



# Una manera de lacer Europa

Actuaciones Cofinanciadas

**BUENAS PRÁCTICAS** 

Actions to improve mobility, accessibility and safety in Na Saurina d'Entença street

Edusi-Alcoidemà. Alcoy City Council

Programa Operativo Plurirregional de España

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Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional

#### GOOD PRACTICES EDUSI-ALCOIDEMÀ. ALCOY CITY COUNCIL

## ACTIONS TO IMPROVE MOBILITY, ACCESSIBILITY AND SAFETY IN NA SAURINA D'ENTENÇA STREET

The current good practice consists of the improvements introduced to complement the redevelopment of Na Saurina d'Entença street, one of the main arteries of Alcoy, which for decades had been the crossing of the N-340 as it passes through town.

After having completed its redevelopment, which was also co-financed by the European Union as part of the DUSI strategy, a series of "smart" devices were introduced with the aim of improving mobility, safety, sustainability and accessibility conditions in the street.

LED lights were installed at pedestrian crossings and new traffic lights at the busiest area, the San Roque market. With the aim of facilitating Wi-Fi access to the public, free connection points were installed in the traffic light posts at different points along the street. Sensors were also placed in loading and unloading areas to discourage prolonged parking of vehicles on the pedestrian platform.



LEDs placed on the pedestrian platform to signal crossings and pedestrian crossings

Another outstanding element is the installation of cameras to control traffic and prevent accidents, technology that has become an essential tool for the security forces, who use them on a daily basis to track number plates in investigations into accidents, robberies or requests. The plate counting also provides real-time information on the number of vehicles travelling along and their average speed.



Capture of number plates made by the cameras (left) and graphic of the traffic at the beginning of the day and reading of the number plate of a vehicle in a loading and unloading bay (right)

In addition, to promote sustainable mobility, two fast and semi-fast charging points for electric vehicles were installed, which are self-sufficient thanks to new solar panels located in the nearby Plaza de La Uixola.



One of the electric chargers on a side street off Entenza

The eligible cost of this operation is  $\notin 117,140.75,50\%$  of which ( $\notin 58,570.37$ ) is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund Operational Programme 2014-2020 (ERDF). Thanks to this action, pedestrian safety and accessibility have been improved, while promoting sustainable mobility and turning this street into an "urban laboratory". In this way, the operation has a direct impact on the population of Entenza Street, with 1,371 inhabitants, the Ensanche de Alcoy neighbourhood, with 13,369 registered inhabitants, and a general impact on the 60,000 residents of the municipality.

This is considered good practice because:

### 1. THE ROLE OF THE ERDF HAS BEEN ADEQUATELY DISSEMINATED TO POTENTIAL BENEFICIARIES AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC

In the first place, the minimum regulatory obligations such as the temporary sign, the permanent plaques and the inclusion of the performance on the single web portal have been fulfilled.



Construction site billboards and permanent signs on the electric charging poles

The performance has been reported in the media.

• With advertising and news in the local press and municipal social media channels:





Advertisement and article in the local press mentioning the European funds, explaining the details of the action



Press release published on the municipal website on the conversion of Entenza into a "smart" street, thanks to the co-financing of ERD Funds.

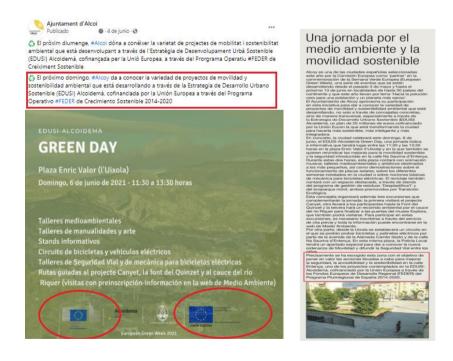
To publicise the improvements, an explanatory video was made and projected on the information totems installed along the street and an advertising campaign was carried out in different media during 2020, including press advertisements, radio spots in local media. The video is also projected on the interactive screens installed in the street.



Screenshots of the video, with references to European co-funding

• With a public street event.

After a halt caused by the health crisis of Covid-19, a public event was held in June 2021, as part of Alcoy's participation as a 'partner' of the European Green Week, promoted by the European Commission. This event was held in the square next to Entenza Street where the photovoltaic panels that supply the electric vehicle chargers are installed. The event emphasised again the European co-financing of this good practice and its benefits for citizens.



Announcement of the event on the Facebook account of the City Council of Alcoy and article in the newspaper El Nostre advancing the conference and talking about the project.



