AgriResearch Conference
Innovating for the future of farming and rural communities

Supporting green innovation through LIFE Coop 2020:

Pilot for rural smart grids through optimisation of energy use and innovative renewable biomass sources

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Project Area

Total Budget: 2.497.960 €
Co-financed EU: 50%
Duration: 01.07.2014-31.06.2018

Partners:

cooperativa CAMBRILS

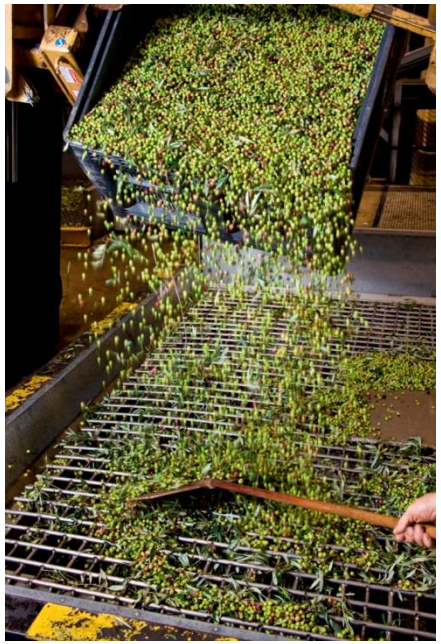
TRANSFER CONSULTANCY

econia CONSULTORIA EMPRESARIAL

CPERI Chemical Process and Energy Resources Institute

BAIWIND

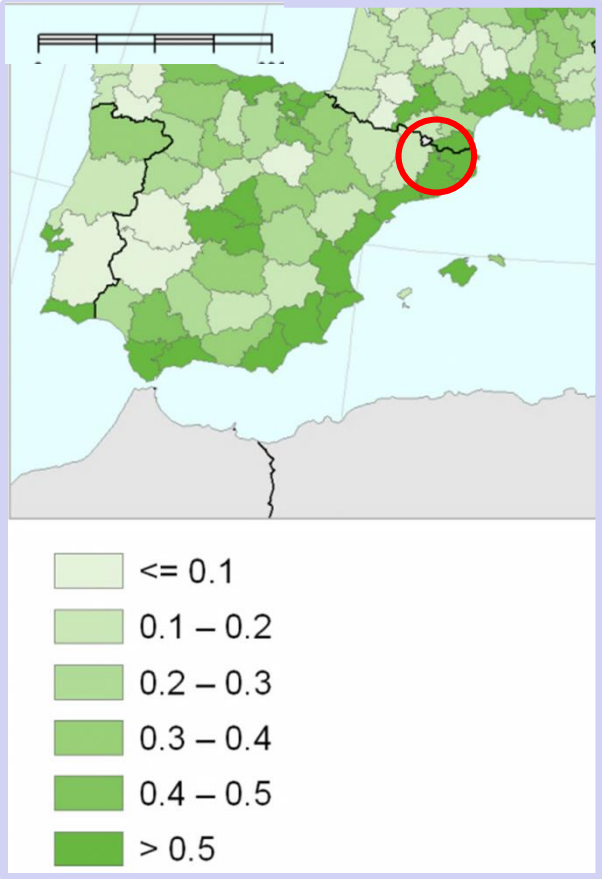
ATRES80



Energy Crops

Abandoned Land

- •Erosion
- •Desertification
- •Soil compaction
- •Wild fires



Change in land use from agriculture to artificial surfaces (%), 2000-2006, EU-27, EFTA, Candidate and Potential Candidate Countries
Source: Eurostat

Double function

1. Soil quality, increase biodiversity and reduce soil loss due to erosion
2. Harvested producted used as a real material for pellet or used directly in biomass boilers

