



MEJORA DE LA  
SOSTENIBILIDAD VITIVINÍCOLA  
DE LA COMARCA DEL PRIORAT



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**EFFICIENCY IN THE USE OF RESOURCES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF  
SUSTAINABILITY OF VINE AND WINE SECTOR OF PRIORAT  
LIFE PRIORAT+MONTSANT | LIFE15 ENV/ES/000399**

## **What is LIFE PRIORAT+MONTSANT?**

LIFE PRIORAT+MONTSANT is a project that seeks to develop and demonstrate a model of sustainable wine production in the Priorat region, by applying a set of methodologies for the efficient use of natural resources throughout the value chain, which is subsequently replicable in other wine producing regions of the European Union.

The project is carried out by five entities: VITEC (Wine Technological Center), as coordinator, the Regulatory Council of the Montsant Appellation of Origin (DO Montsant), the Regulatory Council of the Priorat Qualified Appellation of Origin (DOQ Priorat), the company Lavola 1981, SA and Plataforma Tecnológica del Vino (Wine Technological Platform, PTV).

LIFE PRIORAT+MONTSANT has a global budget of 1,529,153 euros, has the financial contribution of the LIFE + tool of the European Union, and will run for four years, from July 2016 to June 2020.

[Go to www.lifeprioratmontsant.eu if you want to know it!](http://www.lifeprioratmontsant.eu)

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## **MONOGRAPH ON THE WINE ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT**

LIFE PRIORAT+MONTSANT project aims to calculate the environmental

footprint of the average wine produced in the region of Priorat. In order to do it, there will be applied the recently approved Rules of Product Category PEF of wine, result of 4 years of work. In this number, we explain to you of what there consist these rules and the advances realized in the project on the related actions.

## INTERVIEW AURORA ABAD (CEEV)

**We interviewed Aurora Abad, coordinator of the PEF wine pilot initiative, which has recently concluded with the publication of the rules for calculating the environmental footprint of wine (Wine PEFCR).**



Aurora works for European wineries in CEEV, where she is the director of Trade and Internationalization. In addition to coordinating the PEF wine, in CEEV she directs the efforts of the European wine industry to enhance global competitiveness and eliminate trade barriers. Aurora has a master's degree in European studies and previously worked in the Research Framework Program of the European Union.

### 1. What is the mission of the CEEV and how it contemplates the sustainability issues?

CEEV is the professional platform of European wineries. It aims to promote social, economic and legal environment conducive to sustainable development and responsible for the European wine sector, and affirm the rightful place of wine and its culture. On sustainability issues, our goal is to help to preserve and improve environmental wealth that represents the European vineyards. That's why we get involved in the dissemination of good environmental practices and tools and indicators so that wineries can measure improvements.

### 2. What prompted the CEEV to lead the PEF wine pilot initiative?

Some countries in the European Union have begun to develop autonomously environmental sustainability methodologies. The wine industry is mainly composed of small and medium enterprises, which cannot afford to use a different methodology in each country where they sell their wine. A necessary condition for European wineries to use it is that the methodology is harmonized at European level first, and then internationally.

### 3. What learning experience would you highlight?

That we have made a great progress but there is still a road which lies ahead. The great collective effort that has represented the PEF has served to create a robust and comprehensive methodology. But it has also made clear that there are still some methodological "gaps", for example on issues of eco-toxicity or biodiversity, which are very important in agriculture. The PEF has been a great step forward, but we must continue working collectively to cover these gaps. To handle it, we work hand in hand with the international organization of wine, OIV, thus contributing also to give an international dimension to the PEF wine.

### 4. How do you think the PEF wine results will affect to the wine sector?

European wineries are world leaders, our wines are appreciated all over the world for their quality, their character. Now we must also respond to the growing number of consumers with environmental requirements and are willing to reward the commitment of the wineries with their natural surroundings. We hope that the PEF will contribute to enhance the environmental responsibility of European wineries and increase the competitiveness of our wines in intra and extra European markets.

### 5. Do you want to add anything else?

The pilot phase is over, now is the time for wineries to implement the methodology and give their feedback to improve whatever is necessary. We hope it!

## OUR TECHNICAL ADVANCES



### **Advances in Action B4: Environmental Optimization in the wineries**

During the first months of the project, the project partners have visited and contacted the various participating wineries in order to obtain quantitative information on the use of materials, energy and water and waste generation associated with wine production. We have established the minimum, maximum and average values of the different parameters evaluated in order to identify areas where there is room for relevant improvement. On the other hand, they have identified best practices to improve the

environmental performance of daily operations of the wineries related to storage facilities, press and filtering, cleaning equipment and surfaces and bottling.

It is considered that its implementation can be useful, low cost and can provide quick results, however during the next phase of the project they will be analysed in collaboration with producers to assess the technical and economic feasibility of its implementation.



### **Advances in Action B5: Calculating the environmental footprint of the wine produced in the Priorat region**

Once the calculation rules were approved (PEFCR wine), and collected data from 28 vineyards (18% of total grapes production) and 19 wineries (27% of total wine production) of Priorat and Montsant, Lavola has begun to develop the model for calculating the environmental footprint of the average wine produced in the region which will be available this autumn. The model shows the production of 0.75 liters of wine, including the steps of obtaining the grapes, wine production, packaging, distribution, use and end of life of the containers. For it, the primary data collected concerning nursery and planting, management of the vines and soil, fertilizer application, pest management and diseases, irrigation (if applicable), vinification, aging (if applicable), cleaning facilities and equipment, bottling and distribution will be used. For the scenes of use and end of life, there will be applied the scenes included in the approved rules.

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## **NEWS AND NETWORKING**

### **Participation in the XXIX Congress of Winemakers**

On April 27 it took place in Castelldefels (Barcelona) the XXIX Annual Congress of the Catalan Winemakers Association (ACE) and the Catalonia Winemakers College (CEEC) that was focused on the sustainability. Cristina Gazulla (Lavola)

was invited to present the development process of the harmonized rules for calculating the environmental impact of wine (PEF wine) and its implementation in the LIFE PRIORAT+MONT SANT project.



## Networking Seminar in the Wine Museum of Bullas

On 31 May, it took place at the Wine Museum of Bullas (Murcia), a networking seminar of LIFE SARMIENTO, LIFE ADVICLIM and LIFE PRIORAT+MONT SANT projects, in order to exchange information and identify synergies between them. These three projects are related to wine strategies and their contribution to sustainability and climate change. During the seminar, not only all the projects were presented, but also the people had the opportunity to see first-hand the work done by the members of the LIFE SARMIENTO project.

Link [here](#) for more information.



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