



STUDY 3

“CANAL DE CASTILLA ANALYSIS FOR PLANING A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”



Brief summary on the study made by
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Under the INTERREG IIIIC Project called VNE, SIRGA participated in the Study n°3 of the project concerning “environmental boating”. In this framework the action of SIRGA consisted on analyze the actions planned in the *Canal de Castilla* from the point of view of sustainable development.

From the VNE project it's understood that the waterways are a middle in a global sense: cultural, economic, social, hydrologic and environmental, but also a human middle.

The *Canal de Castilla* has had a determine role on the natural landscape along its way, conforming a cultural landscape, that after years has transformed the environment, but also determining the life, the experience and the human activities, generating a doubtless wealth and biodiversity.

This study has reflected on the multifunctionality that the *Canal de Castilla* presents nowadays, keeping in mind that to the priority uses have been added other not priority that begin to have importance.

The not priority uses, which reveal the multifunctionality of the channel, are giving response to demands of the society and generating a added value to the cultural, tourist, leisure and sports aspects, principally.

Canal de Castilla experiences in the branch of Medina de Rioseco, demonstrate that the not priority uses are generating a lot of visitors that demand and give an added value to a few uses that till now were considered less important , nevertheless they produce a few economic resources for the municipalities along the canal.

The current situation indicates that the Canal de Castilla needs a review of the regulation related to the uses and catalogued elements. Also, a process of global planning that considers: the property, the management, the complementarity of the uses and the maintenance and conservation of those.

To follow this new approach, looking for a better future of the *Canal de Castilla*, a competent body to coordinate and manage the already existing actions and the new uses should be established.