



# Xarxa per a la Conservació de la Natura (XCN)

# La Xarxa per a la Conservació de la Natura (XCN)

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## What is XCN?

- ▶ 2nd level association
- ▶ Created in 2003 as XCT, declared as public utility in 2006
- ▶ Changes name and broadens its mission in 2019 (XCT + XVAC)
- ▶ Today over **190** members

## What does XCN do?

- ▶ It promotes the conservation and sustainable management of nature, its social relevance and its cultural and landscape values.
- ▶ It supports the third environmental sector and institutions, especially in **land stewardship and environmental volunteering** in Catalonia.

# Land stewardship

## A tool to promote consensus

Joint work by many people, from different groups, towards a common objective.



# Land stewardship in Catalonia - 2021

74

**Land stewardship organizations**  
Public (26) i private (48)

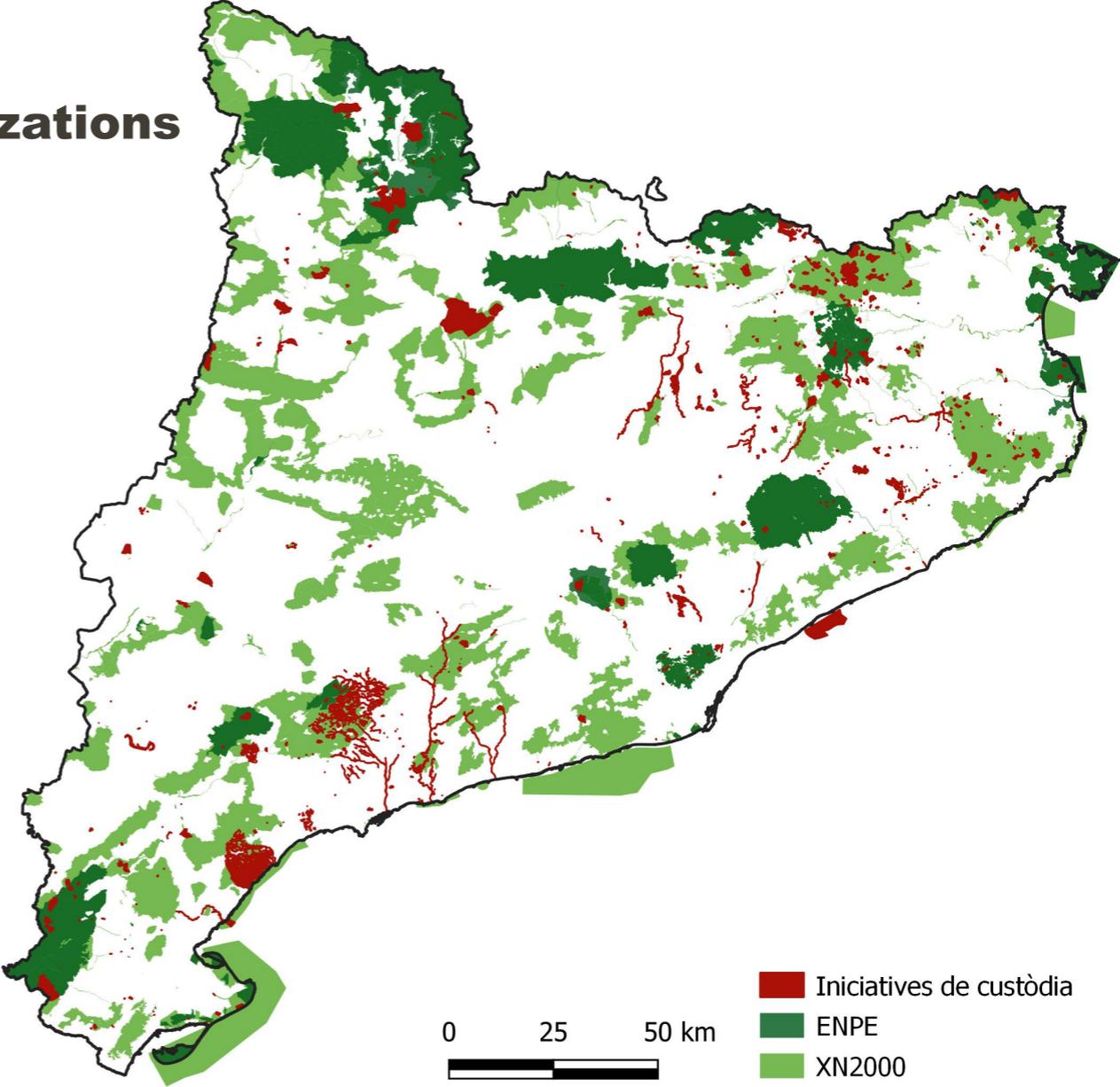
**LS initiatives**

In forest, agricultural, rivers, sea and urban areas  
(41,744 ha of land)

