

IUC-NA

Urban Cooperation Action Plan (U-CAP)

Summary

November 2020

City:	ALMERÍA	LOS CABOS
Province, State, Department...:	Andalusia	Baja California Sur
Country:	Spain	Mexico
Population:	195,389	287,671
Size (km²)	296.21 km ²	3,750.93 km ²
Period of cooperation	July 2019 - November 2020	

Cooperation Themes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate adaptation, including environmental management and clean energy • Urban Mobility and its relation to transport and public space • Inclusive and sustainable economic growth • Circular Economy
Related <u>SDGs</u> and <u>Urban Agenda</u> topics:	<p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 8- Decent Work and Economic Growth – 11- Sustainable Cities and Communities – 12- Responsible Production and Consumption – 13- Climate Action <p>EU Urban Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Urban Mobility – Urban Poverty – Circular economy – Climate adaptation
Key <u>focus</u> of cooperation themes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sustainable environmental management, with the implementation of clean energy projects and the integral water cycle to mitigate climate change. – To implement a sustainable urban mobility policy that encourages environmentally friendly modes of travel, including efficient public transport, good connectivity, and



	<p>accessibility, promoting new mobility solutions (pedestrian and cycling) and mobility management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Promote development policies supporting entrepreneurship, and innovation, including Sustainable Tourism principles to tackle poverty, marginalization, and urban inequality. – Reduce the consumption of natural resources, waste production, and greenhouse gas emissions through the circular economy to support both cities' sustainable economic development.
<p>Key <u>challenges</u> of cooperation theme:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The correct implementation of the Integral Water Cycle, as Almería does, can lead to a better administration of this vital resource. Los Cabos faces the challenge of adapting the lessons learned to its Integral Water Cycle and implement the required infrastructural upgrades. – Both cities aim to establish a permanent dialogue around mobility and invite other cities to continue sharing experiences, projects, and lessons learned to develop better instruments and metrics. The challenge will be to identify a common ground to maintain interest and participation in the sessions. – Almería is very interested in developing tools to capture better information from their citizens to generate better public policies and projects, particularly in resilience and risk management against natural disasters. The challenge is to make sure stakeholders across the public administration prioritize civic engagement processes such as those developed in Los Cabos.
<p>Main <u>objectives</u> of cooperation as described in the U-CAP:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Promote clean, renewable energy to alleviate climate change by researching and developing urban policy tools and cooperation between institutions, universities, and the private sector. – Increase the amount of drinking water at a lower cost and reduce water pollution and water shortages in Los Cabos by learning from Almería's Integral Water Cycle, including drilling, seawater desalinization, and optimization of distribution and sanitation networks. – Advance in the prevention of climate emergencies and together develop action protocols and improve contingency plans. – Achieve better results in economic development through interventions established in a strategic urban plan and



	<p>establish an urban observatory to measure public strategies' impact.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Exchange best practices on sustainable urban mobility planning, including strategic and accessible public transport, alternative transport modes, and smart mobility. – Generate business and economic opportunities related to the circular economy.
<p>Short description of main <u>activities</u> and key <u>outputs</u> (e.g., pilot projects):</p>	<p>Renewable Energy Both cities are located in some of the sunniest areas in the world. This factor has been used advantageously by Almería, as it has become a hub for solar energy technology through university research programs and tech companies. Los Cabos is interested in implementing similar technologies and has identified city-run sports facilities as a potential location to test the incorporation of clean energy solutions that withstand their challenging weather conditions. The first project will be implemented at the Don Koll Sports Complex, and have requested a proposal from ISE, an Almerian solar energy business.</p> <p>Water Management Almería led a public-private partnership for its integral water cycle. As a result, they have an exemplary desalinization plant, an efficient water distribution system, and the development and testing of new technology such as the use of wastewater residues to power the city's electric car vehicles. Los Cabos will apply the lessons learned in the planning and development of their new water desalinization plant.</p> <p>Emergency Preparedness for Natural Disasters In 2014 Hurricane Odile devastated Los Cabos and pushed its city planning department, IMPLAN, to develop the Manual of Actions and Recommendations for the Risk of Hydrometeorological Contingencies that guides city officials, the army, businesses, and residents to know how to act before, during, and after a natural disaster. They have shared the manual and development process with Almería, where there is an increased risk of natural disasters due to climate change.</p> <p>Strategic Planning Almería has developed its Vision 2030 strategic plan for the city that focuses on eight main vectors, including mobility, innovation, and the blue economy. This plan intends to make sure all city agencies are aligned and that these shared goals continue to drive their work despite the change in city</p>



	<p>leadership. Los Cabos has defined its Vision through a highly participatory process and is now ready to develop a strategic plan. Delegates from both cities attended the online Urban Strategic Planning program given by Centro Iberoamericano de Desarrollo Estratégico Urbano (CIDEU). They also exchanged experiences and learned from Zaragoza to create strong citizen observatories.</p> <p>Sustainable Urban Mobility</p> <p>The technical mobility areas from both cities exchanged knowledge through a diagnosis and analysis of Los Cabos' and Almería's mobility plans and strategies. They also participated in two workshops that helped Los Cabos define objectives and actions for their Inclusive Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (PIMUS). Other Mexican cities (Colima, Chihuahua, Metropolitan Area of Guadalajara, and Mérida) joined the workshop, enriching the experience.</p> <p>Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth</p> <p>During the Almería learning exchange, delegates from Los Cabos had the opportunity to meet a group of startups working on solutions directly related to green technology, the circular economy, sustainability, and tourism. As a result, both chambers of commerce have planned to introduce these solutions to the tourism sector in Los Cabos and coordinate exchanges between the startups to share experiences and expand their market.</p> <p>Both cities also participated in a thematic webinar on SMEs' support in coordination with Chihuahua (Mexico) and Zaragoza (Spain). As a result, they will formalize an agreement to join the digital platform developed by the Economic Development Department from Chihuahua in coordination with the Incubation Centre in Zaragoza (CIEM) to showcase SMEs internationally.</p>
<p>Expected results and benefits:</p>	<p>Almería and Los Cabos aim to include the objectives and lessons from these thematic areas of cooperation in their current and future urban planning projects. They also plan to sign formal agreements to continue pursuing these actions' objectives while building stronger ties through agreements between private sector stakeholders and promoting investment and cooperation across different fields.</p>

For further information (including access to the full U-CAP), please **contact:**

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