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Inspire Policy Making with Territorial Evidence

Rural Development Program / Fight against depopulation

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Region of Murcia
May 2018



*Programa de Desarrollo Rural
Región de Murcia 2014-2020*



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Rural Development Program/ Fight against depopulation

I. The depopulation problem in the Region of Murcia

□ The Region of Murcia has a demographic growth higher than the national value: meanwhile in the last 20 years the national population grew by 14.82%, the Region of Murcia grew by 34%.

- It is confirmed a higher natural growth of the population and a larger migratory flow.
- Population structure is characterized by a regressive distribution, which the same as the national average, but it has a higher profile of young people in comparison to the national value.

In general terms, considering Region as a whole, depopulation is not a risks at shot term...

BUT...

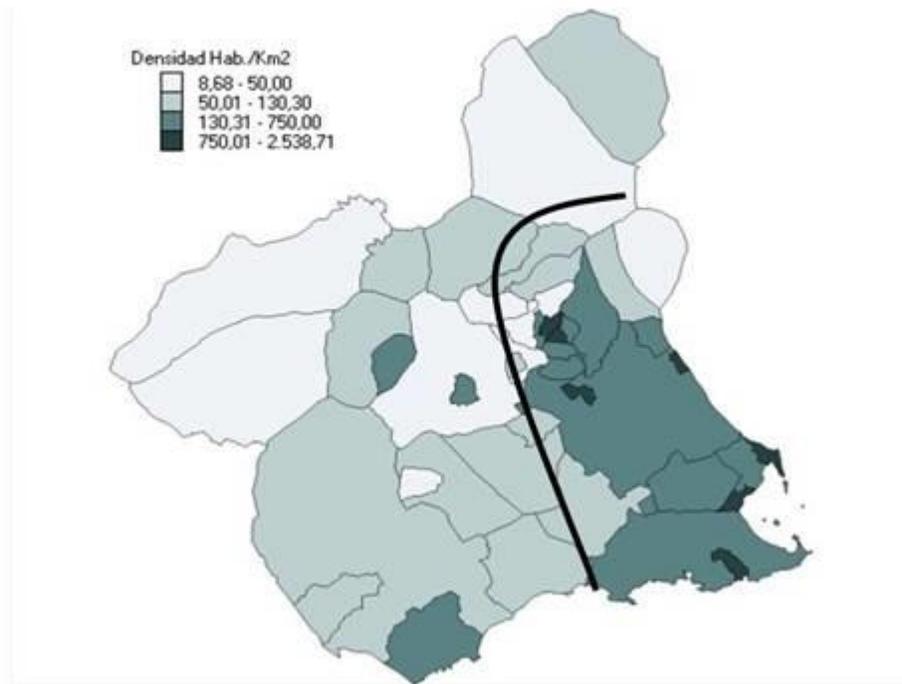
Important territorial imbalance exists between areas!

Several rural municipalities strongly face depopulation problems!



Important territorial imbalance within the Region of Murcia

Mapa 1 Distribución de la densidad de población por municipios de la Región de Murcia (2012)



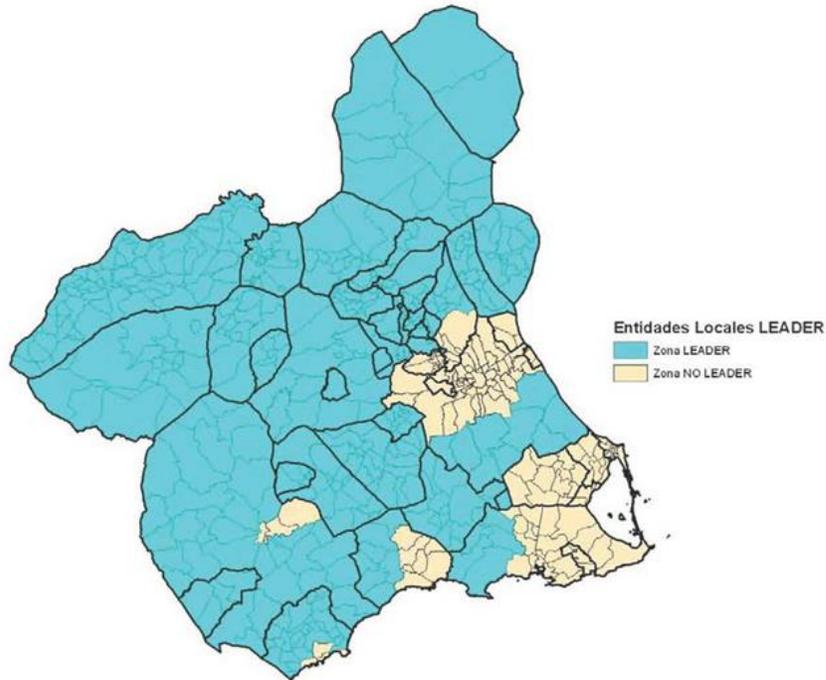
Fuente: Servicio Económico-Estadística de la Región de Murcia. Consejería de Economía y Hacienda.

- Relevant concentration of the population in the Axis Murcia-Cartagena. Only 2 municipalities concentrates 44.71% of the population (INE, 2017).
- The rest 55.29% of the population is distributed in 43 municipalities:
 - 5 < 2000 inhabitants, 0.34% of the total population
 - 3 between 2000 and 5000 inhabitants, 0.58% of the total population
- Risk of depopulation in rural areas, specially in the villages where life conditions are harder (mountain areas, less accessibility to services, etc.).

