#### XIII European Mountain Convention

Shaping the future of mountain economies 15 - 18 October 2024 | Puigcerdà - Catalonia





















# MAIN POINTS OF ROOTING AND TERRITORIAL EQUITY

#### Guiding Principles of Democratic Radicality:

- freedom
- equality
- fraternity

Demographic variations in Catalonia









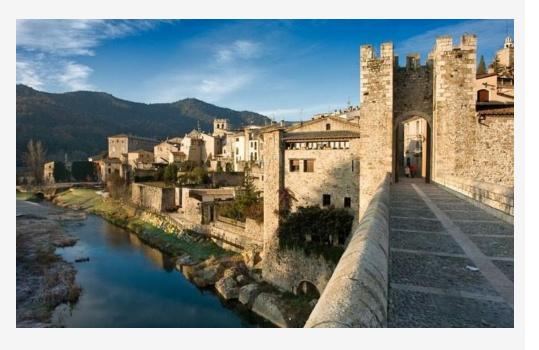












#### **FREEDOM**

 Freedom to decide the life project, personal or family, the professional, entrepreneurial or business project, anywhere in the territory of Catalonia.





















#### **EQUALITY**

- Equal opportunities, equal competitiveness.
- Absolute equality will never be possible, but we must strive for it, there cannot be first-class territories and second-class territories.





















#### **FRATERNITY**

- Fraternity based on budgetary and economic solidarity.
- Legal fraternity positive discrimination laws energetic and ecological.



















# **DEMOGRAPHIC DICHOTOMY**

















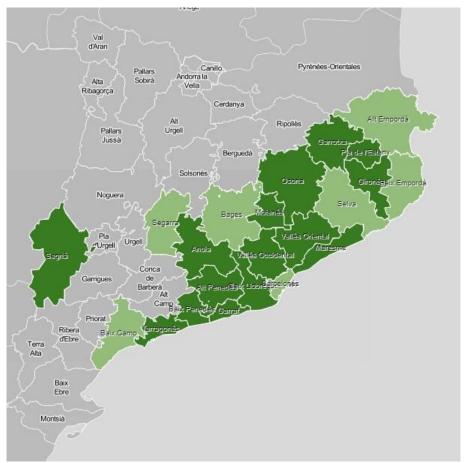






# **DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES 2012-2022**

#### Counties with population gain:



#### Counties with population loss:

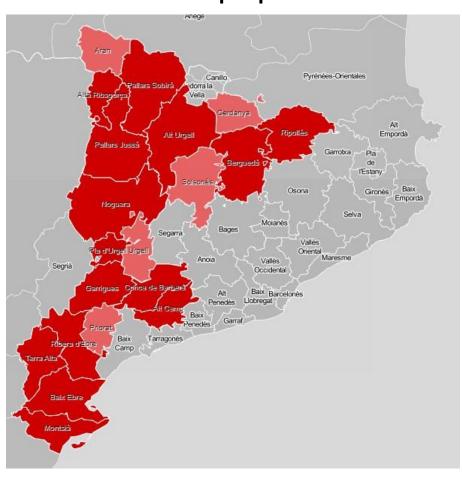




Figure 2 and 3: Regions of Catalonia that have gain and lost population between 2012 and 2022.















# HOME OFFICE Demographic consequences of a pandemic year (January 1, 2020 – January 1, 2021

- The pandemic has accelerated teleworking, a new paradigm within the world of social and work communications.
- ❖ With one year of data, small but significant demographic changes have been noted and we have seen population losses in hyperpopulated areas and growth in areas of stagnant population or population loss.

#### Benefits of Home Office:

- ✓ Possibility to work away from big cities.
- ✓ Decompression of the big cities
- ✓ It generates synergies and dynamism in rural towns.
- ✓ It reduces mobility, and consequently, the carbon footprint.
- ✓ Time saving
- ✓ Family reconciliation.
- ✓ Access to better professionals.



