



The recovery and enhancement of agro-forestry areas: innovative actions for promoting land use



Santiago de Compostela, November 2019

Miguel Ángel Pérez Dubois. General Director of Rural Development

Xunta de Galicia



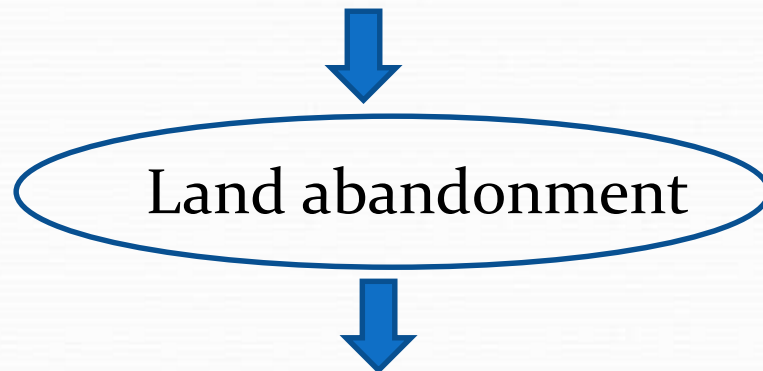


- “Autonomous Community” – regional government.
 - 4 provinces
 - 313 municipalities
 - Other divisions without a proper legal status
 - Counties (several municipalities)
 - Parishes (subdivision under the municipality)
- 29.574 km²
- 2.701.743 inhabitants (2018)

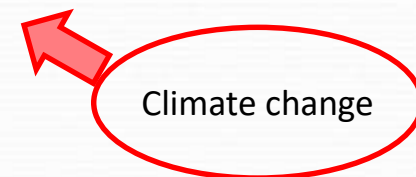


Autonomous Community	ha/parcel	ha/owner	parcels/owner
Andalucía	3,01	7,58	2,52
Aragón	1,90	11,09	5,83
Asturias	0,69	2,92	4,24
Islas Baleares	1,72	2,75	1,60
Islas Canarias	0,88	2,26	2,56
Cantabria	1,00	3,35	3,35
Castilla y León	1,03	6,16	5,99
Castilla - La Mancha	1,80	9,35	5,20
Cataluña	2,20	7,29	3,32
Comunidad Valenciana	0,97	2,79	2,86
Extremadura	3,31	11,61	3,51
Galicia	0,26	1,66	6,49
Madrid	1,53	4,96	3,25
Murcia	2,19	4,92	2,24
La Rioja	0,71	3,97	5,62
Ceuta	3,73	3,56	0,95
Melilla	1,49	2,05	1,38
Spanish Average	1,21	5,51	4,57

- 97% private property
- Extreme fragmentation (rustic)
 - 2.839.362 ha
 - 11.117.033 parcels
 - 1.711.879 landowners



- Increase of the number and harshness of forest fires
- Loss of wealth and opportunities in the rural areas
- Loss of biodiversity
- Loss of cultural roots





Rustic land

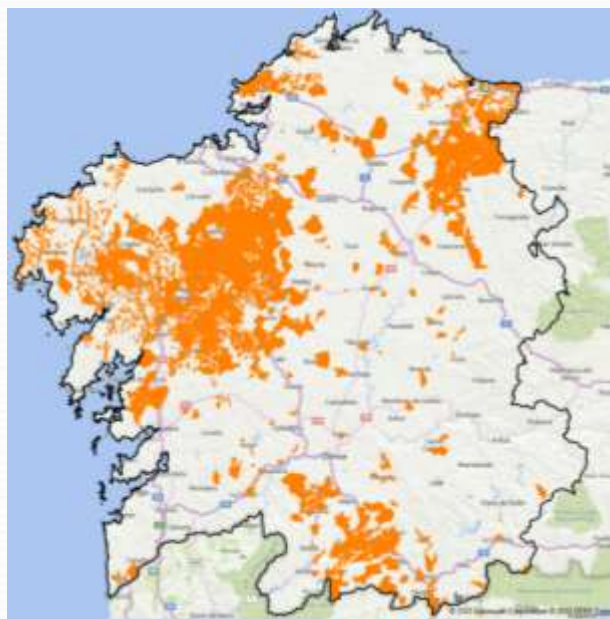
Region	Rustic area (ha)	% rustic area of Spain	Number of plots	% of number plots of Spain
Galicia	2.839.362,93	5,98%	11.117.033	28,25%

Cadastral Landowners

Region	Total	1 plot	2 plots	3 plots	4 plots	5 plots	6 to 10 plots	11 to 25 plots	26 to 50 plots	More of 50 plots
12 Galicia	1.711.879	658.544	231.280	132.455	93.785	69.917	205.157	200.731	83.627	36.383

