



# InnovAgroWoMed



# INNOVAGROWOMED- DESK RESEARCH VALENCIA



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The document has been commissioned and reviewed by **Jovesólides team**.

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## INTRODUCTION

Jovesólides is the Valencian partner of the Innvagrowomed project for the Social Innovation in the Agri-food sector for women's empowerment in the Mediterranean Sea basin. The **main aim** of this project is to boost women labour participation and entrepreneurship, by leveraging on the potential of the agri-food sector - an industry closely linked to the cultural identity of the Mediterranean region - and showing a significant level of untapped potential in terms of innovation and growth. This initiative is part of the ENI (European Neighbourhood Initiative) funded by the European Union for Cooperation Across Borders in the Mediterranean.

In the framework of this project, this document provides an overview of the Valencian context as one of the territories where the actions of the project will be implemented, in particular, the information collected in this report will be useful to design a comprehensive training model to contribute to the reduction of the gender gap in the employability of the agri-food sector. For that, this report follows the guidelines provided by the project and it is structured in the following sections: (i) the social context and local culture, (ii) the relevance of sustainability, (iii) the relevant actors in the agri-food sectors, (iv) the existing training programs, and (v) existing networks.

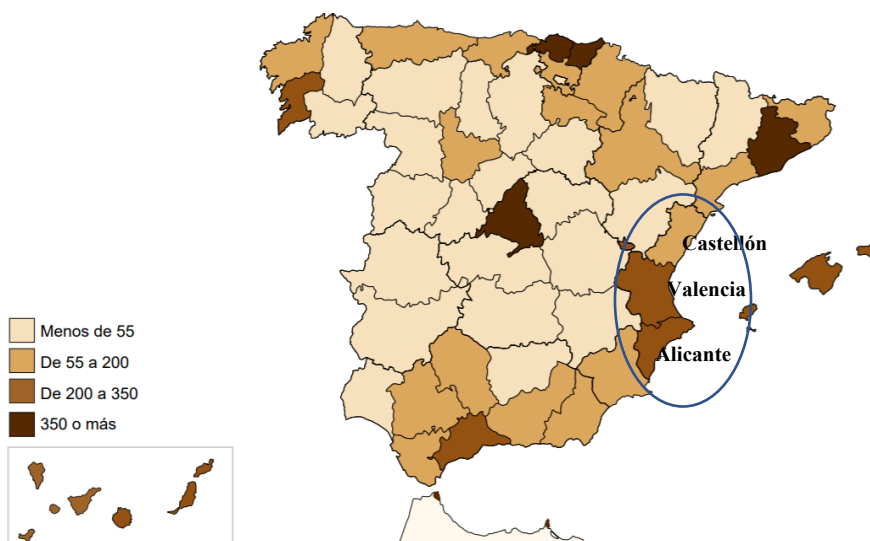
### 1. Social context and local culture

The social context and local culture of Valencia are described throughout a general description of the territory and population distribution, most important economic indicators, and educational levels, as well as, the role and condition of women in the region and the culture in terms of civic engagement and collective actions.

#### The social context

In terms of territory and population, Spain is divided into 17 autonomous regions and two autonomous cities. The Valencian Community, hereinafter VC, represent 4.6% of the Spanish territory, with 23,254 Km<sup>2</sup> of the 505,990 km<sup>2</sup> total extension of the country. As for its population, the region<sup>1</sup> is the fourth with the highest number behind Andalusia, Catalonia and the Community of Madrid, representing 10.8% of the 47,329,981 Spanish inhabitants. Its density is 220 people/km<sup>2</sup>, much higher than Spain's average density of 93 people/km<sup>2</sup> (INE, 2020a) (see Figure 1).

**Fig.1** Spanish population density – People per km<sup>2</sup>



Source: INE, Population data, Population projections INE - Spain National Geographic Institute of Spain (June 2020)

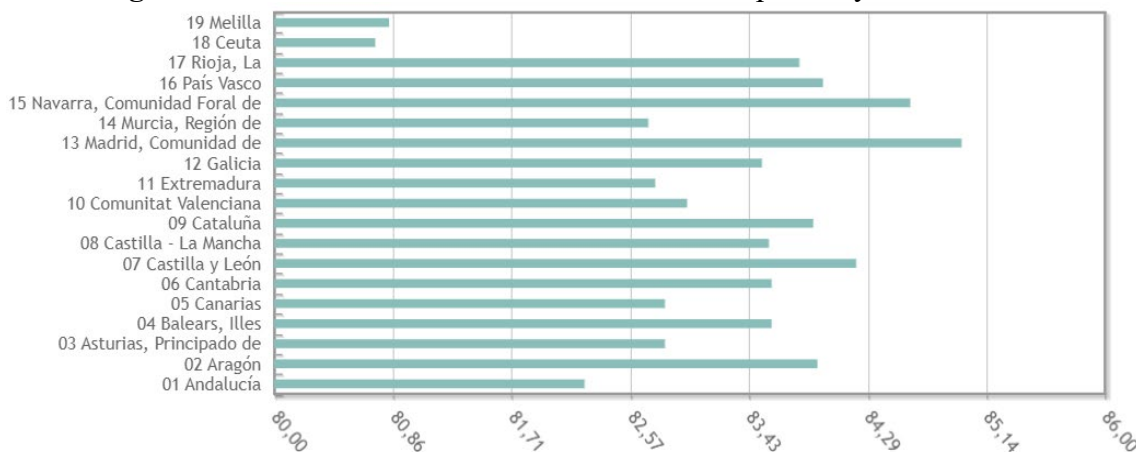
<sup>1</sup> In this document refers to the Valencian Community.



The region is located in the east of the Iberian Peninsula on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea and is made up of three provinces: Valencia, which is the capital of the region, Alicante, and Castellón, the first being the one that condenses just over half of the total population of its territory with 2,565,124 inhabitants. The female population both in the community and the province of Valencia is slightly higher than the male population. The report is addressed to describe the context of the Valencia province although in some cases the information provided correspond to the whole Community region as this is the information available.

**Ageing** population is a challenge in the Valencian province as in the European Union. The population, both the Valencian and the Spanish, is getting older due to the negative vegetative balance, that is, more people die than are born each year. In some way, it is explained by a low birth rate, which in the province of Valencia is 7.4 % and in the VC 7.5 %, very similar to the national rate of 7.6% (INE, 2019). Nevertheless, the average life expectancy in the Valencian province is 82.9 years somewhat lower than the Spanish (83.6 years), with an average life span from women five years higher than that of men, reaching 85.5 years of life (INE, 2019). The following graph shows the Spanish life expectancy distributed by region, which for the VC is 83 years, and it is lower for men than for women (80.3-85.6 years) (see Figure 2).

**Fig.2** Autonomous Cities and Communities, life expectancy at birth, 2019



Source: own elaboration based on INE data, (2019)

Concerning the **socio-economic context**, the Valencian region has a privileged location that, together with the good living conditions, offers the conversion into a territory with a strong capacity to attract population and economic activity (RIS3-CV).

The region is in the middle of trade flows between the East and the Atlantic and its logistics alignment allows it to be defended as a key axis of logistics activity in the Mediterranean. In terms of exports, the region is the third at the national level considering the volume. Its sales are focus on the automobile industry, the **agri-food industry**, footwear, and ceramics. The agri-food sector provides the 4.9% added value of the regional total a percentage below 5.6% of Spain and the 5.2% of the employment, with a productivity that excess in 3.2% the national average of the sector (IVIE, 2018).

The industrial tradition of VC has a greater weight both in employment and Gross Value Added compared to the rest of Spain. Ceramics, chemistry, metallurgy, and the automotive industry are the sectors with the greatest weight. On the other hand, footwear, textiles, tiles, toys, and furniture have a great specialization.

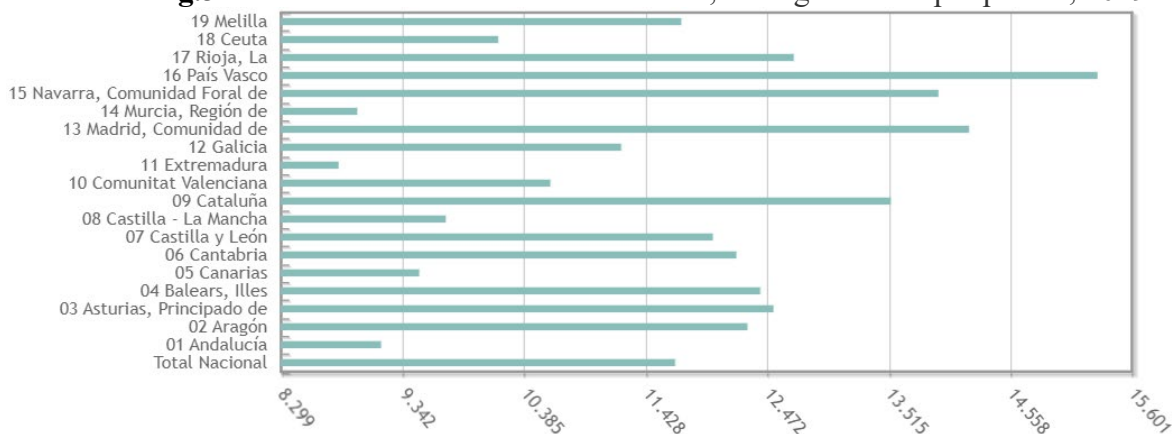
The Valencia land received the recognition of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) for their global agricultural heritage list (FAO, 2019). As detailed by Yoshihide Endo who coordinates the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems programme: "The Horta of Valencia is invaluable. Half of the crops grown here are at risk of disappearing in the region. It provides for both farmers and fishers. Its citrus fruits have a Geographical Indication label due to their high quality and variety. The site is also home to a wide range of birds, fish and plants, many classified as rare, endemic or endangered".

Regarding the Valencian **companies**, these stand out for their small size, which negatively affects their ability to obtain financing, to develop R & D & I projects in their processes and products. However, in the region, there is a strong entrepreneurial culture that is helping the emergence of new technology and global companies. The 60% of the companies working in the agri-food sector are micro-SMEs (less than 10 employees), most of them dedicated to food sector (87%) (RIS3-CV).

In terms of growth, during the period between 1999 and 2007, the region had good rates but the financial crisis negatively impacted on its economy. A compelling reason is that the productive structure does not favour improvements in productivity since it is mainly based on services and construction. Even though tourism on an international scale has always been key in the growth of the region, and this has not been affected by the financial crisis.

**From a macroeconomic** point of view, GDP in the region was €103,228,580 million in 2019, representing the 4th economy in Spain. Regarding GDP per capita, which is a good indicator of the quality of life, in the region in 2019, it was 20,094 euros compared to 23,979 euros of GDP per capita in Spain (INE, 2019). The average income per person in the region is 10,611 euros compared to 11,680 euros for the Spanish average in 2019. The poverty risk rate is 23.7% somewhat higher in the region than the national rate, which is 20.7% according to the latest data from the Living Conditions Survey, 2019. The following graph (figure 3) shows the Spanish average income distributed by regions.

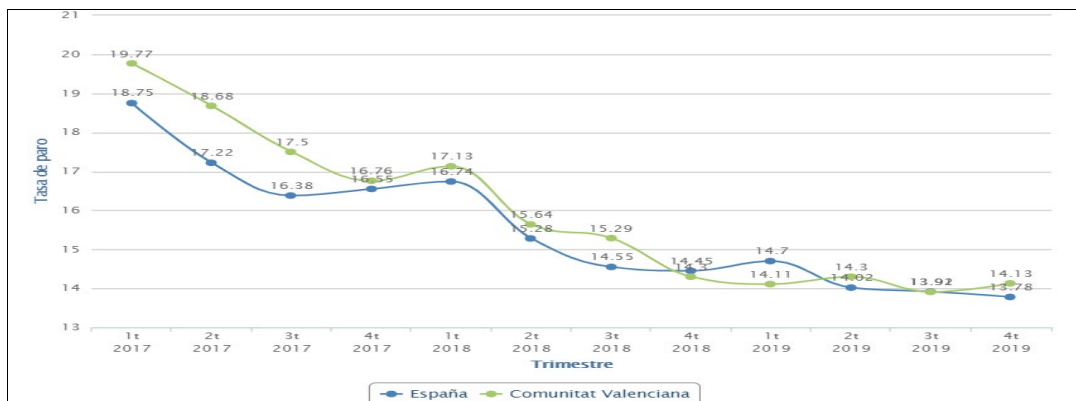
**Fig.3** Autonomous Cities and Communities, average income per person, 2019



Source: own elaboration based on INE data, (2019)

Unemployment in the region, according to the Active Population Survey in the last quarter of 2019, was 14.1% (11.7% men and 16.8% women) and with regard to the Valencia province it was 12.9% (11% men and 15.2% women), while the Spanish unemployment rate 13.8% (12.2% men and 15.6% women)(INE, 2020b). The following figure (Figure 4) represent the positive trend of the unemployment reduction in Spain and in the CV for last years.

