



MEMORIA CIENTÍFICO-TÉCNICA DE PROYECTOS INDIVIDUALES
Convocatoria 2021 - «Proyectos de Generación de Conocimiento»

AVISO IMPORTANTE - La memoria no podrá exceder de 20 páginas. Para rellenar correctamente esta memoria, lea detenidamente las instrucciones disponibles en la web de la convocatoria. Es obligatorio rellenarla en inglés si se solicita 100.000 € o más (en costes directos).

IMPORTANT – The research proposal cannot exceed 20 pages. Instructions to fill this document are available in the website. If the project cost is equal or greater than 100.000 €, this document must be filled in English.

1. DATOS DE LA PROPUESTA – PROPOSAL DATA

IP 1 (Nombre y apellidos): Marina Di Masso Tarditti

IP 2 (Nombre y apellidos): Marta Guadalupe Rivera Ferre

TÍTULO DEL PROYECTO (ACRÓNIMO): Viabilidad socioeconómica de la pequeña producción agroecológica: diagnóstico y herramientas desde la economía feminista (FEM-VIDA)

TITLE OF THE PROJECT (ACRONYM): Socioeconomic viability of small-scale agroecological production: diagnosis and tools from the feminist economics framework (FEM-VIDA)

2. BACKGROUND, CURRENT STATUS AND JUSTIFICATION OF THE PROPOSAL

2.1. Background and state-of-the-art

In the last 20 years the agri-food landscape in Europe and Spain has witnessed the proliferation of alternative food systems (Adams & Salois, 2010; FAAN, 2010; MAGRAMA, 2013) aiming at reversing the environmental and social impacts of a dominant food system based on industrialization and global markets (Di Masso & Zografos, 2015; van del Ploeg, 2008). Alternative food systems include a variety of practices and initiatives referred as, amongst other conceptualizations, alternative food networks (Di Masso, 2012; Goodman et al., 2011), local food systems (Marsden & Franklin, 2013), civic food networks (Renting et al., 2012), short distribution channels (Kneafsey et al., 2013), and community-based agriculture (Moore et al., 2014). Their common ground is the construction of more sustainable and just food systems based on approaches of territorial re-localization (Hinrichs, 2003) and social reconnection (Watts et al., 2005). Moreover, the current COVID-19 crisis has also highlighted their larger resilience to socioeconomic shocks (Correro et al., 2020; Perrin et al., 2020). Alternative food systems, in turn, can be conceptualised as socioeconomic innovations in the production, provision and consumption of food. In this sense, they relate to the capacity of bottom-up initiatives to contribute to the development of socio-technical alternatives in food systems, such as those aligned with agroecology (Sarabia et al., 2021).

Agroecology is defined as the ecological design and management of farms and food systems (Gliessman, 2007) through forms of collective action which explicitly considers economic, social, environmental and ecological aspects, based on traditional peasants' knowledge to promote endogenous development, but open to innovations that help sustainability (Sevilla-Guzmán & Woodgate, 2013), and characterized by a transdisciplinary, participatory and action-oriented approach (Méndez et al., 2013). The ecological dimension and benefits of agroecology have been largely recognised and analysed (Liere et al., 2017). However, the study of the social dimension, with a focus on building just food systems, lacks behind. In this regard, sustainability without explicit attention to social justice has been criticized when discussing alternative food initiatives (Connelly et al., 2011). One of the few issues addressed by the literature regarding the social sustainability of alternative food initiatives focuses on labour conditions and the paradox of providing good food but not so good jobs (Biewener, 2016; Galt, 2013). Indeed, self-exploitation has been stated to characterize small farming enterprises (Guthman, 2004), and low-paid or unpaid work is a concern generally confronted (Galt, 2013; Jarosz, 2007). It is widely accepted that agroecological management is more work intensive than industrial agriculture, partly because many of the activities are focused to non-productive tasks, like maintaining the ecological health of the agroecosystem. As a result, precariousness is a concern in many agroecological projects, and we highlight that this precariousness is multidimensional, affecting labour, but also life conditions, of agroecological producers. In this context, alternative food systems research in Spain points to the need

for a deeper analysis of the socioeconomic strategies available for agroecological projects to guarantee their long-term viability (Begiristain, 2018; Begiristain & López, 2016). To analyse this complex socioeconomic reality, we propose to use conceptual and methodological approaches of feminist studies.

The main contribution of feminist approaches to the analysis of socioeconomic realities has been widening the scope of what is understood as economy. While mainstream economic thinking identifies economy with the visible, productive and paid work, feminist economics highlights the importance of the invisible and reproductive work¹, claiming its fundamental role in guaranteeing social, but also economic reproduction, providing in this way the material conditions that make possible the existence of productive work (Mies, 1986; Carrasco, 2011; Ezquerro, 2014, 2016). Over the past twenty years, feminist analysts have shown that non-market transactions and unpaid household work constitute 30–50% of economic activity in both rich and poor countries (Ironmonger, 1996; Durán, 2011). This tension between the productive and reproductive work, as well as the focus of conventional economy on the accumulation of capital, is conceptualised as the ‘capital-life conflict’ (Pérez-Orozco, 2014). In this regard, it is proposed that life itself, and not the markets, should be at the core of the socioeconomic activity, including agriculture (see Rivera-Ferre & Álvarez, 2017). However, while there have been theoretical attempts to overcome the production-reproduction hierarchical dichotomy in the economic activity (see the ‘human needs support chains’ conceptualization in Carrasco & Tello, 2012), practical attempts are not easy to develop. Some efforts have been made in agroecology to assess the multidimensional performance of agroecology (TAPE tool, see FAO, 2019) or to introduce the gender perspective in the analysis of the economic viability of farms by developing gender-sensitive indicators (see Begiristain, 2018; de Marco et al., 2018). However, they remain centred in the market dimension of economic activity or do not make explicit the reproductive dimensions associated to farming. In this proposal, we aim at analysing socioeconomic strategies that address the viability of agroecological projects but using a broad definition of viability that goes beyond the narrow focus on monetary and production activities. Indeed, the agroecological sector, conceptualised as a non-capitalist agricultural activity operating within the social and solidarity-based economy (SSE), offers good opportunities to simultaneously address the productive and reproductive dimensions of socio-economic reality that feminist approaches claim. In this regard, the convergence between agroecology and feminisms is being increasingly highlighted and explored both from a practical perspective (Herrero, 2013; McMahon, 2011; Siliprandi & Zuluaga, 2014; Nobre et al., 2015; Cardoso et al., 2019), and theoretical and academic work (Álvarez & Begiristain, 2019; Rivera-Ferre, 2018).

Rivera-Ferre (2018) explored the conceptual linkages between agroecology and feminism based on three core principles of ecofeminism and feminist economics: the centrality of life, the recognition of societal environmental codependence and individual social interdependence. Ecofeminism and feminist economics analyse the social and environmental unsustainability of the current economic system highlighting the idea of a “false autonomy”. This concept stresses that our current economic organization ignores the biophysical limits of the planet and undervalues time and work not involved in productive activities. Against this false individual autonomy, feminist economics and ecofeminism vindicate the codependence of our societies on nature and the interdependence on other peoples’ caring during our whole vital cycle. It is through these concepts that the feminist conception of human sustainability (Carrasco, 2009) meets agroecology, in the combination of the environmental and social dimensions of economic activities. First, agroecology places life at the centre by protecting agroecosystems, guaranteeing the right to food and claiming for just and decent social and labour conditions for producers. Secondly, agroecology is dependent on healthy ecosystems and, from the consumer’s side, favours the reconnection with nature through the provision of seasonal products in short food circuits. Finally, agroecology operationalizes interdependence mainly through the reconnection of producers and consumers via short distribution channels (Rivera-Ferre, 2018). Beyond conceptual convergences, however, the day-to-day reality of agroecological production projects shows contradictions with these feminist perspectives. For instance, these initiatives are generally characterized by self-exploitation, thus the wellbeing of producers (i.e. the centrality of their lives) is being put in the background (Martín et al., 2017). This means that the productive and reproductive needs of the agroecological initiative are met at the expense of the reproductive needs of work-overloaded producers,

¹ Reproductive work (or care work) refers to all activities or services provided to satisfy the basic needs of individuals along all their vital cycle. It includes material and emotional attentions, it has a strong relational component, and implies a constant management of times and spaces. Here we also refer to the activities dedicated to the care of nature in agroecosystem.

such as the availability of personal time to take care of oneself, of others, to participate in the political life of the community, or to invest in personal development. Moreover, the right to one's own time (Mückenberger, 2011) as a core premise for well-being is, amongst other limitations, unequally distributed by gender. Thus, the development of a feminist agroecology framework is an emergent field in need of deepening, both conceptually and in its material dimension (i.e. developing feminist indicators). Such deepening makes it possible to address the above-mentioned contradictions by identifying the critical points of the agroecology/feminism dialogue, as well as the necessary resources to develop an innovative feminist agroecological framework.

