We present the efficiency improvement practices in the House of Culture in Almassora, which include the air conditioning system in the events hall and the expansion of the Municipal Library.

This action has consisted of carrying out improvement works in the House of Culture in order to achieve a better performance of the air conditioning system in the events hall and the expansion of the Municipal Library. Within this action plan, the reform to be envisaged in the House of Culture is the improvement of the building facilities, the widespread use to 12 months, expanding access to culture with new reading points and bringing new technologies closer to the population through free connection to the Wifi network.



The events hall becomes a space completely equipped with air conditioning system and adapted to people with reduced mobility, with a stage box and the required technical equipment to carry out several artistic activities, these improvements have led to an increase in use of the House of Culture, with a varied and high quality programmes in the municipality. Regarding the library, improving and expanding the facilities aims at improving the user comfort and increasing the number of users and lending of books so as to promote local culture.

The eligible cost of the action is 310.178 euros, with the ERDF/FEDER funding of 155.089 euros and an impact of some 6,000 more visits per year.

This action is considered good and effective practice for the following reasons:

The role of the ERDF/FEDER funds has been suitably available to potential beneficiaries and public in general.

Besides fulfilling the statutory minimum obligations such as the plate and the inclusion in the Website.



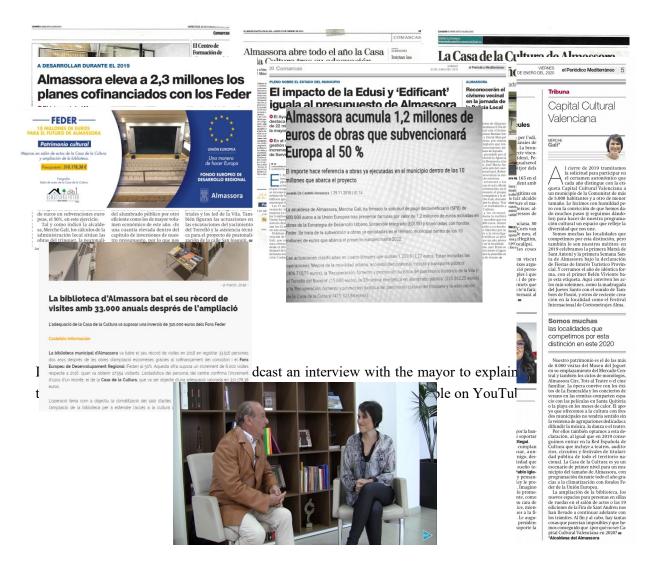




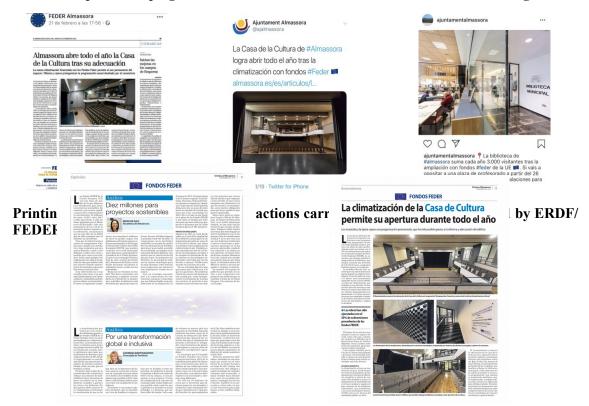
The action has been broadcast in the following media:

Advertisements and news in the press and municipal channels: Levante de Castelló, El

Mundo and Mediterráneo.



We have devoted a specific channel on Facebook for ERDF/FEDER Almassora and we have developed a campaign on this social network, as well as on Twitter and Instagram.



Radio campaigns in the main radio stations of the province Onda Cero, Ser and Cope. Onda Cero and Cadena Ser -images-.





Participation in the II Conference of Intermediate Towns: towards the 21st century European city



Regarding the dissemination of aid affecting the House of Culture among a more specific audience.

The action incorporates innovative elements:

Inclusion of Wifi network with free Internet access and installation of 40 new reading points with access to the electric current to be able to connect laptops or mobiles phones. The action also incorporates insulating materials to block outside noise and facilitate students' concentration.

Regarding the events hall of the House of Culture's works, the innovative elements focus on the commitment to energy efficiency and consumption saving systems, unprecedented in the municipality.

Adequacy of the results obtained to the established objectives:

The action meets the established objectives so far as, thanks to air conditioning of the House of Culture, this events room can offer stable, long-term programming throughout the year, whereas before, its use was not allowed during winter and summer time due to cold and heat suffered by the audience. On the other hand, the objective of serving more library users has also been achieved because the reading room was so far overcrowded.

The results obtained with the action taken improve the citizens' quality of life, expanding the cultural resources at their disposal, by increasing the space and library catalogues. It also means an improvement in quality and energy efficiency in terms of improving the library's air conditioning system, which enhances the events room and makes its use more cost-effective, reducing its electricity bill.

Contribution to the resolution of a problem or weakness identified in the territorial scope of implementation:

Resolution of the matter of capacity of the municipal library, saturated during university exam periods and, regarding the air conditioning of the House of Culture, the temporality of use of the main room is solved, given that heating and air conditioning system allows to schedule activity throughout the year.

Level of coverage of the target audience:

The universality of this measure means that the entire population benefits from the effects of this action taken both in the events hall of the House of Culture and in the library. Furthermore, the actions taken, mainly affect two polarized population groups: adult-elderly in the events room and child-youth in the municipal library. The results are evident: the library has increased its visitor records by 6,000 users per year to reach its record in 2018 with 33,516 people.

Consideration of horizontal criteria of equal opportunities and non-discrimination and accessibility:

The action respects the principles of equality, non-discrimination and accessibility. This action is respectful of the rules on equality between women and men and non-discrimination because of its general nature for all citizens from Almassora.

It also complies with the principle of accessibility, since it provides specific technical means to the entire population to reach culture and thus contribute to the digital literacy, in addition to having broken every physical architectural barrier with the works.

With regard to environmental sustainability, the installations of the new air-conditioning system and the expansion of the library have been guided by energy efficiency parameters of sustainable development.

Synergies with other public intervention policies or instruments:

Thanks to this initiative, the Almassora City Council has launched other cross-cultural activities: a cycle of live connections with the London Opera, I Flamenco Festival, I Almassora 'Alma' International Short Films Festival, jazz cycle, children's storytelling in the library, charity performances to promote local associations and so on. After the reform, the House of Culture also hosts the events on the occasion of the Local Police Day, the awards ceremony of the Aproca merchants' association and the end-of-year festivals of the Almassora schools.

The action is embedded in the corporate responsibility policy of the Almassora City Council through the promotion of sustainable development, R+D+I and the access of citizens to the city 's cultural heritage.