**Fig.4** Unemployment rate. Data by and Autonomous Communities. Fourth Quarter 2019. INE data



Source: Active Population Survey 2019

The Spanish lockdown, due to COVID-19, has had important repercussions on the employment rates of the first quarter of 2020. All the Spanish autonomous communities had been seen reduced their employment rates during this period, but among the Valencian Community presented one of the greatest decreases with a quarterly variation rate of employment of -1.5%. As consequence, the unemployment rate remains at 14.4% of the active population (13 % men and 16.1% women) and 14% (12.8 %men and 16.2% women) in the province of Valencia. These rates are explained due to the specialization of the Valencian economy in tourism and the business fabric in which even more SMEs and micro-businesses predominate. However, the weight of its agri-food sector can be a positive circumstance, since it is one of the sectors least affected by the crisis and has been protected by the measures adopted by the central government (INE, 2020b). The Valencian Community is the third region in the country with the highest agricultural unemployment, with 13,297 unemployed people who are concentrated in Alicante with 5,643 and Valencia with 5,990 (Agro News Comunitat valenciana, 2020).

**As for the educational system** in Spain, the exercise of educational competences is distributed among all administrative levels according to the Spanish Constitution of 1978. It is a symmetrical model in which the educational competencies exercised by the autonomous communities are basically the same. The bodies that intervene in the educational system are (EURYDICE):

- The General State Administration, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training
- Ministries or Departments of Education of the autonomous communities
- Department of Education: the General State Administration and the autonomous communities delegated to the municipalities exercise functions in aspects that directly affect their interests.
- Educational centres: within the framework established by state and regional regulations, autonomous educational centres to prepare, approve and execute

The structure of the Spanish education system is: Pre-primary, Primary school, Compulsory Secondary Education (ESO), post - secondary, Vocational Training (VET), Adult Training and Higher Education. Currently, there is universal access to compulsory education (Primary and Compulsory Secondary). In turn, Early Childhood Education also has almost universal access between the ages of three and five. Compulsory schooling begins at age 6 and lasts until the age 16. From the age of 16, there is the possibility of leaving the educational system, although in the early post-compulsory ages, schooling remains very high and dropouts occur very slowly.

Furthermore, enrolment in post-secondary (non-compulsory) education is increasing because of the reorganisation of VET and the desire of young people to increase their educational level and training. Therefore, in Spain, enrolment in Higher Education is high, with a tendency to increase in recent years, especially in VET at the Middle and Higher Level, a trend that is replicated in the CV. The

percentage of people between 30 and 34 years old who have reached the level of higher education at national level was 42.4% in 2018, with the percentage of women being higher compared to the men. This data places Spain above the EU 28 average with 40.7% and the number 17 on the list of 28 (Ministerio de Educacion y Formación Profesional, 2019a). In the case of the VC, 34.6% population between 25 and 34 years of age reach basic studies (ISCED 0-2)<sup>2</sup> and 65.4% post-compulsory studies (ISCED 3-8)<sup>3</sup> (Ministerio de Educacion y Formación Profesional, 2019b). Finally, and concerning Valencia city, the following table shows the percentages of the population that reached the different educational levels (Table 1).

**Table. 1** Valencian population by educational levels achieved and sex. School year 2018-2019

	Primary School	Compulsory Secondary Education (ESO)	Higher Education-University <sup>4</sup>
<b>Female</b>	53,1%	52,3%	52,8%
<b>Male</b>	46,9%	47,7%	47,2%

Source: Own elaboration based on Statistical Office, Valencia City Council.

The biggest differences between men and women when choosing their education field are found in the social sciences (70% of the total are women), and in engineering and architecture (75% of the total are men) (INE, 2019).

### Overview of women's roles and conditions in the Valencian society

According to the data offered by the World Economic Forum, **Spain is ranked 8th in the world regarding the Global Gender Gap Index 2020<sup>5</sup>**, which has meant an improvement of 21 positions from 2006 to 2018. In the same way, the European Institute for Gender Equality, EIGE, in charge of measuring the Gender Equality Index<sup>6</sup>, ranks Spain ninth among the 28 countries of the European Union. Comparing the data from Spain with the previous index, 2015, in addition to advancing more than the EU average, the momentum obtained in the Power and Decision-making indicator followed by the Knowledge indicator stands out. On the other hand, Employment and Health are the least advanced, although this second heading already had a very high score (EIGE, 2019).

The **Spanish Constitution** proclaims in its article 14 the right to equality and non-discrimination based on sex. For its part, article 9.2 establishes the obligation of the public powers to promote the conditions so that the equality of the individual and of the groups in which it is integrated is real and effective.

In 1983, Spain ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, approved by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1979. In this same area, the advances introduced by monographic world conferences, such as Nairobi in 1985 and Beijing in 1995, as well as the Amsterdam Treaty that treated equality as a fundamental principle promoted by the European Union. Spain also ratified in 2014 the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence known as the Istanbul Convention.

<sup>2</sup> is the reference international classification for organising education programmes and related qualifications by levels and fields. The 0-2 codes means from Pre-primary until compulsory secondary education.

<sup>3</sup> Idem. The 3-8 codes means from post secondary education, vocational training until phd education or equivalent.

<sup>4</sup> Higher education comprises VET and university.

<sup>5</sup> the report's Gender Gap Index ranks 153 countries according to calculated gender gap between women and men in four key areas: health, education, economy and politics to gauge the state of gender equality in a country

<sup>6</sup> The scores are based on the gaps between women and men and levels of achievement in six core domains: work, money, knowledge, time, power and health

Three important laws in the field of equality in Spain should be highlighted:

- [Organic Law 1/2004, 28 December](https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2004-21760), of Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence. (BOE de 29/12/2004)<sup>7</sup>
- [Organic Law 3/2007, 22 March](https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2007-6115), for the effective equality of women and men. (BOE de 23/03/2007)<sup>8</sup>
- [Organic Law 2/2010, 3 March](https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2010-3514), sexual and reproductive health and voluntary termination of pregnancy (BOE de 04/03/2010).<sup>9</sup>

When promoting progress in this area, the main Spanish body is the **Ministry of Equality, which through the Institute for Women and Equal Opportunities (IMIO)**. It is responsible for “promoting equality of both genders, facilitating conditions for the effective participation of women in political, cultural, economic and social life, as well as promoting active policies for the employment and self-employment of women and promoting and developing the transversal application of the principle of equal treatment and non-discrimination” (IMIO).

At regional level, the **Vice Presidency and Council for Equality and Inclusive Policies** is the Valencian government agency or council in charge of directing and executing policies related to social benefits and services, dependency, functional diversity, family, older people, minors, adoptions, youth, women, equality, immigration and social volunteering.

In relation to the **women working conditions in the region**, it is important to refer to unemployment rates and types of job performed by women:

The female unemployment rate in the region falls slowly in the last years, although it is still almost 5 points higher than men. In other words, 54.7% of unemployment in the region correspond to women. The 41.4% of unemployed women would fall into the category of long-term unemployed (12 or more months unemployed). Of these, 30.3% have been more than two years in unemployment situation (78,500), which implies a lack of right to a contributory benefit (CC. OO, 2020).

The type of work performed by women in the region is characterised by its temporary nature and part-time:

- Durability: the high rate of female temporary employment is a challenge in the region as this is an indicator of precariousness.
- Working hours: the part-time working day in the region is clearly female, of the total of 816,500 paid women, 26.8% work part-time while among men, only 8.2% work in this modality. It also has a negative impact on the remuneration and subsequent rights of social protection of women in the region.

In relation with the **job position**, 64.3% of skilled jobs are held by men and 57.3% of unskilled jobs are held by women. The only professional level in which there is a comparison between both genders is that of technical personnel, where 51% are men and 49% are women, this situation demonstrate that the female Valencian workers still suffer a **vertical segregation** (CC.OO, 2020).

There are also disparities between the occupation of men and women by branch of economic activity, since in some of them **women are underrepresented**, such as construction (9.5%), **agriculture, livestock and fishing (14.2%)**, industry (26.7%) (25.1% in the extractive industry, electric power, gas, water, waste management and 26.8% in manufacturing), transport and storage (20, 1%) and in the professions of the future related to ICTs, information and communications (29.7%). On the other

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2004-21760>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2007-6115>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2010-3514>



hand, the presence of women is above the national average in activities such as household activities (84.4% women versus 15.2% men), health activities (71.9% women versus 28.1% men), real estate activities (66.7% versus 28.1% men) among others. The greatest gender balance is found in professional, scientific, and technical activities, wholesale, and retail trade. These statistics offer a clear idea of the existence of **horizontal segregation** of Valencian women workers who occupy lower paid jobs and those with worse social recognition (CC. OO, 2020).

Additionally, the Active Population Survey show important data on the limitations of women for their insertion in the labour and social world. The results of these studies explain that the main reasons for the inactive population to have stopped working in the Valencia region is; for men, be retired (60.5%), followed by dedication to studies (20%), on the other hand, women declare that the main reason for stopping work is the dedication to domestic activities (31.4%), followed of retirement (29.5%) and dedication to studies (16.6%) (INE, 2020b).

According to the 2019 Salary Structure Survey, the gender salary gap still exists, specifically, Valencian women stopped receiving 5,344 euros in relation to the salaries of their male counterparts. That is the equivalent of 22.4% of the salary gap because of various factors: activity sector, occupation, type of contract, type of working day, salary supplements, etc. The country average is 21.9%.

The results between both genders show that there is still a strong distribution of gender roles in the region and, therefore, the strong limitations suffered by women to enter the labour market under equal conditions.

However, nationality is another of the variables that affect the unemployment rate. Among the population of the Valencian Community, the unemployment of the foreign population is 30.4% for women and 16.1% for men. The difference between the unemployment rate of local women (14.2%) and foreign women (30.4%) also stands out and this gap between women is much bigger between locals and foreigners from outside the European Union compared the local women and foreign women from the European Union.

### Local civic engagement, participation, and collective action

During the economic crisis (2008-2015) there was a great impact on the Valencian social economy, but since 2015 the Generalitat Valenciana<sup>10</sup> has activated different policies to support the Valencian social economy. In this sense, it is worth highlighting the **Biennial Plan to Support Cooperatives** (2018-19) because their presence in the region, mainly in the agri-food sector that is the objective of this study.

According to the data offered in The White Book on Cooperatives and the Social Economy of the Valencian Community, in 2018, the social economy contributed to employment within the Valencian Community with 8.7% of employment and was decisive for the maintenance of more than 230,000 jobs, 11.6% of the total employed population in 2016. The market subsector of the social economy grouped 3,332 companies, most of them cooperatives (2,359).

The total employment of cooperatives corresponded to 4.1% of total employment in the Valencian Community. By provinces, Valencia stood out, with 1,367 cooperatives and 41,691 direct attached jobs. **The most relevant cooperatives are agri-food**, associated work, consumers and users, and credit (GVA&CIRIEC 2018). The VC is the Spanish region in which cooperatives have greater weight within the social economy.

Regarding the **third sector**, Spain in recent years has grown in many non-profit organisations destined to occupy spaces that have been progressively abandoned by the private sector and the public sector. The non-market subsector (the third sector) grouped 31,504 associations and foundations with

<sup>10</sup> It is the generic name covering the different self-government institutions under which the Spanish [autonomous community](#) of [Valencia](#) is politically organized.

a total of 91,174,784,326 workers and 813,000 volunteers and these entities, mainly, have been constituted under the legal form.

In concrete, most of the third sector in the VC is made up of associations with a total of 784,326 volunteers. The following table shows the specific data (Table 2).

