

## PRESS RELEASE

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### 4<sup>th</sup> INTHERWASTE Thematic Seminar on ‘Waste Minimization in Heritage areas’

**On 13 June 2018, INTHERWASTE lead partner Sadeco organised the 4<sup>th</sup> Thematic Seminar of the project in Cordoba. Good practices about “Waste Minimization in Heritage Areas” from across Europe were presented and discussed.**

To support UNESCO Heritage cities in improving their local and regional policies for sustainable waste management, the INTHERWASTE project had foreseen a [series of four thematic seminars](#). The final edition, held in Córdoba, focused on the topic of waste prevention, the highest level of the waste hierarchy. The seminar looked at different solutions to ensure and reinforce waste prevention, as a key approach for a more sustainable waste management.

Pedro Garcia, President of Sadeco and first Deputy Mayor of Cordoba, opened the seminar. His introduction was followed by presentations of good practices from the INTHERWASTE partners’ cities (Cordoba, Ibiza, Krakow, Porto and Tallinn), as well as four invited guests from Bruges (Belgium), Métropole Nice – Côte d’Azur (France), Warsaw (Poland), and the consultancy-foundation ENT with examples from Catalonia (Spain). They all contributed to diversifying the examples and widening the geographical coverage of the good practices.

The speakers' cases demonstrated that the benefits waste reduction could bring are even more versatile and diverse considering the numerous difficulties and constraints UNESCO Heritage cities are facing - limited access, narrow passages and the urban settings in general.

During the event, moderated by ACR+, the case studies were grouped in five different themes related to waste minimization:

- **Economic instruments:** Several examples of Pay As You Throw (PAYT) system and a fee on plastic bags showed the economic benefits of these practices while reducing waste;
- **Reuse:** A reusable deposit cups system in public events and a new reuse centre for bulky waste were presented; thus demonstrating that reuse activities provide an essential contribution to waste prevention by applying circular economy principles;
- **Composting in urban area:** Two practices showed that involving inhabitants is a successful approach to reducing bio-waste;
- **Waste prevention campaigns:** Addressing litter prevention, reusable packaging and food waste, these campaigns proved the importance of raising the residents and tourists’ awareness of the increasing quantities of food waste and littering in general;
- **Addressing food waste through stakeholders’ cooperation:** These examples demonstrated that strengthening the cooperation between the different actors and supporting their efforts are essential to ensure a better implementation of new measures.

Following the seminars, participants had the chance to discover several examples of waste management in Córdoba. They first went to meet business owners in an industrial park and discuss their experiences with PAYT system; then visited composting experiences in the city’s urban gardens and lastly, saw some brand new lorries and electric bikes for door to door collection in the heritage areas.

**All presentations are available on the INTHERWASTE website: [www.intherwaste.eu](http://www.intherwaste.eu).** More information will also be given in the next issue of the INTHERWASTE newsletter, to which you can subscribe [here](#).

## Second phase of the project

For the project partners, these four thematic seminars were part of the first step of the project aiming to learn and exchange best practices and policies. Starting in April 2019, the second step will be the implementation and monitoring of the partners' local action plans on waste management.

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The INHERWASTE project - **Interregional Environmental Integration of Waste Management in European Heritage Cities** - aims to improve waste management policies in European Heritage cities. You can find more information about the project on [www.intherwaste.eu](http://www.intherwaste.eu) & on Twitter [@intherwaste](https://twitter.com/intherwaste)

