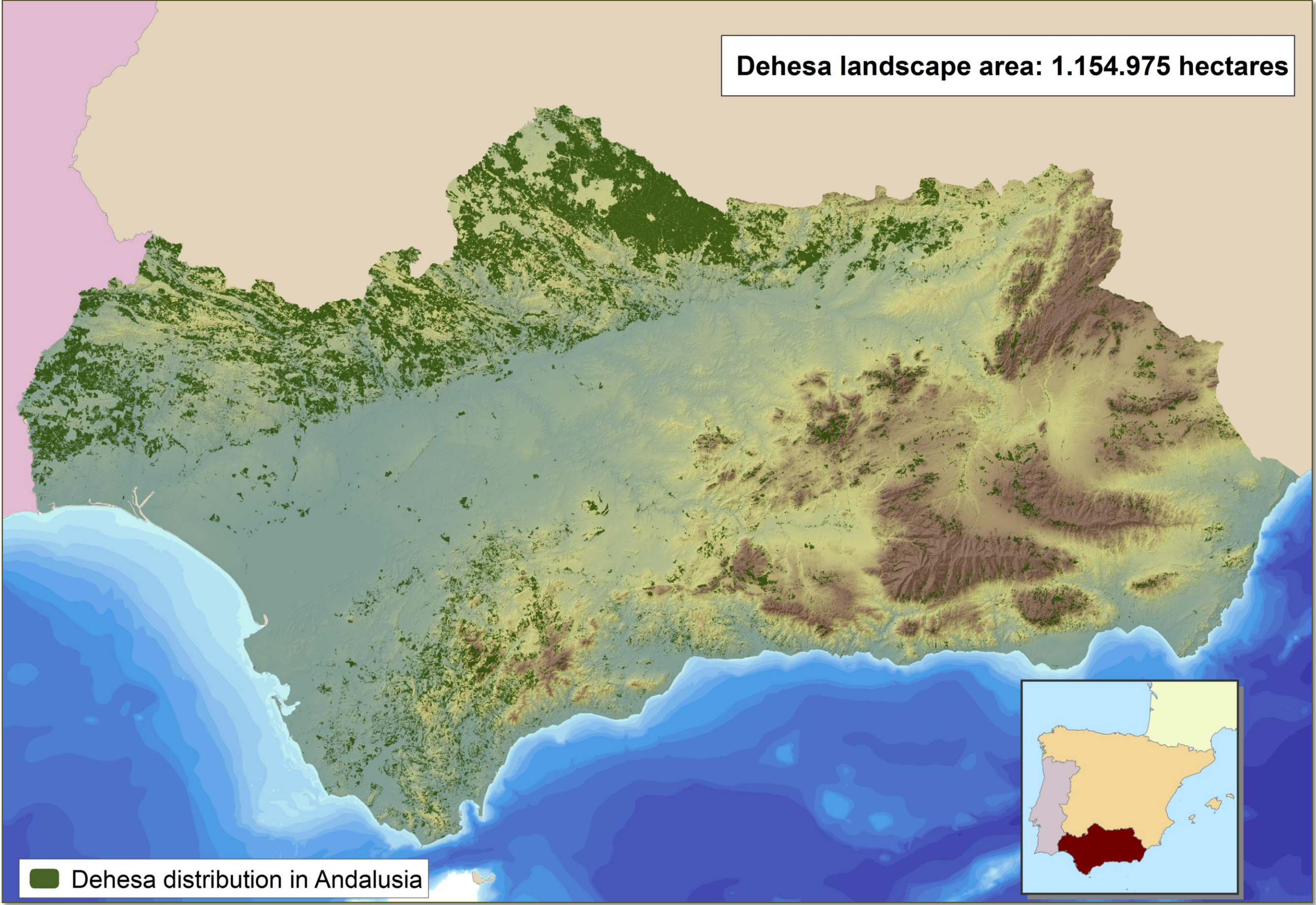(2) Andalusian Agency of Environment and Water. Spain

OBJECTIVES

The Life project bioDEHESA aims to **promote the sustainable and integrated management of dehesas** in order to improve the situation of biodiversity through the dissemination of demonstrational actions that address the main challenges related to their conservation.

DEHESA DEFINITION

Regional law 7/2010, 14 july, governing dehesas, has defined the concepte of a dehesa for regulatory purposes as a forestry exploitation primarily comprising wooded areas (mainly holm, cork and gall oaks or wild olive trees, and sometimes other species) with canopy cover values between 5% and 75%, which enable the development of livestock grazing , as well as other forestry, hunting or agricultural uses.

Amongst the vast dehesa area, 42 properties of them have been selected. **Cooperatation agreements** will be signed with these landowners to get them involved. Specific conservation actions (regarding good practices) will be implemented in this **Pilot Dehesas Network** along with the evaluation of their effects.

POTENTIAL ACTION AREA

Dehesa landscape area: 1.154.975 hectares

Dehesa distribution in Andalusia

MAIN ACTIONS

PREPARATORY ACTIONS

CONCRETE CONSERVATION ACTIONS

MONITORING OF THE IMPACT OF THE PROJECT ACTIONS

OVERALL PROJECT OPERATION AND MONITORING

PUBLIC AWARENESS AND DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS

PREPARATORY ACTIONS	CONCRETE CONSERVATION ACTIONS	MONITORING OF THE IMPACT OF THE PROJECT ACTIONS	OVERALL PROJECT OPERATION AND MONITORING	PUBLIC AWARENESS AND DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS
Compilation of previous experiences	Woodland renovation and management	Socioeonomic and environmental indicators	Geographic Information System for the dehesa	Consultation and training program
Integrated Management Plan for dehesas	Livestock and hunting species management			Electronic newsletter and website
Selection of the Pilot Dehesas Network and formalization of cooperation agreements	Pastureland management	Ecosystem services assessment	Monitoring and evaluation of the project	Field trips to the Pilot Dehesas Network
Oak decline assessment service	Integrated control of forest pests and diseases			Dissemination and communication actions

INNOVATIVE AND DEMONSTRATIVE CHARACTER OF THE PROJECT

Pilot Dehesas Network (42)

Integrated Management Plan specifically created for the dehesas

Consultation and training program

Geographic Information System for the dehesa

Oak Decline Assessment Service

EXPECTED RESULTS

Transfer the best available knowledge and the latest technical innovations for dehesa conservation and management

Identify and make known the biodiversity related to dehesa

Put into practice an integrated management model in dehesas and their benefits for biodiversity conservation

Implement horizontal services regarding dehesa conservation: Oak decline assessment service, Dehesa GIS, etc.

Disseminate the available knowledge and improve the human capital

Support institution building, alliance creation and networking in order to conservate biodiversity

Enhance public awareness about the importance of agro-forest systems such as dehesa for the purpose of establishing appropriate European, national and regional guidelines and policies

FURTHER INFORMATION
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