



TIERRA·VIVA

A holistic territorial management model
for ecological transition

A Project of FUNDACIÓN GEA GESTIÓN TERRITORIAL
www.gea-gestionterritorial.org/tierra-viva/

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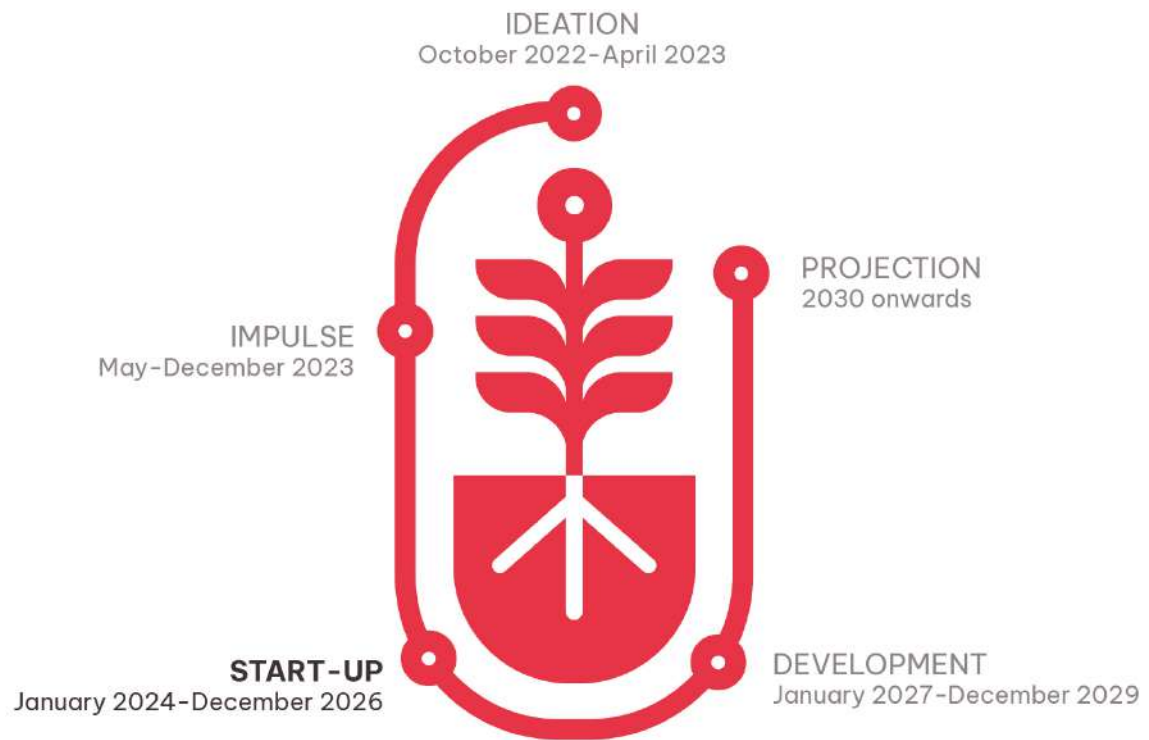
GENERAL OBJECTIVE

In 3 stages; Start-up, Development and Projection (2024-2030), the general purpose is to implement a holistic territorial management model based on Permaculture, for the sake of rural regeneration, social innovation and an effective ecological transition.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

According to the 6 territorial axes of the Fundación GEA Gestión Territorial:

- I. Consolidation of a dynamic rural community of residents.
- II. Implementing holistic management of the endogenous resources.
- III. Creation of triple impact enterprises: environmental, social and economic.
- IV. Rural resilience through food, energy and technological sovereignty.
- V. Educational and cultural excellence to revitalise, inspire, educate and advise.
- VI. Systemic, participatory and cooperative governance.



START-UP 2024-2026

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

I. Attract family units related to Tierra Viva to consolidate a resident and dynamic rural community.

Through calls, meetings, events and training, we will come into contact with various people. Those most applicable to Tierra Viva's objectives will have the opportunity to participate in the process of building a resident community, joining family units living in the countryside, participating in the development of a regenerative and well-being-based economy that promotes the revitalisation and repopulation of undervalued rural areas.

