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The itinerant exhibition Zaragoza Natural goes across the city



It has been possible to visit the itinerant exhibition “Zaragoza Natural. The infrastructure of life” in the Environmental Centre of Ebro. The exhibition is a window to the “Green Infrastructure” of the municipality, the green and blue net through which life in the city flows.

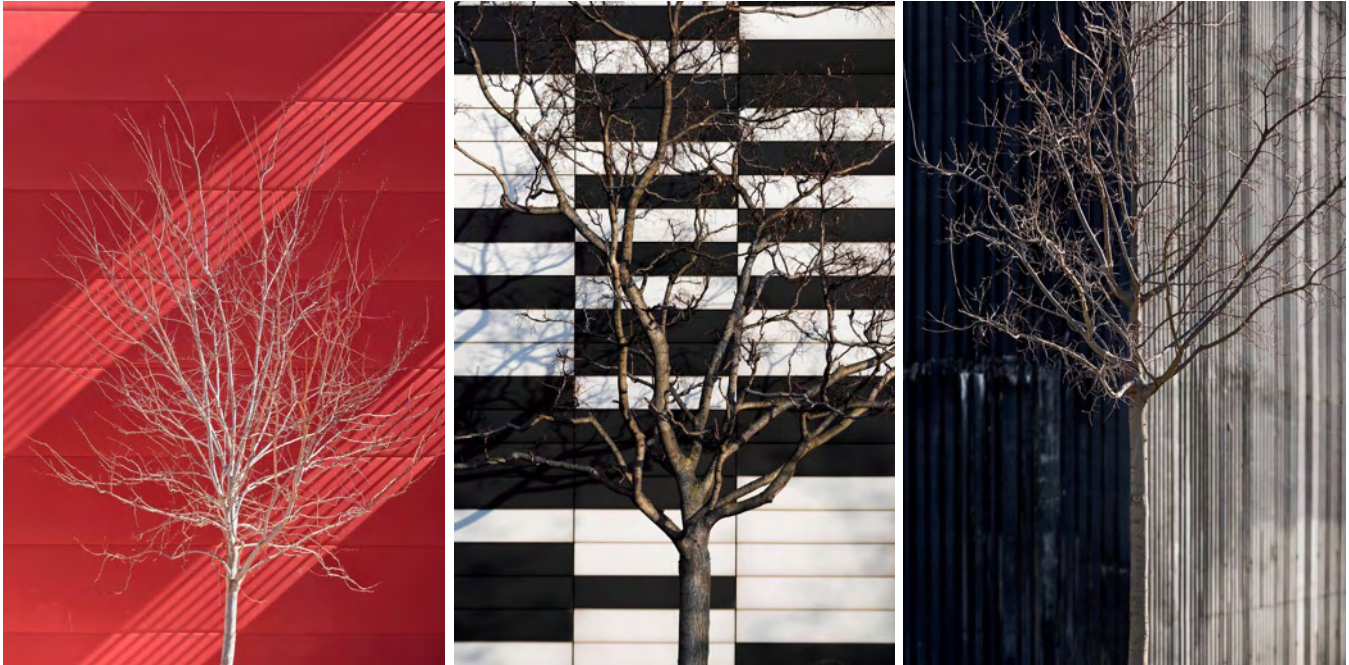
In this exhibition of eight posters, you can discover the rivers, the vertebral spine of the city; the steppe, horizon and light; the parks and green areas, heart and lungs of Zaragoza... In short, the forestal natural spaces and steppes, the parks (the so-called green matrix) rivers and wetlands (blue matrix), both in the Metropolitan Area and outside it, and the connections among them taking profit of the Green Rings. You will also discover the actions and among all of us, we can carry out in order to know, preserve, protect and improve these valuable ecosystems and spaces through the

improvement of its ecological state and its connectivity, to create therefore a biodiversity framework that is like support, social cohesion, citizen enjoyment, investigation and leisure and tourism activities. A green infrastructure that makes the city more attractive, healthy and kind.

