

Una manera de hacer Europa



BUENAS PRÁCTICAS Actuaciones Cofinanciadas

REHABILITATION OF THE CHAPEL OF SANTIAGO AND THE SHIELD OF EMPEROR CARLOS V INSIDE THE FIRST FORTIFIED PREMISES OF MELILLA

Autonomous City of Melilla

**Programa Operativo
de la Ciudad de Melilla**

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Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional

REHABILITATION OF THE CHAPEL OF SANTIAGO AND THE SHIELD OF EMPEROR CARLOS V INSIDE THE FIRST FORTIFIED PREMISES OF MELILLA.

SHORT DESCRIPTION

Melilla has a rich historical, architectural and cultural heritage. This heritage enhances the development of the city of Melilla and it is a referent in the European Regional Development Fund. Additionally, an integral rehabilitation of the historical-artistic and monumental complex of the city, as well as the modernization and rehabilitation of other cultural assets located in different urban areas foster the city's development.

Within this scope of action, the rehabilitation works of the **Chapel of Santiago** and the **Coat of Arms of Emperor Carlos V** have been selected as examples of good practices.

The Chapel of Santiago, despite its small size, is considered an architectural gem. It is the only chapel built in the Gothic style in Africa. The Chapel of Santiago showed a significant deterioration as a result of inadequate ventilation that causes biological agents to concentrate in the upper part, causing damage to the architectural elements.

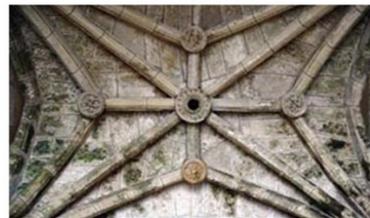
The Shield of Emperor Carlos V highlights the importance of Melilla over centuries as a strategic place. Due to its natural port on the North African coast, the city was a strategic geographical point which led to the construction of defensive fortifications. These fortifications are known today as "Melilla la Vieja". The Shield of Emperor Carlos V was deteriorated as a result of the whipping of the wind.

These works of recovery of certain elements of the Historical Artistic Heritage of the City of Melilla, such as the actions carried out in the Chapel of Santiago and the Coat of Arms of Emperor Carlos V, have involved an investment of about 21,000 euros. The ERDF contribution was of 80% (almost 17,000 euros). The most immediate impact has been the rehabilitation of 238 m². Additionally, it has led to an increase in tourist intensity in Melilla due to the increase in the number of travelers of 9%.

General view



Chapel ceiling details



Coat of Arms of Emperor Carlos V



Details of the floor of the Chapel



The only Gothic-style Chapel in Africa

The rehabilitation works in the **Chapel of Santiago** and in the **Shield of Emperor Carlos V** are considered a Good Practice for the following reasons:

The action has been conveniently disseminated among the beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries and the general public.

To disseminate the action, the Autonomous City of Melilla has carried out all kinds of communication actions.

During the execution of the works, he has put up the pertinent work poster



Information on the performance has also been included on the website of the managing body. In addition, it has been included on the Cultural Routes website of the Council of Europe. European Route of Charles V.



Another action to disseminate the work has been a round of press conferences. These have been held to inform the public and the media of the start and completion of the works.



Likewise, the public has been informed of the action through news that have appeared in the local press.



The City Tourism Office has been provided with informational brochures. Furthermore, social networks have also been used to disseminate the performance (i.e. a post on Facebook).



The performance incorporates innovative elements. The performance undertaken is the only representation of the Gothic style on the African continent. It is important that this artistic representation has survived to this day and it is necessary to preserve this Cultural, Historical and Artistic Heritage of the Autonomous City of Melilla.