Sorghum

Cardoon

Triticale

Barley

Organic Waste

- Olive Pits

Biomass Boiler + Absorption Chiller

Olive harvest season (Oct – Dec) & Summer

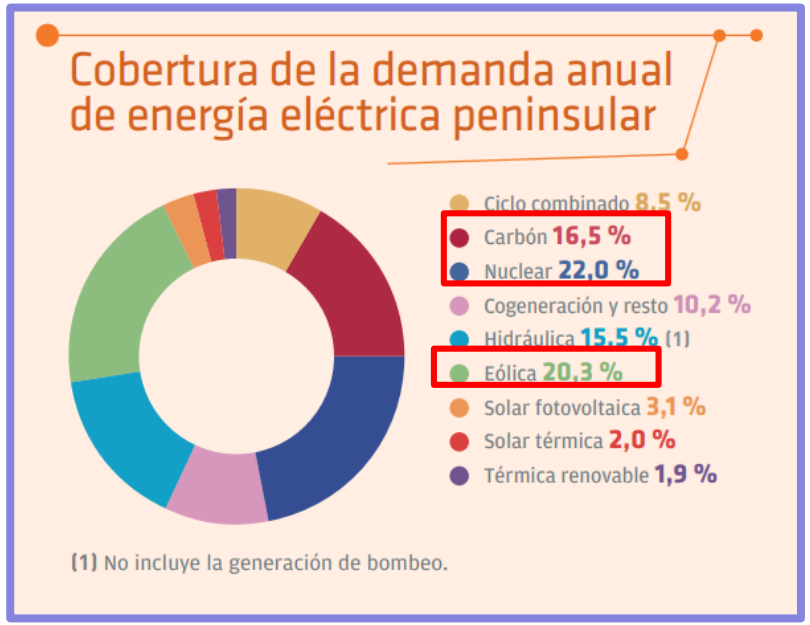
Energy Generation

2 highest energy consumption peaks

Resource & Energy Efficiency

- Increasing Costs
- Non-renewables

Coverage of anual energy demand (Peninsula) 2014 – Project start



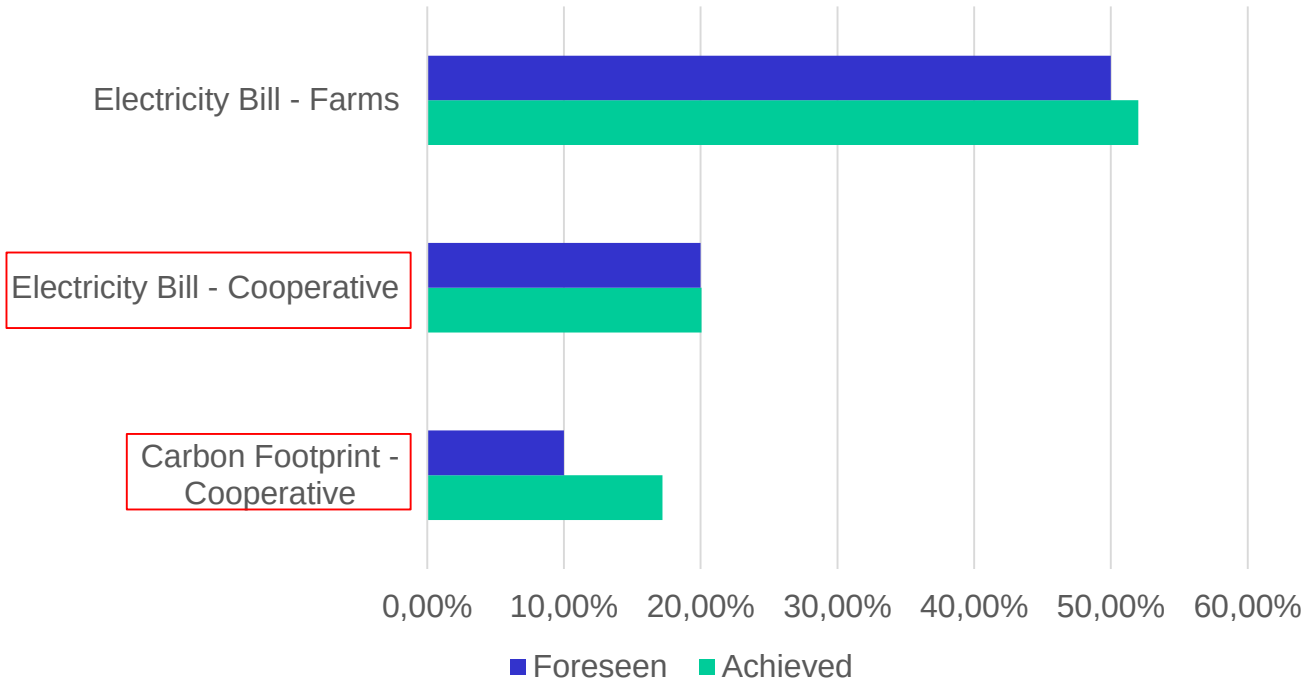
Source: REE 2014

Electricity Generation

From renewable energy sources

for **Irrigation**

Improvements



Simple energy saving measures

Date of implementation	Activity
(1) 05/2015	Upgrade of Machinery: fruit classification belts
(2) 01/2016	Adjustment of Olive Oil campaign. Reduced from 4 to 3 months. (Originally: Nov-Feb; Now: Oct-Dec)
(3) 06/2016	Centralization of cold rooms: Went from 3 industrial cold rooms to one
(4) 08/2016	Change of retailer´s wholesale selling point. Closing of cold room to external personnel
(5) 09/2016	Installation of biomass boiler and insulation of pipes
(6) 10/2016	Reduction of reception of harvested olives (from 12 hours to 8).
(7) 10/2017	Upgrade of lighting fixtures to LED
(8) 12/2017	Upgrade to a more efficient packaging machine
(9) 01/2018	Installation of fridge doors to close them at night
(10) 03/2018	Installation of Absorption chiller

Total tons CO_2 saved = 206

The LIFE Programme

- **Advantages:**
  - Demonstration character
  - High visibility in region
  - Networking opportunities (with other LIFEs) built in
  - Opportunities for smaller SMEs, cooperatives, NGOs, associations, etc. that typically will not get into a H2020 project

- **Disadvantages:**
  - High administrative burden (compared to H2020)
  - Evaluation process very long and tedious
  - eProposal needs improvement

- **Lessons & recommendations:**
  - Cross-program events (Life + H2020 + Interreg etc.) on concrete issues
  - Encourage “one best lesson” to recommend for future Policy

COOP2020

www.coop2020.eu

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