

13th UIC Sustainability Conference



TOURIST TRAINS AND SUSTAINABILITY

Balancing the Books for Our Future!

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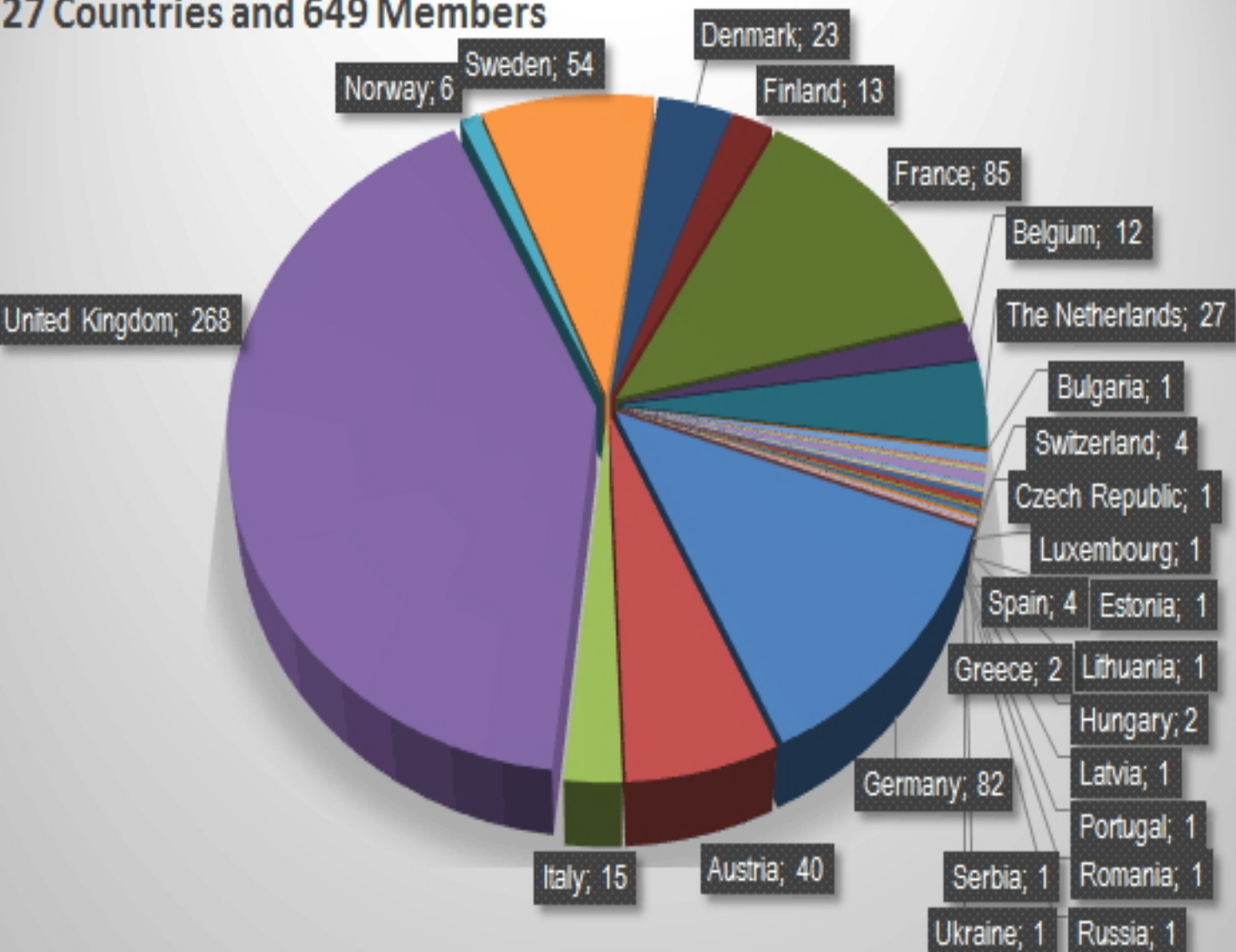
Why FEDECRAIL?



- Inaugurated as a non-profit association under Belgian law in 1994 as a reaction to EU policy to open the state railways to competition.
- Members own and operate tourist and heritage trains on their own tracks as well as other's tracks and comply with safety legislation.
- Accredited as a Representative Body at the European Rail Agency (ERA) in 2014.
- Youth Exchange Programme for skills transfer.



27 Countries and 649 Members



Tourist Railways Worldwide



- **WATTRAIN** - World Association of Tourist Trams and Trains
 - 8 National and Regional Organisations (including USA)
- **APHTRO** – Asia Pacific Heritage & Tourist Rail Organisation
 - 14 Organisations including National Railways
- **ATRRM** – Association of Tourist Railroads & Railway Museums
 - Represents US Tourist Railroads and Museums



Sustainability for Heritage



- Economics –
How do we afford it?
- Community –
How do we contribute positively?
- Environment / Conservation –
How do we make it better?
- How do we make sure that we are still a successful business in 20/50/100 years.....?



A Case Study from Wales



- **Ffestiniog & Welsh Highland Railways**
- FR a tourist railway for over 60 years (22km).
- WHR a new build(2011) of closed railway to give tourist access to Snowdonia National Park (40km).
- Two railways linked together with a common vision.



Economic Sustainability



- Aim to survive on the income we generate.
 - Target a “safety net” of profit for the unexpected.
 - Result = An operating Sustainable railway.
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- Missing - extra restoration investment - stations.
 - Project Source = Grants, Donations, Volunteers.
 - Result = Conservation of the Heritage Assets



Community Sustainability



- Cultural role in demonstrating regional heritage in an area that is strongly Welsh and Welsh speaking.
- Skills training and experience for young people.
- Pride on their past and active participation in their sustainable future.
- Employment and sustainability of heritage skills.
- Bought in services supporting local employment.
- Strong basis for grants to enhance sustainability.
- Estimate £15,000,000 contribution to the economy.



Environment and Conservation Sustainability



- Safe access to Special Areas of Conservation.
 - Appreciate Natural Biodiversity in National Park.
 - Major part of the Historic Landscapes.
 - Result = Minimising adverse environmental impact
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- These Railways are a living survivor of the Victorian Era which brings a major responsibility to ensure their Sustainability. Everything that is done has Sustainability in mind!



Sustain Gwynedd and Wales!



In Kent all here are Sustained!



Industrial Life to 1969 : Tourist Life for 47 Years

