

EN
E-003071/2024
Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(27.2.2025)

1. There are several projects supported with EU funding that relate to the management of holm and cork oak forests and improving their resilience. Under the EU programme for the environment and climate action, LIFE FAGESOS¹ specifically aims to address and remediate outbreaks of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* disease through the development and application of new integrated pest management protocols. Another relevant completed project is LIFE ADAPTAMED², which produced a good practice manual for combating cork oak pests³. Conservation and restoration activities are also being undertaken thanks to funding under the Recovery and Resilience Facility⁴ and the European Regional Development Fund⁵.

2. Forestry interventions under the Common Agricultural Policy⁶ should be based on sustainable forest management plans⁷ and may comprise sustainable management of forests and investments that guarantee and enhance forest conservation and resilience.

Support may be granted for management commitments and investments aimed at maintaining the health of forests and protecting forests against abiotic and biotic damages caused by animals, plant diseases or pest infestations. Support for the restoration of forestry potential following natural disaster, adverse climatic events or catastrophic events may be granted as well.

3. The Commission is not currently involved in any active cooperation with countries outside of the EU on this issue. In Morocco, the ‘Terre Verte Programme’ contributes to Morocco’s forests replantation programmes. The programme also focuses on the fight against forest diseases, dieback and promoting effective replantation through research policy reinforcement, but there is no specific focus on *Quercus* forests.

¹ Project running until 2027: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/LIFE21-CCA-IT-LIFE-FAGESOS-101074466/phytophthora-induced-decline-of-fagaceae-ecosystems-in-southern-europe-exacerbated-by-climate-change-preserving-ecosystem-services-through-improved-integrated-pest-management>

² <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/LIFE14-CCA-ES-000612/protection-of-key-ecosystem-services-by-adaptive-management-of-climate-change-endangered-mediterranean-socioecosystems>

³ <https://www.lifeadaptamed.eu/?p=1907>

⁴ https://www.researchgate.net/publication/382020516_Restoring_Mediterranean_Oaks_Enhancing_Conservation_and_Management_through_Networked_Plot_Monitoring_and_Plot-based_Analysis

⁵ https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/funding/erdf_en

⁶ Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 December 2021 establishing rules on support for strategic plans to be drawn up by Member States under the common agricultural policy (CAP Strategic Plans) and financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1305/2013 and (EU) No 1307/2013, OJ L 435, 6.12.2021, p. 1–186.

⁷ Or equivalent instruments.