

## Wildfire Causality and Public Behavior in Portugal since 2017: how to Promote Positive Changes, in Portugal and other Countries?

António Salgueiro<sup>1</sup>, Yannick Le Page<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Agency for the Integrated Management of Rural Fires (AGIF), Lousã, Portugal,  
[antonio.salgueiro@agif.pt](mailto:antonio.salgueiro@agif.pt)

<sup>2</sup> Agency for the Integrated Management of Rural Fires (AGIF), Lousã, Portugal,  
[yannick.lepage@agif.pt](mailto:yannick.lepage@agif.pt)

### SHORT BIO(S)

*António Salgueiro* – More than 30 years' experience in prescribed burning and integrated fire management. Currently deputy to the Board of Directors of AGIF (Agency for the Integrated Management of Rural Fires), responsible for the National Qualification Plan and the implementation of the Lessons Learned capacity under the Integrated Rural Fire Management System. Previously, António was appointed by the Portuguese Assembly as Member of the Technical Independent Committees to analyze the mega-fires that occurred in June and October 2017 in Portugal. He was also an invited Professor at Lusófona University of Porto, and co-founder, technician and administrator of a private company for Integrated Management and Forest Promotion.

*Yannick Le Page* – Knowledge and Innovation adviser at AGIF for 5 years, with a particular focus on risk assessments, fire hazard modeling, and analytics to support a range of institutional and operational needs (e.g. prioritization of prevention, anticipation of extreme fire events, awareness campaigns). Previously, 15 years of research experience in fire ecology and socio-economic modeling.

### WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

The workshop is intended for a wide audience including practitioners, policymakers and researchers. It will be introduced with a short presentation on the topic and an analysis of the 3 main causality groups in Portugal (fire use, arson, agroforestry equipment), before and after the devastating fire season of 2017, in particular regarding their relative importance, seasonal regimes, and the fire hazard conditions under which they occur.

We will then have an open discussion on strategies to promote behavior changes and address hazardous/criminal activities, including successful examples reported by the audience in other countries.

We will then have 3 breakout groups focused on the following theme:

- Fire use: how to promote safe and legal practices?
- Arson: how to address the issue, which originates the majority of devastating fires in the case of Portugal but is less responsive to awareness/prevention measures.
- Agroforestry equipment: what systems of legal restrictions as a function of fire hazard are most efficient to minimize fire ignitions while limiting financial impacts to professionals?

Contributions from the discussion and breakout groups will be organized in a summary report.

### More information

Length of the workshop:	2 hours
Number of participants*:	Minimum: 2 / Maximum: any
Special facility needs:	LCD Projector

\* Workshops with fewer attendees than the minimum number may be canceled at the discretion of the conference organizers.