

NEWSLETTER



N° 5 | April 2024

Highlight
LIFE RIBERMINE
PROJECT CONCLUSION
MEETING

News
Years 2023 and 2024
under review

In Agenda
AFTER-LIFE Program



Life
RIBERMINE
LIFE18 ENV/ES/000181

LIFE RIBERMINE PROJECT CONCLUSION MEETING

Following the completion of the project on March 16th, LIFE RIBERMINE received a final visit from ELMEN's external monitoring team and the CINEA project consultant on the 19th and 20th of March.



LIFE RIBERMINE PROJECT CONCLUSION MEETING

Following the completion of the project on March 16th, LIFE RIBERMINE received a final visit from ELMEN's external monitoring team and the CINEA project consultant on the 19th and 20th of March.

On the 19th, the different action areas of the former Santa Engracia mine were visited in Peñalén (Guadalajara) and a meeting was held at the office in Toledo, where the main results of the project were discussed and the actions in Lousal (Portugal) were presented.

The visit was attended by Alipio García, Director General of Energy Transition, Rubén García, Delegate of the Regional Ministry for Sustainable Development in Guadalajara, Ángel Vela, Director of the Alto Tajo Natural Park, and Javier Cascajero, Mayor of Peñalén.

Participants included members of all the project's partners and UCM associates, highlighting the presence of CCVLousal members who travelled from Portugal for the event.

All the participants had the opportunity to explain *in situ*, in each area of the project, the actions carried out and the results obtained.

On the 20th, the meeting took place at the Consejería de Desarrollo Sostenible de la Junta de Comunidades de Castilla-La Mancha, in Toledo.

During the meeting, the Lousal action area was presented, as well as the results of the project's communication and marketing.

After the advisers' visit, the project continues in its After-Life period.



Opening of the LIFE RIBERMINE exhibition

May 16th 2023



On the National Scientist's Day (16th of May), the Lousal Ciência Viva Science Centre opened the LIFE RIBERMINE exhibition, introducing the participants to the project.

Present at the opening were members of the Dirección General de Transición Energética, part of the Consejería de Desarrollo Sostenible del Gobierno de Castilla-La Mancha. Also present were representatives from Sines Municipality, the Portuguese Environment Agency, the Alentejo Hydrographic Region Administration and local students.

LIFE RIBERMINE exhibition at the August Fair in Grândola, Portugal

September 1st 2023



The August Fair in Grândola, Portugal, featured the LIFE RIBERMINE exhibition. The activity, promoted by the Lousal Ciência Viva Science Centre, shared the knowledge, objectives, techniques and results of the LIFE RIBERMINE project at the Santa Engracia Mine and in the Lousal pilot area for the five days of the fair.

Professor David Williams (University of Queensland, Australia) visits LIFE RIBERMINE

August 6th 2023



Beginning of the work at Virgen de la Torre (RIBERMINE Transfer) and transfer to the Madrid Community

November 20th 2023



On the 18th of October 2023, a visit was made to the Virgen de la Torre Kaolin Mine (Peñalen, Guadalajara) where the construction work began, financed by the European Next Generation budget. This restoration is a technique and expertise transferred from the LIFE RIBERMINE project.

The visit was carried out by staff from the LIFE RIBERMINE project, the company responsible for the construction (TRAGSA, Guadalajara) and the company TRAGSA Comunidad de Madrid, responsible for passing on the project's solutions to the quarries in Alpedrete (Madrid), as well as Harley Lacy, a speaker at the talks organised by the project.

NEWS — Years 2023 and 2024 under review



OBJECTIVE ACHIEVED: The revegetation phase of the Santa Engracia Mine has been completed

January 18th 2024

The revegetation of the Santa Engracia mine has been completed. This process comprised two main activities: in the second half of September 2023, herbaceous communities were installed in a 1 ha area that had been remodelled in the summer of the same year; in mid-December, 1,389 seeds of 17 species of trees and shrubs were planted along a 2 ha area that had been remodelled and revegetated in 2021 and 2022.



Geomorphological remodelling using the Talus Royal® method completed

March 2024

During the months of January to March 2024, the work of 'sculpting' a slope similar to the natural ones was completed on the former Santa Engracia mine front, following the Talus Royal® method. To this end, a total of three "explosions" were carried out in connection with the restoration work. In addition, three visits were made by Paul Royal, the inventor of the Talus Royal® method. This geomorphological remodelling of a former mining front, following this method, is a world first.



