

Cycling related measures implemented in the framework of an integrated mobility plan for the Cracow University of Technology

2005

 **University**
Cracow University of Technology

Country
Poland

Location 
Urban centre

Size 
10,000-20,000

Mobility Organizational Structure 
None

Summary

Cycling related measures were introduced at Cracow University of Technology within the framework of an integrated mobility plan for the University, which was implemented as one of the activities of the EU CiViTAS CARAVEL project. The main aim of the mobility plan was to change the employees' and students' mobility behaviour towards sustainable mobility.

Implementation of the cycling related measures and other activities under the mobility plan have brought positive results: an increase in cycle commutes, but also in carpooling and public transport usage, as well as decrease in one-person vehicle trips:

- Bike paths connecting all University campuses.
- Increased number of bike racks.
- Location of notice boards with information related to bike racks.

Aims

- Change employees' and students' travel habits and increase the use of the sustainable transport modes.
- Reduce car parking needs at the University campuses.
- Reduce traffic congestion near the Warszawska St Campus.

Stakeholders

- Authority of the Cracow University of Technology.
- University students and employees.
- Krakow Transport Authority.
- Bike related organization.

Background

An integrated mobility plan, with some activities focused on cycling, was implemented at Cracow University of Technology to change the strong trend of increasing car ownership, especially among young people. Congestion was the main reason for time loss and the decrease in ease of accessibility for motorised transport, as well as having a considerable negative influence on the environment.

It was possible to carry out a plan as the University was one of the partners in an EU CiViTAS CARAVEL project.



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Description

The idea was to encourage employees and students to give up the car and choose sustainable options or, share space in a single vehicle, however, at the same time the conditions of public transport and for cycling were not good enough (e.g. lack of bike racks and bike paths).

Cycle paths

The design concept of cycle paths connecting all University campuses has been created and discussed with the Krakow Transport Authority. Some solutions have been implemented.

Bike racks

Before the mobility plan implementation there was a shortage of the bike racks at the University areas. Thus one of the solutions was to provide the University community with a sufficient number of the bike racks, as a result the number of parking places has been increased from 60 to 160.

Information notice boards

In the area of the Warszawska St. campus, near to main entrances, three notice boards were installed with the information about the location of the University buildings as well as the location of the bike racks.

Awareness activities

Additionally, many promotional and educational activities have been organised, such as bike 'happenings', the distribution of brochures,

leaflets and posters about sustainable mobility, the installation of information kiosks during University events as well as the organisation of workshops and training days, especially for students. The aim was to provide information about the mobility plan solutions, promote sustainable transportation, but also to increase the students' and employees' participation and get their ideas on ways to improve university mobility.



Indicators

- Modal split.
- Number of bike racks (parking places).
- Number of newly built cycle-ways (km).
- Number of event participants (workshops, happenings etc.).

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Results

The number of parking places for bikes has increased from 60 to 160 and employees and students are satisfied, considering it a sufficient number.

The number of the staff travelling to the University by bike has doubled.

The survey results have not shown an increase in the student bike travel although it has been observed that the number of students travelling to the University by bike was significantly higher than before the mobility plan was implemented. Because of the CiViTAS CARAVEL project requirements an ex-post survey was carried out in November (bad weather conditions) and in the opinion of the project team this can explain the lack of change in student bike travel noted in the survey.

Expense

The main costs of implementation were as follows:

- Cost of the bike racks: purchase and installation.
- Cost of the information notice boards: design, production and installation.
- Costs of the concept design work.
- Costs of the leaflets, brochures, posters, gadget design and production.
- Cost of events organization (room, catering, proceedings etc.).

Financing

- A large part of costs was covered by the CiViTAS CARAVEL project.
- Costs of implementation of bike racks were covered by University funds.

Findings

- It is very important to choose the right period for the survey to be carried out (especially in terms of bike travel). If it is not possible to carry it out in the spring or autumn or the weather conditions are bad, add questions related to trips made by users in a 'bike-friendly' season.
- It is a good idea to hire students to work together with you when carrying out the mobility plan. They can design solutions (e.g. cycle-routes), help in the events organisation, etc. The other option is to give them a problem to solve within the framework of the bachelor or master thesis.
- It is extremely important to cooperate with the Student Union body. They can help to publicise the mobility solutions and the events as well as influence other students' attitudes and behaviour.
- Good cooperation with the University administration and with particular university departments helps to make everything a bit easier and not meet with barriers resulting from the lack of the knowledge on why and for whom some of the activities are being implemented.

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 Pictures



Fig. 1. New bike racks

 Links

- http://www.caravel.forms.pl/index_eng.php?i=act&id=16

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