Agroecology as a non-capitalist agricultural activity is increasingly being approached from SSE. As feminist economics, SSE is a critical approach to hegemonic economy principles currently relevant in social and academic debates. Amongst other common claims, both approaches highlight the economic importance of institutions other than the market, such as families and communities, and intend to overcome the production-reproduction dichotomy (Jubeto & Larrañaga, 2014). Martín et al. (2017) specifically refer to agroecological projects as '*cooperative food provisioning systems*' within SSE, and highlight the efforts being made to identify articulation points between agroecology and SSE to overcome economic viability issues. In this context, interdependence amongst food system agents can contribute to improve the productive and reproductive viability of the projects through the development of collective structures. Moreover, interdependences can scale-up to jointly build new socioeconomic models (see Chiffolleau et al., 2019). Indeed, effective linkages between re-localized food systems and other sectoral initiatives focused on community and social change are needed to realize the true potential of alternative food systems (Hanson, 2009, in Connelly, 2011). Thus, this proposal dovetails with a broader field of scholarship interested in building redistributive forms of interdependence, fostering what has been called 'community economies' (Community Economies Collective, 2001) amongst which SSE plays a central role (see Bauhardt, 2014) together with feminist economics. In sum, in this research project we assume a feminist analytical approach to address the heavily under-researched reproductive dimension of agroecology. By doing so, we aim at identifying the elements conditioning the viability of agroecological projects, as well as developing strategies which can contribute to alleviating the precariousness of agroecological producers.

Our *initial hypotheses* are:

- 1) Reaching socioeconomic viability is one of the main challenges faced by agroecological projects.
- 2) Agroecological projects' viability is achieved at the expense of the social reproductive dimension of the activity. That is, the producers' wellbeing.
- 3) A feminist approach contributes to a better understanding of the socioeconomic viability of agroecological projects embedded within SSE.

This project has several research and policy precedents in which the PIs are or have been directly involved: the '*Crisis y alternativas en femenino*' RecerCaixa project (2015ACUP 00199), which explored socioeconomic initiatives developed by women (a few of them agroecological projects) within SSE under the conceptual framework of feminist economics (see Di Masso et al., 2021); the ADAPTAL project (CSO2016-78827-R) that showed the relevance of women and invisible activities in small-scale farming systems to adapt to climate change and ensure the viability of farms (adaptal.uvic.cat); the gender guidelines of the UN Committee of Food Security and Nutrition (<https://bit.ly/31QGnUK>) and the UNWomen recommendation for the CSW66 on Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change (<https://bit.ly/33nUSjH>), both highlighting the need of making visible the unpaid reproductive work in agricultural activities. For this research proposal, Drs. Di Masso and Rivera-Ferre have put together a solid research team integrated by Anna Pérez (UVIC Equality Unit director) Mirene Begiristain (feminist economist expert in agroecology indicators), Guillermo Palau (expert in applied creativity, innovation, circular economy, management of multidisciplinary teams), and Sandra Ezquerro (Director of Women, Development and Cultures UNESCO Chair). The research team is completed with a working team which includes well-rooted local organizations, with representation of the three case study areas. Thus, the team members have a good knowledge of their territories and agroecological sector, that will ease the engagement of different actors in the project's activities. This will be also facilitated by Dr. Di Masso extensive contact networks provided by her coordination role in the UAB course Local Agroecological Dynamization Postgraduate. Our transdisciplinary team combines academic, activist and farming profiles. Also, we count with the advisory role of Miriam Nobre, a Brazilian experienced researcher in the integration of agroecology, feminism, and SSE, and collaborator of the Women, Agroecology, and Solidarity Economy of the Latin American Council of Social Sciences (CLACSO). This variety of backgrounds and knowledges provides



a high added value to the research proposal and contributes to maximizing its social impact through knowledge-transfer (see sections 2.1 and 4).

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2.2 Contribution to PEICTI 2021-2023

This research project will contribute to three strategic areas of the 2021-2023 Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation State Plan:

AE6: FOOD, BIOECONOMY, NATURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES: our proposal addresses “the challenges facing the agrifood sector” in order to achieve “sustainable production that supplies safe, healthy and quality food”. From a social perspective, rather than technical, the project contributes to the improvement of the environmental, economic, and social competitiveness and sustainability of agricultural and livestock systems, through social innovation processes which deepen the synergies between agroecology, SSE and feminist economics. All three transformative approaches of current relevance in Spain.

AE5: CLIMATE, ENERGY AND MOBILITY: in a pressing context of climate emergency, agroecology-based food systems have been identified as playing a key role both in adaptation and mitigation strategies that ensure food security and in a socioecological transition towards a decarbonized economy. Our proposal aims at reinforcing the viability of such food systems. In addition, Dr. Rivera Ferre participates in the IPCC reports, a prioritized line within this strategic area.

AE2: CULTURE, CREATIVITY AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY: our project is a direct contribution to the demographic challenge in rural areas through the support of local rural development and agroecological dynamization processes focused on the development and consolidation of more sustainable and just local food systems in Spain. Such territorialized food systems contribute to the promotion and reinforcement of local economies based on the primary sector thus improving social cohesion and becoming an opportunity for the “emptied Spain”. Social and territorial innovation is prioritized within this strategic area, and agroecology-based food systems adjust to such definition.

As stated in its introduction, PEICTI 2021-2023 aims at facilitating “*the participation of civil society and its organizations in the scientific and innovative process*” in the wider context of “*encouraging the development of an innovative environment to respond to society's major challenges*” (p.7). In this sense, the overall methodological approach of this research proposal, framed within transdisciplinary participatory action research (PAR), is a knowledge co-production process between the research team and the agroecological and SSE actors to develop an innovative tool of viability assessment. Thus, the proposal is built upon an open dialogue between science, society and innovation, in the identification and search for solutions oriented to key societal challenges, namely socioecological transitions to more sustainable and just societies.

Finally, in the specific context of the State Subprogram for the Generation of Knowledge, our proposal fits in the interdisciplinary and networked research profile described, as our research and work team include social sciences and natural sciences backgrounds and disciplines. Furthermore, the gender perspective is transversal to this interdisciplinary profile as it is to the research proposal itself. Indeed, being built upon the feminist economics paradigm, the research goes beyond conventional approaches to socioeconomic reality to provide a more complex analysis, explicitly contributing to make visible and operationalize its reproductive dimension. Thus, this richness of perspectives is a high added value of the proposal in its approach to the complexity of socioeconomic reality, the search for analytical tools to deepen its understanding and conceptualization, and the search for solutions built upon sustainability, equity, cooperation, and wellbeing as core values of socioeconomic life.

3. OBJECTIVES, METHODOLOGY AND WORK PLAN

3.1. Objectives

Following the hypotheses presented in section 1.1, this research project has two *general objectives*:

1. To characterize, from a feminist perspective, socioeconomic strategies of agroecological projects.
2. To co-generate a diagnosis tool for a feminist assessment of the socioeconomic viability of agroecological projects.

Specific objectives are:

For general objective 1,

1.1 To identify and analyse all productive and reproductive tasks involved in the activity of the agroecological projects. (Responsible PI: Marina Di Masso)

1.2 To identify and analyse the interdependencies involved in the socioeconomic circulation system where agroecological projects are embedded. (Responsible PI: Marina Di Masso)

For general objective 2,

2.1 To systematize existent both agroecological and feminist diagnosis tools developed within SSE for different socioeconomic initiatives. (Responsible PI: Marina Di Masso)

2.2. To develop participatory indicators of socioeconomic viability for agroecological projects triangulating feminist and SSE approaches and contributions. (Responsible PI: Marta Rivera)

2.3. To validate and operationalize such participatory indicators as a feminist self-diagnosis viability tool for agroecological projects. (Responsible PI: Marta Rivera)

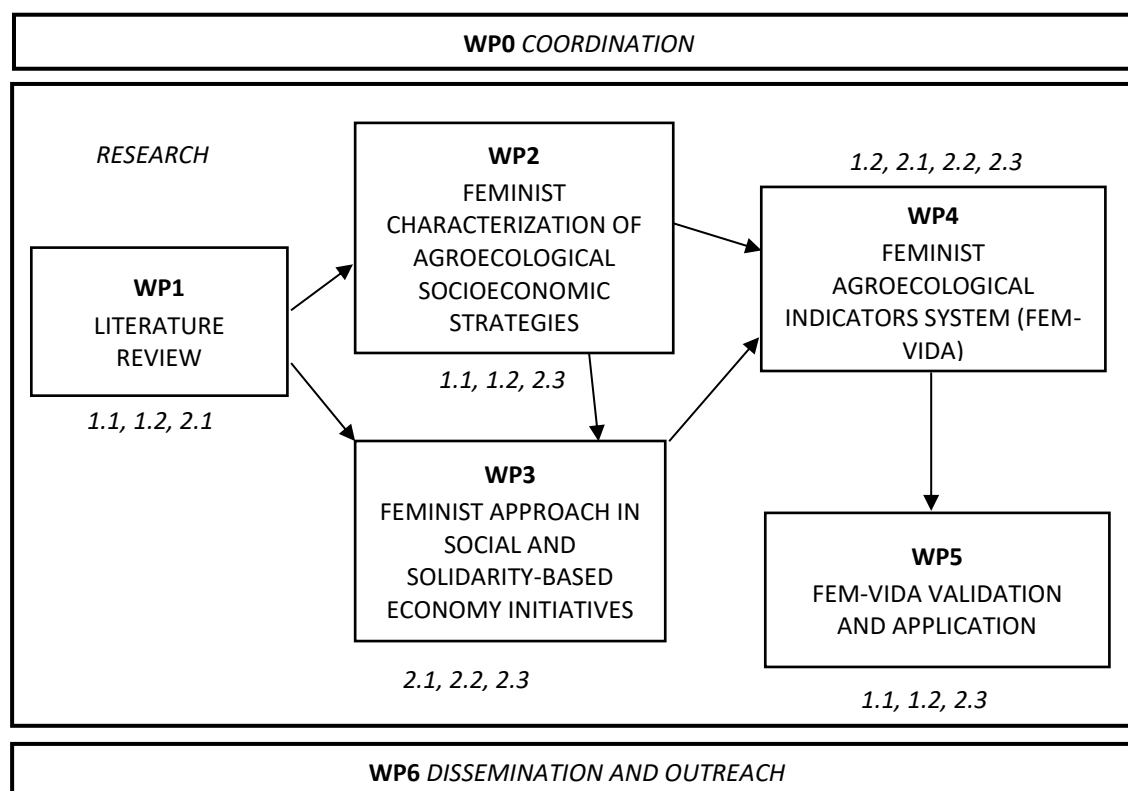
3.2. Methodology and work plan

The above-mentioned transdisciplinary action-oriented approach is a strength of our project which also enables the construction of the methodological framework needed to achieve our objectives. Such framework includes five basic research methods: participatory action research (PAR) (Borda, 1999), case study methodology (Yin, 1998), process systematization (Jara, 2014), indicators system construction (Lammerts & Blom, 1997; Begiristain, 2018), and time use surveys (Ramos & Legarreta,