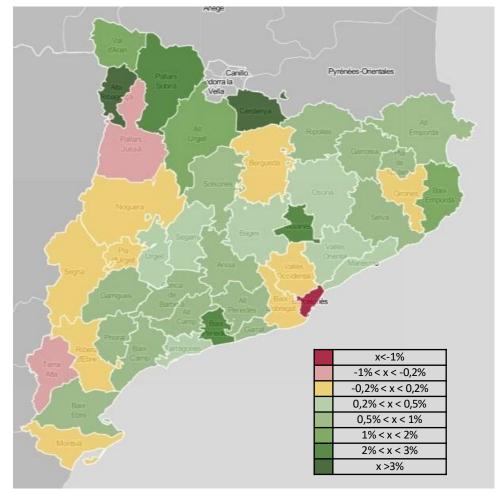


Figure 4: Population change from January 1, 2020 to January 1, 2021.















#### **POLYCENTRIC CATALONIA**

- Leaving aside the 36 municipalities of the AMB, the metropolitan arc (Vilanova, Vilafranca, Martorell, Terrassa, Sabadell, Granollers and Mataró), the demarcation capitals (Girona and Lleida) and Tarragona with Reus, Cambrils, Salou and Vila -Seca, Catalonia has distributed a set of key populations for the development of the whole country.
- We also leave aside the coastal towns that have other economic dynamics derived from tourism.
- These cities are the first point of reference for the rural world. Mediumsized cities provide services within a 25-40 km radius.



















#### **POLYCENTRIC CATALONIA**

- Medium-sized cities have a lot to offer to society as a whole in Catalonia.
- Quality of life, proximity to nature, ease of integration for newcomers. If you plan them with a country vision, they can decongest poorly populated areas.
- In short, they can offer women, men and children a quality of life that other areas can no longer provide.
- They are a rooting factor for all the rural towns in their area of influence.
   Small, uniform cities with a good level of services would improve the rural world.



















#### **POLYCENTRIC CATALONIA**

- This vision builds a country with a greater capacity to adapt to major factors of change, demographic, climatic, technological and macroeconomic.
- If we want the country we imagine to be territorially interconnected, equitable, rooted and globally competitive, polycentrism can generate:
  - more economic, social and environmental resilience.
  - a strong and integrative identity of diversity, as a pillar of the nation of the 21st century.



















#### **URBAN LEGISLATION**

- Statute of rural municipalities in Catalonia
- Territory Law (in development)
- Mountain law (in development)





















#### **SUMMARY**

- The country's demographic imbalances must be tackled with transversal policies.
- It is obvious that achieving total equality is impossible, but it is possible to reach levels appropriate to the interests of the municipalities in the various areas, always using the tools of **positive discrimination**.
- \* Medium-sized cities have a lot to offer to society as a whole in Catalonia.
- ❖ We do not want to use the concepts of depopulation or repopulation, but rather speak of **rooting**. To root the population in the territory and make settling more attractive to those who want to move to the less populated areas of the country.

















