

GOV4ALL - MENORCA

CALL FOR FARMERS AND LIVESTOCK BREEDERS

SUBSIDY CONDITIONS

Introduction

Across the world, soils are being degraded due to unsustainable management practices and climate disturbances. If we continue on this path, drought could affect 75% of the world's population by 2050. But the good news is that we still have time to change course, and farmers have a central role in protecting the land.

At GOV4ALL, we believe that real change starts from the bottom up and involves multiple actors. That's why we work to bring people together from across the Mediterranean to care for soils more intelligently and sustainably. Our vision is to build a future where people, nature and the soil thrive together, creating local networks that support an agroecological transition and help develop effective, affordable, economically viable and easy-to-apply farming practices.

To make this possible, GOV4ALL is building a network of Living Labs in France, Greece and Spain. These are local communities where farmers, researchers, businesses and other stakeholders collaborate to share ideas and develop practical solutions that work on real farms. In our vision, collaboration can drive healthier soils, inspired communities, prosperous ecosystems and sustainable businesses.

As part of this effort, we are launching an Open Call to support over 50 commercial farms across the GOV4ALL project's Living Labs network, to trial practices that promote soil health for two years, on plots of at least 2,000 m². Of these, 15 farms will be selected in Menorca. Whether you are already applying sustainable practices or are just starting out, this is an opportunity to help shape the future of agriculture, while receiving financial support to test new methodologies that protect and improve your soil. This opportunity will allow you to:

- Co-create practices and generate concrete solutions for your farm and your region.
- Conduct field trials to reduce erosion and desertification, conserve soil carbon and boost biodiversity.
- Share experiences and learn from other farmers who are implementing sustainable practices.
- Validate your practices with experts from GOV4ALL.
- Join a growing network of innovative farmers working towards healthier soils.
- Receive funding to support your participation, including for field trials, meetings and travel expenses.

Please note that participation is entirely voluntary, and that all personal data will be treated confidentially and in full compliance with the GDPR. The entire selection process will be carried out in accordance with the principles of transparency, equal treatment and fairness.

Farmers' Commitments

Although participation is entirely voluntary, selected farmers commit to the following conditions:

- a) To maintain collaboration with other farmers and GOV4ALL members for a minimum period of 2 years, with the aim of improving soil management in the region.
- b) Make available and manage a plot of at least 2,000 m² for the implementation of the field trials, which will include implementation and data collection.
- c) Provide historical data for the plot, such as production history and agricultural practices (fertilisation, irrigation, soil tillage, crop rotations) and previous soil analyses.
- d) To discuss and agree with the promoters of the GOV4ALL Living Lab in Menorca (GOB Menorca, Ràyen Soluciones Agronómicas, Cooperativa San Crispín and the University of Valencia) which practices will be applied and maintained for (at least) the duration of the contract (2 years).
- e) Agree to share relevant data that will allow the effectiveness of soil management practices to be evaluated through comparative studies between experimental and control farms (for example, yield comparisons and other data collection activities).
- f) Allow participants from GOV4ALL access to the farm when necessary and with prior notice, facilitating data collection, observation and knowledge exchange.
- g) Participate in person in the co-creation workshops and knowledge-sharing activities organised by the Menorca Living Lab, to exchange practices and experiences with other farmers and stakeholders (approximately 4 per year, each lasting 2 to 4 hours).
- h) Participate in person in a final meeting where all stakeholders will gather to share results, knowledge and experiences. This meeting will also serve to finalise the co-design plan for wider implementation.

Eligibility criteria

- a) Any entity (natural or legal person) that can demonstrate that the majority of its income comes from agricultural activities in one of the Living Lab's territories is eligible. Menorca is one of these territories. Proof of this will be required in the form of the latest personal tax return (year 2024) or the relevant form for an SRM (Form 184) or an SL (Form 200).
- b) A minimum of 2,000 m² must be dedicated to the application of the practices agreed with the Living Lab's promoters.
- c) The farm must be located within the area covered by the specific Living Lab. In the case of Menorca, this applies to the entire island.
- d) The applicant must commit to participating in the Living Lab's activities for at least two years (activities described in points g and h of the previous section).
- e) The farm must be dedicated to the cultivation of at least one of the following crops: livestock (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs or poultry), horticulture or woody crops (fruit trees, olive trees, vineyards, etc.).

Scored selection criteria

Up to 30 points can be obtained, according to the following criteria:

1. Participation in previous Living Lab activities. 2 points will be awarded for each selected activity, up to a maximum of 6 points [equivalent to a maximum of 20% of the total score].