2015; Legarreta & Sagastizábal, 2013).² This mix of social research qualitative and quantitative methods is complemented by a review of the scientific and grey literature in feminist agroecology. This review will be oriented to what is defined by Clarke & Oswald (2010) as a critical development practice, which is characterized by placing the principles of social justice at the center of values and practices. This project seeks a participatory and democratic process carried out with the local population through all phases of the research: information gathering, analysis, conceptualization, planning, execution and evaluation. In the present project, participatory methodologies will be used to define the focus, making sense of the context or searching for creative solutions. For this reason, it can be argued that a systemic perspective will be used during the process and it will obtain more reliable information and propose more creative actions to promote the objectives of the project.

The objectives of this research project will be achieved by executing a work plan composed of seven work packages (WPs) (see Figure 1), and their corresponding activities, devoted to coordination (WP0), research (WP1-WP5), and dissemination (WP6). All WPs will be led by the PIs and are described hereunder including planned activities and methods, milestones, work team (see section 3.4 for responsibilities details), and specific objectives addressed.

Figure 1. Representation of WPs and their interrelations. (Specific objectives addressed in *italics*.)



WP0 – Coordination [Months 1-36]

This WP will focus on the general coordination and monitoring of the project in order to ensure the accomplishment of the research objectives and the correct development of the planned activities. We count on Dr. Di Masso's experience as project manager of an H2020 research project and the extensive experience of Dr. Rivera-Ferre in national and international projects coordination.

² Borda, O. F. (1999) Orígenes universales y retos actuales de la IAP. *Análisis Político*, 0(38): 73-90.

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Legarreta, M. & Sagastizábal, M. (2013). *Tiempo, ciudadanía y desigualdades*. Ajuntament de Barcelona.

Activities:

- (i) Scientific supervision.
- (ii) Internal communication (see Contingency plan further on).
- (iii) Budget management (with the support of UVIC technical office for research support (OTRI))

Work team:

Marina Di Masso, Marta Rivera-Ferre, UVIC OTRI.

WP1 – Literature review [Months 1-9]

Within this WP we will conduct a literature review of different documentary sources (Spanish and Anglo) to elaborate a state of the art on feminist approaches to agroecology, as well as on resources and initiatives being developed within SSE organizations to introduce the feminist perspective in socioeconomic activities. Results from this WP will contribute to plan activities in WP2 and WP3.

Activities:

First, we will *review*:

- (i) areas of knowledge that support the theoretical framework of the project (sociology, agri-food studies, gender studies, feminist economics) (A1.1), and
- (ii) information on potential case studies (A1.2): reports, websites, blogs and all public information available regarding the case studies in Spain.

Second, based on a review protocol, we will perform a *review* of the academic and grey literature on:

- (iii) both agroecological and feminist indicators for socioeconomic activity assessment (A1.3), and
- (iv) the introduction of the feminist perspective in SSE organizations (A1.4).

Milestones:

1. Development of the review protocol and application in relevant databases.
2. Compilation and classification of relevant documentary sources for the different research phases.
3. Identification of gaps of knowledge on the introduction of the feminist approach in agroecology.
4. Selection of the 12 case studies (see WP2), and of a pool of alternative case studies so that selected cases can be replaced if needed (see Contingency plan further on in this section).
5. Selection of WP3 key informants (see A3.1) and participants of the knowledge-sharing workshop (see A3.2).
6. Identification of relevant dimensions to be included in the feminist agroecological indicators system (see WP4).
7. Progress/thematic report 1 (projected peer-reviewed paper, see WP6) (on feminist agroecology).

Work team:

Marina Di Masso, Mirene Begiristain, Marta Rivera-Ferre, Guillermo Palau, Miriam Nobre, Gemma Flores-Pons, Ana Corroero, Sandra Ezquerro, Anna Pérez, Isabel Villalba, Sarai Fariñas.

Specific objectives addressed: 1.1, 1.2, 2.1

WP2 – Feminist characterization of agroecological socioeconomic strategies [Months 7-23]

The aim of this WP is to describe and analyse the socioeconomic strategies used by agroecological projects from a feminist economics approach. We will conduct fieldwork on 12 case studies in Spain (4 in Catalunya, 4 in Valencia and 4 in Galicia) which will constitute the sample to achieve the planned objectives. The selection of these territories is based on the large presence of agroecological projects and networks, as well as a vibrant SSE sector. In terms of agroecological research, Catalunya is a reference territory in Spain; Valencia is heavily promoting agroecological policies; while Galicia is rather underexplored. Thus, the sample offers an interesting gradient (consolidated, intermediate, initial) in terms of degree of consolidation of experiences and public administration engagement with agroecological transition processes. This provides richness and soundness to the sample.

The criteria selection for the inclusion of case studies will be as follows:

- a. Cases must include women (at least 25% of members).
- b. Cases must define themselves as small-scale and agroecological projects.³
- c. Based on the deep knowledge of the agroecological sector of the project team, relevant variables to select the case studies will be: (1) type of production (livestock/farming), (2) producers' background (farming family/non-farming family), (3) degree of consolidation of the project (5-

³ Following Begiristain & López (2016) we understand small-scale or family farming as those small production initiatives in which the tenants/owners of the exploitation labour is bigger than employed work.

- 10 years/more than 10 years), and (4) degree of collectivization of productive and reproductive tasks.
- d. Cases must also observe the socioeconomic principles linked to agroecology as identified in the literature (see Dumont et al., 2016).⁴
 - e. The project team must have previously worked with the case studies, in order to facilitate access and interaction.

The fact that team members have deep knowledge of the agroecological sector in their territories ensures the access to case studies. Fieldwork will be conducted in each case study in two different moments of the year (t_1 and t_2) with different workload in the agricultural cycle. These two moments will be agreed upon with the case studies (see A2.1).

Activities:

WP2 will be organized in two phases. In a preliminary phase (phase I) the selected case studies will be contacted in order to explain them the logics and timing of the work plan, as well as to agree upon the two moments of the year to conduct the fieldwork in the executive phase (phase II). During phase I,

- (i) *structured interviews* with case studies participants will be conducted with the aim of identifying and characterizing their time management mechanisms (A2.1). Based on the gathered information, we will develop an *observation sheet* for the systematization of the case studies, and a *time use survey* to identify activities and times, as to promote a qualitative reflection during in-depth interviews (see A2.3) on the temporal structure of the day, and the difficulty of fitting it into a notion of chronometric time.

During phase II, we will address the feminist characterization of the socioeconomic strategies of case studies through mixed social research methods:

- (i) 1-week full *observation period*⁵ (i.e., working and sleeping in the farm) in two different moments of the year (t_1 , t_2) (A2.2). During these, researchers will write down their observations and reflections (descriptive and analytical inputs collected in different spaces linked to each case) in order to complete the observation sheets for the systematization of the experiences, and the *time use survey* will be conducted,
- (ii) *in-depth interviews* with participants of the case studies, selected under representativity criteria of gender, age, and family responsibilities (A2.3), and
- (iii) results devolution and evaluation with each case study (A2.5).
- (iv) as for the data analysis (A2.4), observation sheets, interviews and time survey content analysis will be performed using Atlas.ti software, and codification will be performed following thematic analysis according to the relevant categories and conceptual dimensions of this research.

Milestones:

1. Sizing the productive and reproductive work volume of farmers through systematized information and visualization of activities, time, people and places involved in the socioeconomic activity of the project.
2. Identification of viability pitfalls such as hot spots of work overload or unaddressed individual and/or collective needs.
3. Characterization of the governance model of the initiative: decision-making process, management of both productive and care/reproductive work.
4. Typology of socioeconomic strategies of agroecological projects from a feminist perspective, on which to start building a feminist indicators system for agroecological projects (first version, to be validated in WP4).
5. Progress/thematic report 2 (projected peer-reviewed paper, see WP6) (on a feminist agroecological socioeconomic strategies typology).

