

Social Research Call

Title:

Transport poverty in Spain – A data-driven assessment



Acronym: TRAPS

Project leader: Jens F. Peters

Host organisation: University of Alcalá

Main purpose of the project: TRAPS will assess the spatial effects of the vehicle fleet electrification in Spain. It aims at providing a comprehensive understanding of the territorial implications of transport decarbonization policies, offering insights into how these can be designed to be both effective and socially just.

Design/methodology/approach: TRAPS uses AI-supported data processing to develop a vehicle stock-flow model that tracks the spatial distribution of vehicles over time. Combining this with data on vehicle emissions allows to assess the effectiveness of the vehicle fleet electrification and corresponding subsidies, the influence of socioeconomic indicators (such as income levels) and their contribution to achieving the objectives of the European Green Deal.

Potential results: TRAPS will generate quantitative evidence on the effectiveness of the vehicle fleet electrification regarding decarbonisation, and on its spatial correlation with income, contributing to the corresponding societal debate. By providing a web interface with open access to the developed, continuously updated data, it empowers interested stakeholders to build on and to further develop its results.

Social relevance of the research: By identifying potential social injustices in the deployment of electric vehicles and recommending measures for improving, TRAPS is expected to increase the societal acceptance of vehicle electrification and to accelerate the urgently needed mobility transition. As such, it will help to define better tailored and socially just policies for fostering the transition towards a zero-emission transport system.

Originality/value of the project: TRAPS challenges existing paradigms in vehicle decarbonisation policies (i.e., subsidy-based approaches) by questioning their efficacy towards achieving the targets in terms of emissions and territorial justice by applying an innovative, highly interdisciplinary approach and a strong stakeholder empowerment component.