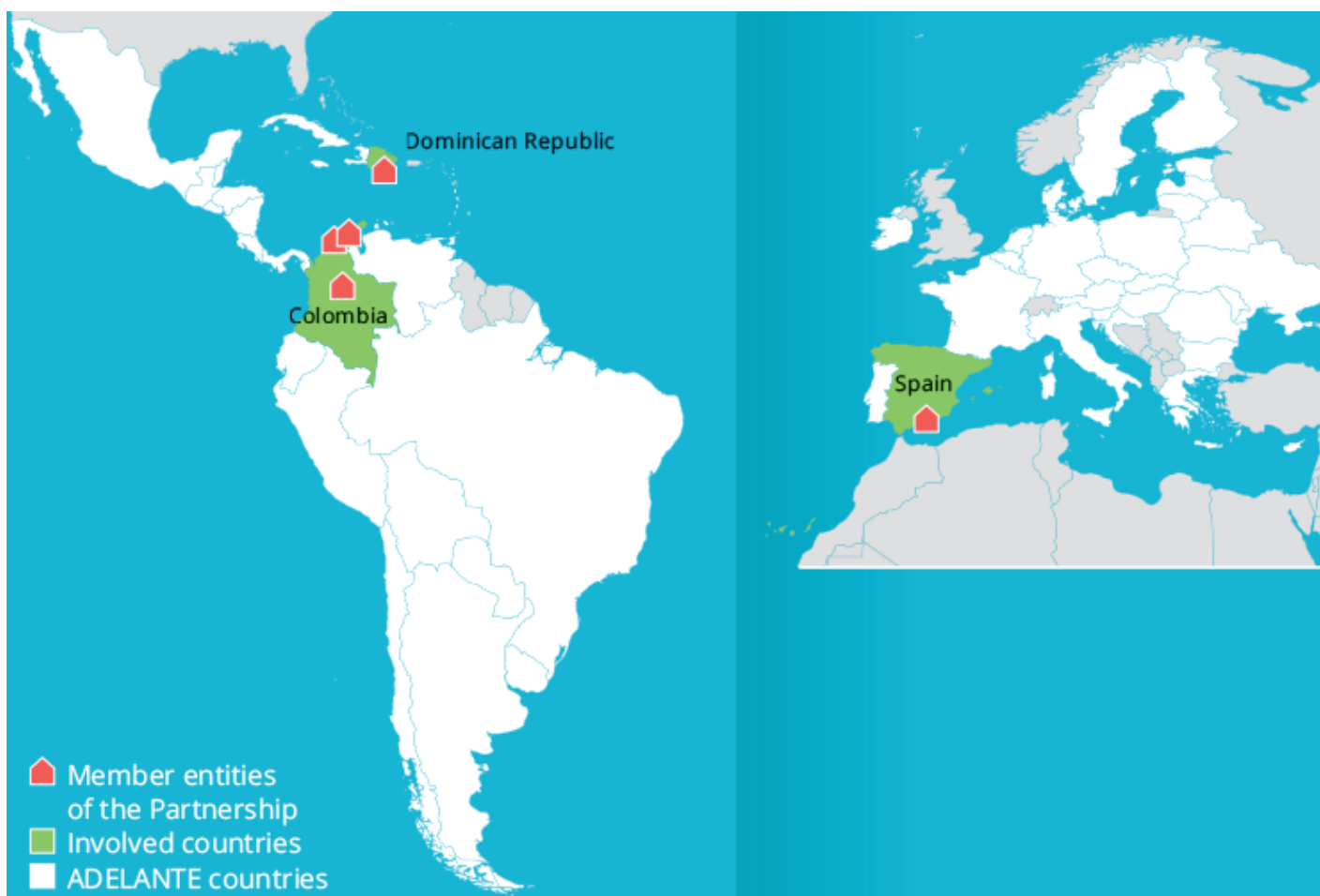


Historic centres for urban equity

PARTNERSHIP



Background

Barranquilla (Colombia) and Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) have been sister cities since 2021. Thanks to their shared geographical and cultural characteristics, they have carried out cooperation activities in the restoration of public spaces, the environment, urban development, tourism, historical and cultural heritage, highlighting the exchange of insights into their historic centres.

