

Topic

Topic

Cooperative organisation that co-ordinates slurry storage, transport and application of slurry in the field, and provides slurry to arable farmers

Environment

Technical efficiency



Background

One of the problems faced by many dairy farmers in northern Spain is the management of the slurry generated. The lack of land and the rainfall of the area result in slurry tanks filling in a short period of time, so organisation systems are essential for efficient nutrient use. Below is a strategy through which it is intended to **manage slurry surpluses**, generating energy and products with greater added value, in the geographical area of the Carranza Valley (Bizkaia, Basque Country).

How does the strategy work?

- 2022** - Meetings are held between farmers and the interested company, Carranza City Council, cooperatives and management centers.
- After specifying conditions, deadlines, and solving doubts about the slurry management system, 27 local farmers commit to supplying surplus slurry to the plant, equivalent to over **65,000T each year** from 2,500 animals.
- Farmers are net contributors, and agree to pay a slurry management service fee, the maximum cost of which will be € 1.50 per ton of slurry managed.
- Operation: slurry is collected on routes and shifts on demand (similar to milk collection).
- After fermentation, and the generation of biogas, farmers can choose two types of by-product for use in livestock:
- **Digestate** in semi-liquid or composted format for cold bed (free)
 - **Commercial organic fertiliser** (manufacturing cost).
- 2023** – development of the project, with the permits and final design.
- 2024** - Plant begins operations in Spring 2024

Objective

Efficiently manage farm slurry to generate energy and convert it into higher value-added products (fertilisers, etc.).

Positive features

- Smaller volume to be stored in the slurry pit.
- Obtaining energy and fertilisers with greater added value.
- Circular economy.

Assessment of method

