



# IN MY BACKYARD

a citizen science pilot project on home farming and gardening



[www.rioneiva.com/nomeuquintal](http://www.rioneiva.com/nomeuquintal)

final project report

september 2020

# WELCOME

In My Backyard is a citizen science project promoted by Rio Neiva – Environmental NGO and its partner CEA – Municipal Centre for Environmental Education, both based in Esposende, Portugal. It was funded through the [ACTION](#) project, also providing mentoring support.

This document is the final project report aiming to portray the project achievements and results.



# 1. ABOUT THE PROJECT

A brief presentation on the project goals, activities and results.



# OBJECTIVES AND CONTEXT

In My Backyard aimed to understand the use of harmful pesticides and fertilizers in home farming and gardening and uncovering sustainable alternatives practiced within domestic backyards.

The bottom line is to support the long-term transition to sustainable backyards.

At the end of the period we aimed to better understand this reality and have a clear baseline of work for the upcoming years.

The project stems from the observation that:

- there is a widespread practice of backyard farming and gardening for home production in the local area; and
- there is a knowledge gap on the usage of pesticides and fertilizers in home farming and gardening.

Our approach was based on on-site visits to local domestic backyards and on-line survey, both for data collection and on capacitation events.



# ORGANISATION

The project was promoted by Rio Neiva – Environmental NGO and its partner CEA - Municipal Centre for Environmental Education, as a way to ground the project in the local community where the NGO is located and to empower it with a public authority reach and feedback.

**Rio Neiva Environmental NGO** aims to defend and enhance the local natural environment and to promote a balanced regional development of the Neiva river valley, in Esposende.

Develops environmental education and nature sports actions, targeting the local school community and the local residents.



**Environmental Education Centre** is a municipal infrastructure within the environment municipal enterprise, in Esposende.

It aims to promote awareness, training and education for environmental sustainability focusing on the local community at large.

