INtegrated Spatial PlannIng, land use and soil management Research AcTION:

National results: SPAIN

Coordination and Support Action

Societal challenges and needs

- **Sustainable territorial planning and management:** Spatial planning as an inclusive discipline and cross-cutting public policy considered the most appropriate framework for most of the societal challenges (food security, secure water supply, efficient use of natural resources and climate change mitigation and adaptation), given its vocation to articulate an integrated land use and coordinated deployment of sectoral policies
- **New culture of territory** which would englobe, innovative governance structures and democracy models, global awareness, and participatory planning
- **Protection of biodiversity and ecosystem services,** to contribute to healthy environment and resilience
- **Society empowerment and co-responsibility**
- **More balanced and equitable relation between rural and urban realities**
- **Prospective planning (anticipation) in a world with fragile balance and instability**
- **Applying the "polluter's pays" principle:** importance of taking into account positive and negative externalities but also plan and design the procedures for assessment, evaluation and imputation to those who generate externalities.

Topics / research needs to be included in the SRA

Two overarching issues to be added as backbones in the SRA: soil as a limited resource and The consideration of energy and its close link with water, soil and land management.

ES-1 Innovation in science communication and awareness

ES-2 New governance, instruments and management mechanisms

ES-3 Integrated analysis and management

ES3.1- Life cycle thinking applied to land use

ES3.2- Ecological footprint and its relationship to bio-capacity and especially its derivate

ES3.3- Integrated approach to water, energy, soil, ecosystem and territory

ES3.4- Mal-adaptation and its relation to the trinomial water-energy-territory

ES3.5- Better understanding the impacts of simultaneous stressors

ES3.6- New technologies and their impact on territorial development

ES3.7- Positive externalities of agroforestry areas

ES3.8- Innovative territorial models

ES3.9- Multifunctional approach to land uses and poli-functionality in the urban context

ES3.10- Strengthen the relation between spatial planning and urbanism

ES3.11- Adaptation to climate change

ES3.12- Relations between climate change and tourism

ES3.13- Soil quality in relation to health and quality of life

ES3.14- Green infrastructure

ES3.15- Innovative and alternative metrics

ES-4 **Specific technologies: hybrid technologies and ICT knowledge:** conservation tillage, land use under semi-arid conditions, water footprint impact, genetic adaptation of crops, reverted osmosis, aquaculture, early warning systems, distributed energy generation and consumption/use.

Experiences regarding the connection of science to policy and practice

- **Interrelation between science and policy is rather weak in the Spanish context, i.e. poor transposition of science outcomes into policy making; non-alignment of R&I programs with researchers and end-users needs (i.e. industry, citizens, practitioners etc.)**
- **The interplay and communications means between all key actors, namely policy makers, universities, R&I / RTO centres, practitioners, private sector, NGOs and also citizens should be improved and incentivized at multiple levels.**
- **This would require the development of specific instruments for knowledge exchanging and communicating, setting priorities for R&I, evaluating R&I outcomes but also specific financial and human resources dedicated to develop solutions that would respond to the expectations of both communities.**

National and transnational funding schemes

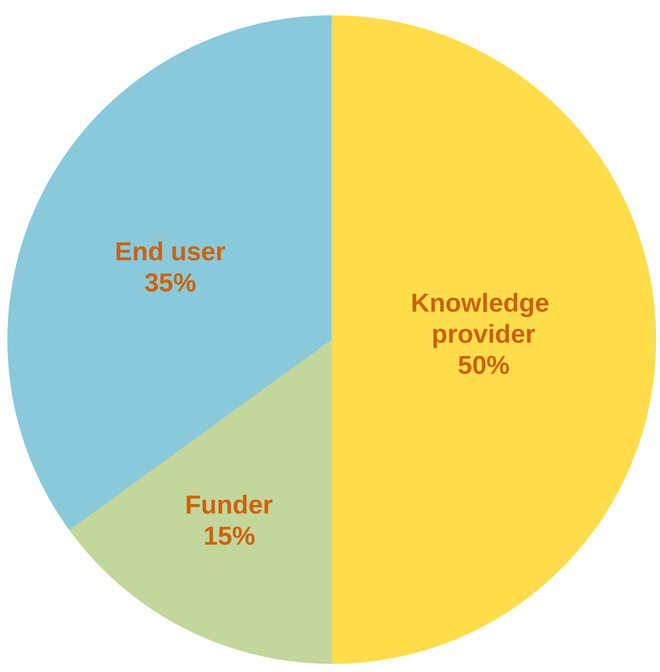
- **Wide range of R&I funding mechanisms in the Spanish landscape – several levels**
- **The consulted stakeholders reported a shared view on the need for greater simplification of R&I funding procedures, especially in the European context and better visibility of funding opportunities**
- **Adequate instruments for monitoring the impact of R&I funding and for involving the private sector so the R&I could find the way to markets more efficiently**
- **All in all, independently of the development of new funding instruments, better governance systems based on improved integration of funding institutions and programs (horizontal integration) and organizational level (from EU to regional scale, i.e. vertical integration) are required.**

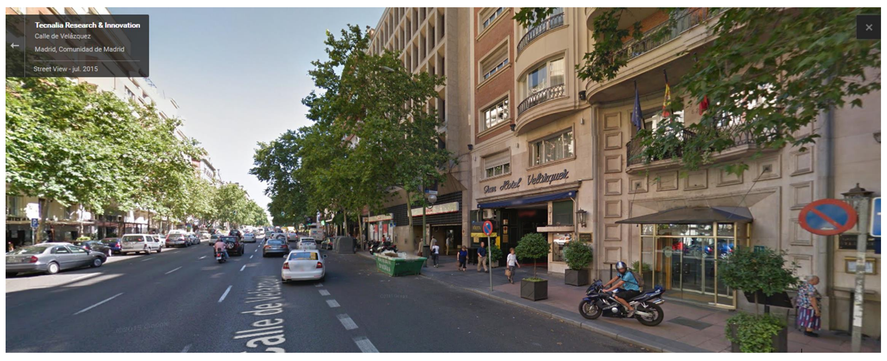
A key message from Spain:

- **Spain has competitive strengths in specific sectors (i.e. biosphere reserves, national parks, water management techniques in agricultural and market gardening sectors under semiarid conditions, renewal energy) due to its regional specificities and is willing to maintain its leadership as ground for generating wealth and resilience in Europe.**
- **So it is utterly important to strengthen efforts in RTD on these sectors in which Spain is already well positioned, also to value the advances in specific technologies and to exploit the regional specificities and assets in southern EU (Barcelona Convention), so Spain could contribute to the increase of the productivity and resilience of Europe as a whole.**

Background of Spanish Key Stakeholders

- **In total, 20 expert interviews were conducted.**
- **11 experts participated in the national workshop in Madrid on 26th–27th Jan. 2016**





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National contact for Spain: Gemma García-Blanco→ gemma.garcia@tecnalia.com

Contact INSPIRATION coordination: Stephan Bartke → stephan.bartke@uba.de or Detlef Grimski → detlef.grimski@uba.de
Internet: www.inspiration-h2020.eu | Twitter: @inspiration4eu

INSPIRATION
INTEGRATED SPATIAL PLANNING, LAND USE AND SOIL MANAGEMENT RESEARCH ACTION