Work team:

Marina Di Masso, Marta Rivera Ferre, Guillermo Palau, Anna Pérez, Gemma Flores-Pons, Ana Corroero, Isabel Villalba, Sarai Fariñas, contracted researcher (see section 3.5).

Specific objectives addressed: 1.1, 1.2, 2.3

WP3 – Feminist approach in social and solidarity-based economy initiatives [Months 16-23]

⁴ Dumont, A., Vanloqueren, G., Stassart, P., & Baret, P. (2016) Clarifying the socioeconomic dimensions of agroecology: between principles and practices. *Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems*, 40(1): 24-47.

⁵ Following amongst others Chambers, R. (1994). The Origins and Practice of Participatory Rural Appraisal. *World Development*, 22(7): 953-969.

The aim of this WP is to systematize the already available resources and methods to introduce the feminist perspective in SSE in order to adapt them to the primary sector, particularly to the reality of agroecological projects. The WP will be based on the results of WP1 (A1.4) and WP2 (identified viability pitfalls).

Activities:

- (i) *Semi-structured interviews* with key SSE sector informants in Spain (around 10, according to sample saturation), including public administration (A3.1).
- (ii) *2-days knowledge-sharing workshop* with Spanish SSE entities committed to the introduction of feminist economics insights in their organizations; particularly focusing in, but not limited to, entities also committed to agroecology (A3.2).
- (iii) Data analysis through Atlas.ti for interviews, and through recording and subsequent relevant data collection for workshop (A3.3).

Milestones:

1. Systematized information on available SSE-generated resources for a feminist diagnosis of organizations and socioeconomic activities.
2. Identification of the limitations and potentialities of these resources for their adaptation to the primary sector, and specifically those insights relevant for the development of a feminist agroecological indicators system (see WP4 milestones).
3. Progress/thematic report 3 (on feminist SSE).

Work team: Marina Di Masso, Marta Rivera-Ferre, Mirene Begiristain, Miriam Nobre (advisor), Sarai Fariñas, Ana Corroero, Gemma Flores-Pons, Guillermo Palau, Anna Pérez, Sandra Ezquerria.

Specific objectives addressed: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3

WP4 – Feminist agroecological indicators system (FEM-VIDA) [Months 23-27]

A basic component of this project is the generation of spaces for collective reflection during the research process, to enhance knowledge-sharing between alternative economies represented by agroecology, feminist economics, and SSE. In this WP we develop a feminist indicators system that assesses viability of agroecological projects. The indicators system will bridge socioeconomic viability pitfalls (Milestone 2 in WP2) and potential solutions (provided by SSE as identified in WP3), thus shaping a feminist self-diagnosis tool for agroecological producers. This construction will be carried out considering the sequential methodological logic of principles-criteria-indicators.

Activities:

- (i) *2-days definition and validation workshop*, starting from WP2 and WP3 results. During the workshop (a) the principles, criteria and indicators will be defined in sequence, through PAR techniques (i.e., valuation thermometers, world cafe technique, questionnaires for the validation of intermediate proposals, group discussion sessions, and (b) the process and outputs (i.e., indicators) will be assessed.⁶ This workshop will involve the exchange and integration of knowledge between case studies (see WP2), SSE actors (see WP3) and the project team (A4.1).
- (ii) Data analysis of recorded materials, group discussions and the subsequent collection of relevant data for the construction of the draft proposal of the indicators system (A4.2).
- (iii) Preparation of the first version of the indicators system (A4.3).
- (iv) Return and contrast with the participants in the workshop of the first version of the indicators system through an online survey (A4.4).

Milestones:

1. Identification of solutions to socioeconomic viability pitfalls and unaddressed needs of agroecological projects (see WP2 milestones).
2. Development of a feminist agroecological indicators system as a FEMinist economics-based VIability self-DiAgnosis tool (FEM-VIDA) first version.
3. Progress/thematic report 4 (projected peer-reviewed paper, see WP6) (on FEM-VIDA indicators system).

Work team: Marina Di Masso, Marta Rivera-Ferre, Guillermo Palau, Gemma Flores-Pons, Ana Corroero, Miriam Nobre (advisor), Sandra Ezquerria, Mirene Begiristain, Isabel Villalba, Sarai Fariñas.

⁶ Following Masera et al. (1999), Pannell & Glenn (2000), Pintér et al. (2005), Bell & Morse (2008), Gómez-Limón & Arraiza (2011), Singh et al. (2012), the indicators will meet the following criteria: comprehensiveness, validity, reliability, measurability, flexibility and clarity.

Specific objectives addressed: 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3

WP5 – FEM-VIDA validation and application [Months 28-32]

This WP is focused on the application of the FEM-VIDA indicators system. To this end, the WP firstly aims at validating the indicators system developed in WP4 as an output of the whole research process, in each of the 3 study territories. Secondly, it aims at developing an application protocol and guidelines for its implementation in these territories and beyond.

Activities:

- (i) Three 1 one-day *territorial workshops* with cases in each territory (see WP2) to carry out an end-use validation to guarantee the comparability of the proposal for different territories and contrast its validity from the point of view of the end-users (A5.1)
- (ii) Data analysis of the territorial workshops results, triangulating the data for the research-work team to adjust the indicators proposal, through 2 specific work sessions (A5.2).
- (iii) Preparation of the final version of the indicators system: formulation of principles and criteria and elaboration of the sheets including definition, assessment, and data interpretation for each indicator; and of the application protocol and guidelines (A5.3).
- (iv) Return and contrast with the participants of the first version of the indicators system and the protocol and guidelines through an online survey (A5.4).

Milestones:

1. End-users validation of the feminist agroecological indicators system (final version).
2. Application protocol and guidelines for the adaptation and implementation of the FEM-VIDA indicators system as a feminist self-diagnosis viability tool for agroecological projects.
3. Progress/thematic report 5 (on the FEM-VIDA application protocol).

Work team: Marina Di Masso, Marta Rivera Ferre, Guillermo Palau, Anna Pérez, Gemma Flores-Pons, Ana Correro, Mirene Begiristain, Isabel Villalba, Sarai Fariñas.

Specific objectives addressed: 1.1, 1.2, 2.3

WP6 – Dissemination and outreach [Months 33-36]

This WP will focus on results communication and outreach activities. Indeed, these are transversal over the project whole duration through an iterative process of internal continuous results' reporting with research participants (particularly activities A2.5, A4.4 and A5.4). Furthermore, within this WP we will continue with information sharing of the project findings with the initiatives and people involved in the process, and we will make it extensive to a wider audience, both academic and non-academic (e.g., civil society), beyond the timeline of the project. (See section 2.)

Activities:

- (i) Elaboration of a final report on the introduction of the feminist approach to agroecology and SSE based on WPs progress/thematic reports 1, 2,3, 4, and 5 to be shared with all participants (A6.1).
- (ii) Elaboration of a dissemination plan (A6.2), which will identify (i) target audiences and networks (national and international), and (ii) tools and materials to make the results of the project available to a wider audience. Amongst others, the latter will include a project webpage (provided by UVIC) and making reports available through the Agroecology Chair and the Women, Development and Cultures UNESCO Chair websites and social media, public presentations (e.g., in agroecological, SSE, and agrarian forums), non-academic publications, infographics, and press releases through the communication areas of the research team institutions (UVIC, UPV/EHU and INGENIO (CSIC-UPV)).
- (iii) Scientific publications (peer-reviewed journals, national and international conferences) (A6.3).
- (iv) Elaboration of specialised reports to specific actors with key messages and recommendations: public administration, SSE sector, and agrarian sector, supported by infographics (A6.4).

Milestones (see section 2):

1. Final report of the project.
2. Dissemination plan and project webpage.
3. Communications in at least 2 national and 1 international conferences.
4. At least three scientific papers in indexed journals (literature review on feminist agroecology, typologies of feminist agroecological socioeconomic strategies, feminist indicators system).
5. At least 3 specialized actors reports.

Work team: Marina Di Masso, Marta Rivera Ferre, Sandra Ezquerra, Mirene Begiristain, Anna Pérez, Gemma Flores-Pons, Ana Correro, Isabel Villalba, Sarai Fariñas.

Contingency plan

In order to increase the probability of success we briefly describe research-related risks, by identifying situations that might potentially cause unwanted changes in the project objectives and/or planned activities in the following table, where we also detail occurrence likelihood, mitigation actions (to prevent and monitor risk occurrence during the research) and contingency actions:

Risk & Likelihood	WP	Mitigation actions	Contingency actions
<p>Poor collaboration of selected case studies</p> <p>Low likelihood, as research and team members' have a deep knowledge of their territories and the agroecological sector in each of them, ensuring access to a large amount of agroecological projects.</p>	<p>WP2 (A2.1-2.3, 2.5), WP3 (A3.1, 3.2), WP4 (A4.1), WP5 (A5.1)</p>	<p>Cases which have previous relation with the research team members (as stated in WP2 case study selection criteria) will be prioritized.</p> <p>Cases within the entities that have supported the project (through a signed letter or within their networks) will be prioritized.</p> <p>Activities are arranged considering cases' preferences.</p> <p>Communication channels with the coordination team are agreed upon with case studies.</p> <p>Coordination team keeps regular communication to follow-up case studies engagement, identify any potential problem and tackle it as soon as it is identified.</p>	<p>If the research team perceives that a case study participation in the project is not enough to accomplish the objectives, the case will be encouraged to increase its commitment.</p> <p>If the situation does not change, another case study will be invited and engaged by using existing contacts of the team and the pool of potential cases identified in WP1.</p>
<p>COVID19 restrictions</p> <p>Low likelihood, as fieldwork, considering the deadlines of the call, will not be starting before mid-2023.</p>	<p>WP2 (A2.1-A2.3, 2.5), WP3 (A3.1, 3.2), WP4 (A4.1), WP5 (A5.1)</p>	<p>The coordination team will quarterly follow-up the COVID19 status in the selected territories.</p>	<p>Fieldwork will be conducted following recommendations of Civil Protection authorities, as for self-protection measures, security distance and space capacity.</p> <p>If recommended, interviews and workshops will be changed to online format.</p> <p>Budget and time schedule revision in the event of changes due to COVID restrictions.</p>

A smooth internal communication is important for the good governance of the project, and relevant in terms of mitigation and contingency. As stated in WP0, the coordination team is responsible of the internal communication strategy, which will include quarterly online meetings amongst the project team and activity-based participants at each stage of the project. The minutes of these meetings will serve as follow-up reports. These quarterly meetings will also allow to review the suitability of the communication strategy and make the necessary improvements if needed.