II. Revitalise the zones of action, addressing the fundamental aspects for a holistic management of endogenous resources.

Through education and professional training, we will carry out the process of revitalisation of the natural and cultural values of the chosen area of action for a period of 3 years.

- PERMACULTURAL LANDSCAPE STUDY AND DESIGN

- _ Climatological, geomorphological and topographical study.
 - _ Study of the needs of the Tierra Viva and Molinos communities.
- HYDROLOGICAL DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT:
 - _ Preservation of springs, recovery of watercourses and ponds, and through hydrological design gaining a sustainable water presence.
 - _ Address extreme weather events and water management throughout the water cycle (rainfall, runoff, aquifer, use and purification).
- AGROFORESTRY DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT:
 - _ Soil regeneration and increase of the organic matter layer.
 - _ Conservation and promotion of biodiversity.
 - _ Recovery of traditional crops and varieties.
 - _ Planting of new crops adapted to the climate and soil.
 - _ Forest management.
- BIOCONSTRUCTION IN SYNERGY WITH CULTURAL HERITAGE
 - _ Restoration of dry stone walls, irrigation channels and ponds.
 - _ Recovery of traditional construction techniques.
 - _ Restoration through bio-construction of old corrals, barns and haystacks, to promote human settlements.

III. Develop knowledge, vision and criteria for the creation of triple impact enterprises.

Through conferences, meetings, workshops and training, we will learn to analyse the feasibility of projects in the local-global socio-economic context, as well as to develop and create conscious, healthy and sustainable enterprises.

- STUDY OF RESOURCES, ECONOMIC BACKGROUND AND DAFO ANALYSIS FOR THE CREATION OF ENTERPRISES.
Based on regenerative agriculture and livestock farming, agroecology and agroforestry, ecotourism, integrative health and medicine, cultural productions and events, training and entrepreneurship school, etc.
- MARKET RESEARCH, COMMERCIAL CHANNELS AND MARKETING.
- DESIGN OF A HOLISTIC ECONOMIC MODEL.
Integrating circular and regenerative economy, Economy for the Common Good (ECG) and Buen Vivir, among others.

IV. Training to achieve rural resilience.

Resilience as a capacity to face adverse situations and to creatively adapt to contexts it is not possible without the possibility of self-managing certain areas related to survival. For this reason, we consider of key importance all knowledge that enables us to achieve food, energy and technology sovereignty among others.

- **FOOD QUALITY AND SOVEREIGNTY.**
Self-management of water, land, seeds and crops, generating enough food for local/territorial survival.
- **ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SOVEREIGNTY.**
Design of an energy system based on renewable sources of lower impact and higher efficiency for self-management of energy production and consumption.
- **TECHNOLOGICAL SOVEREIGNTY.**
Design and use of environmentally and rural friendly, ethical technologies.
- **ECONOMIC SOVEREIGNTY.**
In parallel to the current economic model, and within the law, promote and develop local economic models based on the values and agreements of rural communities to favour the exchange and trade of products and services.

V. To provide tools to cultivate educational and cultural excellence.

Excellence is a vital attitude that determines the quality and impact of our actions. Linked to knowledge, experience, values and individual and collective purposes, excellence is an expression of consciousness and responds in a systemic way to the wellbeing of people and the planet.

Through meetings, events, workshops and trainings, we will offer tools to cultivate the necessary attitude for excellence. Trainings in critical and systemic thinking, education, holistic health, personal development and the self-awareness process will promote the excellence of individuals and the community.

VI. Training for systemic, participatory and cooperative governance.

Through meetings, workshops and training on leadership and conscious co-leadership, active listening, non-violent communication, peaceful conflict resolution, group facilitation, sociocracy and other forms of organisation, we want to enable the creation and development of a system of governance where participation and cooperation, fair sharing and the well-being of all, are pillars of the community.

ZONE OF ACTION



Tierra Viva is in Valdepuertas, a valley 4.5 km from Molinos, a village and municipality in the Maestrazgo region, in the northeast of the province of Teruel, Aragon.

