GOBIERNO DE ESPAÑA
MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA Y ALIMENTACIÓN
SECRETARÍA GENERAL DE AGRICULTURA Y ALIMENTACIÓN
FONDO ESPAÑOL DE GARANTÍA AGRARIA O.A.

Identifying, Preventing and Prosecuting Fraud and Irregularities in the Agricultural Sector: the Role of High-Tech and Remote Sensing Technologies

Spanish approach

International Conference - Standing Up To State Capture: Innovative Methods to Investigate Fraud and Corruption in EU Funding For Agriculture
14 September 2018

Spanish Agricultural Guarantee Fund

FEGA

Fondo Español de Garantía Agraria

First of all…

SPAIN IS DIFFERENT

WHY?

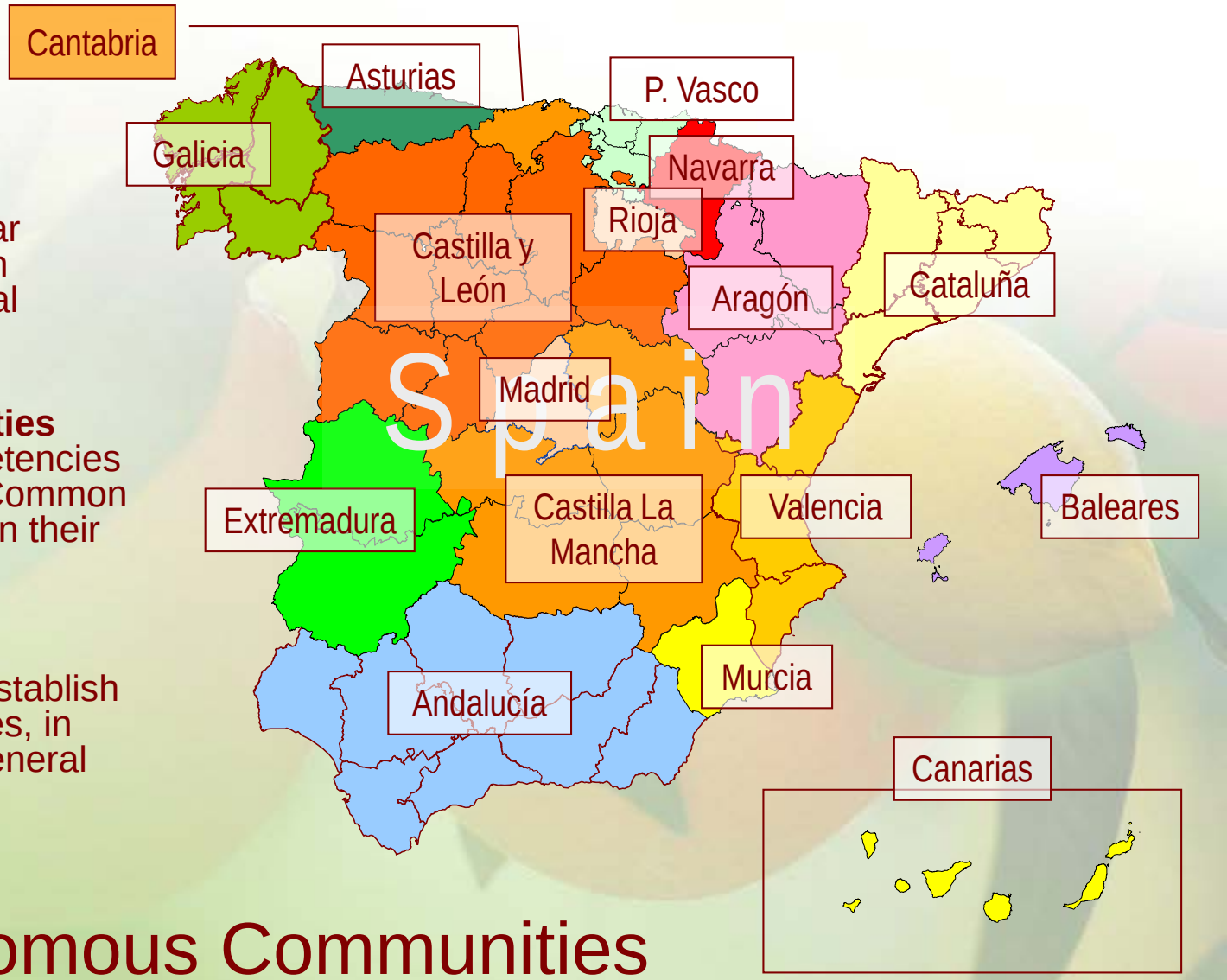
FEGA

Spanish administrative structure

Spain is a **decentralised** country, with a clear distinction between regional and central competencies.

