





CONTENT AND RESULTS

Purpose and context

Information sharing and awareness raising on sustainable mobility practices targeted to secondary education students in hundreds of towns in Greece. Students are motivated to learn, influence and change urban mobility behavior and practices among youth and adults. Students develop presentation skills, ability to interact with different society groups and with the local and regional authorities, focusing on mobility and alternative transport issues.

Problems and challenges

Problems

- Conventional mobility planning framework with no room for integration of innovative participatory approaches
- Difficulty to connect to social groups with unsustainable travel choices and behaviours Challenges
 - Action based on voluntary participation
 - Budget and time (based on school year periods) constraints
 - Non-intrusive teaching and guiding of students
 - New ways to approach eco-mobility concepts and challengers in a changing environment after a long period that the programme has been active

Organizing, Supporting and Funding Entities

Funding: ECOMOBILITY actions are developed mainly by volunteer work offered by ECOCITY members and the parties involved representatives. Communication Sponsors promote the campaign during the preparation and implementation period, private sector sponsors cover all the budget expenses in kind and financially and a European MP host the first prize student team in Brussels.

Approval: Ministry of Education

Auspices: Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure, Ministry of Internal Affairs & Governance, Ministry of Health

Scientific support:

National Technical University of Athens-Lab of Sustainable Mobility and volunteers from the scientific and academic community

Judging Committee: Representatives of 40 associations and bodies

Process (including participant recruitment & selection) and Interaction/Participation (including methods/tools used

ECOMOBILITY includes three actions:

a) Ecomobility projects carried out by Secondary Education students,

b) Freemobility projects carried out by Special Schools Students and

c) Eco2mobility projects carried out by adults attending Second Chance Schools.

The participating school teams consist of 8 students each coordinated by one or two teachers. The local authorities' leaders are informed by the organizers about the students' tasks and are invited to facilitate their work and to commute the presentation upon completion.

Students' projects and suggestions are presented in the pupils' towns during spring through events in which a multitude of local authorities representatives participate. Representatives of scientific organizations, civil bodies and local authorities offer their valuable help during the school projects preparation and evaluation processes. There are two levels of judging the students works with 20 different criteria.





The Awards Ceremony takes place in Athens, the capital city of Greece, in spring or through the use of an Internet Platform. Representatives of various political and local authorities as well as environmental, educational and scientific institutes are among the audience of the award ceremony. The first award for secondary education schools is an educational trip to the European Parliament in Brussels, for Second Chance Schools a Trip to a Smart Town and for Schools with Students with Special Abilities the first award is a Sea Track Visit to a beach. Furthermore, four school teams that have excelled in creativity-artistic topics win four trips to ECOCAMPS. All the above trips take place in the summer.

Outcomes, Effects and Lessons Learned

Outcomes:

- City/neighbourhood experiments and studies conducted by students
- Social media networking
- Dissemination material (such as videos, press releases, online information, local events etc.)
- Presentation and awards event
- Educational trips

Effects:

- Suggestions regarding measures related to carbon dioxide and pollutants emission reduction, climate change confrontation as well as the extended use of bicycles and electric vehicles
- A lot of school students' suggestions and solutions over mobility matters have been taken into consideration by the local authorities and have been implemented, recognized as inspired and well leading improvements to tangible mobility practices.

Bibliography

https://www.ecomobility.gr/wp-content/uploads/ecomobility_web_2021.pdf

