

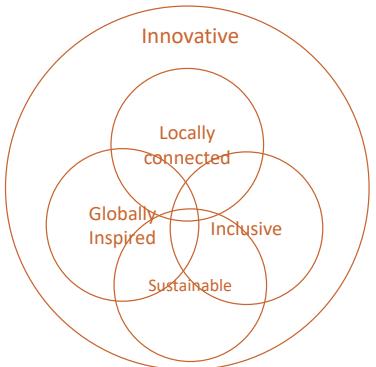
# Our mission, vision, sustainable goals, target audiences, activities

QXote, March 2025

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## Our dream

We have been inspired by the rich and diverse backgrounds of our own cultures and personal experiences, enhanced by Portugal Itself and the beautiful Alentejo. It makes us anchored in the environment and at the same time open to international collaboration and exchange, promoting an inclusive space where people can learn from each other's challenges.

The journey so far grows the ambition to build our company and a 'Living Lab' where the principles of sustainability, such as, ecologically engaged, socially empowering and economically viable, guide projects and collaboration to a better future.

In this way, we aim to achieve a noticeable and tangible difference in revitalizing our property, helping our local community and impacting our region. We do this by facilitating the active knowledge exchange on sustainable development between the local community, students, professionals, researchers and entrepreneurs, from Portugal, The Netherlands and other countries, by organizing research projects, internships, knowledge sessions and trainings.



What is it that we do? And why?



*A glocal social network enterprise*



## “QXote's mission is to revitalize our Alentejo region in economical, ecological and social terms”

We achieve this by facilitating knowledge exchange on sustainable development and creating educational experiences such as internships, research projects, knowledge events, trainings, and professional retreats, related to sustainable development.

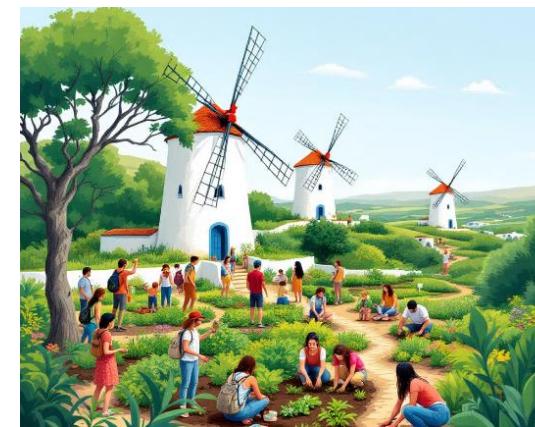
To accomplish this mission, we collaborate with schools and universities in The Netherlands, Portugal and Spain, as well as with entrepreneurs, regional organizations and governments, and our local community (quintuple helix).

For this, we transform our property into a ‘Living Lab’, setting the stage for learning experiences and a test- and demonstration site for more regenerative practices, such as permaculture and sintropical food production, the development of healthy soil and conscious water management practices.



