

About the Project

This handbook was created as part of the project "Support to the Implementation of the Just Transition in the Czech Republic." The objective of the project is to contribute to implementation of a broadly understood just transition in the so-called coal regions, particularly support drawing upon the Programme Just Transition (PJT). The project application was submitted by the Ministry of Regional Development (RE:START Department). The project is part of technical assistance (TSI – Technical Support Instrument) from the EU programme of the same name. The technical assistance includes research surveys, organisation of information and education events and transfer of good practice. The project is implemented by the Frankfurt School of Finance & Management (part of the AARC consortium) in cooperation with the Prague University of Economics and Business (VŠE), Czech Technical University in Prague (ČVUT) and BeePartner.

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About the publication

This publication was created as an inspiring support material for stakeholders in regions with an industrial coal history. The main objective is to provide an interesting and wide overview of projects in the Czech Republic (Czechia) and EU that can serve as inspiration to further develop coal regions. The projects present possibilities and strategies for the transition towards sustainability and improvement of inhabitants' living conditions. The publication is focused on four key areas of transition:

Regeneration and decontamination of brownfield sites and land restoration

Projects in this area focus on the environmental improvement and reclamation of historic mining sites and contaminated sites for society. They also emphasize support for the transformation of disused or little used structures and the improvement of their economic capacity.

Energy poverty

Energy poverty is a widespread societal problem. This report lists numerous examples of long-term solutions to challenges associated with energy poverty and high energy prices, which affect vulnerable groups of inhabitants. They are primarily strategies and support tools to reduce energy costs.

Renewable energy and low-carbon hydrogen

The publication contains several examples of innovative uses and development of renewable sources of energy and promising hydrogen technology. The projects focus on the promotion of local energy self-sufficiency.

Participation of "small" actors in the transition process

The publication emphasizes the importance of local communities, small businesses and non-profit organisations in the transition process and shows examples for such stakeholders to participate in the process. Their inclusion leads to the diversification of job opportunities and boosts the local economy.

The following list of icons is used for easy navigation among the presented projects:













WHO IMPLEMENTS



























Image from the website of the German Plagwitz Civic Station project (photo @Martin Peltz / stiftung-ecken-wecken.de/projekte/buergerbahnhof-plagwitz)

Just transition

Just transition refers to the provision of a safe transition to a climate-neutral economy, which leaves no-one behind. In a narrower sense, it refers to the transformation of coal regions. The concentration of longstanding burdens due to the economic structure, coal mining and adjacent activities (e.g., large areas left behind by mining, damaged and altered environment, disrupted urban structures) and associated negative effects (e.g., social structure of the population, concentration of socially pathological effects in excluded localities) are additional challenges that must be solved in parallel to the transition to a climate-neutral economy.

Selected source of information on just transition

- Just Transition Initiative
- **O** Just Transition Mechanism
- **1** Just Transition Fund
- Territorial Just Transition Plan of the Czech Republic
- **O** Coal regions
- RE:START programme
- **O** Programme Just Transition
- **Programme Just Transition** (Moravian-Silesian Region)
- **Programme Just Transition** (Karlovy Vary Region)
- Programme Just Transition (Ústí Region)









Brownfield regeneration and decontamination and land restoration

Old brownfields and land affected by heavy industry may negatively influence public spaces and the environment nearby. The selected good practice projects either reuse these areas or transform them in order to improve conditions and opportunities for local community development (including new business opportunities), while also emphasizing environmental quality and implementation in accordance with sustainability principles. At the same time, the projects should have sustainable management and financing. Project planning often involves numerous stakeholders and provides multiple possible uses and services. Although some of the projects are more extensive, they can all be implemented (and often should be) on a smaller scale or gradually.



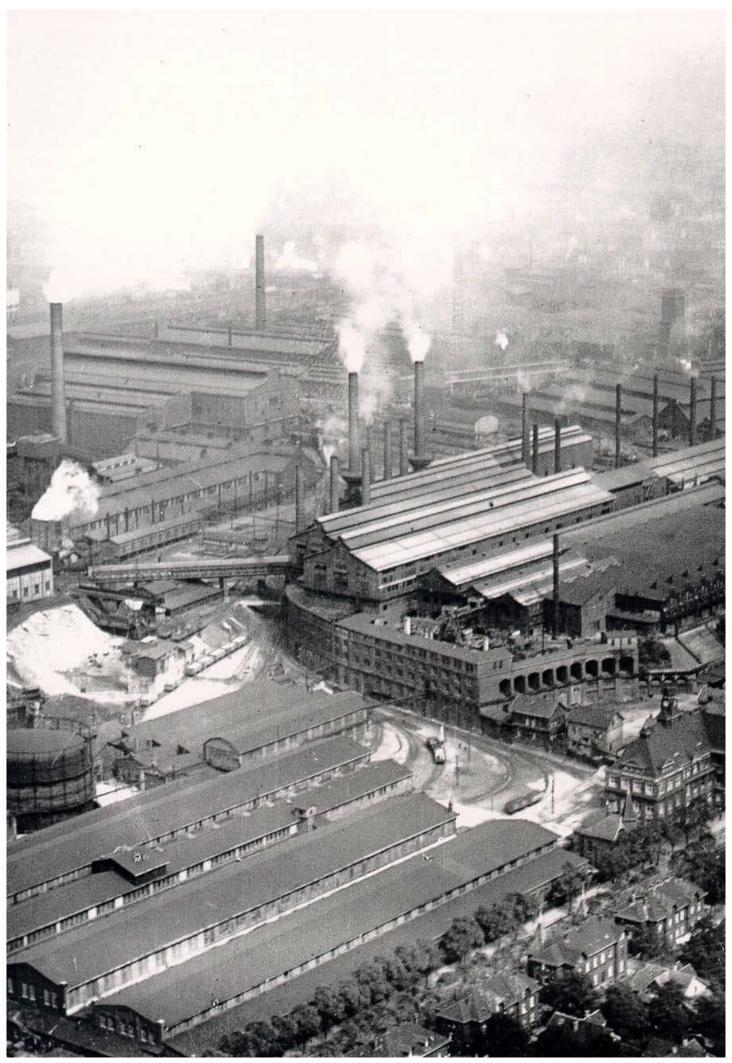
Main principles of project selection

- Positive impact on the local community
- Positive impact on environmental quality
- New economic opportunities and economic sustainability

