



volunteering cities+ roadmaps

Municipality of Aljustrel

28 Oct 2021



SECTION 1: Introduction and policy context

1.1: Introduction and city profile

The Transfer Roadmap is our first output. It was produced by the ULG with the coordination of the Municipality and will be used as a baseline for our network role as a resource for transnational exchange and learning.

Situated in the heart of Alentejo, in southern Portugal, Aljustrel municipality has a 458 Km² surface, with 9257 inhabitants, administratively divided into four parishes: Aljustrel e Rio de Moinhos, Ervidel, Messejana e São João de Negrilhos.

Aljustrel, the enchanted valley as it is called, has a privileged geographical position as it is located at an intermediate point between the airports of Portela (Lisbon) and Faro, accessible to an hour and a half away.

The Municipality of Aljustrel has around 200 workers and operates in areas such as public administration, municipal works, water and sanitation, sports, culture, gardening, social intervention and education. In terms of networking, it takes place bilaterally, with neighbouring municipalities, and at regional and national level, through associations of municipalities. We also have some experience in international projects, such as Interreg or POCTEP.

The county of Aljustrel records a higher weight in the industry sector than the regional and the national average. Excepting the Almina mining company, the economic and productive units of Aljustrel are micro or small companies like metallurgical, explosives production, pipes production, carpentry, bakery, pastry and graphic industries.

The objective of the Municipality of Aljustrel is to improve volunteering practices in the territory. It is also the intention of the Municipality of Aljustrel to learn from the experience of new international partners, in order to improve its action in the social area.

At the local level, the municipality is the entity with the greatest responsibility with regard to the social intervention.



1.2: Needs analysis in the territorial context

- The big challenge is to manage to implement policies that last in time and that managed to keep volunteering practices, involving all types of volunteer agents (volunteers, social economy associations, public sector, companies and educational entities).
- As the Municipality at the local level is the entity with the greatest responsibility in the social area, the political challenge is to be the promoter of a volunteering scholarship, which manages to cover several themes and the entire territory.

SECTION 3: Our starting Point

3.1: The local challenge and how we have addressed it

The Municipality of Aljustrel is aware of the importance of volunteering. For institutions and for volunteer individuals. The aim is to fight social exclusion.



M1

The main objective is to create a real municipal social policy. Investing in the qualification of social and cultural volunteers, valuing and qualifying them. The Municipality will be the driver of the network. A network that will build on the existing CLAS.



M2

Through the Senior University of Aljustrel and the Children's Animation Center (CAIM) it will be possible to create activities that bring together these different generations.



M3

here is already a volunteer center created, which is run by the Municipality of Aljustrel. This is the starting point for increasing the participation of other people, namely younger people.



M4

With the dynamization of various activities, the objective is to involve more institutions and more companies. For the benefit of the community.

By linking all these entities, it will be possible to respond to current challenges.

The Municipality of Aljustrel already has a development plan for good volunteering practices in place, which is already being discussed with these partner entities.

The Local Council of Social Action of Aljustrel (CLAS), constituted under of the Resolution of the Council of Ministers n.º197 / 97 of 18 November, is a local body for joining efforts, which aims to develop the Program Social network.

It is made up of non-profit entities and bodies working in the field of social action in the area of the Municipality. CLAS aims to renew and encourage planning social intervention strategy.

The Municipality of Aljustrel is already promoting the Volunteer Center of the Municipality. With the following objectives:

- A set of actions of social and community interest, carried out in a disinterested way by people.
- Within the scope of projects, programs and other forms of intervention.
- Commitment, gratuity and solidarity.

The Municipality of Aljustrel has a Senior University and also a Children's Animation Centre, intending to promote intergenerationality.