LIFE RIBERMINE Project Technical Days in Lousal

February 20th and 21st 2024

The Lousal Ciência Viva Science Centre, the only international partner in the LIFE RIBERMINE project, together with the project coordinators, Minas JCCM - Castilla La Mancha Gov. and the partners from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, organised the LIFE RIBERMINE Technical Days in the Lousal pilot area on the 20th and 21st of February 2024. This event focused on presenting the techniques applied and sharing some of the results obtained so far in the project's areas of intervention in Spain and Portugal. It was aimed at all those interested in these issues, with particular emphasis on the project's beneficiaries, but also at a different audience, both technical and student, such as members of local and regional administrations, professionals from the mining sector and the environmental field.

During these two days, the "almost final" of the LIFE RIBERMINE project was marked, sharing the practical results achieved over these 4 years, even though some actions are still being carried out, with its conclusion in March 2024. The event was very well received by all participants, reflecting the originality and relevance of the LIFE RIBERMINE project, the fulfilment of the proposed goals and the high quality of the work carried out and in progress.



WORKSHOPS

March 31st 2023

Workshop on Ecosystem Services of the LIFE RIBERMINE Project and 3rd Meeting of the External Council

April 20th 2023

Lecture on Landscape Evolution Modelling

June 11th 2023

Training course at the largest coal mine in South America (La Guajira, Colombia)

June 29th 2023

Participation in the 2nd Congress on Sustainability and Climate Change

July 21st-23rd 2023

Participation in the IV Iberian Congress on River Restoration - RestauraRíos

September 7th-8th 2023

Participation in the XVI Congress of the Spanish Society of Geomorphology

September 21st-24th 2023

LIFE RIBERMINE project at the 12th International Congress on Historical Mining and Metallurgy in Southwest Europe

November 22nd-24th 2024

LIFE RIBERMINE project at the XV International Congress on Energy and Mineral Resources (León)

February 20th-21st 2024

LIFE RIBERMINE Technical Conference in Lousal

March 20th-21st 2024

LIFE RIBERMINE PROJECT conclusion meeting



Participants in the Ecosystem Services Workshop of the Life Ribermine Project in Peñalén.