Fundación GEA Gestión Territorial, the site that makes up Tierra Viva, is comprised of 8 hectares. In addition to the 8

hectares already acquired, the potential exists to utilise the surrounding properties due to owners ceding their land for the implementation of Tierra Viva.

Valdepuertas, has an altitude of more than 1000m. Only 80 years ago it was known for its abundant springs, orchards and vegetable gardens. With the emigration to the cities in the 70's and 80's, and the Community Agricultural Policies, the valley lost its original richness. Today only barley is grown for sheep in some of the many terraces. Most of the springs have been lost, ponds and irrigation channels have been abandoned for decades.

In 2010 Neus Buirra Ferré obtained 8 hectares of the valley with María Jesús San Llorente to initiate Q project, an experimentation center that integrates ecology, degrowth and consciousness. Thus, becoming a small example of effective sustainability. Since then, Valdepuertas is the only inhabited valley in the municipality.

Molinos, has a census population of 227 inhabitants. The demographic density (2022) is 3.08 inhab/Km² and has an aging rate (2021) of 372.73 %. At the economic level Molinos lives mainly from livestock-agriculture, tourism, construction, services, care and hunting.

The challenge faced by Molinos is reactivating the enthusiasm and proactivity of the residents to revitalise a rich and diverse social, cultural and economic life.

This requires increasing the population, attracting people to come and live in the town, generating decent and quality work and facilitating access to housing and land for people, families and projects related to the place.

Tierra Viva offers a **new impulse** with strategic actions to stop depopulation, revitalise the social fabric, revitalise the economy, and prevent macro projects that threaten life through the loss of environmental quality and rural identity.

Some Tierra Viva actions may have an inter-regional and inter-provincial scope, being the area of greatest influence and activity the north-east of the province of Teruel.

HUMAN RESOURCES

PARTNERS:

- _ Permaculture: Coopernat, Permacultura Ibérica, Permacultura ARAGÓN. Sustraiak, ...
- _ Regenerative Agriculture and Livestock: GEAORGÁNICA, [Mas las Viñas](#), [Regen Academy](#), Axel Cristián Torrejón (Unión de agricultores y ganaderos de Aragón-UAGA)
- _ Forestry: Alejandro Giménez , ...
- _ Biodiversity: Fundación para la Conservación del Quebrantahuesos

- _ Bioconstruction: Jesús García Mainar, Iñaki Zulaika, [Mas la Llum](#), [Instituto Baubiologie](#)
- _ Cultural heritage: APUDEPA (Asociación de Acción Pública para la Defensa del Patrimonio Aragonés)

- _ Conscious Economy (Circular, Regenerative, Social, etc.): Nicola Cerantola, Daniel Christian Wahl, Luis Esteban, Diego Isabel La Moneda, ... Triple Impact Companies: Matarrania Bio, Ecocentral, Ecodaqui, SATT, ...

- _ Holistic education: Heike Freire (Pedagogía Verde), José Luis Murillo (Escuela Rural),
- _ Holistic health: [Observatorio de Salud y Medicina Integrativa \(OSMI\)](#), [Fundación Vivo Sano](#),

- _ Resilience and Sovereignty:
Food sovereignty: Gustavo Duch, Jeromo Aguado, Grupa La Garma, Coopertativa La Sazón, Red de Semillas de Aragón, Les Refardes, [Eixarcolant](#), ...
Economic sovereignty: Nekane Jurado y Antón Zarauz
Technological sovereignty: Alex Berber (Komun.org y Markoop)
Energy sovereignty: Ecooo Energía Ciudadana, [XSE \(Xarxa per a la Soberania Energetica\)](#), ...

- _ [Active listening](#):
- _ [Conscious leadership and co-leadership](#):
- _ Group facilitation: Community praxis (Mark Straw), Facilita.eu (Alberto Pardos), Alicia Comenge Segard, ...
- _ Non-violent Communication and Peaceful Conflict Resolution: Novact

INDICATORS – EXPECTED RESULTS

After 3 years of implementation, at a general level:

1. First results of a holistic management of the action zone based on Permaculture criteria and practices, characterised by a greater care and presence of: i) water; ii) biodiversity, iii) fertility of productive soils; iv) forest; as well as v) recovery of ruins; vi) and more people living in Molinos due to Tierra Viva.