European Union ERD Funds logos on the promotional and merchandising elements used at the public event





• With videos and microvideos for social media



Posting on social networks of the video with English subtitles on the measures introduced in Entença to improve safety, sustainable mobility and universal accessibility

#### 2. THE ACTION INCLUDES INNOVATIVE ELEMENTS

Free charging points for electric vehicles have been included, which are partially selfsufficient thanks to the solar energy collected by the station located in the Uixola (approximately 33,000 Kwh for a year), minimising the cost to the municipal coffers by around 6,000 euros a year. Several free Wifi access points have also been included, which will be extended and arranged to cover the main green and recreational areas of this street.

In addition, the street is signposted with LED lights at the junctions with the perpendicular streets to ensure pedestrian safety. Cameras that monitor traffic and sensors that tell drivers when they are speeding help to regulate traffic and reduce accidents. Sensors have also been installed to detect when a vehicle exceeds the kerbside parking time for loading and unloading.

## **3.** ADAPTATION OF THE RESULTS OBTAINED TO THE ESTABLISHED OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Strategy (EDUSI) of Alcoy underline the will to turn Alcoy into a more sustainable, integrated and intelligent city. This action is one of the best examples of how technology can be applied to improve the lives of citizens and municipal management.

## 4. CONTRIBUTION TO THE RESOLUTION OF A PROBLEM OR WEAKNESS DETECTED IN THE TERRITORIAL AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION

In order to achieve a balanced use of the new Entenza Street with a greater focus on pedestrians, it was essential to introduce improvements to reinforce pedestrian safety and mobility. In addition, with this redevelopment, parking was eliminated along the entire street, but it was necessary to regulate the temporary parking of vehicles that provide services to shops and restaurants. This has been achieved by means of parking sensors, which control parking and act as a deterrent.

### 5. HIGH DEGREE OF COVERAGE OF THE TARGET POPULATION

The surface area of Entenza Street, more than 800 metres, makes it without doubt one of the longest streets in Alcoy. The location of this road, which links several neighbourhoods with the city centre, as well as its location parallel to the main commercial artery of the municipality, make Entença one of the most used streets in citizen's daily lives, both on foot and by vehicle.

In addition, the technological improvements on this road has been incorporated into the Smart Platform (a project also co-financed European Union Funds), allowing the analysis of traffic, air quality, noise, etc. The conclusions drawn from this analysis will be used to take measures that will affect citizens as a whole, broadening the spectrum of their degree of coverage. The operation has a direct impact on the population of the Ensanche de Alcoy neighbourhood of 13,369 people and specifically affects the inhabitants of Na Saurina d'Entença street, with approximately 1,371 inhabitants.

#### 6. CONSIDERATION OF THE HORIZONTAL CRITERIA OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND NON-DISCRIMINATION, AS WELL AS SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

The action respects the principles of equality, non-discrimination and accessibility. It also respects the regulations on equality between men and women and non-discrimination due to its general nature for the citizens of Alcoy. The signalling with LED lights at intersections and pedestrian

crossings has an impact on safety, especially for women, who are the majority of those who use this street as it is the location of one of the city's main markets. In addition, the free wifi installed in different points and green areas allows equal access to the internet and contributes to reducing the gap in women's access to new technologies. On the other hand, all communications and dissemination materials have been carried out using non-sexist and inclusive language and avoiding the dissemination of sexist stereotypes and images.

It also complies with the principle of accessibility, as it provides the specific technical means to the entire population for obstacle-free and safe circulation. In terms of environmental sustainability, the installation of charging points for electric vehicles contributes to sustainable mobility and the reduction of harmful gas emissions into the atmosphere.

## 7. SYNERGIES WITH OTHER PUBLIC INTERVENTION POLICIES OR INSTRUMENTS

The implementation of these elements has contributed to turning this street into an urban laboratory, thanks to a project subsidised by the Valencian Innovation Agency (AVI) with 93,000 euros and included in the Smart City plan approved by Alcoy City Council.

This project is helping to test solutions to different problems such as traffic, pollution, energy consumption, etc., on a reduced scale in order to then apply solutions that can be used throughout the city. It also involves technicians from the two public universities that have campuses in the city: Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV) and Universitat d'Alacant (UA).

There are also synergies with pedestrianisation measures in various streets in the city centre to improve urban mobility, as included in the Municipal Mobility Plan, as well as with the renovation of public lighting with LED-type luminaires.





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