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Spanish, English, French
10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Monday to Friday

EUROPAN 17 / LIVING CITIES 2

Competition Brief

Barcelona
Chiva
Eibar
Eivissa/Ibiza
Madrid
Nalón
El Prat de Llobregat
Torrelavega

EUROPAN 17 SPAIN, "LIVING CITIES 2"

The objective of EUROPAN is to bring to the fore Europe's young architecture and urban design professionals, and to present and develop their ideas.

It is also about helping cities and developers who provided sites to find innovative architectural and urban solutions for the transformation of urban locations and help them to implement. The open competition is an anonymous and public call for ideas on a European scale.

The aim of EUROPAN Spain is to implement the projects chosen by EUROPAN 17 national jury. In order to facilitate contracting of the proposals by public administrations participating in EUROPAN Spain as the core of the Competition, the Ministry of Transports, Mobility and Urban Agenda launches the Competition in Spain, establishing its Rules by a bidding document that complies with the procedure of Juried Design Competitions as provided in section 183 et seq of the LCSP. This ensures compliance with the conditions established in the EUROPAN Internal Procedures and in the aforementioned Law.

Therefore, in case of entering any of the Spanish sites, it is important to get familiar with the "Rules of the EUROPAN 17 Juried Design Competition", published in the Official Public Tender Platform.

EUROPAN/ESPAÑA NATIONAL COMMITTEE

President: Ministry of Transports, Mobility and Urban Agenda (Ministerio de Transportes, Movilidad y Agenda Urbana)

Members

Ministry of Transports, Mobility and Urban Agenda (Ministerio de Transportes, Movilidad y Agenda Urbana) / Consejo Superior de Colegios de Arquitectos de España (CSCAE)

City of Barcelona / City of Madrid / General Direction of Territorial Planning and Urbanism of the Regional Government of Principado de Asturias / General Direction of Urban planning and Land management,, Regional Government of Cantabria / General Direction of Housing and Architecture, Regional Government of Balearic Islands /

General Direction of Ecological Innovation in Construction, Regional Government of Valencia/ General Direction of Architecture and Housing, Basque Regional Government/ INCASOL

City of Chiva / City of Eibar / City of Ibiza / City of Muros de Nalón / City of El Prat de Llobregat / City of Soto del Barco / City of Torrelavega / ADIF

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT EUROPAN España

Carmen Imbernón, General Secretary

Begoña Fernández-Shaw, Vice Secretary in charge of implementations follow-up.

EUROPAN ESPAÑA JURY

Iñaki Carnicero, president EUROPAN España

Iñaki Alday; www.aldayjover.com

Zuhal Kol; <https://openact.eu/>

Lola Domenech; <https://www.loladomenech.com/es/>

Alexandre Thériot; <http://bruther.biz/>

Carolina González Vives <https://hidra.design/sostenibilidad/>

Marina Otero; <https://architect.com/marinaotero>

Anna Viader; <http://www.annaviader.com>

Bernd Vlay; <https://www.vlst.at/en/>

Suplentes: Lys Villalba <https://lysvillalba.net/> + Maé Durant Vidal. <https://pezestudio.org/>

PRIZES

EUROPAN/España intends to award 8 first prizes and 8 second prizes, in addition to the special mentions. The winner and runner-up teams receive a prize of €12,000 and €6,000 (including tax) respectively.

In Spain, the EUROPAN awards are exempt from tax withholding in accordance with the Resolution of April 5, 2006, of the Department of Tax Management of the State Agency of Tax Administration, granting the exemption provided for in Article 7 (1) Royal Legislative Decree 3/2004, of 5 March.

LEGAL PROVISIONS

For nationals from EU and EES countries in possession of a diploma in accordance with EU Directive 2005/36/EC and wishing to practice on a provision of services basis (occasional), they must be legally established in a Member State for the purpose of pursuing the same profession in Spain. They must ask for an authorization to the competent authority, the Ministry of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda (Ministerio de Transportes, Movilidad y Agenda Urbana, Subdirección de Normativa y Estudios Técnicos. Secretaría General Técnica. Paseo de la Castellana, 67 – 28071 Madrid).

For nationals in possession of a diploma from other countries, please contact the Ministry of Education.

SITE PARTICULARITIES REGARDING THE ORGANISATION OF THE COMPETITION

Site Representative

General Directorate of Ecologic Innovation in Construction, Regional Government of Valencia.

