



Mata de Sesimbra (Portugal)

Project description	The Mata de Sesimbra eco-tourism project combines ecological buildings, non polluting transport means, reforestation and nature protection. It will cover 5300 hectares and provide 6 000 new dwellings. In this region, urban development causes coast erosion, urban sprawl and other problems. One Planet Living, a joint initiative of the WWF and BioRegional, combines the planning of 4 800 hectares of natural reserve with reforestation and the creation of a 500 hectares touristic complex with a maximum capacity of 25 000 beds.	
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Energy: energy will only be generated by renewable energies, waste reduction (the objective is to produce only 5% of the Portuguese national waste average), collection of rain water and recycling of grey water. - Economy: creation of 11.000 jobs (construction, tourism, maintenance of the area, etc.), development of the local economy (more than half of the food served in the touristic places will be produced within a maximum 50km radius). - Transport: creation of a transport network. Car-sharing and the use of alternative transport will be promoted. Creation of a cycling lane all around the area. There will be almost no need to have a private car in this area. - Ecosystem: the project includes a natural reserve of 4 800 hectares in which ecological corridors linking the different protected areas will act as nests for vulnerable birds. A large European private project of reforestation of local native trees is also planned on this area in order to replace the non native trees (mainly eucalyptus). 	  <p style="text-align: center;"><i>BioRegional images</i></p>
Driving factors	One Planet Living initiated the project. OPL develops projects on each continent in order to prove that it is possible to live with the resources of one planet only.	
Financing structure	The total costs of the project supported by One Planet Living (BioRegional and WWF) are of 1.2 billion dollars. The visitors will have to pay an eco-tax that will be invested in ecological projects such as the restoration of ecological corridors or the maintenance of important species, wetlands, and water line vegetation.	
Partners & roles	WWF and its partner BioRegional.	
Further information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BioRegional : http://www.bioregional.com/oneplanetliving/ - One Planet Living: http://www.oneplanetliving.org/ - WWF: http://www.panda.org/ 	
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