

STATE BICYCLE STRATEGY

9 October 2025

International Conference on
Greenways as a Tool for Sustainable
Industrial Tourism

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INECO

MITMS commissions INECO to provide
technical support to the Bicycle Office
(DGEM20250007)



ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES VOIES VERTES
EUROPEAN GREENWAYS ASSOCIATION
ASOCIACIÓN EUROPEA DE VÍAS VERDES



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1. State Bicycle Strategy



Period: June 2021- May 2026.

- The Ministry of Transport and Sustainable Mobility is responsible for promoting and monitoring.
- **5 strategic priorities:**



- Advancing **sustainable mobility** through a **modal shift to cycling**.
- **Promoting** healthy living through **active mobility**.
- **Harnessing** the potential of **cycle tourism**.
 - “To make Spain a benchmark destination for national and international cycling tourism”
- **Promoting** and protecting **cycling leisure and sport**.
- **Coordinate the action of the State** in promoting the bicycle.



- **10 thematic areas**, 28 blocks of action and **151 actions** concerning other Ministries, Autonomous Communities and Local Administrations.

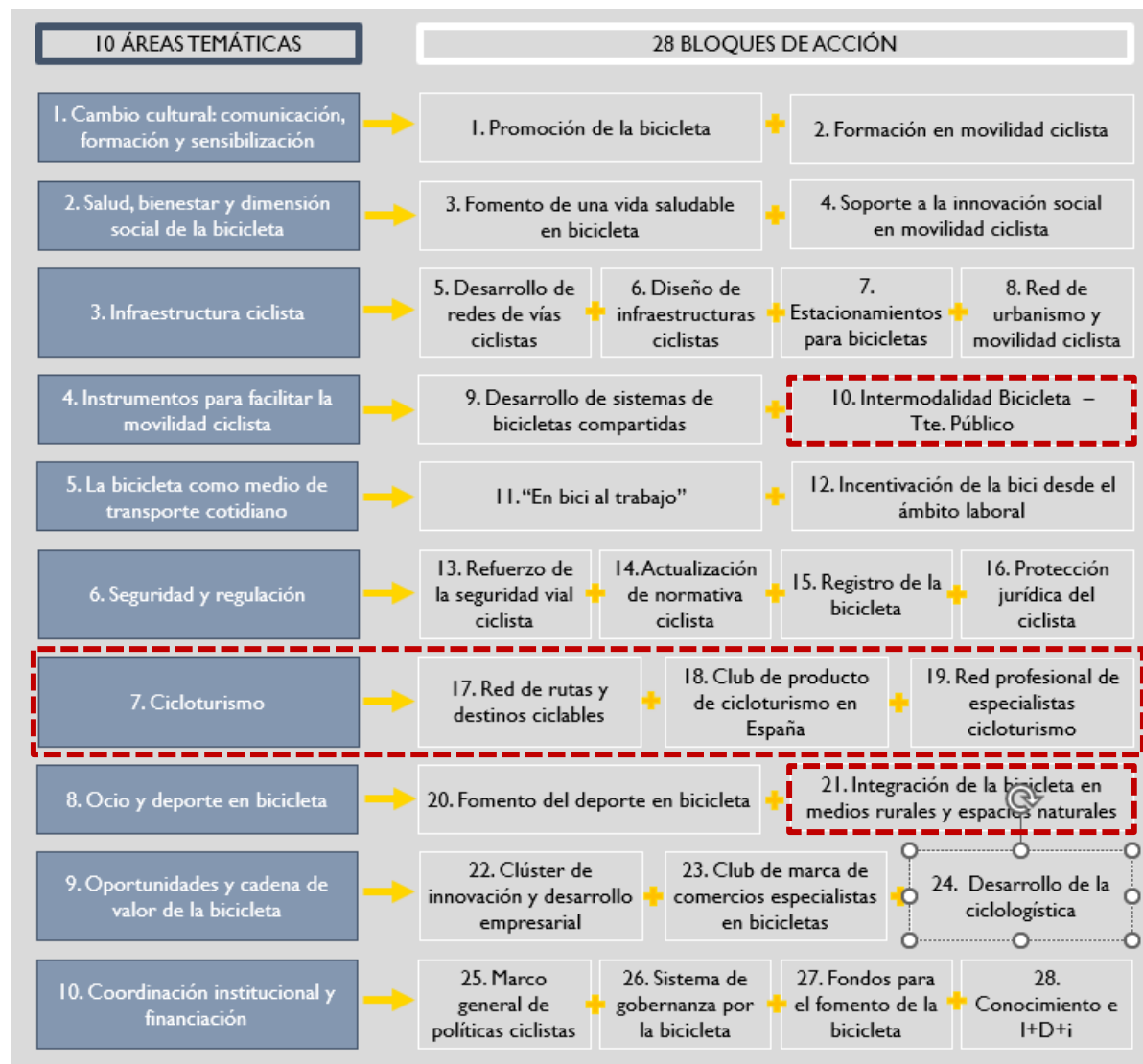
1. State Bicycle Strategy



Main actions (falling under the remit of the Ministry of Transport and Sustainable Mobility):

- Preparation of a **guide to designing cycling infrastructure** for everyday travel, leisure and tourism purposes → **completed**. An update is planned for 2025/2026.
- **Awareness and information campaigns** on the benefits of cycling → **completed**
- Website featuring cycling routes in Spain (in collaboration with IGN) → **completed (publication: June)**
- **Establishment of a Bicycle Office** at MITMS to channel and coordinate all the work envisaged and act as a focal point -> **completed (with formalisation of the assignment)**
- **Improvement of cycling safety** through various measures → **ongoing**
- **Aid programmes to promote cycling** → **ongoing**
