

Press Release

70 municipalities in 24 provinces and nine autonomous communities seek new residents in the second edition of Holapueblo

- The project, promoted by Red Eléctrica Group, Correos (the Spanish postal service) and Alma-Natura, encourages the repopulation of rural areas by matching people who wish to settle and to start a business in a rural location with depopulated municipalities
- The 70 municipalites belong to the provinces of Almería, Huelva, Málaga, Seville, Huesca, Teruel, Zaragoza, Cantabria, Albacete, Ciudad Real, Cuenca, Guadalajara, Burgos, Palencia, Salamanca, Soria, Zamora, Castellón, Valencia, Badajoz, Cáceres, Lugo, Ourense and Navarre

4 March 2021

A total of 70 municipalities from 24 provinces and nine autonomous communities will be participating in the second edition of <u>Holapueblo</u>, a project by Red Eléctrica Group, Correos and AlmaNatura to drive the repopulation of rural areas by matching villages looking for new residents with people who are looking for a change of life style while starting up a business venture and settling there.

"Holapueblo takes new dwellers to the rural environment, fosters the development of environmentallysustainable businesses, generates a positive impact on rural communities and revives the territory's economic activity", says Antonio Calvo Roy, Sustainability Manager at Red Eléctrica Group.

Registration for municipalities has been open to the whole of Spain and, after analysing 112 applications, 70 municipalities have been chosen. Selection has been based on criteria considered to be the most important by those wishing to live and set up business in a rural environment, such as having a good internet connection, a choice of housing, a doctor's surgery and educational centres, among others.

The municipalities are located in Andalucía (Almería, Huelva, Málaga and Seville), Aragón (Huesca, Teruel and Zaragoza), Cantabria, Castilla- La Mancha (Albacete, Ciudad Real, Cuenca and Guadalajara), Castilla y León (Burgos, Palencia, Salamanca, Soria and Zamora), Comunidad Valenciana (Castellón and Valencia), Extremadura (Badajoz and Cáceres), Galicia (Lugo and Ourense) and Navarre. *Full list below*.

In order for possible new residents and entrepreneurs to get to know the municipalities, Holapueblo will publish a technical data sheet and a photographic report of each location on its website, www.holapueblo.com, and will carry out several promotional campaigns.

The enrolment period is now open for people who have entrepreneurial idea and are interested in settling in a rural environment, and can be done at Holapueblo.com. 35 entrepreneurs will be selected and will be given access to an individualised mentoring process aimed at developing their business idea, will be accompanied in their search to find a municipality, and will be provided with relevant information and put into direct contact with municipalities that are compatible with their personal and professional needs.

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The first edition of Holapueblo, which was launched as a pilot project, helped a total of 30 people. Below are a few of the businesses that started up:

- Esencias Yvy. Antonio Ponce and Marta Luz Pinto, from Seville and Paraguay respectively, have moved to La Sotonera (Huesca) and are running Esencias Yvy, a business based on the cultivation of medicinal plants and subsequent extraction of essential oils.
- Artiga Partners. Héctor Sanmiguel and his partner have settled in La Sotonera (Huesca) and are
 on the verge of launching an advice bureau to give support to projects and companies related to
 mountains, natural resources and sport, at any stage and in the long term.
- AGRO Regenerativa. Arturo Ferrer and his family have settled in La Sotonera (Huesca), where they
 have started up a project to manage a farm where they are recuperating the land's natural fertility,
 a service that, by implementing regenerative agricultural techniques, ensures that farms
 minimise their inputs and produce high quality food.
- El Huerto de Ignacio. Ignacio Morillo was living in his home town of Esplús (Huesca), and through Holapueblo has received support to continue increasing his business services, namely farming vegetables combining traditional and modern techniques.
- Nuvo. Emmanuel Gatti has settled in Sasamón (Burgos), and is preparing to launch Nuvo, a leisure
 innovation start-up. Over the next few months he hopes to welcome the rest of his team who will
 also be moving to the municipality.
- Gafasván. Daniel Paniagua and his family were living in Mayorga (Valladolid) and at Holapueblo we
 have given him support in developing an itinerant optician's business that provides services to
 several municipalities in Tierra de Campos, including Velilla and Villarramiel.
- PlanB ResiduoCero. Elena Sáiz and her partner Emilio have settled in Tragacete (Cuenca), where they both manage their online product sales businesses. Elena has started up PlanB ResiduoCero, where she sells zero waste products. Emilio markets historical recreation pieces through his website, Northern Traders.





II edición: 70 municipios, 24 provincias, 9 CCAA

Andalucía

Andalucia
Almeria: Abrucena
Huelva: Paymogo, Santa Ana La Real,
Higuera de la Sierra, Cabezas Rubias,
Cañaveral de León, Corteconcepción, Puerto
Moral, Arroyomolinos de León
Malaga: Benarrabá, Genalguacil, Jubrique,
Júzcar

Aragón Huesca: Esplús, Fonz, Lalueza, Peñalba Teruel: Gea de Abarracín, Martin del Rio,

Zaragoza: Bureta, Layana, Uncastillo

Cantabria: Campoo de Yuso

Castilla- La Mancha
Albacete: Ayna
Ciudad Real: Almedina, El Hoyo-Mestanza,
San Benito
Cuenca: Cardente, Castillo de Garcimuñoz,
Cervera del Llano, Hira, Salvacañete, Santa
Mf del Campo Rus, Torrejoncillo del Rey,
Tragacete, Vara de Rey
Guadalajara: Albalate de Zorita, Alcocer,
Congostrina, Madayona, Trillo, Villanueva
de Alcorón

Castilla y León
Burgos: Belorado, Cerezo de Rio Tirón, Poza
de la Sal, Rabé de las Calzadas, Sasamón,
Valle de Sedano, Villadiego
Palencia: Villarramiel
Salamanca: Aldea del Obispo
Soria: Berlanga de Duero, Castillejo de
Robledo

Robledo Zamora: Santibáñez de Vidriales, Villavendimio

Comunidad Valenciana

Castellón: Almedijar, Castellnovo, Caudiel, Geldo, Sot de Ferrer Valencia: Alpuente

Extremadura Badajoz: Bodonal de la Sierra, Valencia del Mombuey, Valle de Matamoros Cáceres: La Pesga

Galicia

Lugo: Concello de Bóveda Ourense: Parada de Sil

Comunidad Foral de Navarra Navarra: Bargota





