

Una manera de hacer Europa



BUENAS PRÁCTICAS

Actuaciones Cofinanciadas

"Socio-environmental recovery of metropolitan river areas" of the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB)

Programa Operativo de Catalunya

Año 2020

Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional

The project "Socio-environmental recovery of metropolitan river areas" of the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB) is presented as a Best Practice.

The metropolitan area of Barcelona occupies a strategic position in southern Europe, in the heart of the Mediterranean corridor that connects Spain with the rest of the continent. The project presented here includes actions throughout 35 municipalities (which represents the entire Metropolitan Area, with the exception of Barcelona). The lower stretches of the Llobregat and Besòs rivers, as well as the area of influence of Collserola, run through the metropolitan territory, giving rise to public spaces of great natural and scenic value for leisure and service use.

The actions carried out in these three areas are allowing the recovery and improvement of the metropolitan green infrastructure, understood in its broadest sense, with actions aimed at the recovery of degraded areas and the resolution of problems of fit between urban areas and their natural environment, achieving the integration of road, energy and service infrastructures within the metropolitan landscape.

Among the actions carried out, we can highlight, by way of example, those planned for the lower section of the Besòs river (which runs from the coastal municipality of Sant Adrià del Besòs and reaches the inland municipality of Barberà del Vallès, where work is already underway in the area of the Sec river and the Ripoll river -which flow into the Besòs-), ranging from the use of surplus groundwater in the area of its mouth (improving the flow of the river and preventing the water from being discharged into the sewage system), to the construction, in the area of the river that runs further inland, of footbridges and paths for pedestrians and bicycles, installation of river crossings and environmental improvement and energy efficiency of the urban fabric (with the installation of new lighting).

Also noteworthy are the actions planned in the fluvial space of the lower section of the Llobregat River (from the area of its mouth in El Prat de Llobregat to the municipality of Castellbisbal, located some 35 km from the coast), where work is being carried out to create a basic network of accesses to the river, improve secondary roads and install equipment in the fluvial space. This includes improvements in paving, natural water management (improvements in drainage to prevent soil erosion), repairs to underpasses to improve the permeability of the infrastructures and improving the quality of the landscape by planting trees and shrub species. In addition, new sections of bike paths are being created to improve access from the center of the towns to the river and the network of river paths, incorporating small sitting areas.

Also noteworthy is the improvement of the existing section, the pavement and the margins of the path parallel to the high-speed train tracks in the municipality of Santa Coloma de Cervelló, as well as the incorporation of new signage along the entire path. Finally, it is worth highlighting the actions to improve the natural space in the area of influence of Collserola, located in the middle of the Besòs and Llobregat rivers, where measures are being implemented to improve the environment and pedestrian connectivity.



Ripoll River, Ripollet (Besòs)



Comerç River walkway, Sant Feliu de Llobregat (Llobregat)

The project involves a total cost of 16,843,419 € and eligible costs of 13,920,181 € and ERDF assistance of 6,960,090 €.

The results of this project have had an impact on the number of hectares affected by the actions, which, upon completion, will amount to 122 Ha.

This operation is presented as a Best Practice because it meets the following criteria:

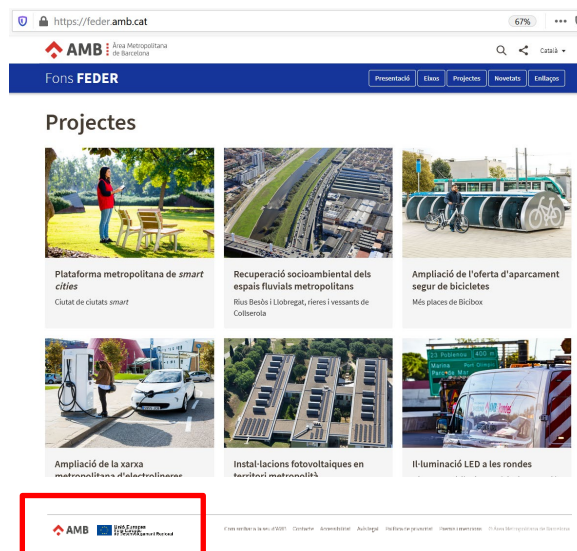
1. The role of the ERDF in the action has been adequately disseminated among the beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries and the general public.

