About Donostia – San Sebastián

Donostia-San Sebastián is a tourist and services city with thousands of visitors every year attracted by its beautiful coastline, architecture and gastronomy. The city is home to 180,000 inhabitants in a surrounding metropolitan area of 600,000.

The city has been enforcing a strong integrated policy in favour of pedestrians, bicycles and public transport. With its non-motorised transport network and several bus lanes, the city holds very high public transport and bycicle use rates.

The CIVITAS ARCHIMEDES project provides an opportunity to reach strategic results, such as the increase of walking and cycling, and the reduction of accidents and use of fossil fuels in public transport.

Infrastructure

Over the hill with vertical transport

Objectives / Innovative Aspects
- Implement five new elevators and one escalator in hilly parts of the city.
- Reduce barriers posed by topography to pedestrians and cyclists.
- Encourage citizens to change mode.

Expected Results
- Reassert the high level of pedestrian mobility at 47%.
- Increased bicycle use by 30%.

Technology

Real-time bus traveller information

Objectives / Innovative Aspects
- Increase the reliability and availability of real-time travel information.
- Provide information in busses, via sms and online.
- Make travel information accessible to the visually impaired.
- Increase the number of public transport passengers.
- Determine and transmit vehicle location wirelessly.
- Implement a passenger counting system.

Expected Results
- Increased passenger numbers by one Million by 2012.

Innovation

High Quality Bus Corridors

Objectives / Innovative Aspects
- Implement two high quality transport corridors.
- Realise dedicated platforms and reprogram traffic lights controls to ensure public transport priority.
- Enhance the feeling of security by the installation of security cameras inside the busses.

Expected Results
- Increased total number of annual public transport users by 5%.
- Reduce the number of cars entering the city centre through the CIVITAS corridors by 5% compared to the 2006 level.

City Contact

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Donostia – San Sebastián participates in the CIVITAS Initiative for cleaner and better transport co-financed by the EU.