

# Sustainability plan



AGENDA 2030  
Port Tarragona

Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

The year 2020 marks the beginning of a decade of ambitious actions aimed at achieving the economic, environmental and social sustainability objectives set for 2030.



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# Introduction

# Environmental, economic and social sustainability

The Port of Tarragona contributes to sustainable development through a firm policy aimed at combatting climate change and a commitment to the environment.

The future of the port as a logistics infrastructure will be achieved through intermodality, fostering the use of rail transport, promoting new types of green fuels and new sources of renewable energy, guaranteeing the circularity of all its projects, and maintaining a policy of transparency and open and global communication as a fundamental pillar of the whole organisation.



A blue-tinted photograph of a field with wildflowers and a bridge in the background. The foreground is filled with various plants, including some with large, lobed leaves and others with small white flowers. In the background, a bridge with a metal truss structure is visible under a clear sky with a few wispy clouds. The overall scene suggests a natural environment near a developed area.

# **Environmental sustainability**

# 01

The Port of Tarragona undertakes decisive actions in the struggle against climate change by making responsible use of resources, fostering circularity, taking advantage of natural resources and preserving the biodiversity of the environment.



## Environmental sustainability

### Water

#### Our strengths

- Storage, quality control, chlorination, distribution and supply of potable water to companies and vessels in the port zone.
- Regular checks for leaks in the potable water distribution network.
- SCADA (supervision, control and acquisition of data) for water.
- Rainwater drainage.
- Facilities for the treatment and quality control of sewage and industrial water outlets.
- Piezometer network for periodic controls of underground water and soils.
- Underground water monitoring and soil decontamination studies.
- Maintenance and replanting of green zones with low water consumption plants using xeriscaping criteria.
- Interior maritime plan.
- Joint Response Team for marine contamination episodes.
- Daily water surface floating residue collection.

### Air

#### Our strengths

- Voluntary CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction agreements with the Catalan Office of Climate Change.
- Port environment air quality control with 5 permanent testing stations, regular VOC (volatile organic compound) and PAH (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon) sampling.
- Control of emissions from building cooling and air conditioning equipment.
- Carbon handling and storage operation instruction.
- Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compensated for by the tree cover in the port zone.

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## Biodiversity

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### Our strengths

- Application of environmentally friendly phytosanitary products in the landscaped and paved zones for public use.
- Prohibition of the use of noxious herbicides that harm the pollinators and auxiliary fauna in the green and landscaped zones.
- Reforestation of the degraded area on the Hydrocarbons Wharf with Mediterranean woodland species.
- Solidary plantations on the Reus Wharf with melliferous species designed to promote the survival of pollinators and bushes that provide refuge for the nidification of passeriform birds.
- Creation of new landscaped areas with native plants or those adapted to the Mediterranean coastal climate.
- Protection and monitoring of Audouin's gull nidification.
- Pest control.
- Cat population control.
- Surveillance and monitoring of benthonic communities in maritime construction projects.
- Protection of marine phanerogams (*Cymodocea nodosa*) through good environmental practices in the execution of maritime construction projects.
- Control of the introduction of invasive species.

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## Waste management and circular economy

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### Our strengths

- Daily public road cleaning with a street sweeping machine.
- Public refuse container islands for the port community, selective recycling, Green Point, circular economy in waste management, fostering the evaluation of all the waste generated in the port environment.
- Zero Plastic Campaign: individual glass bottles, jugs in conference rooms, recycled cardboard cups, soft drinks served in glass in the cafeteria, plastic-free merchandising.





# Environmental sustainability objective 2030

% achieved  
2021

29 %

## 1. Sustainable use of green zone and landscaped area irrigation water

### Goals

Replace the high-water-consumption grass in the green zones with native or low-water-demand vegetation.

1. Port Museum
2. Former TPA headquarters
3. TPA building
4. Roundabouts on the Costa Wharf
5. Roundabouts in the Serrallo Quarter
6. Roundabouts in the TPA zone
7. Ematsa roundabout

Indicator: Irrigation water consumption evolution per green zone surface area.

## 2. Eliminate water distribution network losses due to leaks or uncontrolled use

### Goals

- a. Annual control of leaks.
- b. Remote control of the whole network: study for the application of the Lorawan technology.

Indicator: Evolution of loss per m<sup>3</sup> and diversion indicator.

% achieved  
2021

100 %

## 3. Rainwater drainage

### Goals

- a. Construction of a 1,000 m<sup>3</sup> deposit for the ZAL to collect and pre-treat rainwater for the subsequent irrigation of green zones and cleaning tasks.

