**F22 - 23-11-2021 English transcript farmer #22 - male - Torredelcampo - 34**

**And maybe first you could introduce yourself for us.**

Yes, as I said my name is [name] and I am, well, I am an engineer, my studies are agronomical engineering in the Cordoba University and, well, I work in the company [name], Agrarian cooperative society, and my function in the company is to give technical consultancy regarding the olive handling to the member of the cooperative. Ok? Well, the majority is in integrated production, which is a system, a certification which is, let’s say, halfway between ecological production and conventional production. Ok? They have they regulations, ok? And also, to the ecological producers. Ok? So, these are the ones I advise, ok? And well, also other functions such as monitoring the farms, early oil elaboration, monitoring both of the fields as the mill and I also have some experience with the olive grove’s subproducts such as composting, alperujo compost, leaf and bovine manure and we have made other composts to use as nitrogenous source. The manure is used instead of a chemically synthesized fertilizer, urea. Ok? So, these are my functions here and then in my free time I do am a farmer of a medium olive grove. Intensive and with irrigation.

**Ok. And how many hectares?**

Yes, 30 hectares.

**30 hectares. And do you do it aside of…**

Yes, as a supplement. Ok? But it is not my main activity, it is part time.

**And for how long have you worked here in OleoCampo?**

Here in OleoCampo I’ve been working since 2012. No, sorry, 2012, 2013.

**And before that were you studying?**

Well, I had another job. I had another job. I’ve had… In this period, before getting here I was in another company that was an agrarian organization where there were both crop farmer and livestock farmers. And before that, well I tell you, I was, well, doing my agrarian engineering studies. I also did two masters. A master in digital transformation in the agro-alimentary sector in Cordoba’s university and also another master in oil companies’ management and administration. I was also, well, doing a study guest visit to the University of Perugia, in Italy, for a year, studying in the AgroSciences faculty and well, that’s a little of my road.

**And can you describe a day for us?**

A day of work? Here in the cooperative or?

**Yes, a general day.**

Well, I work here morning and afternoon. We work for 8 hours here in the company. And well, when I arrive in the morning the first thing I do is going to the fields, ok? To visit the plots that we have as reference. This means, we have everything divided in municipal terms, many homogeneous zones and within each homogeneous zone there is a representative zone for that plot. Then, every week we visit all plots. Then, my work starts everyday visiting the model plot, eh? And what I do in that plot is doing follow up of the crop’s phenology, checking the phenological state it is at, doing follow-up of the ripping. For example, in the season we are right now we would do a follow up of the fruit’s ripping process. Doing follow up of plague and diseases that could affect the crop. Yes, doing a follow up of everything. Management, plague, ripping, phenology, a general follow up. Ok? So, I visit all of that plot, ok? Doing it takes me about 3 hours and a half and once I’m back from that plot and having taking samples, because you also take many samples from leaves or fruits depending on the season. Then these samples are taken there, to the lab we have there, and they’re processed there. They’re processed, all the data is collected and I introduce it to a data base every week. With the goal to keep the follow up, in a nutshell, to have data in order to make decisions. Ok? And these decisions, well, they’re taken by the farmers because we give them that information and our recommendations, based on what we observed in the plots and what we processed. Ok? That would be the other part, here in the lab. Then, after I finish that it is 2 pm so I go home to eat. I eat, I spend a while with my family. I rest a little, I disconnect, ok? I drink a coffee and at 4 I reincorporate here, at OleoCampo. At 4 pm. And then when I get there at 4 pm it is likely that I’m doing some report about everything we had seen and I pass it on to the farmers with all the recommendations. And then part of the afternoon, there are many farmers that come to get technical advice regarding the management of their plots, or they want to get me, they get me directly to their plots, and I go with them, because they have some problem, and there in the field we try to solve their problem and give them recommendations or alternatives for them to fix it. Ok? This could be a typical day.

**A typical day. And they come here without an appointment?**

They call by phone and make an appointment and, well, at 5 pm we agree to meet there, eh, and we go to the plot. Then yes, they need an appointment and we also give telephone advice, email advice, each one it depends on their… But that would be sort of the typical day. A normal day.

**A normal day. And you have said that on weekends you go to work on your own plot?**

Yes, yes. And well, I have enough time during the day, but I suppose you want me to talk about the professional part, right?

**Yes, the two parts.**

The thing is I get home at 7 pm and they I do other things, I do sports, anyway, I don’t think that is relevant or?