Actor(s) Involved

Chiva City Council + Watershed of the river Júcar Confederation.

Profile of the Team Representative

Architect, landscape architect

Communication and Publicity

The Launching of the competition and the Results of EUROPAN 17/Spain will be published in the State Contracting Platform (<https://contrataciondelestado.es>), the B.O.E (Official State Gazette) as well as in a national newspaper. The results of EUROPAN /SPAIN will be published in a catalogue. All the EUROPAN 17 projects awarded and specially mentioned by the Jury will be displayed in a travelling exhibition.

The teams rewarded in EUROPAN Spain will be invited to present their work in forums and workshops, both at national and international level.

Jury – 1st evaluation

In the first jury meeting, the site representatives participate with voice and vote.

Post-Competition Procedure

Soon after the results announcement, winning teams in the Spanish sites will be invited to a meeting with the site Representatives in order to present their proposals. This presentation will be followed by round tables in which jury members are invited.

Provided procedure for the contract following the Juried Design Competition.

EUROPAN Competition is in compliance with the EU directive for procurement Directive 2014/24/EU and with Spanish National Law.

Public Administrations that take part in the competition as members of the National Committee, or any other entity in which they may delegate (Local Entities, Autonomous Communities or, where appropriate, Public Law Entities) are recognised as contracting authorities, to proceed in each of the sites to award the service contract by means of a negotiated procedure, without prior publication, to the winner of the design contest. In case of ex-aequo prizes, all winning teams shall be invited to participate in the negotiations.

Commission after competition:

Drafting of the execution project, works management and health and safety coordination of the works.

URBAN RIVERSIDE ROUTE.

THE URBAN REGENERATION OF THE BARRANCO DE CHIVA

GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

CHIVA, a municipality in the region and province of Valencia, lies in the county of Hoya de Buñol.

The municipality is 31 km from city of Valencia and is crossed by the A3 (km 322 to 329) motorway, as well as by the following regional roads:

CV-50, allowing communication with Godella and Cheste

CV-379, road to Gestalgar

CV-421, road to Turís.

In the east, it connects with the AP-7, also known as the Autopista del Mediterráneo.

These circumstances make the municipality of Chiva a strategic place in logistical terms, as the municipality is very well connected both by road and by rail and is close to Valencia's airport and port.

LAND RELIEF

Chiva lies between a valley and the mountains and the land relief is rugged, with many ravines and springs. There is a considerable green infrastructure, particularly the **Sierra de Chiva Municipal Natural Landscape**, with great ecological, landscape and cultural value. This is one of the municipality's most important tourist attractions. The landscape area covers 5,500 ha and is the largest of its kind so far declared in the Valencian region.

The natural area also contains important historical features, as the remains of an ancient Iberian village have been found along the mountain range.

The Natural Area can be described as having highly contrasting relief, with significant altitudes and a drainage network consisting of deep ravines boxed in by steep walls.

The Marjana plateau, 800m above sea level, is unique and is very interesting culturally, as it contains archaeological sites, and ecologically, because it is home to protected animal species.

The area has great potential for the development of recreational uses such as hiking and environmental education, as well as activities related to the public use of natural areas.

The Sierra de Chiva has suffered many fires that have led to its deforestation. The most abundant plant species are those with the greatest capacity to resist the passage of fire (regrowers) or to re-establish themselves after a fire and create seeds before a new disturbance occurs: rosemary, grey-leaved cistus, *brachipodium retusum*, kermes oak, esparto grass, European fan palm, gorse, *anthyllis cytisoides* and others.

In the Sierra de Chiva there are also 40 species of mammals, some of which appear in the Valencian catalogue as being threatened, including the weasel, the polecat, the red squirrel, the water rat, and the common hedgehog.

As for birds, in the Sierra area the high density of limestone rocks with a significant number of cavities and ledges, allow occupation by various rock-dwelling birds. Some of these are of great

interest for conservationists, such as Bonelli's eagle (*Hieraetus fasciatus*), the peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) and the eagle owl (*Bubo bubo*).

The topography of the area is principally configured by the **Barranco de Chiva or Chiva ravine**, which collects the water from the **Grande** ravines and the **Morica Cave** in the municipality of Cheste, to continue its journey across the Cuart plain until it flows into the lagoon known as the Albufera de Valencia.

The Chiva ravine, which is at the centre of this project, divides the town centre in two as it passes through the municipality.