3.3. Material means, infrastructures and singular equipment

This proposal will not need the use of infrastructures or singular equipment to address its objectives. As for material means, a small part will be provided by the research team institutions (e.g, access to Atlas.ti). The bulk of the material means will be required for the fieldwork (travels and daily allowances), as detailed in the budget. No other specific requirements are needed.

3.4. Timeline and execution schedule

Objectives	Work Packages Activities	Months																			
		2	4	6	8	10	12	1	3	5	7	9	11	12	1	3	5	7	9	11	12
	WP0. Coordination																				
	Supervision, communication, management																				
1.1, 1.2, 2.1	WP1. Literature review																				



	A1.1 Theoretical framework																					
	A1.2 Information on case studies																					
	A1.3 Agroecological & feminist indicators																					
	A1.4 Feminist perspective in SSE																					
1.1, 1.2, 2.3	WP2. Feminist characterization of agroecological socioeconomic strategies																					
	A2.1 Structured interviews																					
	A2.2 Observation (t ₁ + t ₂)																					
	A2.3 In-depth interviews (t ₁ + t ₂)																					
	A2.4 Data analysis (t ₁ + t ₂)																					
	A2.5 Results devolution																					
2.1, 2.2, 2.3	WP3. Feminist approach in SSE																					
	A3.1 Semi-structured interviews																					
	A3.2 Knowledge-sharing workshop																					
	A3.3 Data analysis																					
1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3	WP4. Feminist agroecological indicators system (FEM-VIDA)																					
	A4.1 Definition & validation workshop																					
	A4.2 Data analysis																					
	A4.3 FEM-VIDA first version																					
	A4.4 Return & contrast																					
1.1, 1.2, 1.3	WP5. FEM-VIDA validation & application																					
	A5.1 Territorial workshops																					
	A5.2 Data analysis																					
	A5.3 FEM-VIDA final version																					
	A5.4 Return & contrast																					
	WP6. Dissemination & outreach																					
	A6.1 Synthesis report																					
	A6.2 Dissemination plan & webpage																					
	A6.3 Scientific journals/communications																					
	A6.4 Specialized actors reports																					

With an academic background on Sociology (Marina Di Masso, Marta Rivera Ferre, Sandra Ezquerra), Economics (Mirene Begiristain, Anna Pérez), Anthropology and History (Sandra Ezquerra), Agronomy (Guillermo Palau), Veterinary (Marta Rivera Ferre), and Environmental Sciences (Marina Di Masso), the research team has expertise on alternative food systems analysis from a complex perspective, agroecology, care economy, feminist approach to socioeconomic reality, and participatory indicators development. The work team has an academic background on Social Psychology (Gemma Flores-Pons), Agronomy (Miriam Nobre), Gender Studies (Isabel Villalba), and Public Policies Anthropology and Sociology (Sarai Fariñas), and expertise on agroecology and agroecological dynamization, alternative food systems, rural development, and SSE. All team members have solid and long-term experience developing qualitative research methods.

Project members will contribute to the work plan as follows (key persons per WP underlined):

WP1. Literature review: Marina Di Masso (A1.1 - A1.4), Mirene Begiristain (A1.1, A1.3), Marta Rivera-Ferre (A1.1, A1.3), Guillermo Palau (A1.2), Anna Pérez (A1.4), Miriam Nobre (A1.2, A1.3, A1.4), Gemma Flores-Pons (A1.2, A1.3), Ana Corroero (A1.2, A1.3, A1.4), Sandra Ezquerra (A1.1), Isabel Villalba (A1.2, A1.3), Sarai Fariñas (A1.2, A1.4).

WP2. Feminist characterization of agroecological socioeconomic strategies: Marina Di Masso (A2.1 - A2.5), Marta Rivera Ferre (A2.1, A2.3, A2.4), contracted researcher (A2.1 - A2.5), Guillermo Palau (A2.1, A2.4), Anna Pérez (A2.1), Gemma Flores-Pons (A2.1, A2.3), Ana Corroero (A2.1, A2.3), Isabel Villalba (A2.1, A2.5), Sarai Fariñas (A2.1, A2.2, A2.5).

WP3. Feminist approach in social and solidarity-based economy initiatives: Marina Di Masso (A3.1 - A3.3), Mirene Begiristain (A3.1 - A3.3), Miriam Nobre (A3.2: advisory role), Guillermo Palau (A3.2), Anna Pérez (A3.1, A3.2), Ana Corroero (A3.2), Gemma Flores-Pons (A3.2), Marta Rivera-Ferre (A3.1 - A3.3), Sandra Ezquerra (A3.2), Sarai Fariñas (A3.2).

WP4. *Feminist agroecological indicators system (FEM-VIDA)*: Marina Di Masso (A4.1 - A4.4), Marta Rivera Ferre (A4.1, A4.2, A4.3), Guillermo Palau (A4.1, A4.2), Anna Pérez (A4.1), Gemma Flores-Pons (A4.1), Ana Corroero (A4.1), Miriam Nobre (A4.1, A4.2: advisory role), Sandra Ezquerra (A4.1, A4.2), Mirene Begiristain (A4.1-A4.4), Isabel Villalba (A4.1, A4.4), Sarai Fariñas (A4.1, A4.4).

WP5. *FEM-VIDA validation and application*: Marina Di Masso (A5.1 - A5.4), Guillermo Palau (A5.1, A5.2, A5.3), Anna Pérez (A5.3), Gemma Flores-Pons (A5.1), Ana Corroero (A5.1), Marta Rivera (A5.1 - A5.4), Mirene Begiristain (A5.1 - A5.4), Isabel Villalba (A5.1, A5.4), Sarai Fariñas (A5.1, A5.4).

WP6. *Dissemination and outreach*: Marina Di Masso (A6.1 - A6.3), Guillermo Palau (A6.3), Sandra Ezquerra (A6.3), Marta Rivera (A6.1 - A6.3), Mirene Begiristain (A6.1 - A6.3), Gemma Flores-Pons (A6.4), Ana Corroero (A6.4), Anna Pérez (A6.2, A6.3), Isabel Villalba (A6.4), Sarai Fariñas (A6.4).

3.5. Contracting personnel

We will contract a person full-time for 6 months to conduct WP2 fieldwork in Galicia. She or he will have to be familiar with the territory and have a close relationship with the agroecological sector there. This will save time and guarantee quick and easy access to informants. Previous knowledge of the territory and its actors is crucial specially when conducting observation (A2.1), which is a method greatly facilitated when a certain level of mutual knowledge already exists between the observer and the observed subject. The person will also carry out the in-depth interviews (A2.2) during her/his 1-week stay periods. She/he will have to have experience with the qualitative research methodologies specified in section 1.4. Experience conducting participant observation and interviews will be a prerequisite, as well as teamwork skills.

4. SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL IMPACT

The results of this proposal have a multidimensional nature strongly marked by our research approach. By assuming feminist economics as a novel approach to the assessment of agroecological socioeconomic strategies, we aim at identifying the elements conditioning the sustainability of small-scale agroecological projects as well as at developing strategies which can contribute to alleviating the precarity of agroecological producers. This is a direct contribution to PEICTI *AE6 FOOD, BIOECONOMY, NATURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES* (see section 2.1), as we will provide analytical tools to improve the viability of “sustainable production that supplies safe, healthy and quality food”. Furthermore, our project contributes to AE5 and AE4, as agroecological production is a basic component of low-carbon, endogenous natural resources-based territorialized food systems which combat rural depopulation and improve social cohesion by supporting local economic activity. From a theoretical point of view, the project will contribute to the interdisciplinary study of agri-food systems from a complex perspective, and in a relevant manner to the growing contributions which aim at exploring the convergence of agroecology and feminist approaches. In this context, our research will address a particular gap of knowledge, which is to incorporate the reproductive processes to the socioeconomic characterization and viability of agroecological projects. We will provide empirical data on the total volume of work needed to develop an agroecological project, including reproductive work, as well as on its characterization (who does it, with whom, for how long, etc.) and organization. With this, we will identify unattended needs (both at an individual and project level), work overloads, and possibilities to overcome these issues. This information will be extremely helpful to develop feminist indicators upon which a self-diagnosis viability tool will be built collectively. Indeed, our research is a clear example of doing science with and for society, ensuring the research responds to the needs of stakeholders and the results have a direct impact on the studied sector (agroecological farming). From a methodological point of view our research will contribute to the construction of an analytical framework which addresses the socioeconomic reality from a dialectic and non-hierarchical perspective between the productive and reproductive dimensions of the economy. At a technical level, the development of a transdisciplinary project will shed a light on how to develop research projects involving social subjects in the study from the start, and co-produce knowledge in dialogue with them, as recommended by different authors and international reports (UNEP, 2014; IPBES, 2018; Miller & Wyborn, 2018).⁷ An approach which fits the concept of innovative environments which the PEICTI encourages to develop