**Yes, that too.**

Well, then I finish at 7 pm and then I go straight to the pool or to the gym and I spend about 2 hours doing sports and I tend to get home around 9:30, after doing sports, and I, well, prepare dinner and around 10:30 I’m done eating and I have one hour left in which I put on a movie, some series or read a book and around 11:30 I go to bed. That’s the whole day. That would be a standard day, ok? That would be from Monday until Friday at noon, because Friday’s afternoon I don’t work, here. Ok? Then from Friday’s afternoon until Sunday, well, I dedicate it to leisure or travelling or being with the family, or other weekends I spend them working on my family’s exploitation.

**Oh, it is familial.**

Exactly, yes, it is a familial exploitation. And that familial exploitation, depending on the season we are at, well, imagine that, right now, right now I’m going there and what I do is helping a little or… anyway, with the olive harvesting. We are there six hours and a half. We are there, well, practically since nine, we being then, until 4:30 recollecting the fruit. At 4:30 we take them to a mill and, well, we practically finish the day at 4:30. That’s right now.

**That also happens on the weekends.**

On the weekends, yes.

**You work on the harvesting.**

Yes, if the time allows for it yes. If the time allows for it yes. It doesn’t stop. It stops only for holidays, let’s say, during Saturday and Sunday you won’t stop, maybe for a national holiday or because of the weather, that won’t allow to work. But that’s the harvesting season, another season would be trimming, other season would be only visualizing that what’s there, ok? A little, because there is also follow up of this, to make recommendations to the family more actions that should be taken there. And then it depends of the time of the year we are at. But, for example, that would be for this week. That’s this week’s work. We harvest with a machine, a harvesting machine, so there is not much workforce required.

**And it is a familial exploitation, you said? It is your parents?**

Yeah, well, my parents… Actually, my father’s because, well, it is my father’s because it was his father’s and then, well, right now, yeah, it is familial.

**And what is it that you enjoy from your day? What is it that you like doing?**

Well, what I like, what I mainly like is solving people’s problem, ok. I like it in principle because they have the knowledge of the plot. I mean, they know exactly what tree and such, but they can’t find the explanation, sometimes, of why a series of things are happening. Then, me, between… Then there is a synergy stablished between the farmer, who knows his plot, and me, a little more technical, and between the two of us we come to the solution. I like arriving when there is a problem and then with time, of course there is a recommendation, that the farmer implements that recommendation and then with time the person would come and tell me “Look, it is solved and it is perfect”. Then with that… Well, I like it, you know? That the problem gets solved. And then I really enjoy being in contact with nature, you know? In other words, what we do is doing the follow up… Here I do close the cycle, here the oil is being bottled, therefore I really like the cycle’s follow up, because you see it from the beginning, you know, since the olive tree is inactive, in its winter slumber until it starts to bloom. Then these flowers become the fruit and we recollect it at the optimum moment. We pick the fruit at the optimum moment. We process it in the mill controlling all the parameters, controlling so that the process is done optimally, and therefore I like all that follow up and to see how… Well, you accompany it all year long, the people, ok? And giving recommendations, the people apply them and at the end you spoil the pamper the product, as it were. And then at the end you see it in a bottle, anyways, you see it in a store and you say… Well, it is being involved during all of the cycle, that’s why I like it a lot, to see how it gets finished, how it is done, and then the contact, well, with nature and the contact with people in the area, because there are very healthy people and, well, I like that part a lot. Then I enjoy going to the field. In spring more because in winter it is too cold, in summer it is too hot.

**Spring is the best season.**

But I also enjoyed during the pandemic. My friends were at their homes, locked, working from the computer and I, of course, as it is an essential sector, I had the freedom to move through the countryside. Therefore, I enjoyed the freedom it gives you.

**And what relevance has the environment for you?**

What importance has the environment? Well, it is, let’s say, our source for living. It is our source for living. Then I understand that all the actions that we do in the fields, but of course we are a company and we farmers are entrepreneurs and want to earn money, then I always, our production methods, is the one to obtain the maximum performance in the plots but always respecting to the maximum the environment we are at. Ok? So, any decision or any recommendations that are given to the farmers, or that I take in my company in my private practice, always take into account the environment. The concrete decision is taken to obtain the maximum performance, but always respecting the environment. I mean, if it doesn’t respect the environment that decision is not made. Then the two, they have to coexist.