In Chiva, the ravine has never been considered as an asset or included in the municipality's activities. Instead, it has been seen more as a natural barrier to be overcome and has not been given the importance it deserves.

With this project we intend to change the perception people have of the ravine so that we, the people of Chiva, learn to respect it and value it for what it is: **an element with great environmental value that allows the development of animals and plants typical of the area.**

The course of the Barranco de Chiva is the responsibility of the Júcar Hydrographic Confederation, an organisation that is part of the EUROSPAN 17 team together with Chiva Town Council as an associate member. It supports the proposal of the selected location. The General Directorate of Ecological Innovation in Construction, forming part of the Second Deputy Prime Minister's Office and Department of Housing and Bioclimatic Architecture of the Valencian regional government acts as developer.

HISTORY AND TRADITIONS

Chiva still has signs of ancient times: the Epipalaeolithic Era, the Eneolithic Period, and the Bronze Age, but more significant remains begin to be seen from Roman times onwards:

Roman period: Among the most common elements found at different sites in the municipality of Chiva demonstrating the importance of Roman culture in our area are gravestones, coins, stone projectiles, fibulas (not to be missed), tegulas (tiles), stone columns, arrowheads, copper awls, remains of flooring, pieces from looms, and countless ceramic fragments.

Arab period: Chiva was under Muslim rule from 711-718 to 1245-1247. However, Muslims remained in our lands until 1609, the year when their complete expulsion was decreed.

Of the architectural legacy we can still see in our town today, we might highlight the building known as La Torreta, recently restored and declared an Asset of Cultural Interest and Monument in 1999, and the set of streets around it known as the Bechinos district, including Calle de la Olivera and the former Calle Godella. This area was badly treated through ignorance and neglect in a period that did not know how to value the historical and artistic complex it represented. Now Chiva Town Council has commissioned its drafting department to produce a special Protection Plan for the old town centre.

A walk through Bechinos, with its narrow, winding streets, some sloping steeply, is not to be missed. Here the typical traditional two-storey houses with rear orchards are still preserved.

The Muslims who came to Chiva between the 8th and 13th centuries would mainly have been slaves from Cordoba, followed by Berbers, although there was probably a previous native population which would have gradually accepted Islamic culture. The Berbers were the

"lords": freemen and landowners who organised their defence by building castles where they housed the population in times of attack. This would probably be the origin of our castle.

The main activity of the inhabitants of this time was agriculture. Many fields in Chiva were planted with mulberry trees for rearing silkworms, which were vitally important in the silk/textile industry. We also have the canal irrigation system that has survived from this period to the present day, and the use of the waterwheel (which until recently were abundant in the Armajal district – that name comes from an Arabic word meaning "swampy land").

"To Berenguer d'Entença, knight, the castle and the town of Xiva and that of Pedralba, beside Valencia, 25 September" (Llibre del Repartiment).

In this way, in September 1237, the town of Chiva and its castle, still held by the Moors, are granted by King James I of Aragon to Berenguer d'Entença, his uncle.

In May 1245, Don Rodrigo de Lizana, commanding thirty knights, took the town of Chiva, which became part of the Crown of Aragon. During a period when the king was absent, the knights in charge of guarding the borders of the conquered lands broke the agreement he had signed not to attack the lands held by the Muslims, and were harshly reprimanded on his return.

Valencia, its countryside and villages then began to be repopulated, with an influx of people from Aragon, Catalonia, France and other places, which is why the people of Chiva speak Spanish. However, the countryside continued to be inhabited by the Moors, whose skill in cultivating the land was greatly admired by the victors. Our area had a particularly dense Muslim population, and this remained the case until 1609.

When the Moors were expelled in that year, Chiva was left almost uninhabited, and the population in small villages like Perenchiza and Miralcampo completely disappeared. The Moors from Chiva left for Africa via Grao de Valencia.

In the following century, Chiva passed to the house of the Duke of Medinaceli through matrimonial ties. On 1 February 1847, under a ruling by the judge of Chiva, the town was incorporated into the Crown after years of litigation.

Chiva was the scene of various military actions during the invasion of Spain by Napoleonic troops, and was also the scene of important battles during the first Carlist War.

In the old town is the **Archpriest's Church of San Juan Bautista**, from the 18th century, facing away from the ravine and creating one of the images most representative of our municipality.

