



Bringing Organisations & Network Development  
to higher levels in the Farming sector in Europe



This project has received funding from the European  
Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation  
programme under grant agreement N° 774208

## **PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

### **FIRST BOND STUDY TOUR IN VALENCIA**



## AMPHITRYON INFORMATION

COAGCV is part of the Coordination of Organizations of Farmers (COAG), which is the first professional agrarian organization constituted in Spain (1977). It is a plural, independent and representative organization, representative in all the Spanish regions. COAG defends the interests of the social and professional model of agriculture, especially in Spain, and serves more than 150.000 farmers and livestock through its 220 offices throughout the country and a permanent delegation in Brussels. It is recognized by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment of Spain as the most representative agrarian organization and as such is part of the Agrarian Advisory National Committee, an official liaison with the Government. It is also a member of the Economic and Social Council (Consejo Económico y Social (CES)), COPA-COGECA and the European Coordination of La Vía Campesina.

COAGCV works together with other organizations, consumer associations, cooperatives, universities, private sector and public administrations to influence the construction of sustainable food models and good conditions for the peasantry.

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## LODGEMENT

Here you can see where we will stay in Valencia. <http://www.styleapartments.com/en/our-apartments/patacona-resort-apartments/>

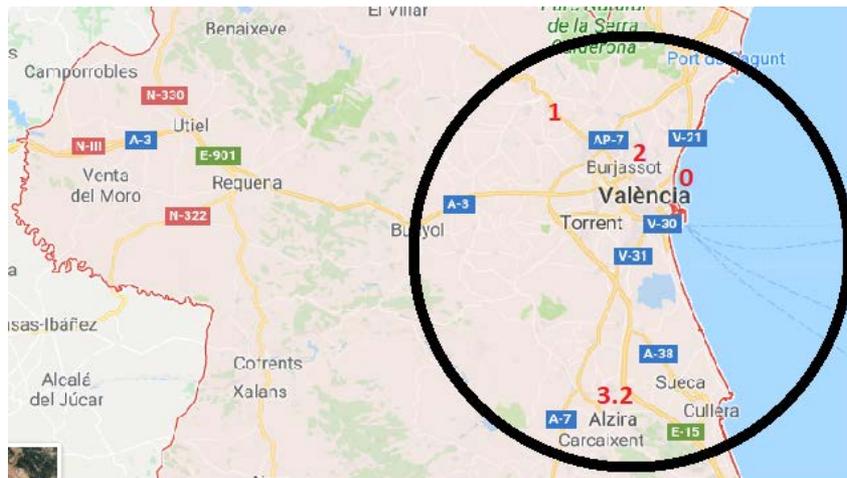
PATACONA RESORT AVDA. MARE NOSTRUM 15 – 46120 ALBORAIA (VALENCIA)

These are apartments with equipped kitchen, bathroom, dining room and two bedrooms. One bedroom has two single beds and another a double bed. And three people will stay in each apartment.

We are going to have breakfast in the restaurant, lunch in different places when we will be in the trips to see the study cases and dinner, also in different places.



## MAPS



**0** Patacona Resort / **1** Land Bank / **2** Guaranty System / **3.1** Consumers Group / **3.2** Farmers Market / **3.3** Mercavalencia / **3.4** School Canteen / **4** Public Health Valencia / **5** Food Sovereignty Platform



## PLANNING

Monday 26	Tuesday 27	Wednesday 28	Thursday 1	Friday 2
	8.00 Breakfast in Patacona Ressor	8.00 Breakfast in Patacona Ressor	4.30 Breakfast in rooms	9.30 Breakfast in Patacona Ressor
Arrivals Valencia Airport	9.00 Departure to Pobla de Vallbona 9.30 Land Banks (C.S. 1) of La Pobla de Vallbona and Diputaci3n de Valencia with Lunch 12.00 Departure to Godella 12.30 SPG-Ecollaures (C.S. 2)	9.00 Departure to Public Health 9.30 Regulations on production, elaboration and sale of products in Short Food Supply Chain in Public Health (C.S. 4) with coffee break 12.00 Departure to Alzira 13.00 Visit Farmer Market of Alzira (C.S.3.2)	5.00 Exit to Mercavalencia and the "Tira de Comptar" (C.S.3.3)  7.00 Coffe break Mercavalencia  9.00 Departure to Albufera  Visit to La Albufera de Valencia and Fishermen's Guild	10.30 Meeting, work dynamics and evaluation    13.00 Departure to school canteen in Benimaclet (C.S. 3.4)
Lunch in Patacona Resort	14.00 Lunch in Godella	14.00 Lunch in Alzira	13.30 Lunch in El Palmar	Lunch in school canteen
17.00 Meeting, presentations and work dynamics	15.30 Work dynamics in Godella Escorxador 18.30 Departure to Benimaclet 19.00 Consumption Group "S3c en que menge" (C.S. 3.1)	15.30 Return to Patacona Resort 17.00 Working dynamics at Patacona Resort 19.00 Visit of representatives of "Plataforma per la Sobirania Aliment3ria" (C.S. 5)	15:00 Departure to Patacona Ressor and rest 18.00 Work dynamic at Patacona Resort	Departures Valencia Airport
21.00 Dinner in Patacona Resort	21.30 Dinner in Al Paladar de Benimaclet	21.00 Dinner in Patacona Resort	21.00 Dinner in.....	