Indicator: m<sup>3</sup> of water reused.

- b. Construction of a perimeter drainage network on the Aragó, Navarra and Catalunya wharfs to collect rainwater and treat it before it is reused or allowed to flow into the sea.

Indicator: m<sup>3</sup> of water treated.

% achieved  
2021

0 %

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## 4. Improvement of the air quality in the port environment

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% achieved  
2021

80 %

### Goals

- a. To approve operating instructions by families of solid bulk merchandise.

Indicator: Improvements to PM10.

- b. Monitoring of benzene emissions on the Costa Wharf.

Indicator: Evolution of contaminant values.

- c. Characterisation and monitoring of heavy metals at the different control points.

Indicator: Increases in nickel.

- d. Monitoring and determination of the origin of 1,2-dichloroethane emissions.

Indicator: Evolution of contaminant values.

- e. Purchase of a van with automatic analysers and a mobile laboratory to measure different types of contaminant.

Indicator: Number of days of mobility and air quality analysis per specific episode.

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## 5. Reduction of HFC refrigerant gas emissions

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% achieved  
2021

0 %

### Goal

- a. Replacement of equipment using fluorinated gases with high global warming potential (GWP) with those of low or zero GWP gas emissions.

Indicator: Gases recharged annually and typologies.



% achieved  
2021

66 %

% achieved  
2021

50 %

% achieved  
2021

0 %

## 6. Recuperation of the marine ecosystem

### Goals

- a. Installation of dockside Seabins on the Pescadors and Costa Wharfs and in the Yacht Club.

Indicator: Residues and hydrocarbons collected.

- b. Restoration of the marine life of commercial interest to Tarragona in three locations in the port's area of influence.

Indicator: Occupation and colonising species monitoring.

- c. Creation of an underwater marine regeneration park with both phanerogam meadows and species of interest.

Indicator: Occupation and colonising species monitoring.

## 7. Periodic seawater and sediment quality controls

### Goals

- a. Highly modified UGAP (Port Waters Management Unit) and natural UGAP controls in accordance with the ACA (Catalan Water Agency).

Indicator: Presence and improvements in the priority substances established by the Water Framework Directive

- b. Control of closed-down outflows in the port zone.

Indicator: Presence of outflow.

## 8. Environmental restoration in the Natura 2000 Network zone

### Goals

- a. Recuperation of the coastal marshes.
- b. Restoration of the plant habitats and communities designed to protect the area.
- c. Reintroduction of the Spanish toothcarp (*Aphanius iberus*).
- d. Protection of Kentish plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) nidification.
- e. Relocation of the Audouin's gull (*Ichthyaeetus audouinii*) nidification area.
- f. Restoration of the coastal dunes.

## 9. Recuperation of the native biodiversity and emission mitigation

% achieved  
2021

40 %

### Goals

- a. Placement of insect hotels in green zones.

Indicators: Occupation and colonising species monitoring.

- b. Placement of passeriform bird nesting boxes.

Indicators: Occupation and colonising species monitoring.

- c. Placement of peregrine falcon nesting boxes on the Castella and Aragó wharf silos.

Indicators: Occupation and colonising species monitoring.

- d. Placement of bat nesting boxes.

Indicators: Occupation and colonising species monitoring.

- e. Reforestation of the lateral talus along the Repsol jetty access road.

Indicators: Evolution of the tree cover in the Port and the mitigation of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

- f. Solidary planting on the Reus Wharf access.

Indicators: Evolution of the tree cover in the Port and the mitigation of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

- g. Transformation of the concrete roundabouts with trees and/or bushes.

Indicators: Evolution of the port tree cover and the mitigation of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

- h. Lateral tree line along the port through road.

Indicators: Evolution of the port tree cover and the mitigation of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

- i. Elimination of invasive species in the port zone (mainly *Cortaderia selloana* and *Carpobrotus edulis*).

Indicator: Recolonisation of areas by invasive species.

- j. Green wall in the heliport zone that simultaneously acts as a screen blocking the view of the area where bulk solids (coal or others in the future) are amassed on the Catalunya Wharf.

Indicators: Evolution of the port tree cover and the mitigation of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions; evolution of complaints regarding particle episodes.



**% achieved  
2021**

**0 %**

## 10. Improvements to port community waste management

### Goals

- a. To reach 90% of evaluated residues and managing the remaining amount in a triage plant.

Indicator: % of residues evaluated.