### *Our Mission:*

*To revitalize our region in ecological and socio-economic terms.*



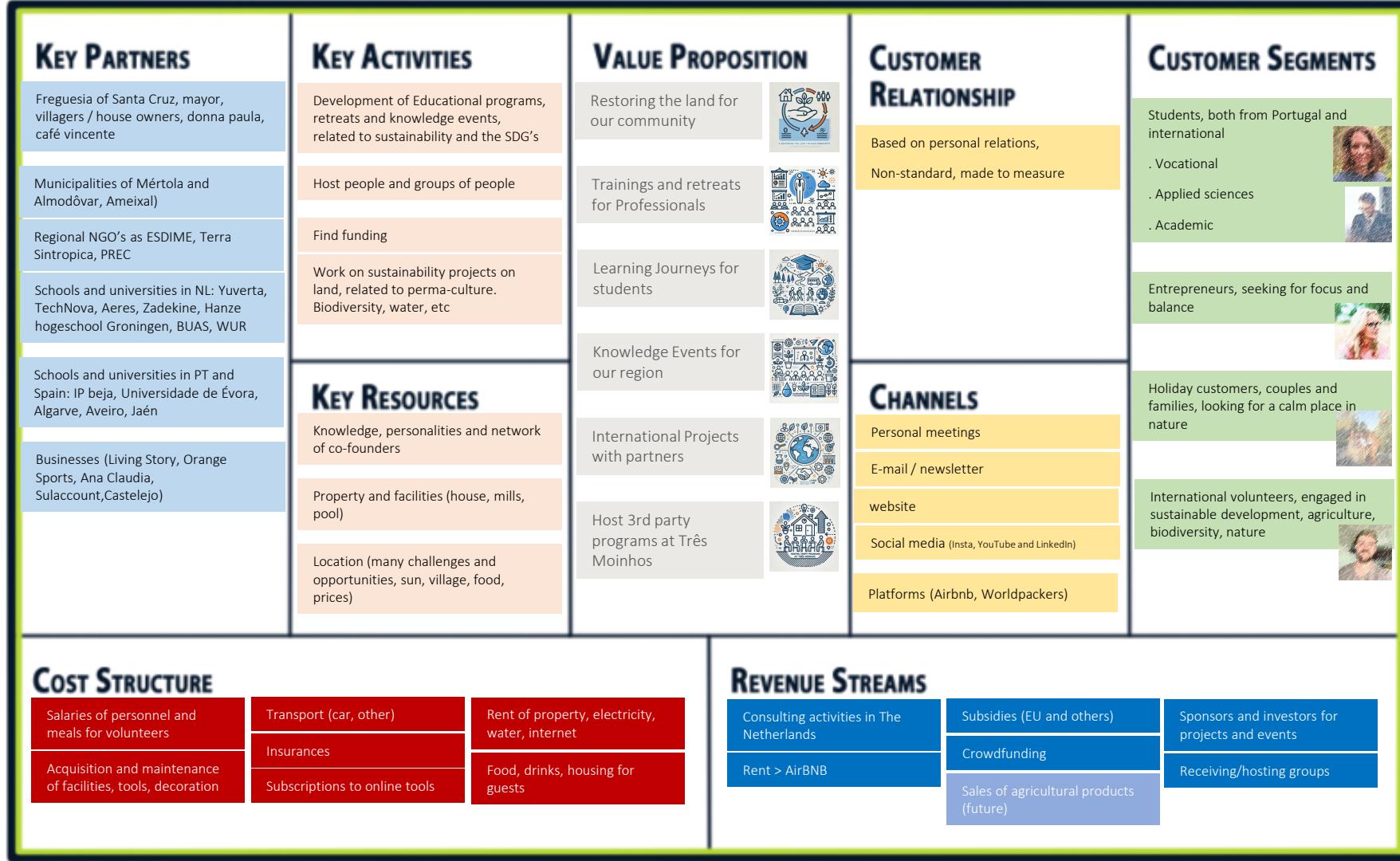
*We achieve this by organizing Education and Knowledge Exchange for sustainable development, by:*

- 1. Turning our property into a living lab.*
- 2. Glocal, quintuple helix collaborations.*



Our land, our community, our mission...

# QXote's purposeful business model



Contributing to

**QXOTE**



# For whom are we doing this?

## Personas of our target audiences



students – volunteers – professionals - tourists



# Persona 1: Adriaan, student applied sciences, individual research graduation project

## Adriaan Terheiden ('Adje'), 23 years old

Last year of Sustainable Business and Innovations (BBA)

Windesheim University of Applied Sciences, Zwolle

Needs to do his graduation project

Lives with three friends in student housing in Zwolle



## Personal values and interests

As Adriaan grew up close to nature, he was used to being outside. That was also one of the reasons to join hockey. More than his classmates in primary and secondary school, he felt had a strong bond with nature. He loved animals and living creations, and he felt an urge to respect and protect nature and the living beings. At the same time, he was quite good in mathematics and economics at school, so these combinations guided him to the study of Sustainable Business and Innovations in Zwolle.

## Educational profile and needs

Adje might not be a brilliant student, although he was quite above average at economics and math, he also wanted to be outside. He is not the most social person and finds it often hard to sit and study. He had a quite protected youth, and to be living in Zwolle with some friends was a big step. Now he is discovering a little bit more of the world, and through his studies he realizes there are interesting experiences to be had. So, now he is facing his graduation project for school. On the one hand, that is quite demanding for him, and also feels mandatory, on the other hand is he 'carefully' open for a new experience. So, he decided to see if he could do his final project abroad. He tried to find a friend to join him on this endeavour, but most friends already found something closer to home. Now he is in a bit of time pressure to find something. So, he is looking for a new experience, preferably in a natural environment, where he can learn new things, and can work on his graduation project. Also, he wants to think about what to do after school: keep studying for his masters, or maybe find a job, or maybe even do some traveling? He is quite smart and independent and takes care of finding his graduation project. At the same time, he is alone and still young, so he does need attention and guidance as well.

## Personal background

Born in 2002 in Hattem, close to Zwolle, The Netherlands. Primary school in Hattem, after that VWO in Zwolle (Meander college). Parents still together, has two younger sisters. They are religious, but not active church going. Played hockey in his youth in Hattem, which is why he stayed close to his parental village when he decided to find a place for study, so he could still play with his team in the weekends. Since last year he left his parental home and lives with three friends in the centre of Zwolle.

