



Promoting innovation in Rural Areas

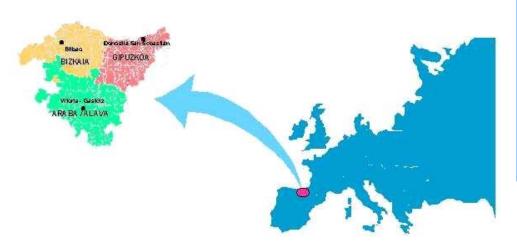
The RDP as a tool to support innovative businesses

THE BASQUE RDP





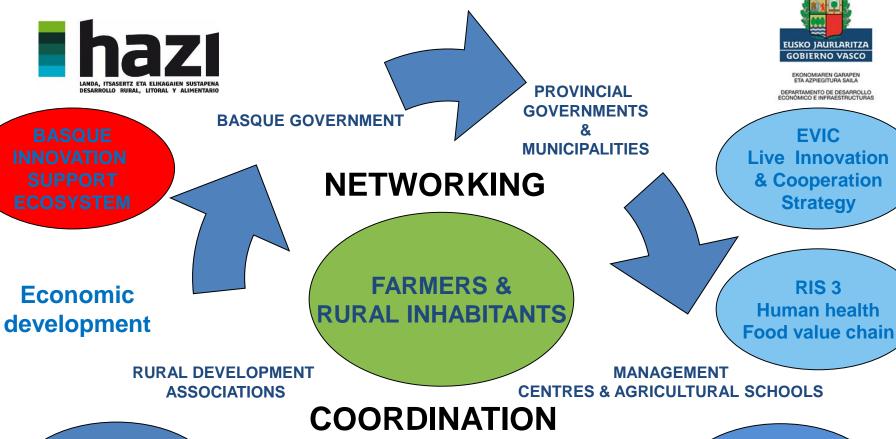
THE BASQUE COUNTRY



- **Surface:** 7.234 km2 (4.918,69 rural)
- **Population:** 2.171.886 inhabitants (177.508 in rural areas)
- Population density: 301 inhab./km2
 (7-12 in some rural municipalities)
- 3 administrative areas (Araba/Álava, Bizkaia & Gipuzkoa)
- Unemployment rate: 11%
- Activity rate: 56,5%
- Economic sectors: primary (0,83%); industry & energy (23,95%); building (6,16%) & services (69,06%)

- 85% municipalities are mountainous (disadvantaged zones)
- Urban / rural links
- Identity / culture / traditions linked to rural areas
- Entrepreneurial & innovative territory
- + 20 years experience in rural development STRONG INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

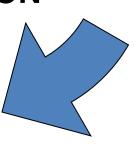
- BOTTOM-UP APPROACH - LEADER



MENDINET LOCAL ACTION GROUP



HAZI FOUNDATION



KATILU



Landa eta itsas ingurunearen garapenerako Eusko Jaurlaritzaren Korporazioa

Corporación del Gobierno Vasco para el desarrollo del medio rural y marino



EKONOMIAREN GARAPEN ETA AZPIEGITURA SAILA DEPARTAMENTO DE DESARROLLO ECONÓMICO E INFRAESTRUCTURAS

9 Operational Groups

From the idea to action

Bottom Up: RDP Co-operation measure

Top Down: Priorities of the Institutions

1. Foster & Facilitate innovation & co-operation projects

INNOVATION BROKER

2. Build up a culture of innovation & co-operation, in collaboration with the actors in the value chain



Where ideas mature

3. Knowldege management on innovation & co-operation

Workshops & **Seminars** (peer to peer learning)

2016

M16 RDP

to facilitate **Training** innovation COoperation

Antenna of opportunities

Conection with other networks & regions:

- Thematic -Agrispin. network.
- Spanish -At & European level















INVESTMENTS

TRAINING

Integral & Innovative Support



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INFRAESTRUCTURES

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2015-2020

291.955.741 €

Combining key RDP measures creating sinergies

Support innovation & create businesses

HOUSING **EMPLOYMENT**

SERVICES

REVITALISING RURAL

AREAS

CO-OPERATION

NETWORKING

Grants are a tool





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Detecting training needs

Tailor made **Training** Program

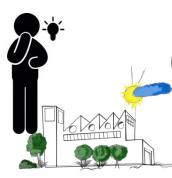
Life-long agricultural training Intensive training

E-learning/ blending

M01.1

M01.3 Supporting transition to next-generation take-over

COMBINING KEY RDP MEASURES & CREATING SINERGIES



M04.1 Investments in agricultural holdings

M 06.1 Start-up aid for young farmers M04.2 LEHIATU Processing & marketing

M04.3 Infraestructures

Integral advisory service

GEROA PROGRAM **GAZTENEK PROGRAM**

RURAL ENTERPREHEURSHIP THURSDAYS M01.1

M16 Co-operation

> M19 **LEADER**

MENDINET LAG Start-up **Investments** Infraestructures **Employment** Housing **Co-operation**

Vasco para el desarrollo del medio rural y marino



DEPARTAMENTO DE DESARROLLO ECONÓMICO E INFRAESTRUCTURAS

OUR ECOSYSTEM IS CONNECTED TO OTHERS

AgriSPIN: H2020 thematic network

Objective: to analyse the innovation processes in agriculture with a special focus to the role innovation brokers play in those processes

15 partners in 13 countries: NL, DK, DE, BE, IRL, IT, FI, FR, RO, GR, SE, LT, ES

Other European networks:

- **-EUROMONTANA.** The Basque Country holds its Presidency. 70 members in 20 countries.
- -ERIAFF

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- -ERRIN
- -AREPO
- -USSE
- -ELARD







KEY IDEAS

- An ecosystem to promote innovation in rural areas is a key element to attract new ideas & innovative businesses.
- A strong **institutional support** & commitment is needed.
- Networking, coordination & bottom-up approach are key factors.
- Innovation brokers play a fundamental role.
- The RDP is an excellent tool to combine measures and create sinergies.
- All these elements **reduce the administrative burden** an entrepreneur encounters when looking for funding.
- An **integral support** is needed: from the idea to action.
- Go local but learn & practice together at european level. Cooperation is crucial.
- Rural/urban links should be enhanced.
- Research should get closer to the needs of rural areas. Knowledge-transfer.
- Future: towards a real territorial development...





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