

*Una manera de hacer Europa*



# BUENAS PRÁCTICAS

## Actuaciones Cofinanciadas

Pedestrian and cyclist walkway on Camino Zapata.  
EDUSI de Mairena del Alcor

**Programa Operativo  
Plurirregional de España**

Año 2022

**Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional**



## PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST WALKWAY ON CAMINO ZAPATA

The intervention is of particular interest as it is located at the transition between urban and rural areas and, due to its purpose, involves the creation of a unified platform with road and sidewalk infrastructure, along with lighting. This platform is located in urban land and connects to the rural area, where a pedestrian and cycling bridge is constructed, accompanied by a green treatment that includes planting high-quality vegetation and installing rest areas. Additionally, the sustainable drainage system designed for this intervention becomes significant as it promotes soil permeability and the recovery of the water table.

This intervention reduces soil erosion both within the project area and downstream, eliminating visible signs of degradation in the mentioned area. It particularly addresses the issue of uncontrolled dumping that can be observed along the route. By implementing a pedestrian and bicycle itinerary along the southwestern edge of the municipality, which serves as the boundary between urban land and the protected area of the Escarpe, connectivity between this zone and the historic centre is improved. This enhances the visibility of a space with significant landscape richness.

The conditioning works of the pedestrian and cycling bridge create a healthy route with a significant presence of vegetation along its route, which serves as a distinctive element in transit towards more rural areas, enhancing the attractiveness of this route.

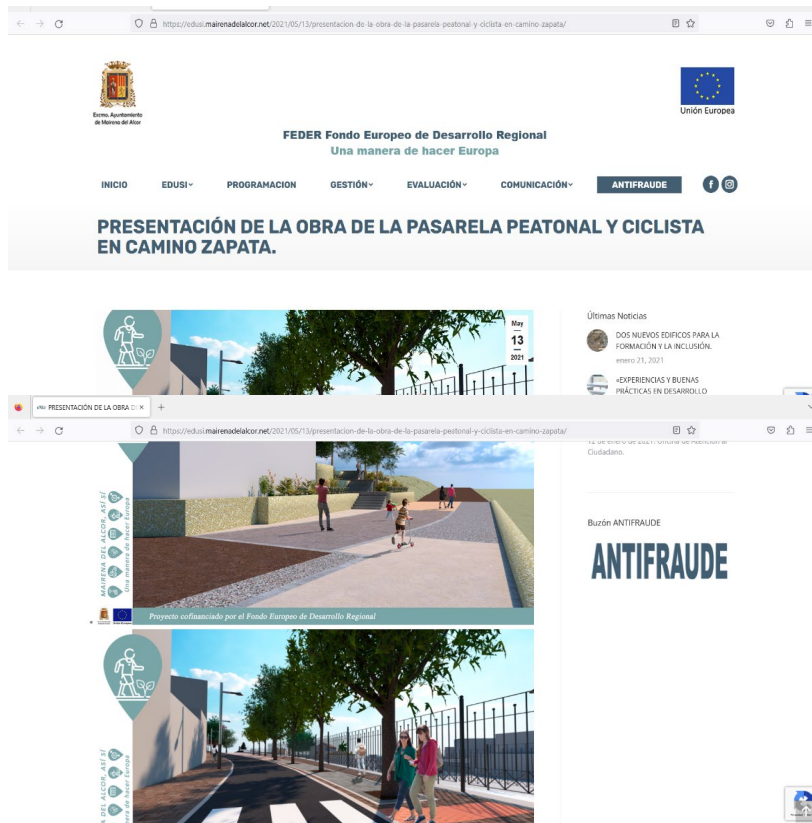
The contribution of FEDER has been 234,875.52 euros, representing 80% of the total cost of the action, which amounts to 293,594.40 euros. With this action, the environment has been conserved and protected, resource efficiency has been promoted, and at the same time, the city has been transformed into a more habitable and friendly space for citizens, placing pedestrians in a leading role, promoting green spaces and linking them with those it connects, which also serves as a bioclimatic strategy by contributing to the mitigation of climate change effects.



