

Una manera de hacer Europa



BUENAS PRÁCTICAS

Actuaciones Cofinanciadas

Renewal of the bus fleet of the Municipal Transport Company (EMT) of Palma

Municipal Urban Transport Company (EMT). City of Palma

Programa Operativo de Illes Balears

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Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional

RENEWAL OF THE BUS FLEET OF THE MUNICIPAL TRANSPORT COMPANY (EMT) OF PALMA

The co-financed action consists of the renewal of the bus fleet of the Municipal Urban Transport Company of the City of Palma (EMT), through the acquisition and supply of 39 buses powered by compressed natural gas and equipped with Euro VI engines.

Until now, the EMT fleet had 175 buses with a median age of 15 years. Thanks to this renovation of municipal vehicles, a significant reduction in fuel consumption, an even greater reduction of harmful emissions to the environment and a reduction in noise pollution have been achieved, since vehicles that were hitherto powered by fossil fuel (diesel) have been replaced by natural gas. In addition, all vehicles have a photovoltaic blanket on the roof to power the interior of the equipment with solar energy.

The new fleet is more comfortable, more accessible and, in addition, has allowed the new restructuring of the urban transport service lines in the city of Palma, with an increase of lines and faster journeys and a shorter waiting time for passengers and users of public transport.

On the other hand, the new buses incorporate a whole series of improvements that make the fleet have more sustainable, friendly vehicles and with a design and technology adapted to the 21st century.

It has been committed to safety since they incorporate safety mechanisms in the opening and closing of doors, more comfortable suspensions, an interior illuminated with Led technology that reduces interior heat and better cooling.

The seats are more hygienic, ergonomic and easier to maintain. They also incorporate the camera system for opening and closing doors and to reverse and, in addition, to improve the service offered to users each unit has 6 USB chargers.

The total eligible cost of the action is EUR **10.750,000** with a total aid of EUR **5,375,034** from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

The estimated reduction of greenhouse gases that this action will entail is **710.48Tn CO2/year**.



The following are the arguments that make this project considered good practice, according to the criteria defined for this purpose.

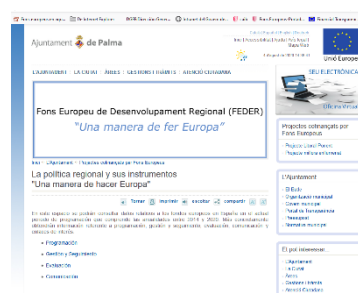
Criterion 1. High dissemination among beneficiaries and the general public.

The project has a high dissemination of the contribution of European funds to the development of this investment, both among potential beneficiaries and among the public, and has been widely disseminated through the different information and publicity measures developed.

Among the **mandatory measures** that have been carried out in accordance with Community legislation, the following should be noted:

During the **process of tendering and awarding** the action, the EU contribution to the co-financing of the action has been highlighted in the respective tender notices, which mention the co-financing by the ERDF.

Information about the project and its financing by the ERDF, including the corresponding logos, is included on the **website** of the City of Palma, in the section dedicated to the European Funds.



On the other hand, to disseminate the action, the Municipal Transport Company (EMT) has created a specific section (<https://pujaalbus.org/>) on its **website** where extensive information about the co-financed project is presented.

Once the action has been completed and to comply with the regulations on information and communication measures established in European regulations, a **permanent plaque** with the regulatory dimensions has been placed, located at the entrance to the premises of the Municipal Transport Company (EMT), in a place visible to the public.





On the other hand, in order to strengthen the information on the action, inside the co-financed buses, **adhesive vinyl** have been installed so that bus users are aware of the participation of the European Union in the acquisition of the vehicles

On the back of all vehicles and in a place well visible to citizens, **stickers** of a significant size have been placed reporting on co-financing by the ERDF containing the corresponding logos and slogans.



In addition, **other actions and measures** in the field of communication and information have been carried out to strengthen and give greater visibility to the European Union's co-financing of the action, including the following:

In various media in the Balearic Islands, both in its paper editions, and in its online versions, **news** about the implementation of the performance and its progress have been published. **Information notes** on the same subject have also been prepared and published on the website of the Government of the Balearic Islands, always mentioning the co-financing of the ERDF.

<https://www.mallorcadiario.com/emt-palma-autobuses-gas-natural>

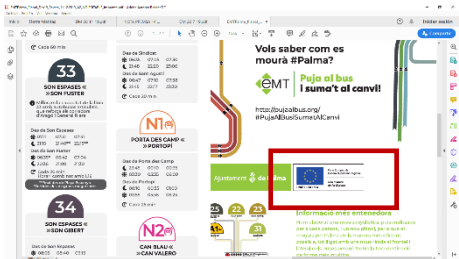
<http://www.caib.es/pidip2front/jsp/ca/fitxa-convocatoria/strongla-presidenta-del-govern-i-el-batlle-de-palma-presenten-a-la-ciutadania-la-nova-flota-de-busos-de-lrsquoemtstrong>

On December 14, 2019, a **Day of Open Doors** took place in the center of the city of Palma, attended by the main authorities of the Autonomous Community and the city council of Palma, where it was possible to visit the buses. In this context, a presentation to the public and the media of the new vehicles took place and the financing of the ERDF funding of the action was found

both in parliaments and in the presentation documents. Likewise and to give visibility to the performance, an informative Eco-roller was made that was located in a place visible to the public.