2. People trained in Permaculture and holistic territorial management, prepared to settle in rural communities, revitalise the territory and generate a viable and sustainable economy.

3. The positive influence of Tierra Viva in Molinos, and neighbouring municipalities and counties; documenting the monitoring of the process (difficulties and achievements, lessons learned and future opportunities) to collaborate in the process of inter-county territorial.

In short: To initiate the process of giving new life to Valdepuertas as a pilot area and an example of territorial management and ecological transition.

At a concrete level, based on the 6 specific objectives in 3 years:

1. A minimum of 5 new families are settled in the community of Molinos.

2. A minimum of 50 people have been trained in the holistic management of endogenous resources and have contributed in field work to initiate the revitalisation process of the action area.

3. The new resident families, after analysing the territory, seeing its potential and designing a holistic local-global economic model, initiate triple-impact enterprises linked to the regenerative economy and ecological transition.

4. A minimum of 50 people have been trained in resilience and sovereignty, and have initiated practical processes to aim for:

i) 75% food sovereignty through own production and exchange with local actors.

ii) 100% energy sovereignty through the use of natural resources, education in responsible consumption, efficiency and low consumption mechanisms, and the use of renewable energies.

iii) technological-digital sovereignty through education in the responsible and efficient use, production and management of low-impact technologies.

iv) economic sovereignty by innovating in forms and networks of exchange and local production and supply markets.

5. A minimum of 50 people have been trained in systems analysis and critical thinking, holistic pedagogy, holistic health, and personal and community development.

6. A minimum of 50 people have been trained in active listening, group facilitation, peaceful conflict resolution, non-violent communication,

participatory processes and systemic governance, as well as contributing to the definition of the Tierra Viva governance model through various meetings.

BENEFICIARIES

Tierra Viva benefits the inhabitants of Molinos, neighboring municipalities and regions, and all people and related entities, who find an opportunity through Tierra Viva to put into practice the values of a holistic social paradigm. We intend to have a local impact of international scope.

METHODOLOGY

The participation, support and collaboration of Molinos and its neighbours is essential for the implementation of Tierra Viva. Therefore, all the people of the village and local entities will be invited to participate in the project by contributing their experience and knowledge. It is important to know their needs and to make Tierra Viva an opportunity to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants already living there.

1. Information and fluid and constant communication with the inhabitants of the village and the Town Council, as well as neighbouring villages.
2. The implementation will be carried out with activities (see activities section) which include open trainings in weekend or longer workshops, interspersed with periods of field work applied to what has been learnt. For each activity, experts in the topic and area in question will be involved.
3. Students will be able to participate in all the workshops or in those that interest them and in the same way they will be able to participate in the field work and in the construction of Tierra Viva.
4. Throughout the process, progress and difficulties will be recorded.
5. Dissemination and communication on social networks throughout the process.

LOGISTICS

Currently, within the action area, there is a multi-purpose space that can accommodate 10 people like a mountain hut and provide a kitchen service. On the other hand, in the village, 4.5 kilometres away, there is the residence/museum of Santos Villacián (former shelter of Molinos), which can accommodate 20 people.

PROPOSAL FOR ACTIVITIES

According to the 6 specific objectives, the following activities are foreseen during the first year and a half of implementation:

I. Attract family units related to Tierra Viva to consolidate a resident and dynamic rural community.

1.1 Official presentation:

Get to know Tierra Viva, a project for Valdepuertas, Molinos.

A presentation of the project to neighbours and the town council of Molinos, nearby town councils and other local public and private entities, to share the characteristics and purposes of the project. As well as briefly introduce the general values and ways of implementing Permaculture.

1.2 Open door meeting: Getting to know Tierra Viva.

Weekends event to introduce Permaculture at a general level and to get to know the Tierra Viva project and people potentially related and interested in being part of the community. Offering a space to get to know each other and the territory.

