



Una manera de hacer Europa



Integration in the Huerto Fayrén Park of a new building, dedicated to leisure and free time space for young people. EDUSI Molina Avanza Contigo

Molina de Segura City Council

Programa Operativo Plurirregional de España

Año 2022

Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional

GOOD PRACTICE REPORT: INTEGRATION INTO THE FAYRÉN GARDEN PARK OF A NEW BUILDING FOR LEISURE AND FREE TIME SPACE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Introduction

The City Council of Molina de Segura presents as good practice the "Integration in the Huerto Fayrén Park of a new building, dedicated to leisure and free time space for young people", included in the measure "Entrepreneurship, socio-labour integration and Social Economy plan"; line of action nº 7 of the EDUSI Molina Avanza Contigo.

It consists of the construction of a building in the heart of Huerto Fayren Park, which provides different spaces for leisure and free time for the young population of the municipality. This centre is organised on two floors, with a main entrance to the North and two secondary accesses. That enables the use of different spaces without the need to open the entire centre. It is worth mentioning the two grandstands that will connect the walkable roof of the building with the adjacent park.

On the ground floor is the entrance hall, at double height and with a staircase that goes up to the first floor. On this level, it is located an art room, with a restroom, a toilet and independent access; a multipurpose room, which can join the art room; and an assembly hall, which can be divided into two with a movable partition system. It also has a warehouse with access from the street, restrooms and machinery rooms. On the first floor there are four different spaces: computer, meetings, office and multi-purpose rooms. From this level, it is possible to access to the outside through two terraces that each of them connects with a grandstand. This grandstand then leads to the floor of the park. One of them also consists of an access stair to the deck, which is passable and can be enabled to carry out activities.

These exterior spaces are integrated into the Huerto Fayren Park through the grandstands and accesses, which continue the walkable surface from the inside to the outside of the building. These characteristics also promote the flexibility of use of the building, which can host events, conferences and workshops, both outside and inside it.



Figure 1. 3D simulation of Fayren Building

This work has a budget of €1,029,439.90, co-financed at 80 %, (€ 823,551.92) by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), within the Strategy for Sustainable and Integrated Urban Development (EDUSI) Molina Avanza Contigo, through the Multiregional Operational Programme in Spain (POPE) 2014-2020.

CRITERIA BY WHICH IT IS CONSIDERED A GOOD PRACTICE

This action is considered good practice as it meets the following justified criteria:

1. The action has been appropriately disseminated to beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries and to the general public.

In order to comply with the communication obligations, the City Council of Molina de Segura has carried out a dissemination campaign with the aim of making optimally visible the role of ERDF investments in the municipality. This campaign follows the guidelines of the EDUSI Molina Avanza Contigo communication study, approved by the communication department of the General Secretariat for the European Funds, Spanish Ministry of Finance.

Regarding the **regulatory communication**, the contracts of the actions have been published in the State Contracting Platform, mentioning the co-financing at 80 % by the ERDF, through the EDUSI Molina Avanza Contigo and within the POPE 2014-2020. These contracts have also been published on the official website of EDUSI, also declaring that they are actions co-financed by the ERDF.

State Contracting Platform https://cutt.ly/uwetxyRO
EDUSI web https://cutt.ly/bwetbDsh

Additionally, during the construction, a temporary poster was placed indicating the importance that the ERDF funds have had in the sponsoring of the action. At the end of these works, a permanent plaque was installed at the entrance of the building, saying the co-financing.





Figure 2. Temporary construction poster

Figure 3. Permanent plaque

As for **complementary communication**, different **press releases** have been published, highlighting the various spaces that are now available to local youth.

La verdad: https://cutt.ly/ywetRMls

https://cutt.ly/ZwetT4FR

Murciaplaza.com https://cutt.ly/BwetUekT
Murcia.com: https://cutt.ly/7wetIGMN

The building was opened on 1 April 2023, through an event attended by numerous personalities. The permanent plaque was uncovered by the relatives of Gaspar Mondéjar Vidal, official responsible for the Molina de Segura School Council from its creation until 2009. The building gets its name from him.

On 22 and 23 September 2023 an **event aimed at citizens** was held for the dissemination of the action, called URBAN STREET FEST. On September 22, an urban music concert was held, with the participation of Murcian rap artists. Prior to that, an exhibition of graffiti was held. On September 23, comic, skating, video games, parkour, bike trial workshops and tattoo exhibitions took place. The activities made the most of the multiple spaces of the building, since they were carried out both in the interior assembly hall and in the exterior grandstands.





Figure 4 and 5. Festival poster and photo of one of the concerts that took place in Fayrén Area





Figure 6 and 7. Photos from the videogame's session and the bike trial workshop.

The performances were also announced through **radio spots**, aired on Los 40 Principales radio and Spotify.

In conclusion, Molina de Segura has widely disseminated this good practice action, indicating at all times that it has been co-financed by the ERDF funs, within the framework of POPE 2014-2020.

