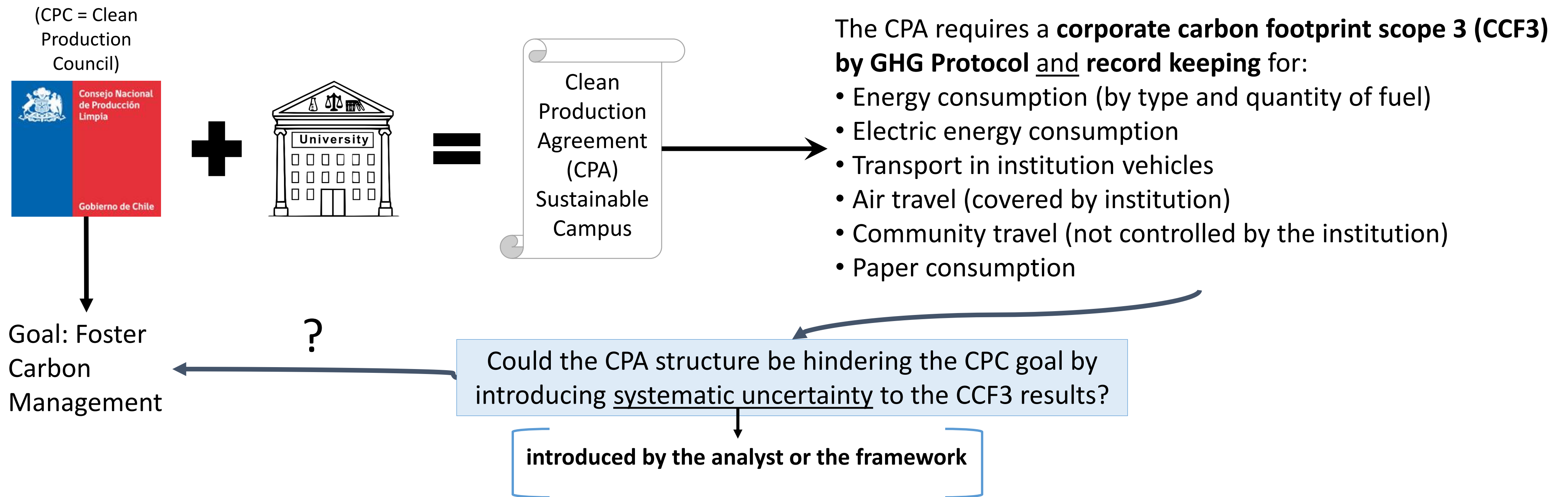


# Source of systematic uncertainty in corporate carbon footprint of universities

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Systematic uncertainty, footprint, public policy



