

THE PROVINCE OF ZARAGOZA, SPAIN

1. SOME FACTS & FIGURES

The province of Zaragoza is in the region of the Aragón, in Spain:

Extension: 17.275 Km²

Population (2015): 956.006 inhabitants

Population density: 55,34 inhabitants/km²

Mountainous municipalities: 25

Disadvantaged municipalities: 171

Population with 65 years and more: 20,41%

Average age: 43,80

Rate of dependence: 53,22%



However:

The provincial capital (Zaragoza) concentrates 664.953 inhabitants:

- 70% of the whole province
- The rest of population (291.053 inhabitants) are distributed in 292 municipalities, so:
 - Its population density is only 17,86 inhabitants/km²
 - The distribution of municipalities and population is like this:

0-100 inhabitants	68
100-500 inhabitants	133
500-1.000 inhabitants	29
1.000-25.000 inhabitants	50
> 25.000 inhabitants	12
TOTAL	293

GDP (2013 is the last years with official data):

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Province of Zaragoza	24.928.184	23.942.296	24.134.580	23.981.485	23.919.114	23.492.552

Agriculture, which is dominated by dry farming, it represents the 2,8% of the provincial Gross Value Added (aprox. 1.200 million Euro), and the 4,6% of the working population of the province. Agriculture is suffering a progressive reduction of the employment, an ageing of the working population and a low rate of female workers.

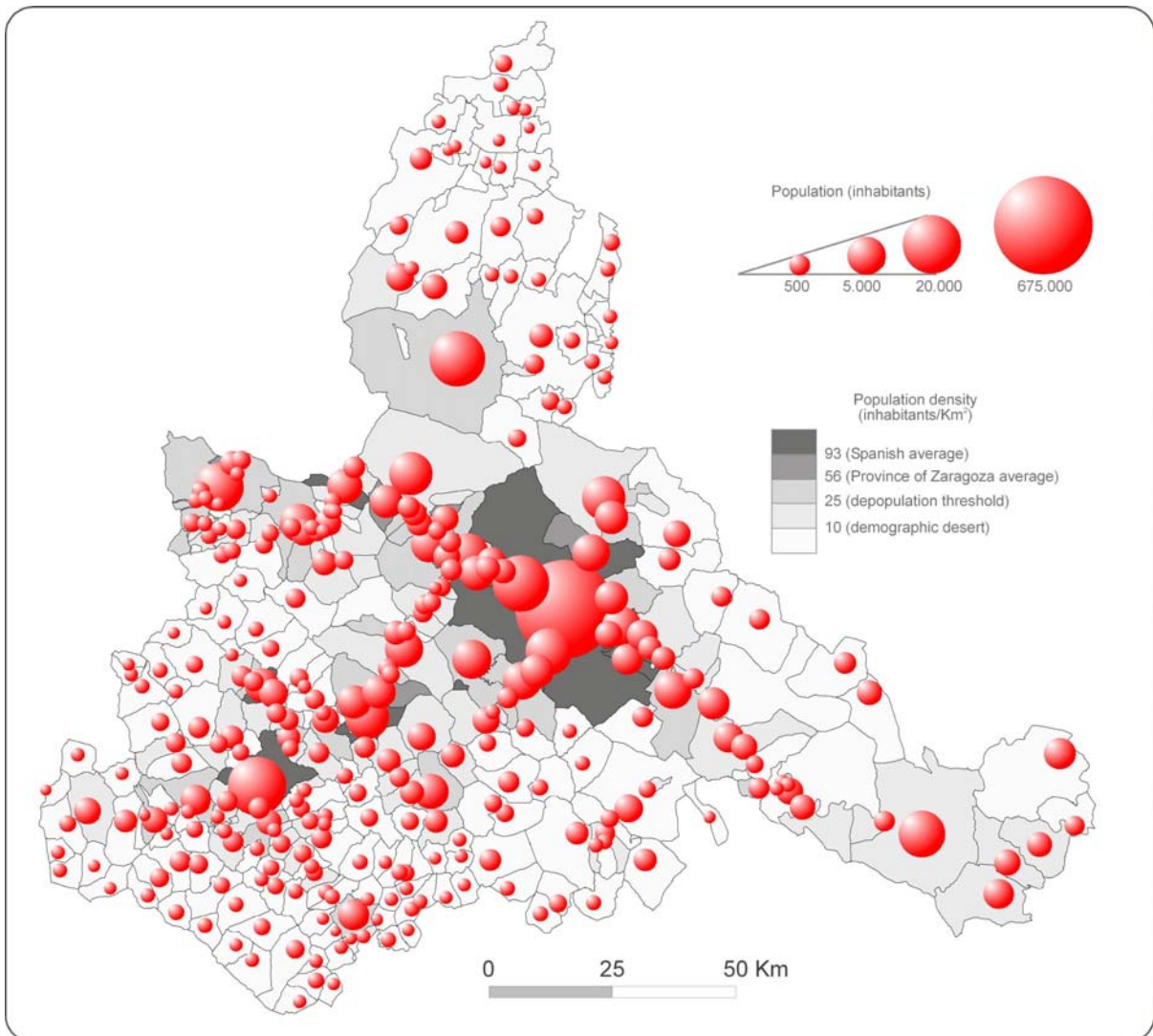
Industry, which represents 23,2% of Gross Value Added, is dominated by an Opel factory at Figueruelas (at 28 kilometres from Zaragoza city) that produces Opel Corsa and Meriva, and it has approximately 8.000 employees. Apart from this factory, the automotive sector is very important due to the suppliers and the R&D activities.

