WECOUNT

Live traffic counting by citizens

WeCount is a two-year project that wants to work with local citizens and community groups to explore urban mobility challenges. **www.we-count.net**

WHERE IS WECOUNT RUNNING?

The WeCount project will carry out five different pilot studies in six EU cities / regions: Leuven, Belgium; Madrid / Barcelona, Spain; Ljubljana, Slovenia; Dublin, Ireland; and Cardiff, Wales.

We have chosen these cities as they represent diversity. Each city / region has its own unique transport challenges that reflect local demographics, social practices, geographies, existing policies, available infrastructures, local capacity etc.

WHAT IS THE AIM OF WECOUNT?

The aim is work with citizens to quantify local road transport, produce new knowledge on local mobility, and co-create informed solutions to tackle various road transport challenges such as speeding, rat-running, peak episodes, air pollution, active travel etc. We want local citizens to help us design the project that meets their local transport challenge.

WHAT IS THE CONCEPT OF TELRAAM?

The concept is very simple – a sensor, called a Telraam, in combination with a low-cost computer, is placed in an upstairs window with a clear view of the road. The sensor counts cars, large vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians and can also assess car speeds. The data is open access (so freely available for anyone to download) and can be viewed on the sensor data dashboards. We work with local communities to establish these sensor networks in their neighbourhoods and then facilitate local workshops and discussions to utilise this data and local knowledge to address the key challenge(s) that the community is interested in... **By the way, the Telraam sensor is FREE!!**

CAN ANYONE HAVE A TELRAAM SENSOR?

Not necessarily. The sensor needs to have a clear, unobstructed view of the road (i.e. no trees, telephone poles etc). Also, the sensor is ideally located in the middle of a road segment as it works best with free flowing traffic. If you cannot have a Telraam sensor then we still want your help with data interpretation, analysis, co-creation of solutions etc. The more insights, perspectives and knowledge we can bring to the project the better!
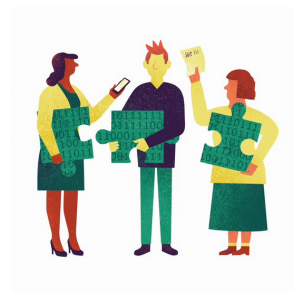
WHAT IS THE WECOUNT PROCESS?

Stage 1: Bringing communities together to create a common understanding of the local urban mobility challenge.

Stage 2: Working with communities of users identify local needs i.e. how can WeCount help answer my local transport problem.

Stage 3: Collecting and sharing data using Telraam sensor to address the specific local challenge. We will also facilitate workshops and provide community support variety of tools such as a helpdesk and community channels (e.g. Facebook, Nextdoor etc.).

Stage 4: Analyse and discuss among stakeholders to identify areas for action and impact. This is done by organising events where participants work together to co-create, plan and deliver courses of action such as public-facing activities aimed at widening awareness and cross-actor policy discussions.

Stage 5: What transferrables lessons have we learned? What are the next steps to sustain our communities beyond the project lifetime.

WHY CARDIFF?

Cardiff has its own unique transport challenges and has a number of ambitious plans for the future. People coming in and out of the city, and moving within the city, for work, leisure, education and shopping impact the city's transport network substantially. While Cardiff may be the main focus, we are very happy to work with communities outside of Cardiff. If you are in Cardiff or the surrounding local authorities and would like to participate then please sign up **here**.