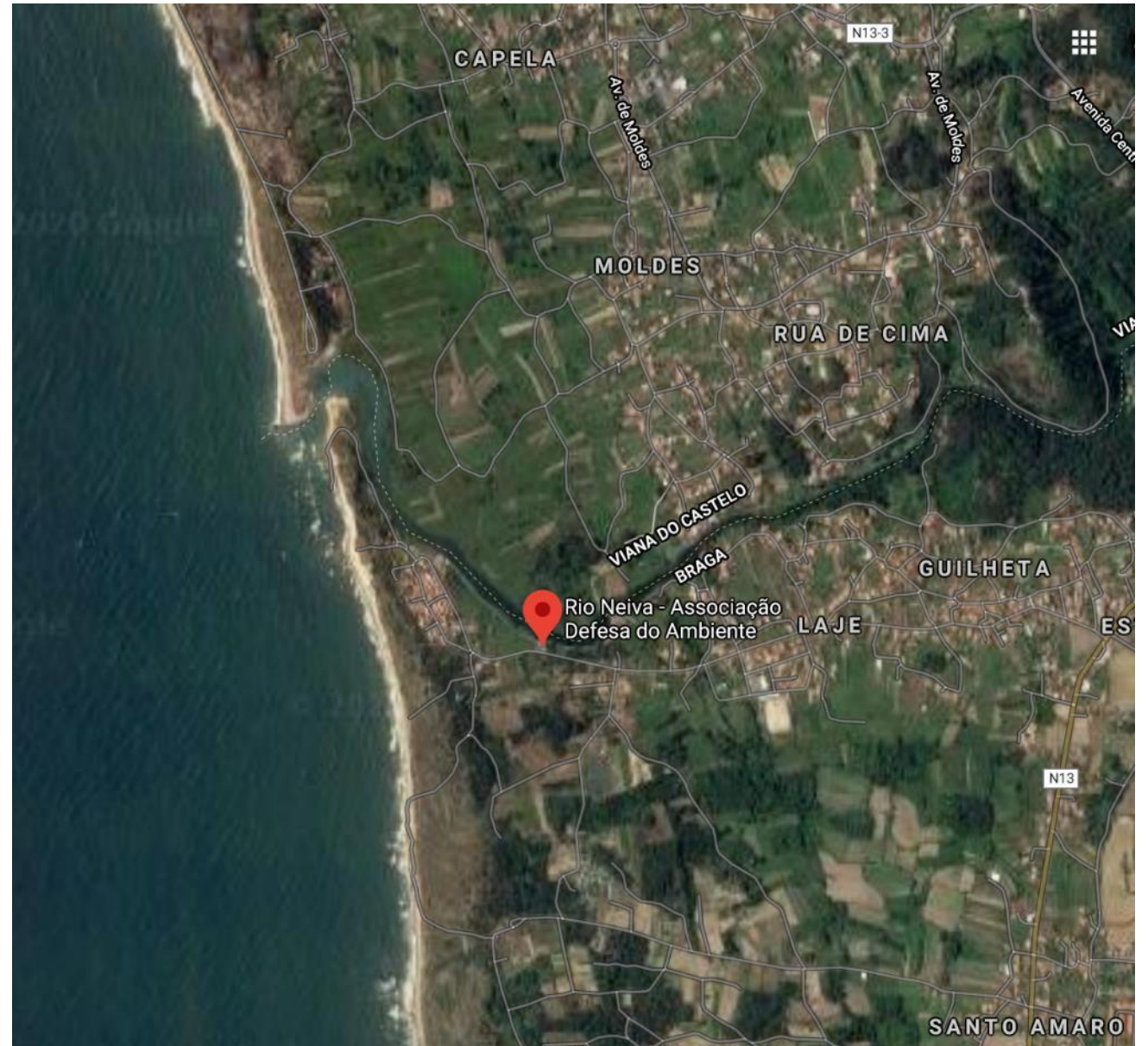


# LOCATION

It took place between February and September 2020, grounded in Antas, a small urban-rural area in Esposende, in the northern coast of Portugal.

The location of Rio Neiva Environmental NGO, just in the margins of the river from where it takes its name, was the main working site and from where the team departed to local on-site visits.

The online survey was open to anyone with a backyard in Portugal.



# ACTIVITIES

## ON-SITE DATA COLLECTION

- survey response;
- ethnographic observation / immersion;

## ONLINE DATA COLLECTION

- survey response.

## EVENTS

- dissemination;
- capacitation.



# TEAM MEMBERS



**Augusta Almeida**  
President of the Board  
Community Engager  
School Teacher



**Clara Roberti**  
Image Designer  
Film Documentarist



**Rui Pedro Almeida**  
Environmental Project  
Manager



**Rui Monteiro**  
Design Researcher  
Chemical Engineer



**Rui Coelho**  
Biologist  
Nature Tour Guide  
Writer



**Anabela Almeida**  
Natural Resources &  
Environmental Engineer





## 2. RESULTS

This section provides information on the project results, which is supported by the deliverables attached to this report.



# SUMMARY

At the end of this journey we have produced a set of results and achieved a set of indicators that reflect our approach, the valorisation of each citizen scientist and our hope these results can also be useful for the wider community of citizen scientists and for anyone interested in starting their own project.

Database on the collected information: 2

Reflections and Take-aways report: 1

Visual analysis of the collected data: 1

Booklet on sustainable practices: 1

Anthropological video documentary: 1

Visual identity: 1

Video teaser: 1

Website: 1

Online photo gallery: 1

Project Press Kit: 1

Survey: 1

Data Management Plan: 1

Privacy Policy: 1

Privacy/Consent statement forms: 3

Project team meetings: 15

Mentoring meetings: 6

On-site visits: 25

Online survey responses: 110

Capacitation and dissemination events: 11

Event participants: 689

Communication reach: 10.000

Media news articles: 14

External public presentations: 2

## REFLECTIONS AND TAKE-AWAYS

### REPORT

As to ensure that the project processes and challenges are properly documented for wider use, a report was developed that portrays a picture of the different activities.



## BOOKLET ON SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

Based on the on-site visits collected information, a short booklet on sustainable practices was compiled and validated for wide dissemination as to promote healthy backyards.

— BREVIÁRIO DE CUIDADOS —



# DOS NOSSOS QUINTAIS PARA O VOSSO

Dicas para evitar ou reduzir o uso de pesticidas e fertilizantes químicos.



## VIDEO DOCUMENTARY

Documenting the on-site visits and the relationship between owners and their backyards, a video documentary was produced.



## VISUAL IDENTITY AND WEBSITE

A project visual identity was developed and a simple project website for clear communication and for ensuring project results are easily available after the project end date.

Available at:

[www.rioneiva.com/nomeuquintal](http://www.rioneiva.com/nomeuquintal)

INÍCIO SOBRE PARTICIPA EVENTOS RESULTADOS CONTACTOS



## QUEREMOS SABER COMO CUIDAS DO TEU QUINTAL

“No meu quintal” é um projeto pioneiro de ciência cidadã que tem como objetivo apoiar a transição para o uso de práticas sustentáveis e amigas do ambiente na agricultura e jardinagem doméstica.

### Pretendemos:

**Sensibilizar para mudanças de comportamento e o impacto do uso de pesticidas e fertilizantes nos quintais**

**Conhecer a relação dos participantes com o seu quintal e o que os motiva**

**Conhecer a realidade quanto ao uso de práticas sustentáveis, pesticidas e fertilizantes**

## DATABASES OF COLLECTED INFORMATION

Two open databases were created:

- one referring to data collected through the only survey (110 entries); and
- one referring to data collected through on-site visits (25 entries).