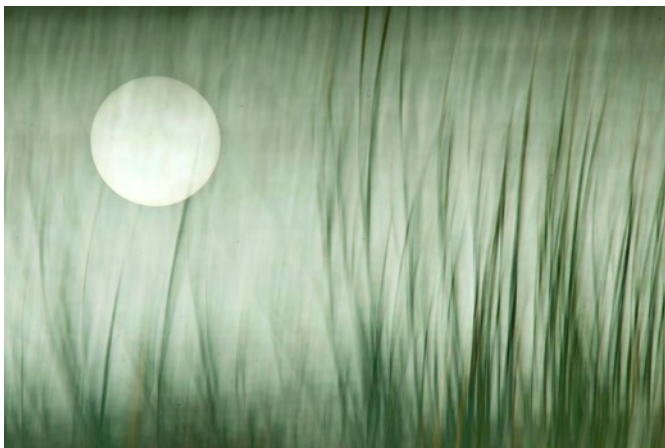
Later, the exhibition starts its itinerant course by **different municipal equipments of the city**. Consult the municipal website and in Facebook where you can visit it. Free guided visits to the exhibition are organized in groups. You can apply in the email address: ceam@ceam.net and the phone number 976.28.45.68. Do not miss it.

Action
B10.
Campaign of
citizenship
promotion of the
environment of
Zaragoza..

These were the winners of the photographic competition 2014



The series "Urban Trees" of José Ramón Moreno Fernández got the First Prize.

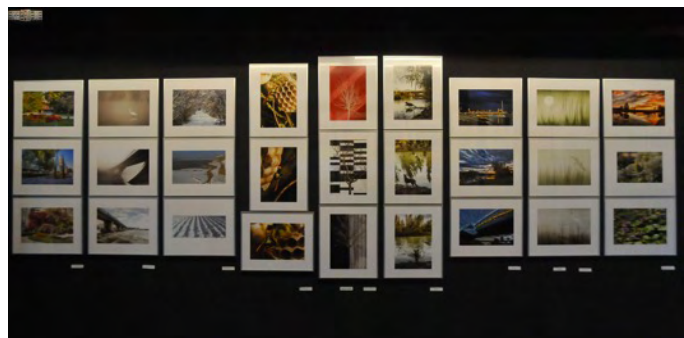


The series "Life after the reeds" of Fernando Sancho Casado got distinction with the second Prize.



The series “Our Parks” of Francisco Javier Colombo Bueno got the Special Prize of the Public.

The winning and finalists of the **Digital Photography Competition Zaragoza Natural** could be seen in the “Environmental Centre of Ebro” until 8th February 2015, postponing a week the foreseen dates of closure due to the big affluence and interest of the public. Let’s remember that none other than 94 series of 3 photographs took part in it. The jury gathered on 19th December 2014, to rule the prizes, who had a difficult work. The winning series of the First Prize was “*Urban Trees*” of José Ramón Moreno, which was awarded 1.500 €. There was a distinction with the second prize for the series “*Life after the reeds*”, of Fernando Sancho, with 500 € of prize. And the special prize of the public, voted by the visitors and chosen among the 19 finalists, whose work was selected to be shown, was given to the work “*Our Parks*” of Francisco Javier Colombo Bueno. The objective of the competition was to contribute to the discovery and diffusion of the special environmental values of Zaragoza City and especially of its green infrastructure. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to the participants in the competitions for the so-high quality of the photographs which took part in it.



Photographs of finalists in the “Environmental Centre of Ebro”. Photograph: Francisco Pellicer / Facebook. Green and Blue Zaragoza.

Action B10. Campaign of citizenship promotion of the environment of Zaragoza.

Enjoy the Bank of images of LIFE Zaragoza Natural.



In the [municipal web](#), you can find a set of **photos of high quality** about so-interesting spaces such as “La Huerta de las Fuentes, La Peña del Cuervo, Peñaflor, La Plana, la Salada o El Galacho de Juslibol”.