## Brands, hobbies, politics



**patagonia**®

Information & communication needs  
which

## Persona 2: Mieke, student at vocational school, member of group

### Mieke Huisman, 19 years old

Second year, AOC Yuverta, Dordrecht. As part of the international internships, during the second year, students have the opportunity to go abroad with a group. It is mandatory and the school helps them to find a spot.



### Personal values and interests

Mieke is very active, and one of her great hobbies is to dance. Her heroes are the ISH dance collective, and she follows everything on TikTok, together with a load of other dance movies. She loves to try them out at home.

When she was in primary school, they often went to the Nature Education centre 'Weizigt', and she loved to be there and be active in the gardens. It was one of the reasons she chose to go to Yuverta. Also, she is vegetarian and hates animal suffering.

### Personal background

Born in 2005 in Dordrecht, The Netherlands.

Primary and secondary school in Dordrecht. Secondary school: het Stedelijk Dalton Lyceum MAVO & HAVO. Raised by her single mom, she is the youngest with an elder brother who is 23 now. Her brother is a trouble maker who didn't finish highschool. She loves him, but also decided to follow a different path. Suffers ADHD, just recently diagnosed. She is a vegetarian since 12, loves to dance and at school loved the more practical classes.

### Brands, hobbies, politics



### Educational profile and needs

As said, Mieke suffers from ADHD, which was established when she was 17. This had unknowingly affected her schoolyears, as she was easily distracted and prone to postponing homework. Nevertheless, she feels at home at her school, where she can be busy in a practical way, and also because she has quite some friends who also suffer from some neuro atypical profiles. It is nice to exchange experiences and tips to help each other a bit.

She is looking forward to the international internship but finds it not easy to choose. It is hard to imagine what the place will look like and what the work will be, but also she is excited by going abroad and be with a small group of fellow students, to live on their own, etc. She hopes to learn about Portuguese culture, to learn about sustainability and to be abroad for a longer period. Being just a second year of a vocational school means that she still has to learn a lot. Combined with some uncertainties this requires a balanced approach. On the one hand, it is important let Mieke have her learning experiences on her own, but on the other hand, guide her with clear instructions what is expected from her.

## Persona 3: Dylan Thomas, volunteer international, individual, via internet

### Dylan, 33 years old

Masters degree in Information Technology, earned his degree at Bangor University 9 years ago. Worked 5 years for Accenture and is now self-employed for four years. This still generates a good income but gives more flexibility.



### Personal values and interests

Dylan realizes he is a lucky guy: he had a nice youth; his parents are still alive and together, and he got the opportunity to receive a very good education. For this, he is really grateful.

One of the reasons to become self-employed was not only to earn good money, but to get the flexibility to make travels and see other parts of the world. At the same time, he wants to 'give something back' and uses this time to volunteer. He helps with IT related problems but also is open to new experiences. He finds it important to give his talents and help improve the world.

### Personal background

Born in Aberystwyth, Wales in 1992. Single. Lives most time of the year in Cardiff.

Comes from a big family, has 3 older brothers and a younger sister. Father was a policeman, mother worked in a local flower store. His brothers lead lives as husband and fathers, most of them are employees: one dentist, one lawyer and one is sergeant in the army. Dylan however, has a more independent mind and bonded strongly with his sister. She is a professional photographer, and sometimes they make long trips together.

### Brands, hobbies, politics



**Worldpackers**



**Lenovo**



**DUOTONE**

### Volunteering profile and needs

Dylan is thinking about becoming a 'full time digital nomad'. Now he still works about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the year from Cardiff and the other months he is traveling and doing volunteering work.

As said, he likes to help out with IT problems for the organisations that he does volunteering work for, but for him it is also rewarding to learn new things. And this goes from cooking to small repairs, construction work and gardening.

He is a self starter and is used to research things by himself. At the same time, he has the experience that some of the volunteering organisations can have quite strong ideas how things need to be done, or that they have some strict rules for sustainability. So, he learned a bit the hard way, that he also needs to check frequently what the volunteering organisation wants and needs. He uses his time for traveling and volunteering work also to stay in touch with his customers in Cardiff and sometimes needs to do (paid) work for them as well. This limits his time for availability for volunteering work. In general, he is available for  $\pm$  4-5 hours per day. Normally, he does not ask for payment, but housing with cooking facilities work for him.

## Persona 4: Petra Joustra, free-lancer

Dutch, creative, via network

### Petra, 52 years old

HBO education (applied sciences), bachelor degree in Communication & Design in 1996 in Groningen (NL). Had various jobs with different employers, now works independently since 2017. Married, one son of 17 years old.



