

The second phase of the project to install underground rubbish collection bins across Formentera started today with the project's official certificate of commencement. With 18 points of collection planned across the island, the new bins will be found in La Savina, Sant Ferran, Sant Francesc, Cala Saona, Es Ca Marí, Hotel La Mola and at the municipal football pitch. In addition to improving the image of Formentera received by tourists, such a system will favour efficiency in waste collection.

18 different collection points will contain a total of 84 individual bins for waste, cardboard, glass and plastics. The island's limited size and environmental fragility have made this sort of recycling essential while the first phase of the project has already fixed Formentera's position as one of the leaders of recycling in the Balearics.

The Port of La Savina, entry port to the island, figures as one of the project's priority spots, set to receive six different platforms. Another purpose of the project is to eliminate ground-level rubbish containers located next to the highway, as for example in Es Arenals and Sant Francesc.

As with the first phase of the project, the underground instalment of the bins will be paid for with money from the European Union Cohesion Fund, which will provide 1,060,941.20€ (or 80%) of the total project cost. The remainder will be covered by the Formentera Council. Construction is expected to be finished before the start of the 2014 summer season.

In this way Formentera will build a stronger, more modern system of waste and recycling collection and follow through with the promise made by the Office of the Environment to outfit the island with an extensive network of high-capacity but minimally-visible collection points.