

Espigoladors

Gleaners: From imperfect fruits and vegetables, second opportunities grow.

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espigoladors

imperfect

The social problem

A social challenge of big magnitudes

We face a triple problem:

Food waste

- Spain: 6th country of the EU with the higher amount of food wasted.
- 88 million tonnes of food are wasted annually in the EU.
- European costs of food waste: 143 billion €.
- Food waste exacerbates food insecurity and malnutrition.
- 3,3 Gt of food are wasted globally, which represents the 3rd country with most GHG emissions worldwide.

Food insecurity

- 28% of the Spanish population are at risk of poverty, which represents approximately 13 million people.
- EU-28: 118 million people or 23.5% at risk of poverty, the target for 2020 is to reduce it to 96,1.
- Poverty is linked with food insecurity and often leads to obesity. Young people are deeply affected by this.

Lack of opportunities

- Youth unemployment rate is 33.8% in Spain, European average 16.8%.
- The most vulnerable sector is at ages from 16 to 19, with a 54.54% rate.
- Spain recorded in 2013 the highest dropout rate in the EU, higher in minority groups.
- High unemployment rate in women above 45 years old.



Our purpose

Main goal and objectives of the project

Main goal

Espigoladors is a non-profit foundation that fights food waste while empowering people at vulnerability situation in a transformative, participatory and inclusive way.

The initiative is born in 2014 in Barcelona, Spain, with a triple objective:



1

Solve the problem of food waste and try to make it **disappear**.



2

Guarantee access to a healthy and nutritious diet for all people who are in a vulnerable situation.

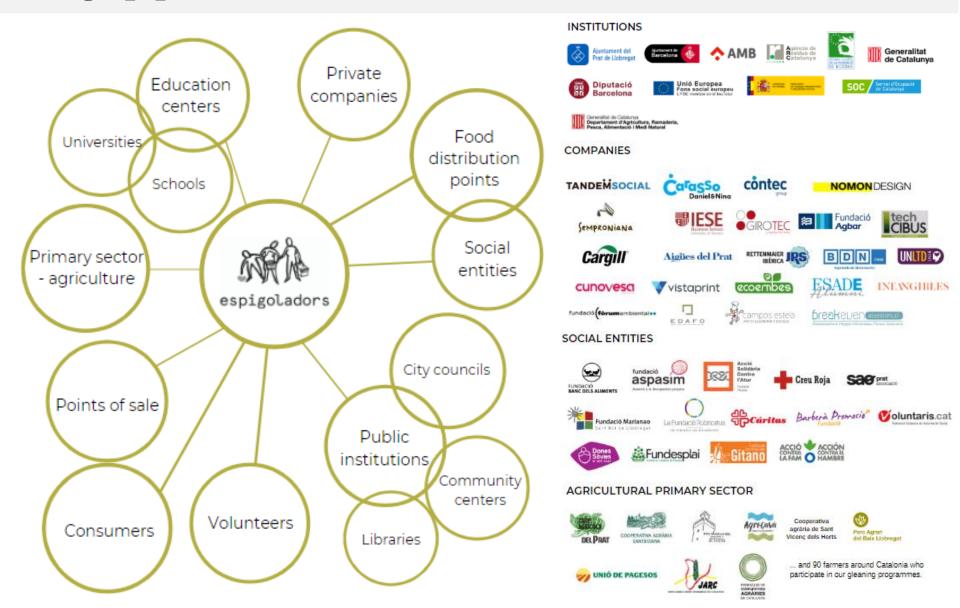


3

Empower people in risk of social exclusion.

Our network

Target population and stakeholders

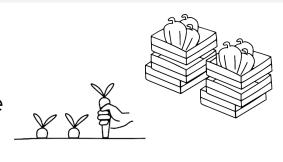


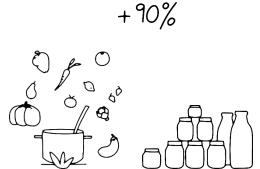
How we operate

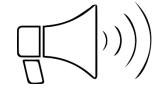
Main activities and model

Model

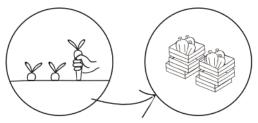
- **Gleaning:** we harvest fresh produce that otherwise would be wasted directly from the farmer's fields with groups of volunteers.
- Donation: we deliver 90% of all the food collected to social entities in order to contribute to a healthy diet for people at vulnerability situation.
- **Transformation:** with the 10% left we make natural preserves under the brand es im-perfect®, while giving job opportunities to people at vulnerability situation.
- Awareness: we build a systemic change in the fight against food waste starting with the youngsters.