II. Revitalise the zones of action, addressing the fundamental aspects for a holistic management of endogenous resources.

2.1 One-month practical workshop:

Physical and territorial analysis of the area.

For one month, the scientific analysis necessary to undertake a permaculture design will be elaborated on the 8 hectares of Tierra Viva. This analysis will include climate, winds, topology, soils, hydrology, mapping, etc. Experts will be invited to conduct this and share their methodology.

2.2 One-month practical workshop:

Initial spatial and functional permaculture design

For one month, a layout/spatial arrangement design of the overall project will be developed. This will include all needed functions of Tierra Viva and will be carried out on the entire 8 hectares available and other possible ceded land. Experts will be invited to share their methodology and knowledge during the execution and management of these designs.

2.2.a One-day meeting:

Preservation and Defense of Biodiversity.

Fundación para la Conservación del Quebrantahuesos (FCQ) will share its experience in biodiversity conservation projects, its criteria, as well as the current difficulties and factors to be taken into account.

2.3 Five-month practical workshop:

Implementation of the permaculture design, first year 2024.

In the five most conducive months to work in the field, actions will be initiated to implement the design in its triple aspect: landscape, hydrological and agroforestry. Experts from each aspect will be invited to share their wisdom and advise throughout the process.

2.4 One-month practical workshops: Traditional construction techniques.

Combining cultural heritage, traditional techniques and bio-construction, several actions will be carried out aimed at the recovery of traditional construction and restoration techniques: dry stone walls, irrigation channels and ponds, shepherd's huts and buildings for multipurpose use.

III. Develop knowledge, vision and criteria for the creation of triple impact enterprises.

3.1 One-month theoretical-practical workshop: Municipal and county socio-economic analysis.

Experts will teach methodologies to carry out the socio-economic analysis of Molinos and the Maestrazgo region, taking into account previous analyses, updating the information and improving the methodology and criteria of the analysis, in order to know the potential of the territory and its resources for possible triple impact ventures and to implement the shortcomings and difficulties of existing ventures.

3.2 First Seminar on Conscious Economy: An introduction to circular economy and regenerative economy, Examples of triple impact companies.

During a weekend, the principles of circular economy and regenerative economy, their link with territorial management, ecological transition, sustainability and resilience will be introduced, and concrete examples of ongoing projects will be presented. In addition, 3 triple impact companies will be invited to share their process from the beginning to their current situation.

IV. Training to achieve rural resilience.

4. First Seminar on Resilience and Sovereignty. Food and economic sovereignty.

A four-day meeting, in which experts will explain what resilience is and what it implies and its link with food and economic sovereignty.

It will provide an overview at national, European and international level of both sovereignties, concrete examples of ongoing processes, and will explore the potentialities existing in the territory.

V. To provide tools to cultivate educational and cultural excellence.

5. First Seminar on Rural school and holistic pedagogy.

For four days, three experts in rural schools and holistic pedagogy will meet to present the advantages and potential of the rural school in order to implement pedagogical holism and educational excellence in rural areas. They will also discuss the fundamentals of quality education, and the conditions that make the rural school a key factor of repopulation, integration and social innovation.

VI. Training for systemic, participatory and cooperative governance.

6. Seven-day practical workshop:

"Uniting to be reborn", learning to create new structures: forms of governance and conscious co-leadership.

Through various group facilitation dynamics (Teoría U, Zona 00, Community Praxis) we will learn how to build the common vision and collective values of Tierra Viva's community, based on the richness and needs of each individual,

We will also invite members of different communities in Spain (Lakabe, Arterra, Los Portales, etc.) to share their practical experience on different forms of governance.

DEFINITION OF CONCEPTS

Excellency

La Real Academia Española defines excellence as extremely good or outstanding quality in something. It refers to the ability to achieve the highest standards of quality in an activity or task.

The pursuit of excellence is a fundamental goal in life and work. It involves the commitment to achieve and maintain the highest levels of quality, performance and efficiency, the constant search for improvement and the delivery of outstanding results in a specific activity or task. Excellence not only benefits individuals and organizations, but also has a positive impact on society as a whole.