**Table. 2** Total associations by categories

	Nº	Associates	Workers	Income (thousands)
<b>Social action associations</b>	4,477	1,141,635	50,944	2,513,503
<b>Sports club</b>	6,460	349,091	5,422	144,604
<b>Other associations</b>	20,260	3,484,720	29,520	1,725,021
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,197</b>	<b>4,975,446</b>	<b>85,886</b>	<b>4,383,128</b>

Source: Libro Blanco del Cooperativismo y la Economía Social de la Comunidad Valenciana. (GVA&CIRIEC 2018).

As regards to the 307 private foundations serving households in the region, the volume of income they contribute amounts to 183.2 million euros and employment of 3,963 workers. The 82 social action foundations have a turnover of 27.2 million euros and a job of 1,443 workers (GVA&CIRIEC 2018). The total of volunteers in the foundations is 7,559.

The Third Sector Platform of the Valencian Community was created in 2015 to promote the social rights and interests of citizens, mainly of people in situations of poverty or risk of exclusion. The platform is made up of five organisations representing the social sphere in the region: the EAPN CV Platform (European Network for the fight against poverty and Social Exclusion), the Spanish Red Cross in the Valencian Community, Cáritas in the Valencian Community, the CERMI in the Valencian Community, the Platform of the Voluntary Service of the Valencian Community and ONCE Valencian Community. This platform is also mentioned in the section 5 of the document as relevant network.

At the regional level, there are also several initiatives to promote women's equality in terms of their rights. For example, **Agro Woman Project** (Proyecto Mujer Agro) was born with the objective of achieving a true gender equality in the agri-food sector, promoting equal opportunities throughout the agri-food sector value chain. Likewise, in the **Agri-Food Cooperatives of the VC** (Agri-Food Cooperatives of the Valencian Community), one of the purposes included in their statutes is "the promotion of equal opportunities between men and women, promoting, in any case, their development, training and professional and business training. Therefore, participation in the effective governance of women in decision-making bodies of agri-food cooperatives is promoted, therefore, from cooperative movement, they will work on projects that include initiatives to the full integration of women in rural development policies and measures, on equal terms "<sup>11</sup>.

**Other relevant associations** that work with women in the region are:

- AVAMFAR. Valencian Association of Rural Women and Families that seeks to inform and guide women on employment in rural areas, training them both in management and in agricultural policy, as well as providing legal advice and self-employment.
- Association for Business Development: Women Entrepreneurs and Professionals of Valencia that provides information and advice as well as business contacts at national and international

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.cooperativesagroalimentariescv.com>

level. This association belongs to the Federation of Women Entrepreneurs of the Mediterranean Arc.

- EVAP. Association of Businesswomen and Professionals of Valencia is made up of more than 350 businesswomen and professionals from all sectors of the Valencian economic world. The Association is constituted to be a lobby of feminine pressure to make women visible in the business world, participate in decision-making spheres, defend their rights and show society existing inequalities.
- SÀLVIA. Rural Women's Association where activities are carried out to make women visible in rural areas, labour recognition and rights. The association is within L'Unió de LLauradors i Ramaders, formed by women from the rural environment at the VC level.
- Association for the Protection and Integration of Women that provides social care to migrant women. Occupational training in situations of unemployment, training for self-employment and training of volunteers.

## 2. Sustainability

Nowadays, due to the environmental and social problems, sustainability is defined because the processes and actions through which humankind avoids the depletion of natural resources to remain an ecological balance so as that society's quality of life does not decrease. Therefore, sustainability is formed from three pillars: economy, society, and environment.

In 1972 within the UN Conference on the Human Environment, governments met to think about the rights of the family to a healthy and productive environment. After that, in 1983 the globe Commission on Environment and Development was created by the international organisation which defined **sustainable development** as "meeting the wants of the current without compromising the power of future generations to satisfy their own needs" (United Nations, 2020).

In 1992 the I Conference on Environment and Development was held in Rio de Janeiro. The work done out from that moment until today has led us to reach a consensus among 193 countries meeting at the 70th General Assembly of world organisation with the creation of the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** which are a group of 17 global goals to achieve a more sustainable future for all. The SDGs, set in 2015 by the international organisation General Assembly and intended to be achieved by the year 2030, are a part of UN Resolution 70/1, the 2030 Agenda. An important item of the objectives is the lasting protection of the world and its natural resources.

Spain is a committed country to SDG at the very best level. Political engagement to the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda has been materialised among others within the Cabinet's "Plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda", approved in June 2018 and within the creation of the "Sustainable Development Council" in February 2019. In fact, in Spain the policy of sustainable development is dispensed wishing on strategic documents like the 2019–2023 National Strategy to Fight Poverty, the Strategic orient Energy and Climate, which incorporates a Draft Bill on global climate change and Energy Transition, a Just Transition Strategy and an Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan for the amount 2021–2030 or the new Urban Agenda on 2030 perspective.

In the same way, the Valencian government is also committed to the SDGs. In this line, the following measures have been agreed (GVA, 2020a):

- i) To support the emerging global Agenda at the local and regional level to incorporate its public policies and programs into the 2030 Agenda and compliance with the SDGs
- ii) To promote and apply policies in favour of sustainable development.
- iii) To implement an autonomous strategy for the territorialisation of sustainable development and adapt it to a global perspective, based on SDGs
- iv) To promote Education for Development
- v) To promote collaborative alliances for sustainable development

- vi) To give support to the activities and / or initiatives that through the Spanish Network for Sustainable Development in a cape in the VC
- vii) To creation of a Forum to exchange experiences
- viii) To inform through its corporate page about news or acts of interest related to both parties.

In addition, with the aim of controlling coherence between policies and the SDGs, two bodies have been created: The High Advisory Council for the 2030 Agenda of the Generalitat; and the Interdepartmental Commission for the 2030 Agenda. Moreover, there are several Public Administrations that through the coordination of the GVA are promoting specific action measures to contribute to the achievement of the objectives set. For example, they have established the bases for the VC to advance towards an economic model based on knowledge, innovation, openness and connection with the outside world, articulated on the principle of sustainability, both environmental, productive and social (GVA, 2020).

At the local level, promoted by the local Ministry, the **Sustainable Cities Development Alliance** is signed, which aims to sensitize Valencian society about the SDGs. The Alliance aims to involve the towns and cities of the CV in the information, dissemination, awareness and commitment of the SDGs, promoting the adoption of comprehensive and participatory approaches and good governance of cities in all areas of sustainable development, equitable and inclusive. The achievement and application of the SDGs in the municipalities is quite a challenge; since if these competencies are addressed, they will have to be budgeted for to be truly effective.

In the same way, it is also worth mentioning the IV Valencian Cooperation Master Plan (2017-2020), which aims to promote a clear definition of what the sustainable development results should be to which Valencian cooperation can contribute in the next four years , and the indicators that will make it possible to measure and communicate its achievements to Valencian society, in accordance with the SDGs and their objectives, and to generate a critical and active global citizenship in the Valencian Community. Among the objectives of the Plan is also included to promote education among Valencian citizens to achieve their mobilization and commitment to promote sustainable human development for all (GVA, 2017)

With regard to climate change, in November 2007, the VC, in order to have a strategy for action in the face of imminent effects, provided itself with an instrument to coordinate climate change policies, the Commission for the Coordination of Climate Change Policies of the VC. This Commission has already approved two Strategies: the **Valencian Strategy for Climate Change 2008 - 2012** and its successor, the Valencian Strategy for Climate Change 2013-2020. They are constituted as the fundamental instrument of the government in the fight against climate change (GVA, 2020). In this sense, work is currently being done on the preparation and approval of the Valencian Law on Climate Change, which sets out two prevailing objectives: the reduction of emissions of at least 40% in 2030 and a 100% in 2050. Another important milestone in which the Valencian government is working at the moment, is the promotion for 2020 of a Valencian "New Green Deal", a "Great Green Pact" that involves the whole of society in a transversal agreement to face the emergency climate with measures such as a Forest Pact, the Energy Transition Law or the Valencian Strategy for Biodiversity.

The **Valencia City Council** has initiated other initiatives. Among them because the relevance for this study, the process aimed at consolidating a **Municipal Agri-Food Policy** should be mentioned. It progressively lays the foundations for the transition towards a fairer, more sustainable, and healthier local agri-food environment. The València 2025 Agri-Food Strategy was born with the intention of offering the city a framework for action that proposes solutions to the food challenges its inhabitants face. The signing of the Pact of Urban Food Policies of Milan in 2015 by the City of Valencia has allowed the city to be provided with a strategic action framework, which lays the foundation for the participatory construction of food policies at the municipal level. It is from this intervention perspective, which emphasizes the relationship between food and the city (Ayuntamiento de Valencia, 2020).



Finally, as for the **knowledge of society** about the actions that are being carried out at the international and regional level related to sustainability, the data from the study by the Spanish Government Centre for Sociological Research, in regards to the UN millennium goals, between 2005 and 2015, shows that only a minority of the Spanish population claimed to know or have heard of them and in general terms, this could be extrapolated to Valencian society. The size of this minority aware of the millennium goals has ranged from a maximum value of 31% in 2010 to a minimum of 24% in 2015. Nowadays, the Spanish government, has made an officer campaign named #ODSéate to induce the SDG fully known by population. Since then, any institutional communication of the government, social networks included, is portrayed with SDG logo and icons.

### 3. Relevant actors in the agri-food sectors

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#### Who are the relevant actors in the agricultural and rural sector?

The Valencian agri-food sector involves numerous actors along the whole supply chain. In this section, most of the groups and their main actors had been listed, considering the project focus (social innovation) that implies the cooperation of actors coming from different sectors (public, private, and civil society). As annex a table with the contacts of the listed actors has been included to facilitate further steps of the project (Annex I).

#### Public authorities in Valencian agri-food sectors:

The **Regional Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development, Climate Emergency and Ecological Transition** is the responsible of the following areas in the Valencian Community: agriculture, water, environmental quality, climate change, rural development, ranching, natural environment, fishery, and fire prevention.

The **Commission of the Valencian Agrarian Cooperative movement**, attached to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, is the advisory body of study and advice of this Ministry in matters related to agricultural cooperatives.

The **Agrarian Laboratory** is attached to the General Directorate of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries whose analytical activities are aimed at the control and monitoring of quality and food safety.

The Valencian promotion and Guarantee Agency (**Agencia Valenciana de Fomento y Garantía – AVFGA**) is an autonomous entity of the Generalitat Valenciana, attached to the Regional Ministry of Agriculture, Environment, Climate Change and Rural Development, aimed at the execution of policies to promote the agricultural sector established by the Regional Ministry and especially the agile, effective and efficient management of the aid lines established within the framework of related policies.

The **Official College of Technical Agricultural Engineers and Graduates of Valencia and Castellón (COITAVC)** is a Public Law Corporation with its own legal personality and full capacity with approximately 1,000 members. Its aims are related to the profession, to ensure an ethical professional practice, to provide tutelage and corporate defence to the Technical Agricultural Engineers, all this exercising their disciplinary power and acting against disparate competition and intrusion.

The **Committee of Ecological Agriculture of the Valencian Community** is the control authority in charge of certifying agri-food products organic of plant or animal origin, transformed or not, and obtained in the Valencian Community.

The **Fishermen association of the Valencian Community** are non-for-profit corporations under public law, with its own legal personality and full capacity voluntarily and freely integrated by fishing professionals, shipowners, and workers of their respective territorial scope.

The **Municipal Agrarian Council of Valencia** was created, by agreement of the Full City Council, in an ordinary session held on March 11, 1992, as the Autonomous Organising body of the Services of General Agrarian Interest, for the benefit of the agricultural operations owners of the municipality of Valencia.

### **Research and technology centres:**

The Valencian Institute of agro research [Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias - **IVIA**] depends on the Valencian regional agriculture department. Its aim is to contribute to the Valencian agricultural activity, promoting the competitiveness of the agricultural sector and agri-food industry through applied research and excellent transfer of results. It is composed by different research centres, among them: centre for citriculture and vegetable production, centre for the sustainable agriculture development, and biotechnology centre.

The Animal Research and Technology Centre [Centro de Investigación y Tecnología Animal - **CITA**] that belongs to the IVIA (mentioned above) is a reference centre at European level and for the livestock professionals working in the sector in the Valencian Community because the transfer of knowledge generated along its history.

The Institute of agro-chemistry and food technology [Instituto de Agroquímica y tecnología de los alimentos - **IATA**], created in 1966, is a centre of the Spanish National Research Council [Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas - CSIC] with the aim to carry out research of excellence on the production of sustainable and quality food, taking into account its safety, health impact and consumer acceptance.