Below are the arguments that make this project considered as a good practice according to the criteria defined for this purpose:

### Criteria 1. High dissemination among beneficiaries and the general public.

Firstly, different publications were made to present this action to the citizens on the EDUSI platform of Mairena del Alcor, illustrated with images of the starting point and the then-future result of the project, providing all the information (awardee, amount, 80% FEDER funding of the total budget, duration of works, etc.). The publications can be consulted through [link 1](#) y [link 2](#) . During the execution of the works, a communicative sign was installed.





Once the construction was completed, an inauguration event was held, accompanied by a follow-up session for the implementation of the Mairena del Alcor EDUSI. This inauguration was previously promoted among the public through various activities, including the publication of the event on the local website, which can be accessed through the following [link](#) or the EDUSI platform ([link](#)). Additionally, a time-lapse video showcasing the evolution of the project and its construction progress on a daily basis was shared.



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PATRIMONIO

## Mairena del Alcor recupera el trazado del Camino de Zapata, usado por antiguos pobladores de la comarca

Con una duración de obras de seis meses y una inversión de casi 300.000 euros, el proyecto de esta nueva pasarela peatonal y ciclista está cofinanciado por el Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional (Feder) y el Ayuntamiento



Additionally, publications have been made in digital press, local radio spots, and television broadcasts (refer to the provided [link](#)).

A permanent and informative advertising plaque has also been installed, indicating that it is a Project co-financed by FEDER and the objective is aimed at "conserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency." Finally, a video has been published on the municipal EDUSI platform and on municipal networks, in which the result of the Project can be visually verified, the environmental improvement it has brought and the origin of the FEDER funds is reiterated ([link](#)).



## Criteria 2. Incorporation of innovative elements.

In addition to creating a healthy route through the execution of works to condition a pedestrian and cycling bridge with a solid landing surface, an innovative sustainable drainage system has been installed for the management of runoff water that promotes soil permeability and the recovery of the groundwater level by preventing rainwater from being directed through pipes to the municipal wastewater treatment plant.

These sustainable drainage systems are elements that improve the water behaviour within the urbanized environment and are part of a management chain whose ultimate goal is to stop, slow down, infiltrate and store rainwater. It is identified with a system of ditches filled with boulders and infiltration chambers connected to the ground. In case of saturation or loading of the infiltration chambers, the system provides for the evacuation of rainwater through the gabions that make up the lateral closure of the chambers, emitting a laminar and non-turbulent water flow. This system aims to reduce the flow of rainwater that goes towards the rustic land, infiltrating most of it towards the groundwater mantle of the area and laminating the rest of its flow.

Another fundamental element in this pedestrian bridge's design will be abundant plant material throughout the entire route, which serves as a distinctive element in the transit towards the more rural areas and provides the necessary shade and landscape richness to make this route more attractive.

These last two elements of the project together form an innovative system aimed at reducing soil erosion, both in the project area and downstream, by reducing the flow that concentrates on the overflows of the sewage collectors. The implementation of flow laminating and infiltration chambers to the groundwater, together with percolation through vegetative mantles, represents good environmental practice, novel in urban treatments in the municipality.

## Criteria 3. Adaptation of the results obtained to the established objectives.

The main objectives with which this project was undertaken were:

- **To improve the urban environment and its environment**, revalue the area of action, providing it with functionality and eliminating the large amount of uncontrolled waste that can be seen along the route.
- To conserve and protect the environment and **promote resource efficiency**, managing the water cycle in the peri-urban environment, as the pre-existing behaviour of water in the urbanization process has been overlooked.
- **To reduce soil erosion** by improving the water behaviour within the urbanized environment and promoting soil permeability and the recovery of the groundwater level.
- In a secondary aspect, to **strengthen municipal tourism**.

