



PRACTICE ABSTRACT No 15

Keywords

Peri-Urban agriculture, Landscape conservation, Policy Innovation, Policy Design

Agrarian Parks in Spain – Promoting the Value of Agriculture in a Peri-urban Context

An agrarian park is an innovative concept aiming to protect and to value productive agricultural land for food production purposes and for the cultural and recreational worth it provides for the residents of the region. The concept also aims to contribute to the reformulation (and re-evaluation) of agriculture in a peri-urban setting, where this activity offers many advantages (fresh products, green spaces, jobs etc..) due to its proximity to urban centres. At the same time, this proximity to growing urban and industrial zones poses the threat that this traditional peri-urban agricultural areas are fragmented and pushed back with consequent loss of productivity and transformation of the landscape.

The Agrarian Park of Fuenlabrada is a prime example for putting this innovative concept to work. Fuenlabrada is located in the south of Madrid with approximately 800 ha of agricultural land. Its development responds to the interest of the local institutions to maintain and strengthen the local agricultural production, as well as recovering and conserving the existing peri-urban landscape around the city of Fuenlabrada. A participatory approach ensures that the needs and wants of the main actors – farmers as well as residents of the region – are taking into account. The agricultural park is enhancing the economic, environmental and socio-cultural potential of the territory and its actors from a multifunctional and agroecological point of view. The main problems in Fuenlabrada are related to the abandonment of farms due to retirement, lack of generational replacement and the threat of urban and industrial expansion.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information: <https://parqueagrariofuenlabrada.es>



Sites in Fuenlabrada Agrarian Park © Inés Gutiérrez Briceño

ABOUT CONTRACTS2.0

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Contracts2.0 aims to develop innovative contract-based solutions, which increase the motivation for farmers and land managers to produce more environmental public goods and allow them to reconcile the profitability of their farms with sustainability objectives. To do so, 28 research and practice partners closely cooperate to co-design and evaluate the novel contracts. Lessons learned from successfully tested contracts will also provide support for policy makers on local, national and EU-Level.

 www.project-contracts20.eu
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Research partners



Action partners



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All Practice Abstracts prepared by the contracts2.0 project can be found here: <https://www.project-contracts20.eu/practice-abstracts/> & <https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/find-connect/projects/contracts20-co-design-von-innovativen>