The Technological Institute of Nutrition (**AINIA**), established in 1987 as non-profit organisation, is one of the European Technological centres with the largest corporate social system with more than 700 associated companies and 1,300 clients.

### **Private companies in Valencian agri-food sectors:**

A total of 5,805 companies were inscribed in the social security system in the Valencian Community in the agri-food sector in 2019, that represents the 5% of the agri-food companies in Spain (GVA, 2020a). In concrete, the agri-food industry in the Valencian Community was composed by 2,514 companies (8,2% of the national total), 78% of them micro-SMEs and companies with no employees (self-employed) and only the 1.1% has more than 200 employees (Maudos and Salamanca, 2020). Consequently, the sector is characterised by its main composition of SMEs and low presence of large companies; this structure is in line with the existing structure at national level (IVIE, 2018; Maudos and Salamanca, 2020). Valencian companies export the 12.5% of the agri-food exports at national level (68% are related with the primary sector and the remaining 32% are related to the agri-food industry) and the 20,2% of exports at community level. Citrus are the main agri-food products exported, representing the 35% of the sector exports (Maudos and Salamanca, 2020).

### **Cooperatives in Valencian agri-food sectors:**

Cooperatives have a long tradition in the Valencian Community, which shows their roots in the Valencian rural area. They have an active presence in most populations and a very high percentage of the Valencian population is directly linked to cooperative movement. In fact, a total of 333 agricultural cooperatives were registered in the social security system in the Valencian Community in 2018, this represent the 10.44% of the agricultural cooperatives in Spain, entailing a total of 19.044 workers in the same year, that represent the 27.29% of national employment in the cooperative sector (GVA, 2020b). In this field, the following actors should be included in this report:

The **Confederation of Cooperatives of the Valencian Community** (CONCOVAL) is the highest representative body of cooperatives in the Valencian Community. Since its creation in 1989, CONCOVAL is a non-for profit organisation that integrates all the federations of cooperatives in

Valencia. Its mission is to defend their interests, representing them in global matters and communicating their values and principles of cooperative movement.

**Agri-food cooperatives of the Valencian Community** [Cooperatives agro-alimentàries de la Comunitat Valenciana] is the representation organ of the cooperative movement in the agri-food sector in the community. It is a non-profit entity aimed to promote, represent and structuring the agri-food cooperative movement of the Valencian Community promoting a cooperative business model, profitable, competitive, professionalised, generating value and sustainable development from the agri-food sector and the rural environment. Some of the cooperatives engaged in this entity are:

- ANECOOP (<https://anecoop.com/>) the main Mediterranean company if fruit and vegetable, leader in Spain of their commercialization, one of the main citrus exporter in the world, first operator of watermelon and persimmon in Europe.
- ENGRUPO (<http://engrupo.es/>) an specialist cooperative group in insurance that covers the needs of the cooperatives from the field to the market.
- COARVAL (<https://www.coarval.com/12.html>) is a second degree cooperative of supplies and services of the agricultural cooperatives of the Valencian Community. They supply their partners with fertilizers, plant protection products, irrigation materials, fuels and various products such as hardware, work clothes and shoes, lubricants, etc.
- CITRUSCOOP San Luis Beltrán S.C.V. (<http://citruscoop.es/>) is dedicated to the sale of plant protection products, fertilisers and all those items for agricultural use. They also have a service section to carry out all the necessary work and treatments on agricultural plots.
- COOPERATIVA DE AVICULTORES Y GANADEROS VALENCIANA COOP. V. – Valencian cooperative of poultry and livestock (<http://www.coavre.com/>) leading company in the field of animal nutrition for the Valencian community

#### **Associations in Valencian agri-food, rural and social innovation sectors:**

Valencian agri-food federation (**FEDACOVA**) is a federation of agri-food companies in the Valencian Community that comprises 30 associations representing 2.200 companies.

The Valencian Association of Farmers (**AVA-ASAJA**), with about 20,000 members, is a benchmark professional agricultural organisation in the Valencian Community. It is a claiming entity, of a business nature, dedicated to defending the interests of farmers and ranchers. It has a branch for women with its own personal identity (**AVAMFAR** – Association of rural women and families) composed by 2,500 women.

The Association of Meat Industries of the Valencian Community (**AICCV**) was established to represent, defend, protect, improve, study, and promote the development of associated companies, in all orders and issues related to their peculiar activities.

**La uniò** is the main agricultural professional organisation in the Valencia land. It was created in 1976 with the aim to defend the agricultural families and be the interlocutor with the administrations and agricultural agents.

**Cerai** is a social movement that tries to transform the rural environment trying to defend the food sovereignty.

#### **Consumers associations:**

The **Union of Consumers of the Valencian Community** (<https://uniodeconsumidors.org/>) is a non-for profit private association of consumers dedicated to the quality of life of citizens (consumers and users), the representation and defence of the interested parties (individual and community) and their participation in social life.

The **Valencian association of consumers and users** (<https://www.avacu.es/>) is a non-profit association serving consumers that is dedicated to carrying out consumer training, information and advocacy activities, with the main objective of protecting consumer rights.

### How is the local supply chain organised?

The Valencia supply chain of agri-food products is composed by many actors from the producers, distributors, and packaging companies, to finally reach the consumer. In this section, a general overview of the main agri-food supply chains in the Valencia region is detailed, with the link to some concrete actors working in the different supply links:

#### Citrus and fruit trees

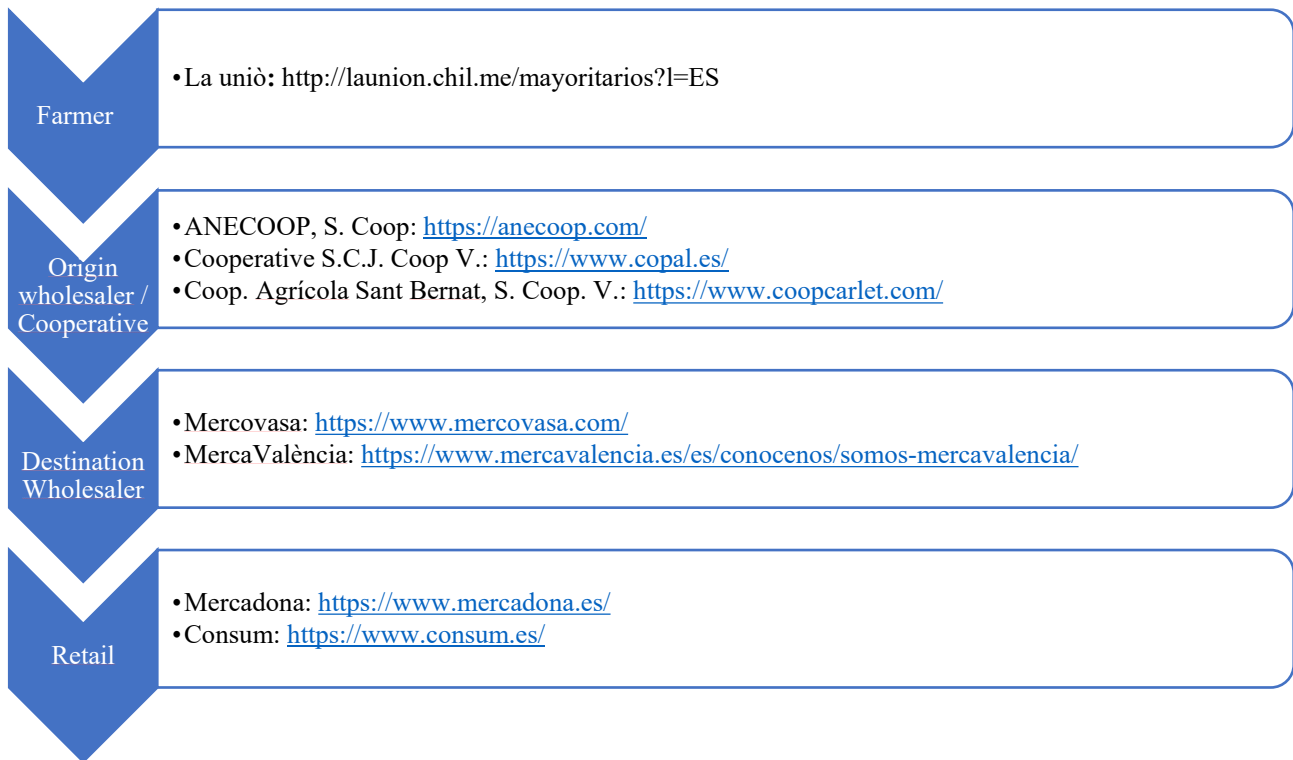
Citrus and fruit trees represent the main cultivated area in the Valencian territory, both groups represent practically the half of the total farmland (49.2%). Concretely, in the region of Valencia the citrus represents the highest extension followed by the fruit trees and vineyards (GVA, 2019). Nowadays, the supply chain for fresh fruits and vegetables can be differentiated between traditional conventional and modern distribution as described below (Camacho et al., 2011):

- Traditional: it is characterised by the figure of the wholesaler in origin who is responsible of the product physical distribution, selection, cleaning, and packaging. Although this figure is losing relative importance and being constrained to local and county markets.
- Conventional: it is characterised by the substitution of the wholesaler in the origin by the fruit and vegetable centre that develop the tasks of product commercialisation, preparation and finishing. In this case, the product is put in the market by the centre once the manipulation of the semi-finished product concludes.
- Modern distribution: it is related to marketing made through large retail companies. This presents three possibilities according to which (i) the distribution (wholesale warehouses) of large providers use the services of wholesalers at destination, (ii) source directly from the fruit and vegetable plants in origin or (iii) the producers and fruit and vegetable plants form part of the same business unit, that is directly related to large retail companies.

The traditional channel remains as the central axis for the fruits and vegetables in the Valencia area, especially through the wholesalers integrated in the food units. Thus, the producer sells the production to a wholesaler in origin or delivers it to a cooperative for the preparation, finishing and distribution, who subsequent sale the product to destination wholesaler who then resells it to retailers and finally arrives to the consumer. An example of a general supply chain for the fruit and vegetable products is detailed in the Figure 5.



Figure 5: Supply chain for the fresh fruit and some example of stakeholders



## Livestock

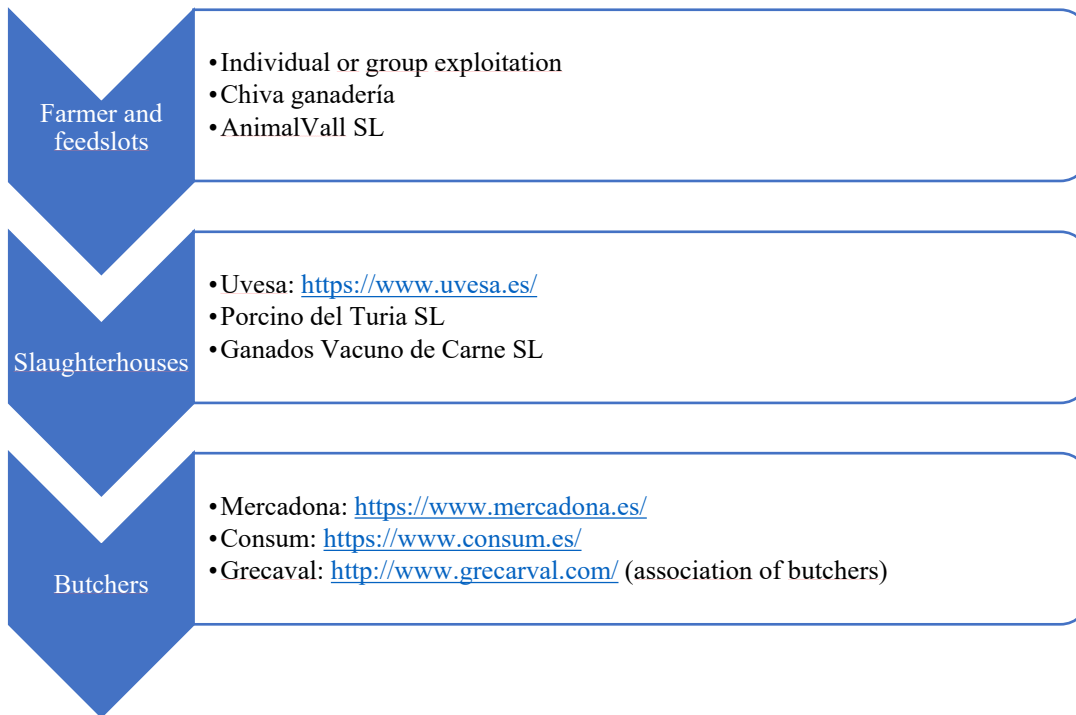
The livestock sector represents 36% of the final Spanish agricultural production and the 19% of the Valencian Community. Its structure is characterised by two clearly differentiated subsectors:

- The **extensive livestock** subsector, which is made up of bovine, ovine and caprine farms, constitutes one of the main economic activities in rural areas, especially in the interior regions where it contributes both directly and indirectly to economic sustainability. It also plays an important role in preserving the natural environment and avoiding rural depopulation.
- The **intensive livestock** subsector consisting of exploitations of bovine, rabbit, poultry and pig species, whose geographical distribution is more homogeneous throughout the Community, but concentrating mainly on the provinces of Castellón and Valencia. This subsector is characterised by having facilities with a high degree of technification and a qualified workforce.

