





Una manera de Bacer Europa



DOCK ON THE GUADALQUIVIR RIVER IN THE TOWN OF ALGALLARIN (CORDOBA)

City council of Algallarin

Programa Operativo de Andalucía

Año 2020

Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional

DOCK ON THE GUADALQUIVIR RIVER IN THE TOWN OF ALGALLARIN (CORDOBA)

The action has consisted in the construction of a dock on the bank of the Guadalquivir River for recreational and sports uses including adequacy of its access roads, as well as in the improvement of the environment. This project aims to be a claim for tourism in the town and a leisure and sport centre for the inhabitants of the area.

This project has resulted in a total investment of EUR 50,000, of which EUR 35,000 have been co-funded by the European Union through the European Regional Development Fund. This project aims to increase the percentage of tourists engaged in activities related with the observation of nature during their visit, to reach 33.6% in 2023, as compared to 32.4% from 2017, although the current situation of the covid-19 pandemic may impair the achievement of these values until the health situation is normalised.



It is considered a Project's Good Practice since it meets the following criteria:

1. The ERDF's role has been suitably disseminated among the beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries, and the general public:

The beneficiary has displayed the required plaque for the users of these facilities seeking further dissemination of the role played by the ERDF in this project.



In addition, the official beneficiary's website, the City council of Algallarin, has published the news of the construction of the dock, making clear the contribution of the ERDF:

https://algallarin.es/regeneracion-ambiental-y-creacion-de-un-embarcadero-deportivo-en-la-ribera-del-rio-guadalquivir/



For its part, the Directorate General of European Funds of the Regional Government of Andalusia, has published this action through a local campaign. This time, the dissemination of the project consisted of a report in the central booklet (4 full pages) of the "20 Minutos" free newspaper. A total of 3,000 copies were distributed in the nearby towns of Montoro, Pedro Abad, Adamuz, and Algallarin itself. The 20 minutos newspaper cover showed the following banner:



And the contents of the central booklet consisted of 4 complete colour pages covering the action:



The local broadcasting campaign was reinforced by the broadcast of 107 radio slots on major regional stations such as Ser, Onda Cero, Cope, and Canal Sur radio: www.fondoseuropeosandal-1DEB719

Finally, the new website that the Directorate General of European Funds of the Regional Government of Andalusia keeps active includes a section on projects where co-funded actions are disseminated throughout Andalusia showing some photographs of the action and a brief summary. Here is a link:

https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/economiaconocimientoempresasyuniversidad/fondoseuropeosenandalucia/index.php/proyecto/367

2. The action incorporates innovative elements:

Algallarin is a municipality in the province of Cordoba that has always maintained a close relationship with the Guadalquivir River. More than half a century after becoming an agricultural colony, this Autonomous Local Entity is now looking for new wealth niches, and therein lies its innovative character, by planning a project to open a river dock.

The works of the dock, which lasted six months, concluded in September 2019 and consisted of the adequacy of the land, first, and then the foundations of the floating dock and the perimeter fencing were built to avoid falls. After establishing the picnic areas and planting 20 trees within the landscape regeneration of the environment, the work was completed with the construction of an access road from the outdoor parking lot.

In addition, the FIT (for its acronym in Spanish) modality for the Promotion of Tourism Infrastructures in which this aid is included, particularly benefits municipalities that treasure natural heritage without tourist exploitation. These aids improve the quality of these spaces by equipping them with equipment, recreational areas, and landscape adequacy. The Algallarin dock was one of five projects approved in 2018 for the province of Cordoba. As a whole, the aid to implement these initiatives amounted to EUR 106,000.

3. Adaptation of the obtained results to the established objectives:

It is the creation of a meeting space for neighbours and visitors, where water sports can be enjoyed next to the river bed of the Upper Guadalquivir River. Next to the dock, a picnic area has also been created with several tables, in an open space that is easily accessible from Algallarin through its bike path. The project has also led to the recovery of native vegetation, with the planting of 20 trees to preserve the area in this new tourist and recreational space.









4. Resolution contribution of a regional problem or weakness:

The small population of Algallarin, whose origins date back to the colonisation of 1953, has underpinned its economy in the cultivation of cotton and olive groves. The challenge for the 21st century has been the search for new activities based on leisure, recreational, and sports tourism.

The construction and implementation of the dock and the annexed facilities results in a new centre to generate economic activities related to leisure and sport, thus involving the local economy and fixing population to the rural environment. It is a rising process of a "new rural society" that, without forgetting the development of the agricultural sector, it is projected towards economic diversification within the new opportunities offered by the secondary and tertiary sector.



5. High target population coverage:

This project was born with the goal of serving neighbours (about 600 inhabitants) and inhabitants of the high Guadalquivir region for leisure, recreational, and sports activities, as well as visitors from more distant regions. Its implementation is intended to stimulate related economic activities.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has held back the expected figures in terms of the use and enjoyment of the dock, the City Council of Algallarin does not cease in its efforts to keep this space attractive to the neighbour and the visitor.

The most important moment of the new dock was the celebration of the IV Kayak Descent between Montoro, Algallarin, and Pedro Abad —organised in September 2019 by the GPS sports association—, in which about 100 paddlers from all over Spain participated.

In addition, next to the picnic area, there are caves where marine fossils have been found from times when the flow of the river was much greater. The city council intends, once the studies and test bore are completed, to enhance the terrain and make these remains accessible to visit as a cultural attraction. Thus, it would attract more audiences, not just sports visitors, by incorporating offers that improve the quality of life of Algallarin.

6. The horizontal criteria for equal opportunities and non-discrimination, environmental sustainability and/or social responsibility have been taken into account:

With regard to equal opportunities and non-discrimination, means have been provided to allow the passage of the public in compliance with the conditions of safety and accessibility for all kinds of audiences. Also, during the implementation of the project, 5 jobs have been created respecting the equity of men and women. From the point of view of environmental sustainability, special care has been taken in the added elements, and the landscape recovery of the environment has been carried out with native plants and respecting the environment in which the action is being developed, which is itself eminently environmental in nature.



7. Synergies with other public intervention policies or instruments:

The project is in full synergy with the "Andalusian Sustainable Development Strategy 2030" by noting that sustainable development depends on the management of the planet's natural resources so that the needs of present and future generations can be met, one of the pillars on which the concept of sustainability is based.







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