

Spain

Working group on climate change and resilience in roads



TYPE OF TOOL
Capacity building



MAIN SECTORS
Transport



THEME
Resilience



INFRASTRUCTURE GOVERNANCE PILLARS
Evidence-informed decision making

In a nutshell



OBJECTIVE: The Transversal Working Group on Climate Change and Resilience in Roads aims to ensure a more resilient transport network by providing guidelines for incorporating climate change considerations into all phases of the road life cycle



Agency in charge
Center for Studies and Experimentation of Public Works



Levels of government
National



Year of implementation
2021



Current status
Fully operational

Overview

With increasing effects of extreme weather events and climate change on infrastructure, it is important to evaluate the adaptation needs of infrastructure to climate change to ensure that it is resilient. Spain has established the Transversal Working Group on Climate Change and Resilience in Roads (Grupo de Trabajo Transversal sobre Cambio Climático y Resiliencia en Carreteras) which will be co-ordinated by the Center for Studies and Experimentation of Public Works (Centro de Estudios y Experimentación de Obras Públicas or CEDEX), under the Ministry of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda. This group is constituted as a neutral, objective and independent forum, where technicians, both from the public sector and private companies, with competences in different territorial areas, will address different issues in relation to the best way to adapt the Spanish road network to climate change and achieve a more resilient network, in a changing environment and in which it is necessary to act quickly. For the study of the effects of climate change, the group aims to advance knowledge of the effects of climate change on roads and integrate climate change resilience into decision making at all stages of a road's life cycle (from planning and design to operation and maintenance). It aims to advance a methodology in which the different managers can be supported for informed decision making as well as quantify through objective variables the costs of extreme events in the network and the advantages of implementing preventive maintenance. In addition, it will facilitate the particularization and application to the Spanish road network of the knowledge generated by CEDEX after its participation in various research activities such as the CLARITY project. The CLARITY research project, funded by the European Commission is aimed at deepening the knowledge of the adverse impacts of climate change on transport infrastructure through the use of climate prediction models.

REFERENCES:

- Ministerio de Transportes, Movilidad y Agenda Urbana (2021), *El CEDEX coordinará un nuevo grupo de trabajo sobre cambio climático y resiliencia en carreteras*, <https://www.mitma.gob.es/el-ministerio/sala-de-prensa/noticias/mar-23032021-1152>