# TERRITORIAL EQUITY ROOTING PROGRAM PROGRAMA ARRELAMENT



To balance territorial inequalities



To cohere the territory



repopulation

Generalitat de Catalunya

Departament de Territori, Habitatge
i Transició Ecològica

1.000.000€ annual investment







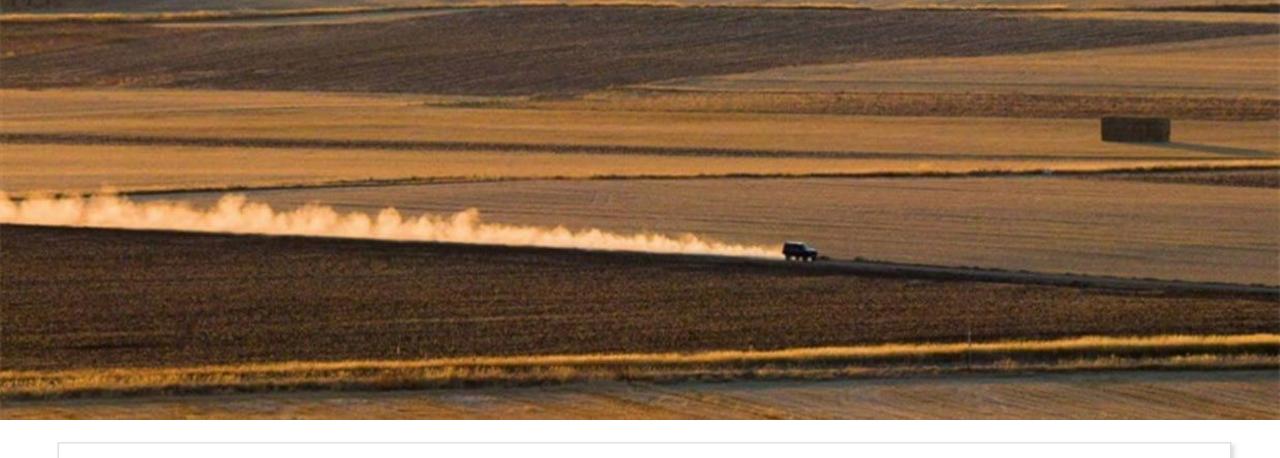












• The **Territorial Equity Rooting Program** is a program that wants to promote and strengthen those areas of the territory of Catalonia that are in a situation of chronic population loss; promote cohesion, to balance territorial inequalities.

The **TERRITORIAL EQUITY ROOTING PROGRAM** has an innovative approach that seeks to solve a problem of aging and rural depopulation, with the departmental action instruments within reach:

- Pay attention and focus on territories that are being chronically depopulated, to look for formulas, proposals and actions that reverse this process and establish population and activity.
- Promote coordinated planning instruments at a supra-municipality level and, in particular, use URBAN SYSTEMS as a planning unit.
- Provide for coordinated actions on various matters (housing, urban planning, mobility, economic activity, etc.).
- Advance in the implementation of urban planning measures to facilitate economic activity
- Ensure follow-up formulas and incorporate the learnings from the PILOT TEST at Garrigues Altes to of the Program, starting in 2021.



















- The minimum work unit is, according to territorial planning, the URBAN SYSTEM, which is the grouping of municipalities that have a minimum of mutual interactions that generate obligatory mobility, a provision of common services, and a minimum joint economic scope.
- ❖ For the deployment of the Program, the **main indicator**, with respect to which to prioritize some Urban Systems over others, is the **percentage of population loss**, the **territorial balance of the deployment** and the **opportunity** in those urban systems in which actions have already been proposed that share the objectives of the ATERRITORIAL EQUITY ROOTING PROGRAM.
- The term established in the Program to carry out the diagnosis and actions in each urban system is **three years**.











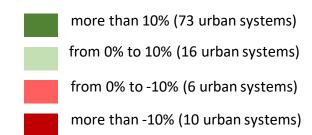




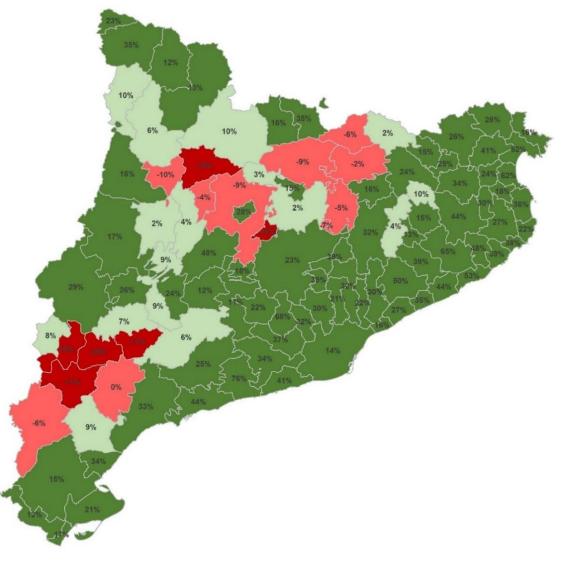


Currently in Catalonia we can distinguish 16 urban systems (121 municipalities), previously defined by the Partial Territorial Plans, which have registered population loss between the years 2002 and 2023.

These 16 urban systems have a total of 83.638 inhabitants by 2023.





















#### **WORK METHODOLOGY:**

- Coordination is formalized with the constitution of two PERIODIC COMMITTEES in two areas of work:
- ✓ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: made up of the mayors, the Regional Council and the directors and deputy directors of the Department of Territory.

The main executive body of the Urban System, among its functions, is the approval of the action proposals presented by the Technical Commission and guaranteeing their deployment

✓ TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: formed by the coordinator of the urban system, the regional technical representative and the technicians of the Department.