**And in which way do you do so?**

Well, us, for example, in the crop management, imagine, a strategy that could have been taken for crop management is maybe, is chemicals use, insecticide. For example, ok? Well, us, let’s say, only recommend, or at least me in my plot, I only do one treatment with insecticide, ok? If it is strictly necessary. I mean, if the harm that fungus or plague will produce is really going to cause me harm, economically, large, well, I do that intervention. Ok? If it is only present, but it is under some threshold that it won’t cause me an economically relevant harm, we don’t do spraying. We only do it at the moment when it goes over a threshold. But it is not subjective. That is already written. In other words, we follow the protocols. Then these protocols indicate us the threshold. And that’s why we go to the plots every week and measure. Then if that measurement crosses the threshold, we say “we are going to take action”, ok? And within all the tools we have to take action, as chemicals and such, the ones that can do the less hard to the helpful fauna are advised. An alternative is given… sometimes non-chemical, it is always tried to give non-chemical alternatives, leaving chemical ones at the last place. Then, instead we do, well, soil management, the same. With soil management it is the same. Therefore, we maintain the vegetation cover, in such a way that it can host the regional fauna, keeping it until it finishes its cycle.

**And is it alive vegetation cover?**

Yes, alive vegetation cover. And we eliminate it, of course always, well, we want that but considering the exploitation’s rentability. It has to be a balance, you know? Because both of us have to live. Not one or the other. There is always equilibrium. All the decisions are taken looking at both, making sure that it is always in that equilibrium. Not thinking only in one or the other. Like in the ecological, you only think of one, practically the environmental aspect, but not the conventional, it looks at its… We are in the middle point. Where we all can coexist.

**And you’ve said here you work in both the ecological and integrated plots?**

Yes, it is all of those. Precisely, the integrated ones are where you look at that equilibrium and you work with regulations for integrated production that contains the thresholds within the ones you can act and it indicates you, well, a series of thresholds but also from the soil treatment, on the trimming, on everything, on fertilization, you know? Everything is written and everyone follows the protocols.

**And are there many members here?**

Well, around 700.

**700. Integrated ones?**

700 integrated. And ecological around 25.

**Oh, they’re less.**

Yes, they’re less. The ecological ones do it mainly out of being convinced. Self-convinced, I mean personal, and, well, the conviction regarding taking care of the environment. They don’t look that much into the money. They don’t look at it. The money they put it aside, because they have another income source and the ecological, they do it in order to have practices that look to the environment, leaving behind the matter of money.

**And in your family plot?**

It is integrated, is integrated. Yes, yes. Yes.

**And where do you live?**

I live in Jaen.

**In Jaen.**

Yes.

**And who do you live there with?**

I live with my family.

**And how is live in Jaen? Do you feel safe?**

Yes. Well, let’s see, Jaen is a little of a small city, won’t you agree? It is a small city and the only advantage it has is that you can move around. Anyway, walking, depending on your means, anyways, you don’t invest time in means of transportation because you don’t have to wait for a train, you don’t have to wait for a bus, you don’t have to wait for a metro. In other words, you don’t lose time, much time in commuting. Commutes are very short. Then, the basic utilities are covered, you can agree. And well, it is true there is a little of lacks in the topics of leisure, cultural topics, that indeed is a little empty. But oh well, there is also the possibility that cities like Granada, Cordoba, are an hour away. Ok? Then, when you look for something else you have to move on to those places. But well, when you’re in a working routine, involving morning and afternoon, I arrive at 9:30 at home, I eat dinner and I lay down, I mean, I practically don’t care being in Madrid, Cordoba, Sevilla, you know?

**Yes, you stay more at home…**

Of course, so to speak, I have every hour invested in this, you know? I mean, if I lived in any other place, I would do the same. In other words, I don’t feel difference living in one place or another. Only when you have free time. When you have free time, then I tell you, no idea. Because here there is lack of cultural offer. There is no theatre, there is no such, you know? And then you have to move to another place, ok? And then the average age is high because young people leave. I mean, all of my friends left, everyone who studies a technical degree, of course, because there are no opportunities.

**No?**

No. There are no opportunities. Of course, for me, as I work in this sector, there are. They all had to leave Spain. They all left Spain and since 3 or 4 years ago they’re coming back. They’re coming back but to Madrid, Barcelona, Malaga, you know? Therefore, in Jaen most of people is old, there is only retired people, public servants who work for the municipality but, yeah, young people there aren’t many. Only the ones that studying at university but sooner or later they will leave because there are no opportunities for them.

**But they’re now coming back?**

Not to Jaen. The ones that left Spain are coming back to Spain.