- **Support for the design and implementation of bike sharing systems** for local councils and businesses --> **ongoing.**
- **Promotion of bike-train intermodality** → **ongoing**
- **Guide to sizing bike sharing systems** → **ongoing**

1. State Bicycle Strategy



1. State Bicycle Strategy



Blocks and actions related to **cycle tourism**

- **Block 17. Network of cycle routes and destinations**
 - Publication of an open data portal on cycle routes
 - Promotion of the restoration and conservation of infrastructure for cycle routes.
 - Studies on the cyclability of routes
- **Block 18. Cycle tourism product club in Spain**
 - Creation of a product club in Spain
 - Founding congress of the product club
- **Block 19. Professional network of cycle tourism specialists**
 - Study of opportunities and mechanisms for economic return from cycle routes
- **Block 21. Integration of cycling in rural areas and natural spaces**
 - Promotion of cycle tourism in rural areas
- **Other related blocks:**
 - Intermodality between cycling and public transport

Website “Spainbybike” + high-quality cycle routes

“Pedal Spain” project, part of the programme “Spanish Tourism Experiences” run by the Ministry of Industry and Tourism.
+ Cycling tourism fair in Zaragoza, 12–14 September

“Spanish Tourism Experiences” programme run by the Ministry of Industry and Tourism.

Technical instruction on bike-train intermodality

2. Cycling tourism projects by MITMS in 2025



Website for cycling routes in Spain
(www.spainbybike.es)

High-quality cycle touring routes

Technical instruction on intermodality bike-train



2.1. Cycling tourism projects by MITMS in 2025



WEBSITE FEATURING THE MAIN CYCLING ROUTES IN SPAIN (www.spainbybike.es)

- **Contributors:** IGN y RFEC
- **Launch date:** 3 June 2025
- **Objective:** to integrate the main interurban cycling routes for cycle tourism, recreational cycling and everyday mobility in Spain, currently scattered across different portals, into a web viewer.
- **Routes included:**
 - From various promoting entities: FFE (Greenways), MAPA (Caminos Naturales), ECF (Eurovelo), autonomous communities, provincial councils, etc.