There are **panoramic espheric photos** (which allows us navigate 360 ° in them) and **gigapixel** (with which you can zoom in and get bigger detail), taken by Abaco Digital. Surely, after the virtual visit and surf by these spaces in your computer, tablet or mobile, you will feel like visiting those natural settings of great beauty and value in our city, enjoy them and look after them. You can get access to the photographs both from a small level situated at the bottom left corner of each photo, in which it indicates each one of the photographed spaces in the municipality of Zaragoza and also directly from the links of the website.

On the other hand, in the same paragraph of the website, we find a collection of 88 spectacular photographs of Jesús Angel Jiménez Herce, where under the title of **“Fauna and landscapes of the natural environment of Zaragoza”**, we mainly find photographs of fauna, with special attention on birds and the mammals, as well as some landscapes of the municipality of Zaragoza. Some exceptional photographs which show us the richness of biodiversity of the municipality of Zaragoza.

Photograph: Jesús Ángel Jiménez Herce

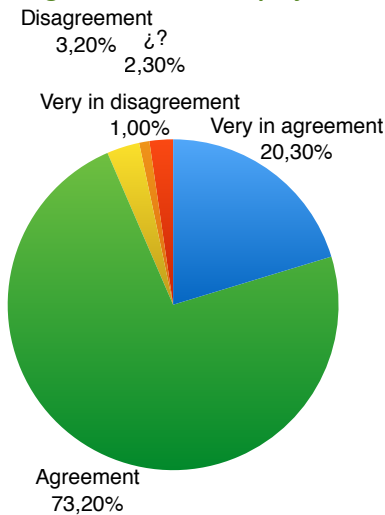


Action B10.
Campaign of citizenship promotion of the environment of Zaragoza.

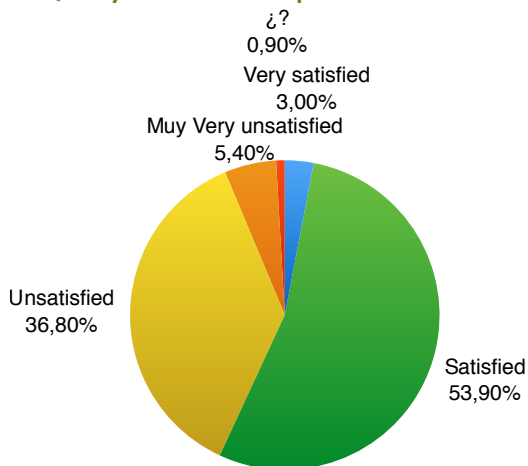
Action B.10.7
Bank of photographs of high quality.

93% of the citizens of Zaragoza capital are in agreement or very much in agreement with the accomplishment of the Project Life Zaragoza Natural

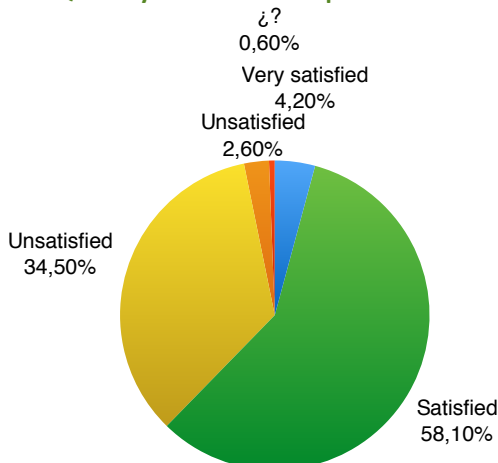
Level of agreement with the project



Quality of the natural spaces



Quantity of the natural spaces



The **City Hall of Zaragoza**, within the **Programme LIFE Zaragoza Natural**, has carried out among their citizens, a **survey of perception about the green infrastructure in Zaragoza**, in order to know how their inhabitants in Zaragoza see and feel their natural and green areas. Among the numerous conclusions and results of the survey, we describe some of them herewith.

First of all, we must stand out the **high grade of agreement with the carrying out of the project LIFE Zaragoza Natural**, with a 93,5 % of citizens of Zaragoza capital who indicate they are in agreement or very much in agreement with this programme.