Autonomous Communities have plenty competencies to implement the Common Agriculture Policy in their territories.

The **Member States** has competencies to establish basic common rules, in the frame of the general economic policy.



17 Autonomous Communities

Where a Member State accredits more than one paying agency, must also designate a single coordinating body with the following tasks:

- collecting and sending the information to be made available to the Commission;
- promoting harmonised application of the Community rules.
- coordinating anti-fraud prevention and fight with other PA´s and external bodys.

This role in Spain is played by the Spanish Agriculture Guarantee Fund (SAGF). In spanish, we are called FEGA (Fondo Español de Garantía Agraria).

F E G A

Facts: Fraud likelihood

"Simple" controls

"Complex" controls

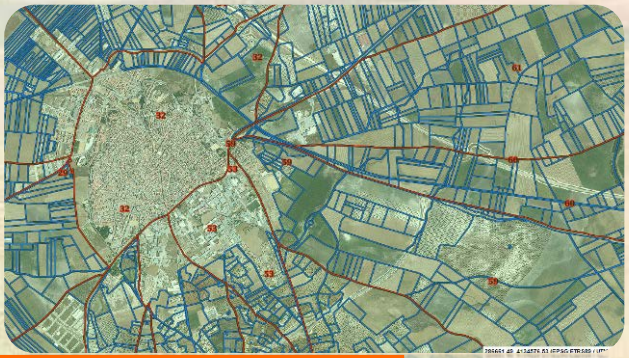
FEGA

Area Direct payments:
IACS/ LPIS

EAFRD: Investments
Proyects

LPIS in Spain: Geographic Information System

Information System capable of integrating, storing, editing, analysing and showing geographical information, associated to a territory, crossing maps with databases



F E G A

CAP Spanish LPIS

- **The CAP Spanish LPIS (called SIGPAC)** is the main tool for the spanish ACP management

- **SIGPAC goals:**
  - Identifying parcels and lands for the payments.
  - Help farmers in claim submiting
  - Ease administrative controls for government

- This systems covers the whole national territory (506.000 km²)

SIGPAC basics

LPIS: Geo-tagged graphic elements, associated to alphanumerical data

GRAPHIC INFORMATION:
Ground traits

IMAGES

CARTOGRAPHY

ALPHANUMERICAL INFORMATION:
Spacial elements factors

SPACIAL DATABASE:
Incluiding graphic and alphanumerical related information

FEGA

Checks by monitoring: the model

LPIS of good quality
GSAA in place
Effective retro-active recoveries

Checks by monitoring
(substituting OTSC)

Assurance on the size of the land to be paid

Assurance on activities on claimed land

- Focus on prevention (alerts to farmers)
- Increased compliance
- Reduction of inspections in the field (in most cases no visits to the field necessary)
- Increase in efficiency of controls due to the automated nature of the approach

Traditional controls vs monitoring controls

- Different approach
- Traditional controls :
  - It looks for error detection in the beneficiary´s claims → Outcome: penalties or reductions
  - Too focused on finding small non-admisible lands, with low- economic impact
  - Sample selection is complex for the PA´s: high cost in time and resources.
  - CB´s controls and auditing work is carried out later
- Monitoring controls:
  - Preventing and continuing approach: Early Alarm-system to avoid error. Farmers are helped to make proper claims for the aid schemes, or even not submit them (claimless system).
  - No sample selection . No measuring. No tolerance. No Field-checks.

PREVENTION IS THE BEST TOOL FOR ANY ANTI-FRAUD SYSTEM

Regulation(EU) nº 2018/746

- It allows Member States to carry out checks by monitoring.

