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BUENAS PRÁCTICAS
Operaciones Cofinanciadas

“Vigo Vertical”
“Escalators connecting Puerta Del Sol with
Abeleira Menendez”

Vigo City Council

Programa Operativo
Plurirregional de España

Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional

Año 2019

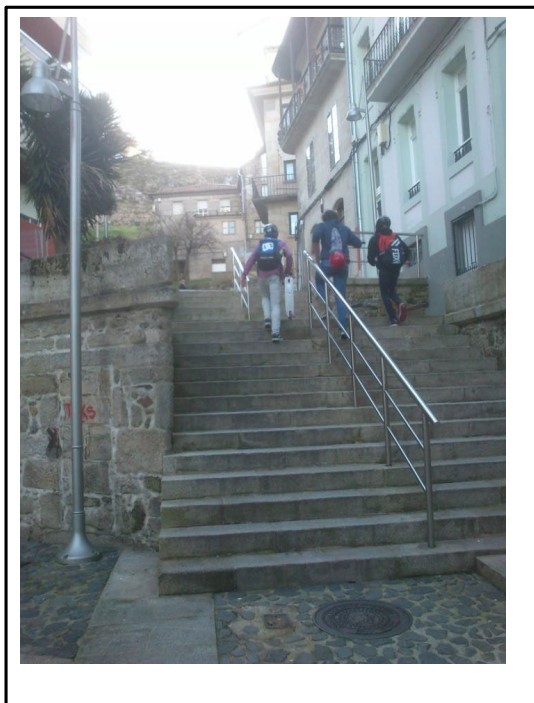
GOOD PRACTICE INTEGRATED SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (ISDS) “VIGO VERTICAL” - VIGO CITY COUNCIL

ACTION: “ESCALATORS CONNECTING PUERTA DEL SOL WITH ABELEIRA MENENDEZ”

The objective of the present action was the installation of two escalators to overcome the strong gradient in II República Street. The escalators cover the street section between the public fountain of Bajada a Príncipe, to the connection with Abeleira Menéndez Street, saving a gradient of more than nine meters and including the three existing flights of escalators.

This action impacts favourably urban accessibility, since factors such as the rugged orography of the municipality, the population ageing trend and the percentage of people with some type of disability, make urban mobility a problem to tackle, especially in the area of intervention.

The inclusion of mechanical transport elements that make it possible to overcome the existing unevenness, facilitates mobility and bolster the various pedestrian and bicycle corridors, thereby promoting the intermodality of sustainable transport.



Estado anterior



Estado actual

The action has an eligible cost of **721.573 €** with an 80 % ERDF grant of **577.259 €**. It is estimated that the action will have a more concrete impact on the Historic Center of the city, with 5,581 inhabitants.

1. ERDF ROLE IN THE ACTION HAS BEEN CONVENIENTLY DISSEMINATED AMONG BENEFICIARIES, POTENTIAL BENEFICIARIES AND THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL

The communication carried out within the framework of this action has been implemented through the following elements:

- Vigo City Council ISD Strategy website



- On site board and information plate



- Press dissemination



Video spots

To publicize this action, promotional videos were made during the escalators opening event held on May 22, 2018. For this event authorities of the different public administrations involved as well as 15 associations were invited. There was also an influx of citizens. All the attendees were informed of the participation of the ERDF in the inaugurated escalators.

Links to the aforementioned videos can be found in the "information and communication activities" section included in the "Vigo City Council Urban Development Strategy", inserted in the "European Regional Development Fund" section of Vigo City Council website.



- Radio slots

In order to disseminate the “VigoVertical” project in which this action is framed, radio slots were broadcasted on different local radio stations. In them, the objectives to be achieved are indicated and reference is made to the co-financing of the European Regional Development Fund.

These radio slots are available to citizens in the Vigo City Council website in the "information and communication activities" section included in the "Vigo City Council Urban Development Strategy", within the "European Fund for Regional Development” section.

- Informational brochure



Opening event

hoxe.vigo.org/imx/videos/video_escaleras_fase2.mp4



MELLORA DA ACCESIBILIDADE PEONIL
ENTRE A PORTA DO SOL
E ABELEIRA MENÉZDES (Fase II)

CONCELLO
DE VIGO

Fondo Europeo de Desenvolvemento Regional (FEDER)

Unha maneira de facer Europa

MELLORA DA ACCESIBILIDADE PEONIL
ENTRE A PORTA DO SOL E ABELEIRA MENÉZDES
(Fase II)

VIGOVERTEAL é un novo Vigo tradicional e actual, un Vigo integrado e accesible, un Vigo responsable e limpo que chea emprego e riqueza.

VIGOVERTEAL é un novo e novo patrimonio mellorando a accesibilidade e a mobilidade cidadá, creando un novo tecido urbano.

CONCELO DE VIGO

MURALLA DE VIGO
O Corazón da Cidade

Vivimos nañha cidade fermosa

PERCORRIDO AUTOGUADO

Fondo Europeo de Desenvolvemento Regional (FEDER)

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2. THE ACTION INCLUDES INNOVATIVE ASPECTS

The innovative nature of the action focuses on the integration of mechanical transport elements (escalators) in the surrounding area of II República Street, located in the Historic Center of the city, which constitutes a heritage, cultural and historical environment, linked to the layout of the old city walls, which connects the coastal area with the slopes of O Castro Mountain.