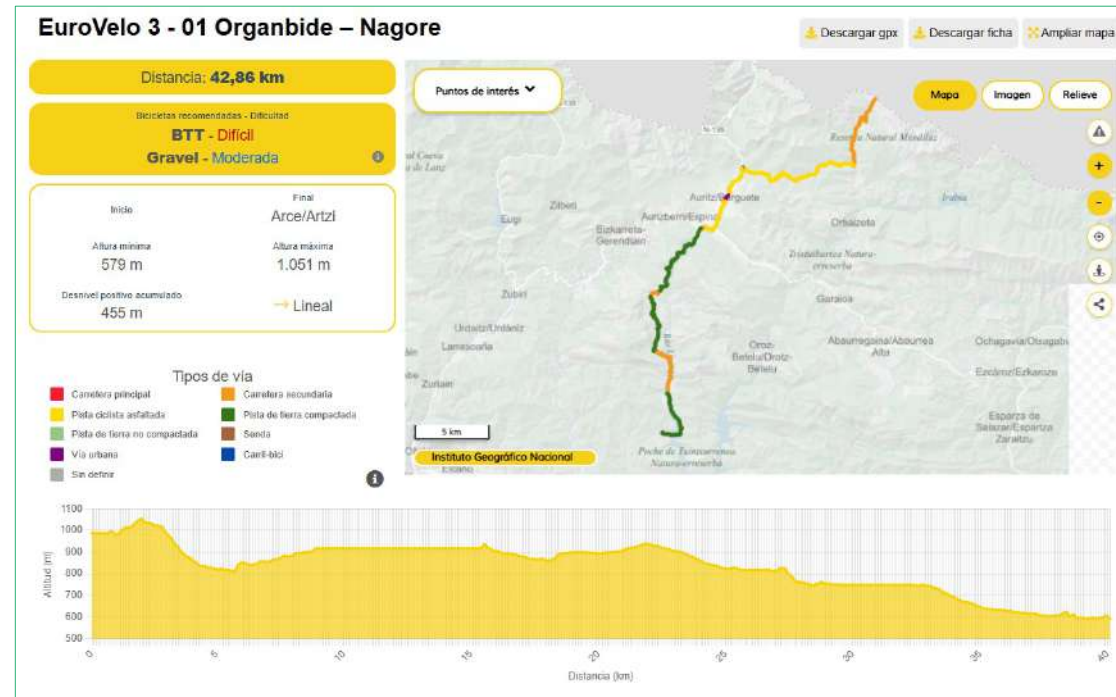


2.1. Cycling tourism projects by MITMS in 2025



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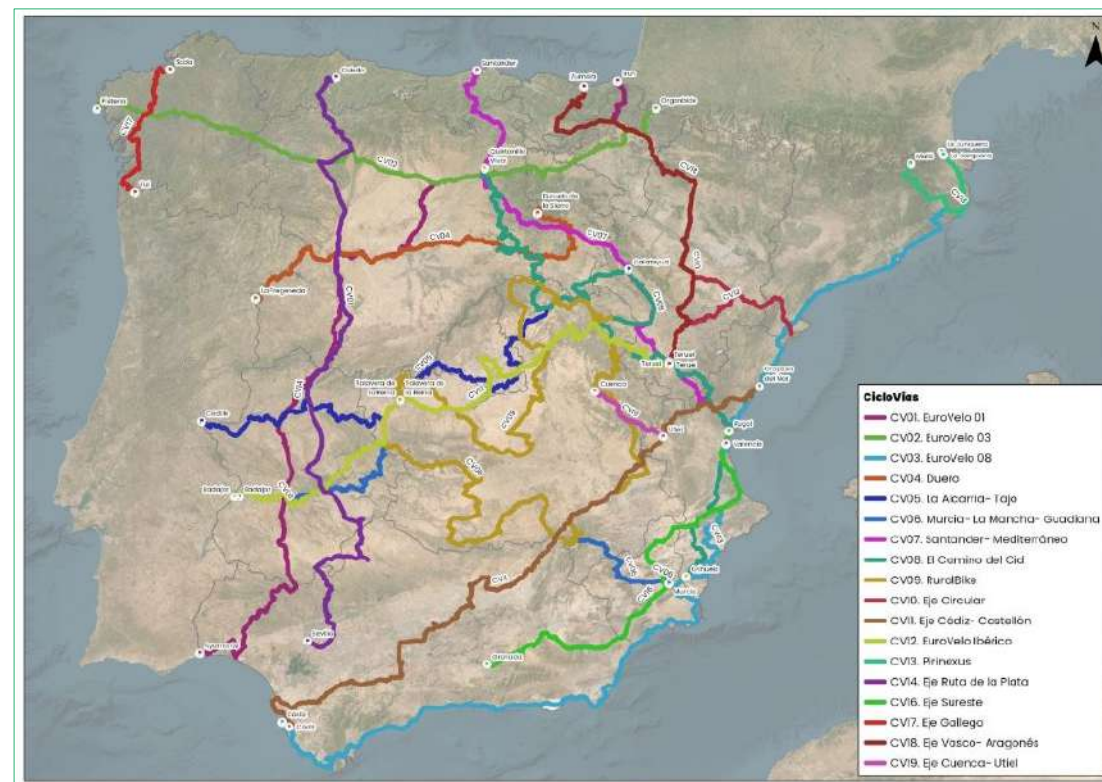
- **Types of routes:** routes/stages, long-distance routes (>600 km), mountain bike areas and mountain passes.
- **Viewer data:**
 - ≈ 12,000 km of routes, 74 mountain passes, 65 mountain bike centres and 9 long-distance routes (> 600 km)..
- **Information:**
 - Basic: length, elevation gain, etc.
 - Classification of route type
 - Difficulty according to type of bicycle
 - Route description
 - Other information of interest::
 - Points of interest
 - Public transport stations
 - Health centres
 - Service areas/petrol stations
 - Points of special interest