Nowadays, the meat supply chain is a complex system composed by livestock farmers, feedlots, slaughterhouses, butchers and, finally, consumers. The process from production to marketing is now participated by a series of intermediaries who, consequently, reduce the profitability of the farmer and have the ability to control the distribution routes of their products, the final price and even the quality of the product that reaches the consumer. This system can be highly beneficial for intensive farms and feedlots, the sale of which is generally already insured before taking risks. The main reason

has been the loss of market share, caused, among other reasons, by the extinction of the old municipal slaughterhouses, the difficulties to access the marketing channels, and the disconnection that finally occurs with the consumer. According to official data, in 2017 there were 52 slaughterhouses in the Valencian Community (8 of them public) (Amat-Montesinos et al., 2019). An example of the general supply chain of the livestock is detailed below (Figure 6):

Figure 6: Supply chain for the livestock



It is important to mention in this case the related normative applicable to all the activity developed in the Valencia region:

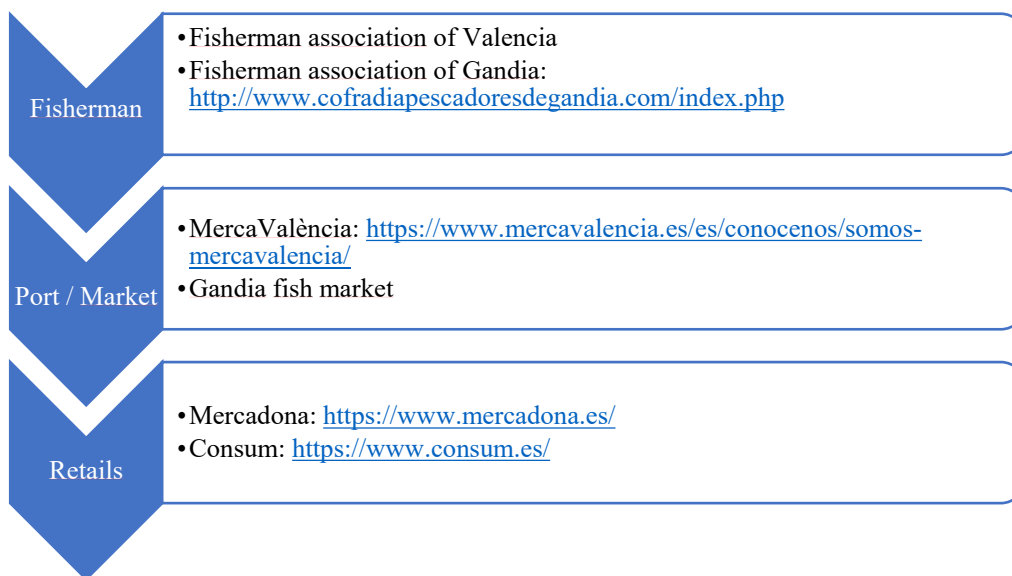
- Law 6/2003, of March 4, on livestock in the Valencian Community.
- Law 8/2003, of April 24, on animal health.
- Law 32/2007, of November 7, for the care of animals, in their exploitation, transport, experimentation and slaughter.
- Law 4/1994, of July 8, of the Valencian Government, on the Protection of Pets

For each of the activities there is additional specific applicable legislation.

### Fishing

The port of Valencia is composed by a commercial, sport and fishing port. The fishing port entails a wide network of support services that allow the development of fishing activities comprising from the supply and support industry (fuel supply, ice factory, shipyards, cranes, networks, management) to the commercialisation and distribution (wholesaler, traders and restaurants). As for the commercialisation, in 2004 the region implemented the brand "Peix Fresc de la Comunitat Valenciana" (fresh fish of the Valencian Community), with the objective of revaluing the fishery products of the Valencian coastal ports. The fish from Valencia is distributed mainly to MercaValència (the market of the city), from where it is sold to other Spanish markets (Secretaría general del Mar). Together with the Valencian port, there are other 3 main fishing ports in the region (Gandia, Cullera and Sagunto) that together achieved a total of 2.040 tonnes in 2019 (GVA, 2020c). The species with the highest sales volume in kg are red mullet, octopus, sole and cuttlefish, while among the catches with the highest volume of sales in value of euros, the monkfish, the squid, sole and octopus (Secretaría general del Mar). A general overview of the fish value chain in the Valencia region is provided below (Figure 7):

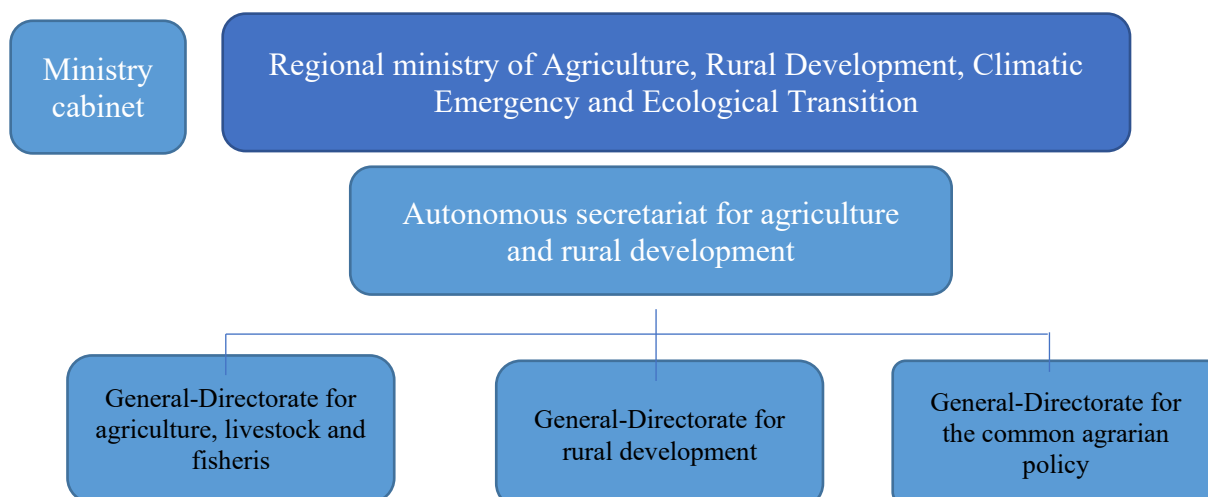
Figure 7: Supply chain for the fresh fish



### How is local public administration organised?

The Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is the competent Department for the proposal and execution of the Government's policy regarding agricultural, livestock and fishing resources, the agri-food industry, rural development and feeding. In this sense, this body is the responsible to draw up state legislation on agricultural, fishing and food matters; the proposal and execution of the general guidelines of the Government on the agrarian, fishing and food policy; the representation of the State in the international organisations corresponding to these matters, without prejudice to the competences of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation; as well as the coordination of actions, cooperation and consultation in the design and application of all policies that affect the sphere of **competence of the autonomous communities** and the other public administrations, promoting their participation through the cooperation bodies and suitable instruments (Portal de Transparencia, 2020). Thus, the **Regional Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development, Climatic Emergency and Ecological Transition** has the competencies in agriculture, livestock, fishing, food, rural development, common agrarian policy, environment, water resources, climate change, and fire prevention. The organisation chart of the regional ministry is detailed in the following figure 9 (GVA, 2020d)

Figure 8: organisation chart of the regional ministry in charge of agri-food sector in the Valencian Community



The three general directorates related to the aim of the study are the following:

The **General Directorate for agriculture, livestock and fisheries** is the responsible of the functions of agrarian infrastructure and reorganisation of production structures; modernisation of irrigation, sustainable agrarian structures and competitive dimensioning of farms, fisheries and forestry; outreach and awareness campaigns for agricultural, fishing, aquaculture and forestry professionals; agrarian insurance, livestock and animal welfare, fishing and aquaculture, management of the fishing sector and operational programs in this area; agrarian protection and health; efficient and sustainable operation of the agri-food chain; agrarian relations, agrarian cooperative movement and professional organisations within the scope of the Ministry.

The **General Directorate for rural development** promotes rural development policies; organic agriculture, new productive and sustainable models of competitiveness, efficiency, quality and sustainable economy of the agri-food industry; R&D in the agri-food sector and technology transfer; development and implementation of new areas of production and increased value added of agricultural, livestock and forestry products, and quality figures.

The **General Directorate for the common agrarian policy** is responsible of the functions of agrarian promotion and guarantee, and the Common Agrarian Policy.

There are two more general directorates: one related to the natural environment and its evaluation, another related to the prevention of forest fires. Moreover, the Regional Ministry has two participative bodies:

- CAPMA – the **Advisory Council and Participation of the Environment**, created by Decree 242/1993, of December 7, of the Consell, to give a forum to the concerns and interests of social and professional groups in the field of environment and quality of life, thus facilitating social participation.
- The **Commission of the Valencian Agrarian Cooperate Movement** mentioned before.

### What are the main social objectives pursued by public policies?

In this section some of the policies implemented or being implemented in the Valencia region with social objectives are described:

#### **Strategic plan to avoid the depopulation of the Valencia region:**

In the last six decades, 500 population centres have been abandoned in Valencian Community. Moreover, a total of 215 municipalities (from the total of 542) of the Valencian Community have a population of less than 1,000 inhabitants and a percentage of dependent population that exceeds the 60%. In the interior areas of the Community, 72,000 inhabitants live in areas with a population density of less than 20 inhabitants per square kilometre. To fight against this depopulation phenomenon, the Regional Government of the Valencian Community launched the **Avant Agenda** to fight against depopulation in Valencian municipalities. In addition, a specific line of the Municipal Cooperation Fund has been allocated for this purpose: in 2018, 3 million euros were distributed among 143 municipalities at risk of depopulation (from these, 46 were assigned to Valencia province); and for the 2019 financial year, this line of aid has been endowed with another 3 million euros (GVA, 2019d).

#### **Policies for the youth employment and entrepreneurship:**

**València Activa** is the local body of the city of Valencia that coordinates the existing structures of the city related to economic development and employment. It is structured around three areas: employment, entrepreneurship, and training. The first two axis comprises:

- Employment:
  - o Barris per l'ocupació (neighbourhoods for the employment): It is an information and professional project guidance for job seekers and self-employers. It arises from the



need to bring the services of València Activa closer to citizens, through the different neighbourhoods of the city.

Inside this programme, the Local Department of Economic Development, through the Fundació València Activa launched a series of training, advice and support activities for entrepreneurship, aimed specifically at **women**<sup>12</sup>. The aim of these activities is to improve the employment of unemployed women in the city. The initiative will include the launch of personal marketing workshops for job search and job interview, as well as a training 'view initiative, i.e. a real simulation of selection processes with experts in human resource recruitment.

