

Una manera de hacer Europa



BUENAS PRÁCTICAS Actuaciones Cofinanciadas

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**Programa Operativo
Plurirregional de España**

Año 2020

Fondo Europeo de Desarrollo Regional

The action is presented as a good practice **PROJECT OF THE NEW WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, SEWERS AND SEA- TERRESTRIAL OUTFALL OF ADDAIA T.M. ES MERCADAL (MENORCA)**

The main works that are part of this project are the construction of the new Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) that includes the wastewater from the urban centres of Son Parc, Arenal d'en Castell, Punta Grossa, Coves Noves, Na Macaret and Port Addaia, all located in the northeast of the municipality of Es Mercadal; the execution of the Wastewater Pumping Stations of Addaia, Coves Noves and Son Parc; and the works to start up the respective pipelines that drive the wastewater to the treatment plant.

In order to evacuate the discharges into the sea, a sea-terrestrial outfall has been built, which carries the treated water to the sea, thus improving the conservation of the Son and d'en Castell sandbanks, included in the Natura 2000 network, which are home to *Posidonia oceanica* meadows (is a slow-growing species endemic of the Mediterranean Sea).



The eligible expenditure, once the work has been completed, was 11.299.280 euros, with total EU support around 50 %

This project serves an additional population of 21.667 equivalent inhabitants.

It is considered a Good Practice because:

- **The action has been conveniently disseminated among the beneficiaries, potential beneficiaries and the general public.**

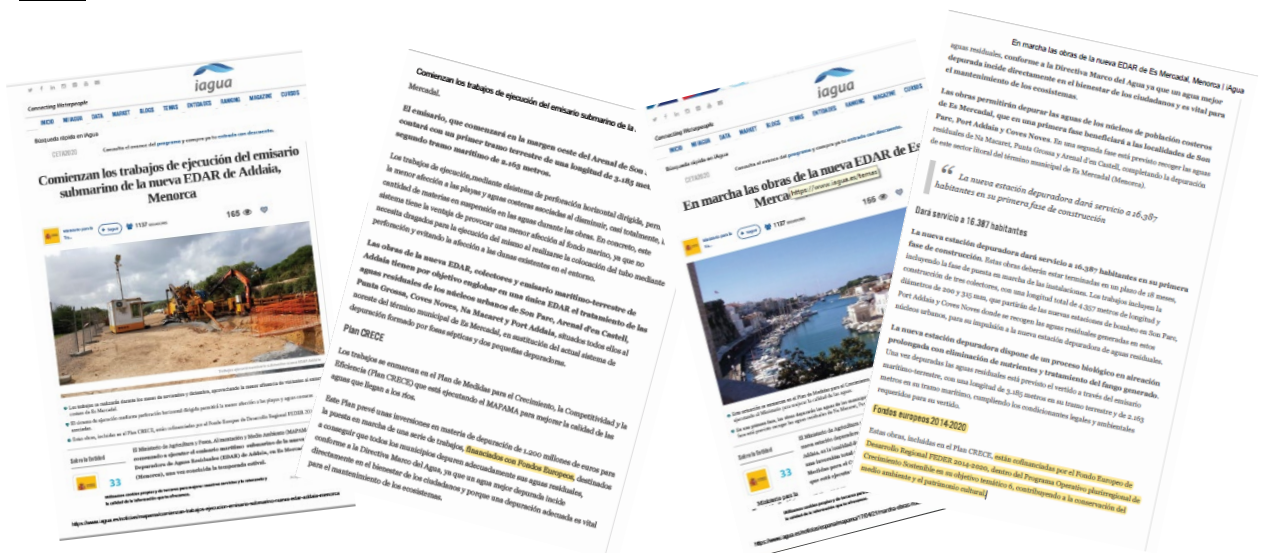
We have considered all those actions designed to publicize “The project of the new wastewater treatment plant, sewer pipes and terrestrial maritime outfall of Addaia, Es Mercadal (Menorca)”, with the main objective of informing the public about the objective of guaranteeing the purification of wastewater from the different affected population centres.

Sign post



The project has been publicized in the local, regional and national press, informing the public of the benefits achieved with the execution of the works, through the reference to the contribution of the ERDF Funds in its execution.

