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MEMBER

La Vera Nos Alimenta

Living Lab LVNA | Spain



The Alliance for the Promotion of a Territorialized Food System, founded in 2020, will be established as an association in 2025, and currently comprises 17 entities representing local governments, local action groups, social organizations, producer organizations, training and research centres, and professional associations.

Aim

Our goal is to develop the lines of work of the Regional Food Strategy, facilitating cooperation among stakeholders in the local agri-food system to implement actions in each of its areas of action.

Background information

When the pandemic highlighted the possibility of a food supply disruption, several organizations in the same region began collaborating to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the state of our food system (from farm to table). We wondered if we would be able to feed ourselves, how we used to do so, what crops were available in the region, and so on. We also investigated public food procurement in the region to assess whether it could be a good driver for the diversification and agroecological transition of our production within the reach of local authorities.

Given the challenges and opportunities revealed by the results, we decided to begin a multi-level, multi-agent participatory process to design a strategy to guide us in the implementation of local food policies that would contribute to a healthier and more sustainable food system. This process not only provided us with a direction but has also served as a catalyst for multiple stakeholders interested in getting involved to drive these changes. It has also served to launch pilot projects in public kitchens, facilitate training for producers and public administration officials, and generate educational materials.

Funding structure

Funding for the process over these years has come from the local action group, grants from the Ministry of Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, and the Ministry of Social Rights, Consumption, and the 2030 Agenda.

It currently has support from the Regional Government of Extremadura as a funder of the Agroecology Partnership through its participation in the ALLFact project, the Ministry of Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, and contributions from partners.

Activities

- Working meetings between partners.
- Training, discussion, co-creation, mentoring.





General impression of the activities. Source: LVNA

Methods, stakeholder engagements and tools

During our first years of the process, we used different methodologies for the diagnosis, from data analysis to focus groups, surveys, and interviews.

To design the strategy, a multi-agent steering group was established, and open workshops were held to receive proposals by food dimension in settings related to the topic (regional women's council, farmers' markets, cultural and gastronomic events, etc.), and intersectoral roundtables were held in different areas of the region.

In addition, support processes have been initiated for four public soup kitchens in the region to transition toward a healthier and more sustainable model. This is a procedural strategy to combine the more theoretical approach with the implementation of concrete actions that motivate continued involvement. This process also seeks to open up and educate the demand before demanding efforts from the productive sector: <https://www.laveranosalimenta.org/el-proyecto/> .

With the productive sector, we have so far generated a food map of the region, facilitated some local producer markets, channelled resources for the implementation of requested training activities, generated easy-to-read materials on the administrative processes and successes of local producer groups in other territories, and created a report on the specific demand for public canteens, as well as an economic study for the launch of a regional distribution platform.

Relevant links:



- <https://www.laveranosalimenta.org/alimentos-de-la-vera/>
- <https://www.laveranosalimenta.org/herramientas/>
- <https://www.laveranosalimenta.org/talleres-productores-as/>



Source: LVNA



Source: LVNA

Achievements

- All the studies and reports that we have prepared throughout the process can be found via the following link: <https://www.laveranosalimenta.org/informes/> .



Publications



- The dream: <https://youtu.be/ioVwJqBnZhk>
- The process: <https://youtu.be/1hlZB4jk-cE>

Contact



Website: www.laveranosalimenta.org

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/laveranosalimenta/?hl=es>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/laveranosalimenta>

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyt_Q7fef9RoXNhcvC55Kw

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