## Goal, Scope and Methods

**Goal:** Evaluate the effects of using only CPA requirements on CCF3 materiality.

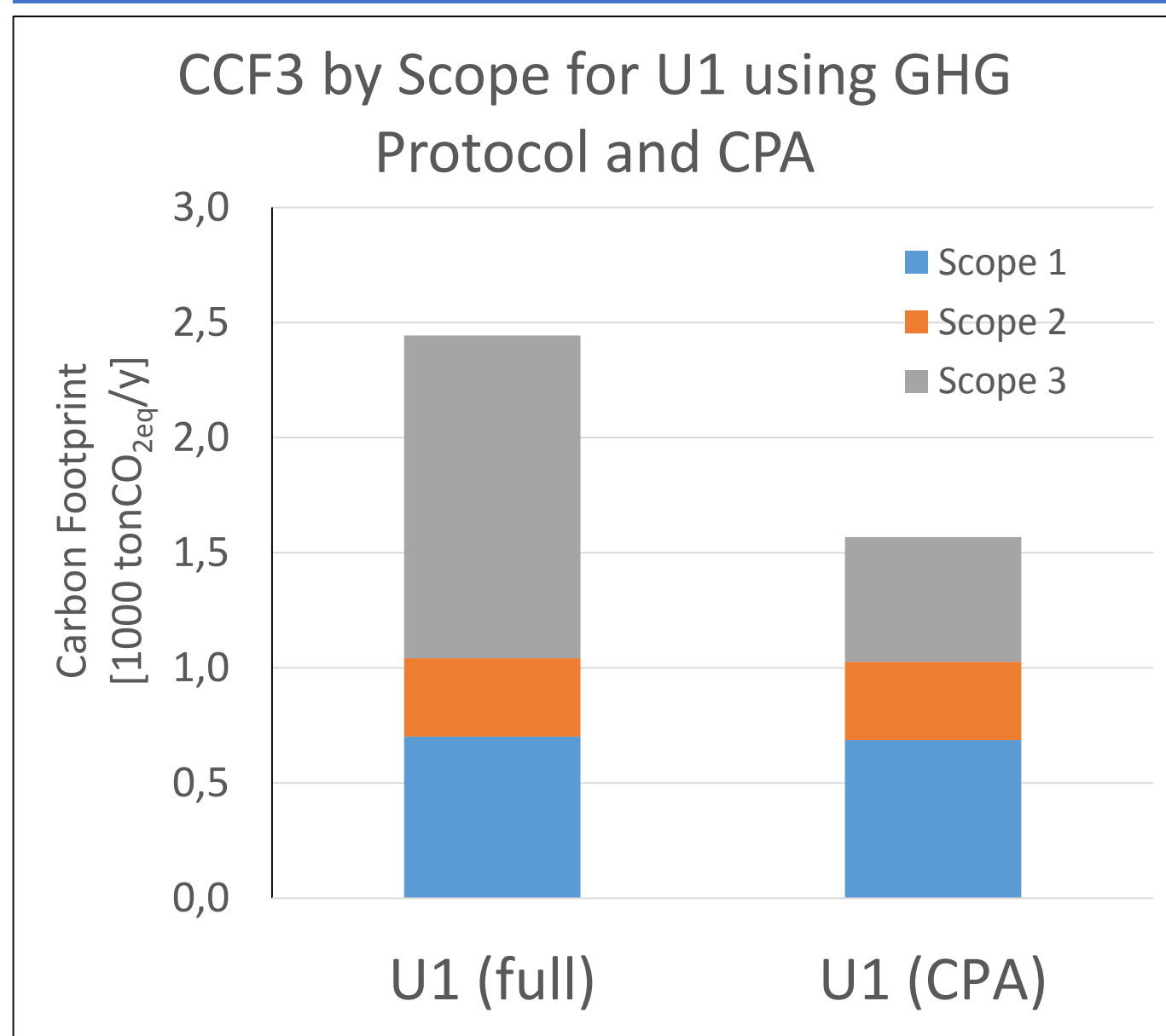
**Scope:** Chilean universities in the Sustainable Campus CPA, with calculated CCF3 results.

**Methodology:**

- GHG Protocol with operational control.
- Analysis over results of three universities: U1, U2, and U3.
- Omissions of GHG Protocol and CPA requirements