- Agència d'ocupació València Activa (employment office): It is an instrument that implements labour intermediation activities to provide workers with an occupation appropriate to their characteristics and, also, a training catalogue to improve their employment opportunities. And, for companies, the workers most appropriate to their requirements and needs.
- Coaching service: València Activa works to make the most powerful and innovative methodologies available to people actively seeking employment. This action plan support professionals to achieve their goals.
- Employment plans: Through them, València Activa carries out direct contracts for unemployed people in Valencia at the Valencia City Council, such as the "Anem!" Program (under 30 years old) and "Oportunitats" (over 30 years and long-term unemployed people).
- Employment shuttles: Training to empower citizens to carry out a job search accompanied by a technical team to have new possibilities of labour insertion.
- Guidance, training, and job insertion programmes for groups: València Activa implements personalised itineraries for those groups that have the most difficulties in the labour market.
- Employment, Entrepreneurship and Training Fairs in València Activa, held with the aim of publicising their services and programs as well as getting closer to the reality of each neighbourhood.
- Entrepreneurship:
  - Attention points for the entrepreneur (PAE): Face-to-face information and advice service in the definition of the entrepreneurial initiative, the electronic processing of registration and start of the activity.
  - SME incubators: Municipal spaces that allow the location of newly created companies that generate employment in the city of València.
  - València entrepreneurship awards: On an annual basis, València Activa delivers four categories of awards to the Business Project, Entrepreneurial Woman, Business Management and Young Project.
  - Training programmes: València Activa offers training for those who want to start a business and for entrepreneurs who want to have specific knowledge to improve their activity.
  - Reactivem: Business transmission service that mediates between transferors and entrepreneurs to turn the closure of a company or the end of an activity into an opportunity for an entrepreneur who wants to give it continuity.
  - Local aid programmes: Economic grants for the promotion of entrepreneurship, new hires, companies, hiring of personnel, business consolidation and for creative and cultural industries.
  - Plans of equality: Service for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of equality plans.

<sup>12</sup>[https://www.valencia.es/ayuntamiento/tablon\\_anuncios.nsf/vDocumentosWebTablon/2FC3A04C3D08AED2C12582480047D947?OpenDocument&lang=2&nivel=5\\_2](https://www.valencia.es/ayuntamiento/tablon_anuncios.nsf/vDocumentosWebTablon/2FC3A04C3D08AED2C12582480047D947?OpenDocument&lang=2&nivel=5_2)

- VIT emprende: The network of the innovative entrepreneurial ecosystem in Valencia, promoting training, revitalisation of the ecosystem, as well as internationalisation and economic promotion. This is further detailed in the section 5 of this document.

The **Youth Guarantee** is a European initiative managed by the Spanish Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security that aims to facilitate young people's access to the labour market. The Youth Guarantee Recommendation states that young people may receive an offer of employment, education or training after completing their studies or become employed. The supporting body to assist young people in Valencia is the Valencian Institute for Young People<sup>13</sup>.

**Avalem Joves** is the comprehensive employment and training plan for young people 2016/2020 in the Valencian Community. It is managed by Labora (Valencian service of employment and training) and aimed at improving the employability of the youth of the Valencian Community<sup>14</sup> and funded by the European Social Fund. This strategy is implemented through transversal actions on orientation, training and employment offering grants for the companies that hire qualified young people and qualified and not-qualified young people by local entities. Moreover, Labora offers specialised orientation to young people.

The **www.emprenemjunts.es** platform is an institutional cooperation project whose purpose is to promote and encourage entrepreneurship, bringing together as many entities, companies and interested entrepreneurs as possible. It is a portal that offers resources, information and content in a simple way.

**Lanzadera Conecta Empleo**<sup>15</sup> is a program promoted by the Fundación Santa María La Real, Fundación Telefónica and the Valencia City Council, with the co-financing of the European Social Fund. It proposes an updated, inclusive, and individualised labour orientation with two major activities "Digital Literacy" and "Shuttle Connects Employment". Together with this initiative, two more accelerators support business creation in the region:

- **SocialNest Foundation**<sup>16</sup> is the pioneering impact accelerator in Spain. Founded in 2010, it supports people and organisations that seek, through technology, a positive social and environmental impact. To carry out their mission, they execute acceleration programs that support entrepreneurs from the idea stage to the preparation for the investment, as well as promoting impact investment.
- **Lanzadera**<sup>17</sup> is a project to support entrepreneurial leaders whose objective is to create the necessary conditions to contribute to entrepreneurs. They support the creation of efficient companies and add value to society by implementing a solid business model.

In this dimension<sup>18</sup> it is important to mention the **aid promoted by the Valencian Community for the first installation of young farmers**. The aim of these aids is, on the one hand, to facilitate to the young farmers their installation like holders of agricultural exploitations viable, sustainable and competitive; and, on the other hand, the rejuvenation and improvement of the level of training of the owners of these exploitations. Those objectives are materialised by economic grants to support the first installation on farms that reach the qualification of priority with concrete requisites for the beneficiaries. The beneficiaries must submit a business plan to be implemented among the first nine months after receiving the grant to achieve the committed requisites before the eighteen months following the date of the installation.

<sup>13</sup> <http://garantiajuvenil.gva.es/va/>

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.labora.gva.es/va/avalem-joves>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.lanzaderasconectaempleo.es/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://socialnest.org/>

<sup>17</sup> <https://lanzadera.es/>

<sup>18</sup> [https://www.gva.es/va/inicio/procedimientos?id\\_proc=571](https://www.gva.es/va/inicio/procedimientos?id_proc=571)

### **Participation initiatives:**

The **General Directorate for Citizen Participation** exercises its powers in matters of civil and citizen society participation. It is also in charge of supporting the institutional relationship with the groups of Valencians residing outside the Valencian Community, the regional houses and federations of associations of other autonomies in the Valencian Community and civic entities that bring together Valencian citizens residing abroad, especially those related to young people displaced for economic reasons. The participative process implemented in the region follow these four steps: (i) information and diagnosis; (ii) proposals; (iii) debate; and (iv) return with a final phase of evaluation. This body uses the **Citizen participation centres (CPC)** to facilitate the articulation of neighbourhood participation and with municipal programs. From here, comprehensive interventions are promoted with special attention to the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods or areas of the region, serving at the same time as support, help or reinforcement for this type of intervention. Those centres are in the same neighbourhood or area of the intervention. Their areas of intervention are health, education, training, insertion, security, and social services. The existing centres at this moment are the following: the CPC Oliva (Barrio "El Pinet") and the CPC Almoradí (Barrio "La Creu de Galindo") and one in progress in Alzira.

### **Equality and inclusive policies and programmes:**

The **Valencian plan of inclusion and social cohesion 2017-2022** is the tool for the organisation and management of strategic actions and measures related to inclusion and social cohesion in the region. It is configured with an integral and transversal perspective actively linked to the social agents and region resources. The six basic strategic lines with their corresponding strategic objective of the plan are included in the next table (Table 3):

**Table 3:** strategic lines and objectives of the Valencian plan of inclusion and social cohesion 2017-2022

Strategic line		Strategic objective
1	Socio-labour inclusion: access to quality employment	To impulse the socio-labour inclusion through the employment of the most vulnerable groups.
2	Guarantee of benefits	To guarantee basic benefits/compensations to vulnerable people, at risk of social exclusion, or social excluded. Guaranteed citizenship income.
3	Rights protection and access to public services	To guarantee the access to the basic resources and services delivered to the citizens, specially to vulnerable groups and related to social services, education, health, culture and housing, and information.
4	Territorial equity and social cohesion	To guarantee the territorial equity through the promotion of an inclusive environment inside the common territory.
5	Children protection and reduction of child poverty	To reduce the child poverty recognising it as a violation of a fundamental right and avoid the intergenerational transference.
6	Fight against the poverty feminisation	To reduce the degradation of women acting on the structural causes, cultural, sociological, labour, and economic causes.

The **System for Autonomy and Care for Dependency (SAAD)** is the responsible body for addressing the right to the promotion of personal autonomy and care for dependent people, which is recognised by law since January 1, 2007, and which involves the development of various services

and benefits. Dependent elderly people, people with physical or intellectual functional diversity and children up to 3 years old with dependency problems are the main beneficiaries of these compensations. From other side, the recognition of the **degree of disability** offers the possibility of accessing certain services, benefits, and economic aids. The access is linked to the recognised degree (minimum 33%), as well as other requirements that must be consulted for each specific measure (age, determination of a limit of economic income, etc.). Those benefits are linked to different dimensions: health (e.g. free pharmacological benefits), social security (e.g. economic aids), social services (e.g. centres for disabled people, day centres), education (e.g. training support), employment (e.g. quotes reserved in public processes), transport (e.g. discounts), housing (aids for renting), among others.

**Social cantinas** is an initiative composed by establishments intended to provide food to people who need it for free or through a reduced contribution. It is addressed to people being in a situation of need that require this service. The establishments are integrated in the Valencian urban centre with easy access, preferably attached to social centres, forming part of the basic equipment of the neighbourhood or area.

### **Education policies and programmes:**

**Educating for entrepreneurship** is an educational program promoted by the Department of Employment and Entrepreneurship of the City of Valencia, together with the València Activa Foundation. The program is taught throughout the school year in various public educational centers in the city of Valencia. It is a basic channel for transmitting values, principles and promoting the development of autonomous thinking, through imagination, creativity, the capacity for innovation, responsibility and critical sense. The program consists of two sessions, for the primary groups the contents are adapted according to the age group; and for the secondary students' groups, bachelor and VET the sessions consist of:

- Session 1: "Entrepreneurial Vocabulary". It aims to familiarise students with the basic concepts of entrepreneurship, working with clear examples of everyday life, adapted to their reality.
- Session 2: "Let's start!". It aims to strengthen learning by practicing the concepts worked on. The mechanics of this session is as follows: the students, through teamwork, perform a role play in which they assume the role of different departments within the company, increasing the difficulty according to age. This activity allows checking to what extent the concepts have been internalised and their application and practical involvement.

With these activities, the programme aims to: Bring the terminology and concepts of entrepreneurship closer to students, adapting them to different age groups; Work on "Entrepreneurship" as an attitude, through creativity and innovation, in a school context, where future entrepreneurs are managed; Work divergent thinking, learning to think through creativity, in different possibilities and solutions; Promote teamwork and coordination; Be aware of the importance of motivation as an internal determining factor when achieving objectives.

The **Popular University of the Valencia City Council**<sup>19</sup> is a municipal project of cultural development aimed to promote social participation and improvement of the quality of life of citizens, through continuous education, sociocultural dynamization and social intervention. Currently, the Popular University is constituted as an Autonomous Municipal Organism of an administrative nature, dependent on the Valencia City Council, through the Delegation of Equality and Inclusive Policies. It has three lines of action (all of them with an initiation character):

- Long cycle activities: Scheduled training activities (courses or workshops) with an unregulated nature.

<sup>19</sup> <https://universitatpopular.com/presentacion/>

- Open classrooms: training programmes of monographic type, workshops, conferences, ... of different formats, duration, and themes.
- CULTURUP: The parallel implementation of a program of educational-cultural events, consisting of visits to exhibitions, museums, concerts, theatrical performances, etc.

The **Structural Funds** are an instrument of Community policy to reinforce the economic and social cohesion of the European Union, allocating a significant amount of economic resources to reducing differences in the Community regions and delaying the least favoured regions. The Valencian Community has been a beneficiary of the Structural Funds of the European Union since 1988 and will receive them for the period 2021-2027 although the information is not still available. During the last period, these are the thematic objectives selected under the Structural Funds (Dirección General de Fondos Europeos, 2018):

- Research reinforcement, technological development, and innovation
- Improvement of the use and quality of ICTs and their access
- Increase the competitiveness of SMEs of agri-food sector
- Support the transition to a low carbon economy in all sectors
- Protect the natural environment and promote the efficiency of resources
- Social inclusion, fight against poverty and against any kind of discrimination

Under the **Social European Fund**, the following 5 priorities were funded in the current programme (GVA, 2014):

- Employment
- Business competitiveness and entrepreneurship
- Funding and environmental business
- Change of specialisation and productivity improvement
- Training and optimisation of the human capital

Finally, under this section the **Regional General Directorate for Common Agricultural Policy** should be mentioned because their functions related to the promotion and agrarian guarantee, and the Common Agrarian Policy. This body is responsible to manage:

- Operating Funds
- Livestock premiums
- Single Request Surfaces
- Investment Vineyard Wineries
- R&D Vineyard Innovation
- Conditionality
- Russian Veto
- Agri-environment and Climate
- Ecological agriculture
- Payments to areas with natural limitations or other specific limitations
- First afforestation of agricultural land (prior period commitments)
- Aid for the improvement in the transformation, commercialisation or development of agricultural products.

#### 4. Existing training programmes

In this section, some of the training programmes aimed to increase the employability and social innovation promoted by different actors in the Valencia region are presented.