The actions that have been carried out at the communication level aim to publicize the project and its results in the metropolitan territorial area, as well as at regional, national and European level.

Work poster during the execution of the operation and permanent plaque placed at each of the sites where the works are being carried out along the river basins.



Presence on the website of the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB) <https://feder.amb.cat/>



Institutional video to disseminate the AMB's projects, including the socio-environmental Recovery of metropolitan areas.



Programa FEDER AMB 2014-2020



Programa FEDER AMB 2014-2020

Short videos (series of informative capsules) to disseminate among citizens the actions being carried out in the metropolitan river areas.



Cami del riu de Molins de Rei



Cami del riu de Molins de Rei

Social media presence

Cooperació_InterAMB @Coopr_InterAMB · 30 de gen.
 Acceptada pel #ConsellMetropolità, la subvenció #FEDER de les primeres operacions aprovades: Plataforma Smart Cities i Recuperació socioambiental dels espais fluvials
 #FonsUECat #FEDERAMB #POFEDERCat

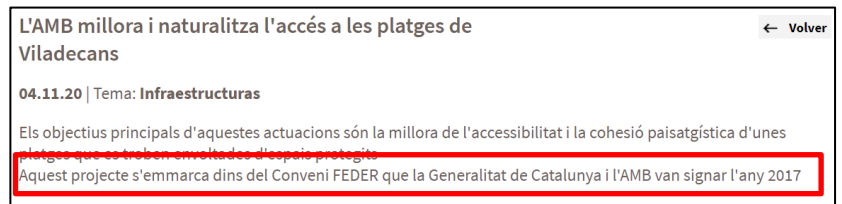
Cooperació_InterAMB @C... · 18/1
 ? Vols saber què fa l'AMB amb el europeu #FEDER?
 Gràcies a la inversió FEDER, l'AMB transforma en una metròpolis més #verda, #sostenible i #intel·ligent!
 Descobreix més al vídeo
 #MetropolisBarcelona
 #FonsUECat
 #FEDER
 #FEDERAMB
 #POFEDERCat

Cooperació_InterAMB @C... · 2/3/21
 Seguir treballant per aconseguir una metròpolis més verda, sostenible i intel·ligent. Descobreix que estem fent amb el Programa #FEDER de l'AMB
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Cooperació_InterAMB @C... · 2/3/21
 allant per aconseguir una més verda, sostenible i Descobreix que estem fent amb el Programa #FEDER de l'AMB
 feder.amb.cat
 #FonsUECat #FEDERAMB #POFEDERCat

PROJECTES AMB DEL PROGRAMA FEDER 2014-2020

Publication of press releases to explain some of the works being carried out related to environmental recovery.



2. The action incorporates innovative elements

The project incorporates several innovative elements that provide the area with different systems and/or elements that did not exist until now.

On the one hand, it is worth highlighting the use of surplus groundwater in the Besòs river basin, which makes it possible to reuse the excess flow to incorporate it into the flow of the river and remove it from the sewage system, freeing up the mass of water treated by the treatment plant.

Likewise, along the course of the Besòs river, elements have been incorporated that have been a clear novelty for the area, such as recreational and walking areas that allow the river banks to be recovered for the citizens, while a clear example of innovation in the area of the Llobregat basin is the improvement of drainage to prevent soil erosion and the improvement in the permeability of some infrastructures.

However, the most noteworthy aspect, as has already been mentioned, is that through an emerging concept, such as finding solutions based on nature, the renaturalization of cities can be achieved, with the offer of eco-systemic services that can contribute to adaptation to climate change. Also in water management, and in particular, in relation to a better use of water resources, we are trying to implement this type of solutions, through the conservation and protection of the headwaters of river basins or the regulation of natural flows.