In the **explanatory plans** that have been edited on bus routes in the city of Palma, EU logos and emblems have been incorporated, as well as the co-financing fund.



In issue 8 of the **Butlletí de Fons Europeu de les Illes Balearics** published by the Directorate-General for European Funds, in its April 2020 edition, information on the project and the ERDF contribution in its implementation has been published.



This action has also been disseminated through the system of mapping co-financed projects of the European Funds DG, located on its website: (http://www.caib.es/sites/fonseuropeus/ca/portada_2016/?campa=yes). This online application, which is accessible to anyone, allows to visualise, not only the geographical location of the investment, but also offers systematised data of the investment made.

Criterion 2. Incorporation of innovative elements.



As the main innovative element, it should be noted that, for the first time, public transport vehicles powered by Compressed Natural Gas have been put into circulation in the city of Palma.

Another innovative element to highlight is that in the new buses an **exterior speaker** has been incorporated, the number of the line is visible from the side and also have three doors and a more diaphanous interior of a single floor.

In addition, the telescopic ramp for access for people with reduced mobility is integrated into the body thus improving its maintenance.

The technology used is adapted to future needs, as the communication systems that have been incorporated into vehicles are prepared for 21st century technology.

Criterion 3. Alignment of the results obtained with the objectives set.

The main result obtained associated with the action is the reduction of pollution in the urban environment of the city of Palma and the promotion of sustainable mobility as a means of improving energy efficiency in transport. This makes it possible to create a mobility system that will make Palma a more competitive, friendly, sustainable, accessible, and secure city.

Thanks to the fuel change, the positive impact on the environment of the more than 12 million kilometres travelled throughout the EMT fleet in one year can be confirmed, as it will contribute to improving air quality and the protection of the atmosphere.

The expected results are part of the overall objective of saving energy and diversifying available sources.

Criterion 4. Contribution to the resolution of a regional problem or weakness.



efficient and sustainable alternative.

Although the air quality of the city of Palma presents an acceptable level, the massive presence of private vehicles, especially in the city center, implies an increase in the level of pollution and concentration of CO₂ and greenhouse gases that can harm the health of the inhabitants of Palma and their quality of life. The commitment to public transport implies giving alternatives to the use of the private car and contributing to the change of mobility model in Palma, which involves offering a comfortable,

Thanks to the renewal of these transport vehicles, which have meant the replacement of fossil fuel (diesel) with natural gas, it has been possible to reduce harmful emissions to the environment and noise pollution. In this sense it should be noted that the fleet of the EMT had a median age of 15 years and the incorporation of the new vehicles will mean that in 2023 80 % of the fleet, is powered by clean energies.

In addition, the implementation of actions aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions contribute to increasing energy self-sufficiency and improving the production of electricity, which must involve action in the transport sector. All this will favour the generation of new business opportunities, as well as the dynamization of the economic sector, without forgetting the importance of becoming a tourist reference from an ecological and environmental point of view.

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

The EMT fleet carries an annual average of 42 million passengers, which is increasing year by year.



The population that can benefit directly from the measure, in the first place, is the one that lives in Palma and currently exceeds 400,000 inhabitants. On the other hand, a large part of the more than 16 million tourists who travel annually to the Balearic Islands visit the city of Palma and use municipal public transport for their journeys.

In addition, not only the citizens of Palma will be able to benefit from the new transport system, but all those users of the TIB (Regional Transport Network of the Balearic Islands) who have to move to Palma enjoy free transshipments thanks to the second phase of the tariff integration that has also been launched.

Criterion 6. Consideration of horizontal criteria of equal opportunities and environmental sustainability.

Public transport is the most environmentally friendly solution and is essential to initiate an efficient transition towards pollution reduction and renewable energy. Therefore, the incorporation of new vehicles with alternative fuels has meant a substantial improvement in the emission of CO₂ in the atmosphere. The estimated reduction of greenhouse gases that this action will entail is 710.48Tn CO₂/year.

The start-up of these vehicles has favoured the reduction of noise pollution, since vehicles that were hitherto powered by fossil fuel (diesel) have been replaced by natural gas. In addition, all vehicles have a photovoltaic blanket on the roof to power the interior of the equipment with solar energy.



Regarding the principle of equal opportunities, it should be noted the effort made by the Municipal Transport Company of Palma (EMT) to make women bus drivers visible. Given that it is a very masculinised collective, on the celebration of 8 March, International Women's Day, it organised an event to highlight the role of women in the city's public transport.

On the other hand, it should be noted that the new vehicles incorporate a loudspeaker to improve the hearing of deaf people.

Criterion 7. Synergies with other policies or instruments of public intervention.



Esta actuación está encuadrada en la *Estratègia Balear de Canvi Climàtic 2013-2020*, así como en el *Plan de Energías renovables y eficiencia Energética en las Islas Baleares: Estrategias y Líneas de actuación*.

On the other hand, the co-financed actions fit into the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan of the city of Palma, an instrument that defines the main orientations of the mobility policy and surrounding areas in order to ensure a long-term balance between mobility needs and the environment.



In addition, the envisaged strategy is fully in line with the proposals set out in the European Commission's position paper for Spain, which identifies among the measures to be taken to promote clean urban transport, the deployment of intelligent, environmentally friendly and low-carbon transport systems.

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