

Women's Green Entrepreneurship and Women's Entrepreneurship in Rural Areas

Executive Summary

March 2023



VICEPRESIDENCIA
TERCERA DEL GOBIERNO

MINISTERIO
PARA LA TRANSICIÓN ECOLÓGICA
Y EL RETO DEMOGRÁFICO

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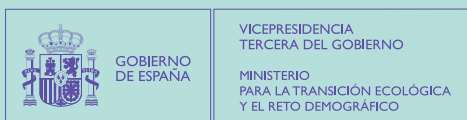
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Executive Summary

The main results on women's green entrepreneurship, women's entrepreneurship in rural areas and the intersection between them, are summarized after a brief introduction to the objectives and methodology of this report. These results refer to Spain as a whole, with some comparisons at regional level and at the level of the European Union (EU-27 group and EU-27 countries).

Following this, a synthesis is presented of the analysis on policies developed by the Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge (MITECO in the Spanish acronym), considering also some organizations attached to it, related to green and/or rural entrepreneurship of women.

Third, the five main recommendations stemming from this report are listed.

Finally, the delimitation made in this report of the green sector, of rural areas and of women entrepreneurship is summarized and the architecture of the system of indicators set up on green and/or rural entrepreneurship of women is presented.

Brief introduction to the objectives and methodology

This report is the result of a project whose ultimate objective is **the development, with a gender approach, of a system of indicators and a database on women's entrepreneurship in the green sector, in rural areas and at the**

intersection of both. Further, the goal is to carry out an in-depth analysis of women's entrepreneurship in green activities and/or in rural areas based on the available data at the national and European Union (EU) levels.

This objective is addressed through a combination of documentary quantitative and qualitative analysis based mostly on secondary (documentary and statistical) and primary (interviews) sources:

- Review of literature on the green economic sector, on rural areas and women's entrepreneurship.
- Review of specialized literature on entrepreneurship with a gender approach.
- Set up of a database of indicators, based on official statistics or reference statistics at national and European level.
- Exploitation of a selection of indicators of the database to analyse green and/or rural women's entrepreneurship.
- Consultation to organizations with knowledge and/or experience in women's entrepreneurship in general, and in the green sector and/or rural areas in particular.

This has resulted in two products: this report and a system of indicators, which has served the purpose to measure and characterize women's entrepreneurship in the green sector, the rural areas and the intersection of both. The system of indicators contains 110 theoretical indicators and the database (available at this [link](#)) contains 83 indicators — those that have been feasible to construct with the available data — presented in tables and graphs.

Women entrepreneurs in green and/or rural activities

Entrepreneurship of women in green activities

Women have a decisive role as agents of change in the ecological transition and in combating territorial depopulation. They are essential to guarantee a more sustainable, egalitarian and inclusive model, in which green entrepreneurship becomes a strategic issue. However, **only one in ten green entrepreneurs in Spain is a woman** ([section 3.1.1](#)).

Based on microdata from the Spanish Labour Force Survey (EPA), it is estimated that **in 2022 there are 56,692 women entrepreneurs in green activities** and 534,595 men, which means that women make up only 9.6% of total green entrepreneurship. Furthermore, **only five out of every hundred businesswomen are engaged in green activities, compared to 26 out of every hundred businessmen**.

In a general context in which in Spain since 2015 the number of entrepreneurs has increased much less than that of salaried employees, the results point to **growing difficulties for women entrepreneurship in green activities**. The number of women entrepreneurs in green activities has decreased by -8.8%, which contrasts with the slight decrease in men entrepreneurs in green activities (-0.2%) and with the increase in female entrepreneurship in other activities (6.3%). **On the other hand, green salaried employment for women is increasing strongly** in Spain (41.3%), more than double the increase in salaried employment for men in these activities (18.8%) and more than double the increase in salaried employment of women in other activities (18.1%).

