

# **Developing and Implementing a 2050 Roadmap to Climate Neutrality**

### Brasov, Romania

#### IN A NUTSHELL

The historic city of Brasov has bold ambitions to become the 'Green Capital of Romania' and a model for urban climate transition in the Central-Eastern European Region. Building on its 15-year-long engagement with the Covenant of Mayors, the city is one of the first in Europe to publish and implement an ambitious roadmap to achieve climate neutrality by 2050.



## A City at the Forefront of Local **Climate Action**

Brasov was one of the first signatories of the Covenant of Mayors - Europe. The city was one of the first to successfully submit a Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP), in which it aimed to reduce its CO2 emissions by 20% compared to 2008 levels. The city reached this target with a 34% CO2 reduction even before 2020.

Brasov further expanded its voluntary climate commitments in 2019, and once again in 2021 when, in line with the European Green Deal, the city announced a plan to reduce CO2 emissions by 55% before 2030 and to reach climate neutrality by 2050.



## The 2050 Roadmap to Climate Neutrality

This roadmap was developed as part of the Horizon 2020 project TOMORROW. Its ambition is to serve as a pilot for energy transition efforts across European and territories. To ensure that local stakeholder groups were actively involved in the creation of the roadmap, the city established a Transition Team...



Mayor Coliban presenting the 2050 Roadmap to Climate Neutrality

#### **BRASOV**



**Population:** 253,200

Area 267.3 km2

**Signatory** to the Covenant of Mayors since:

CO2 emission reduction target:

2008

55% by 2030 & 100% by 2050



...This team connected and facilitated cooperation between key actors in the areas of local energy provision, public transport, public lighting, district heating, waste, and research.

The main goals of the Brasov's roadmap are:

- Ensuring that the city's energy transition is inclusive and fair
- Engaging in a participatory planning process to put citizens at the centre of deciding on the city's future
- Transform Brasov into a national and regional model for climate transition.



#### 34%

reduction in total CO2 Emissions since 2008

#### over 75

Public Buildings using exclusively renewable energy

## The First Steps Towards Implementing the 2050 Roadmap

Hoping to make Brasov the 'Green Capital of Romania', Mayor Allen Coliban recognises that the city has to lead by example, and 'the attitude it shows towards sustainable energy is crucial'. Accordingly, the city is making clear and tangible commitments to decarbonise its electricity supply. The city signed a contract to buy sustainably generated electricity for over all of its 75 publicly-maintained institutions and the local ski resort. It has also successfully negotiated with its local energy supplier to dramatically increase the use of green energy in the city's residential energy provision while ensuring that this transition of the local energy mix does not translate into increased costs for consumers. In the coming year, the city also hopes to exclusively use renewable energy in its public facilities, including all state schools, all municipal offices, and its entire public lightning system.

2021 also saw Brasov piloting its first public prosumer project. Working together with the Romanian Renewable Energy Producers' Organisation (PATRES), a Brasov City nursery installed an extensive photovoltaic system. According to PATRES' Vice-President Martin Moise, this will allow the nursery to produce approximately 6.6 MWh of electricity each year. This will bring the proportion of the nursery's self-consumption to over 70% and reduce its annual energy costs by over 20% - a model that the city hopes to replicate across publicly-maintained schools, offices and nurseries.

#### USEFUL LINKS

- ► Agency of Brasov for the Management of Energy (<u>ABMEE</u>)
- ► Tomorrow Project Brasov



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