

## **Sánchez Haro participates in the conference 'Present and future of agriculture in the Bajo Andarax' organized by COAG**

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development, Rodrigo Sánchez Haro, has participated in Almería in the day 'Present and future of agriculture in the Lower Andarax' organized by [COAG](#), in which he reiterated that "the transfers are, day Today, a need to ensure irrigation in the field, although the future is through the use of reclaimed and desalinated water. For the representative of the Andalusian Government, "it is not a question that we can choose, it is a matter of necessity because we have to guarantee the water security of our farmers". Likewise, it has recognized that regenerated and desalinated waters open an "important field of work, in which we have to move forward. I really believe that there is the future. "

During his speech, Sanchez Haro has reported that the Ministry returned to make, yesterday, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food "the demands that we have been making from Andalusia on water." Among these, the Board's claim to lower the price of desalinated water -0.30 euros per cubic meter maximum- for Andalusian farmers has stood out.

In addition, he has again raised the need for a "shock plan for the optimization of desalination for the Mediterranean, the creation of a working group and the establishment of a calendar to prioritize and coordinate actions in the field of pending hydraulic infrastructures" . "The change of central government does not stop the priority issues for our land, quite the opposite," said the head of Andalusian Agriculture, which stressed that for this type of problem solutions are needed to ensure the production of farmers and to achieve them we must collaborate together. "

In this regard, he recalled the aid that the Board has made available to the Andalusian agri-food sector for investments in irrigation: more than 66 million, to which we will add another 43 million euros this year, which will include specific lines to take advantage of reclaimed water.

During his speech, the counselor praised the commitment of farmers in the area of ??Bajo Andarax for organic production, both in citrus and protected crops. "Organic production is not the only productive system that measures the degree of sustainability of agriculture in this territory, which also puts into practice integrated production and biological control of pests."

### **The future CAP**

Likewise, Sánchez Haro has once again insisted on the need to maintain a common position among all the provinces and the entire Andalusian agri-food sector in defense of the future Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). "From the Ministry we will work to achieve it, since we are aware that a strong CAP is essential to promote a diverse agriculture and a live rural environment".

For this, he recalled that from Andalusia "we support the central government is firm and forceful in

defending the budget, for which the European Commission proposed a cut of 16% that comes to delve into the 1.052 million euros that we have already lost in the current frame ".

*"We want a communitarian agrarian policy that maintains the support to the pluriactivos farmers, that is designed with perspective of gender to construct a more egalitarian sector, that includes a maximum limitation to the aids distributing the detraído amount between small and average exploitations of the same region ", it is finished.*

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