In the Plaza de la Constitución we have two other characteristic elements of our town: **The 21 Caños fountain** and **the Balsa de los Patos** or duck pond, which used to be part of a mill. They drain into the ravine.

Chiva Castle is another of our treasures, has also been declared an Asset of Cultural Interest. Just a few stretches of wall provide evidence of the Arab period in our town. The town council currently has a **Special Protection Plan for Chiva Castle**.

In Chiva we have a good number of traditions, mostly religious ones: the festival of Saint Anthony Abbot, the Santos Medios festival, La Mañanica at Easter, Fallas and others. But the two most important ones are:

- The festival in honour of the town's patron saint, Our Lady of the Castle, held in the first fortnight of September
- El Torico de la Cuerda (the Roped Bull), held from 15 to 25 August.

This is the most popular and the biggest festival and represents one of the four fundamental pillars for our economy.

When the Technical University of Valencia produced a report on the Torico's economic dimension for the municipality, the results showed it was worth more than 12 million euros.

The report indicated that these more than 12 million euros are distributed as follows:

- 6.5 million in wages, salaries, taxes and benefits attributed to the creation of around 140 jobs directly, indirectly or temporarily for the festival.
- 5.5 million for the tertiary sector (shopping, hospitality, transport, etc.) of which 27% would come from tourists who come to Chiva to take part in the festival.

CUISINE

Like a good inland town, Chiva has a strong culinary tradition, always accompanied by good wines.

Its most typical dishes are:

- **Mojete**. A paste made with oil, water, potatoes, garlic and grass pea flour. It can be accompanied by cured meats and bacon or cured belly pork.
- **Mojetico abadejo**, made with tomato and cod.
- **Olle Pataca**, made with beans, potato, sweet potato and pumpkin.
- **Paella** has to be included, of course, like the other typical Valencian rice dishes: baked rice, rice with beans and turnips, rice with chard and rice with ribs.
- **Puchero con pelotas** (a stew with dumplings) is the top choice for special days.
- **Bean pisto**, made with potato, onion, bacon, **chorizo** and beans.
- **Typical Chiva cured meats**: black pudding, longaniza, botifarrón and güeña sausages, and especially the Easter sausage.

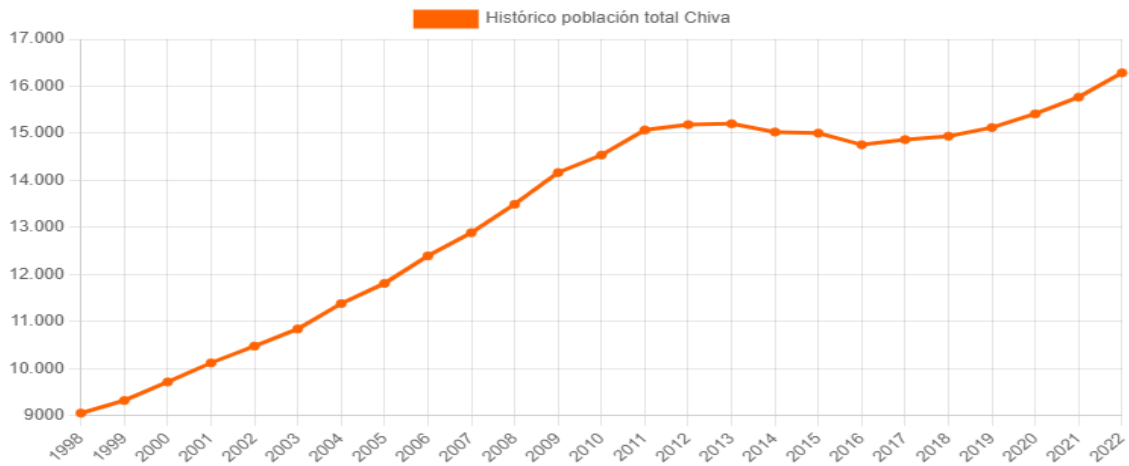
As for sweets, our cooks are experts in:

- Aniseed or sweet wine rollicos, suspiros, mantecados, coquitos, raisin and walnut cake and, of course, our typical rosquilletas del toro.

In Chiva's cuisine, soups and stews are combined with meat – often game – and sausages, gazpacho and cod. These recipes allow visitors to discover new flavours and they combine the best of the inland area with the Mediterranean diet, creating a unique and highly appetising cuisine.