The results obtained fit the established objectives. With this action, it has been intended to carry out the minimum works necessary to conserve and protect the Historic Architectural and Cultural Heritage of Melilla and comply with the duty of conservation and recovery of the Historic Artistic Heritage. Thus, the objectives that have been achieved with this action have been protecting the heritage, promoting and developing the Cultural Heritage, contributing the

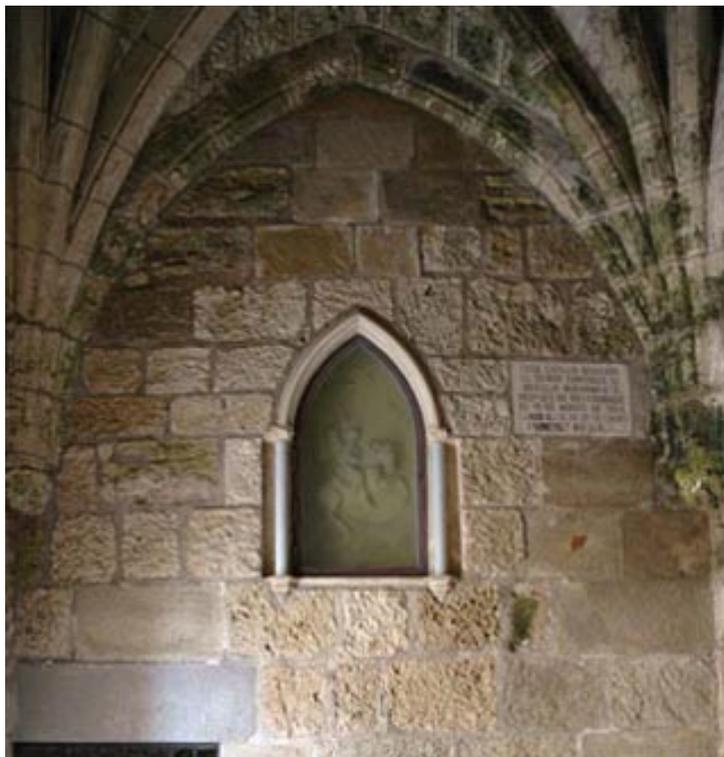
conservation and recovery of the Historical Artistic Heritage, maintaining the Cultural Heritage of Melilla, and improving cultural facilities. This led to the growth of the tourism sector regional, cataloged as a structural activity in the Autonomous City of Melilla as well as to an improvement of Places of Cultural Interest.

It contributes to the resolution of a regional problem or weakness.

Melilla has various peculiarities as a result of its geographical position and its history. These are in the composition of its population, in its economic activity, as well as in its culture. The wealth of the Cultural, Historical and Artistic Heritage of the Autonomous City of Melilla constitutes one of its most relevant development potentials, fostering the development of the tourism sector and increasing the wealth of the City.

The Certification of Cultural Route of the Council of Europe and, specifically, European Route of Carlos V is a remarkable achievement for Melilla.

Image of Santiago in the Chapel of Santiago



It has a high degree of coverage and impact on the population.

The maintenance and recovery of the Historic-Artistic Heritage of Melilla "La Vieja" is a necessary action. The improvement and rehabilitation of its monuments and the enhancement of the most emblematic historical places of the City is a key factor in the consolidation of tourist activity in Melilla.

Consequently, the target population of the actions are tourists who visit Melilla as well as residents who can see their city improved. The rehabilitation of both the Chapel of Santiago and the Coat of Arms of Emperor Carlos V favors promoting cultural visits to Melilla.

Certifying seal of the Council of Europe



Renaissance Route Carlos V. Melilla



The horizontal criteria of equal opportunities and environmental sustainability have been taken into account. Both horizontal criteria have been incorporated.

Regarding Equal Opportunities, the action is aimed at any visitor who wants to appreciate and enjoy it, in an inclusive and non-discriminatory way, facilitating access to a cultural, historical and artistic heritage asset of the Autonomous City of Melilla. Additionally, in all the documentation carried out and in all the communication actions undertaken, an inclusive and non-sexist language has been used.

As far as Environmental Sustainability is concerned, the action has not caused negative effects on the environment, on the contrary, it has proceeded to the rehabilitation, on urban land, of a jewel of Gothic art.



Synergies with other policies or instruments of public intervention, this project seeks to preserve the Cultural, Historical and Artistic Heritage. It is shown that the heritage is the tourism attraction and, hence, an engine of the economy of Melilla. The Actions undertake foster employment, wealth as well as promote the cultural scene of the city.

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