In the European Union as a whole, Eurostat LFS data shows a negative evolution of female

entrepreneurship between 2015 and 2021, not only in green activities (-13.4%), but also in the rest (-14.3%). However, male entrepreneurship in the EU-27 has increased slightly in green activities (1.7%) and decreased in the rest ([section 3.2.1](#)). **Only eight countries have a significant number of women entrepreneurs in green activities, among which Spain is in the second position in quantity and percentage, behind Italy**. It is estimated that **women green entrepreneurs in the whole of the EU-27** (a total of 310,998 in 2021) **only represent 6.4% of the green business community**.

Catalonia and the Valencian Community are, by far, the autonomous communities with the largest presence of women entrepreneurs in green activities in Spain and account for 36% of all women entrepreneurs in Spain, **followed by the Balearic Islands and Aragon**.

Regarding the personal profile, businesswomen in green activities are somewhat younger than green businessmen, and their education level is higher. **The higher the educational level of green entrepreneurship, the higher the share of women among these entrepreneurs**, a pattern that is also seen in other economic activities. 85% of businesswomen in green activities were born in Spain, and out of the remaining 15%, two thirds were born in European Union countries and the rest in third countries ([section 4.1](#)).

Data regarding the presence of children under 12 years of age and of cohabitants over 74 years of age or with permanent disability, as well as the high incidence of part-time work for reasons related to family responsibilities and for personal reasons, point to **greater difficulties related to conciliation in entrepreneurship in green activities than in the rest**.

Women's entrepreneurship in rural areas

The population registered in rural municipalities in Spain in 2021 amounts to 6,290,724 persons,

which represents 13.3% of total population and is distributed over 73.3% of the territory (measured in km²)¹. The population in rural municipalities has diminished on average by -3.5% between 2016 and 2021, but this decrease is higher (-7.5%) on average in rural municipalities with 100 inhabitants or less. The creation of quality businesses and jobs led by women is key to the socioeconomic and environmental sustainability of rural areas. However, in 2022, **rural women entrepreneurs only represent a third of rural entrepreneurs in Spain**. Likewise, **17 out of every 100 businesswomen in Spain undertake business in rural environments, compared to 19 out of every 100 businessmen**.

The **female entrepreneurship ratio**, that is, the percentage of women entrepreneurs out of total employment, **is significantly higher in rural areas** than in the rest of the municipalities, reflecting the fewer opportunities for salaried work in rural areas: **17.4% of rural women in employment are entrepreneurs**, which compares to 12.2% of employed women in intermediate municipalities and only 10.1% of urban employed women. **However, the differences by sex are more pronounced in rural areas**, suggesting that in these municipalities women find it more difficult to start a business than men ([section 3.1.2](#)).

Almost seven out of ten rural female entrepreneurs (67.6%) are devoted to four activities, according to the national classification of economic activities (NACE): Agriculture, livestock, forestry and fishing (22.3%), Wholesale trade and retail (21.4%), Hospitality (14.8%) and Other services (9.2%). This participation is in all cases, except the first, much lower among rural men entrepreneurs (53.2% in the four activities) and also lower overall among non-rural businesswomen (51.6%).

Four autonomous communities bring together 50% of the rural women entrepreneurs: Galicia (15.7%), Castilla y León (13.3%), Andalusia (10.8%) and Catalonia (10.3%). However, **only in the Basque Country, Galicia and Asturias is there a balanced presence of women and men among their rural entrepreneurs**.

Women entrepreneurs in rural municipalities are somewhat younger and have a higher education level than male entrepreneurs in these municipalities. The **households of these businesswomen** have, on average, fewer children under 12 years of age than those of businesswomen from intermediate or urban municipalities, but more people over 74 years of age or with some permanent disability. 4% of rural women entrepreneurs **were born in other EU-27 countries** and 6% outside the EU ([section 4.1](#)).

Based on the figures from the Eurostat LFS, it is estimated that in the EU-27 there are in 2021 just over three million female entrepreneurs in rural settings (2,978,985), which makes 32.7% of rural entrepreneurship. **Spain (with 33%) is among the six countries above the EU-27 average in terms of the relative presence of women in rural entrepreneurship**, along with Lithuania, Austria, France, Greece and Poland, all of them below the desirable balance of 40%-60% ([section 3.2.2](#)).