For the fulfilment of the first objective, a healthy itinerary reserved for pedestrians or bicycles has been created on the southwestern edge of the municipality, connecting the area located in urban land with the rural area. The route, in line with the following objectives, has been equipped with vegetation covers that serve as water percolation and a sustainable drainage system has been installed to manage runoff water, promoting soil permeability and the recovery of the water table. In relation to the last objective, the result of the intervention allows for the development of nature-related tourist activities, adding tourist interest to the area and strengthening the natural tourism of the municipality. This, combined with other implemented policies in the area, allows for the revaluation of the historical heritage of Mairena del Alcor.

#### **Criteria 4. Contribution to resolving a regional problem or weakness.**

With this intervention, we contribute to solving the problem of soil erosion, which has been exacerbated by various factors in recent years, such as rainfall, wind, topography, lack of soil conservation, land use, undesirable practices like dumping, deforestation, and damage to infrastructure, among others. This problem is of particular relevance considering that soil is a natural and finite resource that provides various benefits, including plants, crops, ecosystem maintenance, etc.

The main problem causing soil erosion in this area and our town was due to poor management of rainwater, which flowed into the rural land, eroding downstream agricultural areas. Secondly, human neglect of the area also contributed to the problem.



#### **Criteria 5. High degree of coverage for the targeted population**

The intervention is aimed at the entire population who wishes to enjoy the constructed healthy itinerary, the created rest areas, and the rehabilitated viewpoints. Therefore, the general public, whether pedestrians or cyclists, can benefit from the results of the intervention.

Furthermore, as the rainwater system has been improved, the owners of downstream agricultural lands are also beneficiaries. Prior to the implementation of the project, these landowners experienced damage to their lands due to soil erosion.

From a generic perspective, we can broaden the coverage degree because, ultimately, the set of projects being developed in the area and the policies associated with them have a common objective, which is the development of tourist interest in the area. In this particular case, it involves developing nature-related activities, further enhancing the neighboring area, which is a municipal heritage of particular cultural interest.

#### **Criteria 6. Consideration of horizontal criteria for equal opportunities and environmental sustainability.**

The contracting company responsible for implementing this intervention, in accordance with the provisions of clause 28 of the administrative clauses, has taken into account the obligations derived from current provisions on taxation, environmental protection, employment protection, gender equality, working conditions, occupational risk prevention, and socio-labour inclusion of people with disabilities. They also have the obligation to hire a specific number or percentage of people with disabilities. The awarded company has declared, under its responsibility, that it falls within the cases provided for in Article 45 of Organic Law 3/2007, of March 22, on effective equality between women and men, regarding the development and implementation of an equality plan or in one of the transitional periods provided for in the twelfth transitory provision. The gradual application of Articles 45 and 46 in the wording of Royal Decree-Law 6/2019, of March 1.

Finally, regarding Article 129 of Law 9/2017, of November 8, on Public Sector Contracts, the contracting authority has provided bidders with the identification and contact information of those entities from which they can obtain relevant information about tax obligations, environmental protection, employment and working conditions, and the obligation to hire a specific percentage of people with disabilities. These obligations apply to the work carried out in the project or to the services provided during the contract execution.

#### **Criteria 7. Synergies with other policies or public intervention instruments.**

The environmental development achieved through this project is complemented by municipal policies promoting the care and conservation of the natural heritage related to the Escarpe and the Alcores route, which connects Carmona with Alcalá de Guadaíra, passing through El Viso and Mairena del Alcor. Moreover, it allows for developing nature-related tourist activities, adding tourist interest to the area, strengthening municipal tourism, and enhancing the historical heritage with the set of actions carried out in the area.

In this location, various projects have been carried out with different funding sources. These include expanding Alconchel Square, rehabilitating the Huerta Alconchel estate building to house the Alcores Interpretation Center, and the construction of this pedestrian and cycling bridge. Additionally, improvements have been made to Alconchel Street and Zapata Road, among others. All these projects have been coordinated to enhance the value of the Alconchel area and ensure continuity between the urban, rural, and natural zones along the perimeter.



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