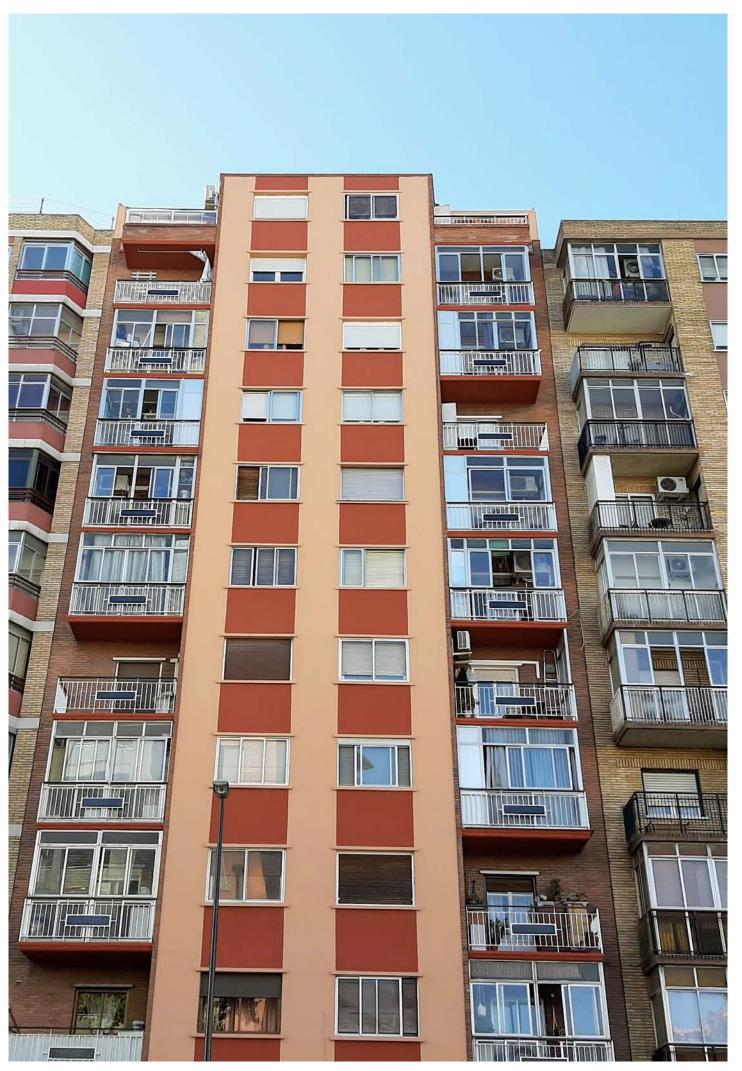
Further sources of information (selection)

- TRACER (Best Practice Platform) database of examples
- Baltic Urban Lab integrated urban planning project
- Ten steps for successful brownfield regeneration

- © Czechlnvest Overview of financial support
- OP Technology and Competitiveness
- Programme Just Transition
- National Development Bank



 $Image\ from\ the\ Westpark\ Bochum\ project\ website\ (www.dl-landschaft.de/projekt/westpark-bochum-jahrhunderthalle/)$



Measures to mitigate energy poverty

Energy poverty is a growing problem in Czechia and Europe, as many households have been affected by rising energy prices. Heating and electricity bills have a severe impact (particularly) on low-income households (income deciles 1–3), which usually live in older homes with high energy intensity. Systemic solutions primarily focus on quality renovations (both owner and tenant homes) and construction of (social or affordable) housing to passive or low-energy standards, as well as support to project planning or financial support mechanisms focused on low-income households.



Main principles of project selection

- Long-term, sustainable solutions promoting energy efficiency
- Targeted solutions focused on vulnerable households
- Benefits in the area of technical assistance (provision of information and support to project planning) and financing

Further sources of information (selection)

- **EKIS** energy consultancy
- National network of local action groups (support to NGS Light)
- Passive house centre
- Energy Poverty Advisory Hub

- New Green Savings (NGS)
- NGS Renovation of older residential buildings
- NGS Light
- National Development Bank
- Morizon Europe programmes focused on energy poverty

Renewable energy and low-carbon hydrogen

Czechia could, and needs to, almost double its energy production from renewables by 2030. To achieve this goal, new innovative solutions must be developed. In addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, renewable energy can bring other benefits like supporting adaptation to climate change, improving local job opportunities and boosting energy security. Hydrogen and support technologies in the area of local renewable energy enable industrial transformation and innovation. Hydrogen technologies are crucial for some industries, such as fertilizer production and desulphurization.





Main principles of project selection

- Local energy consumption from renewables
- Improved local business (and job) opportunities
- Innovative, transferable solutions

Further sources of information (selection)

- Czech Solar Association
- Chamber of RES
- **WindEurope**
- Mydrogen Ladder
- Hydrogen project visualisation platform ENTSOG
- H2Valleys

- Modernization Fund RES+
- OP TAK Support to RES, OP Environment
- Programme Just Transition
- **©** European Investment Bank
- National Development Bank

- Mational Recovery Plan
- LIFE, LEuropean City Facility (EUCF)
- Single Market Programme
- European Urban Initiative (EUI)
- **1** Innovation Fund
- Research Fund for Coal and Steel (RFCS)



Image from the website of the Slovenian project Compile Luče – energy community



Participation of "small" actors

(e.g., youth, non-governmental organisations, municipalities, small and medium-sized enterprises)

in the transition process

Environmental quality and amenities are the foundation for life in the municipality and also for the emergence and development of diverse social and cultural activities in the public space. They can positively impact the community and its broader surroundings. The examples presented reflect the economic and social importance for the municipal territory, sustainability and synergies with other activities and projects implemented in the municipality. Projects by non-governmental non-profit organisations focus on innovative approaches that may have a positive impact on the region and can help integrate the released workforce into the labour market of the transformed economy. Examples of support to development of small and medium-sized enterprises then aim at sophisticated and sustainable projects that contribute to development of new or change of existing business activities and are innovative in terms of improving environmental quality, digital technologies or creative industries.