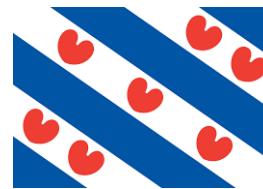
### Personal values and interests

As a child and later as a young adult, Petra grew up with a sense of community and an appreciation of being a member of a team and sportive. Having spent so much hours on the water, she really appreciates fresh air, blue skies and clean water. Being from a liberal Christian background, she also resonates with terms as 'stewardship'. She is a disciplined worker with a broad interest, but always has a strong focus on her clients and their needs.

### Personal background

Born in Sneek (Friesland) in 1972 as the single daughter of a teacher (her father, teaching Dutch) and family doctor (her mother). Growing up in Friesland meant she spent a lot of time on the water, learning to sail since she was very young. Since her 15<sup>th</sup> she was sailing on the famous 'skûtsjes', which gave her an independent and sportive character. Being very communicative (she took after her father), she wanted to do a creative study, but at the same time, the Academy of the Arts was too vague for her (taking after her mom).

### Brands, hobbies, politics



### Professional profile and needs

Being both creative and structured, Petra's choice for Design & Communication really fit her. Her choice to move to Groningen was a good one: it broadened her horizon and created her base network. And her network also got her from job to job, and since 8 years she always found assignments via her clients and business friends. She never actually applied for a job, people like her and she is a hard worker, so it was always relatively easy to find work. However, this leaves her with the question what is her own purpose? What are her professional (and personal) core values and strengths? What is she really good at and what gives her positive energy? And what would she like to leave behind? This seems to be triggered by the fact that her son will be leaving the parental home to go to the university of Maastricht. So the house will be empty, and she and her husband Tim, will have more time on their hands. She is looking forward to do a professional retreat in Portugal, together with a group of professionals, whom she does not know. She is thrilled to make new connections, but especially about 'giving herself a present' by going there and spend some valuable time on her own questions and future.

## Persona 5: Joana and Mario, tourists.

### A family from Sevilla, Spain

#### Joana (43), Mario (46), Maria (13), Gaia (8), Artur (2)

A happy family, living in the city of Sevilla, but in the outer parts of the city. Joana is a book editor and translator at the University Press, while Mario works for the municipality. The children go to school, except for Artur of course.



#### Personal values and interests

Joana's grandparents were farmers and Mario's family produced olive oil, and this explains their connection with nature. Although they live in the big city of Sevilla, they live on the outer skirts of the city in a nice house with a garden. Joana has a small vegetable garden, and they still have some olive trees in their garden. Mario has picked up photography as a teenager and still loves to bring his camera everywhere they go. Working for the municipality, they love the big city of Sevilla, but they also see the stress it causes for themselves and the environment.

#### Professional profile and needs

For Joana and Mario it is important to escape the big city every now and then, and Portugal is their favorite destination. Since it is so close, they often visit several places during their holidays combining beaches with the calm nature of the Alentejo or other regions. For them it is important to have time with their family, privacy and a lot of nature. They like to make walks or daytrips (although sometimes Mario goes alone or sometimes with Maria and Gaia), and especially Mario wants to photograph birds and other wildlife. For the kids it is important that there is a swimming pool.

For them it is also relevant that the places they visit invest in nature and sustainability, and Joana always tries to find new plants or herbs and is especially interested when the places they visit also have vegetable gardens. Maria became a convinced vegetarian last year, when she learned at school about the climate change, so they try to adapt their eating habits to this as well.

#### Personal backgrounds

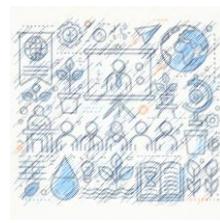
Mario was born in the province of Sevilla, where his family comes from. His grandparents and his parents owned an olive grove and were olive oil producers. Their company has been bought years ago by a big corporation, but they still have some shares and fond memories. Joana comes from the north of Spain and met Mario during their studies.

Their children were born in Sevilla, and Artur was a late but welcome surprise. Joana always kept working part-time, while her parents-in-law helped with the kids.

#### Brands, hobbies, politics



## Overview of our activities





# Restoring the land, together



## Our Mission: A Resilient Landscape for the Future

In the heart of Alentejo, one of the driest regions in Europe, we are working on revitalizing our 9-hectare estate. For years, this land was intensively used for agriculture, mainly for growing grain. After years of neglect, we have taken on the mission to breathe new life into the land, our community, and the region. We achieve this ecologically, socially, and economically, with sustainable projects as our foundation.

## Sustainable Projects for a Healthy Future

On our estate, we undertake various initiatives to restore the soil and establish sustainable food production. Together with students from the Netherlands, we have created raised garden beds based on permaculture principles and carefully planted them. Additionally, we have established a food forest using syntropic agriculture, a method that mimics and enhances the natural processes of an ecosystem.

