# IMPLEMENTATION OF GREEN MOBILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES IN THE CIRCLE U. UNIVERSITIES

CIRCLE U. STAFF WEEK 2022





## Sustainability and green mobility at HUB

### Initiative 1 (Green mobility): Green travel top-up

• For program generation 21-27: 50€ per student

► Wins: Increase awareness, Extra Travel Stipend for students

Challenges: The beauraucracy around this for a relatively small amount of money



## Sustainability and green mobility at HUB

### **Initiative 2 (Sustainability): Vegetarian dining halls**

• Since summer 2021, with increasing options of vegan meals

Gains: Student-led, high level of acceptanceChallenges: ??





**Sustainability** and green mobility at King's College London



What is one (or more) sustainability initiative(s) you have implemented (or is in the process of implementing?) in your university/office?

COLLEGE-WIDE

- Climate Action Strategy
- Sustainability team
- Sustainability Champions

#### GLOBAL MOBILITY OFFICE

- Away day
- Webpage
- Sustainable / slow travel grant
- Personal agency

# What are / have been the biggest challenges and easiest wins?

### EASIEST WINS

- Linking sustainability with social justice
- Reduction in promotional materials

#### **BIGGEST CHALLENGES**

- Trying to reduce flying when you live on an island!
- Committing time to developing sustainable resources and initiatives

## Sustainability and green mobility at UiO

UiO took initiative to establish UNICA Green, a group for sharing and developing best practices in the UNICA network.

Developed a comprehensive action plan for climate and environment

Recently published new website on sustainable development: <u>https://www.uio.no/om/strategi/berekraftsmal/</u>



## Sustainability and green mobility at UiO

### **Biggest challenges**

- Travel frequency, specially for staff.
- Oslo's location.

### Easiest win





## Student led innovation – some green examples

#### Walkway - local mobility

**Sustainability Day** 

**Epleslang** 



ect in CityStudio Oslo, where students placed lighting along a walkway to ndern, encouraging citizens of Oslo to do a bit of walking. (Foto: OsloCity



# Sustainability and green mobility at the University of Belgrade

- 1) Online mobility platform (in-house) to reduce the paperwork necessary for mobility
- 2) Encouraging the participants to use green travel opportunities (car polling, travelling by bus or train when possible)

2) What are / have been the biggest challenges and the easiest wins?