  They shall set up a procedure of regular and systematic observation, tracking and assessment of all eligibility criteria, commitments and other obligations which can be monitored by **Copernicus Sentinels satellite data** or other data with at least equivalent value.

- All eligibility criteria, commitments and other obligations for which Sentinels satellite data and/or other data with at least equivalent value provide information that is relevant to conclude on the eligibility of the aid or support requested, regardless of specific cases where the information does not provide conclusive results because of e.g. the size/shape of parcels or absence of technical solutions developed to process/assess data, are considered as monitorable.

FEGA

Monitoring basics

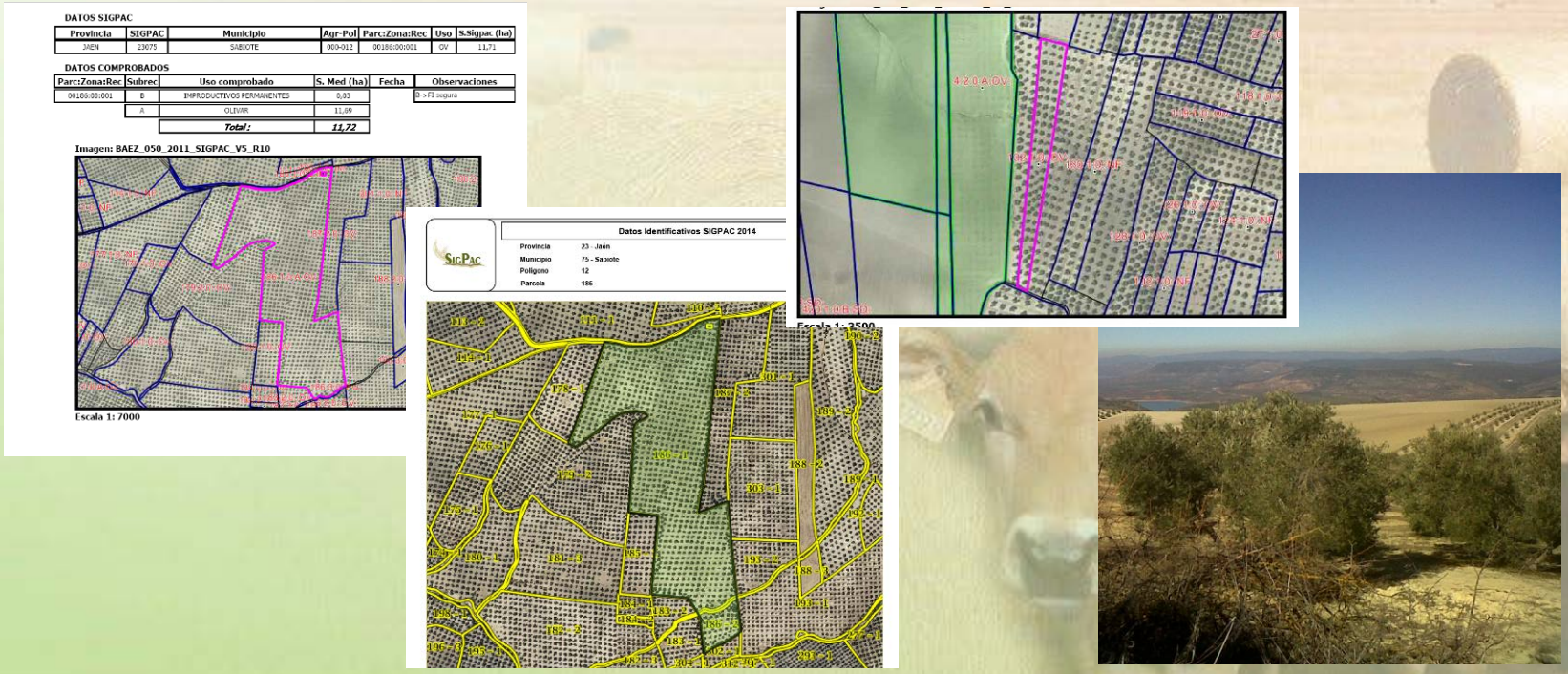
- LAND PARCELS ACTIVITY CHECKING
- Sentinel Images, along with other data requested by PA´s, must check farmer activities, according to admisbility criteria→ all is implemented by automatic procedures
- More important, monitoring controls are based in prevention, aligning the management with an effective antifraud prevention system

