



According to the evolution of the main social environment indicators growth is exceeding the island's capacity

Lanzarote's capacity is depleted. This is revealed by the study "Evolution of insular indicators (1996-2001)", carried out within the frame of the *Life Lanzarote in Biosphere 2 (2001-2004)* and whose objective is to analyse the evolution of the main social environment indicators in the recent past.

Although it is predictable that the unit of measures adopted in Lanzarote to restrain the tourist pressure growth will have a positive effect in the next years, **it seems vital to consider the process started by the Canarian Government on new politics of regional sustainability through the General Guidelines on Planning and Tourism, as an opportunity to try and improve the island's situation**, redoubling institutional and social endeavour to restrain real estate and tourist growth pressure on the island. At the same time it seems urgent to promote the practice of the remaining programmes defined 1998 in the *Lanzarote Strategy in the Biosphere*, as a complementary line to preceding measures and which tend to reduce impacts on the island caused by the population unit.

Synthesis of the Report: Evolution of insular indicators (1996-2001)

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Production:

Data Centre

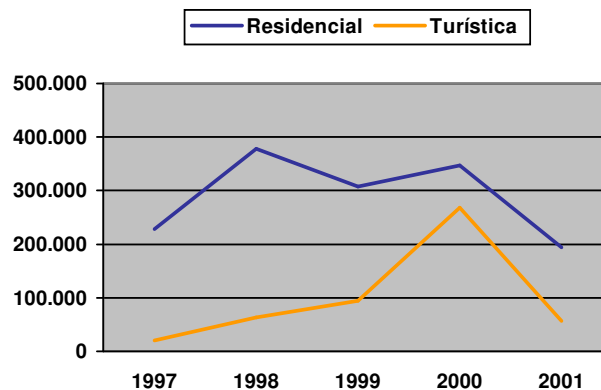
Lanzarote Island Government

CONCLUSIONS

The excessive growth of human pressure registered on the island within the analysed period (1996-2001) has revealed the extraordinary difficulty to control such a powerful process by using the adopted measures on a short term.

- The indicators of human pressure on the territory disclose facts that reflect the **overwhelming situation** that has been lived in Lanzarote in these years.
- Accelerated **town planning development** has led to a frantic growth in the building sector, with territorial impacts that significantly affect the fragile insular surroundings. Factors such as the coming into force of the euro, the RIC and the disappearance of the five year periods initially proposed in the Review of the PIO of Lanzarote have led to this situation.
- At present building pressure has started to become stable, but a study in-depth of the correcting measures applied is necessary (“insular moratorium” and “Regional Guidelines for Territorial Town and Country Planning), foremost bearing in mind the potential residential offer existing in tourist areas.

Diagram of visited surface evolution in Lanzarote



- In **demographic** terms in these years (1996-2001) the development of the so called “risk scene” which was mentioned in the *Lanzarote Strategies in the Biosphere* has become a reality.

- To the heavy population growth motivated by immigration flow together with the implied integration challenge, we have to add qualitative components such as numerous relative young people who pressure labour market (though until now work offer absorbs all the demand), on accommodation and increasing demand on goods and services (public health, education, etc.).
- Tourist demographic pressure, though less critical between 1996-2001, will predictably increase in the next years by occupation of the offer now under construction, and will provoke new direct and indirect impacts on the insular environment.
- As to the **economic** system, after the relative boom in the building sector during the analysed period, a transfer from this sector to hotel industry is expected as well as a stabilization of income *per head*.
- Lastly the low level of development of the lines of action and programmes contemplated in the *Lanzarote Strategy in the Biosphere* proves to be worrying, as it could to some extent have mitigated the negative impact generated during this phase, and it could to some extent contribute to divert unwished tendencies in the process of development in future (period 2000-2010).

As a final conclusion the fact should be raised that although predictably the unit of adopted measures in Lanzarote in order to restrain tourist pressure growth will be of positive influence in the next years, it is essential to consider the initiated process by the Canarian Government referring to new regional sustainability politics as an opportunity to improve the insular situation reinforcing institutional and social endeavours with a double goal.

- Restraining real estate growth and tourist pressure on the Island.
- Stimulating the putting in practice of the programmes contained in the 1998 *Lanzarote Strategy in the Biosphere* as a complementary line to the former, and which tend to reduce impacts induced on the Island by the population unit.

Both work lines should be instrumented on short, medium and long terms.

OJO:

Traducción del membrete (no me deja entrar):

Life Lanzarote in the Biosphere 2 (2001-2004)

Exploration of new lines of action, financing and taxation for the Reserve of the Biosphere

No puedo entrar en el gráfico: hay que traducir Residencial – Turístico:

Residential – Tourist