- a) Workshop on the creation of the Agronomic Services Centre, at San Crispín (11/03/2025)
- b) Co-creation workshop for the Alliance for an Agroecological Menorca, at the Mercadal Fairground (Day 1: 13/03/2025)
- c) Co-creation workshop for the Alliance for an Agroecological Menorca, at the Mercadal Fairground (Day 2: 14/03/2025)
- d) Workshop to present the innovation project (FSTP), at San Crispín (04/12/2025)
- e) Co-creation workshop on innovative agricultural practices (04/02/2026) – select this if you intend to attend. It will be verified once the application period has closed.

2. Previous experience in research projects. 3 points will be awarded for having participated in a project [equivalent to 10% of the total score].

a) Projects related to agriculture will be taken into account, such as those on soil health, study of native breeds, monitoring of bioindicators, carbon capture studies, calculation of the production ecological footprint, etc.

3. Ability to influence, disseminate and secure media coverage, including participation in organisations linked to agriculture and rural life, use of social media and organisation of social events on the farm [maximum 50% of the total score].

a) Organisations linked to agriculture and rural life.

- One point will be awarded for each organisation of which the applicant is a member, up to a maximum of three points (equivalent to 10% of the total).
- Two points will be awarded for each organisation of which the applicant is a member of the board of directors, up to a maximum of six points (equivalent to 20% of the total).
- Eligible organisations in Menorca: Agrame, Fagme, Unió de Pagesos, APAEM, CBPAE, Vendeco, Custòdia Agrària, native breed associations, plant and animal health associations, protected designation of origin, protected geographical indication. If you belong to another organisation, it will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

b) Social media: will count for sharing content related to agriculture. You must state the number of followers of your personal account or farm, with a maximum of 3 points (equivalent to 10% of the total).

- 1 point will be awarded for having between 1 and 999 followers.
- 2 points will be awarded for having between 1,000 and 4,999 followers.
- 3 points will be awarded for having more than 5,000 followers.

c) Social events at the farm: school visits, public excursions, workshops or training sessions, etc. 3 points will be awarded for having organised an event at the farm [equivalent to 10% of the total score].

4. Special consideration will be given to young farmers, encouraging their active participation and providing opportunities to acquire skills and exchange knowledge. Up to 6 points will be awarded [equivalent to a maximum of 20% of the total score], according to the following criteria:

- a) Under 40 years old – 6 points
- b) Between 40 and 49 years old – 3 points
- c) Over 50 years old – 0 points

Non-scorable selection criteria

1. An effort will be made to ensure a gender balance among the selected farms to promote inclusion and diversity within the project [No more than 70% of any one gender. i.e., a minimum of 30% men and 30% women].

2. A similar number of conventionally managed and organic farms will be selected, where possible [No more than 70% of any management type. i.e. a minimum of 30% organic and 30% conventional].

3. It will be sought that the region's crops are adequately represented. In particular, the Menorca Living Lab aims to involve the following number of farms: livestock farming (8 farms), horticulture (4 farms) and woody crops (3 farms).

Selection process

An internal committee appointed by each Living Lab will review the applications and draw up a preliminary shortlist based on the following criteria:

1. All eligible applicants will be scored according to the scoring criteria (based on the responses to the application form). This will be published on the website www.gobmenorca.com on 5 December 2025.

2. Non-scorable criteria will be used to ensure the representativeness of the selected applicants in terms of gender, type of management and crops of the region.

3. In the event of a tie in scores, the application submission time will be used as the deciding factor, and priority will be given to those submitted earlier.

Compliance with the regulations will subsequently be assessed by a project committee to review the process and confirm the final selection.

Financial support

Selected applicants will receive an annual grant of €5,000, payable in up to three instalments per year, for their participation in the activities described in the Farmers' Commitments section. This financial support is intended to facilitate their active involvement in the project and to cover associated expenses, including:

- (Approximately) 175 hours of work: participation in meetings, conducting field trials, responding to requests from GOV4ALL participants, etc.
- Travel expenses within the Living Lab area incurred during the project.
- Indirect costs related to the implementation of the trials, for example, fuel, depreciation of specific machinery, etc.

Timeline

The application period to participate in this agrarian innovation process will remain open from 5 December 2025 to 13 February 2026, both inclusive.

The collaboration established through this grant should last for approximately two full years from the signing of the grant agreement (equivalent to the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 agricultural years).

However, Living Labs are innovation mechanisms designed to last longer, and the applicant understands that voluntary opportunities may arise to continue the collaboration beyond the two years.

For more information, please contact:

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