Málaga and Barranquilla are part of the network of cities of the European Union's International Urban and Regional Cooperation Programme (IURC), which aims to promote sustainable urban development and innovation. This has led to the creation of a General Agreement for Joint Action (MoU) between the two

cities to foster cooperation on common issues, such as urban regeneration.

The **Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation** - AECID (Spain) has a long history of cooperation in Colombia and the Dominican Republic in the field of urban development, both through its own funds and with funds from the Latin American Investment Facility (LAIF). AECID provides funding to strengthen the registration and care of migrants and their socio-economic and cultural integration in Barranquilla. In addition, through the Spanish Cultural Centre, a space for bilateral cultural exchange, support has been lent to the design and implementation of projects for the cultural enrichment and renovation of the historic centre of Santo Domingo.

The **District City Hall of Barranquilla** (Colombia), together with **Puerta de Oro Empresa de Desarrollo Caribe** - Puerta de Oro Caribbean Development Company (Colombia), the **City Hall of Santo Domingo** (Dominican Republic), the **City Hall of Málaga** (Spain) and AECID have formed a Triangular Cooperation Partnership, with the aim of carrying out an Initiative for the transfer of experiences and good practices between the Partnership member entities, in order to provide technical resources and guide the city of Barranquilla towards strengthening its historic centre revitalisation programme.

Entities and roles

BENEFICIARY ENTITIES



Alcaldía Distrital de Barranquilla

Puerta de Oro Empresa de Desarrollo Caribe

Colombia

Colombia

FIRST PROVIDER ENTITIES



Ayuntamiento del Distrito Nacional de Santo Domingo

Dominican Republic

SECOND PROVIDER ENTITIES



Ayuntamiento de Málaga

Spain



Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo

Spain

Development challenges

Thanks to this Triangular Cooperation Initiative, the knowledge of the Partnership member entities will be used to promote the development of the most disadvantaged areas of the historic centre of Barranquilla, addressing the lack of economic opportunities and existing social inequalities, and positioning it as a key area for the sustainable urban development of the city.

The Initiative will promote the development of a comprehensive strategy to reduce poverty, the informal economy, unemployment and inequality by identifying and addressing the most relevant challenges in the area, such as assistance to the homeless, the level of perceived safety, the deterioration of public spaces and the supply of adequate housing.

INITIATIVE

This Triangular Cooperation Initiative sought to share the knowledge of the Partnership's provider entities to develop solutions and strategic plans to foster the rehabilitation and revitalisation of historic centres, focused on sustainable development and urban equity.

Triangular approach

Most of Latin America's major cities have a historic centre whose potential has not yet been explored, in many cases due to the lack of resources. This Initiative aimed to provide new possibilities for the historic centre of Barranquilla, through a model that could be studied and replicated in other cities in the region.

The model was developed based on the experience and knowledge of the Santo Domingo City Council in hotel infrastructure, nightlife, local cuisine and entertainment businesses for both tourists and locals; paying particular attention to how it has managed to position its historic centre as an attractive and sustainable area for the city's residential network, with accessible housing for people from different socio-economic levels. This was a valuable experience for Barranquilla, as the two Caribbean cities share similar demographics and levels of economic development.

The experience of Málaga City Council in the implementation of their strategic plan for the rehabilitation and revitalisation of the historic centre of Málaga was also a great asset, along with its expertise in the development of programmes for socio-economic inclusion and assistance to vulnerable populations, projects to improve water drainage and sanitation, and the creation of an Office for the Renovation of the Historic Centre.

AECID also lent its expertise in urban regeneration, based on its experience in supporting the revitalisation of historic centres in Latin America, such as Santo Domingo, through its Cultural Centre, and Cartagena, through its Training Centre.

The knowledge generated was reflected in a model known as the Integrated Socio-economic Recovery Plan, which was key in updating the Special Management and Protection Plan - PEMP. This planning and management instrument for the protection and conservation of Barranquilla's cultural heritage will serve as an input for activities in the historic centre of Barranquilla.