Services, dominated by commerce and high-tech services, represent 61,5% of Gross Value Added. Energy (1,5%) and construction (11%) complete the Gross Value Added distribution.

In spite of its decreasing, agriculture has been a traditional activity in our province: vegetables, fruits in our "market gardens" and fields have left their footprint in the territory. In fact, Zaragoza city has one of the most important vegetable distributors of Spain, MERCAZARAGOZA, connected by train with Barcelona's port.

This is one of the most important effects of the logistic ability of the city, and the province, as PLAZA, with 1.300 hectares for logistics use in the outskirts of Zaragoza city.

Population map:



2. WHICH ARE THE COMPETENCES OF DPZ?

Diputación Provincial de Zaragoza (DPZ) is the provincial Government of the province. Its general purpose is to provide legal, economical and technical help and co-operation to the municipalities, specially to those with lower economical and management abilities.

- Cooperation to establish the compulsory municipal services to guarantee their comprehensive and accurate provision, in the province territory overall
- To give legal, economic and technical aid to the municipalities and to other local entities

- To give those public services with supramunicipal nature, when its management doesn't correspond to counties, or it doesn't be assumed by an association of municipalities
- Overall, the promotion and administration of the province particular interests
- Whatever else attributed by Laws
- Employment promotion

3. DPZ EXPERIENCE IN EUROPEAN PROJECTS

Project: Camal. Programme: Equal

Partners: The partnership formed for Camal project was called "Zaragoza Rural" and consisted of 15 entities of different nature: government authorities, public institutions, trade unions, employers' federations, NGO, etc.

Objective: socio-professional integration of groups with special difficulties in accessing the labor market in the province of Zaragoza.

Project: Mosaico. Programme: Equal

Partners: The partnership formed for Camal project was called "Zaragoza Rural" and consisted of 15 entities of different nature: government authorities, public institutions, trade unions, employers' federations, NGO, etc.

Objective: Reconciling family and professional life and reintegrate men and women who have left the labor market by developing more flexible and effective forms of work organization and support services.

Project: NOW. Programme: NOW New Opportunities for Women

Objective: to promote women's entrepreneurship in the county of Tarazona y el Moncayo.

Project: Pacte

Partners: Led by DPZ, the partners were from Spain, France, Ireland and Greece.

Objective: To create a network of European Cistercian monasteries in order to promote joint tourism route.

Project: Patres. Programme: Intelligent Energy Europe

Partners: DPZ is a associated partner of the partner CIRCE, Research Center for Energy Resources and Consumption of the University of Zaragoza. The other partners are from Austria, Czech Republic, Croatia, Estonia, Italy and Romania.

Objective: The objective of the project is to support PATRES local authorities, utility companies and social housing agencies in the implementation of the obligations of the standards of energy from renewable sources (solar energy for heating and cooling, biomass , geothermal and photovoltaic) in its regulations and building codes for new and renovated buildings. The second objective of the project is to support local authorities, public services and social housing agencies in improving public procurement (in relation to the Renewables) for its facilities and social housing. The third objective of the project is to support local authorities in participating in the Covenant of Mayors, especially smaller municipalities that lack the technical expertise to develop an Action Plan for Sustainable Energy.

