

# WIND & BIODIVERSITY

## WIND & BIODIVERSITY PROJECT:

### INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS FOR MANAGING BIODIVERSITY IN WIND FARMS

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## THE CONTEXT

In the last decade renewable energies have finally been taken seriously and some of them as profitable investments. Wind energy is leading the renewable energies market worldwide and is a keystone of several countries' policies for reducing their dependence on fossil resources. More than ever it's crucial to reconcile these important investments with biodiversity conservation. To accomplish that, first it is mandatory to fully understand their real impacts on birds and bats and then to develop the best mitigation and offset plans.

## THE R&D PROJECT

Wind & Biodiversity is an acronym for "Integrated solutions for managing biodiversity in Wind Farms: bird and bat mitigation and compensation" - a 4 year R&D project led by the Portuguese Bio3 <sup>(1)</sup> in partnership with the University of Aveiro, participating with two research units – associated laboratory CESAM (Center for Environmental and Marine Studies) <sup>(2)</sup> and IEETA (Institute of Electronics and Telematics Engineering of Aveiro) <sup>(3)</sup>.



Corresponding to an investment of over 1.12 million EUR, the project is co-financed by the national program of incentives for the Portuguese businesses and industry - the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), under the regional operational programme "Mais Centro" and with the support of the European Regional Development fund, with a budget of 801.507,70 EUR.



## PROJECT'S MAIN GOALS

Between 2011 and 2014 a set of cutting edge technologies, methodologies and know-how will be developed in order to help reconcile wind farms and biodiversity. Thus, the main goals of this research project are:

- Understand bird and bat communities behaviour and dynamics;
- Understand the causes and accurately quantify bird and bat fatalities;
- Develop equipments and technology to mitigate or eliminate bird and bat fatalities;
- Develop, adapt and validate compensation measures to implement in wind farms with high mortality impacts;
- Develop integrated and sustainable management solutions/services adapted to each wind farm, according to its engineering and ecological context.

<http://wind-biodiversity.bio3.pt>

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