Finally, it is also important to note that the activities presented are not simply intended to build new infrastructure (such as bridges, etc.), but are designed to enhance water resources while respecting not only the associated landscape as metropolitan green infrastructure, but also the fauna, which is clearly an innovative concept and use.

3. Suitability of the results obtained to the established objectives.

The main objective of this project is the conservation and protection of the environment, as well as to promote the efficiency of natural resources by protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting the aforementioned ecosystem services, although it also seeks to recover and preserve the ecological and landscape quality of the area and to open new public spaces to the population.



Picnic Area Pahissa river, Sant Joan Despi

Therefore, the actions carried out in the different areas benefited by this project are achieving the planned objectives with excellent results, as indicated in the introductory section. For example, the appropriate connection of the natural spaces associated with the river with the urban areas, the improvement of its functionality aimed at the enjoyment and healthy practices by the citizens or the actions that allow improving the large variations of the water flow and the problems associated with flooding and erosion of the streams when they come into contact with the city.

4. Contribution to the resolution of a problem or weakness detected in the territorial scope of execution.

Half of the metropolitan territory is made up of green spaces, such as the Collserola mountain range, the Garraf mountain range, the Llobregat and Besòs rivers, beaches, parks, etc., for their conservation it was necessary to improve and make better use of all these areas, both to conserve and protect the existing environment and to make it more accessible to the population.

With the action presented, the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona is transformed from a highly industrialized, polluting reality of degraded spaces, to a new discovery of these spaces by the citizens, not only increasing the biodiversity of flora and fauna, but also improving the quality of surface waters and promoting their use for leisure and sport, with the corresponding benefits for the health of the citizens.

5. High degree of coverage of the target population.

At present, approximately 3,200,000 inhabitants live in the metropolitan area of Barcelona and will benefit from the actions to improve the rivers and the natural spaces that surround them, although it should be noted that the hundreds of thousands of people who live in the area directly affected will benefit more directly.

In any case, the benefits are especially important for pedestrians and cyclists, given the length of the stretches in which actions have been carried out especially for them (30 km in the metropolitan stretch of the Llobregat river and the final 5 km stretch of the Besòs river).



Clota Street below AP7 Road, Cerdanyola del Vallès



Llobregat river path, Molins de Rei

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

As for the actions aimed at promoting equality between men and women and non-discrimination, the project takes into account all equality criteria throughout the entire process, and this is reflected in the tenders for works carried out. It should also be noted that the project has also taken into account the accessibility of the infrastructures created.

Likewise, as this is an operation with a clear environmental focus, it incorporates various actions focused on respect for the environment, such as efficient management of available resources, respect for biodiversity, the promotion of native species and the prioritization of sustainable actions.

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

Among the actions that can be considered complementary to this good practice are those carried out by the Barcelona City Council, reflected in its Strategy for Sustainable and Integrated Urban Development, which aim to improve the social and urban inequality of some of the neighborhoods of the Besòs Axis, contributing to improve the physical and environmental, demographic, social and economic dimension of the area, in order to transform the border represented by the Besòs river basin, as it passes through Barcelona, into a backbone and a pole of attraction that strengthens the urban fabric on both banks of the river.

Likewise, with regard to the Llobregat river basin, complementary actions have been carried out since 2006 along the same line of territorial transformation. Thus, since that year, when the Consortium for the Recovery and Conservation of the Llobregat River was constituted, which is formed as a public entity that allows the coordinated intervention of all levels of administration in this space, actions are being carried out, such as, among others, those of the Mirador del Llobregat, the Mirador del Llobregat, the Mirador del Llobregat and the Mirador del Llobregat, among others, those of the Llobregat Viewpoint (in 2009), the provisional access road to the Llobregat River from Bellvitge and the river leisure park in 2011, the signaling of the Llobregat River Park (in 2012) and the improvement of the ascent to the Castell de Barberá, in 2015.

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