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**Land and Ecosystem Degradation
and Desertification:
Assessing the Fit of Responses**

CSIC
Stakeholder
workshops
List of effective
participants

October 2-3, 2010

Zaragoza, Spain



**Consejo Superior de
Investigaciones
Científicas-Spanish
Scientific Research
Council**

-October 2, 2010

**Stakeholders workshop with farmers, economic operators etc from the study site area.
Visits to the Torla and Fanlo municipalities.**

Local farmers and stock-breeders.

Mr. Enrique Ramón, head of a familiar farm of *Brown Swiss* cows of Víu (Torla Municipality), he was explaining the big changes from the 70's (milk production) to current years (meat one). Visiting his farm, he summarize us a clear exposition on the dramatic adaptations of farm buildings (winter stables changed to free open parks), machinery (big tractors to solve the simultaneous harvesting of hay and silage herbage from meadows) and the problems of general management of the farm (familiar organization). This historical scheme of the discussion was important to show us the collective improvements of farmers in the Broto Valley.

Local economic operators

Mr. José Palacio, owner of a hotel-restaurant in Nerin (Fanlo Municipality); the zone is neighboring the Ordesa National Park limit and he discuss with us in the restaurant about his initiative. After a partial emigration to the city, he returned to the little village of Nerin to start a new job as a professional of the local tourism. The explanation was a panoramic perspective about the beginnings of the industrial period in Spain and the consequences to the rural emigration followed by the current economic possibilities near a National Park.

LEDDRA partners

-October 3, 2010

Stakeholders Workshop with farmers, stock-breeders, administration officers, representatives of cooperations and associations in Sobrarbe area (Linás de Broto, Viu and Fragen, Torla municipality villages)

Participants:

Mayor of the municipality of the study site area (Linás de Broto): **Mr. José A. Lacasta**

General Director of Civic Engagement of the Aragon Government: **Mr. Nacho Celaya**

President of the Mancomunity of Broto Valley: **Mr. Enrique Ramón**

Representatives of the Association of Rural Tourism: **Ms. Encarna Palma** (Linás de Broto) and

Ms. Teresa Lacomá (Fragen)

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Linás de Broto discussion

In the former village school (nowadays utilized as communal house to different events), the Spanish team presented the ecological characteristics of the zone and a local representative of Linás summarized different rural tourism initiatives. The general discussion was very interesting because the local problems were compared with the autonomic perspective showing the contrasting characteristics of the Aragon region, with a big ecological gradient

(from the semidesertic zones to the alpine ones) and owning also a lot of economical contrasts (big industrial organizations in Zaragoza region and general rural characteristics of the rest of the region, for example).

Lunch in the restaurant of the Viu Camping

The owner of this camping is also a sheep farmer and his father was a cow's riser. This double initiative shows clearly their complementary possibilities in a general specialization on meat cow's production and rural tourism in the neighboring villages.

Rural tourism visit in Fragen

This little village (41 inhabitants) was the first in the Torla municipality to combine the agricultural activity (near 200 cows) with the rural tourism (5 houses engaged in the provincial rural tourism organization). A general explanation was presented and we visited different new apartments belonging in the past to different farm ensembles. We tested local cakes offered in the former school of the village.





Photos of the SW in Sobrarbe area (by V. Koutsoukos)



Photo of the Fragen town, talks with the locals (by V. Koutsoukos)