The main function of the technical commission is to carry out action proposals, based on the needs detected in the Urban System and the available resources























#### **WORK METHODOLOGY:**

PARTICIPATORY PROCESS





- **DIAGNOSIS** studies of supra-municipal needs, based on the characteristics of the urban system, in the areas of:
  - Diagnosis of the need for land and/or rehabilitation of publicly owned built heritage for public housing. Locating empty homes and detecting housing needs.
  - Diagnosis of the economic and social situation of the system
  - Diagnosis of the capacity to accommodate or organize non-developable land, open spaces.
  - Diagnosis of the state of urban planning
  - Diagnosis of mobility





















- 4. Once the conclusions of the diagnosis studies are analized and shared with the counties, we will execute the actions derived, among others, from:
  - ✓ REHABILITATION, buildings intended for housing/equipment or economic activity. The accommodations resulting from these actions will be affected by a series of conditions:
    - It will be part of the public heritage of municipal land and housing.
    - The uses of these accommodations will be directly related to the objectives of the Program
    - The local administration will be responsible for the management
  - ✓ URBAN RENEWAL, interventions to improve the fabric (buildings and environments).
  - ✓ INTERVENTIONS IN PUBLIC SPACE AND THE LANDSCAPE, actions to improve public spaces: squares and streets that revitalize old towns and actions related to the landscape.
  - ✓ IMPROVEMENTS IN CONNECTIVITY with the capital of the region
  - ✓ MOBILITY
  - **✓** (...)
- Once the execution of the Program to all urban Systems is completed, the EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS obtained will be carried out.











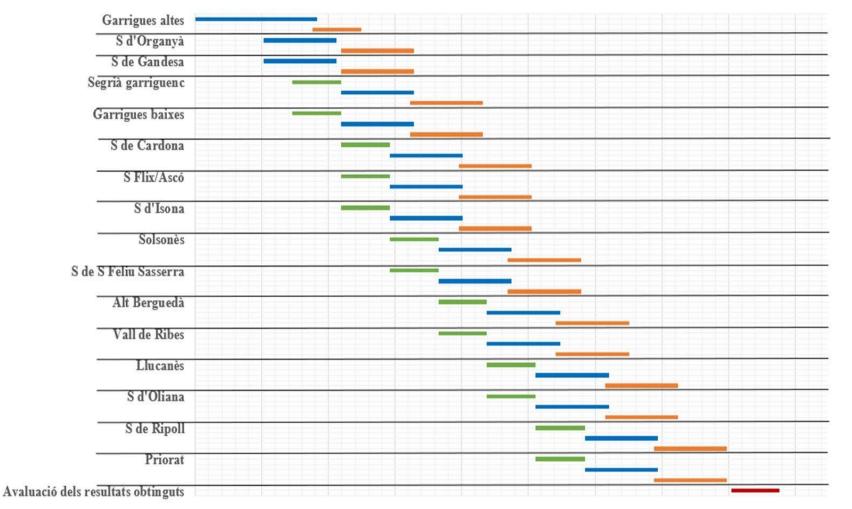


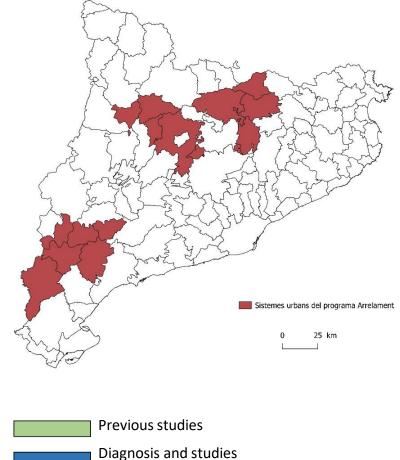


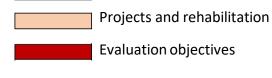




**CHRONOGRAPH** (2021-2033)













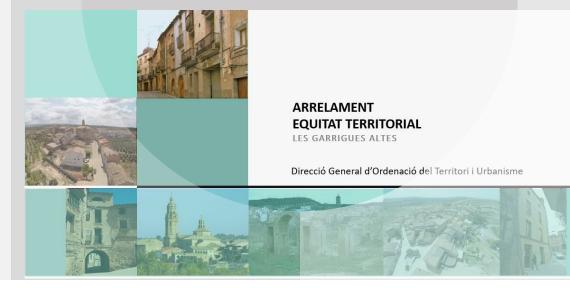








**PILOT TEST GARRIGUES ALTES (2021)** 





















#### **PILOT TEST GARRIGUES ALTES** (2021)

































#### **PILOT TEST GARRIGUES ALTES** (2021)

#### a Mobility

Approval of the Agreement between the Generalitat and the Diputación de Lleida to improve three axes of the road network