**Oh, they went away from Spain.**

Yes. Everyone is agglutinating around Malaga or around Madrid. Or Barcelona. Because, let’s say, they’re absorbing, they don’t stop growing. I mean, Jaen population loses two or three thousand inhabitants. They’ve all lost them, every population, within the proving, everyone is losing. And, another province, like Malaga or Madrid, are growing a lot in population.

**So, what kind of opportunities are missing here for them to stay?**

Well, because there are no companies here, obviously here, private companies don’t come. There are no private companies here, no, no, no. I tell you so, here there is only public administration and this thing of milling olive oil. There not many more, no. Actually, the company… Well, there is only one company in Martos, which is Valeo, that make car lights and well, it is the first, the company that earns the most in the province. That one, is the only one, and then the next one is InterOleo I don’t know if you know it? InterOleo? Which is the second company that earns the most. And that’s the proof, that we jump into the whole topic of olive oil and such. There are no industries or strong private companies that can absorb all that people, then they’re not here. Those are in Malaga and Madrid. And maybe some in Sevilla, too. And well, that’s where people go to. What they want to get, at the end, if you want to have a high salary, or acceptable, there are those places, you know?

**But for you there are opportunities here, to stay.**

Yes, yes, yes, yes. No, of course, that’s why I’m here. I also moved, I was working in Toledo, too. I was some time in Toledo. In that period, I started here as, I told you, in 2013, but until now there was a stop where I was a year working away, I was in Toledo. I mean, there is opportunity throughout Spain, because Spain is, well, primary sector and it is very strong, the agro-alimentary sector. The agro-alimentary industry in Spain is important, you know? Therefore, for us, agronomists, there are opportunities everywhere.

**And what type of energy sources do you use at home and in the field?**

Energy sources. We’ll the main energy sources are carbon fuels, come on, Diesel. Diesel is what is used, well, regarding tractors, diesel. Also, right now I’m using what are vibrators to take down the olives, or the trimming machine, maybe now with electric battery, a lot of them. You know? Now they’re changing entirely, also from gasoline now changing to electric tools. But well, to move the machinery, right now it is clearly diesel. And, well, yes, introducing electricity. And then, well, you’ve already seen that we installed electric panels, in the cooperative. Yes, it is all with solar panels and then this heating works out from the olives pit and the mill is also with olive pits, for the heating.

**And it also has solar panels?**

The mill, no. But a lot of fossil fuels, in farming, to move the machinery, which is the main thing, well yes, we use a lot of fuels. Because most of the operations are carried out with the tractor.

**And at home?**

At home it is also with diesel, too. The heating. A special one that is for heating.

**And do you also use the wood?**

And natural gas. Well, but that one is for leisure. A fire is mostly leisure. No.

**And did you say your plot has irrigation?**

Yes.

**There is access to it. And where is your plot? Is it close to here?**

Yes, in Mengibar.

**Oh, in Mengibar.**

Yes, in Mengibar.

**And why did you choose to do this job, in general?**

Well, after all… I’m sorry. Well, at the end, circumstances lead you. You mean in the professional area? Well, at the end, circumstances lead you, you specialize through the way because, well, when I started doing this kind of work, I didn’t know why would I come here, it was not what I had it mind. But I started doing some internship, ok? And I started to specialize in it, and a position opened here, in this company, because Salvador, who is the manager, was in the position that I have. Then, when I was doing the internship, it happened that he moved and the position was free, and since I was the internship then… It happened a little by chance and such. And then you specialize in an area and, clearly, you keep working on that. You don’t go working from one area to the other. I mean, I specialized in olive groves and olive oil and, clearly, now everything that I’m going to work is in olive groves and oil. I will hardly change area.

**So, did you say your plot is a family one, so did you learn to work in the fields since you were you?**

Yes, yes, yes. Since I was child, yes.

**So, you know the farm life since always.**

Yes, yes. Yes, yes, yes. From every perspective, let’s say. From many points, well, from the technical one, from here, from working it, in a nutshell. So, of course, at the moment of giving a recommendation I know what it involves so, yeah, like that… I have many points of view.

**And is there something you would like to change?**

Regarding the field of farming, my own job, where?

**Yes, all of these.**

In everything?

**Yes, is there something that you would like to change regarding those?**

Well, changing, but it is not in my hands. That is my hands or not? I mean, there are things that are not in my hands, which means I can’t do it myself.