Main principles of project selection

- Embedded in the context of local socioeconomic development, sustainability and project synergies
- Positive impact on the local community
- Innovation and creativity

Further sources of information (selection)

- **EU Subsidies**
- **©** ERASMUS+

- Mational Network of Healthy Cities
- Ocivil Society Development Foundation

- Programme Just Transition
- OP Employment Plus
- Integrated Regional OP
- OP Jan Amos Komenský (JAK)
- **O** Tourism Support
- Rural Development Programme

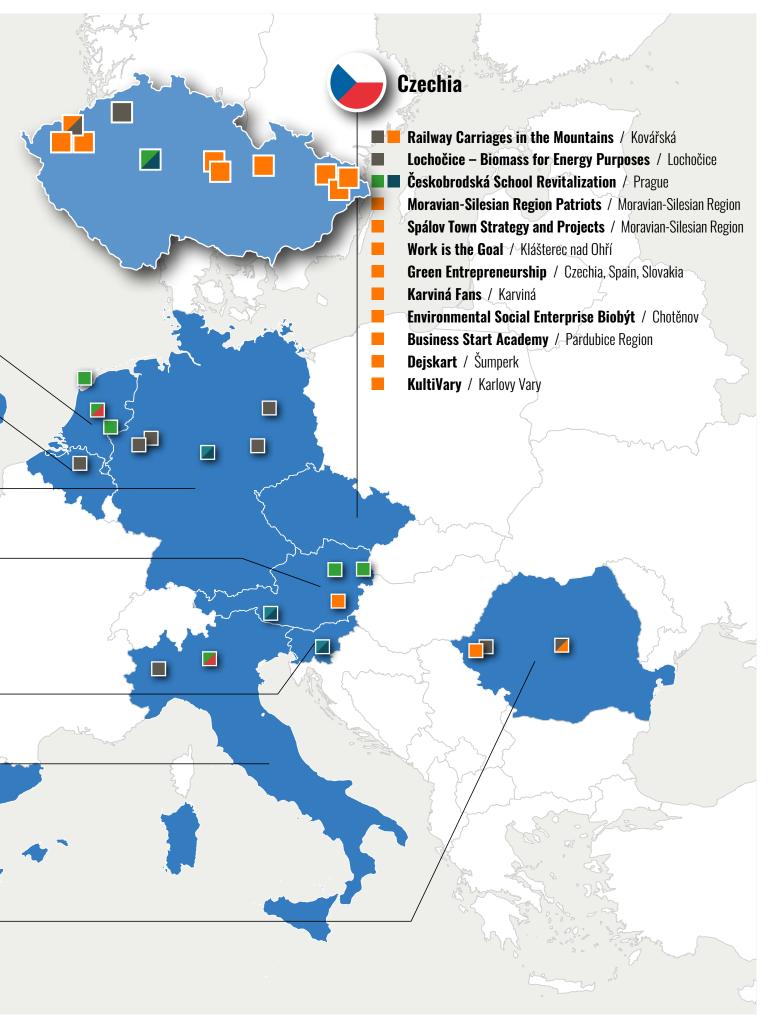
- Interreg Europe
 (incl. Interreg Central Europe, Interreg Danube)
- O CERV Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values
- **Visegrad Fund (V4F)**
- Czech-German Future Fund
- **EEA and Norway Grants**











































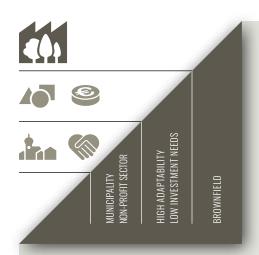












Prinzessinnengärten

PROJECT LAUNCH

2009

LOCATION

Germany, Berlin



SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Community financing -

Operating expenditures are covered from sale of produce (up to 500 species) and educational and other activities

prinzessinnengarten-kollektiv.net/ueber-uns/



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Sustainable urban greenery in the form of a farm and garden, contributes to more efficient water management in the city and creates a more favourable microclimate
- 2) Transformation of a neglected area into a low-cost community area
- 3) Since the initial project was very successful, the community established another one in a similar area in the city
- 4) Place for inhabitants to meet and organize events

- 1) Finding a suitable area for implementation with the necessary financial support mechanism
- 2) Creating a community to manage the area
- 3) Acquiring initial capital for project launch



The Prinzessinnengärten project was established at Moritzplatz in Kreuzberg in 2009; it is a community garden and educational space in a former brownfield site. The nearly 6,000 m² site contains countless raised beds, as well as open workshops, urban bee colonies, a garden café, teaching

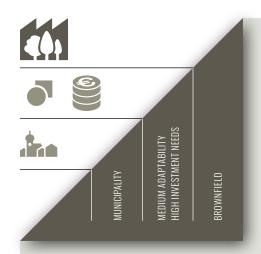


kitchen for processing local produce, and spaces

for markets, workshops and networking meetups for people interested in participatory and sustainable urban design topics. Prinzessinnengärten is the result of a transformation of an abandoned area that had been neglected for more than fifty years. The initiative is not only a garden, but a testimony to environmental restoration. It shows that even the smallest of places can be turned into green areas. Prinzessinnengärten supports the emergence of strong local communities and provides meeting spaces.

The project emphasizes sustainability and brings environmental improvement to the area. The space also creates several other use cases. The open garden offers not only escape from the urban environment into nature, but also a space to educate local inhabitants; it also provides an opportunity for schoolchildren to learn about sustainable agriculture and crop cultivation. Moreover, these additional activities make the project economically sustainable.