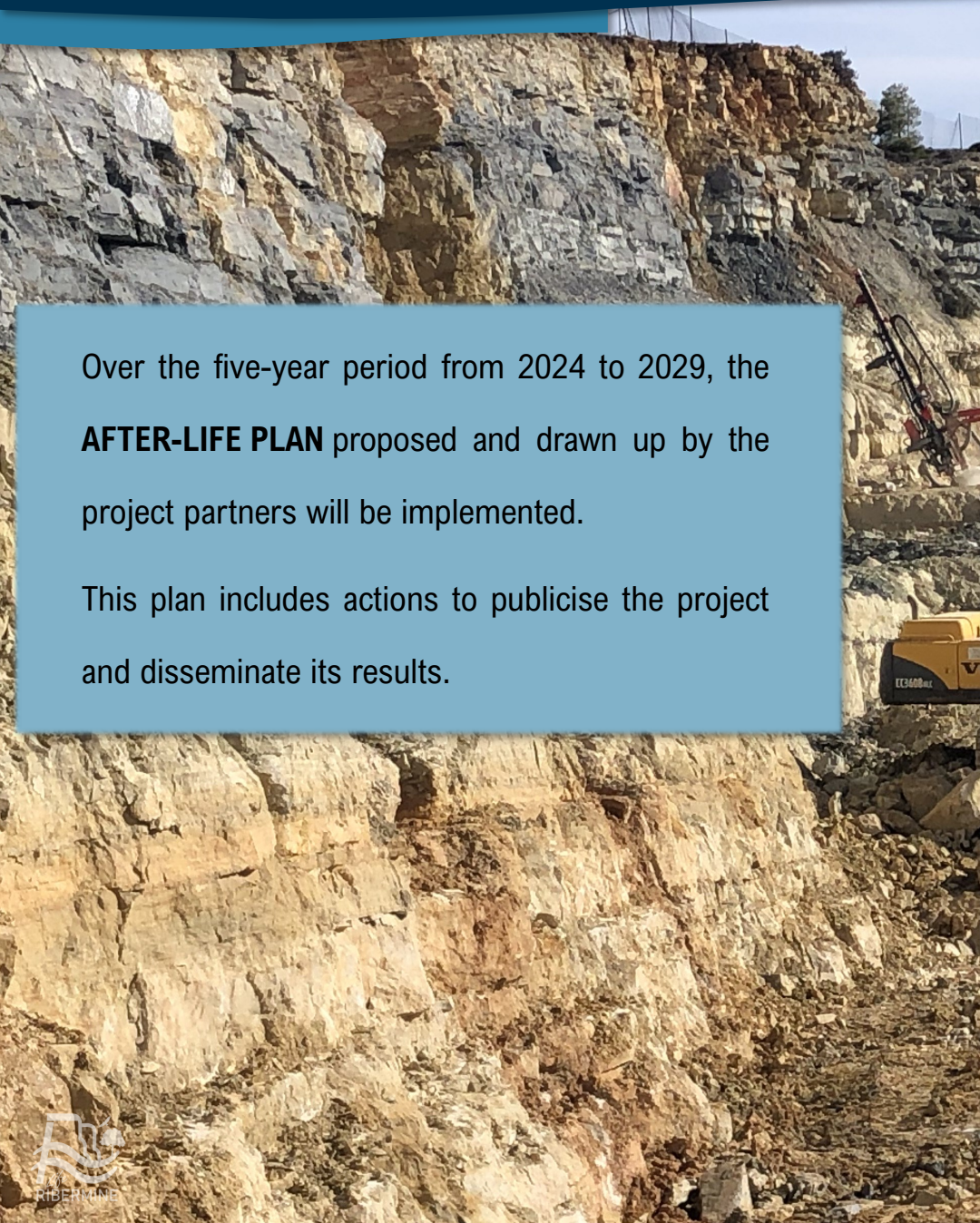
Presentation by Javier de la Villa and Cristina Moreno at the XV International Congress on Energy and Mineral Resources (León)



Javier de la Villa at the 12th International Congress on Historical Mining and Metallurgy in Southwest Europe



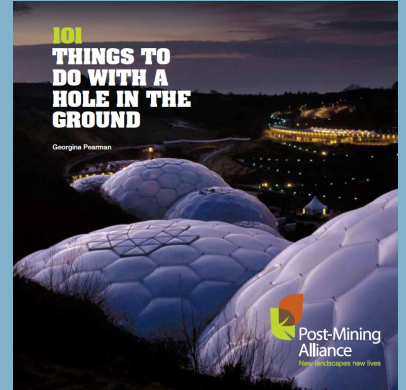
IN AGENDA (2024-2029)



Over the five-year period from 2024 to 2029, the **AFTER-LIFE PLAN** proposed and drawn up by the project partners will be implemented.

This plan includes actions to publicise the project and disseminate its results.

CURIOSITIES



Did you know that the LIFE RIBERMINE project will be included, as the world's only example of geomorphological restoration, in the second edition of the acclaimed book "101 Things to Do With a Hole in the Ground", published by the Eden Project (UK)?



Coordinator



Castilla-La Mancha

Consejería de Desarrollo Sostenible

Partners



Centro
Ciência Viva
do Lousal
MinadeCiência



Contacts:

Spain:

<https://mineriactm.castillalamancha.es/>

+34 925 267 800

dgte.desarrollosostenible@jccm.es

Portugal:

www.lousal.cienciaviva.pt

+351 269 750 520 | +351 269 750 522

info@lousal.cienciaviva.pt

Follow us:



<https://liferibermine.com/>



<https://www.facebook.com/liferibermine/>



<https://www.instagram.com/liferibermine/>

CREDITS NEWSLETTER #5

Texts	CCVL, UCM
Design	CCVL
Illustrations	CCVL
Photography	©CCVL, UCM & Fotolanga.es , Bruno Gonçalves Visuals



The LIFE RIBERMINE project has been funded with the support of the **LIFE Programme of the European Union**.

This newsletter reflects the views only of the author/s, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

No part of the text or images of this newsletter may be used, sold, resubmitted or reproduced by individuals or organizations, without the express authorization of representatives of the LIFE RIBERMINE Consortium.