

This week, we received news of a resolution regarding the **stilt walkway project**, which is part of the **Guggenheim Urdaibai project**:

RESOLUTION BY THE DIRECTOR OF SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, ENERGY TRANSITION, AND SUSTAINABILITY

AGREEING NOT TO AWARD OR EXECUTE THE CONTRACT FOR:

"IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE UPPER ESTUARY OF THE OKA RIVER, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE RECOVERY, TRANSFORMATION AND RESILIENCE PLAN – FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION NEXTGENERATIONEU"
(EXP. DESMA/009/2024/0)

Background:

On August 8, 2024, the **Official State Gazette** published a notice from the **Basque Coastal Authority** regarding the **granting of a public domain occupation concession** for land stretching **from Punta Murueta to La Tejera**.

These are the lands that would be occupied by the **stilt walkway**, which is part of the **Guggenheim Urdaibai project**.

In response to this publication, the **Guggenheim Urdaibai STOP platform** submitted **two legal appeals** on **September 9, 2024**:

1. **Appeal against the stilt walkway project**, as its approval was **never made public**.
2. **Appeal against the occupation of public land** for the construction of the stilt walkway.

Additionally, the platform informed the **contracting authority (Basque Government)** on **September 11, 2024**, of the need to **suspend the bidding process** for the stilt walkway's construction.

In light of the recent developments, we wish to state the following:

- **MITECO** (Spanish Ministry for the Ecological Transition) has **revoked the occupation concession** for the public maritime-terrestrial domain in order to allow

former landowners—who had been granted an occupancy concession—the chance to present their case through a hearing process.

- These **former landowners hold a preferential right** to occupy those lands.
- The **Basque Government does not have secured access** to the land where it intends to build the stilt walkway. Therefore, it has **withdrawn from the public procurement procedure** related to that part of the project.
- The procedure has **not just been suspended**—it is considered **closed and terminated**, with **no contract awarded** to any party.
- If they wish to resume the project in the future, the **entire process would need to begin from scratch**.

The platform has **welcomed this decision** and has announced that it will **continue to act diligently** in any future proceedings that may arise.