Water is a precious resource in this region, which is why we experiment with both innovative and traditional irrigation techniques to use the available water as efficiently as possible. Our approach focuses on naturally and sustainably improving soil fertility and promoting biodiversity.

## A Strategic Vision for the Future

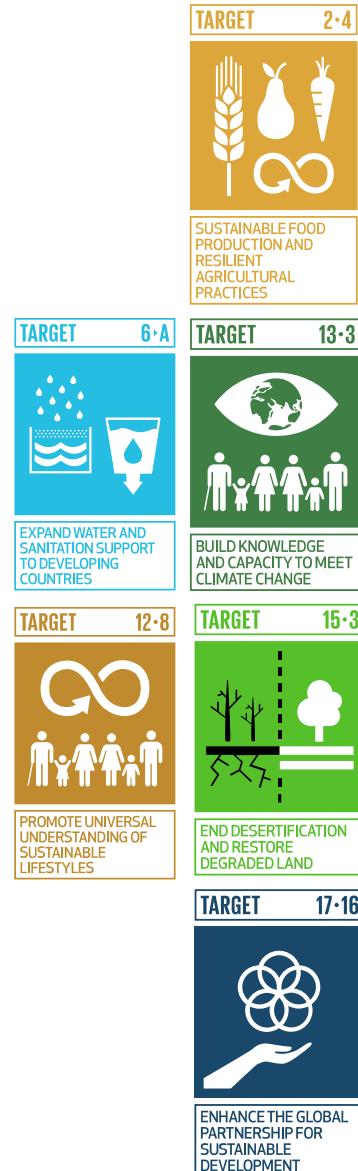
Currently, we are collaborating with a graduate master's student from Wageningen University to develop a detailed map of our estate. This map will outline the various permaculture zones based on factors such as sun exposure, wind direction, and shade patterns. This analysis will allow us to make well-informed decisions about future interventions, ensuring the optimal restoration and development of our land.

Through these projects, we are building a resilient and fertile landscape that benefits not only our estate but also the broader region. Our mission is to serve as an inspiring example of sustainable land management and community development in Alentejo and beyond.

## Get Involved

We welcome individuals and organizations who share our vision to join us in this endeavor. There are several ways to engage:

- Knowledge Partners: We seek collaboration with universities and research institutions to further develop sustainable agricultural practices and land management strategies.
- Hands-On Partners: We offer opportunities for interns and volunteers to gain hands-on experience in regenerative agriculture, permaculture, and ecological restoration.
- Funding & Support: Companies, sponsors, and subsidy programs can help us scale our impact by supporting our projects financially or through in-kind contributions.





ED FOR OUR COMMUNITY



## Trainings and retreats for Professionals



### Trainings & Retreats for Professionals

Knowledge exchange on sustainable development is at the core of our mission. This applies not only to the sustainable development of our land but also to the professional growth of individuals. Several times a year, we organize retreats for professionals, welcoming both individuals and groups to our estate for a four-day program. The duration can be adjusted based on individual needs.

During these retreats, we focus on the professional development questions participants bring with them. Common themes include:

- Energy & Work Balance: How can I find work that energizes me instead of draining me?
- Career Transitions: I am in my fifties and want to engage in more meaningful work that contributes to a better world. What could that be?
- Core Competencies: I am unsure about my key strengths—how can I bring more focus to my work?

These retreats are a carefully curated blend of training, group interactions, personal reflection time, and one-on-one coaching. As a guidance for the retreat, we like to use the IKIGAI model, that integrates your skills that you are good at, skills that bring you happiness, skills that earn money and skills that can contribute to your world. The sweetspot we call your Ikigai.

We also integrate nature-based activities into the program, such as working in our food forest or engaging in silent walks in nature. Meals are served at a local café in our village, ensuring that our community also benefits from our initiatives.

Additionally, participants who choose to travel by plane are invited to plant trees on our land to help offset their carbon footprint.

### Trainings in collaboration

Several trainers have found our estate as the background for their own trainings, or they have proposed to develop a training together with us. We now have the following partnership trainings:

- Wild Ideas / Leadership training: brought to us by Amal Whyte, founder of Wild Ideas, we have developed an intense leadership program
- IDG Quest: together with Benjo and Mark de Vos, we have developed a program for Management teams, who want to work on their collaborative skills, in order to reach the sustainability goals of their company

TARGET 4·4



INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH RELEVANT SKILLS FOR FINANCIAL SUCCESS

TARGET 4·7



EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

TARGET 12·8



PROMOTE UNIVERSAL UNDERSTANDING OF SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES

TARGET 17·16



ENHANCE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT





## Learning Journeys for students

### Learning Journeys

At QXote, we believe in fostering knowledge exchange and sustainable development through education and partnerships. We are building a quintuple helix, where collaboration with schools and universities plays a crucial role. Our goal is to support young adults in meaningful personal development while also enabling them to contribute to the growth of our land and community. Every young mind brings energy and potential solutions to our region!