The intervention area is characterised by the existence of steep slopes resolved by stairs and long routes, which over time has considerably aggravated pedestrian circulation leading to the consequent deterioration and degradation of the area, bringing to light the pressing need to revitalise it. This has been achieved, together with the renovation of existing buildings, with the present action that incorporates, in a novel way, mechanical transport elements in order to improve accessibility, thus boosting the increase in pedestrian circulation and recovering an emblematic area of the city (original nucleus settlement area) that connects the its centre with the town hall and with such a remarkable point of geography as Vigo O Castro Mountain.

3. THE ACTION RESULTS MATCH THE ESTABLISHED OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this action is to improve urban mobility from a sustainable approach, developing actions aimed at minimizing the intervention area rugged orography, thus facilitating communication between different routes or urban areas and generating a synergy in the operating environments general mobility.

From an environmental approach through this action the revitalization and stimulus of the targeted area has been achieved by reducing environmental and acoustic contamination levels via the elimination of barriers and the resulting increase of pedestrian circulation. It is also important to note that the increase in pedestrian traffic has facilitated and promoted the enhancement of different emblematic urban elements existing in the aforementioned area.

The incorporation of escalators, on a route marked by steep gradients, favours direct communication between two important areas of the city in a more accessible and sustainable way for the entire population, especially those with some type of mobility restrictions. It also improves a connection that previously was made through stairs that functioned as a deterrent to circulation in the area.

4. CONTRIBUTION TO THE RESOLUTION OF A PROBLEM OR WEAKNESS DETECTED IN THE EXECUTION TERRITORIAL SCOPE

The Vigo urban morphology is strongly influenced by the area rugged orography with maximum gradients perpendicular to the coastline, decisively conditioning the layout of the streets and, by extension, urban mobility.

This determining orography is especially decisive in the surrounding area of the city's historic quarter and in the downtown area, in such a way that they hinder its mobility and the urban continuity of certain areas with the adjacent urban areas.

These factors have resulted in the fact that certain areas of the city, such as the one in which this action is being implemented, have suffered a certain neglect. In addition, the orographic problem becomes really troubling in a city with an increasing ageing trend. These adds to those people with mobility difficulties due to some type of disability and those for whom the difficulties are transitory.

With the present action, by means of vertical mobility mechanical elements, the mobility of the entire population in general and, especially, of those with restrictions has been improved. This has generated a significant increase in pedestrian traffic in the area, which, together with the rehabilitation programs implemented, has contributed to the revitalization of an emblematic area of the city directly related to its foundation.

5. HIGH DEGREE OF COVERAGE OF THE TARGET POPULATION

The action covers all its main beneficiaries, namely, all citizens (292,986 inhabitants in 2017 according to Galician Statistics Institute). Notwithstanding the fact that the action is restricted to a specific area established in the ISD strategy with a population of 75,419 inhabitants, circulation through it is open to the entire population of the municipality.

Furhermother, it has to be mention visitors to the municipality, since the area of action is a natural route to access from the port area to a place as emblematic as O Castro Mountain. According to the National Statistics Institute hotel occupancy survey in August 2018, Vigo received a total of 49,483 travellers.

Lastly, and most importantly, the target group most directly favoured by the action are those with reduced mobility (the elderly, people with some type of disability, those with temporary mobility difficulties, etc.) who, thanks to the vertical mobility mechanical elements, get a new and more direct connecting route from the downtown area and the City Hall, with O Castro Mountain and the rest of the city.

6. CONSIDERATION OF THE HORIZONTAL CRITERIA FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION, AS WELL AS SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Regarding equal opportunities and non-discrimination, this action has a favourable impact creating an accessible itinerary for people with any type of mobility restriction, focusing especially on those with some type of disability and those belonging at the top of the city population pyramid, so that they can benefit under equal conditions from the possibilities offered by the opening of a route accessible to all.

On the other hand, in terms of social responsibility and environmental sustainability, the installation of escalators contributes to the elimination of barriers and guarantees accessibility, promoting cycling and pedestrian traffic, and other means of transport that are gaining prominence today such as electric scooters. All this leads to a reduction in the levels of environmental and noise pollution, by increasing the number of pedestrian users in the area to the detriment of private vehicles, positively influencing the development and enhancement of different emblematic urban elements of the area, and therefore, of the citizens quality of life living or working in this area.

7. SYNERGIES WITH OTHER POLICIES OR INSTRUMENTS OF PUBLIC INTERVENTION

The "Escalators connecting Puerta del Sol with Abeleira Menendez." action is part of one of the operations proposed within the framework of the Sustainable and Integrated Urban Development Strategy "Vigo Vertical", with other three actions directly linked to the one presented here: Implementation of sustainable urban development policies (VigoVertical) between San Salvador Street and Isabel la Católica Square and in Camilo José Cela Park and Juan Ramón Jiménez Street, together with the rehabilitation and transformation of the urban environment in Gran Vía.

Within Vigo ISDS, this action is, also, closely related to the operation "Reorganization and regulation of the urban road system" which aims to revitalize habitability and sustainable mobility in the area of intervention prioritizing sustainable and public transport, the promotion of cycling and walking and the reduction of motorized traffic areas.

Lastly, it should be noted that all of this is part of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) that the City Council has in place with actions similar to the one presented here, linking pedestrian routes through escalators situated at different troubling points due to the rugged terrain of the city. Moreover, this action is also directly related with other SUMP projects such as the implementation of a green-way on the old railway line, the implementation of 30km/h zones or the creation of a cycling path, through their ultimate aim of promoting an increase in cycling and walking.