### TIPS

- we recommend you to look at the diverse creative commons open licences [here](#) and choose the most appropriate;
- make sure your open access policy is written down and publicly available in a easy way (you can check our version in portuguese [here](#)).

## VISUAL ANALYSIS OF COLLECTED DATA

Based on the databases of collected information through the survey responses, a visual analysis of the data was conducted as to facilitate a better understanding of the object of study.

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## Data Analysis Report

September 2020



## ONLINE PHOTO GALLERY

An online gallery of photographs taken during on-site visits is also available which report the variety of backyards, including those that do not appear at the video documentary.

Printed handouts were also given to visited backyard owners at the project final event.



## SURVEY AND PRIVACY TOOLS

A survey was developed and was used online and on-site. Privacy and consent forms were also developed.

Online survey available:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/7d0aa3da-3183-bc87-aeff-bea904a44a32>



# PROJECT PRESS KIT

In order to have an easier reach and communication with media platforms, a press kit was developed containing a project fact sheet, high quality logos and photos, a press release, project flyer, video teaser, and a news clipping list. This link was sent in all first contacts with media and relevant platforms.

Available at:

<https://rioneiva.com/nomeuquintal/press-kit/>

[INÍCIO](#) [SOBRE](#) [PARTICIPA](#) [EVENTOS](#) [RESULTADOS](#) [CONTACTOS](#)



## PRESS KIT

Nesta página poderás encontrar vários materiais de comunicação para divulgar o projeto "No meu quintal".

### NOTA DE IMPRENSA

Informação sobre o contexto, resultados esperados, sugestões para redes sociais e sobre a organização e a equipa (disponível em diferentes formatos):

[PDF DOC ODT](#)

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### FAST FACTS

Nome: No meu quintal: cidadania participativa sobre agricultura e jardinagem doméstica

Tipo: Projeto piloto de ciência cidadã

Duração: fevereiro – agosto de 2020

Financiamento: União Europeia, através do programa Horizon 2020 research and innovation, com a grant agreement N°824603, com apoio do projeto ACTION

Promotor principal: Rio Neiva – Associação de Defesa do Ambiente

Parceiro: CEA – Centro de Educação Ambiental de Esposende

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### LOGO

Podes aceder ao logos do projeto em versão vetorial e não vetorial.

[LOGO PNG CORES](#)

[LOGO PNG P&B FUNDO BRANCO](#)

[LOGO PNG P&B FUNDO PRETO](#)

## EVENTS

A total of 11 events were implemented, online and on-site, for dissemination and/or capacitation purposes.

Using two different mediums was important especially to reach those who have engaged with the project in a distant location.

Workshop Today is the day for planning your garden

15/02/2020 | 19 participants | on-site

Action for sensibilization on domestic composting

27/02/2020 | 22 participants | on-site



## EVENTS (cont.)

Did you know? Dinner to celebrate our backyards

07/03/2020 | 21 participants | on-site

#EarthDayAtHome – Project Dissemination

18-26/04/2020 | 2225 reach | online

\*partnership with [Blue Ocean Foundation](#)

Workshop “Permaculture Backyard”

06/09/2020 | 33 participants | online

Workshop “Multiplying Plants”

12/09/2020 | 35 participants (2 sessions) | on-site



## EVENTS (cont.)

### Ecology Day - dissemination

16/09/2020 | 5 participants | online

\*partnership with [Portuguese Ecological Society](#)

### Workshop "Soil Biology"

24/09/2020 | 36 participants | online

### Institutional Closure

26/09/2020 | 10 participants | on-site

\*participants included President of Local Parish (elected political office) and President of Municipal Environmental Company (political appointment)



## EVENTS (cont.)

### Project Closure and Results Presentation

26/09/2020 | 20 participants | on-site

### Video Documentary Premiere

27-29/09/2020 | 488 views | online



# MEDIA REACH

The project has managed to attract media attention, both through specialized media and platforms in the environmental and related areas and mainstream media.

News clipping and other publications at press kit page:

<https://rioneiva.com/nomeuquintal/press-kit/>

Highlights:

[Greensavers SAPO](#)

[Portuguese Association for Environmental Education](#)

[Ambiente Magazine](#)

[Lisbon European Green Capital](#)

**-Notícias**  
**“No Meu Quintal”, o novo projeto de ciência cidadã**

“No Meu Quintal” é um projeto de ciência cidadã que pretende conhecer o que se passa “no seu, no meu, e no nosso quintal”, ou seja, conhecer os quintais de todos os portugueses.

