



This workshop was conformed by different experts from diverse areas committed to the rural territories:

Moderator: Soledad Iglesias Vega.

#### Panel Discussants

- Sonia Puente Landázuri  
General Director of Regional Planning in Asturias Government
- Juan Urquiola  
Co-founder of Ras de Terra and New European Bauhaus Ambassadors
- Trinidad Suárez Rico  
"Breaking distances" Programme in Taramundi" and the movement "Age-friendly cities"
- José Feliciano Tato Budiño  
Sociologist from the General Direction of Community Health
- José Ramón Puerto Álvarez  
Chairman in Asturias Architect's college.
- Almudena Cueto Alonso  
Quiquiricu Social Innovation Advisors and gender expert

#### Coordinators Team:

Luigi A Dell'Aquila from EULABTEC

Besides the discussants in the room there were 32 people attending on line.



In his videoconference, Juan Urquiola, NEB Ambassador, talked us about the project Ras de Terra , carried out by him as a founder partner and 14 more partners, in the meadow of Gredos in Villanueva de la Vera, a rural area in Cáceres province.

ras de terra

Ras de Terra is a dynamic and versatile initiative that unites agriculture and art.

They have breathed a second life into old abandoned drying tobacco barn turning it into a centre of creation and for supporting artists and innovators.

Official Partner of New  
European Bauhaus EU



Since inception, Ras de Terra has counted on the support and work of local professionals. They have helped restore the architectural structures on the property, construct new spaces and cultivate the land.

The complex relies on solar energy, helping achieve the initiative's zero-impact goals, while blending into the natural landscape, architecture and local traditions that surround it.

Objectives:

- To sustainably support the local community through cultural and agricultural projects.
- To create a zero-impact initiative that is self-sufficient and rehabilitates and revitalizes the local agricultural and architectural structures.
- To foster a social and cultural interchange by hosting multidisciplinary artists from a wide range of backgrounds.
- To engage in an innovative and creative dialogue inspired by the local nature, history and culture.

Currently there are a lot of initiatives in the same line in Spain, with the same

Main ideas:

Naturalism instead of humanism; human as a part of nature. We should put the focus on nature.

Sustainability depends on collective action.

Transmission of tradition from the older to the Youth, mainly related to agriculture and hand-making.

Promotion of intergenerational initiatives in the rural area.

Education is for maximising our chances of reaching a sustainable future, also the way to transfer knowledge from older people to Young people. Training children in skills adapted for local activities is another of the measures being implemented as a long-term investment.

Culture is the main tool to deal with depopulation

A key step is the transformation of the building sector into a circular model that can also counteract the escalating climate crisis

Emphasising the positive characteristics of rural regions