- b. Viability study for the introduction of a joint waste management service.

Indicator: Number of companies participating in the joint service.

## 11. Improvement in pigeon control

**% achieved  
2021**

**100 %**

### Goal

- a. Drawing up and tendering of a long-term contract covering preventive and corrective actions and a study of the population evolution.

- b. Pigeon management working group.

Indicator: Number of meetings..

- c. Draughting a protocol for the management of live and dead animals (domestic animals and wildlife).

Indicator: Approval protocol.





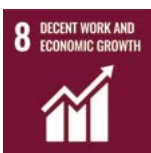
A high-angle photograph of a rooftop solar farm. The foreground and middle ground are filled with rows of blue monocrystalline solar panels, each with a white grid pattern. In the background, two solar panels are tilted upwards on a metal frame. To the right, a white HVAC unit with two large black fans is visible. The horizon shows a city skyline with various buildings and distant mountains under a clear blue sky.

**Sustainable  
growth**



# 02

The growth of the Port of Tarragona involves energy transition, process digitalisation and the promotion of infrastructures that favour improvements to efficiency, competitiveness and connectivity between people.



## Sustainable growth

### Energy

#### Our strengths

- 3 photovoltaic plants on building roofs.
- SCADA (Supervision, control and acquisition of data) on electricity.
- LED lighting, improvements to the energy efficiency of buildings, equipment, machinery, etc.
- Environmental Quality Guarantee emblem awarded by the Catalan Regional Government for vehicle fleets.
- Training in efficient driving.

### Infrastructures

#### Our strengths

- Participation in the European Core LNGas project with a study for the conversion of a diesel tractor to LNG.
- Intermodality and connectivity by rail TEN-T.
- Laying a second set of tracks on the Castella Wharf to increase rail transport capacity.
- Environmental clauses in green contracting for tendering in accordance with the Public Contracts Act and the State Ecological Contracting Plan.
- Obligation to invest in environmental improvements for the extension of concessions.
- Environmental clauses for concessions and authorisations.
- Particular prescriptions with good environmental practices for building contractors.
- Reuse of building rubble for port infill.
- Environmental bonuses according to the State Ports Good Environmental Practices Guide.

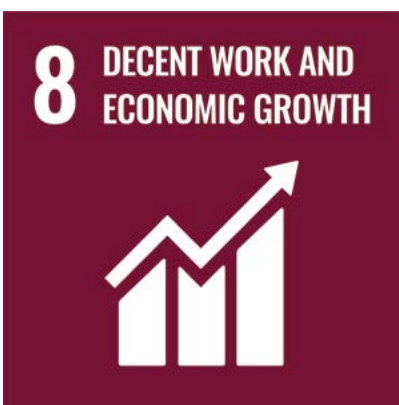
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## Digitalisation

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### Our strengths

- Process digitalisation:
  - Agribulk Delivery System.
  - Hazardous materials storage tank monitoring.
  - Paperless documentation: digitalisation of access controls and goods handling procedures.
  - E-invoicing
  - Website and digital administration.
- Collaborative cloud working in Office 365
- Som-inn Port innovation system.



# Sustainable growth objectives 2030

All the objectives in this section are aimed at reducing the Port's carbon footprint between now and 2030.

% achieved  
2021

66 %

## 1. To foster the use of electric vehicles in the organisation and the port community

### Goals

- a. New vehicle purchase criteria: 100% electric except those needed to travel long distances that can be hybrid.

Indicator: Fossil-based fuel consumption by the vehicle fleet.

- b. Install electric vehicle charging points in the Port-City zone.

Indicator: Number of daily charges.

- c. Incentives for port companies to install charging points through BPA agreements.

Indicator: Number of daily charges.

## 2. To increase the amount of merchandise transported by rail by 100%.

### Goals

- a. Detect target goods types.
- b. Minimise the distances carried out by road transport.
- c. Improve rail infrastructure. Duplication of tracks to increase competitiveness.
- d. Improve the rail services and connectivity on the Castella Wharf.
- e. Definitive connection to the Mediterranean Corridor.
- f. Plan for accesses and La Boella rail classification terminal

Indicator: Tons of goods moved by rail.

% achieved  
2021

50 %



### 3. More energy efficiency and use of renewable energy

% assoliment  
2021

56 %

#### Goals

a. Renewal of street lighting with the installation of LEDS.

Indicators:

- Reduction in street lighting electricity consumption.
- CO2 emissions from electricity consumption.

b. Green energy contracting.