2. The action includes innovative elements

The new Fayren Space of Urban Culture Gaspar Mondéjar Vidal provides the city with specific equipment for young people, where they can enjoy different spaces that meet their needs. This is possible thanks to the variety of spaces, ranging from outdoor stands that can be used for concerts or as a meeting place; to even art classrooms, which can be expanded, or an assembly hall that can be split into two zones thanks to a movable partition system.

This building will also have a positive impact on the younger population of the San Roque neighbourhood, deprived area of Molina de Segura. The opportunity to have several classrooms available to carry out activities will increase their opportunities for personal development, healthy leisure activities and will also avoid situations of addiction and crime. Having a multifunctional building, in which is possible to propose an enriching program for local youth, will promote the meeting between young people in the neighbourhood and the rest of the city, the knowledge of new moral and civic references, as well as the active participation of this group in the local social life.

Finally, it should be noted that the air conditioning of the assembly hall is carried out by a rooftop machine, which has an enthalpic energy recovery system that makes it more efficient. In addition, all rooms have a temperature regulator, which allows saving consumption when thermal needs are not high.



Figure 8. Main access to the building.

3. Alignment of the results obtained with the established objectives.

The construction of the Fayrén Urban Culture Space Gaspar Mondéjar Vidal in Huerto Fayrén Park has had a significant impact on improving the physical, economic and social settings of one of the disadvantaged urban areas in Molina de Segura, called San Roque Neighbourhood. This intervention is a crucial step to revitalise the degraded urban space between this area and

the N-301 road, contributing directly to improving the quality of life of the population living in this part of the city.

Likewise, the implementation of a multifunctional building with art classrooms, an assembly hall and outdoor spaces provides an increase in the attention paid to the group of people at risk of social exclusion in the municipality. These facilities offer opportunities for personal development and access to enriching activities. This encourages social inclusion by offering options for growth and active participation in local social life.

In addition, the construction of this space promotes the increase of citizen participation by providing a meeting place and activities for the community. Being a space open to the whole community, it has fostered interaction and exchange between people of different ages and social backgrounds. This has strengthened community ties, promoting coexistence, tolerance and mutual respect.

Regarding the promotion of entrepreneurship and employment, the Fayrén Urban Culture Space Gaspar Mondéjar Vidal offers opportunities for activities and events to take place, which implies the recruitment of staff and the generation of employment in the cultural field. The existence of this Space promotes creativity and serves as a platform for young people and other members of the community to develop their skills, encouraging the self-management of cultural activities.



Figure 9. Plot before the construction of the building



Figure 10. Grandstands that connect the building with the surrounding park

4. Contribution to the resolution of a problem or weakness identified in the territorial scope of implementation.

The Fayrén Space of Urban Culture Gaspar Mondéjar Vidal provides spaces for recreation and leisure, which contributes directly to improving the quality of life of the population of the San Roque Neighbourhood, one of the most deprived parts in Molina de Segura. These previously unused sites regenerate and become safe and attractive areas for community enjoyment.

In addition, the project seeks to provide the new space with social facilities that meet creative needs, citizen participation, leisure and outdoor activities of the young population living in the nearby neighbourhoods. This addresses the existing problem of the remoteness of municipal sports infrastructures in this area, which hinders the access of the little ones. By providing close and accessible facilities, the integration of young people at risk of social exclusion in the area is encouraged, providing them with opportunities for participation and personal development.

Likewise, the project contributes to the revitalisation of the disused and degraded plots that are part of the history of the municipality. These places, which housed industrial facilities in the past, are transformed into improved areas, including green zones, buildings and free spaces. This regeneration of the location also has a positive impact on the quality of life of the population, creating a more pleasant and attractive environment for the development of social and community activities.

5. High degree of coverage on the population to which it is directed.

The action has achieved a high degree of coverage on the population to which it is directed, which includes the residents of the disadvantaged neighbourhoods (San Roque and Old City) and the youth of the municipality. According to data from the INE in December 2022, 26,024 people in Molina de Segura were under 30 years old, 34.81 % of the total population.

The strategic location of the centre in Huerto Fayrén Park allows it to be accessible and close to disadvantaged neighbourhoods, thus, it facilitates the participation of the resident population in these areas. Being located in an environment close to their homes, removing physical barriers and the inclusion of those who may face difficulties traveling long distances is encouraged.

In addition, the design and variety of spaces and facilities of the Fayrén Urban Culture Space Gaspar Mondéjar Vidal have been specifically designed to meet the needs of the young population. From art rooms, event halls, multipurpose rooms to computer classrooms, multiple options are offered for the development of creative activities, leisure and citizen participation. This diversity of spaces ensures that different interests and preferences of young people can be addressed, which increases their motivation to participate in the proposed activities.



