**MEASURES TO IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY IN BILBAO. Summary**

**European cities have two main challenges when designing urban planning and urban renewal and rehabilitation processes. On one hand we have an obligation to move towards an inclusive city that guarantees the autonomy of movement of all people, without any difference on the physical limitations that they have; on the other hand the aging problem of our population increases mobility necessities and dependence . To meet these two challenges, Bilbao has adopted a strategy with three main areas: guaranteeing accessibility to public services, eliminating architectural barriers in public spaces and encouraging the installation of mechanical elements to ensure universal access.**

**In the first case, investments have been made in new materials (public transport systems, computer information systems, assistance systems in public buildings and sports centers) to ensure accessibility to services and public information.**

**In the second case, in all new developments, as well as in all the renovation and rehabilitation works carried out in different districts, we have done designs to provide  universal accessibility so that  gradually all the architectural barriers of the city are finally removed.**

**In the third case, we follow a dual track. On one hand we subsidize part and facilitate the removal of architectural barriers in private buildings as well as the installation of elevators in buildings that lack them, coming to expropriate spaces in ground locals or ceding public land for the installation of external structures to the property . On the other hand, we are promoting the development of public elevators and escalators for free to ensure internal displacement in neighbourhoods with large accessibility issues. We already have 30 mechanical structures in service and new projects for the coming years.**