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**STUDY CASES**

**C.S 1 - LAND BANCS**

In the province of Valencia, the government is trying to centralize and promote an initiative of land banks. In this experience, local administrations act as mediators and support in the transfer of lands from people who do not cultivate them, to other people or groups who wish to dedicate them to the production of food. Each experience is independent and has different operating dynamics, but it is common to agree that all of them promote sustainable production and prioritize the transfer to young people and groups with social involvement. In this link, you can see the list of municipalities that works this initiative. <http://www.dival.es/medio-ambiente/content/municipis-banc-de-terres>

The experience we will visit is "La Pobla de Vallbona", which has been running since March 2016, and was published with the following message:

*"The Municipality of La Pobla de Vallbona has opened an administrative register to contact landowners with people interested in working the field. An initiative, the Land Bank, whose objective is the recovery of the agricultural and natural heritage of the Pobla de Vallbona.*

*The Land Bank acts as a mediator between the landlord and the lessee to carry out the operation. There is also information on the estates available for the surface and situation as well as advice.*

*The motivations to look for land are diverse: from starting a business project, leisure or interest to recover the historic crops model.*

*Any land owner of agricultural land can incorporate their properties into the land bank and thus avoid abandonment suffered by many fields at the moment. It should be noted that the ownership of the estates is not disturbed and its owner maintains the same rights and obligations. You can also request the withdrawal of land from this directory at any time.*

*This land bank has been carried out from the Department of Agriculture, where it reminds us that much of the surface that can be worked is abandoned. For the Councilor for the Environment and Agriculture, Javier Descalzo, "abandonment and neglect of land increases the possibility of fires. The Bank of land is a fundamental instrument for the reactivation of the local agricultural economy and it is clear that the land has a future. "*

*With the creation of the Bank of Lands, it helps to reactivate the economy and complementary activities are encouraged. This initiative is also designed to foster the settlement of new farmers in a traditionally agricultural municipality where this sector is losing strength in the last years.*

*The first exchanges between owners and tenants have already begun and from the Department of Agriculture they trust that little by little there are more people interested in reactivating the fields of the municipality.*

**C.S 2 PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEMS**

In contrast to the 'third-part' certification system, alternatives to certification emerge that are turned back to participation as a strategy. They are the Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) in English. These arise spontaneously in several groups of producers in different countries of the South. In order for their





products to access the international organic markets, they must comply with the production and certification standards of each market to which they are destined (European or North American mainly), which also distances these groups from their local production methods. Faced with this colonization, the GSPs advocate local adaptation and active participation of the people involved in the process.

Its most common definition is that which was built in a group for IFOAM in 2007: PGS are quality assurance systems that operate at the local level. They certify producers based on the active participation of consumers and are built on trust, social networks and the exchange of knowledge. However, there are already many definitions, proposed by the different groups that apply them, which are focused on highlighting their political potential for social transformation, its procedure or its principles. This diversity demonstrates its great versatility that makes them a tool with great potential.

They are certification systems managed from the local group that is responsible for organizing and making visits to farms (with representatives of the same production and consumption) to support the farmer visited to improve their management, adapt it to the guidelines established by the own group. After the visit, another group is responsible for checking the correct application of the rules and issuing (or not) the certificate. The group as a whole, can propose improvements to tend toward greater degrees of sustainability, both in production and marketing. The certification ceases to be a control mechanism, and thus becomes a mechanism of support to the producers.

The initiative that we are going to know is SPG-Ecollaures, which is located in the province of Valencia and consists of:

- 30 experiences of agriculture, livestock and food processing (waiting list)
- 4 Grups of consumers
- 2 NGOs
- 1 territory defense association



### C.S 3 SHORT FOOD SUPPLY CHAINS

Short food supply chain (SFSCs) is a broad range of food production-distribution-consumption configurations, such as farmers' markets, farm shops, collective farmers' shops, community-supported agriculture, solidarity purchase groups. More in general, a food supply chain can be defined as "short" when it is characterized by short distance or few intermediaries between producers and consumers.

In the last 7 years numerous initiatives have been developed in Valencia. The cases we are going to visit are:



C.S. 3.1: Consumers group “Sóc el que menjo” (I’m what I eat), located in the Benimaclet district of Valencia, with about 30 families.

C.S. 3.2: Farmer Market of Alzira. Most of these markets are organized on weekends and that of Alzira allows us to visit during the Study Tour.

C.S. 3.3: “Tira de Comptar” of Mercavalencia, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CDqJ5E-2EQQ>

C.S. 3.4: School Canteen with organic and local food in the Benimaclet district of Valencia.

#### C.S. 4 CHANGES IN FOOD REGULATION

The regulations that regulate the production, elaboration and sale of food products allow exceptionalities and flexibility in those cases considered by regional administrations.

In this experience we will know how the Department of Public Health of the Valencian government has negotiated with small producers, a new regulation to enable production and sale through Short Food Supply Chains.

#### C.S. 5 FOOD SOVEREIGNTY PLATFORM

It is a platform that brings together producers, consumers, initiatives, organizations and collectives that work for Food Sovereignty in the Valencian Country. Our goal is to be a binding movement capable of generating a broad social mobilization towards Food Sovereignty, through a process of strengthening and articulating the different experiences that exist in the territories and framing them in a global strategy. We want to be a space of political, diffusion, exchange, reflection, and joint debate.