

# Alcoy as a model of sustainable city

## Background

- Alcoy, located in the Valencian Community, has emerged as a pioneering city in sustainable urban development. As a pilot city for the Spanish Urban Agenda, Alcoy has embraced a comprehensive approach to sustainability that integrates environmental, social, and economic dimensions. The initiative was driven by the need to address urban sprawl, ageing infrastructure, and the growing demand for inclusive and green public spaces.
- Key stakeholders include the Alcoy City Council, local environmental organisations, urban planners, and citizen groups. Their collaborative efforts aim to transform Alcoy into a resilient, inclusive, and environmentally responsible city. The initiative aligns with national and EU-level sustainability goals, particularly in promoting circular economy practices and sustainable mobility.

## Key Activities

- Implementation of circular economy strategies to reduce waste and promote resource efficiency.
- Revitalisation of existing urban infrastructure to prevent urban sprawl.
- Expansion of green spaces and promotion of environmental education.
- Development of sustainable mobility solutions, including pedestrian-friendly zones and improved public transport.
- Community engagement initiatives to foster social cohesion and equity.

## Impact

- Enhanced quality of life through increased access to green areas and cleaner urban environments.
- Reduction in carbon emissions due to improved mobility and energy efficiency.
- Strengthened community ties and increased civic participation.
- Recognition as a model city within the Spanish Urban Agenda framework.



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## Tips for Similar Projects

- Engage local communities early and consistently to build trust and ownership.
- Align local initiatives with broader national or EU sustainability frameworks.
- Prioritise multifunctional green spaces that serve both ecological and social purposes.
- Use pilot projects to demonstrate feasibility and build momentum.

## Identified Limitations/Weaknesses

Scalability is limited in certain regions due to varying socio-economic contexts, and reliance on external funding may affect long-term sustainability.

## Resources

- [Alcoy – Spanish Model of Sustainable Urban Development](#)

## Partners

