

Introduction

The University City was established in 1927 as a comprehensive project to bring together education, science and culture. After eighty-two years, the Moncloa Campus project once again strives to take the lead by rising to the challenges posed by the 21st century, namely those of the knowledge triangle and sustainable development.

This ambitious yet realistic project is presented jointly by the Complutense University (UCM) and the Technical University of (UPM), together with other partner institutions located on the Campus, such as CIEMAT, the CSIC and the INIA. Its main purpose is to transform the Moncloa Campus into an **international reference** in research, education and innovation.

The project is structured as a **collaborative agreement** between the partner institutions guided by the following strategic themes: achieving scientific excellence and internationalisation; guaranteeing connectivity and integration; converting the Campus into a sustainable system that will foster student employment and contributing to innovation and development. Our aim is to create a plural and participative campus, inspired by the transforming power of diversity, exchange and dialogue; an efficient campus with a transparent governance, open to all its members and institutions, as well as to interaction with the wider social, economic and cultural fabric.

The Campus has established **five specialist thematic clusters** in order to achieve scientific and teaching excellence: Global Change and New Energies, Materials for the Future, Agri-food Industry and Health, Innovative Medicine (i-Health), and Heritage. The distinctive strengths in each of these clusters combine to create unique configurations due to their innovative and interdisciplinary nature, which are highly competitive on a European level and capable of producing decisive advances in knowledge transfer.

Connectivity is the key element in the process of integration. The Campus provides for the interconnection between researchers and the institutions associated with each cluster with a coordinating structure of its own, as well as for the interdependence of the clusters by means of a general governance system.

The Campus, the people living in it and the city, all within the bounds of the city of Madrid, will be the main beneficiaries of this project. The Moncloa Campus defines itself as a sustainable, health-aware and socially responsible campus. The project includes specific actions focused on restoring its landscape and architectural and cultural heritage, as well as on optimising its didactic potential and its use as a leisure facility for citizens. The project also aims to optimise energy consumption, to promote sustainable transport and to improve well-being and coexistence. The Campus will provide full access for persons with disabilities, offer equal opportunities, promote gender equity and foster talent and development cooperation.

The Moncloa Campus incorporates diverse institutions and is based on multi-disciplinarity and horizontality; it aims to attract students and researchers from across the globe, with their particular languages and cultures. It also has, as one of its main scientific objectives, the protection of the environment. In short, the Campus is firmly committed to **Diversity as an Innovative Energy** to achieve excellence and sustainable development.