⁷ UNEP (2014) *United Nations Environment Programme Annual Report 2013*. UNEP. ISBN: 978-92-807-3380-8. IPBES (2018) *The regional assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services for Europe and Central Asia*. Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. ISBN No: 978-3-947851-08-9. Miller, C., & Wyborn, C. (2018) Co-production in global sustainability: histories and theories. *Environmental Science and Policy*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2018.01.016>

in order to respond to major societal challenges. As previously stated, our team composition stems from a theoretical and analytical logic that crosses multiple disciplines and areas of knowledge: sociology, economics, agronomy, anthropology, environmental sciences, amongst others. Indeed, this is a main scientific richness of our proposal, which will contribute to crossing boundaries among disciplines, a big challenge in an academic world still very much organized around disciplinary siloed research areas. Furthermore, we consider our research to be an important contribution to innovation studies in general and from feminist epistemologies in particular. It is a contribution to those disciplines approaching socioeconomic reality from a more complex perspective than conventional perspectives focused on market and paid work. Finally, we want to stress the relevance of the research and its expected results in our current social and economic context, given the fact that we put in dialogue the critical economics approaches currently most relevant in social but also academic debates. Indeed, they are the core of most needed social innovations for eco-social transitions based in a strong sustainability approach.

a) Internationalization and outreach plan

Communication and outreach activities are very important in this project. They are transversal all over its duration and constitute a specific work package (WP6). We will disseminate the results of our research at 3 levels, according to a dissemination plan (A6.2):

a.1) Scientific outreach, through assistance to national and international congresses as well as publications in international peer-reviewed journals. Targeted tentative journals where we will present our results include *Agriculture and Human Values*, *Feminist Economics*, *Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems*, *Journal of Rural Studies* and *Sociologia Ruralis*. We expect to publish at least 3 peer-reviewed papers from this project (see WP6). We also expect to present scientific communications to 2 national and 1 international conferences. We foresee the following: the Spanish Congress of Sociology (2025), the Spanish Congress of Feminist Economics (2025), the International Association of Feminist Economics Annual Conference (2024), the International Congress of Agroecology (2024), and the International Rural Sociology Association World Congress (2024), amongst others.

a.2) Outreach to specialised actors, through policy-oriented reports addressed to decisionmakers with the findings and policy-relevant results, as well as specialized reports for the SSE sector and the agrarian sector, supported by infographics (A6.3).

a.3) General public outreach, through a synthesis report (built upon 5 research progress reports) which will be made available mainly through the project's webpage (A6.2), and through the Agroecology Chair, Women, Development and Cultures UNESCO Chair, and INGENIO websites and social media, as well as through public presentations (e.g. in agroecological, SSE, and agrarian forums, and local administration interested parties), and non-academic publications. Results to general public will also be facilitated by support materials (i.e. infographics) as well as press releases through the communication areas at the research team institutions (UVIC, UPV/EHU and INGENIO (CSIC-UPV)). As for internationalization channels of our research other than publications and communications to international conferences, we identify at least other three. The network on feminism and agroecology created at the Third International Colloquium on Feminism and Agroecology (Recife, Brazil, April 2019), Our results will be also disseminated through FAO Agroecology Office and through the European Network of Community Supported Agriculture (URGENCI), both of which have signed a support letter highlighting the interest of this research proposal.

b) Results transfer

This proposal is built upon a bottom-up knowledge co-production process which not only guarantees a better adjustment to participants needs, but particularly relevant to this subsection, a greater uptake of the results. Indeed, the engagement of different and diverse actors in this research project guarantees knowledge transfer, and we highlight the feminist self-diagnosis viability tool and its implementation protocol and guidelines as the main transferable result. First, direct transfer will involve the agroecological initiatives involved as case studies in the research. Also, direct transfer will involve those entities which have supported our research, and particularly those (in italics) which are actively involved in the project's activities as they are represented in our work team (*Arran de Terra*, Germinando, *L'Aresta*, *Sindicato Labrego Galego*, *Ateneu Cooperatiu Camp de Tarragona*). Indirect transfer will take place through the work and networks of those supporting entities which develop their activity dynamizing local economies, who will be able to incorporate the tool in their specific scope of work: territorial diagnosis and/or local economic/agroecological dynamization (*Arran de Terra*, Germinando, *Entretantos*, *Ateneus Cooperatius*, XES, Instituto Mujeres y Cooperación, *CERAI*, *Fundació ASSUT*), formative activities (*Escola de Pastors*, *Ateneus Cooperatius*, *CERAI*), or funding provision (Coop57). Also, agrarian organizations (*Sindicato Labrego Galego*, *Ganaderas en Red*) will transfer the tool

amongst their sectoral networks. Furthermore, several members of the team are active members of the agroecological, feminist, and/or SSE movements, engaged in social action and public policy arenas on these issues, thus multiplying the knowledge-transfer. As for the public policy arena, worth noting is the support provided by local councils in València (Consell de l’Horta) and Barcelona (Socio-economic Innovation Directorate). Beyond the tool itself and its implementation protocol, the final report and the specialized actors-oriented reports are another transferable result of the project.

c) Data Management Plan (DMP)

Due to space limitations, we provide a basic version of the projects’ DMP. If funded, we will develop a comprehensive plan including detailed data collection for each data set, addressing relevant aspects such as standards and metadata, data processing and storage, data sharing (internal and external use), data archiving and preservation, and an overview of the collected data life cycle. To do so, we will count on Dr. Di Masso’s experience in developing the DMP of an H2020 project (PERFORM, 665826). At present, we provide an overview of the general data set and its management. The project will collect new data in 3 study cases to address its objectives, as described in the table below:

FEM-VIDA data set		
Type of data	Collection method	Sample
Secondary	Literature review	Spanish, Latin American, and Anglo academic and grey literature on feminist approaches to agroecology
Primary	Interviews	Case studies participants. Key SSE sector informants.
Primary	Observation	Case studies participants
Primary	Time use surveys	Case studies participants
Primary	Workshops	Spanish SSE entities. Case studies participants.

FEM-VIDA will use Zenodo as *repository* (<http://www.zenodo.org>), as it is a multi-disciplinary EU scale repository recommended by the EU OpenAIRE initiative and provides enough space to store the different types of data that the project will generate, both open and embargoed. As for *ethical-related aspects* of the research, a basic dimension to be addressed in the context of data management, we will submit it to the UVIC Ethical Research Committee for its assessment and supervision for the ethical conduct of our research, particularly as for personal data protection.

5. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

The main expected impacts of this research are social and economic. As it focuses on a shared problematic of agroecological projects (i.e., their multidimensional precarity), we expect our results to have clear and positive repercussions for a large number of these projects. Economic direct positive repercussions for the agroecological initiatives results from improvements in their viability, which indirectly will impact the wider social community, through reinforcement of alternative food systems and local economic activity. Environmental positive impacts result from the promotion of sustainable low-carbon food production based on endogenous natural resources. A clear evidence of the potential positive impacts are the 19 support letters from interested parties, two of them international (FAO-Agroecology, Urgenci), highlighting the relevance of the project, and supporting the need to develop a self-diagnosis viability tool to improve the long-term viability of agroecological projects (being agroecology among the strategies highlighted by the EU, the UN Food Systems Summit and FAO to achieve sustainable, healthy and just food systems), as well as the living conditions of the people involved in them. These interested parties include public-cooperative and private entities belonging to the agrarian sector, including unions (Sindicato Labrego Galego), farmer women organizations (Ganaderas en Red) and farming schools (Escola de Pastors); the SSE sector, including the Catalan coordination network (XES), womens’ entrepreneurship (Instituto Mujeres y Cooperación), work cooperatives (Germinando, Arran de Terra, L’Aresta), collective structures (Ateneus Cooperatius in 5 Catalan territories, with a work line in agroecology), and financial services (Coop57); rural development organizations, including NGOs (CERAI) and private foundations (Entretantos, ASSUT); formal education (Postgraduate Course on Local Agroecological Dynamization); and the local administration (Consell de l’Horta de València and Barcelona Activa Socio-economic Innovation Directorate).⁸ They

⁸ *Sindicato Labrego Galego*: agrarian union from Galicia, member of COAG (*Coordinadora de Organizaciones Agrarias y Ganaderas*) and *Via Campesina-Europe / Ganaderas en red*: Spanish scope organization of extensive livestock women farmers / *Escola de Pastors*: Catalan shepherds training project dedicated to promote a new model of peasantry based in small-scale agroecological production / *Germinando*: Madrid-based cooperative



are all strongly rooted in their territories and highly interested in contributing to the tool development to incorporate it in their activities, whether it is producing food, training, or dynamizing local economies. Thus, it is expected that the tool will serve to improve the socio-economic viability of agroecological projects direct users and support local rural development and agroecological dynamization processes focused on the development and consolidation of more sustainable and just alternative food systems in Spain. The economic impact of our proposal is expected to be enlarged through the inclusion of our diagnosis tool in public policy development, particularly local food policy. In terms of inclusion, it is worth noting that our research will strongly contribute to more just food systems and a more just society, in relation to the gender dimension. The inclusion of reproductive work in the characterization of the socioeconomic strategies developed by agroecological projects will allow to size the differences that the sexual division of labour has in the projects and the impact among its members in terms of unequal distribution of productive and reproductive activities and unequal time allocation. Our results will contribute to reflect on this issue and to identify measures to overcome this unequal scenario. Approaching gender inequalities generated by the historical subordination and feminization of reproductive work is an essential task in any transformative project, and, in our case, of those projects that aim at building not only more sustainable but more just food systems. These contributions are even more relevant considering the current COVID19 crisis, which has made more evident than ever the central role of reproductive work and food provision through local food systems. This stresses the present-situated approach of this research, while looking to a better future.

