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SHOWCASE 2025



Category: Growing impact

6. CAIXABANK: Spanish Centralised Management Financial Instrument (IFGC), Castile and León



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IFGC of Castilla Leon, Spain, CaixaBank Growing Impact

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Demonstrating Growing impact



•CaixaBank has used the centralised management financial instrument to support rural areas through the following lines of action:

- **Rural Development:** The funded projects generate employment and keep the local agri-food sector alive, promoting the rural economy, bringing value to depopulated areas, and providing visibility in national and international markets.
- **Population retention and social impact:** Emphasis on towns with fewer than 5,000 inhabitants, promoting the creation of jobs and collaboration with local producers and artisans. Promoting tourism and increasing visibility in the media, on social media, etc.
- **Generational renewal and diversity (young people and women):** We promote entrepreneurship among women in a very traditional sector and seek to attract young talent to encourage generational renewal.
- **Innovation and sustainability:** Many of the projects use local raw materials, promote waste reduction and strengthen the circular economy with energy-sustainable projects and environmentally friendly agricultural practices.

Project example

Manitas de Sacramenia: The same as always, like never before



- **Unique product:** 100% natural lamb trotters, no additives, ready to heat and enjoy.
- **Technological innovation:** Sterilised in glass jars for long-term storage.
- **Adapted traditional recipe:** Handed down through generations, modernised with safe and sustainable techniques.
- **Local ingredients:** Lamb from natural pastures, fresh vegetables, olive oil and white wine.
- **Rural impact:** Sustains the town of Sacramenia, promoting employment and sustainable development.
- **Sustainability:** Use of local raw materials, waste reduction and circular economy.
- **Social value:** Contributes to retaining the population and protecting the environment through traditional grazing.
- **Link:** manitasdesacramenia.es

Project example

Aire de Arlanza, Lavender Products



- **Main activity:** Organic cultivation of lavender, distillation of essential oils and transformation into derivative products.
- **Rural impact:** Revitalisation of Cilleruelo de Arriba (49 inhabitants), job creation (3 permanent + 3 seasonal) and population retention.
- **Innovation and sustainability:** Use of solar energy, complete traceability and farming practices that respect the environment.
- **Economic diversification:** Agriculture, processing, tourism and cultural experiences (yoga among lavender fields, workshops, tastings).
- **Collaboration and revitalisation:** Synergies with local producers and artisans.
- **Future outlook:** Expanding activities, online sales, trade fairs and positioning in national and international markets.
- **Link:** <https://airedearlanza.es/> , <https://aromaticascynol.com/>

Project example(s)

Additional photos



Link: <https://airedearlanza.es/>,
<https://aromaticascynol.com/>



Link: manitasdesacramenia.es



Assessment criteria



Name of financial instrument	IFGC Castilla y León	
EU Fund(s)	Programme contribution/Total size	Product(s)
EAFRD (European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development)	EUR [30.159.173€]/EUR [219.085.007,93]	Combined financial guarantee and subsidy (state aid)

Description	Short summary of operation
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CaixaBank has used the **IFGC** to support rural areas, contributing **€30 million**. It sought to facilitate access to credit for customers in the agri-food sector who struggle to access traditional bank financing. The objectives achieved were: more than **177** projects financed with a high impact on the territory. Some **18.5%** of beneficiaries were **women** and **12%** were for the **new employment of young people**. Since its launch, the IFGC has quickly become one of the most successful loans marketed. 25% of transactions have taken place in towns with **fewer than 10,000 inhabitants**.

Lessons learned **Adapting** to the territory is key to success. The **dissemination** of a new financial product takes time. The **one-stop shop** makes it easier for end users to process transactions and simplifies the process.

Critical factors to success An **80%** guarantee reduces the risk for financial institutions. **Public-private partnership** that ensures sustainability and trust. Each **region can choose the specific measures** based on its needs.

Country/Managing authority	Spain – Castilla y León Regional Government
Implementing bodies	IFGC



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Thank you!