#### b| Fiber optic

Prioritization of the deployment of the optical fiber

#### c | Territorial planning and urbanism

#### c 1: Planning:

Drafting of the Plurimunicipal Planning Advance Bidding of the supra-municipal POUM

#### c 2: Landscape and open spaces:

Urban diagnosis of open spaces

Diagnosis of landscape character

#### d Housing

Collaboration agreement between the Generalitat, INCASOL and all the City Councils for the rehabilitation of subsidized housing









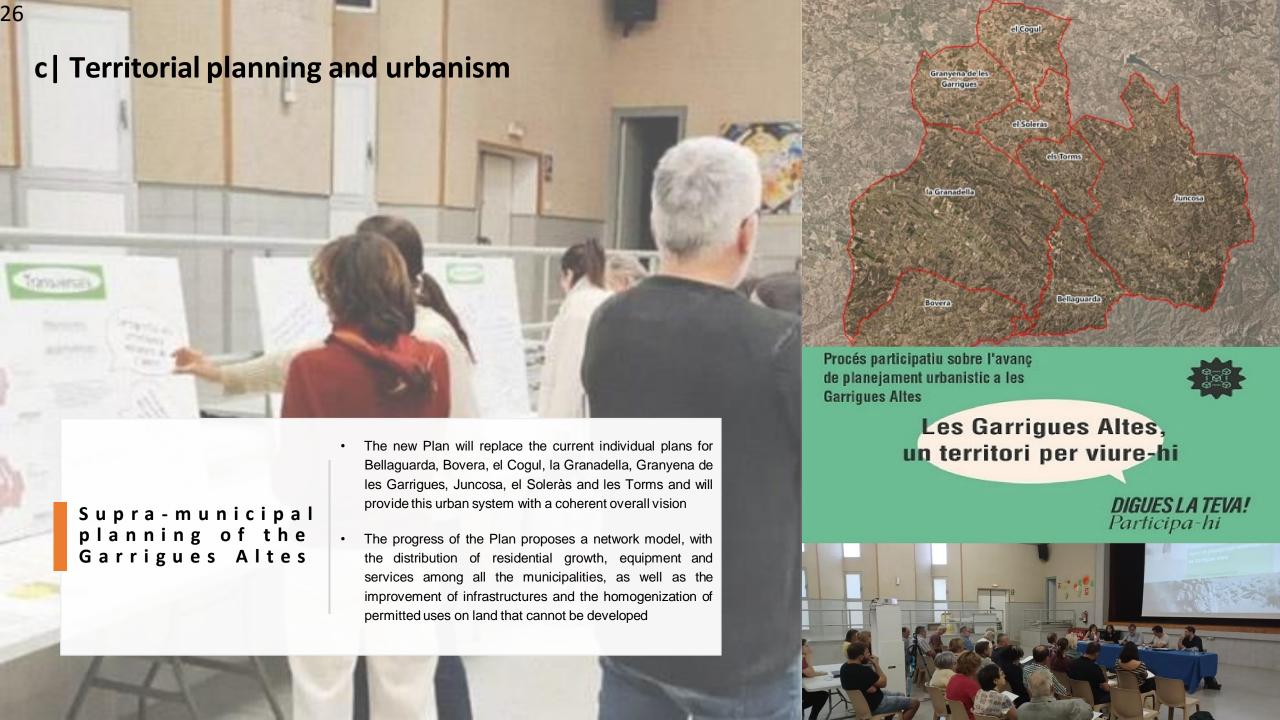












#### d HOUSING

#### WORKS-REHABILITATION PROJECTS

**GRANADEL LA** 

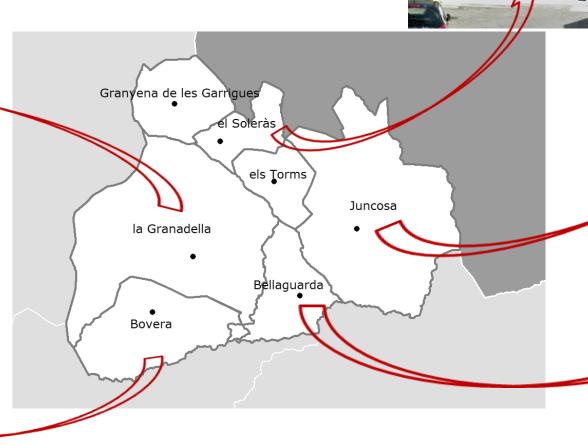
Old building housing the teachers



**BOVERA**Bakery



**EL SOLER ÀS**Medical office building



JUNCOSA Old Town Hall building





Preliminary project for the construction of a building equipped with a playroom, library and accommodation facilities

















XIII European Mountain Convention

#### **WORKS-REHABILITATION PROJECTS**

The projects and works are carried out through **INCASOL**, which is the executing agency of the *Departament de Territori*, *Habitatge i Transició Ecològica* 