Municipalities in the process of depopulation

- 5 municipalities loss population: INE data. Period 1996-2017

	2017	1996	Varition 1996-2017
TOTAL R.Murcia	1.470.273	1.097.249	34,00%
30006 Aledo	945	991	-4,64%
30028 Moratalla	8.048	8.621	-6,65%
30031 Ojós	494	608	-18,75%
			-17,97%
			-11,78%



as at risk of population

is of the municipalities which loss population, it exists a
nt risk at:

er mountain areas: Caravaca de la Cruz, part of Lorca.

ier areas at risk of depopulation: Abanilla, Abudeite, Campos
Dehegin, Abarán, Bullas, Cieza

II. The RPD (EAFRD) contribution to face the depopulation

The implementation of the Rural Development Policy in the Region of Murcia is focus specially to a broad part of the rural area which has an agri-food sector less dynamic and competitive, in comparative terms, and which also has an important social, cultural and landscape heritage.

REGIÓN MURCIA
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II. The RPD contribution to face the depopulation

RDP integrates the problematic territorial imbalance within its overall development:

1. In the RDP diagnosis, this aspect is emphasized; the **SWOT** analysis shows the **THREAT** that depopulation of rural areas involves.
2. Among the needs to face, it is **IMPROVE THE ATTRACTIVENESS and THE SERVICES AVAILABLE IN RURAL AREAS**, as a key element to cope with the existing imbalance; maintain the socio-cultural and landscape heritage of the 80% of the territory.
3. RDP strategy indicates the development of these rural areas and the maintenance and conservation of the rural territory as a key aspect. Several programmed measures respond to it and in several actions it is prioritized the support to disadvantaged areas.



Medidas del PDR con especial incidencia en las zonas en proceso o riesgo de despoblamiento: ¿Qué se espera?

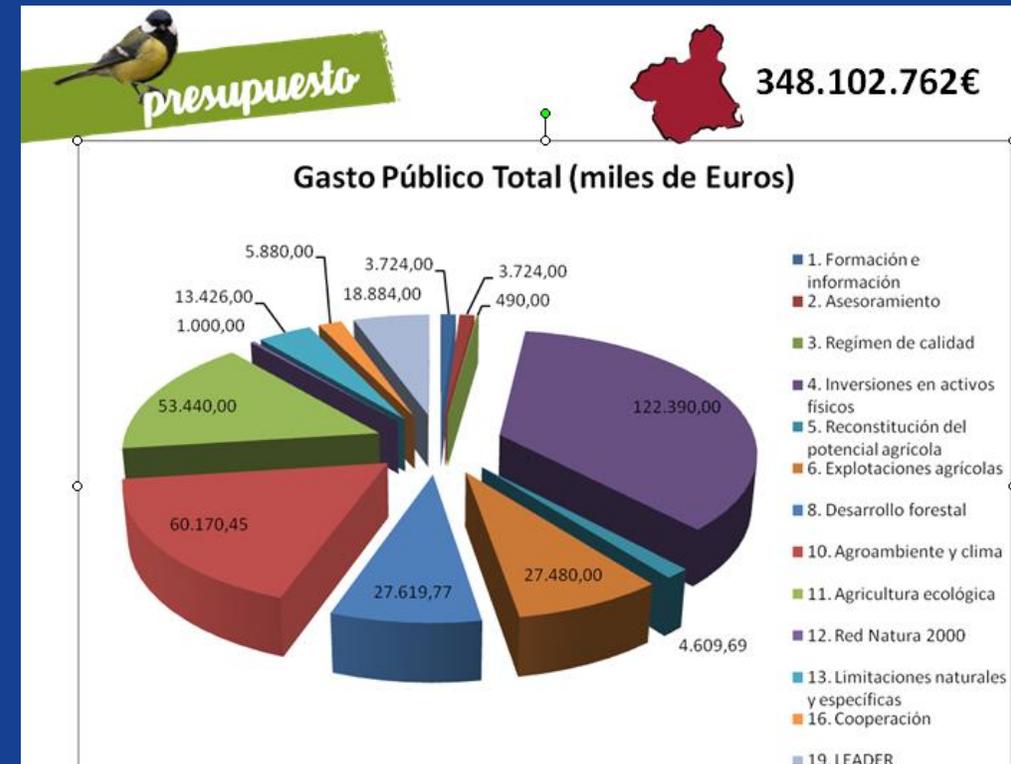
LEADER as a key element

maintenance of the agrarian activity in disadvantaged and mountain areas

Relevant concentration of the development of some measures in these areas, such as the measure 11. **Organic agriculture**, and the measure 10. **Agri-environment-climate payments**, which affect to areas where dry-farming and extensive crops predominate.

Prioritization in other measures:

- Submeasure 4.1. *Support to investments in agrarian farms* and 6.1. **Youth farmers setting-up**, key measures to keep population (stimulating the continuation of the agrarian sector).
- Submeasure 4.2. *Support to the agri-food industries*, measure with a relevant employment generation.
- Submeasure 4.3. **Infrastructures in rural roads**; needed to improve the communication between these areas.





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Which progress it has been till the moment in the measures indicated?

❑ The LAGs Local Development Strategies are already approved. The call for applications ended in January 2018, soon there will be a definitive concession and its development will begin.

Concentración de de

❑ The 14.63% of the TPE is concentrated in areas facing natural or other specific risks and 4.19 % of the TPE is concentrated in areas facing climate payments, is concentrated in areas at risk

❑ The 12.69% of the TPE is localised in areas at risk

❑ The 15.41% of the TPE is concentrated in depopulation areas at risk (9.40% of the TPE is concentrated in areas at risk)

Incidence of other measures

✓ 20 farms located in areas at risk

✓ 94 young people have been installed in these areas (51 in depopulation areas and 43 in areas at risk)



ments to areas facing (the beneficiaries) and

, Agri-environment- and the 12.12% of

Organic farming, is E is concentrated in



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// Thank you

Carmen Sandoval, CARM- Región de Murcia

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