In addition, according to data from the *Global Entrepreneurship Monitor*, **almost half of rural women in Spain perceive positively their knowledge and skills to start a business and one in three considers that starting a business in rural areas is easy**. However, rural women consider undertaking an entrepreneurship process to a lesser extent than urban women, although to a similar extent to rural men. Despite this, **the rate of consolidated entrepreneurship**,

1. According to the Integrated Municipal Data System ([SIDAMUN](#)), based on the combination of data from the National Statistics Institute, INE, (population), the National Geographic Institute, IGN, (km²) and Eurostat (identification of rural municipalities based on the degree of urbanization "DEGURBA", which is the same criteria for identifying rural municipalities used in the present study).

that is, the one that has been in the market for more than 3.5 years, is higher among rural women (8.9%) than among urban women (5.6%) and urban men (7.9%), but somewhat lower than among rural men (11%) (section 4.5.).

The entrepreneurship of rural women in green activities

EPA microdata shows that out of 190,698 rural women entrepreneurs in Spain in 2022, only 3% (6,333) are dedicated to green activities. This percentage is lower than that of 50,359 green businesswomen in non-rural municipalities (6% of non-rural businesswomen) and much lower than the 27% represented by the 102,043 rural green businessmen out of the total of 382,061 rural businessmen. In aggregate, only 0.6% of the country's businesswomen are dedicated to green activities in rural areas, compared to 5% of rural businessmen. This also means that only 6 out of 100 rural green entrepreneurs in Spain are women.

These figures give a clear idea of the accumulated difficulties at the intersection of four realities: women, entrepreneurship, rurality and green activities. Although women's and men's entrepreneurship intensifies in rural areas, since they create their own jobs, the gender gap in entrepreneurship in rural municipalities is higher than in non-rural ones, and it widens even more so when referring to green activities: as mentioned, out of every 100 green entrepreneurs in rural municipalities in Spain, only 6 are women (section 3.1.3.).

Rural women entrepreneurs in green activities are somewhat younger than green female entrepreneurs in non-rural municipalities and also younger than rural green male entrepreneurs. They are also better educated than rural and green men entrepreneurs, once again confirming the pattern already observed in the rest of economic activities and municipalities: the higher the educational level of rural green entrepreneurs, the higher

the relative presence of women among these entrepreneurs (section 4.1.).

The conditions of women's entrepreneurship in green and/or rural activities

On average, women entrepreneurs in green activities dedicate more hours a week to this job than women entrepreneurs in other economic activities, although fewer hours than green businessmen. For their part, on average, rural businesswomen dedicate fewer hours per week to their paid work than businesswomen in intermediate or urban municipalities, and also less than businessmen in the three categories of municipalities, but significantly more than salaried women. Finally, female green entrepreneurs in rural areas dedicate fewer hours to this work than female green entrepreneurs in non-rural municipalities, and also less than female rural entrepreneurs in other activities and less than male entrepreneurs (section 4.2.).

18% of businesswomen in green activities work part-time, a rate that is almost five times that of green businessmen (3.7%) and is also higher than part-time businesswomen in other activities (13.5%). The incidence of part-time employment in rural entrepreneurs is 15%, very similar to that of businesswomen in other municipalities, but triples that of rural male entrepreneurs (4.9%). The green-rural intersection sharply accentuates these gaps: almost half of the rural women entrepreneurs in green activities (44%) work part-time, in clear contrast with green women entrepreneurs in non-rural municipalities (14.7%), in other economic activities (14%) and with men entrepreneurs in all categories (always below 5%).

In addition, almost one in two part-time businesswomen in green activities work part-time for family responsibilities or for personal reasons, compared to one in 10 part-time green businessmen and almost one in three part-time

businesswomen in other activities. **These reasons also explain one in three cases of part-time rural businesswomen** compared to one in every 6 cases of rural businessmen working part-time, and similar to almost one in three cases of their non-rural counterparts.

Women entrepreneurs in green activities and/or in rural areas have been in this situation on average for less time than their male business counterparts, which can be explained — at least in part — by the age pattern already mentioned, women being somewhat younger than men, as well as by the care gap.