6. TRAINING CAPACITY

a) The PhD candidate will join the interuniversity program in 'Gender Studies: Culture, Society and Politics'. This is a joint PhD programme between UVIC-UCC, the University of Barcelona, the Autonomous University of Barcelona, and Rovira i Virgili University, and is a product of their collaboration within the framework of the Inter-University Women and Gender Studies Institute (iiEDG). The main objective of the PhD programme is innovation in scientific research of excellence in women's, gender and feminist studies through transversal and interdisciplinary approaches to the different subjects under study and research. The PIs have a strong research network from which the student can benefit. It is expected that the candidate will enjoy at least one research stay. As potential options we envision the University of Recife (Brazil) or the National University General Sarmiento (Argentina), where the IV International Colloquium of Agroecology and Feminism will take place in 2023 and where the PIs have close connections.

b) PhD Theses and related publications

During 2011-2021, the research team has successfully supervised or is supervising 25 PhDs (12 finished and 13 ongoing) which have resulted in more than 20 publications by the doctoral candidates. Below we just provide details of those theses and publications that have a closer relation to the topic of the proposal:

working in the field of environmental education, under the principles of feminism and inclusion / *Arran de Terra*: Catalan cooperative engaged in local agroecological transition through research and outreach, assessment and dynamization activities / *L'Aresta*: Catalan cooperative promoting agroecology, social cooperation and a living rural world, through an organic bakery, training and research activities, and agroecological dynamization processes / *Ateneus Cooperatius*: created by the Catalan government in 2016 to build a network of decentralized reference spaces for the promotion of SSE through training and accompaniment processes for the creation or consolidation of SSE enterprises. The network has an Agroecology working group / *Coop57*: ethical and solidary-based funding services cooperative aimed at providing funding to SSE projects and enterprises / *CERAI*: Valencian NGO specialized in rural development, food sovereignty, agroecology, with a line of work in education / *Entretantos*: Spanish private foundation aiming at promoting the full incorporation of social participation, collaborative strategies, and networking in socioeconomic activities and public policies related to the territory, sustainability and environmental management / *Fundació ASSUT*: offers tools for the custody of Valencian landscapes and natural and cultural heritage, such as traditional irrigation systems of Huerta de Valencia. / *Instituto Mujeres y cooperación*: non-profit, feminist organisation with a vocation to integrate various approaches to gender equality. / *Xarxa d'Economia Solidària*: network of networks of SSE to develop the SSE in Catalunya / *Consell de l'Horta*: public body participated by the Valencian Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Climate Emergency and Ecological Transition, Diputació de València, and València municipality to protect the Huerta de València, one of the most unique agricultural landscapes in the Mediterranean area. / *Bcn Activa Socioeconomic Innovation Directorate*: promotes and strengthens entrepreneurial initiatives, organisations and companies in the field of SSE in the city, incorporating the perspective of socio-economic innovation.

Finished

1. Marina Di Masso: 'Alternative food networks and food sovereignty: possibilities for the transformation of the dominant agri-food system'. End date: 14/12/2012.
Di Masso, M., Zografos, C. (2015) Constructing food sovereignty in Catalonia: different narratives for transformative action. *Agr. Human Values*, 32(2): 183-198. / Di Masso, M., Rivera-Ferre, M., Espluga, J. 2014. The transformative agri-food movement in Catalonia: operational divergences in the construction of food sovereignty. In D.H. Constance, MC. Renard, M. Rivera-Ferre (Eds.) *Alternative agrifood movements. Patterns of convergence and divergence*. Emerald Group Publ. Ltd. 21, pp.159-181. ISSN 1057-19222.
2. Silvia Pappucio: 'Rural women strategies and demands for rural development in Argentina'. End date: 08/10/2014
3. Mar Ortega-Reig: 'Collective management of irrigation in eastern Spain. Integration of new technologies and water resources'. Start date: 05/02/2013. End date: 11/12/2015.
Ortega-Reig, M., Palau-Salvador, G., Sempere, M.J.C., Benitez-Buelga, J., Badiella, D., Trawick, P. (2014). The integrated use of surface, ground and recycled wastewater in adapting to drought in the traditional irrigation system of Valencia. *Agr. Water Manag.*, 133, 55-64. / Ortega-Reig, M., Sanchis-Ibor, C., Palau-Salvador, G., García-Mollá, M., Avellá-Reus, L. (2017) Institutional and management implications of drip irrigation introduction in collective irrigation systems in Spain. *Agr. Water Manag.*, 187, 164-172. / Trawick, P., Ortega Reig, M., & Palau Salvador, G. (2014) Encounters with the moral economy of water: convergent evolution in Valencia. *Wiley Interdisc. Reviews: Water*, 1(1), 87-110. / Hagenvoort, J., Ortega-Reig, M., Botella, S., García, C., de Luis, A., Palau-Salvador, G. (2019) Reusing treated wastewater from a circular economy perspective—the case of the real Acequia de Moncada in Valencia (Spain). *Water*, 11(9), 1830.
4. Vicente Sales: 'Las ampliaciones modernas en los regadíos históricos. Jovedat y Extremal de la Real Acequia de Moncada'. Start date: 28/06/2011. End date: 16/12/2015.
Martínez, V. S., Reig, M. V. O., Salvador, G.P. (2019) Gestión, transformación y desaparición del arrozal al norte de la ciudad de València (1767-1976). *Cuadernos de geografía*, (102), 87-106.
5. Virginia Vallejo: 'Active transformative pathways for local agri-food systems: Drawing and applying an integrated framework to assess vulnerability of agri-food systems under the political paradigm of food sovereignty in a case study in Ecuadorian Andes'. End date: 15/09/2016
Vallejo, V., Ravera, F., Rivera-Ferre, M.G. (2016) Developing an integrated framework to assess agri-food systems and its application in the Ecuadorian Andes. *Regional Env. Change* 16(8): 2171-2185
6. Petra J. Benyei: 'Citizen Science: a tool to contribute to Traditional Ecological Knowledge in-situ and ex-situ conservation? The case study of the CONCIB-e platform and the gathering of agrobiodiversity related knowledge. End date: 10/01/2020.
Benyei, P. et al. 2020. Seeds of change: reversing traditional agroecological knowledge's erosion through a citizen science school program in Catalonia. *Ecology & Society*, 25(2): 19 / Benyei, P., Calvet-Mir, L., Reyes-García, V., Rivera-Ferre, M.G. 2020. Resistance to traditional agroecological knowledge erosion in industrialized contexts: A study in La Plana de Vic (Catalonia). *Agroecology Sust. Food Systems* 44(10).
7. Adriana Ruíz-Almeida: 'Sustainability of the Agri-Food System's: Characterization with Food Sovereignty Framework and the Evaluation Approach of the Major Threats'. End date: 29/04/2021
Ruiz-Almeida, A., Rivera-Ferre, M.G. 2019. Internationally-based indicators to measure agri-food systems sustainability using food sovereignty as a conceptual framework. *Food Security* 11(6): 1321-1337 / Oteros-Rozas, E., Ruiz-Almeida, A., Aguado, M., González, J.A., Rivera-Ferre, M.G. 2019. A social-ecological analysis of the global agri-food system. *PNAS* 116 (52): 26465-26473.

Ongoing

8. Graeme Dean: 'Understanding human-nature systems through complexity: the case of Mediterranean pastoral systems'. Start date: 01/04/2018. End date: 10/01/2022.
Dean, G., Rivera-Ferre, M.G., Rosas-Casals, M., López-i-Gelats, F. 2021. Nature's contribution to people as a framework for examining socioecological systems: The case of pastoral systems. *Ecosystem Services*, 49.
9. Christel Keller: 'Cuidarse en común. Los proyectos comunitarios en la democratización del cuidado'. Start date: September 2016. End date: 31/01/2022.
Keller, C. (2017) Grupos de Crianza Compartida: Una alternativa comunitaria en la organización del cuidado en la primera infancia. *Quaderns-e de l'Institut Català d'Antropologia*, 22 (2) / Keller, C.; Ezquerro, S. (2021) Viviendas colaborativas de personas mayores: democratizar el cuidado en la vejez. *Rev. Estudios Cooperativos*, 137.
10. Montse Fernández: 'La participació de les dones en la societat civil organitzada. Anàlisi comparada sota els règims d'Estat del Benestar'. Start date: September 2017. End date: 15/09/2022
11. Patricia Celi: 'Hacia una política para la democratización de los cuidados en un contexto de envejecimiento feminizado: lecciones desde la oferta pública y comunitaria en Ecuador'. End: 2022
Celi, P.; Ezquerro, S. (2020) El rol de los espacios comunitarios de cuidado de personas mayores en la democratización de los cuidados en la ciudad de Barcelona. *Rev. Interdisciplinaria de Estudios de Género de El Colegio de México*, dossier Género y Trabajo, e485.

