

*Una manera de hacer Europa*



# BUENAS PRÁCTICAS

## Actuaciones Cofinanciadas

Refurbishment of the green areas  
of the Princesa Sofía park  
La Línea de la Concepción City Council

**Programa Operativo  
Plurirregional de España**

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**Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional**



## Good Practice Report

The operation called refurbishment of the green areas of the Princesa Sofia park in the city of La Línea de la Concepción, it is paramount importance for the town, as this park is a large area of 155.000 square metres, and it is situated in the urban area, next to Gibraltar border.



The citizens was not benefiting of this green area, due to the park had many shortcomings, such as street furniture in poor condition, there was no automatic watering system, some zones with scanty tree cover, moreover there were some barrier that not allow to walk, even hazardous objects such as sheets steel were arounding some area of the park.



Thanks to European Regional Development Funds the Princesa Sofia Park have been become in a leisure area where the citizens from La Línea de la Concepcion can enjoy environment, a large green area which it have been improved the street furniture with benches, bins and picnic site, in the park has been set up an automatic watering system to turn the park into a greener space, new trees have been sowed, hazardous objects such as sheets steel were arounding some zones have been removed, currently in this area there are new sport facilities like petanca court, running track and gymnasium outdoor, also skate rink has been repaired. On the other hand n the park a new only space in the city where has been planted a several trees called Dragos has been made.



The cost of this intervention have been to a total of 249.976,72 €, eligible amount to 194.461,20 € and **FEDER amount to 155.568,96 €**, the impact has been on every citizens of the city of La Línea de la Concepción, 63.250 inhabitants

### STANDARDS OF GOOD PRACTICE

This operation has been carried out with every standrards that are included as good practices, to be co-finance by **FEDER**.

**FEDER plays an important role in this operation, it is have been spread properly to beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries and general inhabitants**, using the regulatory format as reports, bid specifications, projects, work signs, etc.



With regulatory diffusion the role of the FEDER has been spread in this action in several ways, such as press news.



On the other hand, In the park was organized an opening ceremony called "Parqueando", where 15 associations of the socio-cultural sphere, were participated developing several activities throughout the day, also it is used to posters and leaflets.



On the opening materials such as backpacks, drink cans, cell phone covers, caps and glasses were distributed to the assistants





In addition, it has been also made an informative video of the operation co-financed by FEDER as well as the opening ceremony, spreading across social networks with great impact, reaching in 24 hours to 5,367 people and nearly 3,000 reproductions.

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=3412338128841166&id=266948690046808](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=3412338128841166&id=266948690046808)



**The operation includes an innovative elements**, since inside the park a single area has been created in the city of a kind of tree called Drago, typical of tropical climates.

Moreover a new and novel system has been installed to practice physical exercises with your own body weight, in the system, the interest is in the movements of muscle groups rather than in power and effort. The improvement of the skating rink within the park has also been innovation, as most of them are outside these environments.

The street furniture used in the implementation of the park is of high durability and strength. For this reason, this type of street furniture has been innovated, using reinforced concrete elements that increase the useful life of banks and bins. Due to the fact that there is an association to practice petanque, where the most users are elderly people, two courts have been installed to practice petanque, the only located in public area. Another of the innovative elements installed is the inclusion of a 2.450-metres running circuit which go by the inside of the park, being the only running circuit located in a public park.

Refurbishment the park Princess Sofia achieves **the Adequacy of the results to the objectives set**, thanks to the European Regional Development Fund, have been managed to get the results that it had been laid down from the beginning. These objectives we achieved include **increasing the quality of green areas**, carrying out a tree seeding that they bear the climate of the area, and creating a zone of Dragos and implementation of automatic system watering, it make a real lung for city. In the same way, it has been possible **to increase the security** of the area, removing groves in poor condition, and some steel sheets were surrounding areas of the park, meaning a danger to children and elderly people.

Another objective achieved is **the increase in the living standard of citizens**, now that **physical exercise is promoted**, with the different facilities that this action has been introduced to practice sports in the area such as running track, petanque courts, improvement of the skating rink and the physical exercise area. Thanks to the European Regional Development Funds it has contributed to **the improvement of the ecosystem, especially with a lot of bird species** live in the park and others birds that stop in their migration from Africa to Europe.



**This operation have contributed to solving a problem or weakness detected in the area of execution, the park had an area, it did not has watering, the zone was neglected, with an old work facility. It has been enhanced.**



The park furniture as benches, bins, watering points, were in poor condition, their improvement have been carried out by the **FEDER**. Accessibility to the park has increased to a great extend after removal of the remains of trees (stump), steel sheets and debris of buildings.

In the same way, it complies with a **high level of cover of the population**, because the park is in a privileged situation, located in the centre of the city, on borderland with Gibraltar and it is a necessary to pass for park to gain access to sports complex of La Línea and its beaches, it has a direct influence on the total inhabitants of La Línea, **63.250 people**. Due to this situation, it is necessary to take into account every people on indirectly influence, the people cross the border towards Gibraltar are a total of 10,000 people every day, approximately **three million people can be indirect beneficiaries.**

On the other hand, **the consideration of the horizontal standards of equal opportunities and non-discrimination, as well as social responsibility and environmental sustainability have been taken into account, equal opportunities for men and women** has been a the fundamental pillars to choose and to carry the operation out the operation refurbishment of green areas of the Princesa Sofia park. The city council has incorporated three observatories, of Equality, Environment and Mobility. These observatories have been used for every selection of the operation

Also, it has taken into account that the company carrying out the work, has implemented an Equality Plan.



In the execution of the project, **the incorporation of non-sexist language and images** has been considered, both in the documentation generated by the proceedings and in every spreading actions.

**The standards Environmental Sustainability** has been taken into account in the Execution of the Work as well , because this operation has contributed in the regeneration of green areas, the installation of watering system, planting of tree species, increasing the quality of this green area and contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gases. On the other hand, it contributes to increasing biodiversity, having a great environment impact on several bird species.

This action presents **Synergy with other policies or implementation of public intervention, a particular with the Action Plan for Sustainable Energy of the city of La Línea (Mayors' pact)**, where the lines to be followed have been described to improve the environmental situation of the city, specifically the revaluation and improvement of urban area (green zone and sustainable mobility). Likewise, it presents synergy with the Andalusian Regional Government's Ministry of the Environment, through **the City 21 Urban Sustainability Program**, which aims to substantially improve the quality of the urban environment in Andalusian cities and quality of life of its citizens.