#### **BOVERA**

Converted the first floor of the municipal building to house two housing

Budget of the work 90.557,24€

#### **EL SOLERÀS**

Divided into two housing, on the first floor of the municipal equipment building

Budget of the work 95.148,37 €

#### **LA GRANADELLA**

Structural improvement and living conditions of the ground floor municipal housing

**Budget of the work 104.147,24€** 

#### **JUNCOSA**

Renovation of the first floor of the old City Hall to accommodate a new

housing program

Budget of the work 67.947,24€















#### **BELLAGUARDA**

Preliminary project for the construction of an equipment building intended for a toy library, library and housing

Budget of the work 18.089,50 €

















**PILOT TEST GARRIGUES ALTES (2021)** 



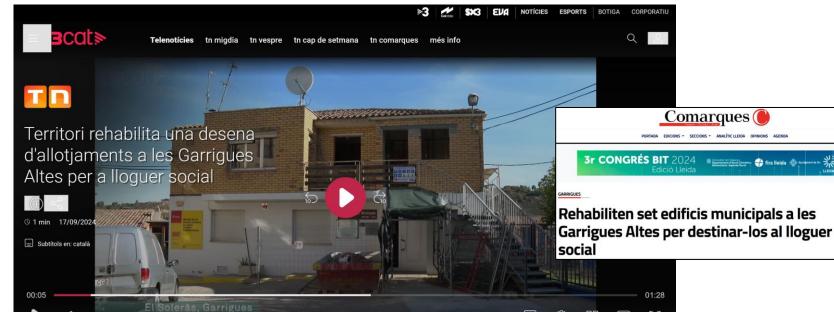












https://www.ccma.cat/3cat/territori-rehabilita-una-desena-dallotjaments-a-les-garrigues-altes-per-a-lloguer-social/video/6300459/