Volunteer Center

3.2: Our motivation

Aljustrel intends, through this network, to find an answer to:

 <p>Social inclusion activities.</p>	 <p>Project presentation on Local Council of Social Action of Aljustrel.</p>
 <p>Intergenerational cohesion.</p>	 <p>Encourage volunteer groups (older and younger people).</p>
 <p>Overall anti-poverty and social inclusion policies.</p>	 <p>Recognize the social needs in the Municipality of Aljustrel and develop the necessary social policies.</p>
 <p>Involve the local stakeholders and decision-makers who might be part of the production process (i.e., through their ULG role) or because they have an interest in the policy area.</p>	 <p>Engage the public in the development.</p>

3.3: Our Assets and barriers

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vipasca School Center - Social Solidarity institutions (IPSS) - Offer of school equipment - Aljustrel Senior Univesity - CLAS - Volunteer Center - Offer of equipment for the elderly - Geographical location - Cultural identity Internationally recognized - Diverse offer of Cultural Services and Equipment (Library; Museums; cultural centers, cinema, etc.) - Diversified associative movement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental liability of the mining industry - Urban centers and some urban infrastructures that are in need of rehabilitation - Inverted age pyramid - Illiteracy rate still high - Labor market structure with high weight of unskilled workers or with low education - Insufficient public transport - Excessive dependence of the active population on mining activities - Fragility of the business fabric - Fragile business culture
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rehabilitation of abandoned mining areas - National and European trend of increasing the number of individuals with secondary and higher education - Development of irrigated agriculture - Quotation of mining resources on the stock markets - Use potential of Regional Airport (Beja Airport) - Potential of the industrial and scientific project - EU financial support and incentives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disappearance of traditional agricultural systems - Educational policies to decrease the number of school equipment - Lack of measures to support the settlement of people in the interior - Double population aging - decrease in the young population and increase in the elderly population - Fluctuation of the quotation of mineral resources on the stock markets - Global, European, National Crisis - Lack of policies and incentives to attract and establish economic activities