POPULATION

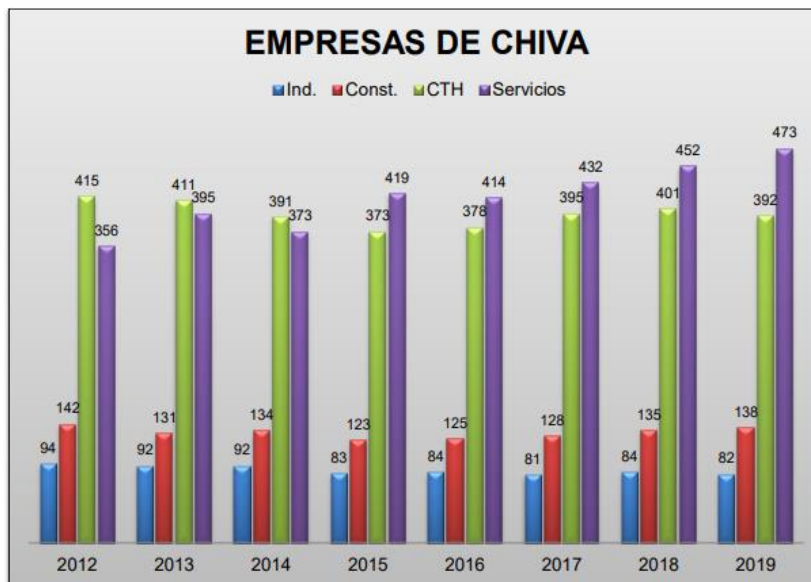
The municipality of Chiva has a population of 16,285 inhabitants as of 1 January 2022, according to census data from the INE (National Institute of Statistics). These remain the official figures for the entire year of 2023 until the publication of the new census, although an increase of around 500 people has already been recorded.



History of Chiva's total population

CHIVA, CITY OF SERVICES

A study carried out before the pandemic on the businesses in Chiva gives us a clear idea which sector or sectors are driving the municipality's economy.



BUSINESSES IN CHIVA

The graph shows a clear commitment to the tertiary sector and commerce, with a big difference compared to the industrial and construction sectors.

We can see that the tertiary sector is the most important in our economy, followed closely by commerce, transport and hospitality. These sectors together represent 80% of the total number of registered companies.

Considering the lack of a powerful industrial sector to generate jobs, in Chiva a strong commitment has been made to services and the CTH sector, which promote self-employment and stimulate ingenuity and creativity.

In this sense, we follow the national trend, as self-employment is the main driving force of our economy.



Businesses by sector of activity 2019 Services

COMMERCE IN CHIVA

This represents 36% of the companies registered in Chiva, standing out as a fundamental part of sustaining the municipality's economy.

This sector and the tertiary sector are achieving notable social and economic development, promoted by the city council. Together, they represent a mainstay of the economy, accounting for 80% of the companies registered in Chiva.

There are several local elements concerned with promoting these sectors of activity:

The local development agency, through the traders' portal, is affiliated to the Agency for the Promotion of Commercial Innovation (AFIC). It is Chiva Town Council's commercial promotion department, responsible to the councillor in charge of economic development and coordinated from the General Directorate of Commerce of the Valencian Regional Government's Department of Innovation and Competitiveness. Its purpose is to develop the commercial sector by carrying out various actions: promoting, encouraging and supporting training actions, giving advice on grants and subsidies and supporting traders' associations.

Chiva's AFIC forms part of the Valencian regional AFIC network, consisting of more than 100 agencies distributed all over the Valencian region. Its main functions are to:

- Coordinate relations between traders and regional and local authorities.
- Achieve efficient, competitive business planning in the municipality.
- Strengthen traditional shopping centres within the municipality.
- Provide access to information for traders, through the use of computer tools.
- Participate in studies on the position of local commerce to identify and enhance the social, economic and urban factors that condition its dynamics.
- Make proposals for action on the strategies and investments to be made.
- Carry out promotional actions to stimulate local commerce.

The Chiva business association, whose aim is to promote local commerce. Partners have access to training programmes to boost their businesses and explore different avenues for expansion. The association is intended to provide for its member traders to join forces to look after their interests and to develop promotional programmes that benefit small businesses in Chiva. The association carries out seasonal campaigns to encourage purchases in member establishments in the municipality.