Emscher Landscape Park (Emscher Landschaftspark)

PROJECT LAUNCH

1999

LOCATION

Germany, Essen



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Total costs over project lifetime will amount to hundreds of millions of euros

OPERATING COSTS

several million euros per year

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

National budget Municipal budget

https://www.rvr.ruhr/themen/oekologieumwelt/startseite-emscher-landschaftspark/



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Transformation of former industrial compounds into green landscapes
- 2) Improved air quality, biodiversity and ecosystem restoration
- 3) A popular area with millions of visitors annually, bringing additional income to local budgets
- 4) Creation of many new job positions

- 1) Availability of financing
- 2) Necessary expertise for brownfield transformation (soil decontamination, urban design)
- 3) Adaptation to local ecosystem, water source management
- 4) Involvement of local inhabitants

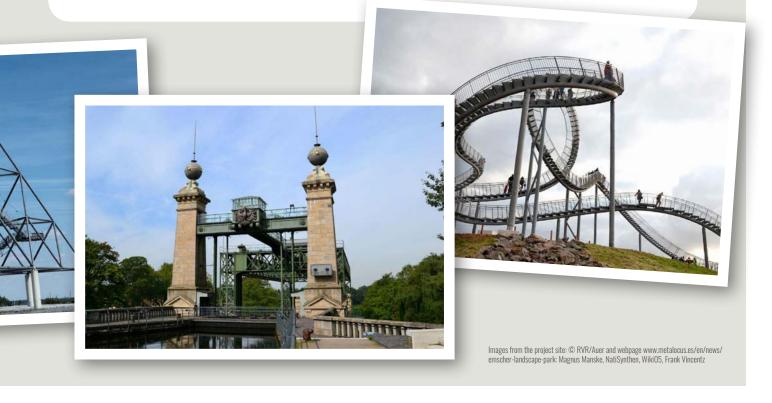


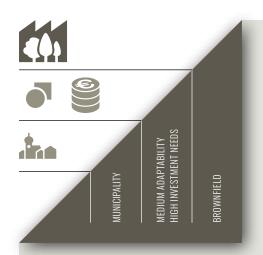
Emscher Landscape Park represents a comprehensive model of regional cooperation in the northern Ruhr Area in Germany. The project was developed in response to challenges associated with the transformation of industrial areas due to a decline in heavy industry. The central idea was to establish a continuous system of parks and



restore nature in this area. The Emscher Landscape Park became the "green connecting element" in the Ruhr Valley. Its objective is to improve the quality of life in the region, increase its attractiveness for tourists, reduce unemployment and contribute to improving climate and environmental conditions. **The park includes many** smaller sites, which can also serve as good practice examples for brownfield revitalization.

The project implementation involved several activities, ranging from modification of disused land to transformation of industrial transport routes into cycling and walking trails. These measures gave rise to new attractive places that contribute to the restoration of the region, which work not only as recreational areas (cycling trails, parks, lakes, a lookout tower), but also as cultural centres, technical sights and places for broader public amenities (library, kindergarten). The Emscher Landscape Park is thus an example of a successful transition from industrial past to sustainable development, which supports the economic and environmental development of the region.





Parco Dora



PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

2004-2012

COMMISSIONING

2012

LOCATION

Italy, Turin



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 50 million

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

PPP project

http://www.comune.torino.it/verdepubblico/ narco-dora/



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) New economic opportunities space for cultural events, festivals, performances and other community and commercial events
- 2) Leisure activities for local inhabitants and tourists, such as playgrounds, sports facilities and other recreational areas
- 3) Green space in the city, thereby improving air quality and thermal comfort in warm summer months
- 4) The park has contributed to the perception of Turin as a green city and its inclusion among finalists of the Green Capital of Europe

- 1) Adaptation of the design to the site analysis of environmental impacts
- 2) Use of suitable plants and trees, integration of elements for appropriate rainwater management
- 3) Involvement of the local community
- 4) Project planning and financial resources





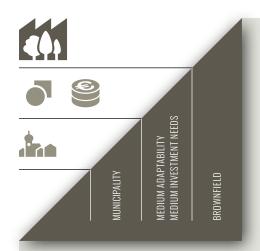


Parco Dora is a remarkable transformation of a former

Fiat and Michelin industrial compound into a living heart of the city – a large park that sensitively continues its industrial history. The park is divided into five parts. In some areas, the original buildings were retained. Other parts underwent a major transformation into green spaces (park, promenade, watercourse restored to its original route). The park features gardens, playgrounds, sports grounds, cycling trail and spaces for events. The project is remarkable for its work with water elements, such as fountains, canals and water playgrounds, some of which even use the original industrial structures (such as evaporation towers). The park is a venue for various regular sporting events, exercise and thematic walks, as well as music festivals and more.

The project documents a successful transformation from an industrial zone into a clean, green community space that also works with original industrial structures, resulting in a combination of post-industrial architecture and greenery.





Park Spoor Noord

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

2005, **2009–2011** (stages)

LOCATION

Belgie, Antverpy



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 40 million

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Federal and regional budgets EU funds (about 30%)

https://www.antwerpen.be/nl/info/52d50524 39d8a6ec798b4a41/park-spoor-noord



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Emphasis on sustainability in park implementation and maintenance (part of Antwerp climate programme) use of recycled materials
- 2) Minimization of environmental impacts (use of LED lighting), minimization of light pollution
- 3) Water elements (reservoirs, fishponds) contribute to water retention in landscape, groundwater replenishment and water management in the city

- 1) Environmental impact assessment needed to identify places for potential reclamation with a view towards local biological diversity and ecosystems
- 2) Integration of sustainable procedures such as construction materials from sustainable sources



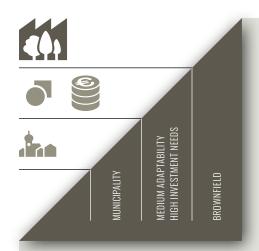


Park Spoor Noord is one of the most popular places in Antwerp. It is a former railway station that has been transformed into a natural park with sports and recreational facilities. The park contains a number of water elements that help cool the city's microclimate. It also includes three original railway buildings and two protected water towers.

The revitalization emphasized the sustainability of the implementation. Only FSC-certified wood is used in the park. The construction used recycled materials from the former railway. Lighting is provided by LED fixtures, which only shed light where visibility is important, in accordance with requirements to minimize light pollution in cities and greenery. The drainage system is designed so that maximum rainwater is absorbed by the soil. Different tree species were planted in the park to support its biodiversity.







