

BOND REPOSITORY OF COLLECTIVE ACTION

SPAIN: Ecollaures Participatory Guarantee System (Sistema Participativo de Garantía-Ecollaures)

The aim of the BOND Repository is to share real-life solutions of farmers' and land managers' capacity to develop collective activities and participate in networks involving a wide range of actors. The Repository contains 20 in-depth case studies emerging from the BOND Project, and in addition provides a store-and-share for other initiatives and projects to upload their success stories on an on-going basis.

The Repository is based on EU 'Practice Abstracts' that provide a common format to characterise a project. This makes it possible for readers to contact the project partners and enables the dissemination of project results.

The language is English apart from the project title and abstract.

This Table aims to provide basic information about the organisation or initiative as a whole.

Title (in native language)	Sistema Participativo de Garantía-Ecollaures
Title (in English)	Ecollaures Participatory Guarantee System
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Coordinator name and contact details.	Daniel Martínez cspeecollaures@gmail.com
Partners' names and contact details	-
Start date	2012
Main sectors/focus	Food and social guarantee systems
Type of organisation (eg coop, network)	Legally constituted as an association (as the Participatory Guarantee system currently has no legal form)
Number of members	25
Type of members	19 agricultural projects, 3 food processors and 3 social organizations. (Until a few months ago, two consumer groups and one university chair also participated)
Operating level (local, regional, national etc)	Regional (mainly Province of Valencia. Occasionally participants from Alicante)
Funding sources	€3000 in grants in 2016
Total budget	Fees from 20-30 members
Objectives of the initiative	The main objective of SPG Ecollaures is social transformation, affecting citizen interactions around local agro-ecological production and consumption. Rather than being a marketing intermediary or a control mechanism, SPG Ecollaures certification becomes a

	<p>support mechanism for mutual learning between the main actors of the Agri-food System who, as members, have to play an active role based on participatory democracy. SPG Ecollaures guarantees the following conditions and criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local agro-ecological production • Local agro-ecological consumption • Short distribution channels • Championing the small producer • Social justice and horizontal relationships between people • Championing the health of the environment and of people • Social, cultural and economic activity in support of the values of agroecology • Active participation in the operations.
Description of main activities	<p>The organization comprises several work commissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The admissions committee: responsible for liaising with new projects that enter the collective about requirements and mechanisms for participation; managing the ups and downs of projects. ▪ The quality committee: work on the improvement of projects, post-visit follow-ups, and grants stamps (a tool to display the guarantee that allows consumers to identify the projects and their products at the points of local marketing, markets, stores, consumer groups). ▪ The information committee: in charge of communication, of disseminating the vision and the work that is carried out, including conducting talks, participating in communications, seminars, round tables. ▪ The visit committee: formed by members of the different commissions, as well as producers, consumers and other people belonging to collectives related to agroecology. In charge of making field visits in order to guarantee the producers and give them support and improvements. A self-evaluation guide is used for tracking the visits by all the actors. <p>In addition, members participate in various activities such as workshops, support for other groups, open visits and participation in the following sections: Coordinator of the Consumer Groups of Valencia Province; Platform for Food Sovereignty of Valencia Province; State network of SPGs; Alternative and Solidarity Economy Network of Valencia Province (REAS-PV).</p>
Website	www.ecollaures.org
Links to other websites if appropriate	http://aixadacomeixida.wixsite.com/aixadacomeixida/spg-ecollaures

	https://cerai.org/jornada-de-convivencia-del-sistema-participativo-de-garantia-spg-ecollaures/ https://www.hortdecarmen.es/el-spg-ecollaures/ https://www.ecoturis.net/spg-ecollaures/ http://vorasenda.es/ecollaures-spg-garantia-de-calidad-ecologica-avalada-por-colectivos-de-labradores-y-consumidores/
Tick if audiovisual material provided	https://vimeo.com/85039675 http://www.biosegura.es/la-voz-del-viento-semillas-de-transicion/ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K8xWfglQfvs https://vimeo.com/172596869
Tick if project documents provided	

PRACTICE ABSTRACT 1

This summary should be as interesting as possible for farmers and other practitioners, using easy understandable language.

(Please repeat this template for each project or subproject that you would like to record)

Short title in English	Ecollaures Participatory Guarantee System
<p>Short summary for practitioners in English on the (final or expected) outcomes (1000-1500 characters, word count – no spaces). This summary should at least contain the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Main results/outcomes of the activity (expected or final) Include successes such as impact (on policy/productivity/land management etc), effectiveness (have objectives been achieved?), sustainability (economic and environmental), and transferability (can it be adapted and adopted elsewhere?) – The main practical recommendation(s): including both entrepreneurial elements related to cost, productivity etc as well as how any challenges have been overcome. 	<p>In other parts of the world, Participatory Guarantee Systems are developed to reduce the costs of official organic certification. This particular initiative seeks an even greater guarantee of social transformation and sovereignty through local agro-ecological production and consumption, short distribution channels, protecting the small producer as well as human and environmental health, social justice and horizontal relationships between people, and social, cultural and economic activity in support of the values of agroecology</p> <p>The name Ecollaures means ‘ecological farmers’, with llaures being Valencian for farmer.</p> <p>Successes include the higher involvement of consumers in the food chain, as well as social organisations, academics and other actors, and stronger synergies between the activities of production, processing and marketing. Many local councils accept the PGS as a sufficient guarantee to participate in local markets and other initiatives of direct marketing and short supply chains. PGS members also participate in areas of political decision making such as the Agrarian Council of Valencia City.</p> <p>Overall the PGS Ecollaures has helped to improve the sustainability and viability of its participating projects.</p> <p>A key recommendation is to prioritise efforts to ensure very active participation of everyone involved, in order to ensure participatory democracy.</p>
Short title in <u>native language</u>	Sistema Participativo de Garantía-Ecollaures
<p>Short summary for practitioners in <u>native language</u> (can be the language of the coordinator / one of the partners)</p>	<p>En otras partes del mundo, los Sistemas de garantía participativa se desarrollan expresamente para reducir los costos económicos y burocráticos de la certificación</p>

	<p>orgánica oficial. Esta iniciativa particular busca una garantía aún mayor de transformación social y soberanía a través de la producción y el consumo agroecológicos, canales de distribución cortos, apoyo al pequeño productor, así como la salud humana y ambiental, la justicia social y las relaciones horizontales entre las personas.</p> <p>El nombre Ecollaures significa "agricultores/as ecológicos/as".</p> <p>Los éxitos incluyen una mayor participación de consumidores en la cadena alimentaria, así como organizaciones sociales, espacios académicos y otros actores, y una mayor sinergia entre las actividades de producción, procesamiento y comercialización. Muchos ayuntamientos y colectivos aceptan el SPG como una garantía suficiente para participar en mercados locales y otras iniciativas de comercio directo y cadenas de suministro cortas. Los miembros de SPG también participan en áreas de toma de decisiones políticas como el Consejo Agrario de la ciudad de Valencia.</p> <p>En general, SPG Ecollaures ha ayudado a mejorar la sostenibilidad y la viabilidad de los proyectos que en él participan.</p> <p>Una recomendación clave es priorizar los esfuerzos para asegurar una participación muy activa de todas las involucradas, a fin de garantizar la democracia participativa.</p>
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