At the town council, as well as promoting or encouraging commerce and the tertiary sector in Chiva, we are focusing all our efforts on developing a more powerful industrial sector, as our municipality is in an excellent location and has sufficient resources to do so. For this, we have the General Structural Plan and Detailed Organisation Plan, both currently being drawn up and essential for the development of our town at all levels.

SITE

The largest ravine in the municipality of Chiva is the Barranco Grande. La Parra and Ballesteros ravines are also outstandingly important for the hydrological behaviour of the basin. Other significant watercourses include Los Corralicos, Brihuela and Canadillas ravines. They all come together in the Barranco de Chiva, which becomes the Rambla del Poyo before draining into the Albufera in Valencia.

Another notable hydrological aspect is the large number of springs and infrastructures related to water use in the municipality of Chiva. The existence of approximately 20 springs has been recorded in the hills around Chiva alone (Fuente los Tornajos, Fuente Umbría, Fuente Segura, Fuente Marín, Fuente Podrida, Fuente Tormillo, Fuente La Parra, Fuente Martas, Fuente Charnera, Fuente del Enebro, Fuente de la Alhondiga, Fuente Galarza, Fuente de la Cabra, Fuente la Corba, Fuente del Sapo and Fuente de la Gota). Meanwhile, the water-related heritage infrastructures consist of the Caballo Sánchez and Peregrino water tanks and the Oratillos and La Galarza pools.

All these aspects must be taken into account when carrying out the project, as Chiva Town Council intends to promote the wealth of heritage they represent by developing natural routes through the municipality.

It might be possible to connect the Sierra de Chiva Municipal Natural Park, covering the slopes where the Rambla begins, with the town centre in an action unprecedented for the municipality. The job therefore requires observation on a larger scale, as this would be a green corridor that begins 800 m above sea level on the Sima del Asno.

The Barranco de Chiva is a watercourse known as the Rambla del Poyo flowing for about 40 km through the Valencian region until it reaches the Mediterranean Sea, running into the Albufera de Valencia.

As it passes through the municipality of Chiva, it crosses the urban centre, fragmenting the old town of Islamic origin in two on the banks of the water. It is an element that brings populations together and brings its surroundings a unique character.

The buildings in the urban area of the ravine have been built aligned with the edge of the watercourse and they have a quite characteristic elevation, as their main facades face Calles Antonio Machado, San Isidro and Enrique Ponce. Meanwhile, the rear facades create an amalgamation of disorderly but harmonious volumes overlooking the ravine.

The Chiva ravine is home to wonderful plant and animal life and now has a constant flow of water, after pollution problems from industrial discharges were resolved.

Its potential lies in the landscape it generates and in the great environmental value it offers its agricultural and forest environment, as it manages to introduce a natural ecosystem into the centre of Chiva, while becoming a symbol and characteristic element of the municipality's image.

As it passes through the urban area, the Chiva ravine is in a situation of clear deterioration and neglect. Although it is at the heart of the municipality, it has generally been treated as a natural barrier to be overcome out of necessity. Never has it been given the credit for the environmental and landscape value it possesses, surrounded by a historic urban layout.

The proposed action in the area seeks a fusion between nature (the ravine at the heart of the territory) and culture (its union with the old centre of Chiva).

The challenge is to improve the biodiversity of the ravine as it passes through a constrained urban environment, trying to combine the two scales: anthropological and biological. To achieve this, the native species of fauna that live there (birds, amphibians and fish) will be taken into account to improve the ecosystem while, at the same time, trying to reach out to the local residents passing through it.

It must also consider and deal with issues that are close to local people, as a great deal of everyday life goes on in the centre of Chiva.

The challenge therefore consists of enhancing the value of the ravine as it passes through Chiva town centre with a project that manages to redevelop its immediate surroundings so that it ceases to turn its back on the river. At the same time, the watercourse must be adapted by connecting it with the urban space, so that the two work in synergy. In this way, the ravine should be made passable on foot or by bicycle and should have spaces for people to spend time there and viewpoints via the many streets perpendicularly interrupted by it. In this sense, it will be necessary to reformulate the four bridges linking the two banks of the torrent which have been designed considering mobility alone.

In short, the challenge must be able to regenerate an inhabited environment, with a high cultural value, by configuring the layout of the traditional historic centre of Chiva while at the same time repairing a natural element to improve its social recognition and environmental value.

