

## **'The fish miracle': the social initiative that promotes self-sufficiency at Polígono Sur in Seville**

**LOCATION:** Seville

**DURATION:** 1' 38"

**SUMMARY:** What does Sole have in her house? A swimming pool? Residents of Polígono Sur ask this when they are nearby. Sole's family is the first to participate in the 'fish miracle', a social, educational and ecological research project which the neighbourhood collective 'Verdes del Sur' in Polígono Sur has set up, an area of Seville which has been particularly affected by unrest and exclusion. With the help of the University of Seville, residents in this area are trying to find their own alternatives through aquaponics; ecological cultivation which combines aquaculture and hydroponics, the cultivation of plants without soil, used for self-sufficiency of food. This pilot project has achieved good results, 20kg of fish and 60kg of vegetables, so the idea is to extend it to other families. To do this, they have used goteo.org to raise the funding which will allow 'fish miracle' to become a source of employment and food for a good number of Polígono Sur residents.

### **VTR:**

These tilapias are forming part of a miracle... The fish miracle, a community initiative which is trying to change the situation of Polígono Sur in Seville, where they have been struggling for years to be free of unrest and exclusion. Sole and her son Alejandro have the first prototype of this pilot project installed in their house, which has attracted lots of curiosity.

**SOLEDAD NIETO**  
**Verdes del Sur**

*"They ask what is on my patio, do I have a swimming pool, I say no, I have animals, fish for aquaponics."*

**ALEJANDRO PONCE**  
**Verdes del Sur**

*"So that a family can subsist with this fish system."*

This is an aquaponics system, the combination of aquaculture and hydroponics, the cultivation of plants without soil. It has been installed in their house by this researcher at the University of Seville and the voluntary work of Verdes del Sur, a collective of 50 families in Polígono.

**JUAN MANUEL BLANCO**  
**Coord. Verdes del Sur**

*"We are claiming things that are lacking in our area, and one of the things lacking is good food."*

**SOLEDAD NIETO**  
**Verdes del Sur**

*"There are many people who need food to eat because they are getting it out of the bins."*

**VÍCTOR FDEZ. CABANÉS**  
**Faculty of Agronomical Engineering**

*"And what we are trying to do is simply use the technical knowledge that we have at the University to be able to maximise the production and yields we can get from these systems."*

**Ambience:** Look! Acuaponic tomatoes!

And as you can see, it works!

**PEPE LOBILLO**  
**Polígono Sur Comprehensive Plan**

*"We have been doing it for a year and a half and we have produced 20kg of fish and 60kg of vegetables, and the family that maintains it does it perfectly."*

And this is why they want to extend it to more families. To do this, they have started a crowdfunding campaign, so that aquaponics become a source of work and self-sufficiency for the residents of Polígono Sur.