

University bicycle sharing service

2003

 **University**
University of Girona (UdG)
Country
Spain

Location 
Urban and Peri-urban

Size 
10,000-20,000

Mobility Organizational Structure 
Green Office

Summary

Agreement with local administrations for the concession of unused bicycles held in the municipal impoundment lot for the fleet of the UdG free bicycle sharing service for students, administration, services and academic staff.

Aims

- Offer a transport and mobility system that is an alternative to the private car for obligatory short trips (intra-urban).
- Implement a sustainable project for sustainable mobility.
- Provide a demonstrative system of sustainable transport.
- Simplify inter-modality between different means of transport.
- Publicise the individual and collective advantages of travelling by bicycle.

Stakeholders

Local administrations (Girona City Council., Salt City Council, Banyoles City Council).

Background

Not available.



Description

The bicycles were repaired and prepared by social economy associations and companies with projects for the insertion of groups at risk of social exclusion.

One share point on each University campus with a minimum number of bicycles available (35 on Montilivi Campus, 15 on Central Campus and 5 on Barri Vell Campus), the Campus Montilivi loan point also providing mechanics and a maintenance service as well as the possibility of self-repair.

The activities performed were:

- Agreement processing.
- Loan management and-follow up activities.
- Repairs and maintenance.
- Resolution of conflicts for non-compliance with the rules of use.
- Dissemination activities.

The materials used to implement this action were:

- Bicycles from municipal impoundment lots not reclaimed by their owners (55).
- Anti-theft security systems. One per bicycle.
- Registration books.

- Informative brochures.
- Informative panels.
- Web site providing information about the service.
- 1 collaboration grant for every-day management of the service on one of the campuses. Repair and maintenance of the bicycle fleet.
- Collaboration of concierges for the day-to-day management of loans on two campuses.

This action allows the recuperation of bicycles considered potential waste (environmental aspect of the sustainability), the collaboration with special work centres or social economy companies for the initial repair and preparation (social aspect), minimum economic costs, adding value to common goods (economic aspect), etc.



Indicators

- Reduction of CO2 emissions associated with use of the service compared to an unshared car: 7,344 Kg/year.
- Usage level: 1,360 loans/year.



Results

- Usage rate between 80% and 100%.
- 12 years of continuous operation of the service.
- Pioneering service for community and/or public bicycles.
- Reduction of CO2 emissions compared to other means of travel.



Expense

4,000.-€/year.



Financing

In-house resources of the UdG Environmental Awareness Plan.



Findings

The resolution of environmental problems and proposals for environmental improvements should be approached from a wide, cross-sectional perspective and focused on sustainability. The actions (in this case, improving mobility habits) must include benefits in different aspects (environmental, social and economic) and in this project the social aspect (integration of a collective at risk of social exclusion) is the most relevant added value, in addition to introducing waste (bicycles for scrapping) as a resource within the model of circular economy.

The concession of bicycles requires an agreement with local administrations (Girona City Council., Salt City Council, Banyoles City Council).

There is a variation of the service that consists of reserving bicycles (orange ones) for use other than access to the University for example: excursions, exclusive loans for visiting lecturers, congresses, conferences, etc...



Pictures



Fig. 1. Promotional material

 Pictures

Fig. 2. Repaired bicycles



Fig. 3. Facilities of the bicycle sharing service

 Links

- <http://www.udg.edu/tabid/20846/activitat=14>
- <https://www.udg.edu/oficinaverda/LinesEstrategiques/Mobilitat/VinealaUdGenbici/tabid/20804/language/ca-ES/Default.aspx/classificacio=7>

 Contact person

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