ENE-003006/2018Answer given by Ms Creţuon behalf of the European Commission(12.7.2018)

Under the current programming period, EUR 1,4 billion from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) have been allotted to the promotion of integrated sustainable urban development through the deployment of urban strategies[[1]](#footnote-1). In charge of drafting the integrated strategies and selecting the operations for funding, urban authorities are involved in the design and implementation of EU policies.

In line with the principle of shared management, the managing authority[[2]](#footnote-2) validates the eligibility of the operations and carries out the controls according to the regulatory requirements. Consequently, the Commission does not have details on the concrete operations financed within the Operational Programs or within the urban strategies. However, the Commission monitors the implementation and performance of the Operational Programmes mainly via the monitoring committees, the examination of annual implementation reports and the result and performance indicators and audits. Regarding sustainable urban strategies, the Commission, together with the managing authority, has developed a dedicated monitoring system via the ‘Red de Iniciativas Urbanas’ (RIU) and the ‘Urban Development Network’ (UDN).

Regarding the Urban Development Strategy (EDUSI) of Plasencia, after consultation with the urban authority (City Council of Plasencia), the ERDF will co-finance the implementation of its sustainable urban mobility plan. One of the actions of this plan involves the construction of a roundabout, which includes the flagpole mentioned in the question. This is not a stand-alone project, but part of an overarching strategy with the aim to transform the city of Plasencia through, in particular, fostering public transport and modal shift.

1. According to article 7 of the ERDF regulation (EC) n° 1301/2013, [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. which in the case of Spain is the Ministry of Finance [↑](#footnote-ref-2)