FEGA

Using LPIS in antifraud prevention and fight (I)

Checking admissibility, e.g. EAFRD IACS Ecological Agriculture

- Minimum farming area required to access the aid scheme
- Checking the right crops in the land



Using LPIS in antifraud prevention and fight (II)

EAFRD IACS Mountain area vs Non-mountain area

DATOS SIGPAC

Provincia	SIGPAC	Municipio	Agr-Pol	Parc:Zona:Rec	Uso	S.Sigpac (ha)
CORDOBA	14030	FUENTE PALMERA	000-009	00031:00:001	OV	12,94

DATOS COMPROBADOS

Parc:Zona:Rec	Subrec	Uso comprobado	S. Med (ha)	Fecha	Observaciones
00031:00:001	-	OLIVAR	12,94		Contiene elementos estructurales
		Total :	*12,94*		

Imagen: ECIJ_050_2010-2011_SIGPAC_V5_R10

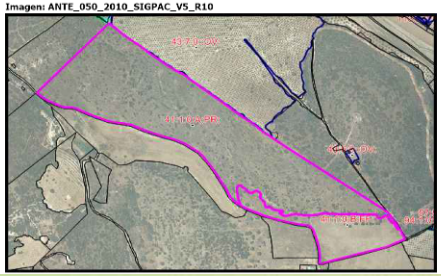
DATOS SIGPAC

Provincia	SIGPAC	Municipio	Agr-Pol	Parc:Zona:Rec	Uso	S.Sigpac (ha)
MALAGA	29015	ANTEQUERA	000-131	00041:00:001	PR	32,71

DATOS COMPROBADOS

Parc:Zona:Rec	Subrec	Uso comprobado	S. Med (ha)	Fecha	Observaciones
00041:00:001	A	PASTO ARBUSTIVO	27,28		A->FI segura;B->Contiene elementos estructurales
	B	SUPERFICIE FORRAJERA	5,44		
		Total :	*32,72*		

Imagen: ANTE_050_2010_SIGPAC_V5_R10



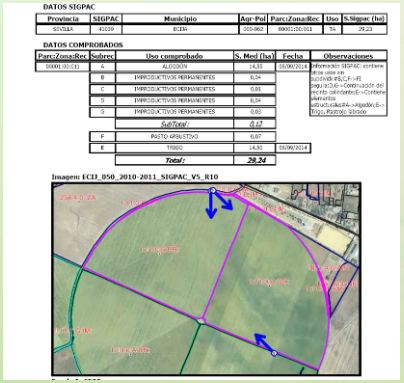
Using LPIS in antifraud prevention and fight (III)

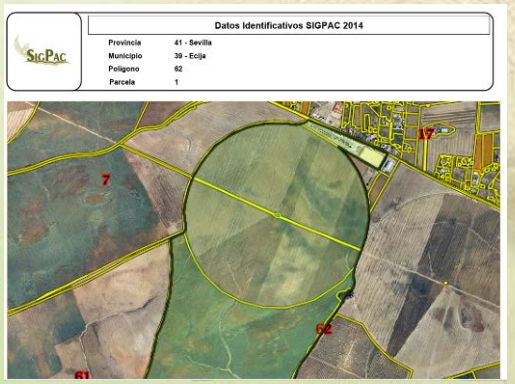
EAGF IACS

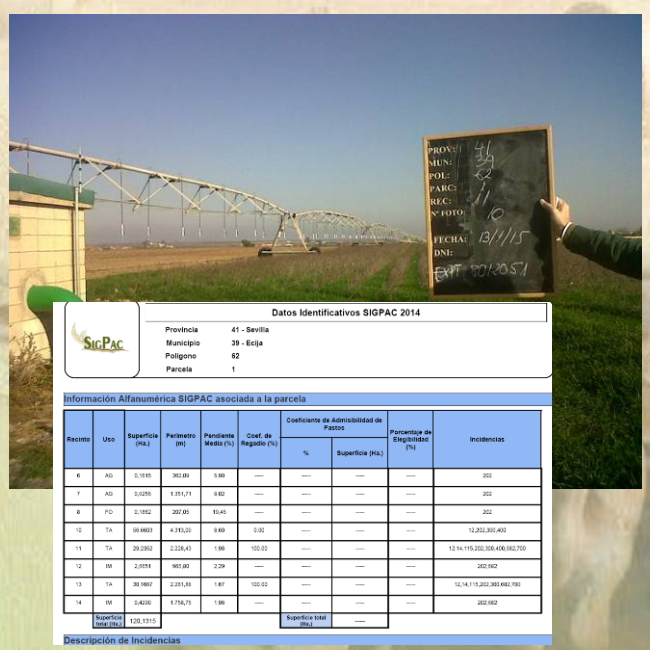
Parcel use compatible with the aid claim