**No but…**

Well, that there is a lot of uncertainty in the agricultural area because there are many variables that you don’t control. You don’t control many variables such as climate, time, each year is different, no year is like the other, then there is uncertainty and I would like for it to reduce a little. That uncertainty. And I would also like a little that some young people would incorporate into farming, because the average age is too high. The average age is too high. And then, well, yes, I would like that there was opportunity for young people to incorporate as farmers in their family exploitation.

**And do you know why there aren’t much young people doing it?**

Well, like we said, because it is a very uncertain sector, it has little stability. In summer it is very hot, in winter it is very cold, then it is not too gratifying, non-attractive, let’s say, for the people to think of designing a life working there. So, it is done by the parents that have always done it but the parents who have always done it don’t want their kids to have the life they have had. No. They want them to do something else, that they have another job, but not for them to be here because they know it fluctuates a lot, anyways. So, it is the parents the one that don’t want it. So, there parents are now alone, they’re older, and there is no generational replacement.

**And do you know why the parents don’t want their kids to…**

Ah, well, because they think that the life they have or the life they have is bad, and all parents want they children to live better than what they did, no? So, maybe their kids are studying and they want them to go somewhere, for them to study, to develop, for them to work in a different thing. Yeah, parents don’t want it.

**And do you think you can live a good life out of farming?**

You can live good as long as you have a large enough surface.

**And how big does it have to be?**

Here it is very small. Here, right now, the average size is three and half hectares. Then, three and a half hectares won’t give you enough for… Just as a small complement to your income, to your job, because as I have told you I do it in my free time, on the weekends, and then it can give you some complement to your income, but it could never be your whole income because the size is too small. I mean, because we started with a large plot but it has become a small plot from father to children, *boom, boom, boom,* and then, at the end, each one is left with a small plot. It is a family thing; it is a hobby thing, so it is not such a professional thing.

**And do you know what size do you need in order to…**

Well, yeah, 25 hectares. 25, approximately. 20, 25. But realize that the average size is 3.5 hectares. So, the size of the plots also makes the young people unable to stay because, no.

**And you parents live from farming?**

No, they don’t. They are, well, they have another education and have dedicated to their own thing.

**Oh, they also do something else?**

Yes. My father is a mathematician, for example, and my mother studied tourism and works in the area of tourism, but they’re not in the area of…

**So, you are active here in the cooperative and are you also participating in other organizations maybe politics?**

No. I don’t have any position of popular representation nor anything. I’m exclusively here. No, don’t I have a representation position nor anything.

**And you’re not interested to do so or?**

Well, I would like it but if I’m specialized in this, I would like to join an organization or something, to join and, after all, as I said, I like, let’s say, for the people to live better. So, if I can collaborate and so. Anyway, facilitate things for people. To think how to, as we said the size is very small, but to think how young people could stay here, changing that property distribution, that it could be changed, unified. There are many things so I wouldn’t mind or I would even like to participate in some forum, in some organization or something, were I could provide my ideas, my experience, my vision, and then I would like to check it. But when I hear people talking, I can see they don’t know what they… I see they’re kind of lost. I mean, I could help them and for that to help to improve this. But, well, at the end, political organizations are a little disastrous, they a mess. Yes, yes, yes. And, I don’t know. Maybe with time, soon, I would consider it.

**And is it in the local politics?**

Well, in the one that gives me, anyway, in the one that could be done. So, not local but maybe economical, you know? Because the local one because these things, that are bigger, you know? Like unification issues, you know? Are more at places, you know? Going higher. You know? At the local level, no. It wouldn’t be possible. It wouldn’t be possible to make the changes that… For this it is required a higher, larger, political level.

**And how is the relationship here with politics, with farmers?**

No, here there is not much relationship. No. Often politics come to visit, to learn of what is done, anyway, they come from everywhere. So, they always come because they come visiting.

**And are there things you would like to change or improve in terms of that?**

Well, as I said I would like. If they come, I would like to participate with them and propose to them these things regarding plots unification and such. To be able to… Because actions need to be taken for young people to incorporate in farming so, yes, I would like to collaborate with them. No for them to only come and visit but to be able to sit down and propose. And for them from their position, to try to execute it and for them to consult us, you know? To know how to carry it on. But I would like it.

**And that doesn’t happen right now?**

No, not right now. Man, with my position as a technician I don’t have much of a relationship with them. It doesn’t happen, not with me. I don’t know if it with others, there is the president, the manager, there is this relationship. I don’t know. But not with me. No.

**And are there things you would like to accomplish? Do you have dreams?**

Yes, of course, everyone has dreams, no?