Name	<b>Programa de Emprendimiento Juvenil - PEJCV [Joung entrepreneurship programme]</b>
Website	<a href="https://www.camaravalencia.com/es-ES/emprendedores/Paginas/Programa-de-Emprendimiento-Juvenil-de-la-Comunitat-Valenciana.aspx">https://www.camaravalencia.com/es-ES/emprendedores/Paginas/Programa-de-Emprendimiento-Juvenil-de-la-Comunitat-Valenciana.aspx</a>



Organisers and partners	Chamber of commerce of Valencia
Objective of the programme	To incorporate the group of young beneficiaries of the youth guarantee system, not employed and not integrated into the education and training systems, into the labour market, promoting business economic activity in the province of Valencia in a general way. All this, through the organisation and promotion of educational activities aimed at training for entrepreneurship.
Tools used	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Practical workshops, with the aim of analysing the real application in a company, of the knowledge acquired in each module.</li> <li>• Businessmen conferences in which they explain their personal experience and share the success keys of their business.</li> <li>• Group visits to start-ups or recently created companies to know the day-to-day of the entrepreneur.</li> <li>• Give young people the opportunity to create and launch their own company.</li> </ul>
Duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 50-hour joint training sessions</li> <li>- 10 hours per student of accompanying actions and individualised follow-up</li> <li>- 15-hour mentoring to formalise the business projects</li> </ul>
Budget	Funded by the European Social Fund
Target students	Young people under the age of 30, beneficiaries of the National Youth Guarantee System
Results	Qualify and train 34 young beneficiaries of the Youth Guarantee, of which at least 55% are women
Programme	<p><b>PHASE I:</b> Open conference to motivate attendees to believe in their own values to be able to undertake the digital age, have a business idea and implement it. In this phase, the tools for the development of personal skills and abilities are analysed to start working through self-employment. In addition, the training modules to be taught, the methodology to be applied and the expected results in each of the planned training actions are explained.</p> <p><b>PHASE II:</b> Development of the training program, which combines group classes with practical workshops with real applications. Each module has also individual tutorials. The content of the course is divided in 10 modules as described below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The business idea, identification of opportunities (5 hours).</li> <li>2. Marketing 2.0 in the creation of a company (3 hours) + practical workshop of real application in a company (2 hours).</li> <li>3. On-line positioning and reputation (3 hours) + practical workshop of real application in business (2 hours).</li> <li>4. Finance area (5 hours).</li> <li>5. The community manager, internet advertising, mailing and web analytics (3 hours) + practical workshop of real application in a company (2 hours).</li> <li>6. The GDPR and LOPD normative. Competitiveness, eco-efficiency, and sustainability in the company (3 hours) + practical workshop of real application in a company (2 hours).</li> <li>7. Marketing (5 hours).</li> <li>8. Creation of online and social media (5 hours).</li> <li>9. Tax and legal area in the company (5 hours).</li> <li>10. Audio-visual support and mobile marketing for the business promotion (3 hours) + practical workshop of real application in a company (2 hours).</li> </ol> <p>The course content also includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of an individual Business Project by each student.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group visits to start-ups or recently created companies, located in incubators to get to know the day-to-day of the entrepreneur.</li> </ul> <p><b>PHASE III:</b> During this phase, the teachers are responsible for completing the business projects that the young people have been preparing during phase II of the program, analysing in depth and rigor the contents exposed therein and providing them with economic and financial viability.</p>
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<b>Name</b>	<b>Social entrepreneurship MOOC</b>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://novafeina.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Gu%C3%ADa-Curso-MOOC-emprendimiento-social-espenta-2019.pdf">https://novafeina.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Gu%C3%ADa-Curso-MOOC-emprendimiento-social-espenta-2019.pdf</a>
<b>Organisers and partners</b>	Novafeina foundation in the Valencian Community and the Research Institute on Social and Cooperative Economy of the University of Valencia
<b>Objective of the programme</b>	To increase the visibility and recognition of social entities in Valencia, their professionalism and development.
<b>Tools used</b>	The methodology combines academic content, case studies, supplementary materials, videos, activities, and various e-learning tools, with the support and monitoring of expert teachers through tutoring
<b>Duration</b>	40 hours
<b>Budget</b>	Free - Funded by the Regional Department on sustainable economy, productive sectors, trade and employment in the Valencian Community.
<b>Target students</b>	Students with an idea or initiative, professionals and organisations that support the creation of social companies in the Valencian Community.
<b>Programme</b>	<p>The programme is composed by 3 modules and a final practice:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approaches and emerging concepts related to the Social Economy. Content: Social companies, social entrepreneurship and social innovation. Introduction to the concepts of social economy, solidarity economy, collaborative economy, of the common good, circular economy and social responsibility business (10 hours).</li> <li>Tools for social entrepreneurship. Content: Creation of a social enterprise, the viability plan, Innovative methodologies to undertake and innovate with social impact, The measurement of impact, transparency and accountability, Alternatives of financing (15 hours).</li> <li>Support environment and ecosystems. Content: Legal framework of social enterprise and public support policies in Spain, Boost and support initiatives (10 hours)</li> </ol> <p>Final practice. Preparation of a social entrepreneurship project (5 hours).</p>

<b>Name</b>	<b>València Activa Expres</b>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://valenciactiva.valencia.es/es/valencia-forma/valencia-activa-expres-0">http://valenciactiva.valencia.es/es/valencia-forma/valencia-activa-expres-0</a>
<b>Organisers and partners</b>	València Activa
<b>Objective of the programme</b>	<p>The programme is composed by more than 100 courses about professional competences, digital competences, linguistics competences, training for people over 55 years, and women; but all of them have the same objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To improve the general competences of the job seekers</li> <li>- To reduce the training gaps of unemployed</li> <li>- To capacitate job seekers to exploit their personal resources</li> </ul>
<b>Budget</b>	Target: 1.875 people in the city

Target students	Professionals, women, over 55 years old
Programme	<p>Common block:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Professional technical skills (food handling, window dressing, forklift, mobile lifting platform)</li> <li>- Digital competences (introduction to computing and internet, Office computing, basic level, Office computing, medium level and Office computing, higher level)</li> <li>- Language skills courses (General English, Intensive English, Valencian, Chinese initiation, German initiation)</li> </ul> <p>Block over 55 years old: courses to overcome the digital literacy and English</p> <p>Women's block: technological training, business English, courses to obtain a secondary education degree.</p>

<b>Name</b>	<b>Business plan, successful entrepreneurship</b>
Website	<a href="http://valenciactiva.valencia.es/es/node/40">http://valenciactiva.valencia.es/es/node/40</a>
Organisers and partners	València Activa, Employment and Entrepreneurship service of the Valencia city council, SECOT association
Objective of the programme	To provide entrepreneurs the fundamental and basic points to start with a business plan (business model, market analysis, marketing plan, human resources plan, tax aspects, funding...).
Duration	20 hours
Budget	Free
Target students	Entrepreneurs
Programme	<p>The 20 hours are divided in 5 days of training in one week. The distribution of topics is the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Business model presentation, Canvas method, and lean start-up</li> <li>2. Market analysis, marketing plan and sales</li> <li>3. Human resources plan, operational plan</li> <li>4. Legal structure, tax aspects and funding</li> <li>5. Funding and economic plan</li> </ol>

<b>Name</b>	<b>Capsules for entrepreneurship</b>
Website	<a href="http://valenciactiva.valencia.es/es/node/38">http://valenciactiva.valencia.es/es/node/38</a>
Organisers and partners	València Activa, Valencia city council, Valencia chamber of commerce
Objective of the programme	To provide personalised training in basic and needed topics to achieve successful project ideas.
Duration	7 weeks of training, but the programme is configured as independent modules so participants can receive only the capsules of their interest or the whole programme. Each capsule have a duration of 12 hours (but the capsule VII that has a duration of 9 hours)
Target students	Entrepreneurs
Programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Labour resources management, self-employment</li> <li>2. Tax</li> <li>3. Marketing</li> <li>4. Business and management models</li> <li>5. Economic and funding management</li> <li>6. Successful presentations</li> </ol>

## 7. Sales and commercial skills

<b>Name</b>	<b>Quality and Environment Technician Course in the Agri-Food Industry</b>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.eoi.es/es/cursos/33451/curso-de-tecnico-de-calidad-y-medio-ambiente-en-la-industria-agroalimentaria-valencia">https://www.eoi.es/es/cursos/33451/curso-de-tecnico-de-calidad-y-medio-ambiente-en-la-industria-agroalimentaria-valencia</a>
<b>Organisers and partners</b>	The school of industrial organisation with the funding support of the Social European Fund and Valencia Activa.
<b>Objective of the programme</b>	<p>This program responds to the training needs of technical personnel to equip companies in the agri-food sector of Valencia. The general objectives of the training program are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The sustainable integration in the labour market of young people who are not employed, nor participate in education or training activities, particularly in the context of the Youth Guarantee.</li> <li>- The sustainable integration into the labour market of young people, particularly those who are unemployed and not integrated into education or training systems, as well as young people who are at risk of social exclusion and those from marginalised communities, also through the application of the Youth Guarantee.</li> </ul> <p>In addition, within the planned methodology it is intended to achieve the following main objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To know and understand the current regulations in the field of food hygiene.</li> <li>• To acquire the necessary skills to implement and maintain a system for self-control of risks and critical points.</li> <li>• To provide attendees with the capacities to determine the actions necessary to achieve the company's quality objectives, applying the necessary resources to develop quality responsibilities.</li> </ul>
<b>Tools used</b>	The methodology combines face-to-face training sessions with individualised tutorials on the employability opportunities of each participant.
<b>Duration</b>	220 hours and 3 hours of individualised tutoring
<b>Budget</b>	Free registration. Programme co-founded by the European Social Fund, Valencia Activa and the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism
<b>Target students</b>	Unemployed youth registered in the National Youth Guarantee System. Preferably located in Valencia.
<b>Programme</b>	<p>Module I. Employability: Techniques and skills for job search</p> <p>Module II. Food safety and quality management: Legal framework of food hygiene, the food (Microbiology, alterations and contamination, foodborne diseases), management standards in the food industry</p> <p>Module III. Food safety: Hazard analysis and critical control points</p> <p>Module IV. Quality Management Systems: Quality management for the agri-food industry</p> <p>Module V. Voluntary standards: protocols, ISO normative, etc.</p> <p>Module VI. Environmental management systems: Environmental management in the agri-food industry</p> <p>Module VII. Security and health</p>

<b>Name</b>	<b>EmTe programme – Weaving networks between women in rural areas to empower, undertake and connect them</b>
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://emte.info/">http://emte.info/</a>
<b>Organisers and partners</b>	FADEMUR and Valencian Community Government

Objective of the programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To offer an interesting, attractive and useful training for women in Valencia rural areas, especially in leader territories, that allows them to launch their project ideas and enter in the labour market.</li> <li>• To give a broad vision of Rural Development and the Potential of the Territory.</li> <li>• To promote female entrepreneurship in the agricultural, livestock, forestry sector with a sustainable and innovative holistic vision.</li> <li>• To promote the self-employment and cooperative movement in the primary sector as a professional development option for women.</li> <li>• To improve the knowledge and skills of women participating in the Training Itinerary.</li> <li>• To create alliances and links between women who participate in the Formative Itinerary that favour the creation of a new model of cooperation and collaboration for the common good among the local authorities.</li> <li>• To promote the exchange of real and successful experiences among women who increase confidence to develop projects in the territory.</li> <li>• To improve the environmental awareness of women in the GAL territory that allows them to understand the need to develop sustainable projects.</li> </ul>
Target students	Rural women of Valencian Community
Programme	<p>The cycle will consist of three workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empowering Woman: To provide personal development tools to increase awareness of the potential of women in rural areas and their ability to take action in the new creation of social economic projects, personal entrepreneurship and / or local cooperatives.</li> <li>• Entrepreneur woman: Two days to explain how to put the business idea into action, providing knowledge in the creation of a business plan, creation of networks within and outside your environment, aid and existing subsidies. Additionally, through a bank of experiences, success stories of women who have undertaken in the rural environment are presented. This bank of experiences exposes the beginnings, development and challenges of women entrepreneurs.</li> <li>• Communicate woman: To capacitate on the ways of communicating and disseminating the project in a simple and practical way using digital media. At the same time, students will be given tools to improve their interpersonal communication skills when transmitting their business idea, selling their product, seeking alliances and / or investments.</li> </ul>

The **Regional Council on Agriculture, Rural Development, Climate, and Ecological transition** also organises courses with an annual basis with topics such as sustainable agriculture, ecological agriculture, among others. Because the current situation, all the in-person training activities had been delayed although the online courses are still running. All the information can be consulted in their website<sup>20</sup>.