Indicators:

- kW confirmed by REGOs (Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin) progressively until reaching 100% in 2026, as specified in the State Ecological Contracting Plan.
- CO2 emissions (tons) from electricity consumption.

c. Calculation of the Port's carbon footprint according to the Catalan Office of Climate Change Emissions Calculation Guide.

d. Installation of photovoltaic panels for self-consumption in the former warehouses and sheds on the Costa Wharf.

Indicators:

- Reduction in demand for energy from the grid.
- Reduction in the CO2 emissions of the Port's carbon footprint.

e. Installation of photovoltaic panels for self-consumption by companies in the port zones (warehouse and building roofs) taking advantage of Good Environmental Practices subsidies.

Indicators:

- Reduction in the demand for energy from the grid.
- Reduction in the CO2 emissions of the Port's carbon footprint.

f. Viability study of wind energy generation for TPA self-consumption on the Llevant breakwater.

Indicators:

- Aerogenerator yield.
- Reduction in demand for energy from the grid.
- Reduction in the CO2 emissions of the Port's carbon footprint.

g. Study for the electrification of the cruise liner wharf.

Indicator: Reduction in the CO2 emissions of the Port's carbon footprint.

h. Crane electrification.

Indicator: Reduction in the CO2 emissions of the Port's carbon footprint.

i. Participation in European or other projects for the use of hydrogen as a fuel.

j. Replacement of the TPA cafeteria gas cooker with an electric cooker.

Indicator: Evolution of natural gas consumption.

k. Acquisition of generating sets run on hydrogen to replace the current diesel ones.

Indicator: Evolution of diesel consumption (litres).

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## 4. To become a 4.0 port: artificial intelligence and big data

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% achieved  
2021

50 %

### Goals

- a. Integration of the information obtained from all the digitalised devices and processes to allow for efficient, assertive decision-taking in real time.
- b. Use of IoT for the automatisisation of manual processes such as reading meters, sensors, etc.
- c. Use of drones to automate esplanade surveillance and security.
- d. Approval of the Port of Tarragona Protection Plan (2021). Inclusion of the feasibility study for the implementation of the KUPPEL Project.
- e. Presentation of joint projects with technology firms in the Puertos 4.0 call.
- f. Installation of automatic scales for railways.

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## 5. Construction of the Els Prats breakwater to enclose the port mouth and facilitate its protection

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% achieved  
2021

33 %

### Goals

- a. Prior environmental studies.
- b. Draughting and bidding for the project.
- c. Project execution.

Indicator: % of execution.

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## 6. To minimise activities with poten- tial negative effects on air quality

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% achieved  
2021

100 %

### Goals

- a. Dismantling the cement factory on the Aragó Wharf.

Indicator: Change of activity in the concessionary zone.





**Social  
commitment**



# 03

## Social commitment

### Healthy living

#### Our strengths

#### Looking outwards

The Port of Tarragona is committed to the social environment and to supporting actions that contribute to guaranteeing a healthy life and habits; promoting gender equality; and favouring social inclusion. This social commitment is transmitted through a policy of transparency and global communication.

- Public spaces at the service of sport:
  - Cycle lanes.
  - Km0 (Escullera Promenade) for sporting activities. Sports facilities for groups and the educational community.
  - Public defibrillators in the port zone.
  - Sponsorship of sporting activities and summer recreational clubs.

#### Looking inwards

- Periodic voluntary medical checks for staff.
- Health insurance policy.
- Staff training in health and safety, courses in biological risks, first aid, etc.
- Port of Tarragona social groups that foster sport: running, hiking, cycling, five-a-side football, pitch and putt, tennis, paddle tennis, basketball, etc.
- Gym in the Port Police building.
- Participation in the Company Games.
- Covid-19 contingency plan.



## Social responsibility

### Our strengths



- Communicative policy: transparency and immediacy.
- Solidary Port:
  - Used clothing collection and donation campaign.
  - Toy collection and donation campaign.
  - Silvia Cuesta Charity Port Aid Campaign for social projects.
  - Project for the inclusion of at-risk groups in the Serrallo and Port of Tarragona quarters.
- CSR aid programme for groups at risk of social exclusion.
- Food bank warehouse.
- Action protocol for the prevention of all types of harassment or bullying.
- Port of Tarragona Ethical Code.
- Port of Tarragona Equality Plan.
- Port Archive.
- Port Museum and educational programme to teach maritime and port traditions among the educational community.
- Use of former sheds and warehouses for exhibitions and events open to the general public.
- Events in the Teatret (theatre).
- The TPA environmental awareness plan.
- Continuous monitoring and improvement of the Integrated Management System according to ISO 14001 and ISO 50001 standards.