The analysis of data of social security contributions to the Special Regime for Self-Employed Workers (RETA) of the Social Security in 2021 shows that the **average contribution base of self-employed women in green activities is higher** than that of their female counterparts in the rest of activities (€1,148 and €1,083 respectively) and **similar to that of the male self-employed in green activities** (€1,150). **Although in all types of municipalities the average contribution base of self-employed women is lower than that of self-employed men, this gender gap is less pronounced in rural municipalities** —where the mean base is €1,051 for women and €1,116 for men—, **and it disappears in the case of self-employed rural women entrepreneurs in green activities** — with average bases of €1,134 for women and €1,133 for men — (see [section 4.3](#)). In the same way, although the average contribution base of the self-employed increases with the degree of urbanization of the municipality, in green activities the average rural and non-rural contribution bases are quite similar.

Characteristics of women's green and/or rural businesses

Self-employment without salaried workers is the main form (more than 50%) **of entrepreneurship of women and men** in green activities and/or

in rural areas. **Entrepreneurship with salaried people represent almost one third of those who undertake green entrepreneurship, similar for women and men**, which contrasts with the usual pattern of less weight of this type of entrepreneurship among women than among men. However, the systematic difference by sex in terms of the form of entrepreneurship lies in **the category of "help in the family company or business"**, whose **concentration rate among green and/or rural women entrepreneurs always exceeds the analogous rate of their male business counterparts** (this category accounts for between 2.6% and 25.6% of businesswomen but does not exceed 2.5% of businessmen in any case). **This gender gap is especially accentuated among green businesses in rural municipalities** (with a difference of more than 20 percentage points between them). The weight of **the social economy in green and/or rural female entrepreneurship** is extremely low (see [Table 31 in section 4.4](#)).

In Spain there are 3,291,966 hectares of used agricultural area (SAU, in the Spanish acronym), of which 248,077 (7.5%) are classified as hectares for ecologic farming. **Women own** only one fifth of conventional agricultural land (20.1%), and just **over a fifth of ecologic farming land** (21.9%). Similarly, women are holders **of slightly more than one fifth** (22%) **of ecologic cattle heads**, a percentage similar to that of conventional livestock. In general, women are slightly older and have less specific agricultural and/or livestock training than men.

Obstacles to the creation and consolidation of women's businesses in green activities and/or rural environments

Through in-depth interviews with organizations with knowledge and/or experience in green and/or rural women's entrepreneurship, it has been identified as a **specific barrier to women's entrepreneurship in green activities**, that these activities are highly

masculinized, which makes it difficult for women to enter the sector. Other **specific barriers to women's entrepreneurship in rural areas** are: a greater relevance of gender stereotypes regarding the role of women in the family and society; the still limited, although growing, access to the Internet; the lack of regulations adapted to rural entrepreneurship; and some difficulties detected in the application of Law 35/2011, of October 4, on shared ownership of agricultural holdings. **This said, the obstacles identified are common, with some nuances, to women entrepreneurs in green activities and/or in rural environments**, highlighting factors such as gender stereotypes and the care gap; lack of recognition and power; unequal access to finance; or the digital gender gap (see [section 4.6.](#)).

Policies to promote women's green and/or rural entrepreneurship

12 public lines of support related to entrepreneurship in the green sector or in rural areas, developed by MITECO and public organizations attached to it, **contain actions that promote effective equality between women and men** (see [Chapter 5](#)).

This number of support lines is very small compared to all lines. Within the framework of MITECO's 2019-2021 Strategic Grants' Plan (PES in the Spanish acronym), **out of 111 planned support lines, only 3 include actions that promote effective equality between women and men in projects related to green and/or rural entrepreneurship** (2.7%), and in the context of the PES 2022-2024, **only 9 of 86 support lines do so** (10.5%).

However, from PES 2019-2021 to PES 2022-2024, **the following has increased**: (i) **the number of managing bodies** with public support lines to green and/or rural women's entrepreneurship, **from 2** (Biodiversity Foundation and Just Transition Institute) **to 3** (General Directorate for

Policies against Depopulation adds to the former two); and (ii) **the number of support lines that include actions** aimed at promoting effective equality between women and men, **from 3 to 9**.