Ecological transition

The ecological transition is a process of social transformation with the aim of moving towards a sustainable development model, with the energy transition for climate change mitigation being a fundamental part of its roadmap, without obviating the link to rural development and the preservation of ecosystem services essential to human well-being and health such as water, soil, forests, oceans, landscape, culture and biodiversity.

The concept of ecological transition thus encompasses the set of measures and strategies adopted in the political, economic and social spheres to combat pollution and climate change and to protect biodiversity and natural resources.
<https://www.fundacionaquae.org/glosario/transicion-ecologica/>

Ecological transition would be an eventual process of changes in production and consumption systems, as well as in social and political institutions and in the ways of life and values of the population, leading from the current situation, to costly environmentally and consequently full of excessive risks, to a future environmentally sustainable situation, compatible with the planet's capacity to maintain human activities; and all this without substantially altering the organization of activities.

Ernest Garcia,

www.mapa.gob.es/ministerio/pags/Biblioteca/Revistas/pdf_AM%2FPDF_AM_Ambienta_2018_125_86_100.pdf

Resilience

From resilience, and this der. from lat. resiliens, -entis, part. pres. act. of resilire 'to jump back, to bounce back', 'to withdraw'.

1. f. The capacity of a living being to adapt to a disturbing agent or an adverse state or situation. 2. f. Capacity of a material, mechanism or system to recover its initial state when the perturbation to which it had been subjected has ceased.

<https://dle.rae.es/resiliencia>

Resilience is the capacity not only to resist and overcome challenges, but also to carry out transitions in a sustainable, just and democratic manner.

<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/es/policies/eu-crisis-response-resilience/>

Resilience is the process of overcoming adversity and becoming stronger as a result, which involves positive adaptation and the ability to learn and grow from difficult experiences. **Ann Masten**, psicóloga del desarrollo

"Resilience" is a new and increasingly used word that must necessarily be incorporated into our vocabulary. It expresses a complex conceptual construct originally developed in the field of psychology and adopted by sociology, which also reaches the political and educational sciences and will inevitably soon gain attention in medical education.

In the physical world, resilience would be synonymous with elasticity or buoyancy and would express the capacity of a body to recover its original state or position once the forces that tend to deform, displace or submerge it cease to act. In the field of life sciences, resilience expresses the adaptability of individuals or groups in the face of challenges or threats and has been defined as "the capacity to live, develop positively or overcome [...] in the face of stress or adversity that can normally cause negative consequences". It is a positive concept that recognizes mechanisms to successfully cope with setbacks and adversities and that strengthens individuals.

Albert Oriol-Bosch, https://scielo.isciii.es/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S1575-18132012000200004

Permaculture

Permaculture is a system of agricultural, economic, political and social design principles based on the patterns and characteristics of the natural ecosystem. It is holistic in that it has many branches including ecological design, ecological engineering, environmental design, construction and integrated water resource management, which develops sustainable architecture and self-regulating agricultural systems inspired by natural ecosystems. Since its inception in the late 1970s, permaculture has been defined as a positive response to the environmental and social crisis we are experiencing.

<https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Permacultura>

Introduced by Mollison and Holmgren in the late 1970s with specific reference to human settlement, as well as a social design system based on the observation and reproduction of natural ecosystems and ecological principles. The concept of distribution and fair use, in relation to humans and nature, is also included.

Glossari Catalunya circular

VIDEOS, DOCUMENTARIES AND WEBSITES OF INTEREST

in the process of selection

Transición Verde: **Las relaciones Norte-Sur ante el desafío del poscrecimiento.**
Mesa Redonda (Málaga, 12/09/23)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=da3WKy9GaZI>

Horizon. The EU Research & Innovation Magazine / 3 August 2023:
Small farms take centre stage in European push to bolster local food trade

<https://ec.europa.eu/research-and-innovation/en/horizon-magazine/small-farms-take-centre-stage-european-push-bolster-local-food-trade>

Documental Ganado o Desierto (Livestock or Desert)

www.ganado-o-desierto.com

<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/ganadoodesierto>

Allan Savory, Holistic Management

<https://savory.global/what-is-holistic-management/>