Collaborative process to write a Strategy for the Sustainable Urban Development of Xàbia

Workshop results
“The Xàbia that we want”
THE XÀBIA THAT WE WANT

In this workshop we worked in four different areas. We took as a basis for the working session the diagnosis made in the previous workshop and the problems identified through technical analysis, questionnaires and interviews.

The 4 areas were:

1. URBAN DEVELOPMENT (land, Housing and public spaces)
2. EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMY
3. LIVING, LEARNING AND LIVING TOGETHER
4. WHO IS IN CHARGE?

We divided the participants into 4 groups to generate four different panels with a series of proposals built between all members of each group.

We began producing individual ideas, then we put them in common and we built together different lines of action.
A spokesperson for each group presented the proposals which subsequently were voted by the participants. Each person had 5 points to freely distribute them among the different projects, with the condition not to vote the proposals of his/her own group.

The resulting prioritization was:

1. **“EL ARENAL” IS XÀBIA** (11 votes distributed between two proposals: “el Arenal és Xàbia” and “Mejorar el Arenal”)
   - Arenal Identity.
   - Facilities: Community centre, etc.
   - Multiservice Point.
   - Jávea Park area improvement.
   - Housing rehabilitation program.

2. **PROMOTING AN ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM** (9 votes)
   Stimulate the economy by:
   - Business incubator / coworking, public and with annual programming.
   - Exchange of experience / knowledge / resources (intergenerational: professional residents with long experience advising young entrepreneurs).
   - Business training and ICT.
   - Forum “business Angels” (many entrepreneurs and former entrepreneurs who may be interested in Xàbia).
   - Generation of “solidarity groups” for job search.
   - Activation of empty premises.
   - Employment workshops aimed at disadvantaged groups.

3. **NETWORK OF MEDIATORS FROM DIFFERENT CULTURES** (6 votes)
   Network of people from different communities and cultures who communicate with each other to connect the different groups or nationalities in order to get information from each other:
   - Exchange of skills ( Intercultural “time bank” ).
   - Communication between cultures.
   - Relationship between communities and administration.
   - Awareness campaigns.

4. **TO ATTRACT CERTAIN GROUPS THROUGH A SPECIFIC OFFER** (6 votes)
   In order to reduce seasonality and to improve the citizens quality of life, we plan to attract to Xàbia the following groups:
   - 3rd AGE
   - Athletes
   - Children (languages, sports)
   - Youth (events)

5. **GETTING AROUND** (6 votes)
   - Improve the way in which we move: accessible, safe and friendly city.
   - Integrated and sustainable mobility system to improve the urban structure.
   - Restoration of natural elements, such as paths and roads.
6. XÀBIA ABIERTA (OPEN XÀBIA / XÀBIA OBERTA) (5 votes)
- More collaborative municipal websites.
- Best design.
- In more languages (improve translations).
- Better structure. Clearer and more accessible information.
- To make an effort when presenting information, more clearly and schematically (not as a pdf to download).
- More information (and in other languages) on basic procedures at the City Hall (driving license).
- More information / transparency regarding municipal projects and works.
- Evaluate, provide feedback on the decisions taken.

7. YOU ARE XÀBIA (5 votes)
- Awareness campaign: Xàbia is your responsibility. The importance of participation.
- How do we encourage participation?
- How do we foster continued commitment?

8. XÀBIA FOR EVERYONE / EVERYONE FOR XÀBIA (4 votes)
- Physical and virtual meeting point.
- To develop and innovate in the use of new technologies to bring together the different communities / nationalities.
- International associations / International festival
- “Foreign council”. An intercultural council: as the “consell dels xiquets” or “consejo escolar”.
- Improve communication between communities, and between communities and the Town Hall.
- Information and Management Office in Arenal.

9. SMARTCITIZENS (4 votes)
- Sharing resources between citizens (car, housing, etc.).
- Taking care of the natural areas through employment programs.

10. POSITIVE CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH (4 votes)
- Activities for children with special needs.
- Working with families to prevent school failure.
- New training routes that provide options for children with different profiles, avoiding dropout or the subsequent lack of opportunities.

11. INTERGENERATIONAL NETWORKS (3 votes)
- Exchange between children and old people.
- Becoming part of the “WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities”.
- Active aging.
- Young people awareness about mutual aid. Possible campaign: “To adopt a grandparent for a day”.
12. PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY AS AN ECONOMY ENGINE AND TO ENSURE ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION (3 votes)
- Interpretation Centre of the marine reserve.
- Kayak tours.
- Routes.
- Ecological agriculture.

13. ENERGY EFFICIENCY (2 votes)
- Innovation in energy efficiency, in housing rehabilitation and in new constructions.
- Town Hall leadership in a shift towards energy efficiency (rehabilitation of public buildings, vehicles, services, etc.).
- Tax incentives for energy efficiency (IBI rebates, grants, etc.).

14. PARTICIPATION AND SUPPORT NETWORKS (1 vote)
- Ensure that no one is left.
- Encourage participation and collaboration.
- Promote the time bank.
- Support exchange (moving from “asking for and subsidising” to “exchanging”, co-responsibility).

15. PROMOTING A TECHNOLOGICAL, ECOLOGICAL AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIAL ZONE (1 vote)

The proposals developed during this workshop together with the information collected through the other ways of participation, will be the basis for the development of the lines of action of the Sustainable Urban Development Strategy.

The result will respond to the call requirements and it will be a consequence of the collaborative work between the technical team, the City Council and the citizens.

Thanks to everyone of you for your inestimable collaboration!