Gender mainstreaming in these support lines is uneven. Two lines developed by the **Biodiversity Foundation**, both related to job creation and entrepreneurship within the framework of the Empleaverde Program, are the **most advanced** actions in this context. Among other elements, employability and/or entrepreneurship of **women is one of their priorities**, they include **inclusive language** in communication tools, the **assessment criteria prioritize the presence of women, economic justification of actions related to women**, and the most recent calls prioritise projects that address **flexible times schedules and compatible with family reconciliation** and also the gender balance **in the number of trainers**. Biodiversity Foundation plans to further improve the gender mainstreaming in 2023.

The support lines of the **Just Transition Institute** aim at reactivating and creating employment in areas affected by the closure of coal mines and at economic promotion and employment in territories of the so-called just transition agreements. This support includes rebates in social security contributions **for female employment** (not necessarily entrepreneurship) generated with the projects funded, with the consequent inclusion of this issue in the **evaluation criteria** and in the **economic justification of activities**.

The support lines of the **General Directorate for Policies against Depopulation** include grants aimed at promoting innovation projects by local entities, non-profit organizations and private companies. Modality C, aimed at business projects located in areas with special demographic difficulties, pays **special attention to projects promoted by youth and women, promoting their labour integration**. In all modalities the promotion of equal rights and opportunities for women in these areas is one of the objectives to be achieved. As a novelty, a balanced

composition of women and men is included in the Project Assessment Committee.

The main **deficiencies** in mainstreaming gender in these public lines of support would require the following improvements: **explicit objectives aimed at closing gender gaps; work teams** in funded projects with a balance between women and men at all decision-making, management and technical levels; **monitoring and evaluation indicators** disaggregated by sex and specific to gender; **inclusive language** in calls and other communication tools.

Two projects related to the promotion of green and/or rural women's entrepreneurship are identified in the Catalogue of demonstrative experiences of **the Spanish Network of Biosphere Reserves**: 'Promotion of female entrepreneurship in the Mariñas Coruñasas Biosphere Reserve and Terras do Mandeo' and 'Social and labour insertion of women in combating depopulation of the Alto Bernesga Biosphere Reserve'.

These two projects are **specifically aimed at closing gender gaps**, therefore, gender mainstreaming is implicit in their design: the **name** of the action explicitly incorporates women; the **objectives** address a situation related to women (entrepreneurship or social and labour insertion); the **activities** incorporate actions to address this situation; the vast majority of **recipients are women**; in some cases, the **work teams** must have knowledge and experience in gender perspective; the **indicators** offer data referring to women or data disaggregated by sex; and the **language** of communication tools is **inclusive**.

Recommendations

Four recommendations follow directly from the conclusions of this report:

- 1. The effort undertaken by MITECO with the design and construction of a system of indicators and a database on women's entrepreneurship in the green sector, rural areas and the intersection between both should be continued.** MITECO could establish stable collaboration agreements with institutions that produce data of interest, such as the National Statistics Institute (INE), Eurostat or Social Security, which have already contributed to this study with microdata and specific exploitation of their data. It could also reach agreements with the GEM Observatory of Entrepreneurship in Spain and with the Central Business Directory (DIRCE). Likewise, it could promote the development of similar indicators within the framework of the European Union, some United Nations agencies (for example, ILO, UN Women, UNEP) and international organizations such as the OECD, among others.
- 2. All lines of public support of MITECO should include, in addition to the sectoral objectives, the objective of identifying and reducing gender gaps and mainstreaming this objective throughout all phases of the support line.**
- 3. There is a need to incorporate and reinforce actions specifically designed to close the gender gaps detected in this report** not only in MITECO's lines of public support, but also in any public policy for the ecological transition and for combating depopulation, as well as in their transversal application to other sectoral policies (economic, agricultural, social, etc.). By way of example, the results of the report point to the need for public policies to articulate more and better measures in the field of care to promote conciliation and co-responsibility, that enable women to development green and/or rural business projects. Indeed, it has been identified that family responsibilities have a much greater weight among women than men as a reason for part-time entrepreneurship in green activities and in rural municipalities, but also in the other activities and municipalities.
- 4. New studies are needed to better understand the reasons behind the gender gaps found in the report, as well as to identify and disseminate good practices.** In particular, it is necessary to delve into the reasons why women do not seem to be benefiting as much