To achieve this, we offer several options for students and teachers:

- **Internships:** Ranging from 3 to 12 weeks, we welcome students from vocational schools, applied sciences, and universities. For vocational schools in the Netherlands, we are recognized by the S-BB, ensuring quality internships.
- **Research Projects:** We provide opportunities for students to conduct research on sustainability topics, such as the current project led by a Wageningen University student.
- **Academic Trips:** We host student teams for intensive short-term programs (one to two weeks) where they work on specific assignments or projects.

These groups are often accompanied by teachers or professors.

At QXote, we do more than just host students: we ensure that their experience is an enriching educational journey. In addition to their project work, we arrange visits to interesting organizations and schools in the region, broadening their perspective and knowledge. Meals and accommodations are provided in our village, Santa Cruz, ensuring that our local community benefits from these initiatives as well.

Currently, we collaborate with a range of companies, NGOs, and local governments, as well as the following educational institutions:

In the Netherlands:

- Yuverta (various locations and programs, SBB-recognized training company)
- Aeres (applied biology, MBO and HBO in Ede and Almere)
- TechNova College (ICT and software development, Ede)
- Zadkine College (Horeca, Rotterdam)
- Hanze Hogeschool Groningen (Mechanical Engineering)
- BUAS (Media, AI, and VR, Breda)
- Wageningen University & Research (agroforestry and ecological farming)

In Portugal:

- Universidade de Aveiro
- Instituto Politécnico de Beja
- Universidade de Évora
- Universidade do Algarve

In Spain:

- Universidad de Jaén

**TARGET** 4·4



INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH RELEVANT SKILLS FOR FINANCIAL SUCCESS

**TARGET** 4·7



EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

**TARGET** 13·3



BUILD KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY TO MEET CLIMATE CHANGE

**TARGET** 12·8



PROMOTE UNIVERSAL UNDERSTANDING OF SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES

**TARGET** 17·16



ENHANCE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT





## Knowledge Events in our region



### Knowledge Events

To further promote knowledge exchange and sustainable development, we organize several high-impact knowledge events throughout the year. These events bring together experts, students, professionals, and local stakeholders to discuss and develop innovative solutions for pressing challenges.

Some of our key events include:

- International SDG Challenge: A platform where interdisciplinary student teams from different countries collaborate on sustainability challenges, working closely with local organizations and businesses to develop practical solutions.

We organized this event in 2023 and 2024 the next edition will take place in the spring of 2026. Here you can find a link to the youtube film of the last Finale in the castle of Mértola.

We organize this event together with our partner [SoapBox](#) from The netherlands.

- Green Business Challenge: Taking place later this year, this event focuses on fostering sustainable entrepreneurship by connecting young professionals with experienced mentors and business leaders.

More info on the [website](#):

We organize this event together with BBENG, Disruptive Ideas and AISEC Spain.

- Expert Meeting on Water Challenges in Mértola: A gathering of experts, policymakers, and practitioners to address the region's water scarcity issues and explore innovative, sustainable water management solutions.

We organized this event assigned by the Dutch Agricultural Attaché for Portugal and Spain, and the Dutch embassy in Lisbon.

Through these events, we aim to create valuable opportunities for knowledge-sharing, collaboration, and real-world impact.

**TARGET** 4·7



**EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP**

**TARGET** 12·8



**PROMOTE UNIVERSAL UNDERSTANDING OF SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES**

**TARGET** 13·3



**BUILD KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY TO MEET CLIMATE CHANGE**

**TARGET** 17·16



**ENHANCE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**





## International Projects with partners



### International Projects

As QXote, we also contribute to international projects. Our strategy to achieve our mission is based on collaborating with knowledge institutions, organizations, local governments, and our local community, all dedicated to sustainability. By engaging in international projects, we can share our knowledge and experience in a meaningful way while expanding our network, forming new partnerships, and generating income and attention for our region.

Some key international projects we are involved in include:

- LivingSoil Project: A collaboration between five countries (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, and Poland) and 45 organizations over five years. This project focuses on researching and testing new ways of growing fixed crops that contribute to soil health. [See website](#)
- NGSF (Next Generation Sport Facilities): A joint initiative between the Netherlands, Turkey, and Portugal, aimed at developing more socially inclusive, innovative, and sustainable approaches to sports facility development. [See website](#)

Through these international collaborations, we aim to leverage global expertise to drive sustainable change, both locally and beyond.