Sectoral approach - Contribution to the 2030 Agenda

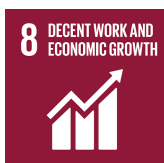
PRIMARY SDG



Goal 11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums

Goal 11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage

SECONDARY SDG



Goal 8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors

Goal 8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services

Goal 8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value

Goal 8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products

ADELANTE SDG



Goal 10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average

Goal 10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status



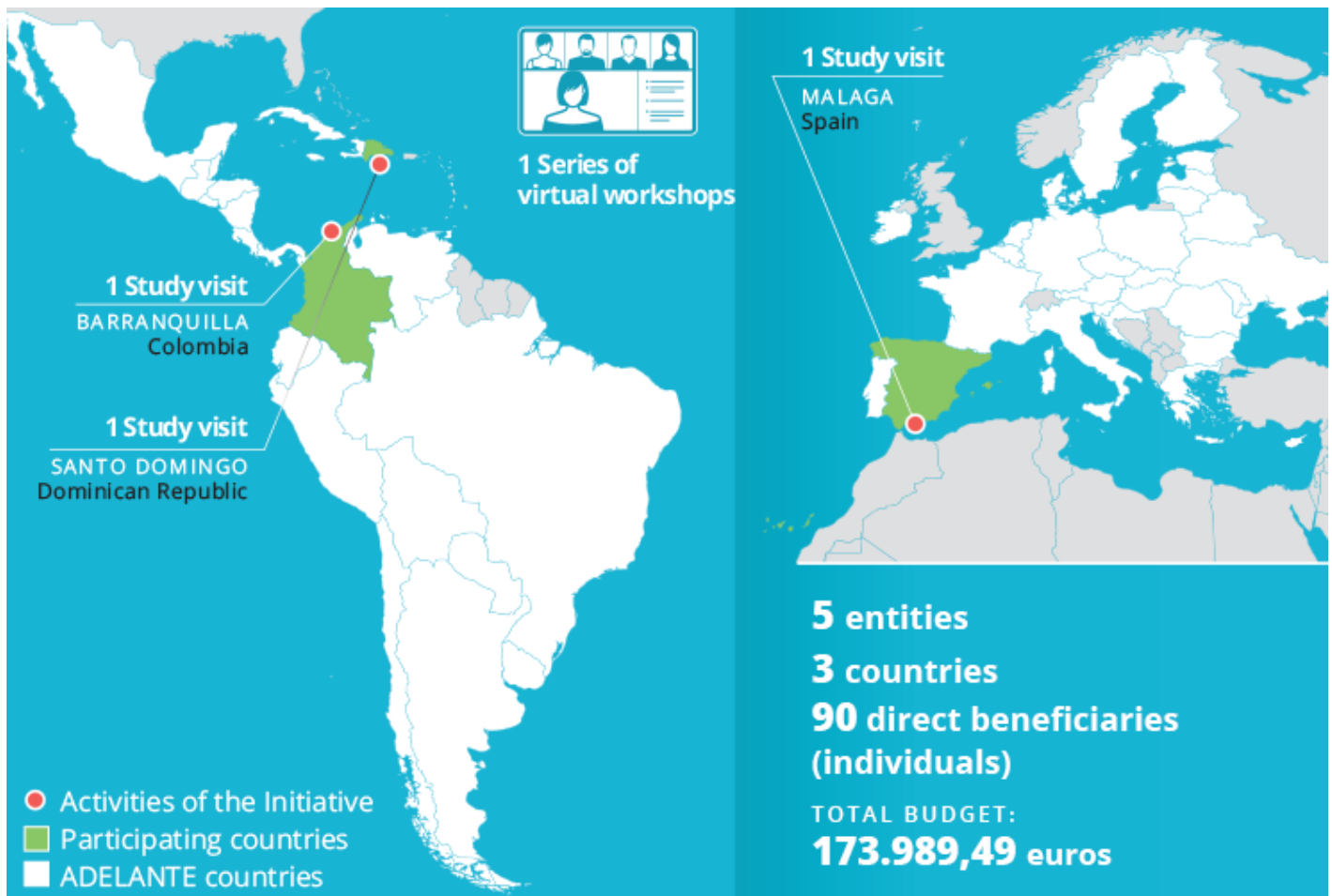
Goal 17.2 Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries