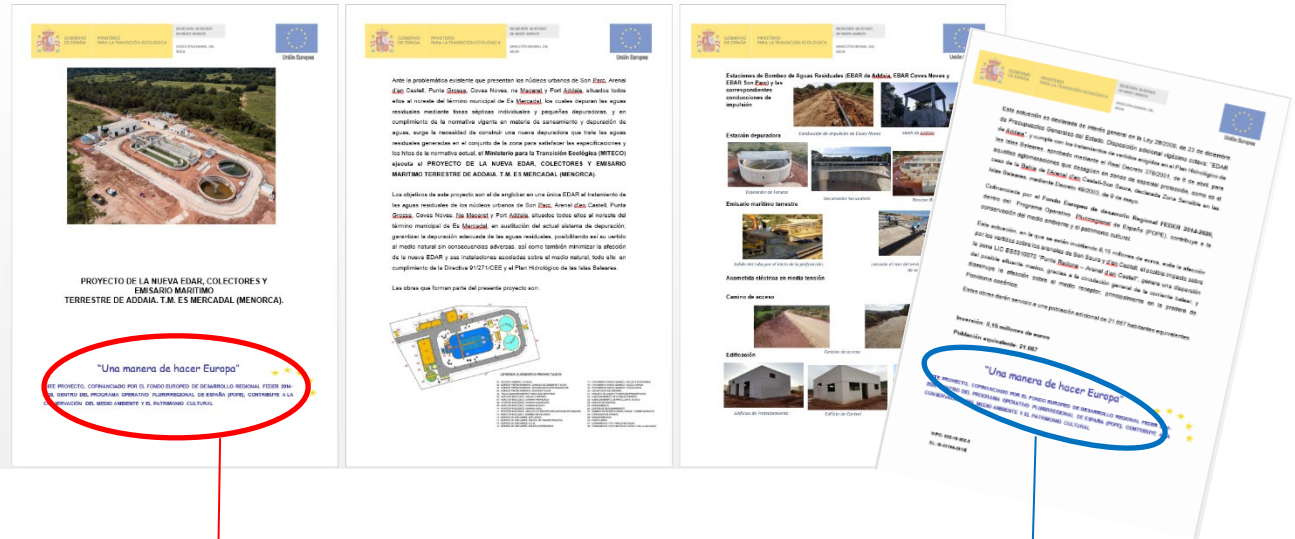
News



In addition, a series of differentiated communication tools have been implemented, such as:

Brochure

Copies have been published in three different languages, Spanish, Catalan and English, and have been sent to the following distribution points: Es Mercadal Town Hall, Abaqua and the Consell de Menorca (Council of Menorca):

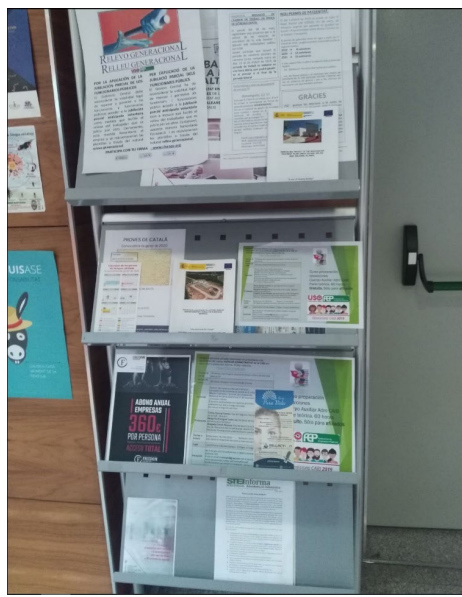
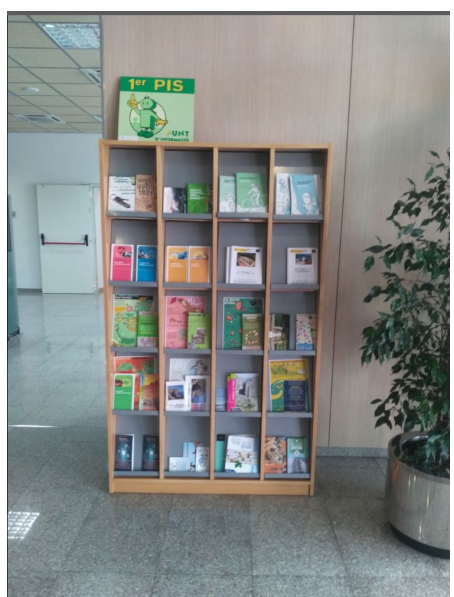


"Una manera de hacer Europa"



ESTE PROYECTO, COFINANCIADO POR EL FONDO EUROPEO DE DESARROLLO REGIONAL FEDER 2014-2020, DENTRO DEL PROGRAMA OPERATIVO PLURIRREGIONAL DE ESPAÑA (POPE), CONTRIBUYE A LA CONSERVACIÓN DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE Y EL PATRIMONIO CULTURAL

Cofinanciada por el **Fondo Europeo de desarrollo Regional FEDER 2014-2020**, dentro del Programa Operativo Plurirregional de España (POPE), contribuye a la conservación del medio ambiente y el patrimonio cultural.