The possible design of footbridges, paths and other elements foreseen for the project to regenerate the Chiva ravine and its surroundings will always be carried out taking into account the conditions established by the body responsible for the river basin, **the Júcar Hydrographic Confederation**, which, as we have already mentioned, forms part of the EUROPEAN 17 National Committee as an associate member. This ensures that the ravine functions correctly in hydromorphological terms.

The actions subject to this type of authorisation request can be seen at [this link](#).

NEGATIVE ASPECTS

It should be noted that there are sections of the ravine where the mains sewer is visible in the watercourse. Chiva Town Council has commissioned a project "for the repair of the Chiva mains sewer next to the Bechinos district" which has been received. These works are now awaiting the tender process.

In February 2015 the sewer entirely collapsed, leading to the discharge of the flow of waste it was carrying into the Barranco de Chiva continuously for several days. After several attempts, it was finally repaired and brought back into service.

The Chiva mains sewer runs along the Chiva torrent riverbed in the area near the Bechinos district. It consists of a Ø400mm concrete pipe, which in some areas has been replaced by 500mm corrugated HDPE DN/OD. In general terms, its gradient is adequate although there are two areas where it is slightly submerged, one between the P1801 and P1802 shafts and another between the PE1804 and 2233 shafts.



Image of the layout of the collector on an aerial photo in the difficult-to-access section running over private agricultural plots. This is the most controversial area and the subject of the project.

The main problems detected are the entry of earth and gravel into the sewer via the manholes on the bed of the watercourse and the intrusion of roots, widespread throughout the section that runs through private plots, especially in the two sections where the sewer runs high above the ground.

In order to provide a short/medium-term solution at a reasonable cost, this project includes a renovation using a self-supporting continuous sleeve casing of the two raised sewer sections and the section adjacent to the first raised section from shaft 2235 to shaft 2229, which are the ones with the greatest root intrusion and accessibility problems. In this way, a continuous conduit is generated without joints in these sections, preventing the penetration of roots and reducing the risk of obstruction and, therefore, the need for intervention.

(If it is of interest, this design can be consulted at the Chiva City Hall).

FLOODING

The very busy Azagador road is in a flood zone at its junction with the ravine. Many roads are often closed every time there is heavy rain, leading to the recommendation for action in this area to improve this aspect.

¹There is a flood risk from the Barranco de Chiva as it passes through the town. Five severe floods have been recorded in Chiva:

- 23 October 1776. The overflowing watercourse in the ravine caused great destruction in the town, with more than 200 deaths.
- 10 November 1895. On this occasion there were no casualties, although great damage was done.
- 28 September 1949. This time, rocks and houses collapsed in the San Isidro area. Rubble and belongings were dragged away by the water, blocking the openings of the new bridge and the old bridge. This caused water to overflow through the entire old town of Chiva, taking the lives of a whole family of three people.

¹Details taken from the book "Efemérides Chivanas".

- 14 October 1957. No casualties, but considerable material losses.

- 9 November 1983. This time it was not a flood as such, as the ravine did not overflow, but more than 400 litres per square metre of water fell in just half an hour. The water overflowed its channel, running along the N III from the vicinity of Buñol and going down the street parallel to the channel, sweeping away everything in its path. On this occasion, the town was declared a disaster area and the Madrid-Valencia railway line was even closed.