Westpark Bochum

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

1997-2015

LOCATION

Germany, Bochum



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 26.5 million

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Private capital Municipal budget

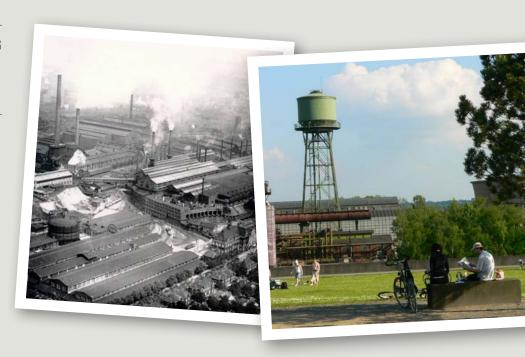
https://www.bochum-tourismus.de/bochum-entdecken/parks-und-gaerten/westpark.html



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Landscape restoration and significant increase in biodiversity
- 2) New economic opportunities (festivals and other events) bring in more than 100,000 visitors a year
- 3) Space for leisure activities and relaxation (200 km of cycling trails)

- 1) Environmental impact assessment needed to identify places for potential reclamation with a view to local biological diversity and ecosystems
- 2) Integrated urban planning that prioritizes green spaces and recreational areas while respecting local conditions
- 3) Involvement of the local community





Westpark Bochum is a project of gradual environmental reclamation. The first stage of the park was opened for visitors in 1999. By 2004, the former industrial area of the Bochum Jahrhunderthalle Association had been gradually turned into a landscape park, used as a space for leisure and cultural activities. Its industrial past is organically integrated into the overall design. The final stage of the project was completed in 2015.

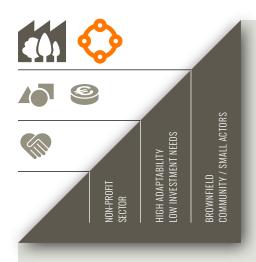
Westpark Bochum balances respect for ecosystem protection and a return to natural solutions while also offering new economic opportunities and spaces for leisure activities and relaxation. The park is a venue for both regular and ad hoc cultural events, trade fairs, sporting events and more.

The project also emphasizes landscape restoration and biodiversity. Westpark Bochum shows that industrial sites can be transformed to serve nature restoration while also creating new opportunities for economic development and providing space for the relaxation and leisure time activities of local inhabitants.





Images from www.dl-landschaft.de/projekt/westpark-bochum-jahrhunderthalle/



Cultural Tourism in **Bucium**

PROJECT LAUNCH

2000

LOCATION

Romania, Bucium



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 100,000

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Membership fees
EU funds
Local subsidy schemes
Own economic activity

www.interregeurope.eu/goodpractices/bucium-community-is-



www.baiadomnilor.ro/



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Support of local activities in connection with tourism development
- 2) Strengthening inhabitants' sense of belonging to their municipality and its history
- 3) Keeping inhabitants in the municipality
- 4) Economic benefits from tourism development

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

1) Elaborating the basic idea into the concrete activities required to become an implementable project and utilization of relevant financial resources

- 2) Identifying suitable methods to approach and activate local inhabitants to become involved in activities
- 3) Promotional activities to attract visitors

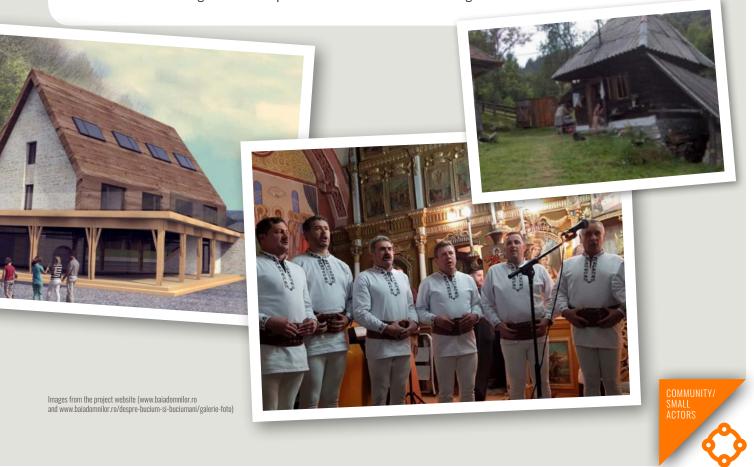


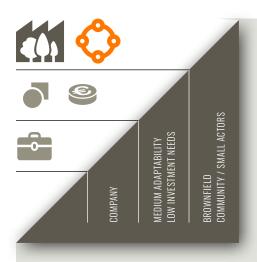
The Baia Domnilor association implemented the project to provide material and moral support to the community of Bucium, which was affected by the end of mining activity in the early 2000s. Support focused on those who had worked in harsh underground conditions and on the personal development and education of talented young



people to retain local traditions and cultural/industrial heritage. To promote socioeconomic development, the local community became engaged in various activities connected to local traditions and heritage (organisation of craft fairs, meetings of locals, description of customs and techniques used in gold mining, collections of items for a museum, etc.). Three mine shafts were preserved and renovated in Bucium Poieni. The association launched a website and a Facebook page. A cultural centre was established, including the Buciumani museum, a festival hall and a guesthouse. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the activities had led to an increase of visitors by about 15%.

The project illustrates the importance of preserving industrial heritage and associated customs and traditions, which has enabled the gradual development of tourism in a former mining area.





Railway Carriages in the Mountains

PROJECT LAUNCH

2021

LOCATION

Czechia, Kovářská



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

CZK 1 million per carriage (with a high share of volunteer work)

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Private capital

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Development of sustainable, environmentally friendly tourism sector connected to brownfield renovation
- 2) Revenue from accommodation generates funds for station renovation
- 3 Development of an alternative form of accommodation in connection with industrial heritage

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Basic idea and initial funds for its execution
- 2) Willingness to invest volunteer time and work
- 3) Project settings to make it sustainable

glampingczech.cz/ vagony-na-horach/



vagonynahorach.cz



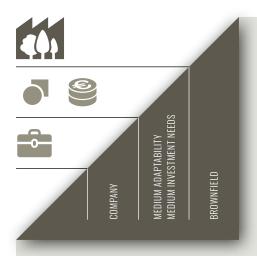


This private project combines alternative sustainable accommodation (glamping) with the objective of acquiring funds to renovate the historical railway station in Kovářská. Glamping is a type of accommodation that is eco-friendly, and this project offers year--round accommodation in four renovated and modified historical railway service carriages parked on a disused track within the station.



