

## LEADER EXPERIENCE EXCHANGE: COOPERATION

**Date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2026

**Dual format:**

- In person: [La Farm Studio](#), [Real Sitio de San Ildefonso, Segovia](#).
- Online: Live streaming of the event will be available.

**Attendance:** Attendance at the conference is free of charge. Prior [registration is required](#).

The registration form includes a tab that allows it to be viewed in English and Spanish, helping to make the information clear and accessible to all participants.

**Language:** The conference will be held in Spanish, with simultaneous translation into English available during the first part. Likewise, for the afternoon session (Ágora cooperación LEADER), the organizers will support and facilitate communication between participants in both languages.

On the other hand, those who follow the conference through streaming on YouTube will be able to choose between two audio channels, allowing them to listen to the broadcast in Spanish or English, according to their preference.

### Context and objectives

Cooperation between [Local Action Groups \(LAGs\)](#) in Spain and Europe is part of the [LEADER approach](#) and aims to exchange experiences, good practices and knowledge, generating synergies that strengthen local capacities to address common challenges. In this way, [LEADER cooperation](#) helps local actors to boost the potential of their territories through dynamic networking.

In this sense, the PAC Network wishes to contribute to and promote such cooperation at national and European level through this conference, which has the following main objectives:

- To raise awareness of LEADER cooperation opportunities in the 2023-2027 programming period.
- To showcase the work of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the LEADER approach, and in particular inter-territorial LEADER cooperation.
- To disseminate the initiatives of the European CAP Network to strengthen networking among European LAGs.
- To present good practices in LEADER cooperation at the intraregional, inter-territorial and transnational levels.
- To promote the emergence of new LEADER cooperation projects, as well as the accession of new partners to cooperation projects in the initial or ongoing phase.

## Organized by

This conference is organised by the [Spanish CAP Network](#), which belongs to the Sub-Directorate General for Agricultural Policy Planning of the [Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food \(MAPA\)](#).

## Target audience

- Management and technical staff of Local Action Groups (LAGs).
- Regional and national LAG networks.
- LEADER management authorities and regional managers.
- Various MAPA units with responsibilities for LEADER.
- LAG representatives from other Member States.
- National and European CAP networks
- Other entities related to rural development or with an interest in the theme of the event.

## Programme

### 3<sup>rd</sup> March

TIME	CONTENT
9:30 - 10:00	<b>Reception of participants</b>
10:00 - 10:10	<b>Opening and welcome</b> Ana Rodríguez Castaño, Secretary General for Agricultural Resources and Food Safety, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPA).
10:10 - 10:20	<b>Presentation of the Spanish CAP Network and activities linked to LEADER</b> Sara Josefa Herrero Rodríguez, Head of the Spanish CAP Network (MAPA).
10:20 - 10:30	<b>Status of LEADER Cooperation in Spain</b> Marina Celada Carmona, Chef of service, Sub-Directorate General for Rural Development (MAPA).
10:30 - 11:15	<b>LEADER cooperation in Europe</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work of the European CAP Network on LEADER, in particular transnational cooperation:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Elena Di Federico, <i>Publications manager (EU CAP Network)</i>.</li><li>○ Peter Toth, <i>Networker (EU CAP Network)</i>.</li></ul></li></ul>

TIME	CONTENT
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEADER approach in other Member States:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Stefan Spasov (Management Authority, Bulgaria): Current status of LEADER cooperation and possibilities for the next period.</li> <li>○ Irena Krizova, Ondřej Večeř (Czech CAP Network): Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) in the Czech Republic with a multifund approach.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
11:15 - 11:45	<p><b>Coffee break (provided by the organisers)</b></p>
11:45 - 12:30	<p><b>Good practices in LEADER cooperation in Spain and Europe: obstacles and lessons learned.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of completed transnational cooperation projects, as well as Spanish inter-territorial projects.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ José Miguel Mozo. <a href="#">+Empleo +Empresa +Rural</a>. GAL “Campos y Torozos”. Castilla y León, Spain.</li> <li>○ Rosa Messuti. <i>Food without borders</i>. <a href="#">GAL La Cittadella del Sapere</a>, Italy.</li> <li>○ Veronika Liotard. <i>Community-Based Soft Tourism as a Tool for Sustainable Rural Development: The Experience of LAG Sedlčansko</i>. GAL MAS Sedlčansko, Czech Republic.</li> <li>○ Anna Colominas. <a href="#">CAL RURAL</a>. Associació pel Desenvolupament Rural de la Catalunya Central, Cataluña, Spain.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
12:30 - 13:30	<p><b>Presentation of transnational cooperation projects actively seeking partners in the following priority areas:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Gianluca Gariuolo. HOST VILLAGE. Generation renewal. <a href="#">GAL START2020</a>, Italy.</li> <li>○ Alexandre Ferraz. <a href="#">Raia Historica</a>. Rural and responsible ecotourism. GAL Castelos do Côa, Portugal.</li> <li>○ Christina Kalatha. <a href="#">Living in Biosphere Reserves</a>. ATTICA LAG, Greece.</li> <li>○ Maria Gieva. EU STORK ROUTE - European Network of Stork Villages and Communities. <a href="#">LAG Rakovski</a>, Bulgaria.</li> <li>○ Pilar Javato Lucas. <a href="#">Smart Rural Living</a>: Living rural areas, smart villages. Rural innovation and smart villages. REDEX, Extremadura, Spain.</li> <li>○ Sotirios Bolis. <a href="#">MALVASIA MYTH</a>. GAL Parnonas S.A., Greece.</li> </ul>

TIME	CONTENT
	Explanation of the dynamics within the LEADER cooperation Agora after lunch.
13:30 - 14:45	<b>Lunch (provided by the organisation)</b>
14:45 - 17:00	<b>Ágora Cooperación LEADER:</b> The space will be organised according to the five priority themes mentioned above. At the beginning of the agora, there will be a round of quick presentations (elevator pitch) in each group, in which interested LAGs can present their projects. Subsequently, participatory dynamics will be carried out in each of the groups with the aim of facilitating interactions between participants and the emergence of new adhesions to existing cooperation projects, as well as new projects.
17:00 - 17:20	<b>Coffee break (provided by the organisation)</b>
17:20 - 17:50	<b>Presentation of the results of each group of the Ágora</b>
17:50 - 18:00	<b>Closing of the day</b>

An evening networking dinner will take place at the Real Sitio de San Ildefonso. Participation is at the attendees' own expense (estimated cost: €40)

#### 4<sup>th</sup> March

TIME	CONTENT
10:00 - 14:00	<b>Visit to LEADER cooperation projects in the region.</b>

To facilitate participant transportation, the organizers will provide **round-trip bus service** from Segovia Bus Station to La Farm Studio, with a stop at Segovia-Guiomar High-Speed Train Station, on **3rd and 4th March** (more details in the “Practical Information Sheet”).

ORGANIZED BY: RED PAC



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