796

130

**Agrarian land stewardship initiatives**  
10.5 % of the area under land stewardship



# Agrarian land stewardship

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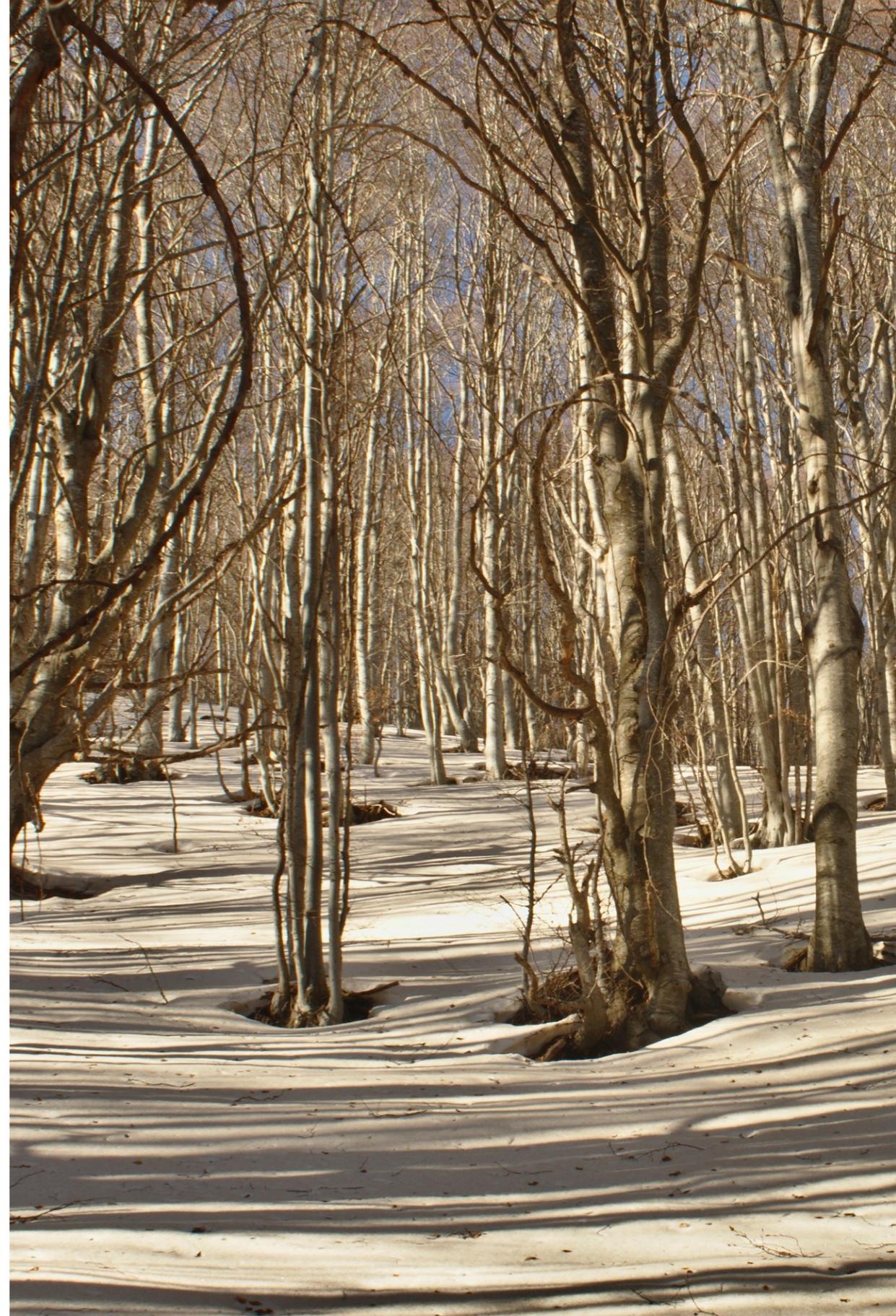
- ▶ On **agricultural estates** where agriculture or livestock activity is running or with an intention to recover it
- ▶ **Contracts** signed with landowner or tenant
- ▶ Looking for synergies or compatibility of **agrarian activity** with **nature conservation**
- ▶ LS organization may give **advice on management** and help with **comercialization**
- ▶ Sometimes the land stewardship organization manages the land



# Project: Support to LS and volunteering

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- ▶ XCN gives **advice** to NGOs and local governments on land stewardship and environmental volunteering (legal and conservation aspects)
- ▶ **Training and capacity building** for our members
- ▶ **Private fundraising** for nature conservation projects of our members
- ▶ Work plan with the **Catalan government** to develop land stewardship and public participation on nature conservation
- ▶ **Lobbying** on: nature conservation, public funding for NGOs...