Project: PolyMETREXplus II. Programme: Interreg IIIC South

Partners: The project was led by METREX, the Network of European Metropolitan Regions and Areas, which the DPZ is a founding member, and the Department of Territorial Policy and Public Works of the Generalitat de Catalunya, and 16 METREX members.

Objective: To contribute to effective polycentric relationships based on complementarity and cooperation, the objective of territorial cohesion of the European Convention and the objective of the SDEC (Scheme European Spatial Development Perspective) of a balanced and sustainable development of the EU, and sustain Interreg IIIC order to improve the effectiveness of policies and instruments for regional development and

cohesion by creating a framework for a polycentric metropolitan Europe, an action plan attached to it and a study of polycentric practices derived from a representative interregional program put network (RINA).

Project: Twister. Programme: VI Framework Programme

Partner countries: Greece, France, Malta and Poland

Objective: To exploit the potential of the Internet to improve access of rural population to all amenities. The e-administration and e-government resume aspects such as electronic voting and the possibility of obtaining certificates and official documents without leaving home.

Project: RURACT (Revaluating RURal areas in Europe through the development of social farming ACTivities). Programme: Europe for Citizens (from January 2014 to December 2016)

Partners: Molise Region (Lead Partner), Municipality of Agia (Greece), Association of municipalities in the Republic of Croatia, Municipality of Kanjža (Serbia), Gobierno de Extremadura (Spain), Comarca Comunidad de Calatayud (Spain), Municipality of Berovo (Macedonia), Municipality of Potenza (Italy), Association of Danube river municipalities (Bulgaria), Dubrovnik Neretra County (Croatia), Diputación Provincial de Zaragoza (Spain), Foundation Tarragona 2017 (Spain), Municipality of Moglia (Macedonia), Municipality of Shkoder (Albania) and Municipality of Konispol (Albania).

Objective: The creation of a network of towns to implement social, cultural and economic synergies, to better face common challenges related to the revaluation of rural areas through the development of social farming businesses as a criteria of sustainability and solidarity.

Web: <http://www.ruract.it>

Project: Global Schools: EYD 2015 to embed Global Learning in primary education. Programme: EuropeAid (from April 2015 to March 2018).

Partners: Land Tyrol and Vienna City (Austria), Sofia Municipality (Bulgaria), Moravian-Silesian Region (Czech Republic), Nord-Pas-de-Calais Region (France), Leinster & Munster Regions (Ireland), Trentino Province (Lead Partner) and Marche Region (Italy), Rezekne Municipality (Latvia),

Municipality of Viana do Castelo (Portugal) Diputación Provincial de Zaragoza (Spain) and Cumbria County (United Kingdom – England).


Objectives:

- Global Learning guidelines and case studies that facilitate the integration of Global Learning in primary education curricula developed through multistakeholder processes in 10 EU countries.
- Local networks of trained teachers (multipliers) in 10 EU countries that have the skills, resources and support to embed Global Learning in the curriculum & roll out peer training.
- Increased profile of the EYD (European Year for Development) 2015 and of the post 2015 agenda in schools and in the wider community through an awareness raising strategy.
- Multimedia dissemination strategy that facilitates ongoing sharing of the action's good practices among co-applicants and with external stakeholders.

Project: **SIMPLA** (Sustainable Integrated Multi-sector PLAnning).
Programme: H2020 (from January 2016 to January 2019).

Partners: AREA Science Park (Italy), Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia (Italy), Region Tuscany (Italy), Promoscience (Italy), Diputación Provincial de Zaragoza (Spain), Foundation CIRCE (Spain), Diputación Provincial de Huelva (Spain), Regional Government of Carinthia (Austria), STENUM environmental consultancy and research company Ltd. (Austria), Dobrich Local Agency for Energy Management (Bulgaria), Union of Bulgarian Black Sea Local Authorities (Bulgaria), Regional Energy Agency Kvarner (Croatia), Primorje-Gorski Kotar County (Croatia), Region of Istria (Croatia), Alba Local Energy Agency (Romania) and Alba County Council (Romania).

Objective: to support local authorities in harmonising their SEAPs and SUMPs. The project targets small and medium-sized municipalities with a population between 50.000 and 350.000 inhabitants proposing a four-step approach to foster harmonised planning.



Dedicated training and coaching sessions, based on a sound methodology devised at transnational level, lead to the joint development of sustainable energy and mobility plans.

Web: <http://www.simpla-project.eu/en/>