## Host 3rd party programs at Três Moinhos

### Hosting External Organizations

QXote is also open to hosting other organizations looking for a unique location to conduct their training or programs while contributing to the sustainable development of our land and community. We can accommodate groups, assist in organizing programs, and arrange meals, excursions, and cultural activities.

Our network includes a yoga master, a kickboxing trainer, a professional masseur, and a chef with whom we organize wine tastings and tapas experiences. Meals are served in the café in our village, ensuring the local community benefits as well. We can also organize unique experiences such as Fado nights with regional singers, nature trips, and canoeing on the Guadiana River.

If your organization is interested in hosting a program at QXote, we would love to collaborate and create a meaningful experience together.

TARGET 17-6



KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND COOPERATION FOR ACCESS TO SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

TARGET 17-16



ENHANCE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

TARGET 12-8



PROMOTE UNIVERSAL UNDERSTANDING OF SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES

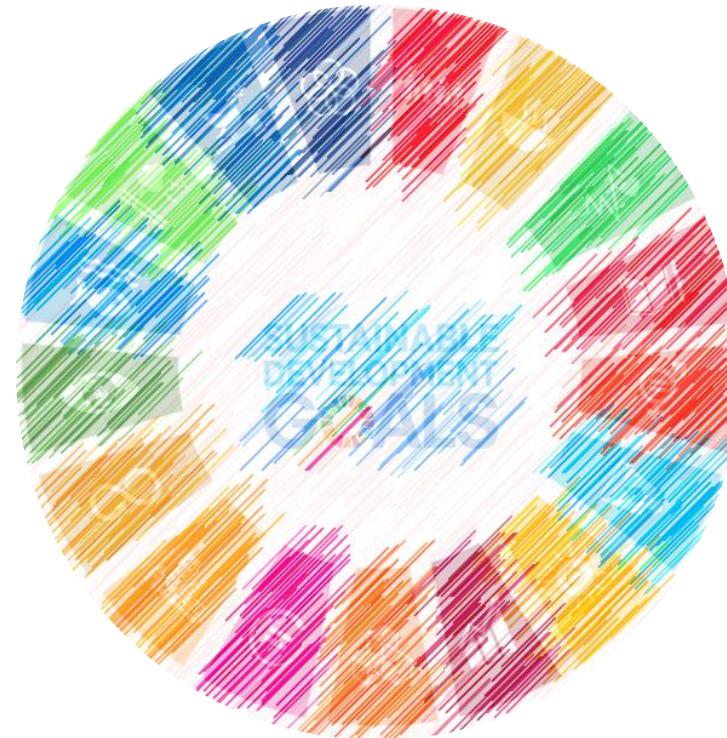
TARGET 4-4



INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH RELEVANT SKILLS FOR FINANCIAL SUCCESS



## Overview of our SDG commitments



# Overview of our SDG commitments



**TARGET 2·4**



SUSTAINABLE FOOD  
PRODUCTION AND  
RESILIENT  
AGRICULTURAL  
PRACTICES



**TARGET 4·4**



INCREASE THE NUMBER  
OF PEOPLE WITH  
RELEVANT SKILLS FOR  
FINANCIAL SUCCESS



**TARGET 6·A**



EXPAND WATER AND  
SANITATION SUPPORT  
TO DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES



**TARGET 12·8**



PROMOTE UNIVERSAL  
UNDERSTANDING OF  
SUSTAINABLE  
LIFESTYLES



**TARGET 13·3**



BUILD KNOWLEDGE  
AND CAPACITY TO MEET  
CLIMATE CHANGE



**TARGET 15·2**



END DEFORESTATION  
AND RESTORE  
DEGRADED FORESTS



**TARGET 17·6**



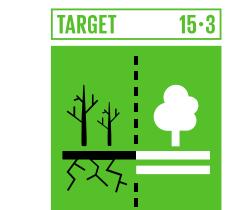
KNOWLEDGE SHARING  
AND COOPERATION FOR  
ACCESS TO SCIENCE,  
TECHNOLOGY AND  
INNOVATION



INVEST IN RURAL  
INFRASTRUCTURE,  
AGRICULTURAL  
RESEARCH,  
TECHNOLOGY AND  
GENE BANKS



EDUCATION FOR  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT AND  
GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP



END DESERTIFICATION  
AND RESTORE  
DEGRADED LAND



ENHANCE THE GLOBAL  
PARTNERSHIP FOR  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT

# Our dedication to the SDG's through concrete actions



## END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE.

### Target 2.4:

ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality

### Target 2.A:

Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services"

