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Entrepreneurial Resilience in the Face of Climate Disruption

Neo-Entrepreneurial Adaptation in Rural Andalusia

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Recently, the rural municipality of Álora in southern Spain has faced significant challenges due to extreme weather events. Notably, the DANA storm of 2024, which primarily impacted Valencia, also caused substantial damage in Álora, leading to flooding and infrastructure disruptions. In March 2025, Storm Laurence brought heavy rainfall to the region, resulting in the overflow of the Guadalhorce River and severe flooding in areas including Álora and Cártama. Additionally, on April 28, 2025, a major blackout affected the entire Iberian Peninsula, including Álora, disrupting essential services and highlighting vulnerabilities in the region's infrastructure.

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Context

- Extreme weather events (Dana 2024, 2025 storms, blackout) increasingly affect rural businesses in Álora.
- Entrepreneurs face operational, financial, and infrastructural challenges.
- The study explores neo-entrepreneurial traits: creativity, sustainability, resilience.
- Ongoing collaboration with *Cuatro Estaciones* and *Association Imagina*.

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Research Purpose & Methodology

- Purpose: Understand impact of climate events and adaptation strategies
- Method: Mixed-method – Questionnaire & field interviews
- Focus: Entrepreneurs' responses within the neo-entrepreneurship paradigm

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Theoretical Framework

- Neo-Entrepreneurship: Creativity, personal growth, collaboration (Gibbs & O'Neill, 2020).
- Sustainable Entrepreneurship: Integrating ecological and social goals (Shepherd & Patzelt, 2020).
- Entrepreneurs as agents of local resilience and transformation (Fichter & Tiemann, 2021).

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Expected Outputs & Value

- Framework to assess rural entrepreneurial resilience.
- Insights on adaptation and sustainable practices.
- Profile of neo-entrepreneurial motivations under stress.
- Policy recommendations and future research pathways.

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Questionnaire Basis

- Grounded in models from:
  - Shepherd & Patzelt (2020): Sustainability orientation.
  - Corner & Ho (2010): Entrepreneurial cognition.
  - Spence et al. (2011): Risk perception and adaptation.
- Sections: Business profile, climate impact, adaptation, values.

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Bibliography & Inspirations

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Thank you for your attention!

Thank you for your interest in this research on rural entrepreneurial resilience and sustainability in the face of climate disruption.

The study is ongoing, and I warmly invite you to stay in touch to follow the results and explore future **research collaborations** or **practical partnerships** in the field of rural development and climate adaptation.

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Let’s connect ideas, communities, and solutions — *juntos construimos resiliencia!*



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