



ANDALUSIA, ALGARVE AND ALENTEJO, THREE REGIONS UNITED BY A COMMON GOAL: DEVELOPMENT OF THE FRONTIER SPACE

The regions of Andalusia, Algarve and Alentejo have been cooperating for more than 20 years in all activity sectors and spheres, ranging from health to infrastructures, environment and business cooperation. The 2007 Spain-Portugal Cross-border Cooperation Programme financed in its first call 12 cooperation projects in this area. The Office of Cross-border Initiatives for the three regions and the Andalbagua project, conducted by the Department of the Presidency of the Autonomous Government of Andalusia, are significant signs of the intense cooperation between these territories.

The Andalusia-Algarve-Alentejo Office of Cross-border Initiatives

The Andalusia-Algarve-Alentejo Office of Cross-border Initiatives (GIT AAA – *Gabinete de Iniciativas Transfronterizas Andalusia-Algarve-Alentejo*) set up in 2003 by the Algarve, Alentejo and Andalusia regions, was conceived as a joint project to promote and foster the development of cross-border relations between entities from these three regions and as a support body for the regional working groups.

At the same time it was approved as a project in the framework of Community Initiative INTERREG IIIA Spain-Portugal and has since worked to further economic and social development of the frontier space, backing actions that smooth cooperation between the various economic, social and cultural players on both sides of the border.

Its activities include the creation and management of a bilingual cross-border web page (www.git-aaa.com) which provides various tools for users, among them a search engine for entities, news of interest and results of cross-border cooperation projects. Actions to prepare and establish a Cross-border Cooperation Observatory at the University of Évora have also been

undertaken, besides work on producing a Strategic Development Plan for Andalusia-Algarve-Alentejo.

GIT AAA annually holds forums for participation and interchange such as the ANDALUSÍADAS or the Workshops on Cross-border Territorial Cooperation and Development and is also responsible for coordination and activity per the INTERREG III Initiative and for publications such as the "Cross-border Cooperation Directory", besides supporting research work on subjects such as "Institutional Asymmetry between Spain and Portugal" and the "Study on Social Reality in Andalusia-Algarve-Alentejo". It also organizes numerous Portuguese and Spanish language courses addressed to public agents involved in cross-border cooperation.

Andalbagua Project

The Guadiana river and the development of its basin are key elements in this cross-border cooperation, in which the regions of Andalusia, Algarve and Alentejo have been working for over twenty years.

Fully aware of this reality, the ANDALBAGUA Project unites the key public agents in this territory under a common objective for producing an integrated approach to spatial planning and infrastructure, investment and development, which is coherent, sustainable and will boost competitiveness and the socioeconomic progress of the region.

ANDALBAGUA, co-funded with ERDF (*European Regional Development Fund*) through the Operational Programme for Spanish-Portuguese Cross-border Cooperation 2007-2013, within a time frame of four years is implementing the following fields of action:

- Coherency in territorial development on both sides of the Guadiana river through the development of

a land use strategy for the joint territory, and the creation of cross border river landscape.

- Navigability and accessibility of the population to the river, through improvement in navigation conditions, adaptation of the marine and river fronts, and funding the infrastructure in the riverside communities.
- Participation and involvement of the main development public agents through the creation of the Bajo Guadiana Forum.

The project, which is classified as a structural development programme, is led by the Department of the Presidency of the Autonomous Government of Andalusia, in which a total of 10 Andalusian and Portuguese members are working, all dedicated to the development of Bajo Guadiana.

On behalf of Andalusia, the Department of the Presidency, the Department of Housing and Spatial Planning, the Andalusian Public Port Agency (PPP) and the Huelva County Council are involved. On behalf of Portugal, the Institute for Ports and Maritime Transport, the Committee for Coordination and Regional Development of the Algarve and the Town Councils of Vila Real de Santo António, Alcoutim, Castro Marim and Mértola.

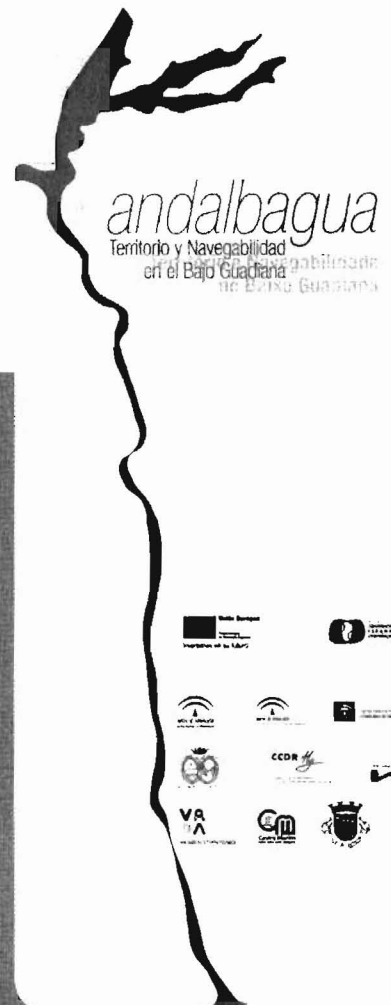
CONTACT DETAILS:

ERDF co-financed Projects
Secretary General of External Action
Department of the Presidency
Autonomous Government of Andalusia
Email: git.cpre@juntadeandalucia.es
Email: andalbagua.cpre@juntadeandalucia.es
Phone: 0034 955 03 51 53

ANDALBAGUA PROJECT

TERRITORY AND NAVIGABILITY

IN THE LOWER GUADIANA BASIN



The Guadiana river and the development of its basin are key elements in this cross-border cooperation, in which the regions of Andalucía, Algarve and Alentejo have been working for over twenty years.

Fully aware of this reality, the ANDALBAGUA Project unites the key public agents in this territory under a common objective for producing an integrated approach to spatial planning and infrastructure investment, and development, which is coherent, sustainable and will boost the competitiveness and the socio-economic progress of the region.

ANDALBAGUA, co-funded with FEDER funds through the Operational Programme for Spanish-Portuguese Cross-border Cooperation 2007-2013, within a time frame of four years is implementing the following fields of action:

- Coherency in territorial development on both sides of the Guadiana river through the development of a land use strategy for the joint territory, and the creation of crossborder river landscape.

- Navigability and accessibility of the population to the river, through improvement in navigation conditions, adaptation of the marine and river fronts, and funding the infrastructure in the riverside communities.

- Participation and involvement of the main development public agents through the creation of the Bajo Guadiana Forum.

The project, which is classified as a structural development programme, is led by the Presidency Regional Ministry of the Junta de Andalucía, in which a total of 10 Andalusian and Portuguese members are working, all dedicated to the development of Bajo Guadiana. On behalf of Andalucía, the Presidency Regional Ministry, the Ministry of Housing and Spatial Planning, the Andalusian Public Port Agency (PPP) and the Huelva County Council are involved. On behalf of Portugal, the Institute for Ports and Maritime Transport, the Committee for Coordination and Regional Development of the Algarve and the Town Councils of Vila Real de Santo António, Alcoutim, Castro Marim and Mértola.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Secretary General of Foreign Affairs of the Junta de Andalucía
Miguel Lucena Barranquero
Email: sgacex.cpre@juntadeandalucia.es • Phone: + 34 955 03 51 55

Project managers:

Celia Rosell Martí
Email: celia.rosell@juntadeandalucia.es
Phone: +34 955 03 51 53

Fatima Ruiz-Granados López-Tarruella
Email: fatima.ruiz.ext@juntadeandalucia.es
Phone: + 34 955 03 52 16

DISSEMINATION