The project Railway Carriages in the Mountains is a private initiative for renovating the brownfield of Kovářská railway station in the Ore Mountains. The project promotes preservation of industrial heritage and its use to boost tourism.





Lochočice – Biomass for Energy Purposes

PROJECT LAUNCH

1995

LOCATION

Czechia, Lochočice



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

Establishment
of the 10 ha plantation:
CZK 350,000 – 450,000
Operating costs:
CZK 70,000 a year (estimated)

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Reclamation funds

www.vukoz.cz/project/agrolesnicke-systemypro-ochranu-a-obnovu-funkci-krajiny-ohrozovanedopady-klimatickych-zmen-a-lidskou-cinnosti/



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Long-term research data on biomass cultivation in Czechia
- 2) Reclamation and restoration of landscapes affected by brown coal strip mining
- 3) Economic evaluation of cultivation of different tree species for energy biomass production

- 1) Selection of appropriate tree species for the site
- 2) Tree cultivation is a long-term project, economic conditions for dedicated energy crop cultivation
- 3) Reclamation financing options



This is a project to cultivate biomass for energy use on Lochočice spoil tip in Most Basin, an area severely affected by brown coal strip mining. Biomass in the form of short-rotation coppice contributes to both reclamation and restoration of the ecological and economic conditions of the area. It also involves a sustainable method of biomass cultivation.

Compared to the growth of other trees used on Lochočice spoil tip, the project results show that the growth of poplars and willows (usable for energy purposes) can be evaluated as very good. Poplars in particular can thus be recommended for forestry-based reclamation of similar sites (not only) in North Bohemia. Selected species of willows also act as vegetation filters for the contaminated soil. Both species not only help to create primary tree vegetation, but also have

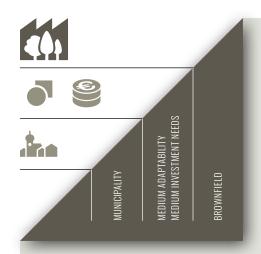


a favourable effect on soil and undergrowth quality, which further boosts the whole ecosystem. At the same time, the trees are harvested periodically and used as biomass for energy purposes.





Illustrative images (Pexels / Zoran Milosavljevic, Büşranur Aydın, White Noiise)



Lămâiţa Reservoir Renovation, Timişoara

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

2015

LOCATION

Romania, Timişoara



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 500,000

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Municipal budget

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Environmental restoration and increased biodiversity in the area
- 2) New space for recreational activities of local inhabitants
- 3) Rainwater management system and adaptation to climate change (particularly extreme weather)

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- Environmental impact analysis of a specific site to identify options for the reduction of disused areas and integration of rainwater management systems
- 2) Integrated urban planning strategy that includes environmental sustainability, community use and rainwater management
- 3) Community involvement to adapt the management design to local needs and problems

una.city/nbs/timisoara/ecological-





Images from the project site http://radiotimisoara.ro/2016/07/29/timisoara-are-o-noua-zona-de-agrement-transformata-complet-cum-arata-balta-lamaita-dupa-reamenajare/



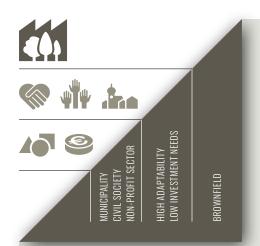
BASIC PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Lămâiţa Reservoir is an area of 10,000 m² that was built on the site of a former landfill surrounded by communist-era development. The reservoir provides a space for diverse vegetation and a thriving fish population. Aside from environmental restoration, the project has a broader social vision: to create a place of recreation and relaxation for the local community and to establish a centre for rainwater management that will boost the city district's resilience to torrential rains.

Lămâița Reservoir is an example of how a well-thought-out ecological initiative can synergize with a focus on the community. It offers both a peaceful place for local inhabitants and a more biodiverse, practical solution to increase resilience to weather extremes, including







Plagwitz Citizen Station



PROJECT LAUNCH

2009

LOCATION

Germany, Leipzig



INVESTMENT COSTS

EUR 2.5 million (2009–2020) ~70% covered by EU funds

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Municipal budget
Subsidy schemes (ERDF)

https://stiftung-ecken-wecken.de/projekte/ buergerbahnhof-plagwitz



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Involvement of local inhabitants in the planning and implementation of a transformation of a former industrial area
- 2) Solution based directly on inhabitants' needs and initiative
- 3) Relatively low costs thanks to a high share of volunteer work
- 4) Emphasis on the development of green infrastructure and urban natural ecosystem

- 1) Activation of civil society and cooperation with the municipality
- 2) Availability of financing







The project for transformation of the Plagwitz station in Leipzig has gradually transformed a former industrial railway station into a 12-hectare green zone. The project to design the future of the area is based on an initiative of local inhabitants, who started it in cooperation with municipal representatives through a participatory process (joint breakfasts, excursions, seminars).

With financial support from the municipality, EU funds and countless hours of volunteer work from the local community, since 2012 the area has been gradually transforming, into a space with a wide range of activities like playgrounds (which the children can continue building), a community garden, sports field, café, as well as a cycling trail, orchard and urban forest. Plagwitz is also a living space where diverse events are held, such as flea markets, gardening workshops, concerts and outdoor summer cinema.

The transformation works continue, with the process now governed by the Ecken Wecken Foundation in cooperation with local non-profit organisations. The project is unique due to its intensive cooperation between civil society, municipal administration and businesses.