as men from the business opportunities of the green economy, somewhat less so in the case of women in rural municipalities. In this vein, better knowledge is needed on how to accelerate progress towards an effective equality of women and men in the green economy, in the rural economy and in the intersection between both. To identify good practices, it is recommended to focus at least on the autonomous communities and countries that lead the relative presence of women in green business and/or rural business.

On the other hand, a fifth recommendation of a more general nature stands out:

5. **The need for public administrations at all levels to reinforce public support measures for women's entrepreneurship** in any area and territory, **following, at least, the framework that the OECD and the EU have been developing for the achievement of gender equality in entrepreneurship.**

Delimitation of the green sector, of rural areas and of women's entrepreneurship

The analysis of women's green and/or rural entrepreneurship has required, first of all, a precise delimitation of the **green sector**, of **rural areas** and of **women's entrepreneurship, from a both conceptual** point of view, in order to obtain a theoretical definition for each one, as well as from an **operational point of view**, to achieve a definition that allows measuring those concepts with data from available statistical sources.

The **green sector** is the most complex to define. From a conceptual point of view, there is no unified definition of it. An extensive international, European Union and national literature review has been conducted focusing on the evolution of this concept in the last two decades, of its broad areas and of its sectoral structure.

The organizations that first approached a delimitation of the environmental sector are

Eurostat and the OECD, with the publication in 1999 of a framework to build comparable statistics on the eco-industry. This was a crucial reference for subsequent studies. Another key reference in this matter is the classification of the environmental goods and services sector presented by Eurostat in 2009, in which two large groups are distinguished: environmental protection and resource management. Other contributions to the green economy and to green employment from international organizations add to this, such as UNEP, the ILO and once again the OECD (see [section 2.1.1. Sectoral delimitation](#)).

From an operational point of view, **the delimitation of a green sector that is measurable in terms of employment and entrepreneurship with existing data sources is made in terms of economic activities of the NACE Rev. 2**, taking as a reference the list of economic activities in the sector of environmental goods and services defined by Eurostat in 2015-16 and other specialized studies on green and environmental economy and employment with detail at the level of economic activities.

In this way, **a complete and holistic delimitation of the green sector is proposed**, which may evolve over time and be enriched with future updates that different sources can progressively provide. In the meantime, **it aims to be a useful reference for the analysis of "green" employment and entrepreneurship**, beyond the analysis of green and/or rural women's entrepreneurship made for this study ([section 2.1.2. Delimitation of economic activities](#)).

In this context, it should be beard in mind that the green content of these activities, like the green sector itself, is a living content, which is expected to continue becoming greener. The development of the regulatory and strategic context in the EU and in Spain in recent years, based on the European GreenDeal, but also within the framework of the developments made by Eurostat in the identification of environmental goods

and services sector in the forthcoming updated National Classification of Economic Activities (NACE).

The definition of **rural area** used in this study is based on demographic and geographic criteria, specifically, on the classification of municipalities based on the degree of urbanization (DEGURBA), as it is the most complete (classifies all municipalities) and operational as regards data available and allows comparisons with other EU countries ([section 2.2. Definition of rural areas](#)).

The conceptual definition of **women entrepreneurs and/or businesswomen** follows property and management criteria or a

combination, as this is the most common in the economic literature. However, the operational definition depends on the statistical source used. The sources used in the analysis of women's entrepreneurship in green activities and/or in rural areas in this study are the EPA (Spanish Labour Force Survey) provided by the National Statistics Institute (INE), Affiliation to the Social Security provided by the General Treasury of the Social Security, the Agrarian Census provided by the INE, and GEM of the Entrepreneurship Observatory in Spain. Thus, measurement of entrepreneurship materializes in different definitions, which enriches the analysis, but also prevents the comparison between sources ([section 2.3. Women's entrepreneurship](#)).