1.711.879

Source: Cadastre. 2018



Traditional Land Consolidation Projects

- First Project: Barcala – Covas (A Baña) initiated by Decree in 1954
- Number of projects initiated (with decree): 932
 - Number of projects finished: 828
 - Number of ongoing projects: 104
- Land consolidated area :
 - Consolidated area (finished): 400.843 ha
 - Area is being consolidated: 90.461 ha

491.304 ha





(1) Not only land consolidation:

- Land Use based tools
-

Cadastral Landowners

Region	Total	1 plot	2 plots	3 plots	4 plots	5 plots	6 to 10 plots	11 to 25 plots	26 to 50 plots	More of 50 plots
Galicia	1.711.879	658.544	231.180	132.455	93.785	60.917	205.157	200.731	83.627	36.383
		1.022.279				689.600				
		Land Use Mobilization				Land Restructuration				

(2) Landownership Restructuration

- Land Use based tools

Actuacións de Mobilidade de Terras



(3) Comprehensive implementation of policies: toolbox

1. Land Restructuration (Law 4/2015, METAGA)
2. Comprehensive projects in villages (Law4/2015, METAGA)
3. Voluntary land swaps(Law4/2015, METAGA)
4. SOFOR (Decree 45/2011).
5. Measures related to forest planning (Law7/2012, of Forest Areas)
6. Forest fires prevention and protection measures (Law 3/2007)
7. Measures related to natural heritage and biodiversity (Law 5/2019)
8. Land mobility: land bank and land use recovery projects (Law 6/2011)



¿WHY A NEW LAW FOR THE RECOVERY AND ENHANCEMENT OF AGRO-FORESTRY AREAS?





A new law for what?

- **Aim**: To establish a **framework** for the management and land use planning of agro-forestry land as well as fighting against their abandonment and promoting their use for getting the following objectives
- **Objectives**
 - To promote the productive recovery of agro-forestry land in Galicia, developing for that measures based on leasing and other transfer of land use or ownership tools.
 - To fight against the agro-forestry land abandonment, establishing measures for its productive use
 - To enable the agro-forestry land planning through their cartographic identification and land use planning
 - To facilitate the contact and relations between entrepreneurs of agro-forestry projects and the owners of land that can be recovered productively
 - To give support to farmers and entrepreneurs that participate in land recovery projects trough tax incentives.
 - To provide land to existing farm and forest holdings in order to have enough territorial bases for their activity
 - To promote job maintenance related to agro-forestry activities
 - To protect the nature and environment, working as an instrument to prevention and protection against forest fires.





How objectives will be achieved?

Through whom? Which instruments?

- The Land Bank of Galicia
- The Bank of farms

How?

Which tool?

- Agro-forestry Polygons
- Projects for common land use
- Projects of “Model Villages”

Catalogue of land with high values of productivity



Through whom? - The Land Bank of Galicia and the Bank of Farms

- **The Land Bank of Galicia**

- It was created in 2007 to intermediate between landowners and farmers/users through guaranteeing lease contracts
- With the new Law :
 - The procedures of leasing land will be simplified and more efficient
 - The land bank will also intermediate in the exchange of ownership, not only when leasing



- **The Bank of Farms**

- New instrument
- Intermediation: productive farms that have to close with new farmers

How? – Tools

(1) Agro-forestry Polygons

Objective: Recovering the productive use of the land with good conditions for agro-forestry production which was abandoned, it is underused or is not used according to the better land use plan.

Preferential areas:

- Abandoned or underused land that was consolidated
- Land that will be used for producing quality value products
- Forage production in abandoned or underused large areas for being used by cooperative associations





(2) Projects for common land use

Land will be recovered in the following conditions:

- The projects will be developed directly by the landowners
- There will not be any kind of ownership restructuring process. The plots will be maintain as before the project except for those areas in which roads or other works will be needed.
- The income and expenditures will be distributed between the people who participate in the project according to the area or the value of the land
- There will be no ownership exchange, except if voluntary swaps or sale contracts are signed.

Preferential stakeholders:

- Non-profit Agro-forestry associations for the common management and marketing of products
- Foundations
- Other legal associations related to agro-forestry production: cooperatives, agro-forestry compensation boards, communities of properties, ...



(3) Projects of “model villages”

- A “model village” is a comprehensive project for the recovering and enhancement of the land surrounding the village with the aim of supporting economic and social activities
- The projects will be developed in abandoned or underused areas with good aptitude land for agro-forestry production
- These projects will be steered by the Galician Rural Development Agency (Agader) with the collaboration of the municipality in which the projects are developed.
- Once the land is recovered other actions will be developed in the village in order to stop the depopulation and increase their quality life. These actions will be done by other departments of the government under the coordination of Agader.





Thank you very much