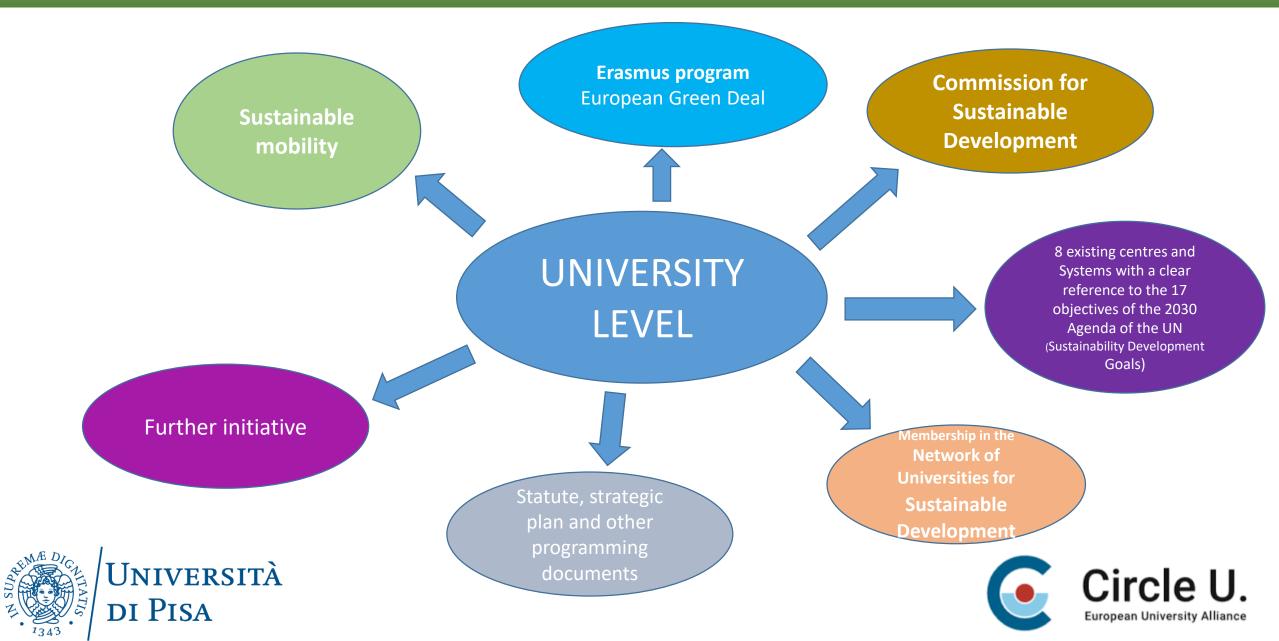


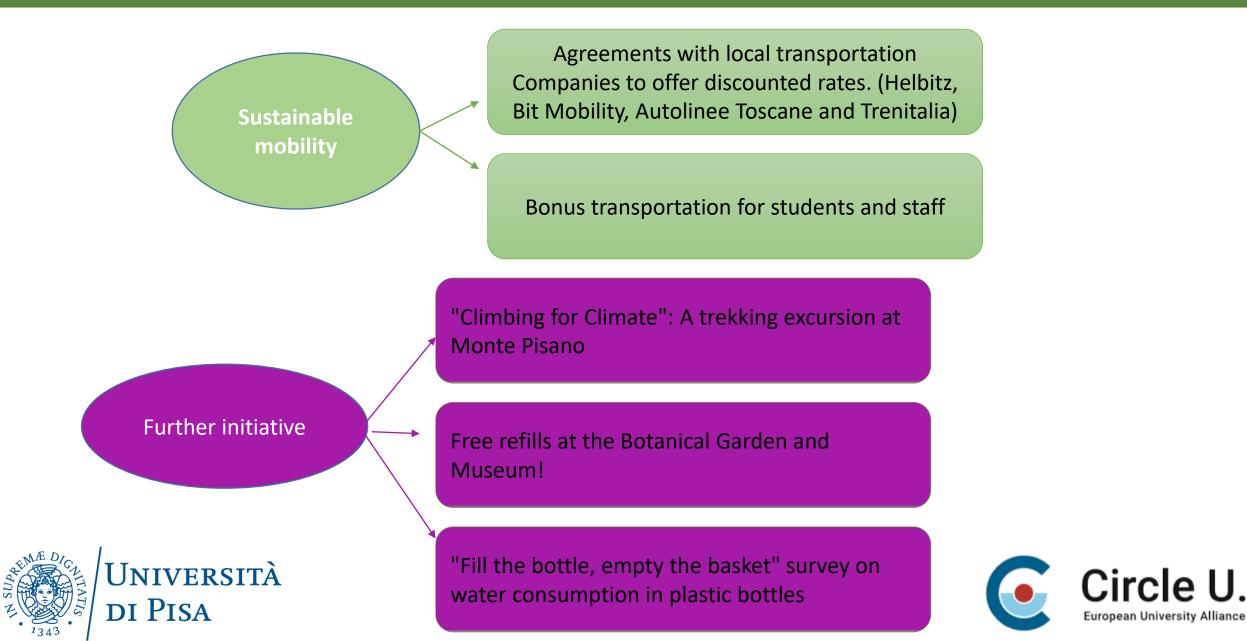
# Sustainability and green mobility at the University of Belgrade

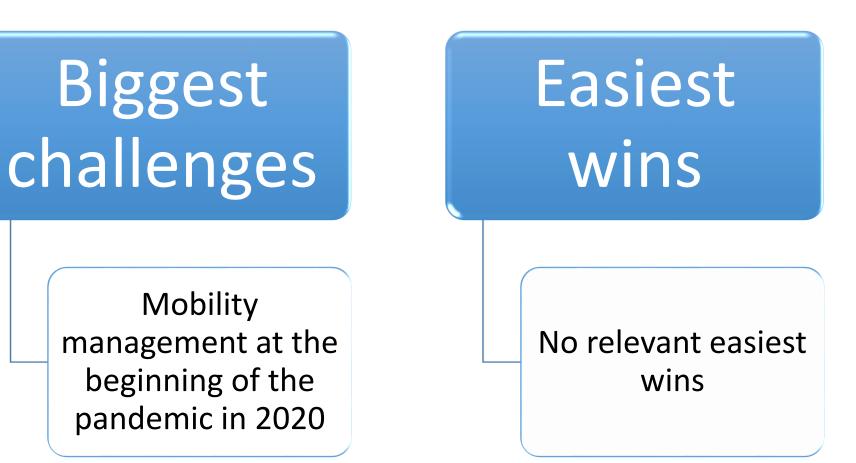
What are / have been the biggest challenges and the easiest wins?

- When it comes to reducing the paperwork the biggest obstacle are requirements from other offices within and institutions outside UB
- Biggest challenge is distance and lack of adequate connections for participants to benefit from green travel opportunities
- ≻There are no easy wins at UB (we fight hard and die hard)!