- ▶ 1. We promote, develop and apply permacultural and sintropical techniques for small scale food production, that are designed to survive extreme weather conditions and draughts (planted foodforest), while at the same time improving soil quality (member of LivingSoiLL)
- ▶ 1. We live and operate in a rural area, the Alentejo
- 2. We facilitate agricultural research, by making or property available as test- and research site for schools and universities
- 3. We collaborate on an international level with several organisations and institutions



## ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

Target 4.4: substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship

Target 4.7: ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development

- ▶ 1. We organize internships for students from all level of vocational schools, where safe and meaningful learning experiences are at the core
- 2. We organize retreats for professionals and entrepreneurs, to help them to gain insights in core values and competences, in order to help them to become more effective and meaningful
- 1. By combining educational experiences with tangible projects on our land, we are educating how to develop land and people sustainably
- 2. We make a conscious effort to involve our village in group activities, such as hosting and having meals in the village. Our visitors can get acquainted with life in a dry and poor region of Europe, while the villagers also benefit economically from the group activities.



## ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL

Although not living in a developing country per se, our region is an extremely vulnerable region in terms of desertification and depopulation.

### Target 6.a:

expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies

- ▶ 1. On our land we use and re-use water in the most conscious ways. We are experimenting with various types of irrigation, and we have established a biological filtration system to be able to re-use black and grey water
- 2. We collaborate internationally with experts on water, to facilitate international knowledge exchange on the use and management of water (e.g. Mertola expert session feb 2025)

Restoring the land  
for our community



Trainings and  
retreats for  
Professionals



Learning Journeys  
for students



Knowledge Events  
for our region



International  
Projects with  
partners



Host 3rd party  
programs at Três  
Moinhos



# Our dedication to the SDG's through concrete actions



## ENSURE SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS

### Target 12.8:

ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature



PROMOTE UNIVERSAL UNDERSTANDING OF SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES

- 1. Food is not thrown away
- 2. We actively prevent foodwaste by composting, having worm hotels, chickens
- 3. We try to eat off our own land and try to harvest crops as much as possible



## TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

### Target 13.3:

Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning



BUILD KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY TO MEET CLIMATE CHANGE

- 1. Creating awareness that the Alentejo is one of the driest and poorest regions in Europe, threatened by desertification, is at the heart of our communication and learning programs
- 2. We adopt permacultural and sintropical techniques when growing plants and crops, in order to create a biodiverse and climate resistant place



## PROTECT, RESTORE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS, SUSTAINABLY MANAGE FORESTS, COMBAT DESERTIFICATION, AND HALT AND REVERSE LAND DEGRADATION AND HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS

### Target 15.2:

End deforestation and restore degraded forests by promoting the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation



END DEFORSTATION AND RESTORE DEGRADED FORESTS

- 1. We promote, develop and apply permacultural and sintropical techniques for small scale food production, that are designed to survive extreme weather conditions and draughts (planted foodforest).
- 2. We are trying to find regenerative alternatives for moono-cultural food and agricultural systems (from Pine to Wine9
- 3. Same as above, including that we manage 1,562 trees on our estate and planted an additional 500 trees in 2024. We keep a CO<sub>2</sub> administration of our air travel and plant additional trees as soon as our "flying quotum" is in danger of being exceeded. All our guests contribute to the planting of new trees

### Target 15.3:

End desertification and restore degraded land by combating desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a degradation-neutral land



END DESERTIFICATION AND RESTORE DEGRADED LAND



## STRENGTHEN THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REVITALIZE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Target 17.6:

Knowledge sharing and cooperation for access to science, technology and innovation



KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND COOPERATION FOR ACCESS TO SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

- 1. Knowledge development and –sharing is at the core of our beliefs and activities. For all levels of education, with students and professionals coming from the North and South of Europe (e.g. the International SDG Challenge)

### Target 17.G:

Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals



FINANCE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- 2. QXote = a glocal QUINTUPLE Helix collaboration, meaning, we build a cross border collaboration with educational institutions, companies and local governmental bodies, NGO's and our community, focussing on sustainable development.



TOGETHER FOR THE  
SUSTAINABLE GOALS



# The people and partners behind Qxote



Hans Lodders

Dutch

Master in Media and Innovation

Independent entrepreneur, having participated in more than 50 projects in The Netherlands, mostly setting up new services and organizations

Co-founded Qxote LDA, he would like to facilitate groups in a broad sense on the Monte dos Três Moinhos estate while restore the land and the region

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Sunamita Borges da Costa

Brazilian

PhD in Geography of Innovation

Master in Sustainable Development

Co-founded Qxote LDA, she aims to stimulate knowledge exchange locally and internationally on Monte dos Três Moinhos, while applying her knowledge on permacultural design

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## Educational institutions



## Entrepreneurs and NGO's



## Community and governmental representations in PT