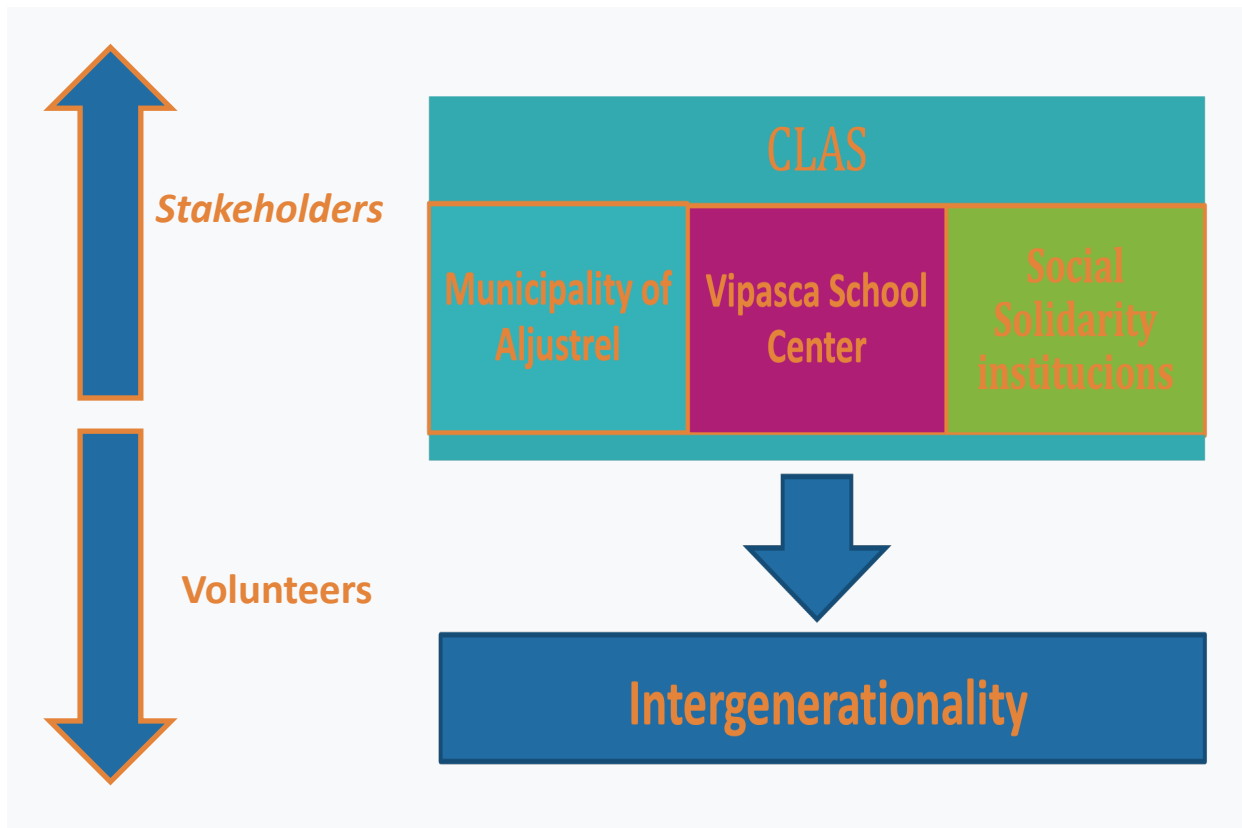
4.2: Our local level activity

The intention is to include multiple partners. Involve the local stakeholders and decision-makers who might be part of the production process (i.e., through their ULG role) or because they have an interest in the policy area.

Include the project in Local Council of Social Action of Aljustrel. Encourage volunteer groups (older and younger people).

Recognize the social needs in the Municipality of Aljustrel and develop the necessary social policies, and engage the public in the development.

The Municipality of Aljustrel will have the responsibility and the task of dynamizing the ULG, encouraging participation and calling other stakeholders to the project.

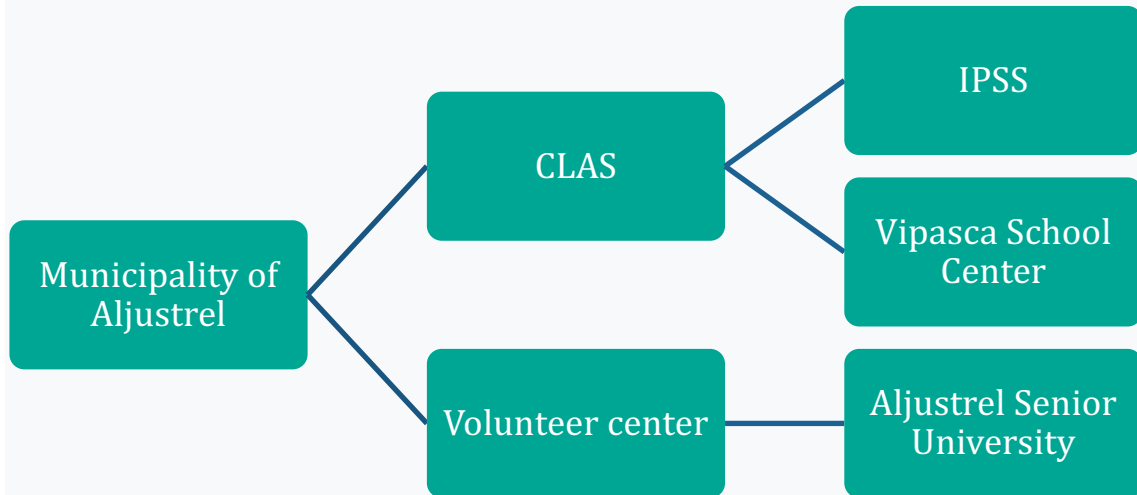


Activities:

- ❖ Handicraft
- ❖ New Information Tecnology
- ❖ Cultural Heritage
- ❖ Gastronomy

It is an opportunity to provide this territory with even more capable actions that aim at progress, sustainable development, social well-being and entrepreneurship. The intention is to incorporate as many partner entities as possible and involve them in the work of the ULG.