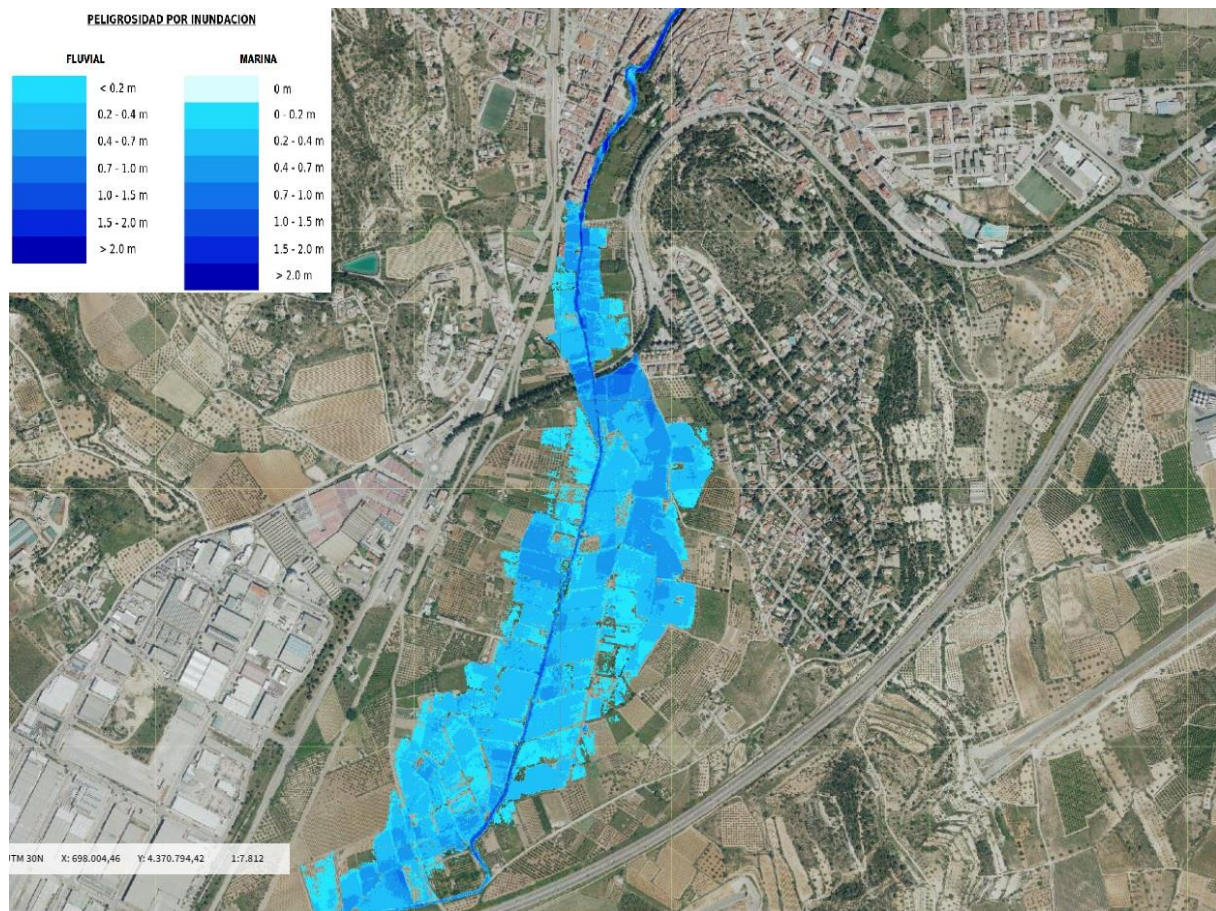
Azagador flood zone

As shown on the Valencian regional government (GVA) viewer, the area where the Barranco de Chiva meets the beginning of the town centre is an interaction zone with a high risk of flooding.



Image of the GVA viewer: Flood risks

Similarly, the Júcar Hydrographic Confederation confirms with 10-year surveys that, taking into account the forecast development of storms, this interaction zone could be affected by floods very frequently.



From a technical point of view, then, a greater determining factor for the project must be the search for technical solutions making it easier to adapt the environment to the flood risk.

If this problem is not solved, the possible floods would have very negative repercussions on the area around the ravine, meaning a high cost in terms of material, heritage, standard of living and even human lives, as has tragically happened in previous years.

Technical solutions to adapt the area under consideration by collecting torrential floodwater must be one of the keys to the technical solutions provided by the projects. Examples to be considered by the candidate teams, might be sustainable urban drainage systems, floodwater detention tanks, etc.

It should be noted that the Spanish Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge (MITECO) has developed the “Guía para la reducción de la vulnerabilidad de los edificios frente a las inundaciones” [Guide for the reduction of the vulnerability of buildings against floods] and the “Guías de adaptación al riesgo de inundación: Sistemas Urbanos de Drenaje Sostenible (SUDS)” [Guidelines for adaptation to flood risk: Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS)]. These are based on construction criteria developed in other countries, among other technical material.

The technical solutions to be implemented in the project may be innovative, or based on documentation already indicated.

POSITIVE ASPECTS

The ravine has a series of infrastructures that it would be advisable to improve and preserve:

- San Isidro spring and mine



- Drinking trough in the San Isidro area



- Old laundry facilities in the area of Calle Pedralba area



Recommendations

The municipality is very interested in connecting the districts in the Calle Pedralba area with the Bechinos district via the rear of the Church of San Juan Bautista. This would make it possible to promote tourist routes with great cultural and scenic value.