

# CONGRESO LIFE IN COMMON LAND

Preservar a biodiversidade nunha terra pouco común con xente pouco común



## Joám Evans

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### Biography

Joám Evans Pim serves as Director of the Montescola Foundation, a conservation nonprofit at the Froxán ICCA (Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas). He holds a Ph.D. in Social Science from Åbo Akademi University in Finland where he also serves as Adjunct Professor (Docent) in Peace and Conflict Research. Since 2018 he has coordinated the 'Brigadas deseucalptizadoras', an award-winning environmental restoration programme that involves 1,300 volunteers.

### Restoring the Froxán Community Conserved Area (ICCA), Lousame (Galicia)"

In 2017 Froxán, a small village with 100 hectares of common lands in the municipality of Lousame, became the first territory in Spain to be acknowledged as a ICCA (Indigenous and Community Conserved Area) by the UNEP. After suffering from successive waves of forest fires, the Community started to remove pyrophytes (mostly Eucalyptus sp. and Pinus sp.) with native habitats. This has included restoring mixed deciduous forests and a small peatland that is also critical for regulating the local watershed. Most work since 2017 has been conducted by volunteers setting a model for community-based conservation.