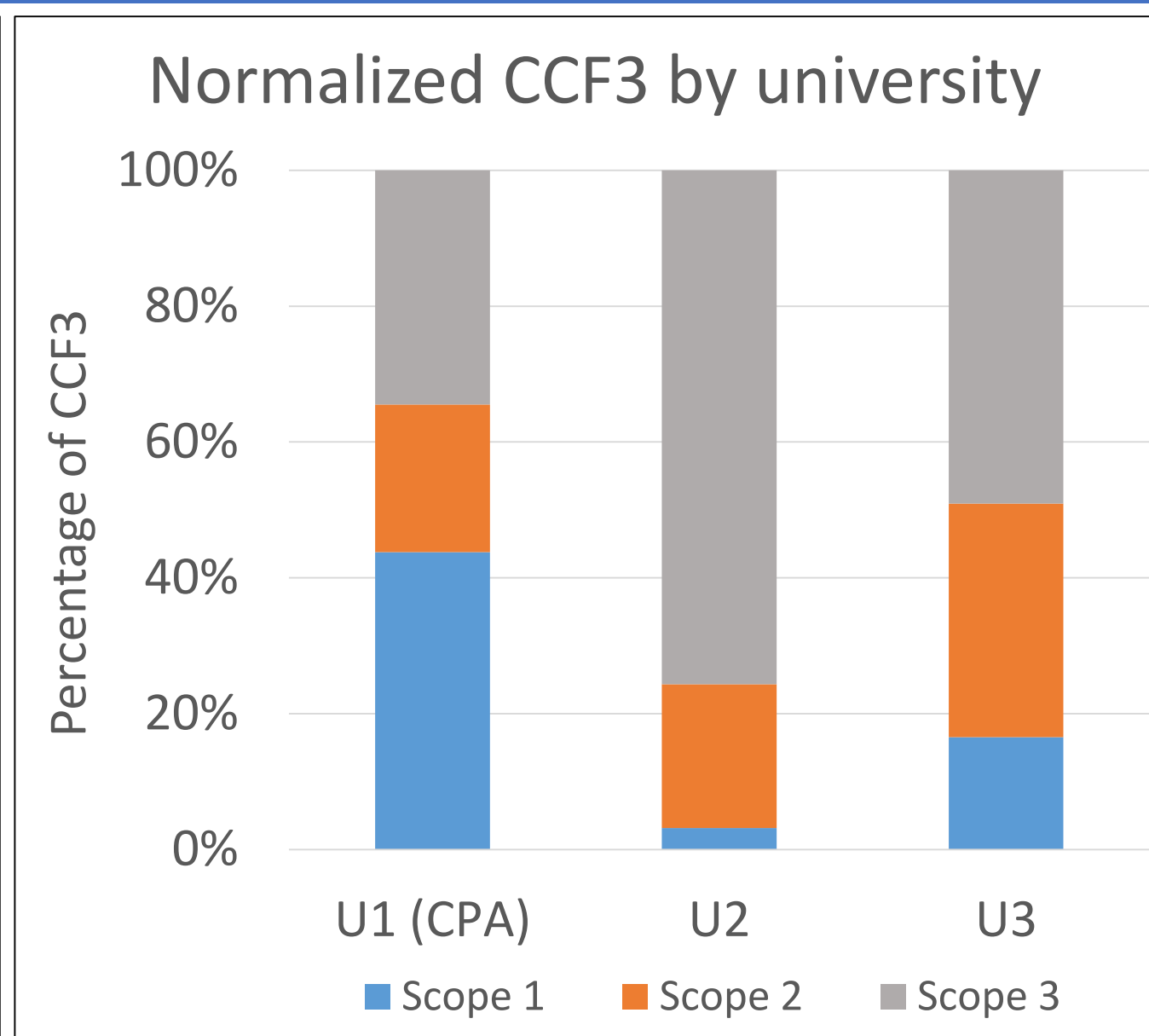
Study description	U1	U2	U3
Community (# people)	≈800	≈33.000	≈1600
Method	Full GHG CPA	CPA	Full GHG
Scope 1 omissions	None	Fugitive emissions	None
Scope 3 omissions	Waste	Paper consumption (incomplete) Food in diner	Food in diner