In the same line, it is important to mention the **webinars** (interactive online conferences in real time) organised by València Activa (#VATalks)<sup>21</sup> offered to their users about employment, training and entrepreneurship with the help of their technical team and leaders in the topics to deal with. Those sessions are held through a virtual platform that allows the expert to receive questions from the participants. Some of previous topics addressed in these webinars are:

<sup>20</sup> <http://www.agroambient.gva.es/es/web/desarrollo-rural/transferencia-tecnologia-formacion>

<sup>21</sup> <http://valenciactiva.valencia.es/es/valencia-forma/webinars-vatalks>



- How to make visible your business with Instagram
- Opportunities: you can have your opportunity in Valencia
- Entrepreneurship in the new normality
- Women and technology

Also, FADEMUR organises **workshops**<sup>22</sup> (around 3 hours) on different topics related to this study, such as: challenges and opportunities for women in the rural environment, communication techniques for agri-food business

## 5. Networks

In addition to the bodies mentioned in the section 3 about relevant actions where the main bodies of the agri-food sector had been identified, the following networks related to social innovation, rural development and entrepreneurship should be mentioned in this report for their implementation and impact in the Valencia region:

- **VIT emprende**<sup>23</sup>: The network of the innovative entrepreneurial ecosystem in Valencia, promoting training, revitalisation of the ecosystem, as well as internationalisation and economic promotion.
- The **Xarxa Valenciana de Ciutats per la Innovació**<sup>24</sup> is an association that encourages innovation in local environments through collaboration between local government, citizens, and companies. It is formed by the Valencian municipalities, which have been recognised by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness with the distinctive "City of Science and Innovation": Alcoi, Alfàs del Pi, Almussafes, Alzira, Gandia, Gata de Gorgos; Ontinyent; Les Salines, Torrent, Valencia, Vila-real and Villena. These are municipalities that have been distinguished in supporting innovation in their territories, defining policies, promoting structures, institutions, and local companies with a strong scientific, technological and innovative component.
- **Innova Chair LABORA – University of Valencia**<sup>25</sup> is an instrument that aims to connect intra-entrepreneurs and intra-public entrepreneurs to lead innovative and creative processes in Valencian administrations, contribute to validate new products and services and promote new spaces for connecting citizens, community groups, technicians and politics.
- **Las Naves**<sup>26</sup> is the innovative centre of the city of Valencia. It is a public entity that depends on the Valencia City Council that promotes urban innovation with a clear commitment to people. Putting them at the centre of innovative action. They promote social innovation with the objective to improve the quality of life of Valencian citizens directly or indirectly. Moreover, they work on innovation with the active involvement of actors from the public sector, private sector, academic / research sector, and civil society.
- **Local Development Agencies**<sup>27</sup> the Valencian council, through its public company Divalterra, promotes this network in the Valencian province, offering the participating local entities the following services completely free of charge:
  - o Technical assistance in matters of local development and economic promotion
  - o Provision of telematic management tools (local web portal, online and intranet business galleries for communication and management of queries and projects)
  - o Providing information on local socio-economic indicators to minimize risks in decision making.

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.formacionfademurpv.es/course-category/presenciales/>

<sup>23</sup> <https://vitemprende.es/es/>

<sup>24</sup> <http://xarxainnovacio.com/quien somos.html>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.uv.es/uvweb/microsoft-chair/en/escola-valenciana-d-innovacio/xarxa-innova-/presentacio/objectiu-1286068327464.html>

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.lasnaves.com/?lang=es>

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.divaladl.es/va/seccion/ver/que-es-xarxa-aedl/10>

- The **Valencian Network for the Fight against Poverty and Social Exclusion**<sup>28</sup> is a horizontal group of non-profit entities. It aims, in relation to the challenge of poverty and exclusion, to raise the awareness of society, claim and promote quality public policies, participatory, preventive, stable and global, promoting the involvement of other sectors of the community (professionals from the education, health, social services), other NGO's; politicians, journalists, artists, etc.
- **Social platform of the third sector in the Valencian Community**<sup>29</sup> is an axis of the Spanish platform established in January 2012 to defend, through a single voice, the rights and social interests of citizens, mainly of people in situations of poverty or risk of exclusion. With this objective, the seven most representative organisations in the social sphere were unified: the Spanish Volunteer Platform, the European Network to Fight against Poverty and Social Exclusion in the Spanish State, the Platform of Social Action NGOs, the Spanish Committee of Representatives of People with Disabilities, Spanish Red Cross, Cáritas and the National Organisation for Blind people (ONCE).
- **Federation of Valencian companies of social economy**<sup>30</sup> (FEVES) is a non-for-profit entrepreneurial organisation that represent the labour societies in the Valencian Community (entities where most of the social capital is owned by their own employees). Among its objectives, FEVES offers solutions to business and employee's problems and promotes and disseminates this business model where the capital and the labour force is balanced.
- **REAS país Valencià**<sup>31</sup> is the Valencian branch of the network of social and solidary economy present in the national territory. In Valencia region, they foster the dialogue between politicians and public administrations about social issues, promote the responsible public procurement, promote the strategic alliances for the economic change, disseminate this type of economy and consolidate their related instruments.
- **Federation of associations of rural women (FADEMUR)**<sup>32</sup> works in three main pillars: information (to promote that the new ICT tools contribute to the rural development), training (to empower women to take the most of the rural opportunities), vindication (of discrimination and inequality situations and the recognition of the role that rural women have in the rural development). It is a national network with regional branches. It also has an incubator of rural entrepreneurs<sup>33</sup>
- **NITTÚA**<sup>34</sup> is a platform for the socio-economic innovation aimed to promote the Economy for life (social, environmental, and financial). They have a project of a rural school of social entrepreneurship with a related course not included in the previous section as it was only been implemented in the province of Castellón<sup>35</sup>.

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<sup>28</sup> <http://eapncv.org/>

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## ANNEX I

### Map of relevant actors and their contacts

Actor	Link in the local supply chain	Website	Contact
Regional Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development, Climate Emergency and Ecological Transition	Regulation	<a href="http://www.agroambient.gva.es/es">http://www.agroambient.gva.es/es</a>	General-Directorate of agriculture, livestock and fishing. dg_agricultura_ramaderia_pesca@gva.es
Commission of the Valencian Agrarian Cooperative movement	Advisory Board	<a href="http://www.agroambient.gva.es/es/web/agricultura/comision-cooperativismo-agrario-valenciano">http://www.agroambient.gva.es/es/web/agricultura/comision-cooperativismo-agrario-valenciano</a>	NA
Agro Laboratory	Quality control and monitoring	<a href="http://www.agroambient.gva.es/es/web/agricultura/analisis-agroalimentario.-laboratorio-agrario">http://www.agroambient.gva.es/es/web/agricultura/analisis-agroalimentario.-laboratorio-agrario</a>	<a href="mailto:labora_burjassot@gva.es">labora_burjassot@gva.es</a>
Valencian promotion and guarantee agency	Grants management	<a href="http://www.avfga.gva.es/es/">http://www.avfga.gva.es/es/</a>	<a href="mailto:avfga_valencia@gva.es">avfga_valencia@gva.es</a>
Official College of Technical Agricultural Engineers and Graduates of Valencia and Castellón	Representation technical agricultural engineers	<a href="https://www.coitavc.org/">https://www.coitavc.org/</a>	<a href="mailto:colegio@coitavc.org">colegio@coitavc.org</a>
Committee of ecological agriculture of the Valencian Community	Certification	<a href="https://www.caecv.com/">https://www.caecv.com/</a>	<a href="mailto:caecv@caecv.com">caecv@caecv.com</a>
Fisherman associations of Valencian Community	Representation fisherman	<a href="http://www.agroambient.gva.es/es/web/pesca/cofradias-de-pescadores">http://www.agroambient.gva.es/es/web/pesca/cofradias-de-pescadores</a>	Valencia: 96 367 19 00
Municipal Agrarian Council of Valencia	Agriculture management	<a href="https://valencia.consellagrari.com/es/quienes-somos/consell-agrari-municipal-de-valencia/">https://valencia.consellagrari.com/es/quienes-somos/consell-agrari-municipal-de-valencia/</a>	<a href="mailto:Consellagrari@valencia.es">Consellagrari@valencia.es</a>
Valencian Institute of agro research	Research	<a href="http://www.ivia.gva.es/va/">http://www.ivia.gva.es/va/</a>	(+34) 963424000
Animal Research and Technology Centre	Research	<a href="http://www.ivia.gva.es/va/web/cita-ivia/">http://www.ivia.gva.es/va/web/cita-ivia/</a>	<a href="mailto:morata_mar@gva.es">morata_mar@gva.es</a>
Institute of agro-chemistry and food technology	Research	<a href="https://www.iata.csic.es/es">https://www.iata.csic.es/es</a>	<a href="mailto:info@iata.csic.es">info@iata.csic.es</a>



Technological Institute of Nutrition	Research	<a href="https://www.ainia.es/en/">https://www.ainia.es/en/</a>	(+34) 96 136 60 90
SADA PA Valencia	Livestock	<a href="https://www.sadagrupo.com/">https://www.sadagrupo.com/</a>	<a href="mailto:info@sadagrupo.com">info@sadagrupo.com</a>
UVESA	Livestock	<a href="https://www.uvesa.es/">https://www.uvesa.es/</a>	
Guillem Export SL	Agriculture	<a href="http://guillemexport.es/">http://guillemexport.es/</a>	<a href="mailto:info@guillemexport.es">info@guillemexport.es</a>
Anecoop	Agriculture	<a href="https://anecoop.com/">https://anecoop.com/</a>	<a href="mailto:info@anecoop.com">info@anecoop.com</a>
Hermanos Beltrán Adell SL	Fishing	<a href="http://www.beltranadell.com/">http://www.beltranadell.com/</a>	<a href="mailto:valencia@beltranadell.com">valencia@beltranadell.com</a>
Mercadona	Retail	<a href="https://www.mercadona.es/">https://www.mercadona.es/</a>	900 500 103
Consum	Retail	<a href="https://www.consum.es/">https://www.consum.es/</a>	900 500 126
Confederation of Cooperatives of the Valencian Community	Representative of cooperatives	<a href="https://concoval.es/es/">https://concoval.es/es/</a>	<a href="mailto:concoval@concoval.es">concoval@concoval.es</a>
Agri-food cooperatives of the Valencian Community	Representation of agri-food cooperatives	<a href="http://www.cooperativesagroalimentariescv.com/">http://www.cooperativesagroalimentariescv.com/</a>	<a href="mailto:agro-alimentariescv@agro-alimentariescv.coop">agro-alimentariescv@agro-alimentariescv.coop</a>
Valencian agri-food federation	Association	<a href="https://www.fedacova.org/">https://www.fedacova.org/</a>	<a href="mailto:fedacova@fedacova.org">fedacova@fedacova.org</a>
Valencian association of farmers	Association	<a href="http://www.avaasaja.org/index.php">http://www.avaasaja.org/index.php</a>	<a href="mailto:info@avaasaja.org">info@avaasaja.org</a>
Association of Meat industries of the Valencian Community	Association	<a href="https://aiccv.es/">https://aiccv.es/</a>	<a href="mailto:aicv@aicv.es">aicv@aicv.es</a>
La uniò	Association	<a href="http://launion.chil.me/mayoritarios?l=ES">http://launion.chil.me/mayoritarios?l=ES</a>	<a href="mailto:launio@launio.org">launio@launio.org</a>
Cerai	Association	<a href="https://cerai.org/">https://cerai.org/</a>	<a href="mailto:info@cerai.org">info@cerai.org</a>
Mercovasa	Wholesaler	<a href="https://www.mercovasa.com/">https://www.mercovasa.com/</a>	<a href="mailto:info@mercovasa.com">info@mercovasa.com</a>
MercaValència	Wholesaler	<a href="https://www.mercavalencia.es/es/conocenos/somos-mercavalencia/">https://www.mercavalencia.es/es/conocenos/somos-mercavalencia/</a>	<a href="mailto:info@mercavalencia.es">info@mercavalencia.es</a>