New Home Tyrol (Neue Heimat Tirol)

PROJECT LAUNCH

2021

LOCATION

Austria, Tyrol



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 2.8 million

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Regional housing support Non-profit developer

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) High energy efficiency of passive buildings with benefits in housing quality and low operating costs for residents
- 2) Effective project targeting low-income residents
- 3) Tight cooperation between neighbouring regions

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Necessary combination of architectural design, cooperation with local government and financial support
- 2) Provision of a suitable land plot for project implementation
- 3) Use of efficient planning and compact design

www.sorgsam-neueheimat.tirol/



www.neueheimat.tirol/





The project "5-Euro-Living" in Austria represents a possible path to help solve energy poverty. The project's objective is to provide affordable housing at 5 euros/m². The project applies architectural planning, public grants and cooperation with local municipalities to enable efficient investment cost control.



Construction to passive or low-energy standards using renewables allows for the minimization of operating costs without affecting housing quality.

A key component of the project is provision of land plots at favourable prices by local authorities, cost-effective building designs and low-maintenance systems. Transparent allocation of housing units includes an income criterion for the applicants (their income should not exceed two-thirds of the average income in the area). This condition makes it possible to target low-income residents who need help with housing.

The project has worked in several places in Tyrol with various modifications. Neue Heimat is a non-profit developer, owned by the land of Tyrol and the city of Innsbruck and pursuing many other developer activities in the region.





Compile Luče – Energy Community

PROJECT LAUNCH

2022

LOCATION

Slovenia, Luče



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

approx. EUR 1 million

Full cost for the research project is EUR 6.4 million for 5 projects including Luče

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Investment, crowdfunding European funds (Horizon 2020)

https://main.compile-project. eu/sites/pilot-site-luce/



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Increased self-sufficiency and resilience of the municipal energy system
- 2) Energy production from renewable (local) sources
- 3) Local electricity control system with a battery storage facility (security from electricity outages)

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Legislative definition for energy communities
- 2) Initiative of local municipality and inhabitants
- 3) Expert help required to establish and implement energy communities



Luče energy community is an initiative that emerged as part of the international Compile Project. In cooperation with the municipality of Luče and local inhabitants, the energy community tries to boost the self-sufficiency and reliability of the municipal energy system. It has installed photovoltaic panels and a wind



power plant, supplying households and commercial entities with electricity. A significant part of their electricity consumption is thus covered from renewables. The project also includes a number of additional subprojects, such as further installation of solar panels (totalling 102 kWp), community batteries (333 kWh), home batteries (75 kWh), electric car charging stations and microgrid control systems.

The initiative aims to generate community interest in energy and climate issues, build trust in the local energy system and become a pioneer in development of energy communities in Slovenia.

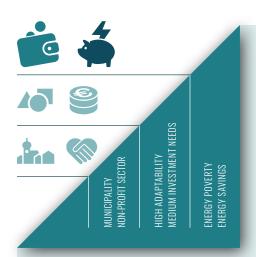
The private investment was covered by crowdfunding, where the investors share in the project benefits. Reserve electricity sources, working in cooperation with a smart control system, help solve emergency situations and provide inhabitants with higher energy security. The project pilot includes research into innovative ways of providing support services to the transmission and distribution system. The organisation of community meetings increases awareness of energy communities not only among members but also other inhabitants and institutions.





Images from the Compile project pages listed on the left





Home Energy Scotland

PROJECT LAUNCH

2008

LOCATION

United Kingdom, Scotland



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 50 million

(for 2021–2022, including subsidies)

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Government of Scotland

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Tools to finance and implement energy-saving measures
- 2) Simple system to inform inhabitants about ways to achieve energy savings
- 3) Savings of more than GBP 1 billion in household electricity invoices since 2008
- 4) Tens of thousands of households a year obtain expert energy advice

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Securing sufficient funds to establish and operate an expert platform, which can be done at regional level
- 2) Sufficient (expert, financial) capacities for provision of advice
- 3) Organisation of consultations, including visits to households

www.homeenergyscotland.org/



energysavingtrust.org.uk





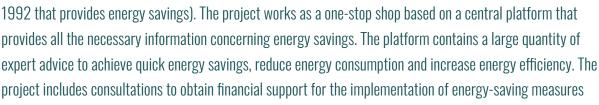






Home Energy Scotland provides comprehensive services and information for inhabitants (as well as businesses) in the area of energy savings and energy consumption reduction. The project is an important source of advice and financial support for increasing energy efficiency.

Home Energy Scotland is a project run by Energy Savings Trust (a UK organisation established in



and hosts many information and awareness raising events.

Complete and well-organized information available to the general public is an important part of energy poverty prevention and achievement of climate goals.







Barrio Solar

PROJECT LAUNCH

2020

LOCATION

Spain, Zaragoza



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 200,000

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Local municipality Local grants PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Hundreds of local inhabitants and many small businesses use local renewable energy
- 2) The most vulnerable households get 10% of the energy generated free of charge
- 3) Use of large roof areas on public buildings for photovoltaic panels

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Involvement of local inhabitants in a joint project
- 2) Acquisition of necessary licences and permits
- 3) Legislative modifications to enable electricity sharing

ecodes.org/hacemos/energia-y-personas/ comunidades-energeticas/barrio-solar





The initiative uses the energy potential of public building roofs to generate solar power. The electricity generated is intended for households and businesses in the northern part of the Actur – Rey Fernando quarter of Zaragoza. Specifically, the project has installed photovoltaic panels on the municipal sports pavilions Siglo XXI and Actur V (totalling 100 kWp). The project involves inhabitants and businesses in the nearby area (within 500 m of the installation). The project works on the basis of monthly contributions, giving the participants a title to a proportionate part of the electricity generated by the photovoltaic installation.

The project goals consist of community building, raising environmental awareness and inclusiveness. Part of the power generated is provided free of charge to vulnerable households. The project also offers energy audits to increase energy efficiency (available free of charge to vulnerable households). Actur Barrio Solar also serves as a platform to involve the community through various activities and workshops focused on sustainable lifestyles. Participating businesses can also use the information for their promotional purposes.