# Sustainability and green mobility at the University of Vienna

- Paperless applications for student mobility programs (incoming and outgoing)
- Paperless orientation sessions (incoming students)/info sessions (outgoing students)
- In process of implementation: website on sustainable stay in Vienna
- Wins: easy transition to digital materials/communication, students interested in topic
- Challenges: transversal topic –> good communication required

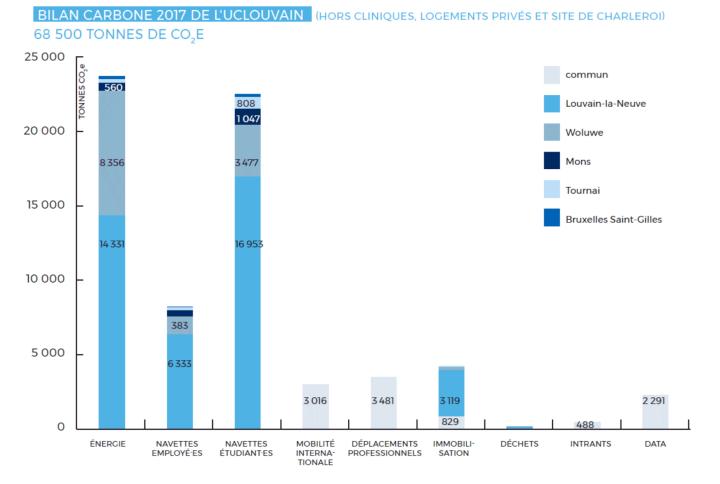


1) What is one (or more) sustainability initiative(s) you have implemented (or is in the process of implementing?) in your university/office?

- For two years, we have approved a transition plan on eight themes at the University with 90 actions that are being implemented. Charter on responsible international travel validated by 90% of the institutes, all info here: <a href="https://uclouvain.be/en/discover/university-transition/mobilite-internationale.html/">https://uclouvain.be/en/discover/university-transition/mobilite-internationale.html/</a> <a href="https://uclouvain.be/en/discover/university-transition">https://uclouvain.be/en/discover/university-transition</a>
- 8 bachelor test Programmes for the inclusion of sustainable development learning outcomes. Courses and Programmes related to transition issues can be consulted on the Education4Climate website, which lists them on the basis of an algorithm. As of March 2022, 136 courses at UCLouvain are listed, as well as 190 teaching units.
- Times Higher Education (THE): Graded by the TES for the first time, UCLouvain was immediately ranked first in Belgium, and between 101st and 200th position compared to 1,115 participating universities worldwide. UCLouvain came at the top of the table in several areas:
  - UCLouvain excels in terms of innovation (28th place worldwide, score 97.5/100) thanks to publication and promotion of its research (patents, spin-offs) in fields related to sustainable transition
  - UCLouvain's second best score was in terms of health and well-being for the work carried out by the student support service, its inclusion policy, and the broad social assistance offered by UCLouvain (mental health, support); and collaborations in the field of health (Univers santé, collaborations with healthcare institutions)
  - > UCLouvain also scored high in terms of sustainable and non-discriminatory working conditions (decent work and economic growth)



• In 2019, the university was screened using ADEME's bilan carbone<sup>®</sup> benchmark method. Knowing your carbon footprint is the essential first step in any institution-level energy-transition initiative.





In the framework of Erasmus+ intra-European mobility, students who choose an ecofriendly means of transport (train, bus, carpooling, boat) for the journey to and from the destination city can benefit from additional funding, which includes:

- >a one-off contribution of €50;
- > up to max. 4 additional days funded by their grant to cover any extra travel days

Means of transport considered to be eco-friendly and sustainable include train, bus, carpooling and bicycle.

- 2) What are / have been the biggest challenges and the easiest wins?
- Probably the most important challenge is the availability of human resources to implement the projects in the different administrations.



### Faculty of bioscience engineering

- Development of new partnerships (Circle U, CircleChem project and others), post-graduation internship Erasmus+, development of double-degree programmes (MIS-SOL, GEM recently), electronic newsletter sent each year to our partners including our programs and our admission process, information to our students about the study mobility possibilities, information to our Professors about the teaching offers we receive from our partnerships.
- Information to our outgoing students about the green top-up advantages for their trip: students are made aware of this during information sessions.



# <u>Questions for group work</u>

Do a round on your thoughts about the iniatiatives just presented, and what has inspired you:

- 1. Which **low hanging fruits** do you see that could be easily implemented by you/your office /your university?
- 2. Dream scenario initiatives if you dream big? What are the possible obstacles/barriers to the implementation of these?

How could the obstacles/barriers be dealt with?

## <u>GROUPS</u>

Group 1 Franziska Grimm

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