Goal 17.9 Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation

Goal 17.16 Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries

Goal 17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships

Territorial approach



Intervention methodology

The work plan of the Initiative was based on five activities that initially aimed to carry out an on-site case study in the cities of Málaga and Santo Domingo, followed by jointly identifying the critical issues in Barranquilla. With these initial inputs, guidelines were created for the development of the Integrated Economic Recovery Plan, which was developed with the help of a company specialising in urban development.

The Initiative kicked off with a **study visit to Málaga**, where the Málaga City Council held meetings with the aim of showcasing public policy measures implemented by the city to revitalise its historic centre.

A second study visit took Partnership member entities **to Santo Domingo**, where they analysed how the city has managed to position its historic centre as an attractive and sustainable area, especially for young people, as well as serving as an important economic and business hub for the city.

The third study visit took place in the city of Barranquilla, where the Provider entities explored the target area and observed the existing challenges and opportunities in the historic centre. Priority intervention areas were jointly identified, seeking to adapt and integrate the knowledge acquired in Málaga and Santo Domingo. During the visit, focus groups were organised with beneficiary groups (migrants, LGBTQI+, persons with disabilities, women, the local business community and youth), with the aim of obtaining inputs to formulate participatory and representative guidelines for the Integrated Economic

Recovery Plan.

The Integrated Socio-Economic Recovery Plan for the historic centre of Barranquilla and the 'Reference Guide for the Transfer of Knowledge' were the main results of **a study** that provided a comprehensive proposal to guide the development of the historic centre of Barranquilla. The plan can also be replicated in other cities that are undertaking similar processes, through the identification of real estate opportunities and economic activities that promote its renovation and regeneration, accompanied by strategies for long-term sustainability.

As a closing activity, a **workshop** was held to gather good practices from Colombia's Caribbean coast, where knowledge and lessons learnt were systematised and shared with other relevant actors, including public and private entities and civil society. Other cities were also invited to participate, primarily within Colombia, through a series of tools to boost their visibility and ensure the transfer of knowledge. This activity sought to ensure that the solutions offered in the Integrated Economic Recovery Plan for the existing problems are not limited to benefiting the historic centre of Barranquilla, but are also shared and can benefit the greatest possible number of cities and countries that collaborate with the Partnership's entities.

Study visit to Spain

Malaga, Spain | 13 -17 September 2022

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Study visit to the Dominican Republic

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic | 09 - 13 October 2022

[@gallery:galeriaict289-actividad2@]

Study visit to Colombia

Barranquilla, Colombia | 13 -19 October 2022

[@gallery:galeriaict289-actividad3@]

Workshop: Meeting on good practices on Colombia's Caribbean coast

Barranquilla, Colombia | 12 al 14 April 2023

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Reference Guide for the Transfer of Knowledge

Cooperación Triangular

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In addition to the findings and future prospects for the Barranquilla city centre, it includes useful guidelines for other cities with similar characteristics, and will help to facilitate the transfer of knowledge.

» [Download \(document in Spanish\)](#)

Direct beneficiaries (individuals)

According to Rule 9 of the Guidelines for Applicants: all persons participating in the activities of the Initiative.

The Initiative included at least **90 direct beneficiaries**, including 50 public officials and employees of the Partnership member entities, who received technical capacity building through study visits and support in developing the Integrated Economic Recovery Plan. At least 40 members of the general public also participated in the focus group workshops that took place during the study visit to Barranquilla.

The Initiative also has the potential to benefit over 50,000 people who live or work in the target areas in the historic centre of Barranquilla, following the implementation of the Integrated Economic Recovery Plan.

Budget

EU contribution: 128,803.14 €

Co-financing - Triangular Cooperation Partnership: 45,186.35 €

Total budget: 173,989.49 €