



Navarra drives electric vehicle transition with a new public-private initiative

Government: Navarra, Spain

Region: Europe

Sector: Clean transportation

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Summary

A large-scale switch to electric vehicles will impact not only the transportation sector, but also a wide range of sectors, including the information and communication technology industry, the energy industry, and infrastructure and mobility services. Putting this in relation to the existing industrial capacities and expertise in the region, the Government of Navarra set up the **NaVEAC platform** in Spring 2017. The platform convenes participants from the public and private sectors, including research centers, local and regional authorities and over 60 companies. It is coordinated by the regional development agency SODENA and led by a Steering Group of 12 members. Over the next two years, as more companies join, NaVEAC is expected to progressively become more company-led.

Within its first few months of existence, the platform has identified 15 priority actions to implement over the next two years, covering four thematic areas:

- **Sustainable mobility** in public transport, taxis, company fleets and private transport, also including e-bikes.
- **Public and private charging infrastructure** – including infrastructure management and an efficient integration with the existing energy system and renewable energy sources.
- **New business models and opportunities for the local industry**, with the aim to build up local supply chains – from electric vehicle components manufacturing to mobility services.
- Making Navarra a **lead state** by attracting investments and projects of innovative multinationals, as well as enabling the emergence of new businesses around technological innovation, such as autonomous vehicles.

In 2017, Navarra developed a **Smart Specialization Strategy (S3)** to ensure sustainable development of the region that builds on the economic and technological strengths of its local industry. The Navarra S3 identified 24 key challenge areas to address by 2020, the first of which was electric mobility. As a result, the NaVEAC platform was set up in early 2017.



Results

Some of the platform's initial results include:

- **Fiscal incentives for consumers and companies (up to 30%)** covering the purchase of electric and hybrid vehicles and the installation of charging infrastructures, coupled with the [Navarra Emisión Cero](#) awareness campaign on the economic and environmental advantages of electric vehicles. The number of new electric vehicles increased by 82% between 2017 and 2016.
- The development of **fleet conversion plans for companies** through Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) analyses, based on vehicle types and uses. These analyses identify the most cost-efficient way to convert company fleets and the appropriate public support schemes to facilitate the transition. 30 TCO analyses have already been conducted, two companies switched their fleets and an additional 20 are considering doing so in 2019 when a new government grant becomes available.
- **Company visits to original equipment manufacturers (OEM)** to identify collaboration opportunities. For example, in April 2017, 53 companies visited Vectia, which manufactures 'evolutionary electric buses', that can be purchased as hybrids and converted over time to become fully electric. Vectia will be the supplier of a full electric bus line in Pamplona.

Other expected results for 2019:

- A full line of electric buses in the state capital of Pamplona, set to launch in March 2019.
- The installation of 40 rapid and semi-rapid charging points in Pamplona.
- Vertical market studies to identify new business opportunities around electric vehicles.
- A 'good practice' guide and a working group for sustainable mobility in public fleets have both been implemented. There are currently over 20 electric vehicles in the public fleets and that number is expected to double in 2019.

Challenges

- **Adapting infrastructure to install fast-charging points.** Fast-charging is not only key in overcoming range anxiety concerns for consumers, but also for taxi drivers, public fleets and buses.
- **Addressing the needs of citizens for whom installing a charger is problematic.** For example, solving this issue for those living in shared residences or without off-street parking.
- **Integration with the energy system.** Navarra is a pioneer in the production of renewable energy. To ensure that the switch to electric mobility does not have a negative impact on the energy system, it is critical to understand how and when the batteries of electric cars will be charged. Electric vehicles could be used to level the grid during period of high or low demand and to integrate even more renewables.

83%

of Navarra's electricity comes from renewable sources, putting the region in an ideal position to reduce emissions through a large-scale transition to electric mobility

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[More information](#) (Spanish only)

This case study was developed as part of the [Under2 Zero Emission Vehicle \(ZEV\) Project](#), which supports state and regional governments to increase the number of zero emission vehicles on their roads. The Under2 ZEV Project is implemented by The Climate Group, as part of the Under2 Coalition, with the support of the Scottish Government.