The entities are already working in other areas with the Municipality of Aljustrel and this is an opportunity to strengthen relations.



ULG MEMBERS

- Municipality of Aljustrel
- Vipasca School Center
- Aljustrel Senior University
- Engenho e Arte
- Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Aljustrel
- Children's Animation Center (CAIM)
- Social Network of the Municipality of Aljustrel (CLAS)

It is the intention of the Municipality of Aljustrel to take advantage of the entire methodology of the Urbact Program. Since the main interest is to attract more and more volunteers, calling them to participate.

In what way?

Seeking new solutions and finding new partners, following the good examples that can be collected through the Urbact methodology.

- Implement the program that can waste in time and in a natural way;
- Train ULG members;
- Provide all voluntary training actions;
- Make the project's success known, publicizing it and getting it to gain media attention;
- Comply with the activity plan and lead to that in later years that can happen even more;

4.3: Our role in the transnational level activity

The volunteerism greatly contributes in the quality of life of the community. International experience allows us to gather lessons to apply in this territory.

The Senior Univesitie, in Aljustrel, it's a social response, which aims to regularly create and promote social, cultural, educational and social activities, preferably for and for those over 50 in a context of lifelong learning.

The Municipal Children's Animation Center (CAIM) Is a space where children can occupy their free time in a dynamic, creative and playful way.

The good practice of volunteerism in Athienou allowed to realize that Aljustrel needs to bet, through this starting point, in Intergenerationality.

The Municipality of Aljustrel hopes that its experience in best practices can also help other cities in the network.

- The Municipality of Aljustrel will host the TNM on the days 7, 8, 9 e 10 the April of 2022.
- The Municipality of Aljustrel has identified intergenerationality as a good practice, so it is already developing activities and will be able to show them to network partners. The first will take place at the great Vin&Cultura event (26, 27 e 28 de November).
- The Municipality of Aljustrel will try in all approaches practiced to register each activity, so that it can share them, through various materials, with the network partners, so that they can also adopt them.

SECTION 5: The scale of our ambition

5.1: Our aspiration

Potential achievements:



- For the success of the identified good practice, the commitment of all entities will contribute.
- The first meetings show that there is a great involvement of the network.

5.2: Risk assessment

The pandemic could be an obstacle to carrying out intergenerational activities. The pandemic can also affect transnational meetings.

The Municipality may also have problems in attracting volunteers, mostly young volunteers.

There is a risk that good practices will not remain in the territory. If you don't achieve greater reach and depth in the lives of the people you help.

People may not want to participate in activities.



**Some Ideas
of Intergenerational activities
for URBACT**

November 2021

- Vin&Cultura – Intergenerational Space - Gastronomy and handicraft

December 2021

- "Let's color the festive seasons" - Christmas baskets

January 2022

- School Gardens "From the land to the pot"

February 2022

- Bread Cycle - Sharing wisdom and traditions

March 2022

- Route through the villages "Through my eyes"

April 2022

- European Day of Solidarity Between Generations – Theater Play
- April 2022 - April Fair – Intergenerational Space
- April 25tg Celebrations

May 2022

- Espiga Day – May (Thursday of Ascension)

June 2022

- Feira do Campo – Intergenerational space

July 2022

- Intergenerational toy workshop
- Under the Sky of Messejana – Intergenerational astronomy activities

August 2022

- A day at the Roxo Dam – Gastronomy and Nautical Activities

September 2022

- Discover the forest – walks and activities related to the environment

October 2022

- ICT Workshop for all ages - Social inclusion through ICT

November 2022

- Traditional Trade Fair – Vipsca Center School

December 2022

- "Let's color the festive seasons" - Christmas baskets.