

City Malaga	
Country	Spain
Population	571,026
Title of policy or practice	Red de Economatos (Network of Cooperatives)
Subtitle (optional)	Subsidies to non-profit entities for the Cooperatives Network management
URL video	
Category	Social and Economic Equity
SDGs	SDGs: 2, 10, 11, 17.
Brief description	<p>In 2016, Malaga became one of the pioneering cities in setting up a Red de Economatos (Network of Cooperatives) with municipal funds. Since that year, we have published an annual call that is now at its fourth edition.</p> <p>Its objective is to reduce the social inequality and social exclusion gap, as well as to help dignify the condition of many households.</p> <p>We believe that every municipal initiative must have a transforming vision that aims to improving the standards of living. To do so, it is crucial that the aid we provide to vulnerable families does not only cover their basic needs but incorporates social intervention measures to help them actually change their condition.</p> <p>Our Network began with 3 facilities and, in the 2018 Call, has reached 11 facilities which are managed by 9 organizations in different districts.</p> <p>Throughout these three editions, 6,022 families have been benefited – the fourth edition is still in an initial phase.</p>
Date of start and state (ongoing/completed)	09/2016 – 09/2019 Ongoing
Actors and stakeholders involvement	<p>Animación Malacitana [Malaga's Animation]</p> <p>Casa De Misericordia De Málaga [Malaga's House of Mercy]</p> <p>Asociación De Amigos Malagueños De Familias Rehabilitados Y Marginados [Association of Malagan Friends of Rehabilitated and Marginalized Families]</p> <p>Asociación De Caridad San Vicente De Paul [San Vincente De Paul Charity Association]</p> <p>Hisipano Rumana Armonia Association</p> <p>Nena Paine Association</p> <p>Obra Social La Caixa [La Caixa Charity Foundation]</p> <p>Ruso Parlantes Andalucía Juntos Association</p> <p>As it is a competitive call, every edition is attended by different organizations.</p>
Approach	<p>Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elaboration and Publication of the annual Call for Subsidies. The associations are involved in the planning phase and the improvements made together with the participating entities in the previous editions have been included.

	<p>Implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly monitoring; • Follow-up meetings, at least 2 times during the project; • Evaluation reports according to the model; • Economic monitoring of the execution (2 times during the project); • Impact (profiles).
<p>Innovation</p>	<p>The city of Malaga is a pioneer in the implementation of a Network of Cooperatives financed with municipal funds, as the Municipality saw the need to reduce the gap of social inequality and social exclusion.</p> <p>These programs and initiatives have two aspects: the most urgent and important – due to the situation of emergency in which many families are – is to cover basic needs; and the second aspect regards the need of concrete actions to overcome the situation of vulnerability of these families. Therefore, we set up actions and activities that aim to improving employability, through community cooperation and educational and social actions.</p> <p>To do so, it's important to create a strict and permanent coordination between the 12 Community Social Services Centres.</p> <p>In addition, in 1995, the Municipality of Malaga drew up its first Agenda Local 21 [Local Agenda 21], being a pioneer in putting into practice the recommendations of the World Conference on the Environment, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.</p> <p>In 2015, the “Agenda 21 of Malaga 2015” was approved: An Urban Agenda for the 2020-2050 integrated sustainability strategy, which aims to recover the balance of the environment and raise the standards of living for the population. In order to achieve this goal, we need to evaluate periodically the situation of our city, using the information technology and the urban indicators system.</p>
<p>Impact</p>	<p>This initiative aims to reduce the gap of social inequality and social exclusion in the city of Malaga, where, in 2011, according to the Observatorio de Medio Ambiente Urbano [Urban Environment Observatory of Malaga], 22.58% of its inhabitants were at risk of poverty and 33.53% did not make ends meet.</p> <p>Priority attention to the most vulnerable groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children; • Elderly people; • Families with dependent children.
<p>Inclusion</p>	<p>Through the Network of Cooperatives, we put social inclusion into practice since the recipients of the subsidies are the groups and associations that distribute food to families in need. The funds are also used to manage the facilities that host the Cooperatives. In 2018, nine organizations specialized in social action manage these spaces. The existing collaboration with Caixa Bank and Maskom Supermarkets is also noteworthy, which started with the 2017 Call.</p>
<p>Adversity coefficient</p>	<p>This project was created to respond to the basic needs of a slice of population, although there are other complementary services provided by the Community Social Services Centres.</p> <p>We examined initiatives from other cities which, although different, were created with the same objective, such as Seville, Huelva...etc.</p> <p>In 2016, the study “Pobreza Infantil en Málaga. Condiciones de vida de las familias en situación vulnerable” [“Child Poverty in Malaga: Living Conditions of Vulnerable Families”] carried out by the Urban Environment Observatory of Malaga, revealed that 34,000 children were at risk of poverty or social exclusion with a tendency to rise.</p>

Alongside these data, there are other results provided by the Urban Environment Observatory which revealed that 22.58% of Malaga inhabitants were at risk of poverty and 37.53% did not make ends meet.

Faced with this situation, it was crucial to use all the power and instruments available to the municipal administration to help change the situation of Malaga's families.