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## Alliances

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### Our strengths

- Adoption of the Catalan Regional Government Climate Action Commitments.
- Participation in the Camp de Tarragona Air Quality Committee.
- Affiliation with the Cerdà Institute Air Quality Observatory.
- Port Community Environmental Group.
- Participation in the Hydrogen Committee of Catalonia.
- Participation in the Southern Catalonia Hydrogen Valley Platform.
- Facilitation of the necessary mechanisms so that people who work for the benefit of the community can do so in port facilities.
- Affiliation with the Operation Clean Sweep programme for the implementation of good practices to prevent the loss of microplastics in the Port of Tarragona facilities.
- Port Community Environmental Group.
- Synergies with research centres and universities for fostering research in the areas of logistics, ports and tourism.
  - Mixed Port-Rovira i Virgili University Commission
- Participation in the Tarragona and Reus Official Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Shipping.





# Social Commitment Objectives 2030

% achieved  
2021

10 %

## 1. To increase the sustainability of the cafeteria dining room service

### Goals

On the dining room menu:

- Incorporate food from organic farming and sustainable stockbreeding.
- Incorporate locally sourced meat and fish.
- Incorporate locally sourced seasonal fruit and vegetables.
- Eliminate products that contain palm oil.

Indicators: Presence of certified quality seals on the products served. % of products with respect to the whole menu.

% achieved  
2021

0 %

## 2. To obtain the Healthy Company certification

### Goal

- To consolidate the promotion of good health policies in accordance with the European Network for Workplace Health Promotion (ENWHP)

Indicators:

- Affiliation to the Declaration of Luxembourg.
- Compliance with the certification requirements of the National Institute of Workplace Health and Safety.

## 3. To introduce a system to alert users of the Llevant breakwater zone of particle episodes on days of strong wind

% achieved  
2021

100 %

### Goals

- To design an information system linked to the meteorological conditions.
- To determine the wind speed based on which sporting activities will not be recommended.
- To install an information screen to display recommendations to users.

Indicators: Annual computation of days on which sporting activities on the breakwater are advised against.

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## 4. Deployment of new gender equality policies

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% achieved  
2021

33 %

### Goals

- a. Approval of the new Port of Tarragona 2021-2024 Equality Plan
- b. Gender equality awareness-raising among the port community.
- c. Support for projects to promote the empowerment of women in the port and maritime environment.

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## 5. New communication channels with the port environment

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% achieved  
2021

100 %

### Goal

- a. The setting up and operating of new bodies for participation, consultation and communication with society and target audiences, in order to improve transparency and the exchange of opinions with the surroundings.
- Port Tarragona Opinion Space: 3 meetings in 2021.
  - Setting up of the Port Tarragona Telephone Panel.

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## 7. Inclusive circuits

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% achieved  
2021

10 %

### Goals

- a. Adaptation of all public-use areas to encourage the sporting practices of running and walking among those people with the greatest difficulties.
- b. Popularisation of the Miracle Beach promenade as an inclusive circuit with signage and the development of an awareness app.

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## 7 . To foster support for at-risk groups

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% achieved  
2021

50 %

### Goals

- a. Adaptation of unused properties for the residential accommodation of people with difficulties.

Indicator: Agreements with the competent administrations and social bodies.

- b. Consolidation of the Sílvia Cuesta Charity Port Aid Campaign for social projects.

Indicator: Annual call for aid.

- c. Constitution of the Port of Tarragona CSR Commission for the management of aid to groups in need.

- d. To facilitate the necessary mechanisms for lone young migrants to undertake work practice in the port facilities.

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## 8. To generate alliances within the framework of sustainable development and commitment to the environment

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% achieved  
2021

70 %

### Goals

- a. To participate in the Southern Catalonia Hydrogen Valley development consortium.

Indicator: the creation of synergies and participation in calls for grants.

- b. To promote and provide content for the Port Community Environment Group.

- To facilitate environmental improvements for the port community.
- To foster the signing of good environmental practice agreements.

Indicator: number of meetings, signed agreements and jointly promoted projects.

- c. Participation in the smart Mediterranean e-corridor project consortium.

Indicator: resulting agreements and projects.

- d. “Cal·lípolis, Next Generation” project promoted in conjunction with the Vila-seca Town Council and REPSOL.

Indicator: presenting MDI and participation in calls for grants.



