

Spanish Network on Sustainable Mobility at Universities

2010



University

University of Cantabria CRUE (Spanish Universities Rectors Conference)

Country

Spain

Location

Not available.



Size

Not available.



Mobility Organizational Structure

Not available.



Summary

Spanish Universities, as engines for the economic and social change, work together to improve sustainability, social and economic aspects related to campus accessibility. Mobility has been diagnosed as one of the main aspects challenging university sustainability, efficiency and social integration. In that sense, The University and Mobility Group works to facilitate the production and exchange of useful information related to sustainable mobility policies implementation at Universities.



Aims

The aims of such work is to provide research on the fields of information and tools available for universities to design and develop their policies on mobility management. The main purpose is to facilitate information transfer with the final goal of reducing environmental, economic and social impacts related to mobility.



Stakeholders

As an association representing interests of universities, CRUE is in constant touch with the Government, the private sector and society.



Background

In the year 2000, universities integrating CRUE (76) decided to set up a specific commission to work on sustainability issues related to university activities. This commission was called CRUE Sustainability. Several working groups were created to work on different aspects of sustainability (sustainable buildings, sustainability and curricula, environmental indicators, sustainable university urbanism and university and mobility, among others).



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Description

The University and Mobility Group is integrated by 15 Spanish universities (coordinated by the Autonomous University of Barcelona). The main aims of the Group are to:

- Foster networking to improve mobility patterns associated with University activity as regards sustainability, equality and efficiency.
- Share criteria, methodologies, strategies and policies for the improvement of mobility in the university and its surroundings.
- Consider social and territorial characteristics of different types of universities within the definition of criteria and selection of information, methodologies and policies.
- Share and exchange of best practice.
- Produce documents and resources usable at all the Spanish universities.

To achieve these objectives, from the very beginning, the Group established an overall working plan which is then specified into actions every year. From this working plan, a work methodology comprising of two meetings per year included within the overall CRUE agenda, which take place at a different Spanish university in a rotary basis, along with permanent virtual working. The results of the previous tasks are shared with the other universities in the plenary session and via e mail after the meeting.

The first task tackled by the Group was the draft of the "Declaration on Mobility and Accessibility in Spanish Universities" which establishes a sustainable, efficient and integrative mobility framework as the goal to which of all Spanish Universities should aspire. The main strategic lines foster collective means of transport and promote reducing unsustainable use of the car. Awareness, information and participation were established as transversal strategic lines. This Declaration was approved by CRUE in 2011.

Once the policy was established, work focused on the production of materials to help universities in the implementation of their mobility policy. The main outcome of this work is the CRUE Mobility Website, which offers a glossary, a selection of bibliographic references, technical manuals, and other useful information. A more notable achievement is the catalogue of best practice, which collects examples of the different initiatives carried out by Spanish Universities, organised by their different strategic lines. This catalogue is useful for universities who seek guidance and practical examples, they can consult the remarkable information it contains and contact the mobility manager directly, to initiate dialogue or to implement new measures on sustainable mobility.



Indicators

No clear indicators are set. Outcomes can be intangible, e.g. contact and information sharing.

Results

Information produced by The University and Mobility Group has become the main reference source for Spanish universities when considering any actions related to Sustainable Mobility.

Expense

- Expenses related to CRUE functions.
- Expenses related to meetings (travel, accommodation).
- Personnel expenses.

Financing

- Financed by all the members via annual funding.
- Financed by universities through own operating budget.
- Financed by universities through personnel budget.

Findings

Networking is one of the most remarkable tools in policy implementation, mainly for two reasons:

- Managers can get useful information to implement their own policies (not only about technical aspects but, especially, about unexpected results, political barriers, effectiveness of some companies, etc).
- Policy makers are able to share with colleagues at other universities and encourage each other to implement policies.

Pictures



Links

<http://www.crue.org/SitePages/Universidad-y-Movilidad.aspx>

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