Theoretical green fields and sectors

1. **Sustainable forestry sector:** Forestry and logging.
2. **Renewable energies:** Renewable energies and others.
3. **Sustainable water management:** Treatment and purification of wastewater (industrial and urban), sustainable management of water resources.
4. **Circular Economy, Waste Management and Decontamination:**
 - 4.1. Prevention (reduction) of waste generation; Second-hand sales, repair and rental activities.
 - 4.2. Management and treatment and recovery of waste for recycling.
 - 4.3. Waste treatment and disposal, decontamination and other waste management services.
5. **Sustainable construction:** Sustainable construction, rehabilitation of buildings, electrical networks, green infrastructures (treatment plants, eco-parks, renewable energy installations...), water purification infrastructures.
6. **Sustainable transport:** Rail transport, public transport, vehicles with less fuel consumption (hybrid-electric, electric, fuel cells, shared vehicles), non-motorized transport (bicycle, walk).
7. **Environmental services to companies and entities:** Environmental Consulting.
8. **Management of protected natural spaces:** Natural heritage, biodiversity and protected areas.

Activities of CNAE-2009

- ✓ 61 4-digit activities, of which 21 activities are totally or largely green when crossed with the Classification of Environmental Protection Activities (CEPA) and the Classification of Resource Management Activities (CReMA) (5 in total) and/or according to the literature.
- ✓ 30 3-digit activities, of which 6 activities are totally or largely green when crossed with the Classification of Environmental Protection Activities (CEPA) and the Classification of Resource Management Activities (CReMA) and/or according to the literature.
- ✓ 5 3-digit activities, which are green only in the part corresponding to the 4-digit green activities that are contained in them.

Architecture of the indicator system on green and/or rural women's entrepreneurship

In this context, a **system of indicators has been** built, with a gender perspective, to measure and characterize women's entrepreneurship in the

green sector, in rural areas and the intersection of both, which is the main objective of this study ([section 2.4.](#)).

Analysis blocks

Block I: Entrepreneurship of women in green activities.

Block II: Entrepreneurship of women in rural areas.

Block III: Entrepreneurship of women in rural areas and in green activities.

Dimensions of each Block

- a. Personal and family characteristics.
- b. Working conditions.
- c. Social protection.
- d. Company characteristics.
- e. Phases, perceptions and attitudes towards entrepreneurship (only in Block II ²).

Indicators

- ✓ In total: 110 indicators, for which information is available for 83 in the database.
- ✓ Block I: 26 indicators at national level, 4 at regional and 2 indicators for EU and EU-27 countries.
- ✓ Block II: 34 indicators at national level, 4 at regional and 7 indicators for EU and EU-27 countries.
- ✓ Block III: 26 indicators at national level and 4 at regional.

Sources of information and years of data

- National Statistics Institute (INE), EPA (Spanish Labour Force Survey), Q2 of 2015 and 2022.
- Eurostat, Labour Force Survey (LFS), years 2015 and 2021.
- Social Security, Affiliation to Special Regime of Self-Employment (RETA), year 2021.
- INE, Agrarian Census, year 2020.
- GEM, Entrepreneurial activity in rural areas. Analysis of the situation with GEM data 2019-2021.³

Other issues

- All indicators are **disaggregated by sex**, women and men.
- In the analysis of green and/or rural women's entrepreneurship, **the activities of the green sector are grouped into two large groups**, so as to provide statistically representative data.
 - Group I. **Circular economy, Waste Management and Decontamination.**
 - Group II. **Rest of green activities.**

2. This is because the source from which these data are obtained is the study: *Entrepreneurial activity in rural areas. Analysis of the situation with GEM data 2019-2021*, referring specifically to the rural area.

3. After preparing this study, the GEM Network has recently published the report "[Rural Entrepreneurs in Spain. Analysis with GEM data 2021-2022](#)", whose data could not be included in this report.



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