

## SUMMARY

### INTRODUCTION

Gotarrendura is a little municipality of 212 people who are living in the area of "Moraña" situated 22 km from the capital of Ávila province. Gotarrendura is a reference in the region in the matters of renewable energies energetic efficiency. This supports the protection and organization of natural resources. At the same time it promotes economic activities with respect to the natural environment.

### AREAS OF WORK

#### **1. IMPROVEMENT OF NATURAL SURROUNDINGS AND CONSTRUCTED**

**AREAS:** The treatment of the urban countryside and natural surroundings in the area targeted at putting into practice of different activities whose goal is to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants establishing a correct organization of the surroundings: The reforestation of the agricultural land, the shaping of the "Caño" park, The maintenance of the municipal gardens, The yearly plantation of trees, Repopulation of the agricultural areas.

**2. ART, CULTURE AND HERITAGE:** The rehabilitation of local cultural and historical heritage in the municipality was the Palomar or the pilgrim hostel, are initiatives that contribute to the development of the cultural heritage, also the economic and environmental heritage of the rural area. This also generates employment in the municipality, the improvement of quality of life of the population, the encouragement of use of renewable energies and use of adobe as construction material with a lower cost than other materials and also saves energy.

**3. IMPROVEMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT:** **Renewable Energies** Photovoltaic energy, capture of solar energy and biomass are developed projects in the village. Actually we are doing the administrative steps to start a Biomass plant with capacity of 9,9 MW which has already passed the official approval and which will be the biggest in national rankings. It will open in 2013 and create 20 new work places. **Energetic efficiency**, Housing, hydratical efficiency, luminatic efficiency: public lighting, education, training and technological tourism are implanted systems.

**4. PARTICIPATION OF THE COMMUNITY:** The City Council of Gotarrendura has always been developing strategies for developments on all levels, therefore it supports associations and citizen participation, being this a priority in the town. In this way we have created a network of associations which is very strong in Gotarrendura, and in spite of the reduced number of inhabitants we can count on many associations which dedicate towards cultural, social and touristic activities and giving life to the population during the whole year.

**5. HEALTHY LIFESTYLE:** Gotarrendura, along with other villages of the rural area, must take account of warnings which put into danger the demographic increase such as: depopulation, infrastructural deficit and lack of opportunities. This is the reason why we are looking for alternatives to maintain the existing population and to attract people from outside. Also, the City Gotarrendura Council has decided on strategies to improve the social conditions and health of

its population, starting plans and programmes, agreements and actions in order to maintain healthy ambience and lifestyle: Health, social activities, education, security and many more aspects are responsible for improving the conditions of life and health.

**6. PLANNING STRATEGIES:** Gotarrendura began its strategic activities in 2004 with the implantation of services, housing, education, local activities in order to generate an economy and encourage employment in order to stabilize population and improve quality of life of the people living in the municipality. We want to set up a model for rural development by means of sustainable management in the environment guaranteeing the viability and the future.

## RESULTS

The results we have achieved have been due to persistence, dynamism, leadership and the legitimacy in order to set up generalize politics, models and strategies of sustainability which convert into ideal engines which may be imitated which make perfect good practices and create projects of great success. The City Council bases its growth in the creation of innovative solutions which are contributing to the sustainable development of the village and municipality. From this point of view the City Council focuses its activities to the environment and clean energies, minimizing its ecologic footprint and its emissions of CO2. The sustainable management of the Council of Gotarrendura not only converts into a fountain of quality for its citizens and saves economical resources for the city councils, it also converts into a powerful tool for a strategic placement of the municipalities which gives benefit and benefits itself from the consolidation of the business sector on a local basis, and with a high economic repercussion, able to create employment.

Our social, economic and sustainable results are interrelated and are as follows:

- Reduction of CO2,
- Elevated energetic quality
- Little or no ecologic impact
- Preservation of environment
- Encouragement of economy and local employment
- Reduction of costs of the City Hall for saving energy
- Strengthening of infrastructure and services in the area
- Improvement the quality of quality of life and well-being of the population
- Effectiveness, Efficiency and Economy
- Progress of I+D+I
- Facilities in creation end generation of industry
- Offering information and training with different mechanisms
- Establishing a dialogue and communication between all participants
- Increase of productivity and quality
- Internalize the environmental cost in the municipal economy, giving benefit to this and the town in general.
- Guaranteeing the future generations
- Training, information and participation of all the citizens

**These sustainable actions of Gotarrendura interweeve, with respect to our identity and the three priorities of Europe 2020 which are being established with the following means in the town: intelligent growth, sustainable growth, integrating growth.**