



Una manera de hacer Europa



Rehabilitation of the bullring from La Línea de la Concepción

La Línea de la Concepción City Council

Programa Operativo Plurirregional de España

Año 2022

Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional

GOOD PRACTICE REPORT REHABILITATION OF THE BULLRING FROM LA LÍNEA DE LA CONCEPCIÓN

The Bullring from La Línea de la Concepción is one of the few buildings cataloged as an Asset of Cultural Interest (BIC) inside of the city, with an age of almost 200 years, and a singularity due to the dimensions of its arena, one of the most great of Spain. Its location, in the Geographic Centre of the municipality, gives greater importance building, being a reference in the architecture of the city.



The building was in a deteriorating state, with serious construction problems, and therefore, these facilities were not used and people could not enjoy this emblematic building.









But this situation is part of the past, thanks to the European Regional Development Funds (ERDF) this building has been completely transformed, the bullring has been converted into a multipurpose building called "El Arenal". FEDER financing has made it possible to rebuild a second floor as it used to be and provide it with the necessary requirements to be able to host shows such as concerts, fairs, exhibitions, etc. Its rehabilitation has been one of the challenges that citizens claimed as a priority and one of the most ambitious projects in recent years.









This action has had a total cost of $2,212,467.44 \in$, an eligible amount of $1,600,000 \in$ and an **ERDF** amount of $1,280,000 \in$, with the impact of the action being the total of the citizens of the city of La Línea de Conception, 63,250 people.

GOOD PRACTICE STANDARD

This action meets all the criteria to be considered a good execution practice co-financed by the **ERDF**:

The role of the ERDF in this action has been conveniently disseminated among the beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries and the general public, in regulatory formats such as reports, specifications, projects, work poster, plaque, etc.







It has also disseminated the role of the ERDF in action in various ways, such as news in the press, publications on social networks and radio interviews.



The importance of the execution of the Rehabilitation of the Plaza de Toros from La Línea de la Concepción for its conversion into a Multipurpose building, several videos have been executed reporting the citizenship of both the Project and its execution and the co-financing of the ERDF.





Watch Video

Watch Video

In addition, an opening ceremony has been carried out with the participation of associations and personalities from the socio-cultural ambit, and several open days for all citizens.



A form of direct dissemination to the citizens, has been in public events called "Coffee with the Mayor", in these events the Mayor has reported about this action co-financed with the European Regional Development Fund in several cafeterias throughout the city.



The action incorporates innovative elements, the only building declared a Site of Cultural Interest in the urban area of the city from La Línea de la Concepción, which was an emblem of the incipient city at the end of the 19th century, as a place public for the celebration of shows, closely linked to the enormous social and economic development that the city had at that time. After this rehabilitation, the singularity of the building has been preserved due to the length of the diameter of its bullring of 59 metres, as well as its geometric singularity, as it is a regular polygon with 59 sides. In addition to the possible symbolism of the number that can be derived, it is the only polygonal square with an odd number of sides in the world.

The intervention in the building is innovative with respect to the vision of the recovery of the public space, not only in the physical sense, with a rehabilitation that has allowed to recover the constructive and architectural values of the techniques of the time in which it was built and the introduction of new services, infrastructures that allow universal accessibility, or the inclusion of environmental criteria in the project and execution, such as the installation of two elevators in a BIC, low-consumption lights that reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions, ramps access and locations adapted for people with reduced mobility, and adaptation of the entire property to hold any type of event, but above all, the recovery of the building for citizens and visitors to the city. It is the recovery of a space that is in the collective memory of the people of Linea, as a center for cultural promotion, with the adaptation of the arena for all kinds of shows and the use of spaces hitherto wasted as centers for the dissemination of popular culture: copla, flamenco and bullfighting. The building has thus become an element of cultural, urban, environmental, tourist and economic revitalization.

The rehabilitation of the Plaza de Toros from La Línea de la Concepción meets the **Adaptation** of the results obtained to the objectives, thanks to the European Regional Development Funds we have managed to obtain the results that had been established from the beginning. Of these objectives achieved, we highlight the revitalization of the city, improving the urban environment, recovering the architectural heritage of the city; **Socio-economic impact**, the commissioning of the building has had an economic impact throughout the area, benefiting the hotel and tourism sectors, the increase in visitors to the building has had an impact on the local economy.



This operation **contributes to the resolution of a problem or weakness detected in the execution**, this building was without any type of use, before the action, presenting serious security problems in the geographical centre of the city. One of the most important buildings in the municipality was in a state of abandonment and thanks to the co-financing of the European Funds for Local Development, it has become a benchmark at the regional level, to be able to carry out different actions. This rehabilitation has not only resolved the state of the building but has also had a significant impact both in the areas adjacent to the building and in the entire city.

For all these reasons, a high degree of coverage of the population destined, this rehabilitation of the bullring was a historical demand for citizenship, which was claimed in each participatory process. This action, co-financed with European Regional Development Funds, will not only benefit the approximately **63,250 people** that La Línea de la Concepción has, but it will also have regional coverage by hosting events of various kinds, in addition to its proximity to Gibraltar and tourism than in the area, estimating a number of indirect beneficiaries of approximately **3 million people.**

On the other hand, the consideration of the horizontal standard of equal opportunities and non-discrimination is taken into account, as well as social responsibility and environmental sustainability, one of the fundamental pillars when selecting and executing the Rehabilitation operation of the bullring has been equal opportunities between men and women. From the very selection of the operation, this principle has been taken into account, since the city council has incorporated 3 observatories, those of Equality, Environment and Mobility.

In addition, it has been taken into account that the company executing the work has an Equality Plan in place. In the execution of the work itself, this principle of equality has been taken into account, adapting the building with differentiated toilets that did not have before its execution, in the construction management, in the coordination of health and safety and in the supervision of the contract. In the execution of the project itself, the incorporation of non-sexist language and images has been considered both in the documentation generated by the files and in communication actions.





The accessibility actions, the improvements made have been notable, equipping the building with two elevators, access ramps, locations and toilets for people with reduced mobility, access doors with width according to accessibility regulations, all of them non-existent before its rehabilitation, making it impossible for people with reduced mobility to access the building.





Another of the standard it has been taken into account in the Execution, it is **Environmental Sustainability**, providing optimal waste management favoring the circular economy and not causing damage to the environment. All high-energy-consumption lamps have been changed to low-consumption LED lamps, favoring the reduction of CO2 emissions and energy savings.

This action presents **Synergy with other policies or instruments of public intervention,** since as it is an Asset of Cultural Interest it is subject to other policies for the conservation of historical heritage both at the state and regional level, specifically with the **Plan for the Conservation and Rehabilitation of Public Buildings and Facilities**. The great importance of this Rehabilitation of the bullring is already included in the Strategic Plan for the Promotion and Growth of La Línea de la Concepción, as an action of great interest due to its social, cultural and economic impact in the city.









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