## Results and Discussion

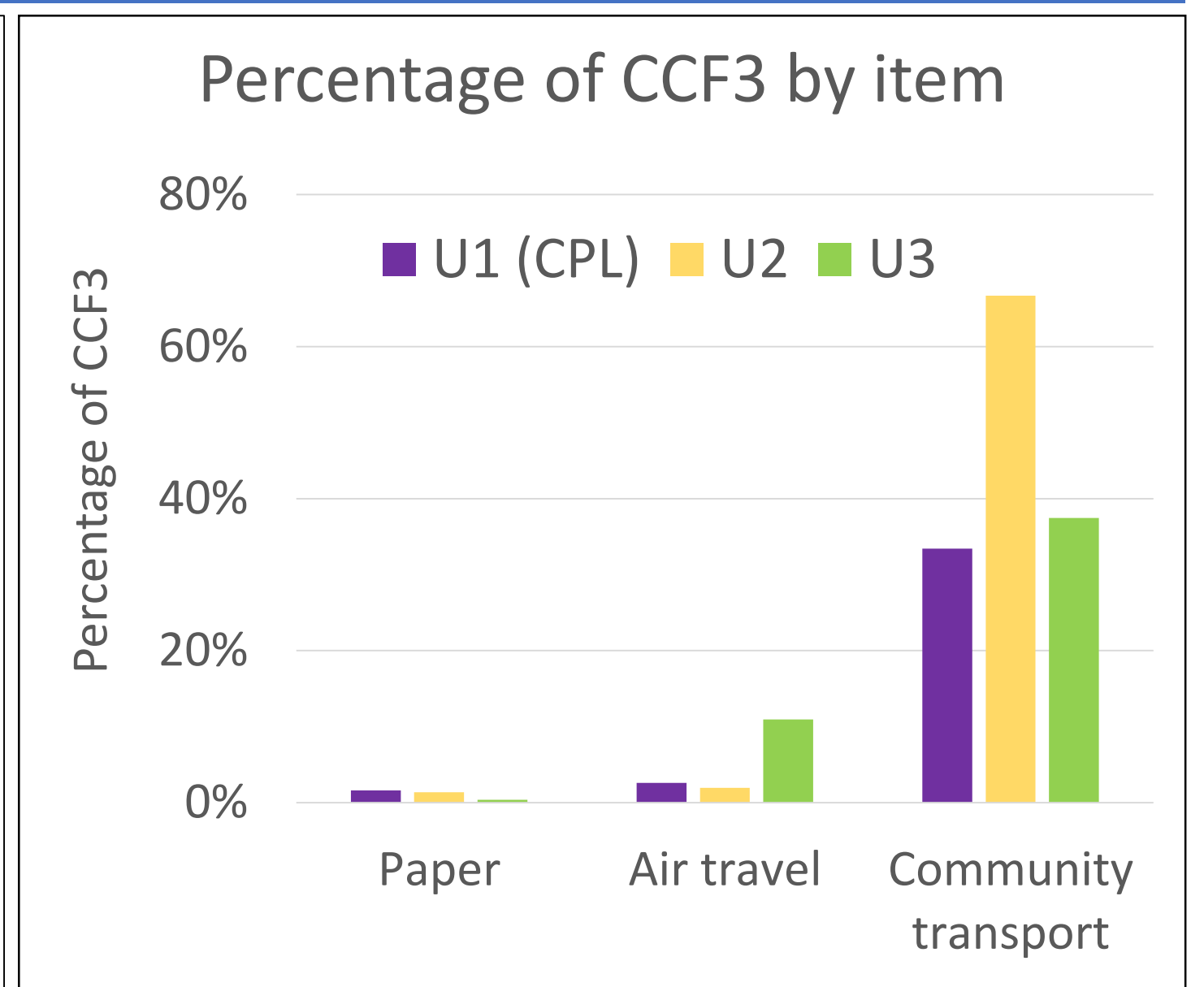


**Only considering CPA requirements caused an underestimation of results,** which may result in different conclusions and management strategies.

**Missing in CPA?** Food (34%), chemical products, packaging.



**¿How does control approach affect decision taking?** Some universities control all of their emissions, others have subcontracts. E.g.: diner, heating, transport. **Population and placement:** community transport marks a spike in scope 3 for U2.



**Some categories require much time to measure, but are not relevant to results** High effort in obtaining low impact data (paper) takes time from getting the significant information (air travel).

## Conclusion

**CCF3 of universities may be underestimated in over 30% due to systematic uncertainty** (exclusion of category). This uncertainty **hinders** action on **most effective** sustainable consumption options, affecting carbon management and missing the CPC goal.

**Recommendations:**

- **Be comprehensive:** do an assessment of relevance and coherence for categories before drafting the agreement
- **Be specific:** requesting record keeping does not mean leaving out method requirements
- **Goal oriented:** request information that will allow for real (and efficient) carbon footprint management
- **Consult with local experts** to validate the method and cooperate in implementation

**Note:** When shown the results, a CPC regional director indicated that the CPC is in the process of learning and incorporating sustainability tools into the agreements.

## References

More info on Sustainable Campus APL

More info on this poster and references