As regards to the **satisfaction** of the citizens with the green infrastructure, a 56,9 % express being satisfied or very satisfied with the **quality** of the natural spaces. 6 of each 10 persons (62,3 %) say they are satisfied or very satisfied with the quantity of natural spaces.

As regards to the **level of knowledge** and use of the green infrastructure by the inhabitants in Zaragoza, the Big Park “José Antonio Labordeta”, the riverbanks of Ebro, The Water Park “Luis Buñuel” and the Imperial Channel of Aragón are the most known and visited areas. The “Galacho of Juslibol” and the “Montes de Torrero” are the most well-known and visited environment. The riverbanks of Huelva, Gallego and the Green Ring get intermediate values. The rest of spaces (Vedado de Peñaflo, steppe, wetlands as the several pools and the ravine of Las Almunias have low levels of knowledge and use.

As regards to **the reasons to go to a natural environment** of the city, it highlights the following ones: enjoying in the open air (83,2 %), walking (8 over 10), proximity (6 over 10), practicing physical exercise (42,3 %), taking photos (26,7 %), going for a walk with children (25 %), taking the dog for a walk (16,5 %), reading (10 %), and other causes (5,1 %). We can compare it with **the reasons to visit urban parks or the rest of green infrastructure**: enjoying in the open air (83,5 %), waking (82,8 %), proximity (73,5 %), practicing physical exercise (45,7 %), going for a walk with the children (28,4 %), taking photos (25 %), taking the dog for a walk (19,4 %), reading (13,9 %) and other causes (5,8 %).

The survey also analyses other many aspects, as **distance** and **accessibility** to urban parks, green areas and natural spaces, which results very satisfactory in general. It also deals about **what the citizenship would like to find in natural environments** (where it stands out the sounds of the environment itself, silence, calmness, before others) and the **urban parks** (where swings for children and gym devices for the old are the main ones). It also analyzes how people go to these spaces: with their couple, children, with their family most of them, followed by friends or only in a less proportion....

Another essential aspect which is dealt with, are the needs that could be satisfied in these environments **through the creation of enterprising activities**: the guided routs of hiking are at the top of the list, followed by workshops in the environment (flora, fauna...), renting of boats, bicycles and the routes on horses. It was also analyzed how much the citizenship would be willing to pay for each of them. The study analyzes some of these variables in function of the race, age, sociolaboral situation and level of studies, getting detailed and interesting results.

Action C2.
Survey of evolution and perception of the citizenship knowledge and economic impact

Action C3.
Monitorization of the socio-economic impact of the programme LIFE Zaragoza Natural.

Recovered a section of riverbank in the left margin of Ebro among the mouth of Gállego and the bridge of Z-40.

Before the performing: blocks of industrial waste, mainly metal drosses, rubble, mixture of soil and rubbish, disperse in an irregular way along the left riverside of Ebro.



After the performing: recovery of this section of the fluvial facade, treating the materials, and improving the accessibility and the visuals.



Almost two kilometres of riverbank have been recovered in the left riverbank of the river Ebro, between the mouth of river Gállego and the bridge of Z-40 (fourth belt), area corresponding to the rural neighbourhood of Movera, recovering the accessibility of the landscape quality of the area.

In this concave margin of the meander, situated in front of the Grobe of Cantalobos, the riverbank was practically inexistent and little accessible and was formed by an irregular and ineffective defense between the riverbed and the growing countries constituted greatly by industrial residues, mostly blocks of steel dross deposited there from the years 70 last century.

These blocks have remained there over 40 years, practically unaltered with its rock-metallic aspect and the shape of mold where the drosses were cooled, forming discontinuous cords of variable height between the way situated at the level of the growing lands and the slope and drawing the punctual deposit of new residues, which provided the space an aspect of abandonment and badly-quality landscape.

