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## SUSTAINABILITY POLICY FOR MUNICIPALITY OF BAIÃO

Baião is a municipality in the district of Porto, located in the North of Portugal, with an area of 174.53 km<sup>2</sup> and about 17.535 inhabitants. Its territory extends from the river Douro, on its southern limit, to the highest point of Serra do Marão, 25 km north of that river, with an altitude that goes from 60 to 1416 meters of altitude.

Considering that in a total area of 174.5 km<sup>2</sup>, 118.7 km<sup>2</sup> (68%) are occupied by forest and natural and semi-natural ecosystems, the Municipality of Baião, a local authority, has adopted a strong valorization policy of its natural heritage.

Baião also has a gastronomy rich in unique products and ancestral recipes that, due to their quality and originality, must be maintained and disseminated to future generations. In this context, the Municipality of Baião promotes several food and wine events that attract more and more visitors.

Various heritage and archaeological values, such as the Eça de Queiroz Foundation, the megalithic complex of Serra da Aboboreira, the Monastery of Santo André de Ancede, the vast religious heritage, handicrafts, museum centers and interpretive centers, enrich the county's cultural heritage and offer an opportunity to visit.



### MUNICIPALITY OF BAIÃO

The Municipality of Baião, which received charter from King D. Manuel I in 1513, has the task of promoting and safeguarding the interests of the population in various fields, including education, culture and heritage, environment, social action, and development.

Some of the initiatives under the responsibility of the Municipality of Baião include:

- Maintenance of municipal equipment and infrastructure;
- Food and wine events (Feira do Fumeiro, do Cozido à Portuguesa e dos Vinhos Baião; Festival do Anho Assado e do Arroz do Forno; Feiras do Vinho Verde e das Tasquinhas de Santa Marinha do Zêzere);

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- F2 Motorsport World Championship;
- Municipal and Saint Bartholomew Festivities;
- Guided visits to the Santo André de Ancede Monastery, the Chapel of Senhor do Bom Despacho, Municipal Museum, Museum of Sacred Art, Interpretive Center of Vine and Wine, Archaeological Field of Serra da Aboboreira.

To carry out its duties, the Municipality of Baião works in collaboration with several entities, including:

- School Groupings – Education
- Águas do Norte, Águas do Douro e Paiva e SIMDOURO - Water and sanitation systems
- Resinorte - Municipal solid waste
- Intermunicipal Community of Tâmega e Sousa - Energy and transport
- Rota do Românico- Cultural Heritage
- Associação de Municípios do Baixo Tâmega - Cultural and environmental heritage
- Baião Business Association
- Private Institutions of Social Solidarity

### PURPOSE OF THE POLICY



The Municipality of Baião aims to deepen good environmental practices and achieve a balance between its genuine character and the tourist potential that is increasingly recognized.

This policy demonstrates the municipality's commitment to the four pillars of sustainability, Environmental, Cultural, Social and Economic (ECSE), as the basis for an external audit by Earthcheck in benchmarking and certification.



### SUSTAINABILITY COMMITMENTS

- Comply with all national and international agreements and guidelines on environment and sustainability, including the Sustainable Development Goals (STG), established by the United Nations General Assembly, the Global Code of Ethics of the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and applicable European directives / standards;

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- Recognize, understand and control the environmental risks associated with the municipality's activity;
- Set annual goals for continuous improvement of the sustainability process, undertaken and recorded in the annual benchmarking of the municipality's performance, through Earthcheck;
- Achieve local sustainability, involving and consulting the community and, simultaneously, playing an orientation and leadership role, always ensuring that any action resulting from this process does not prejudice the satisfaction of the basic needs of the population;
- Recognize and respect the importance of our ancestors' cultural heritage for the maintenance of our identity, traditions and customs. Heritage, handicrafts, gastronomy and wines are, therefore, elements to be valued;
- Promote the responsible use of water and energy and efficient waste management, which minimizes the use of non-renewable resources, in order to guarantee the needs of the present without compromising future generations;
- Promote the protection of ecosystems and biodiversity;
- Promote the reduction of the use of polluting products that may cause negative impacts on the environment;
- Contribute to environmental awareness and the use of ecological products;
- Promote equal employment opportunities;
- Promote a Fairtrade policy, through the implementation of a local plan that recognizes the importance of this concept in the sustainability of the territory;
- Recognize the importance of the role of the tourism sector in pursuing the objectives set out in this sustainability policy. Implement plan to mitigate the effects of seasonality on tourism activity, through events that contribute to greater profitability of the sector throughout the year;

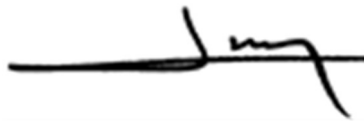
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- Promote learning and training opportunities, within the scope of the four pillars of sustainability (ECSE).

This policy will be reviewed annually and disclosed to stakeholders, community and suppliers of goods and services in the Municipality of Baião.

Municipality of Baião, May 28, 2022

The Mayor



(Paulo Pereira)