12. Pablo A. Aránguiz: ‘Análisis de experiencias de educación universitaria para una transición justa hacia la sostenibilidad’. Start date: 26/11/2019. Estimated end date: 11/2022.
Aránguiz P, Palau-Salvador G, Belda A, Peris J. (2020) Critical Thinking Using Project-Based Learning: The Case of The Agroecological Market at the “Universitat Politècnica de València”. *Sustainability*, 12(9):3553.
13. Aintzira Oñederra-Aramendi: ‘Aportes a la transición social agroecológica. El caso de la Red Baserria XXI de baserritarras en Gipuzkoa’. Start date: 2016. Estimated end date: 2022.
Oñederra-Aramendi, A., Begiristain-Zubillaga, M., Malagón-Zaldua, E. (2020). El Centro de Acopio Sareko: Aprendizajes en la gobernanza de las Redes Agroalimentarias Alternativas para los saltos de escala. *Rev. Estudios Geográficos*, 81(289) / Oñederra-Aramendi, A., Begiristain-Zubillaga, M., Malagón-Zaldua, E. (2018) Who is feeding embeddedness in farmers' markets? A cluster study of farmers' markets in Gipuzkoa. *J. Rural Studies*, 61 / Malagon-Zaldua, E., Begiristain-Zubillaga, M., Oñederra-Aramendi, A. (2018) Measuring the Economic Impact of Farmers' Markets on Local Economies in the Basque Country. *Agriculture*, 8(1): 10.
14. Judit Manuel: ‘An analytical framework for agroecological farms’. Estimated end date: 2022.
15. Ana Ramírez: ‘Methodology for the identification of traditional ecological knowledge in family farming systems towards food sovereignty in Mexico’. Estimated end Date: 2023.
16. Ana Escario: ‘València en transición a la sostenibilidad. Analizando la capacidad urbana de transformación’. Start date: 28/12/2020. Estimated end date: 12/2023.
17. Silvia Madrid: ‘Anàlisi de les pràctiques en relació a la distribució d'aliments per a col·lectius amb dificultats econòmiques en el marc dels serveis socials de proximitat a Osona’. End date: 2023.
18. Jorge Molero-Cortés: ‘Gestión de proyectos con enfoque agroecológico en entornos urbanos y periurbanos: análisis y propuestas de mejora’. Start date: 2018. Estimated end date: 2023.
Molero-Cortés, J., Begiristain, M., López-García, D. (2019) *Estrategias de comunicación para facilitar saltos de escala en agroecología*. Fundación Entretantos, UPV.
19. Maria Borràs: ‘Socio-ecological relations in the management of natural resources and gender equality: discourses, dynamics and transformative processes in response to change’. End date: 2024.
20. Francisco Lagos: ‘Estrategias socio-ecológicas de los sistemas pastoriles en espacios de uso comunitario en Chile y España’. Estimated end date: 2024.

c) Brief description of the scientific or professional development of the PhD graduates of the research team during the last 10 years

Dr. Marina Di Masso Tarditti. PhD in Sociology. Co-director of the Agroecology and Food Systems Chair at UVIC-UCC. She was awarded a Juan de la Cierva-Incorporación research grant (2018-2020) during which she contributed to consolidation of the gender dimension in the analysis of alternative food systems at the Agroecology and Food Systems Chair (UVIC-UCC). She is member of the Women, Development and Cultures UNESCO Chair at UVIC-UCC and of the Consolidated Research group on Societies, Policies, and Inclusive Communities (SoPCI) (SGR 00657) at the same university. Before her arrival at UVIC she developed her post-doc research trajectory at CREDA-UPC, the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and the Open University of Catalunya, working in European FP7 and H2020 projects. She is member of the coordinating team of the Postgraduate Diploma on Agroecological Local Dinamization (UAB).

Prof. Marta G. Rivera Ferre. PhD in Sociology, PhD in Animal Sciences. CSIC Research Professor at INGENIO (CSIC-UPV). Honorary researcher of the University of Coventry. With a multidisciplinary profile in the analysis of the society and environment interactions within agri-food systems, she has a particular interest in alternative agri-food systems and in the analysis of feminists and commons theories as to be adopted in agri-food research. She has worked on the identification of different mental models co-existing in agricultural research and policies, the potential of local traditional agri-food knowledge in adaptation to climate change and the gendered impacts of climate change. Lead author in the UN assessments the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD, 2005-2008), the Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change (IPCC, AR5 2010-2014; SRCCL 2017-2019), Review Editor (IPCC, AR6 2018-2021) and IPBES scoping author for the Nexus assessment (2020, biodiversity, food, water, climate change, health).

Dr. Guillermo Palau Salvador. PhD in Agroforestry Engineering and Associate Professor at the Universitat Politècnica de València since 2008. He is an expert in applied creativity, innovation and management of multidisciplinary teams, with more than twenty years of experience leading teams and projects and training people, both nationally and internationally. He is currently an expert in systemic innovation, helping organizations and public institutions to face the socio-technological transitions. For this purpose, he is a facilitator and a trainer focused on innovation process in complex and changing



environments. He has more than 70 research publications and he has participated in more than 20 national and international research projects.

Dr. Mirene Begiristain Zubillaga. PhD in Economics. She has been a lecturer in the Faculty of Economics and Business of the UPV/EHU in San Sebastian since 1999. Her research work has focused on the analysis of food systems from an agroecological perspective, currently on two main lines: the analysis of innovative processes of collective action between and with producers with a gender and feminist perspective, and the generation of mechanisms and tools to facilitate the analysis of processes and projects of agroecological family farming (e.g. indicators systems, Participatory Guarantee Systems, systematization).

Dr. Sandra Ezquerro Samper. PhD in Sociology. MS in Sociology. Double Major in History and Anthropology. She teaches courses related to the history of feminism, public policy, sociology, and health. Her research focuses on feminist economics and the relationships between paid and unpaid work. She is the coordinator of the Consolidated Research Group SoPCI (Inclusive Societies, Politics, and Communities) of UVIC-UCC (SGR 657) and director of the UNESCO Chair on Women, Development, and Cultures at the same university.

Dr. Anna Pérez-Quintana. PhD in Business and Bachelor of Economics (Major in Political Economy and Sociology). She teaches courses related to entrepreneurship, operations management and cost and management accounting. Her research has focused on the social construction of gender and its relation to entrepreneurship, the influence of the gender socialization process in the choice of studies and careers, as well as in the analysis of the labor market from a gender perspective. She has several publications on female entrepreneurship and SSE from the perspective of feminist economics and she's member of the Consolidated Research Group Inclusive Societies, Policies and Communities of UVIC-UCC. She is the director of the UVIC-UCC Equality Unit since 2016.

d) Scientific-technical and formative context of the team and the institution

The research group SoPCI performs monthly seminars at two different levels: methodological and theoretical. This provides not only up-to-date training on relevant research topics and methods but also on complementary skills such as grant/paper writing, oral presentations, and project management. The group was also the organizer of the III National Congress of Feminist Economics in 2015, positioning SoPCI among the leading research groups in the topic in Spain. At UVIC-UCC, the members of the scientific community, including PhD students, can actively participate in the outreach activities organized by the institution, which include for example workshops for primary school students and scientific cafes. The UVIC-UCC Doctoral School offers UVic-UCC doctoral students several training activities for the acquisition of knowledge, tools and resources, particularly through the annual Doctoral Training Week. Additional training will be provided by attendance to international courses and through a research visit to one of our international collaborators. Since the group is formed by researchers linked to other institutions, Master's and Doctorate's programs, the involvement of other students will be facilitated. The participation in internationally recognized MSc programs, such as the MSc in Agroecology (UNIA-UCO-UPO) and the MSc in Agroecology and Food Sovereignty of the University of Gastronomic Sciences (Pollenzo, Italy), complete the training capacity of the research team.

INGENIO (CSIC-UPV) is a small but highly dynamic joint research centre of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and the Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV), with 33 researchers from different professional fields, academic backgrounds and nationalities and 21 PhD students. It is organised into one research group (Innovation studies) and it is internationally known for its research in the economics of innovation, monitoring and evaluation, and science policy, and is building an increasingly strong reputation in the areas of transformative innovation policy evaluation, social and grassroots innovations, and responsible research and innovation. As a joint center, students enjoy the benefit of belonging to two well-known institutions (CSIC and UPV). The center has a very active doctorate group that meets monthly, and there are weekly group meetings with seminars to share research and ideas. Finally, INGENIO organizes a series of biannual international doctoral conferences known as the INGENIO PhD Days.

The FI grant will be published in the different institutional webpages of the team members at UVIC-UCC, INGENIO (CSIC-UPV) and UPV/EHU, as well as in other national and international research networks, such as the FES newsletter and the Agroecology Now newsletter.