In the performing, this section of fluvial façade has been recovered, treating the materials which were situated on the present gradient, classifying them, grinding and covering them, in such a way that the visual aspect has been improved from the way which goes parallel to the river

In next dates, an itinerary of 8,4 km will be signaled, which will link the footbridge of Santa Isabel over the river Gállego, crossing point of the North Green ring, with the footbridge of the Bicentennial on the river Ebro, therefore connecting with the left margin with the Natural Way of La Alfranca, and on the right with the GR99 or Way of Ebro and with the Green Ring of Zaragoza.

In future, it will be desirable to discover some profiles with soil to facilitate the spontaneous revegetation and even carry out some punctual plantation

This performing of 1,8 km and with a budget of 58.200 € is one of the ones which permits recover the **longitudinal connectivity of the fluvial corridors** of the **rivers Ebro and Gállego**, that is to say, from the left margin of River Gállego to the left margin of River Ebro, giving continuity to the "Paths of Gállego", nowadays partially signalled in the framework of Green Ring of Zaragoza.

It is one of the actions of the **project LIFE Zaragoza Natural**, which focus on the preservation and the impulse of connection capacity (**connectivity**) and **coherence** of the **corridors** which integrate the **green infrastructure** of the city, both its **green matrix** (parks, green areas and natural spaces), and its **blue matrix** (rivers and wet areas) and its associated biodiversity



Action B.3.
Connectivity of the blue matrix (rivers and wet spaces)

Briefs

Training Session for the strengthening of the safe-keeping Entities in Aragón.



The training session for the strengthening of the safe-keeping Entities in Aragón took place during the whole day in “Centro Ambiental del Ebro” on 18th February 2015, in which over 50 people, from all Aragon took place and from the custody networks of the national territory and other autonomic communities.

This session counted on the welcoming, reception and support of the City Hall of Zaragoza. More information: www.custodiaterritorioaragon.org.

The hashtag of the session in Twitter was #capacitacioncdt.

Action B.9
Plan of Action
and touristic
promotion
“Zaragoza
Natural”.

Follow-up Meeting of the programme LIFE Zaragoza Natural.



A meeting of all the team and follow-up of the programme LIFE Zaragoza Natural was held up on 12th February 2015. The development of each one of the foreseen actions was reviewed and the future actions to be done were planned.

The study “The groves and riverbanks of Ebro in the municipal area of Zaragoza” was introduced



The study “The groves and riverbanks of Ebro in the municipal area of Zaragoza: 22 forests to know and live”, with the attendance of over 100 people who filled the ward, was introduced in the Centre Joaquín Roncal

Luis Manso, Head of the Unit of Preservation of Natural Environment of the Environment and Sustainability Agency of the City Hall of Zaragoza, Mariano Mérida, from Volunta-Ríos, Alfredo Ollero, Professor of the University of Zaragoza, David Granado from ECOTER, and Ismael Sanz, naturalist and also member of Volunta-Ríos from Aragón, all of them took place in this performance.

This study answers to questions such as the number of groves that there are in Zaragoza (22), their names and location (many of them which are unknown for the inhabitants in Zaragoza), the surface which occupy (638 hectares), its evolution hencefourth old cartographies and aerial photographs, the preservation estate in which they are (altogether, they get seven over ten of mark, with a 27 % in a very good state of preservation, a 43 % good, a 13 % moderate, and 17 % bad) and the 21 itineraries which have been designed and which will allow the people from Zaragoza go near them with information about its accessibility and pedestrianisation, difficulty, length, itinerary, estimated time and main values.

Next, all this information could be found in the web of the City Hall of Zaragoza, which has directed and supervised this study.

Action
B.2.3.
Study of the
fluvial dynamics
and the
communities of
the riverside

Zaragoza



life
natural

The objective of the Project LIFE ZARAGOZA NATURAL is to continue with the improvement and protection of the natural patrimony, creating a framework of biodiversity which connects and contributes an improvement of the valuable ecosystems which has the municipality of Zaragoza.

You can find more information about the **project LIFE ZARAGOZA NATURAL** in the municipal web site and follow us in the following platforms and social networks:



www.zaragoza.es/life-zaragozanatural



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