O projeto da Rio Neiva – Associação de Defesa do Ambiente, em parceria com o Centro de Educação Ambiental de Esposende pretende tornar o quintal lá de casa num espaço mais verde e ecológico e, para isso, precisa de ajuda de quem o cuida e trata. O projeto conta connosco para recolher os hábitos, rotinas, e práticas sustentáveis e ecológicas que pomos em prática. Além disso também pretende perceber se e quais pesticidas e fertilizantes usamos e com que frequência.

Este projeto que recebeu financiamento da União Europeia, através do programa Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation, e apoiado no projeto Europeu de ciência cidadã ACTION está em vigor desde fevereiro, e encontra-se dividido em três fases:

**Primeira fase** – recolha de informação online, através de questões pertinentes. Quanto mais pessoas com jardins, hortas ou quintais participarem melhor, pois mais participações significam uma melhor qualidade dos dados recolhidos.

**Segunda fase** – visita a alguns dos quintais escritos e realização de um documentário onde a relação entre as pessoas e este espaço é abordado.

**Terceira fase** – **Elaboração** e publicação de um Manual de Práticas Sustentáveis. Este manual estará disponível para orientar e ajudar quem quiser tornar o seu quintal mais “verde” e ecológico.

**SAPO 25** MAIL JORNALS CARROS CASAS EMPREGO HOTÉIS VOUCHER BLOGS PROMOS VOZ • MAG •

**Greensavers** Últimas Notícias Ambiente Empresas Animais Alterações Climáticas

Últimas Notícias Ambiente Empresas Animais Alterações Climáticas

**“No Meu Quintal” – o projeto que quer conhecer o quintal dos portugueses**

Por Green Savers 16:58 - 13 Abril 2020

Subscreva A Newsletter

Instagram

Twitter

Facebook

Últimas Notícias

- Organização alerta para a morte de meio milhão de tubarões para a...
- Projeto “Reciclar a Valor”

**NOTÍCIAS DA FLORESTA** 30 QUAL. SET 0 ARTIGOS NOVOS

GESTÃO FLORESTAL SUSTENTABILIDADE ESPECIAIS ATIVIDADES RELACIONADAS

**No Meu Quintal reúne boas práticas dos**

**Aspea** AGIR NA CERTEZA QUE UM MUNDO MELHOR É POSSÍVEL

HOME A ASSOCIAÇÃO O QUE FAZEMOS VOLUNTARIADO ATIVIDADES REPOSITÓRIO EA CONTACTE-NOS TORNE-SE ASSOCIADO

No teu, no meu, no nosso quintal!

QUEREMOS SABER COMO CUIDAS DO TEU QUINTAL!

Nome

E-mail

Subscribe

EU LUSÓFONO 2021

LET'S TAKE CARE OF THE PLANET

It's take care of the planet!

Somos um projeto da Rio Neiva - Associação de Defesa do Ambiente em parceria com o Centro de Educação Ambiental de Esposende. Desde Fevereiro que estamos a conhecer o que acontece pelos quintais em nosso redor. Queremos recolher hábitos, rotinas, práticas sustentáveis e ecológicas, bem como perceber o uso real de pesticidas e fertilizantes no quotidiano desses quintais (o que se usa, quanto se usa e em qual). Interessamos-nos o contributo de qualquer pessoa que tenha um quintal com jardim ou uma horta para consumo doméstico. Todo o trabalho pretende ser feito a par com quem nele queira participar.

O projeto vai acontecer em três fases. A primeira será a de recolha de informação online com uma série de perguntas chave para aquilo que pretendemos saber. Quanto maior o número de participantes, maior a

**ambiente** Semural. Eficiência ambiental

Últimas Notícias

**“NO MEU QUINTAL” QUER TORNAR TODOS OS QUINTAIS MAIS VERDES**

CIDADANIA PARTICIPATIVA SOBRE JARDINAGEM E AGRICULTURA

ASSINANTES **Diário do Minho** BRAGA REGIÃO DESPORTO RELIGIÃO NACIONAL INTERNACIONAL REPORTAGEM

Newsletter Não perca o melhor do Minho!

Email

Submeter

**Diário do Minho** BRAGA REGIÃO DESPORTO RELIGIÃO NACIONAL INTERNACIONAL REPORTAGEM

Newsletter Não perca o melhor do Minho!

Email

Submeter



## EXTERNAL REPRESENTATIONS

The project will also be represented and present its proposal and results at two important European events:

### [EU Week of Regions and Cities](#)

"Citizens safeguarding the environment" Session  
08/10/2020 | Participation by invitation through the ACTION project

### [Citizen Science Sustainable Development Goals](#)

Conference  
14-15/10/2020 | Poster presentation through abstract submission approval





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