

IUC Urban Cooperation Action Plan (U-CAP) Summary

City:	Rio Grande	Albacete
Province, State, Department... :	Tierra de Fuego	Castilla la Mancha
Country:	Argentina	Spain
Population:	66,000 (in 2010)	173,050 (in 2018)
Size (km²)	12 181 km ²	1,125.91 km ²
Period of cooperation	2017-2018	

Cooperation Themes:	Renewable energy and business promotion
Related <u>SDGs</u> and <u>Urban Agenda</u> topics:	SDG 11: Urban Development, and SDG 7: Affordable and clean energy EU Urban Agenda: Energy transition
Key <u>focus</u> of cooperation themes:	Key challenges are the utilization of renewable energy sources, the promotion of new companies (Start-ups), and the promotion of the tourism industry.
Key <u>challenges</u> of cooperation theme:	Creation of a BIC in Rio Grande: The city of Albacete will transfer the European Business Innovation Centre model to Rio Grande. The final objective of the incubator is to promote the creation of new companies, especially those who are innovative according to the local and regional standards.
Main <u>objectives</u> of cooperation as described in the U-CAP:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Business Incubator with integrated acceleration model - ICT Start-ups - Green energy development - Tourist development Business Incubator with integrated acceleration model - Tourist development - Green energy development
Short description of main <u>activities</u> and key <u>outputs</u> (e.g. pilot projects):	Implementation of Solar Panels for self-supply in Rio Grande: Albacete generates more than 500 gigawatts per hour thanks to the sun, which is 6.7% of what is generated throughout the country every hour. This entire infrastructure has led Albacete to be one of the regions in the world with the highest know-How on installing and managing wind and solar plants.



	<p>Creation of information-communication technology (ICT) start-ups in Rio Grande: Rio Grande will diversify its economic matrix, creating an entrepreneurial and global environment that will encourage the creation of start-ups in the ICT sector. This new environment will promote the internationalization of its start-ups, favoring the relationship with Albacete's small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and start-ups.</p> <p>Development and Integration of a Regional Touristic Strategy: An expert in the field of tourism will develop a Regional Strategy for both cities and will identify the best products to be offered. Once the Strategy will be developed, the cities have to be able to implement it at regional level.</p>
<p>Expected results and benefits:</p>	<p>The city of Albacete will transfer the European Business Innovation Centre (BIC) model to Rio Grande. The final objective of the incubator is to promote the creation of new companies, especially those which are innovative according to the local and regional standards. One of the key projects will be the creation of a new private factory producing solar panels. Rio Grande will benefit substantially from Albacete's vast experience with solar energy. Albacete generates more than 500 gigawatts per hour thanks to an abundance of the sun. Albacete has become one of the regions in the world with the highest know-How on installing and managing wind and solar plants. The transfer of the BIC model is intended to serve as a platform for start-ups in Rio Grande, and the development new ICT firms. Additionally, both cities feel convinced that these technical and economic initiatives will also contribute to a new strategy for both their cities and regions.</p>

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

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