Establishing área / nº of Hectares

Crop- claimed and checked





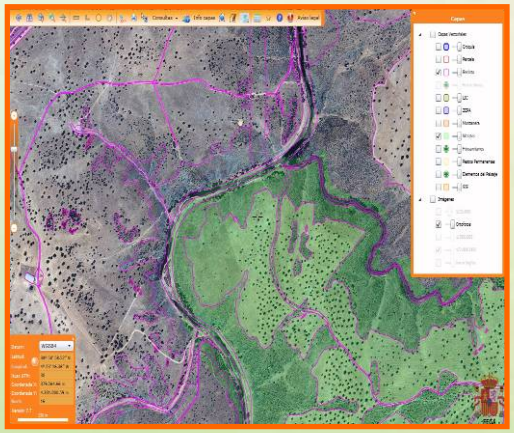


Using LPIS in antifraud prevention and fight (IV)

Checking requirements for Condicionality

The SIGPAC provides, using differents layers of information, the main caractheristics of the farm, the crops, the land, etc.

It makes possible to check every requirement about condicionality (size, use…)



AMBITO DE MEDIO AMBIENTE, CAMBIO CLIMÁTICO Y BUENA CONDICIÓN AGRÍCOLA DE LA TIERRA

REQUISITO LEGAL DE GESTIÓN 1. Directiva 91/676/CEE del Consejo de 12 de diciembre de 1991 sobre protección de las aguas contra la contaminación producida por nitratos procedentes de fuentes agrarias.
Artículos 4 y 5: Cumplimiento de las medidas establecidas en los programas de actuación, en las explotaciones agrícolas y ganaderas situadas en zonas declaradas por la Comunidad Autónoma como zonas vulnerables. Aplicable en Zonas Vulnerables (identificadas mediante la incidencia 202 en el SIGPAC).

Los agricultores deben disponer de registros de los 4 últimos años (2012 a 2015), de fertilización (anual) y/o fertirrigación (mensual) nitrogenada para cada uno de los cultivos que se llevan a cabo, fechas en las que se aplican los fertilizantes, superficie cultivada, tipo de abono, número de albarán, composición del abono y riqueza en nitrógeno, y cantidad de fertilizante aplicado (Kg/ha), aún aunque no se apliquen fertilizantes, y en caso de explotaciones ganaderas intensivas, hoja de utilización estiércoles y purines, correctamente cumplimentados. Además, se deben conservar, junto con los citados registros, las facturas/ albaranes de los fertilizantes nitrogenados utilizados.
Tras la presentación de dicha documentación, se verificará el cumplimiento de los requisitos 3, 4, 5 y 6 del mismo ámbito.

Main concepts

High-Tech and Remote Sensing Technologies are extremely useful in any anti-fraud fight and prevention system

Usually these tools are used in IACS populations, where the fraud probability is low.

Points to be considered:

- Usable by auditors
- Information available in a quick and efficient way
- Easy sample selection in any antifraud control
- No need for field trips
- Allows crossing information with databases
- …BUT…STILL ON PROCCESS…

GOBIERNO DE ESPAÑA
MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA Y ALIMENTACIÓN
SECRETARÍA GENERAL DE AGRICULTURA Y ALIMENTACIÓN
FONDO ESPAÑOL DE GARANTÍA AGRARIA O.A.

Thank you for listening - and for your participation ☺.

Sergio Gomez de Rozas

Internal Audit Unit

Spanish Agricultural Guarantee Fund

E-mail: sgomezro@fega.es