# Project: Project germinator

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- ▶ Promote **networking** between member organizations
- ▶ Prepare **joint projects** between XCN and several members
- ▶ **Open calls** to members (usually NGOs) for specific projects funded by private donations
- ▶ Inform about **funding opportunities**



# Register of land with nature conservation initiatives

https://territori.gencat.cat/es/details/Article/decret-registre-finques-patrimoni-natural

gencat

Contacto

ES



Territorio

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Inicio > Projecte de decret per crear i regular el Registre de finques amb iniciatives de conservació del patrimoni natural i la biodiversitat

## Projecte de decret per crear i regular el Registre de finques amb iniciatives de conservació del patrimoni natural i la biodiversitat



< Volver

• Consulta prèvia

• Inici

### Consulta prèvia

• Consulta pública relativa a l'elaboració d'un projecte de decret per crear i regular un registre d'acords de custòdia del territori de Catalunya

ARRIBA



10/05/2023  
Mathias Brummer  
Life GreenChange Seminar

# Project: RESIFARMS

- ▶ European project: Catalonia, France, Italy, Romania and Czech Republic
- ▶ **Trained farmers** on the benefits of nature conservation for agriculture
- ▶ **Promoted exchange** between partner organizations and between farmers
- ▶ Published a practical **toolkit** on the management of semi-natural habitats to promote biodiversity conservation and its benefits for farming (available in English)
- ▶ The project ended, but an **annual training** based on the toolkit will start this year

[www.resifarms.eu](http://www.resifarms.eu)



# Project: Support on management plans

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- ▶ Support to 2 member NGOs last year and this year
- ▶ We provide a **template** of a management plan (adapted for land stewardship) and bibliographic and economic **resources**
- ▶ Regular meetings, field visits, document revisions
- ▶ Capacity building on **conservation planning**
- ▶ Help on contacting relevant people or organizations depending on their needs



# Project: Support to environmental volunteering

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- ▶ Support on **volunteer plans** for member NGOs
- ▶ Help on improving the **quality of citizen participation** in member associations
- ▶ **Advising** citizenship, schools, companies and public administration on environmental volunteering
- ▶ Guides and **resources**, online trainings and public presentations on volunteering options
- ▶ A **meeting place** between NGOs and citizens

[www.voluntariatambiental.cat](http://www.voluntariatambiental.cat)



# Participation in networks

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- ▶ We also participate in the newly created **Catalan Agricultural Succession Network** (with rural development and access to land organizations, and the shepherds school of Catalonia)

# LIFE ENPLC

## European Networks for Private Land Conservation (ENPLC)



**What:** An EU wide Network of Private Land Conservation Practitioners

- Project duration: 2020-2024
- 18 project partners in 11 EU Member States

**How:** Conservation Landowners Coalition (CLC)

- Union between Eurosite, ELO and their respective networks
- Be inspired by the success of the Land Trust Alliance in the US
- Community based and connected to local needs
  - CLC coordination on EU level
  - Connecting to regional networks
  - Connecting to LIFE Strategic Nature Projects (SNAPS)



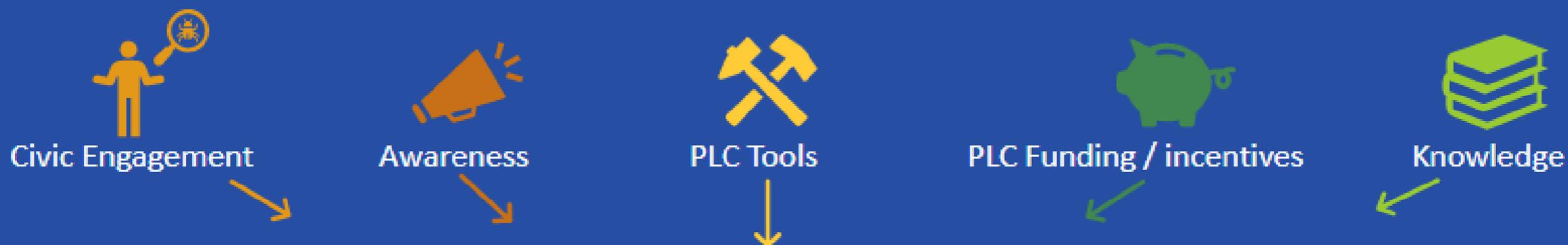
More info: [www.enplc.eu](http://www.enplc.eu) or [chalevy@eurosite.org](mailto:chalevy@eurosite.org)