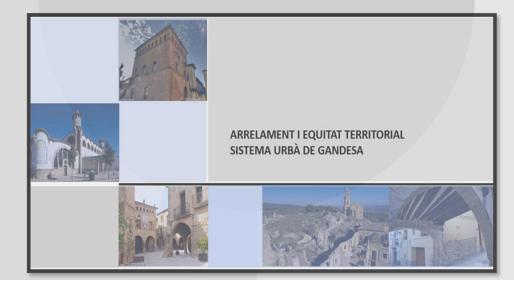








**URBAN SYSTEM TERRA ALTA (2023-2025** 





















#### **URBAN SYSTEM TERRA ALTA** (2023-2025)



































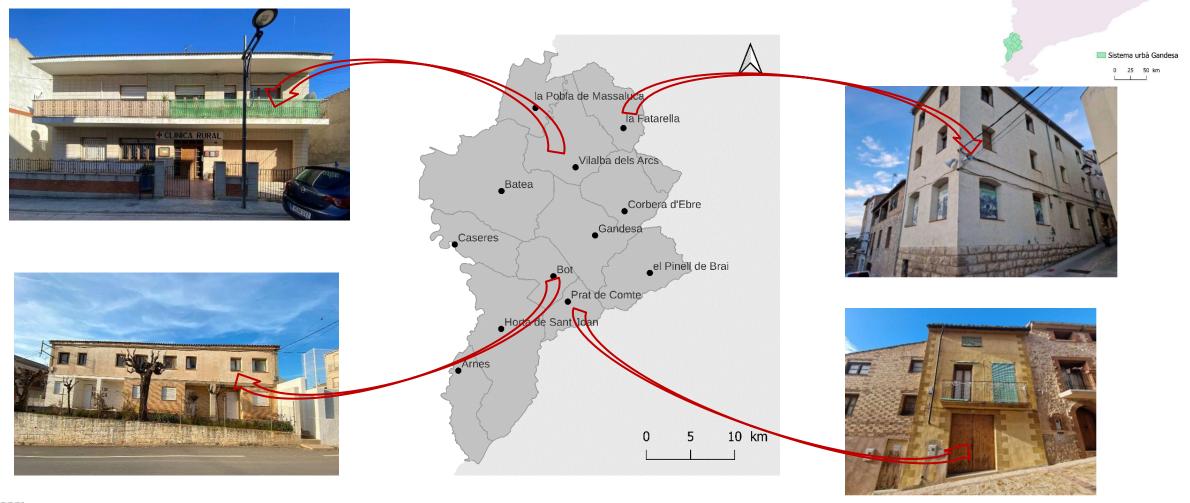








**URBAN SYSTEM TERRA ALTA** (2023-2025)



















**URBAN SYSTEM ORGANYÀ (2023-2025)** 















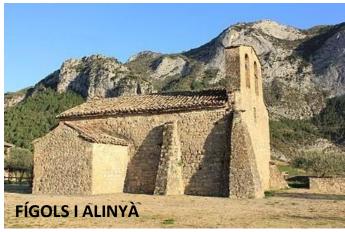






**URBAN SYSTEM ORGANYÀ** (2023-2025)



















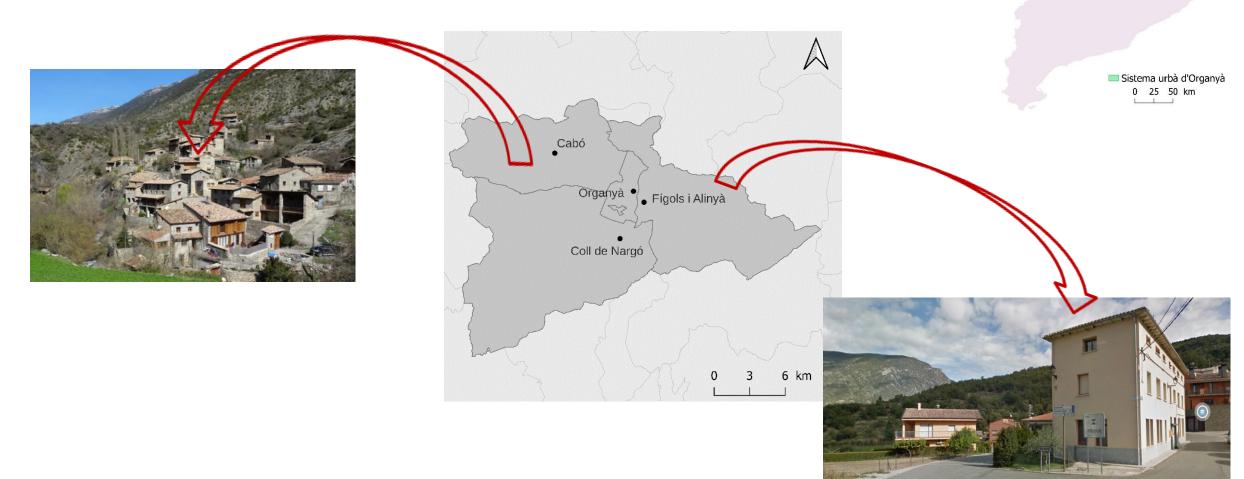








**URBAN SYSTEM ORGANYÀ** (2023-2025)





















# **CONCLUSIONS**

The depopulation of the rural world also affects the urban world and society in general

To determine population the two main axes are:

- ✓ Housing availability
- ✓ The revitalization of economic activity. Correct urban planning is essential

Gràcies
Gracias
Thank you
Merci











