ABSTRACT
Sustainable Territorial Planning Project of La Sagra County, Toledo (Spain)

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The dynamics of economy, demography and territory in the last decade have shown that traditional planning instruments are not enough to sort the processes of large-scale transformation of the territory. The need for a new approach to urban and territorial planning is a reality not only in Castilla-La Mancha, but throughout Spain and the rest of Europe. That is why the region of Castilla-La Mancha is concerned with the importance of raising a new growth model in order to turn the region into a territory of reference in the group of the most developed regions in Europe.
The Regional Office of Planning is the General Directorate of Territorial Planning as part of their land-use planning powers, with the specific role of defining the spatial strategy in the region as well as the implementation of policies and Planning management tools.

The Management Plan and Territorial Development of La Sagra is set to another document within the Spatial plan of Castilla-La Mancha. This document, along with the rest of the regional plans that are integrated within the POT of Castilla-La Mancha, defines the strategy of balanced development and is focused on achieving three key objectives of regional policy:

- **Economic sustainability**, promoting the competitive development of the whole territory through the redistribution of assets through balanced planning of land uses, development and effective management of resources as well as the development and improvement of transport infrastructures.
• **Social sustainability** through social cohesion and integration of the territory, which evolves and develops solidarity and equal growing conditions, in order to integrate and respect the cultural and natural environment by providing better quality of life for citizens.

• **Environmental sustainability**, harmonizing the requirements of economic and social development with the preservation and improvement of urban and natural environment.

Management plans get the territorial merging towards the future development, enhancing the competitiveness of the territory and ensuring the protection of the open spaces network, without stopping plot development in urban areas. Nevertheless the value of the full economic potential and progress in this territory, is more compatible with cautious and creative management of the environment, agriculture, landscape and cultural heritage of the region, allowing public enjoyment of its land and improving the quality of life of those who dwell there.
La Sagra has suffered a significant transformation during the last years, both in terms of economic and social improvements. The accessibility between the network nodes has brought new expectations, generating improvement projects in transport infrastructures arising in the horizon of the year 2010, to make this territory one of the most interesting of the region.

In order to keep in mind the last changes in the territory, this document corresponds to the analytic and propositional phase executed for La Sagra county, with the aim of developing a Spatial Plan of the region. At this stage we have now completed a proper document, aiming at providing fundamental support for future land use planning.

This document is divided in four parts, as following:
1º Diagnosis:
Based on the analysis of the county’s main variables as a general overall of the territory and the key to future projections.

2º Proposal:
To create a territorial model that holds the intervention lines in the frame of the sustainable territorial planning.

3º Civic participation:
Compilation of surveys as source of information during the analysis works.

4º Cartography:
Collection of maps as summary basis for the plan and its future application.
Those volumes are referred to four related action programs in a **Synergies Box** that creates a source of different solutions to these problems. The programs are:

- **PROGRAM 1: ENVIRONMENTAL AND CULTURAL ASPECTS**

  They will allow municipalities development in environmental and cultural quality fighting against the problems of agricultural land loss, quick exploitation of resources, loss of habitats and species and the disruption of heritage, landscape, archeological elements.

- **PROGRAM 2: ORDER OF TERRITORIAL STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONAL EFFICIENCY**

  Its aim is to consolidate a system capable of establishing settlements in the territory in a balanced manner to adapt the requirements of infrastructure and equipment of the different municipalities, contributing to the implementation of sustainable measures to combat the current diseconomies.
• **PROGRAM 3: TERRITORIAL COMPETITIVENESS AND INNOVATION**

It establishes a dynamic knowledge-based economy identified at regional level, taking advantage of the proximity to the metropolitan area of Madrid and the city of Toledo to set up new lines of development and promotion for the consolidation of the previously existing lines.

• **PROGRAM 4: MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING PLAN**

To seek how to consolidate an entity capable of coordinating and implementing the several proposals in the plan, as well as strengthen the local character, developing the civic participation and investment, by promoting public and private sector, necessary for the realization of the proposals and plan strategies.