# LIFE ENPLC - Actions



## European Networks for Private Land Conservation (ENPLC)



With LIFE ENPLC we are connecting landowners with conservationists to:

‘Achieving landscape resilience together by using tools of the private sector for the public good’



# LIFE ENPLC – PLC Tools



About ▾

Terminology

Conservation agreements

Actions ▾

Events



## Conservation Agreements used in private land conservation

In Private Land Conservation (PLC) we use conservation agreements as voluntary contractual tools that can either transfer land use rights relevant for conservation from a landowner to an NGO (e.g., in the form of a stewardship agreement) or restrict uses of land owned for conservation purposes when it is leased to an external party (conservation lease contracts).

Based on our experiences, EU policies and by acknowledging that conservation agreements exist in all EU countries, the report has two aims: first, to identify these shared trades and cluster conservation agreements; and second, to create definitions of conservation agreements that are applicable across EU countries.

**Click to read the factsheets**



## Land Stewardship

Voluntary, flexible temporal agreement for conservation purposes.

## Conservation Easements

Voluntary, for conservation purpose and in perpetuity or long-term contract. Usually restricts uses on land. Rights "run with the land".

## Conservation Leases

Voluntary, to ensure that land use is compatible with nature conservation or restoration objectives

## Privately Protected Areas

Geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other means, to achieve the long-

## Result-based Payment Schemes

Farmer or land manager is given flexibility to choose the most appropriate practices to achieve a defined

## Temporary Nature

Voluntary and temporal instrument to allow landowners derogations from the requirements of species conservation

# Comparing Conservation Tools

FULL REPORT

## Main characteristics

Conservation tools have some key characteristics that differentiate them from each other

| Land stewardship  | Conservation easements   | Conservation leases  | Privately protected areas   | Result based payment schemes  | Temporary nature   |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| Voluntary, flexible temporal agreement for conservation purposes. | Voluntary, for conservation purpose and in perpetuity or long-term contract. Usually restricts | Voluntary, to ensure that land use is compatible with nature conservation or restoration objectives. | Geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other means, to achieve | Farmer or land manager is given flexibility to choose the most appropriate practices to | Voluntary and temporal instrument to allow landowners derogations from the requirements of |

## Land rights or legal requirements

Conservation tools differ in the legal requirements and land rights connected to it

| Land stewardship  | Conservation easements   | Conservation leases  | Privately protected areas   | Result based payment schemes   | Temporary nature  |
|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| Management support or management transfer where land rights stay with the | Burdens landowner and future owners as rights "run with the land". Easement holder has the right | Management transfer where land rights stay with the owner. | Usually requires an instrument that is binding on current and future successors in title. | Land rights stay with the landowner. RBAPS projects are delivered through result indicators. | Land rights stay with the landowner. A voluntary legal agreement must be needed between |

## Economic transactions

Conservation tools differ in economic incentives that are connected to the agreements

| Land stewardship                      | Conservation easements   | Conservation leases                                     | Privately protected areas  | Result based payment schemes  | Temporary nature   |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|
| No economic transactions are involved | Transactional costs and costs associated to land register, monitoring and enforcement. Compensation for given up rights is | Economic transactions in form of the lease are involved | No direct economic transaction, but sometimes there are fiscal benefits for landowners | Payments done according to different criteria, based on the achievement of the conservation goals | No direct costs associated. Landowners can save money by reducing expenditure to prevent nature to |

## Duration

Conservation tools differ in their duration

| Land stewardship      | Conservation easements                              | Conservation leases    | Privately protected areas                      | Result based payment schemes   | Temporary nature                            |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------|--|--|---|
| Temporal and variable | Designed to last in perpetuity but can be temporary | Temporary and variable | Case dependent (i.e. 10, 20, 30 or more years) | Country specific but can normally offer contracts of no more than five years | Country specific (typically up to 10 years) |

# Thank you!

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