Figure 11. Picture from the opening day

On the other hand, the creation of this building seeks to promote the active participation of local youth, which implies an inclusive approach and consideration of the needs and preferences of all young people, without any discrimination.

These characteristics ensure that the project reaches a broad spectrum of young people in disadvantaged neighbourhoods, encouraging their active participation, personal and social development, and thus contributing to improving their quality of life.

6. Consideration of horizontal criteria of equal opportunities and non-discrimination, as well as social responsibility and environmental sustainability.

The action has generated a positive impact on various aspects related to the horizontal criteria of equal opportunities and non-discrimination, social responsibility and environmental sustainability.

In terms of equal opportunities and non-discrimination, this project has contributed to providing specific spaces and resources for the young population of the municipality, without

distinction of origin, gender or any other characteristic. The centre has been designed in an accessible and adaptable way, allowing the use of different spaces without the need to open the entire building. In addition, flexibility of use has been taken into account, which facilitates inclusive activities and the participation of all youth, promoting equal opportunities for their personal and social development.

Regarding social responsibility, the Fayrén Space of Urban Culture is called to become a reference for the community, promoting the active participation of young people and generating a positive impact on their well-being. By offering a wide variety of activities and resources, they are given the opportunity to access healthy leisure spaces, avoiding risk situations such as addictions or crime. In addition, this multifunctional equipment facilitates the meeting between young people from different areas, encouraging the exchange of experiences and the construction of social ties, which strengthens social fabric of communities and contributes to its cohesion.

It should also be noted that the contract with which the construction of this centre was carried out had special social conditions related to the social integration of unemployed persons. The contractor had to ask the local job agency for profiles needed to be hired to carry out the project.

In terms of environmental sustainability, the project has incorporated elements and technologies that reduce the impact on the environment and promote an efficient use of resources. For example, an efficient air conditioning system has been implemented in the assembly hall, which includes an energy recovery system; as well as the temperature regulation, which has been enabled in all rooms, which leads to a saving of energy consumption.

Through the creation of inclusive spaces, the promotion of youth participation and the implementation of sustainable technologies, it has been achieved a positive impact on the community, promoting equality, social cohesion and environmental protection.

7. Synergies with other public intervention policies or instruments.

This action is part of the operation "Entrepreneurship, socio-labour integration and social economy plan" of EDUSI Molina Avanza Contigo, which includes other actions, aimed at understanding the economic and social conditions of the vulnerable groups of the municipality and dynamizing young people in situations of unemployment. It should be noted that a socio-economic study was carried out to improve and update the knowledge of the socio-labour situation and the social inclusion of the municipality, particularly of the most deteriorated territorial area, that is, the area of the neighbourhoods of San Roque, La Ermita and its immediate areas. The cost of this study (EUR 24.200) was co-financed at 80 % (EUR 19.360) by the ERDF Fund.

We must also point out the implementation of a service of integration, orientation and social-labour revitalisation for young people in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. The attendees were able to improve their social skills, their employability and their possibilities to start a business. This program worked in groups led by a coach who guided the participants personally and professionally. This initiative (Activa Employment) has had a budget of EUR 171.529,60, co-financed 80 %, EUR 137.223,68, by ERDF funds, as part of the 2014-2020 POPE.



Figure 12. Poster announcing the social integration service Activa Employment for young people

Next to the Fayrén Space of Urban Culture, the Subirana Building has been developed, which is a materialisation of the operation "Adaptation and re-use of abandoned urban spaces as recreation, leisure and sports areas" of the EDUSI Molina Avanza Contigo. The construction of this space has been carried out with a budget of EUR 1.087.338,94, of which 80 % have been co-financed by ERDF (EUR 869.871), through the POPE 2014-2020. This centre will be the subject of a good practice report.

Both interventions are surrounded by Paraiso Park and the new Garden Fayrén, which are part of the operation "Programme of urban regeneration of old industrial areas and rehabilitation of green areas", has a total amount of EUR 1.171.320,33, of which 80 % (EUR 937.056.26) have been co-financed by ERDF funds. A new green area has been created and an existing one improved, which means the physical regeneration of the degraded area that existed between the neighbourhood of San Roque and the road N-301. This action is also considered a good practice, and a report will be prepared.

Within this space, the Waterwheel of the Subirana ditch has been recovered, an action included in the operation "Rehabilitation and promotion of historical, industrial and cultural heritage", with a total amount of EUR 230.000,00, co-financed at 80 % by ERDF funds (EUR 184.000).

Finally, it should be noted that the construction of a footbridge to connect this space with the orchard area and the Greenway of the Northwest, above the road- N-301, within the operation "Plan to promote sustainable mobility" of the EDUSI Molina Avanza Contigo. This infrastructure will provide pedestrian continuity and overcome a major obstacle that has prevented the local population from enjoying the banks of the Segura River, the N-301 road. This work has a total cost of EUR 2.855.169.58; of which ERDF has co-financed EUR 887.685,58.





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