

### 3rd Mediterranean Plant Conservation Week (3MPCW)

#### Workshop 2.2: Novel initiatives for Plant conservation in the Mediterranean

Developing successful plant conservation projects is a challenging task and requires an inclusive and multi-disciplinary approach, putting together diverse expertise to address all critical issues for a successful outcome. An integrated in-situ and ex-situ approach can yield numerous benefits and offer opportunities to showcase to the public the actual plants conservationists aim to protect to build participation and support from the local community. As a case study the recently approved Life+ SEEDFORCE project will be illustrated. In this project included best practice preparatory actions to assess the genetic make-up of the target species and populations, analyse the current species climatic envelope and project possible future scenarios, taking into account trophic dependencies in target species. The outcome of such preparatory actions will be used to prepare the propagation mix best adapted for each site to be used for reintroduction and population reinforcement. Once identified threats will be removed, the target populations will be reinforced or re-established in extinct sites. A series of engagement activities have been devised to gain public support and to involve farmers that in most cases can influence the long-term conservation of many plant species in secondary habitats. The workshop aims at sharing experiences, best practice and lesson learnt of successful plant conservation projects, providing a forum to discuss and develop new project ideas in an international perspective.

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