**Yes. And are there things you would still like to…**

Yes, of course. Of course.

**And are these things you would like to share or?**

Yes, well, let’s see, in the professional field you always want to keep going forward, no? I mean, no one ever likes, I’ve never, changing of company 4 times. And well, at the end you’re always learning, you’re learning and the thing you always want to keep going forward. Keep going forward. Then, well, I don’t like to stay at one place the whole time, anyway. To keep going forward and learning things, applying them, and developing yourself. And, well, I would like to have a team, because right now I’m working with another person, but to have a larger working team, to coordinate them.

**And do you think you have enough opportunities to do so?**

Yes, yes.

**Ok, And, how is your physical health, your physical condition?**

Well, good because as I tell you every day I do and hour and a half of sports.

**Every day?**

Well, 4 or 5 days a week. 4 or 5 days. Then I always do one hour and a half of sport. Now, depending on the time of the year we are at, if it is summer, I mean, there is more time of sunlight, maybe I’ll do cycling. And now in winter I do more swimming, I also run. Anyway. In other times of I do something else. Anyway. I change sports. I do squash, too. Anyway. I do varied sports. And, well, in principle all good. I do a check-up every year and my analytics are all within normal. Everything is perfect, you know? Then, in health, we are very well. And sports I do a lot. My free time I basically use it do sports. Because at the end I sleep better and… you know?

**And do you feel happy, satisfied with your life?**

Yes, yes. Man, you always want to improve it but oh well. The thing is that I have very little time. I would like to have more free time. Because of my work schedule and such I don’t have any, practically. Then there are many things that I left on hold and I can’t do them, because I have no time. Therefore, I would like to have much more free time.

**And how is your relationship with the community and the family?**

Good, I have the perfect family.

**Is there something you would like to change?**

From the family? No, no, no. I mean, we discuss a lot, like the parents with the children, but no, I mean, that’s something normal. What are you going to change? But well, yeah, the relationship with the community and such, good. The only thing is what I told you, that there are a lot of people, friends of mine, who left. You know? And that’s the thing that, no, the downside. You know, sometimes I feel a little lonelier, you know? It is somewhat of a shame, if everyone was here it would all be fantastic.

**And are you in touch with more young people who work in this area?**

Yes, yes, yes, yes. I have a lot of contacts. I mean, because all of the technicians, many technicians here, from cooperatives, like me, gather once a week, once every fifteen days in Geolit, I don’t know if you know it. In Mengibar Geolit.

**Ah, Mengibar I do.**

The technological sector… No. Geolit is the scientific-technological park, Geolit, from Mengibar. So, we gather every fifteen days there. Then, everyone shares what they had been seeing, yeah, the data from their zones. Then, we create a common picture of what’s going on in the province. Then, well, yeah, we gather… and it is very young people. We gather every fifteen days, yes. And everyone shares their experiences. Yes.

**Thanks a lot. Now we would like to know, because we have discussed different topics, and we would like to know what topics are important for you, in order to live well, to feel good. And what topics are the most important, are not very important or are less important. And we would like to discuss it topic by topic, if that is ok. And we have some cards for that. And we begin with self-expression. That you’re able to express yourself.**

Let’s see. *Being able to express creatively and being respected by everyone else.* Ok. What do I do?

**If you could tell us what relevance this topic has for your life. Is it important for you?**

No, no, not right now it is not too important.

**Not too important?**

No. Because for my job and such I don’t need to express in a creative manner, right? No.

**And do you feel you’re able to express freely? That you’re able to say what you want?**

Yes. Yes, yes, yes. Yes, yes. I can express freely.

**And taking care of the environment?**

READS CARD. This is very important, of course. We put it here.

**On top.**

Yes.

**And why?**

No, come on, I live worried, yes, I live worried precisely about the environment. We are worried and we have it present every day, in our decision making.

**Then…**

It is very important. Furthermore, it is our livelihood. We are worried, very worried. Actually, let’s see, I go now to nature and see a dried swamp and I get sad. Yeah. Of course, because we irrigate, we have the swamp and we have to extract water in order for us to irrigate our plots. Then you go to the mountain range, I don’t know if you know it, Segura, the Segura-Cazorla Mountain range. There it is El trance swamp. A very large swamp, the largest in Andalusia, and it currently is at it’s 15, 16%. So, I went there and saw it, and I didn’t want to look at it. You know? It is something very important, of course.