2.2. Cycling tourism projects by MITMS in 2025

HIGH-QUALITY CYCLE TOURING ROUTES

- **Objective:** to identify **quality standards** for cycling routes, **select** a major long-distance cycling route and **adapt it to these standards**.
- **Steps:**
 1. **Identify** the main long-distance cycle tourism routes ✓
 2. Establish **quality criteria** for cycle tourism routes ✓
E.g. gradient, scenic and cultural appeal, services (hotels, restaurants, bicycle repair shops, etc.)
 3. Compile all the necessary layers of information ✓
 4. **Classify the routes identified in point 1** according to their compliance with the quality criteria ✓
 5. **Select a long-distance cycle tourism route**
 6. **Call for tenders** for the adaptation of the selected route



2.2. Cycling tourism projects by MITMS in 2025



HIGH-QUALITY CYCLE TOURING ROUTES

• Methodology

- Based on the ECF's European Certification Standard, with some adjustments:
 - Adapted to the need to assess short-term routes (office-work)
 - Relaxing some criteria



Types of cycle tourists:

→ Regular

→ Occasional

→ Demanding

Fuente: European Certification Standard. Quality criteria for long-distance cycle routes.

2.2. Cycling tourism projects by MITMS in 2025

HIGH-QUALITY CYCLE TOURING ROUTES

Stage-by-stage assessment: 12 criteria

Infrastructure	Services	Promotion
Slope	Accommodation*	Web information
Public Transport*	Rest areas*	
Surface type and width	Bicycle services*	
Motorised traffic volume	Booking offer	
Attractiveness* (natural or cultural points of interest)		

* The **maximum distance** to be taken into account in relation to a service is **5 km**

Route assessment

Assessment result	Description	Calcification
Meets all quality criteria	The entire route meets the criteria established for regular and occasional cycle tourists.	*****
Meets quality criteria	The criteria established for regular cycle tourists are met throughout the entire route. At least 70% of the route meets the criteria established for occasional cycle tourists.	****
Meets quality criteria for regular cycle tourists	The entire route meets the criteria established for regular cycle tourists.	***
It meets most of the quality criteria for regular cycle tourists.	At least 70% of the route meets the criteria established for regular cycle tourists.	**
Does not meet the quality criteria for regular cycle tourists.	The criteria established for regular cycle tourists are not met along 70% of the route.	*

2.3. Cycling tourism projects by MITMS in 2025

PROMOTING BIKE-TRAIN INTERMODALITY

- Through a **technical instruction** establishing:
 - A minimum number of **bicycle spaces on trains**
 - The regulation of **bicycle parking facilities at stations**

Applicable to railway operators and railway station administrators of the RFIG..



3. Next State Bicycle Strategy (2026-2031)

In development preliminary work carried out before drafting:

- ‘Preliminary Public Consultation on the 2026-2031 State Bicycle Strategy’ completed.
Ended on 7 April 2025 ⇒ **40 submissions.**
- Planned schedule for drafting: **January-June 2026.**



Thank you for your attention!



Encargo de la DGEM del MITMS, a la Sociedad Mercantil Estatal Ingeniería y Economía del Transporte S.M.E. M.P., S.A. INECO, adscrita a dicho ministerio, para las actuaciones de apoyo técnico a la Oficina General de la Bicicleta (DGEM20250007)



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