

The company will be participating in the Climate Summit with talks and technical visits to demonstrate its projects for combating climate change

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## Canal de Isabel II brings commitment to sustainable development and the environment to COP25

- The public company will distribute 20,000 glass bottles to the event's attendees to encourage the use of tap water
- Canal's commitment to the sustainable development goals will be discussed as part of the agenda in the summit's Blue Zone
- Canal de Isabel II will offer guided tours of various facilities and host a seminar on water and climate change at its Foundation

**02DEC2019** - Canal de Isabel II is playing an active part in the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP25), which begins today in Madrid. Through various activities over the course of the next few days, the public company will present its climate change adaptation and mitigation projects and demonstrate its commitment to sustainable development. It will also encourage the consumption of tap water at the Conference by handing out 20,000 reusable, recyclable glass bottles to attendees, bearing the motto *#deMadridydelGrifo* ('from Madrid and from the tap'). In addition, it has installed some twenty drinking water fountains at Ifema to encourage its consumption and reduce the use of single-use plastic.

Canal will be participating in two presentations at COP25. The first will take place in the Blue Zone, a space administered by the United Nations, which will host the negotiation sessions of the 25th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP25). The Community of Madrid's Regional Minister for the Environment, Land Planning and Sustainability, Canal's Executive Deputy Chairperson, Rafael Prieto, and Assistant Director of Studies and Programmes, Fernando Arlandis, will all be taking part in the panel on 'Key performance indicators for the implementation and monitoring of the sustainable development goals in European water management companies', which will discuss Canal de Isabel II's commitment and strategic links to the SDGs.

On 6 December, this time in the Forum for Sectoral Action and Innovation in the Green Zone - a space dedicated to civil society - there will be a presentation on 'A future with increasing water scarcity: sharing the Community of Madrid's experiences in the light

of the challenges of climate change'. Several experts from the company, including its Director of Operations, Belén Benito, will discuss Canal de Isabel II's management model for resource scarcity and the actions for climate change adaptation and mitigation which it is implementing, including the opportunities afforded by sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) in preventing and reducing the impacts of rainfall in urban environments.

Finally, on 11 December, also in the Green Zone, Canal de Isabel II's Director of Innovation and Engineering, Juan Sánchez, will be participating in the round table on 'Sustainability, infrastructures and climate change', organised by Suez.

### **ACTIVITIES FOR CIVIL SOCIETY AND THE PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABILITY**

During COP25, Canal de Isabel II will also offer general and specialised activities related to water management and the promotion of actions for combating climate change to the public outside the Ifema exhibition centre.

Firstly, on Tuesday 10 December, the Canal Foundation will host a seminar on 'Water and climate change: the experience of Madrid', which will discuss both the research on climate change in Madrid and the adaptation measures which are being implemented in infrastructures, as well as commitment to the circular economy and renewable energy. Registration for this seminar - in which Canal de Isabel II will present its strategy for combating climate change - is free and available through Canal de Isabel II's website, in the section created specifically for COP 25: [www.canaldeisabelsegunda.es/COP25](http://www.canaldeisabelsegunda.es/COP25).

From today, it is also possible to register for free guided visits to three of the most representative integrated water management facilities in the Community of Madrid: the El Atazar dam, the largest dam managed in the Madrid region; the Arroyo Culebro wastewater treatment plant, a model of energy efficiency and the circular economy thanks to its biogas-based electricity cogeneration and its water reclamation facilities; and the Control Centre in Majadahonda, a state-of-the-art facility which is used for the real-time control of all water management in the Madrid region.

Canal has incorporated a firm commitment to energy efficiency, the circular economy, the use of renewable energy and sustainable development into its present and future business strategy. Its Strategic Plan 2030 is aligned with the sustainable development goals and includes actions that not only aim to guarantee the water supply in times of scarcity but also to decarbonise Canal's activities, reduce CO2 emissions, commit to self-supply and clean and high-efficiency sources of energy, and reassess and make use of by-products as a fundamental line of support for the circular economy.

Canal de Isabel II was founded almost 170 years ago to supply water to the city of Madrid and today its more than 2,800 employees work every day to provide services to over 6 million people throughout the region. An innovative public company and a leader in its sector, it has gained international recognition for its integrated water management. The company operates 13 reservoirs, 78 groundwater abstraction systems, a 17,601-kilometre conveyance and distribution network, 131 pumping stations for drinking water and 133 for waste water, 15,083 kilometres of sewer system networks, 65 storm tanks, 157 waste water treatment plants and a 615-kilometre reclaimed water network.