**Then you about it a lot?**

Of course. Yes, yes. Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes.

**And spirituality?**

Spirituality? READS CARD. No, no. READS CARD. Well, I… No, neither. No. It is not very important.

**And public participation?**

READS CARD. This I had already said is very important for me. Due to my interest, to participate in these associations, parties, ok? To be able to try to change, to try to change it. It is very important.

*Good morning! How is it going? Good? Ok. Me, by the end, when… You know that.*

**No but it is ok. We are talking to Jose.**

What is pending?

**Oh, hi. It is like 15 minutes. Is it ok or?**

**CUT TO PART 2**

**We continue.**

Ok. Yes, I think it is important but not excessively. I can’t put it at the same level as this. You know? No.

**Ok, ok. And social support and social relationships?**

Feelings. Feelings are very important, no? This is very important. Sharing emotions? Yes, of course.

**Up?**

Exactly.

**And the topic of safety?**

Let’s see. I live in a very safe, very stable environment. Therefore, of course, since it is a fact for me, I consider it a normal thing. If I lived somewhere else… I mean, clearly, I want to be safe and protected from violence. In the environment I’m living at right now, I’m living in such an environment. Therefore, right now, I sort of don’t really value it. Since I have it. Then, I don’t know. For me it is important but I already have it.

**Ok. Then in the middle?**

Yes…

**And mental health**

READS CARD. It is super important. And that’s also why I do sport. A lot of sport. To get rid of stress, to feel good, to feel healthy and to be healthy. Then it is super important. Without this there would be nothing. Right? Therefore, this is very important.

**On top. And education?**

READS CARD. Bah, this is very important, too. KEEPS READING. That one we put there.

**In the middle.**

Yes.

**And do you think you have enough opportunities to educate yourself?**

Yes. Well, I actually studied an engineering bachelor and then I did a Master. And I could have done more but I’m not going to do more. I could still do more but we are continuously learning. And critical thinking is super important. Because, well, there is a lot of people who doesn’t have it and that’s why we don’t use it, because they don’t have that thinking… And also, maybe here, in the province, no… Because as I said people is very conformist, and then conformism make doesn’t allow people to… it impedes society to move forwards, therefore it is very important. Critical thinking is very important.

**And that could improve here…**

Yes, yes. A lot, a lot, a lot, a lot, a lot. Yes.

**And self-determination?**

*You are capable of stablishing objectives and follow them, and being able to take your own decisions…* Let’s see, I am a little conflicted, ok? Because of the plot’s boss. Right now… I’m not the one who sets the objectives.

**Ok, it is somewhere in the middle.**

Yes.

**And is it something you would like to change?**

Yes, yes, yes. The thing is if at the end you change it and you stablish the objectives, at the end you also have more responsibilities, too. So, you get out of your comfort zone, let’s say. Then, well… We would have to see.

**And mobility?**

Let’s see, mobility. READS CARD… around the house. Well, moving, that I do… Let’s see, this, as we said about mobility, we don’t invest time in mobility because we are, you know? All it takes is 6 minutes, to get to work. Then… Anyways. It is like this thing of safety. These two things I have them, therefore… If I was in Madrid, I would tell you this is super important because I would waste two hours in going and coming from work and I would like to do 6 minutes. Both safety and this, I have it. So, I don’t know where to put it. I don’t know if I make myself clear, that I have both things, so…

**And a satisfactory job?**

*I am capable of looking for a significant job and*… READS CARD. Evidently, if the job is not satisfactory, evidently you won’t feel comfortable when going home. I have said, that the important thing to me is helping people making decisions, that later they come and tell me it had all gone pretty well. That’s what I liked the most about my job. So, I could say it is very important.

**And that is something you have right now?**

Yes, of course. I said, when I go, we make the decision and many come and say “so good, so nice that…”. And for me this is the most important. I have it.

**Physical health?**

READS CARD. Adequately, yes. This I have already said it, I do sport and right now, well, I have all of my tests going very well. And that is good.

**On top, too.**

It is super important. Health is the principal thing.

**And final one, the leisure and free time.**

Oh… This is something I don’t have much of. This is super important. Yes.

**It is something important that you would to change?**

Yes. The health, leisure… Health, leisure, environment and relationships with others. These are very important.

**These are the most…**

Yes. Ok? They’re the pyramid.

**Picture of the capability cards:**

**Yes. And to finish, we have some questions about the subproducts and how you manage them. Do you know what it is that you do with the trimming wastes at your family’s plot?**

Yes. That is added as vegetation cover. It is grinded and is left as vegetation cover. Yes. For it to degrade and incorporate as organic matter, little by little, and it humidifies… And, well, provide everything.

