

Sitio de Monfurado, Portugal cross-visit to La Vera (Spain)**Dates: 18th-19th of April 2018 (coincident with the Regional Meeting “Territorios Pastoreados 3”)****Host reflections on cross-visit:**

The first part of the cross visit (18th and 19th April) consisted on the participation in the Workshop “TERRITORIOS PASTOREADOS 3”. The second part (19th April) was devoted to a visit to a local farm “LA FINCA CASABLANCA” and a meeting with participants of HNV-Link and third parts interested on wildfire prevention using pastoralist strategies.

The cross-visit was originally planned to facilitate the participation of some Portuguese farmers in the event “Territorios Pastoreados 3”, programmed by Fundación Entretantos, the partner responsible for the L.A. La Vera (Spain). The whole program of the event was focused on innovation and participation. The L.A. Sitio de Monfurado also played a remarkable role in this program, with two presentations: “Portrait of innovation in Sitio de Monfurado (Portugal) by Maria Isabel Ferraz de Oliveira and “Monitoring of mobility and fodder availability in Portugal” by Elvira Sales, both members of HNV Team in Portugal. Participation of Portuguese team in the workshop was highly satisfying, and were received with very positive comments by the more than 100 attendants.

However, the main target of the cross-visit was to host direct contacts between Portuguese Montado Farmers and Spanish Livestock breeders, also attending the meeting. These contacts took part during the workshop pauses and networking moments. Portuguese farmers blended effortlessly with Spanish participants and were able to share experiences and contacts with them. The experience was very positive for both sides and the possibility to return visit was collected from some of the Spanish farmers present on the event.

The field visit to Finca Casablanca, a dehesa located close to the venue was also a success. The wisdom and kindness of the hosting farmer, Enrique Vega, was delightful whilst his detailed narrative about land, management system, breeds, marketing, barriers and innovation was fully loaded with usefulness. The Portuguese visitors were able to exchange opinions and experiences with local participants and the overall mood was very productive.



The Portuguese visitors with HNV-Link coordinators during the field visit.



Part of the Portuguese delegation



Portuguese researchers on the stand, under the sight of visitor farmers