Distribution points

Promotional video of the action

A promotional video showing the evolution of the execution of the work and the final result of the same, with express indication of the contribution of the ERDF Funds, has been prepared and is continuously disseminated in the Ministry for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, at peak hours when there is a greater influx of people.



➤ **The action incorporates innovative elements**

An innovative element is the "horizontal directional drilling" system, used in this project to carry out the works of the sea-terrestrial outfall (pipeline for evacuation of treated water from the WWTP, the first section of which goes through the terrestrial zone and the final section through the sea), which has allowed the water reaching the sea to contain less suspended particles, thus contributing to less contamination of the water and the beach.



Land section of outfall



Submarine section of outfall

➤ **Adequacy of the contents to the objectives pursued.**

The objectives of this action were to include in a single WWTP the treatment of wastewater from the urban centres mentioned in the presentation, as well as to minimize the landscape impact of the execution of works of these characteristics on the surrounding environment.

With the execution of the works, the objectives pursued are achieved, since adequate wastewater treatment is guaranteed, in compliance with current regulations and the Hydrological Plan of the Balearic Islands, thus enabling its discharge into the natural environment without adverse consequences in terms of pollution, and its construction is integrated into the landscape, with no visual impact whatsoever.

➤ **Contributes to the resolution of a regional problem or weakness**

The aforementioned urban centers currently treat wastewater using individual septic tanks and small treatment plants, in breach of current wastewater regulations, with the consequent pollution that this entails both to groundwater and the sea, and specifically to the Badia de l'Arenal d'en Castell-Son Saura, declared a Sensitive Zone, which requires special treatment to reduce the nutrients in the treated water (nitrogen and phosphorus).



Posidonia oceanica

With the execution of the works, the impact of the discharges on the sandbanks of Son Saura and d'en Castell, the possible impact on the "Punta Redona - Arenal d'en Castell" area is avoided, and a dispersion of the discharges once it reaches the sea is generated, which makes its impact on the Posidonia oceanica meadows less, and therefore contributes to its conservation.

➤ **It has a high degree of coverage on the population to which it is addressed**

The action covers all the needs of several urban centres, all of them located to the northeast of the municipality of Es Mercadal, as it is a global action that solves the existing problems in the city in terms of discharges into the sea, but not only covers the needs of the inhabitants of these municipalities, but, since the main economic activity of this area is tourism, with an average of 1.5 million tourists a year on the island of Menorca, the impact of the action covers all of them, who benefit from the improvement of the quality of their waters.

➤ **The horizontal criteria of equal opportunities and environmental sustainability have been taken into account**

From the point of view of environmental sustainability, the execution of the work as a whole has contributed to the conservation of the environment, since it has been integrated into the landscape of the environment, has avoided during its execution the negative impact on the existing dunes, and has mainly achieved the objectives in terms of the quality of the treated water.

Likewise, the horizontal criteria of equal opportunities have been taken into account, as it benefits the entire population without any discrimination, and facilitates access to information to those people who do not have computer resources, through the distribution of brochures in places with a high number of citizens.

➤ **Synergies with other policies or instruments of public intervention**

This action increases its impact on the environment in synergy with other actions that have been carried out on the island of Menorca, whose main objectives are also focused on achieving an improvement in the quality of water bodies and their sustainable management, under the Water Law and the Hydrological Plan of the Balearic Islands 2015-2021.

Among others, the partial replacement of the sewage network of Ciutadella Sud, managed by the Agència Balear de l'Aigua (ABAQUA), whose objective, financed through the Sustainable Tourism Tax (ITS) has been to renew the pipeline between the Wastewater Pumping Stations of

Canal Salat and Santandria to ensure optimal operation, and the new WWTP of Ferreries (financed with FEDER Funds within the OP Balearic Islands 2014-2020) and whose objective has been to increase the capacity of wastewater treatment and, thus, also improve the quality of the discharge.

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