**And why do you do it like that?**

Well, because the other alternative is burning it and burning it is also more expensive. It is expensive and this is the most effective way, most efficient, and after all, as we mentioned, it benefits the environment because you are reducing, I mean, you don’t generate CO2. Well, and at the end you also avoid erosion because you’re adding a sort of cover that protects from the drop impact, so that it won’t directly get onto the ground producing erosion, so you’re also protecting against erosion. You know? That’s why so many add it, after all, and it is interesting because of that. Increasing organic matter on the soil, reducing erosion, it also has too a small herbicide effect, a little, because it reduces weeds. And, well, after all you’re not producing CO2. So that is perfect.

**Ok. We want to show you this image which is the project we work with. And the idea is that here there are different local communities that could provide the biomass, which could be the trimming waste, alperujo; and it is processed in a biorefinery that can generate different products, like biodiesel that can be used by the maritime sector but also biochar, for example, that can be beneficial for the region. And we are here to understand if it would be possible to develop such a system in this region, and what kind of biomass could be exploited. So, what do you think about this system? And would it be possible to use the trimming waste, for example?**

The trimming wastes. You mean take it out from my land so you take it away? Well, I wouldn’t like for you to take my trimming wastes because I’d be losing that benefit I get. Because I apply it there, and as I said, I increase organic matter, the levels which are very low, then that’s the only way I have to provide organic products to my plot. Because manure is not viable, since there is no livestock farming, then practically the only way I have to do it is, well with the herbaceous cover, and with this cover made out of the trimming waste. Then you would be taking away one of these ways.

**Ok. Then you wouldn’t be interested on that.**

The for me, it depends on what do you give to me if you take it away, you know? If the other is more beneficial. Then for you it would be biomass, biochar, biofuel… Let’s see, I would only do this if this was another source of income. At the end it is like we said, it is like a company. If you take away that biomass but at the end it can be seen as a source of… I mean, for me it is not an issue, the trimming waste. No. for people it is not an issue they want to get rid from.

**Because most of them…**

Everyone applies it to the soil and they’re happy. You know? Then, it is not an issue as in “it is here and I need to get rid of it. We’ll see how they take it away”. You know? For me, for the people it doesn’t represent a problem. Now, if you take it and it generates an income, well…

**But then you require of an alternative for the soil? Because you also have vegetation cover.**

Yes, it would only be vegetation cover. Vegetation cover.

**But that wouldn’t be enough for the soil?**

Is it enough? No. Let’s see, it is never enough organic matter. It is not enough. Take into account that here we have a level of 0.8, less than 1% of organic matter. It is very low and we need to take it to 2. Then, there is no money in the world to get manure, to get… Only to get organic matter. To increase that is very slow. Then, that’s not something that surpluses. Maybe somewhere else, but not here. Here we have Mediterranean weather and you know it, it is poor in organic matter. Then there is no other way. Therefore, if it would represent an income, to get it to you… Of course, with the biochar topic… Income. For the biochar, well, it would be interesting.

**Then if you could obtain income and an alternative**

For the organic matter, yes. Of course. Of course. Yes, yes, yes. I mean, if it not much for the income, no. No. Because I would have to spend more money to get some other organic matter, when I already have it. Then if it represents a source of income, yes. Ok?

**Yes. I think that was everything we wanted to ask. Oh! You mentioned that you also do compost here, with the alperujo, with leaves…**

And manure or urea.

**And that you also apply it in the plots here?**

Yes. The thing is that those leaves, when the olive goes to mill, it carries residual leaves and those are the leaves that… So, the ones the farmers get to the mill. And that’s what is used. Which is a subproduct, the leave. Then those leaves, with the alperujo, well it needs a nitrogenous source for the bacteria to work, so that nitrogenous source is provided with the manure or nitrogenous fertilizer, urea style. Then it was done, five years ago, and we generated a compost that was then taken to the plots and was applied.

**For both the integrated and ecological plots?**

Yes, for everything. Mainly for the ecological. Mainly for the ecological. Because in those they can’t use fertilizer from chemical synthesis. So, everything they can use is alperujo’s compost or other kind of compost. Or composted organic matter.

**What amount?**

10 000 kg per hectare, of compost. 10 000 kg. Yeah, every two years.

**Ok. Well, thanks a lot for all the information.**

Perfect.