Linking activities with outcomes



We collect fruits and vegetables that do not follow aesthetic standards for commercialization... or surplus produce that comes directly from farmers' fields and wholesale distribution...



...we deliver them
to food banks,
enhancing healthy
nutrition for people
in vulnerability
situation



...what is already
left over, we transform
those veggies into
naturaland artisanal
preserves under the brand
es im-perfect®



Jams, creams, pâtés, sauces... 100% quality, 100% social and environmental impact.



We create
a citizen movement
through sensibilization,
transforming
upcoming generations
to not waste food.



















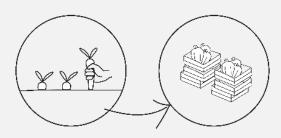






Gleaning

Primary sector action



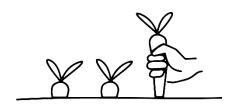


Linking activities with outcomes

GLEANING

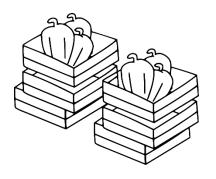


Reduction of food waste Awareness about responsible and local consumption





Reduction of the GHG emissions and the water footprint of food wastage



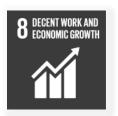


Physical activity for volunteers in contact with nature enhances their well-being













Donation

Promoting the right to a healthy diet



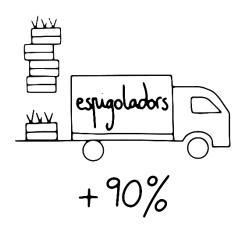


Linking activities with outcomes

DONATION



Giving access to healthy and proper food for people in vulnerable situation



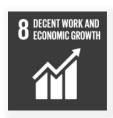


Training about healthy food and efficient cooking for food banks users



Reducing food insecurity for vulnerable groups and securing the universal access to food





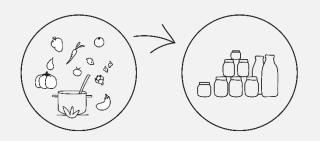






Transformation

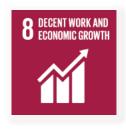
Food Waste Innovation Lab



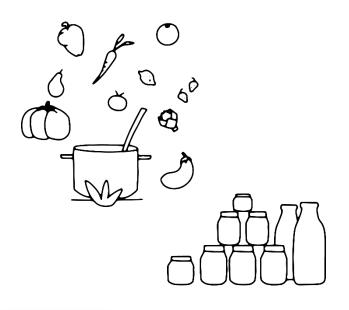


Linking activities with outcomes

TRANSFORMATION



Decent labour conditions
Salary ratio under 1.5
Training and job opportunities with local impact to the community





Employment for people in vulnerable situation. Unemployment gap reduction. Soft skills and autonomy to promote their professional career and enhance their well-being



Introducing a product with social value in the market











Awareness raising

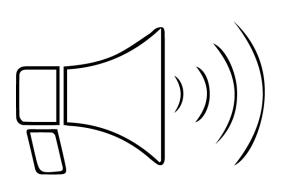
Young people can change the world





Linking activities with outcomes

AWARENESS





Education through values
Children and youngsters implication
in real challenges
Empowerment of people in
vulnerable situation



Awareness about food waste, responsible consumption, healthy food and food saving culture



Intercooperation Network working Projects with other entities











Measuring our impact to reach the SDG

The evaluation

670 Tonnes of recovered food



822

Awareness rising actions



313

Tonnes of CO₂ avoided emmissions



21 Employees



409

Millions of liters of water saved



2.061.048

Food portions served



(300 g)

2.790

Participants in gleaning



180

ES IM-PERFECT® Points of sale



95 Commited farmers and distributors



481.000€

Activities' income from year 2018



Sustainability

Institutionalization of the practice

- Recovered an ancient practice (gleaning) and repurpose it as a tool of awareness rising and social dinamisation
- Impulsed the Catalan law of Food Waste in which the activity of gleaning will be recognized and defined
- Construction of a "Good practices guidelines for a safe gleaning" in collaboration with Agricultural Department of Catalonia
- Started prospecting other replication areas in Spain



Possible barriers

Challenges and how they were overcome

- Funding: the initiative
 has been launched from
 almost zero investment,
 its speed depends on the
 injection of money.
 Grants and similar
 projects allowed to grow.
- Gleaning: new activity in Spain, very sensitive in the primary sector.
 Overcome by the professionality and giving guarantees and trust to the farmers.



Lessons learned

Success factors

- Team consolidation through trust and empowerment
- Professionalization of the team and the practice
- Networking and establishment of key partnerships
- Indicators driven: show expansion capacity, social and environmental value added
- Resilience: adaptation to changes allows evolution and take new opportunities





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