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## PRESS RELEASE

### **AgroRES project is launched in Extremadura for the implementation of renewables in the agricultural sector**

**Eight partners from seven different countries of the European Union have gathered in Badajoz and Mérida to present AgroRES, the innovative project of the Interreg Europe program led by Extremadura Energy Agency to promote the integration of renewable energies in the agricultural sector and rural areas of the participant regions.**

[AgroRES](#) starts with the need to improve the competitiveness of working farms thanks to the reduction of production costs, which are one of the main concerns of producers.

For Samuel Ruiz, General Director of the Energy, Mining and Industry of the regional Government: "A new model of rural development is necessary and the agricultural sector has got a very important role due to its great potential to produce from renewable energy sources". He has also stressed that the participation of farmers is essential in the fight against climate change because of the possibilities on issues such as "saving and efficiency in water consumption". Finally, Ruiz has invited the agricultural business sector to "join this fight" with actions that, in addition to curbing pollutant emissions, mean an improvement in the competitiveness of agricultural and livestock farms.

or its part, Cosme Segador, Director of [Extremadura Energy Agency \(AGENEX\)](#) has said that AgroRES is going to develop different actions such as the creation of a Guide of Good Practices or dissemination events so the producers will be able to know on first hand the project progress: "These measures will contribute to the fight against climate change, but will also make their products more feasible". In this regard, Segador has emphasized that "the carbon footprint is increasingly valued in international markets, which can be a competitive advantage for Extremadura products".

One of the project partners, Alastair Mumford, from Devon County (United Kingdom), explained the experience of the technical visit made yesterday to an irrigation farm with floating photovoltaic panels in Arroyo de San Serván (Badajoz), as a good practice: "We can learn a lot from this experience and see how can we replicate these practices in our region. On the other hand, we can also provide good examples in our regions, like the contract model between producers and consumers we have in our county, the incentives for the generation of heat from renewable energies on farms or our experience in the biogas field, for instance".

Extremadura is leading this European project for its role as a reference at European level both in the agricultural sector. and in the production of renewable energy.

Besides, the project emphasizes the need for the ecological transition to also reach the rural environment, because this is the only way that it will generate the social and economic change that citizens demand.

AgroRES project has partners from Poland, Finland, Romania, Ireland, United Kingdom, Italy and Spain, represented by AGENEX; that during two days of meetings have met and shared interregional experiences around agricultural and energy sectors.

**AgroRES is a project approved in the 4th call of the Interreg Europe program and funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).**