Cosy Homes, Lancashire

PROJECT LAUNCH

2013

LOCATION

United Kingdom, Lancashire



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

GBP 40 million

(for 2014–2022, including subsidies)

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

National support scheme



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Targeted support to vulnerable households: more than 20,000 inhabitants pay less for energy thanks to expert assistance and reduced energy consumption
- 2) Comprehensive support as a one-stop-shop and cooperation of local municipalities (13 local governments)
- 3) Inhabitants had positive feedback on the project

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Involvement of inhabitants without internet access
- 2) Platform establishment and staffing for its successful operation
- 3) Need to acquire (multi-source) financing



Cosy Homes, Lancashire (CHiL) is a continuing initiative established in 2013, which works as a comprehensive platform that offers information, assistance and resources to households across the Lancashire region, involving 13 local governments. It specializes in the provision of consumer advice regarding contracts, carrying out energy audits and



mediating applications for subsidies for home renovation and heating system replacement, particularly for economically vulnerable households.

In the period 2014–2022, the project acquired GBP 40 million for its operation and provision of subsidies. The financing is mostly by means of national subsidies, mediated by local authorities. CHiL works as a one-stop

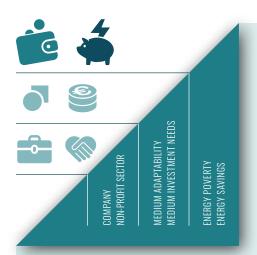
shop for comprehensive solutions to household energy savings (particularly vulnerable ones) in the region. The platform aims at both homeowners and tenants and provides a space for community meetings – the website includes a calendar of events such as expert seminars as well as informal meetings.











Stromspar-Check



PROJECT LAUNCH

2008

LOCATION

Germany



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 19 million (for 2022–2023)

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

National budget

www.stromspar-check.de/en/english



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Targeted technical assistance, cooperation with a charity organisation experienced in approaching (vulnerable) households
- 2) Energy savings and greenhouse gas emission savings the project has provided support to more than 400,000 households; average annual savings per household of EUR 190; total emission reduction of ${\rm CO_2}$ by 640,000 tonnes
- 3) Employment and retraining (more than 1,100 unemployed have been retrained as certified energy saving advisors)

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Long-term cooperation with non-profit sector
- 2) Project financing to assure continuity
- 3) Development of training materials and training for new energy advisors



Energy-saving-checkIt's simple feet

It's simple, fast, efficient! Count me in!

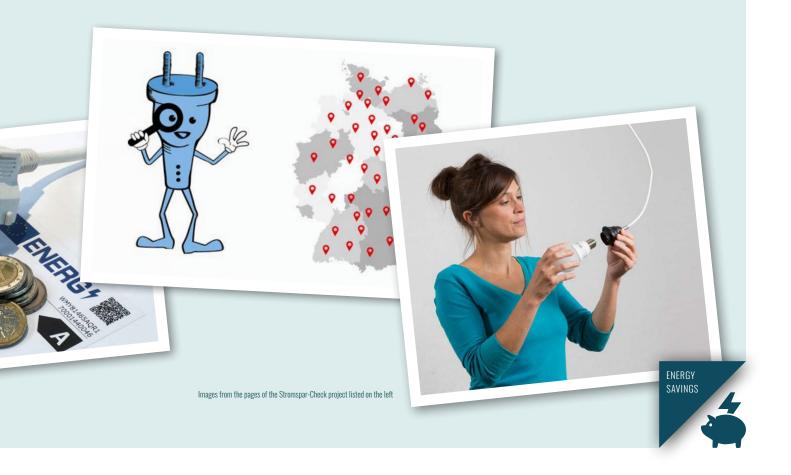
BASIC PROJECT DESCRIPTION

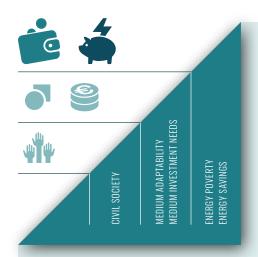
Stromspar-Check (SSC; "Energy saving check) is a joint initiative of the charity organisation Caritas and the Association of Energy and Climate

Protection Agencies in Germany. For more than fifteen years, the project has trained long-term unemployed persons as energy advisors, who then provide advice regarding energy savings in low-income households. Thanks to the financial support, the advice is free of charge to households.

The household receives an initial consultation, the energy advisor makes an on-site building assessment and proposes specific, immediate energy-saving measures. Moreover, the advisor creates a plan with additional ways to save energy (typically more investment-intensive). As part of the scheme, households get small-scale energy-saving devices, such as LED lighting fixtures or water-saving shower heads.

Stromspar-Check thus significantly contributes to increasing energy efficiency and helps people to both achieve energy and financial stability and contribute to environmental protection.





Community Grant Scheme

PROJECT LAUNCH

2015

LOCATION

Ireland



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 93.2 million

in 2015–2019 (grants provided)

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

National budget

www.seai.ie/grants/community-grants/



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Support to projects with an outreach across the community (project selection criteria are not only energy savings but also benefits to the community, inclusiveness and more)
- 2) Role of coordinator to supervise the full project lifecycle
- 3) Energy cost reduction and quality renovation of both residential and commercial buildings (almost 9,000 supported projects)

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Assurance of experienced project coordinators for the full project lifecycle
- 2) Establishment of a robust structure to promote community involvement and raise awareness of the scheme and potential participation
- 3) Scheme setting and acquisition of financing for grant support







This is a grant scheme of the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) to support community energy efficiency projects by means of investment grants, partnerships and technical support. All projects should be community-oriented with an interdisciplinary approach, and project coordinators have to prove their ability to finance the proposed project sustainably. The grant scheme focuses specifically on non-profit organisations, municipalities, community centres, etc.

The scheme includes a comprehensive set of measures (building envelope insulation, technology modernization, control system integration and use of renewable sources of energy). At the same time, however, the project assessment requirements include other aspects such as benefits to the community, project innovativeness and sustainability.

Project coordinators are the key element of the scheme: they manage and coordinate projects from the start, from grant application to implementation supervision. Project coordinators also strive to combine multiple





similar projects, enabling economies of scale and thus more efficient implementation of the set of measures.

> Images used from the project pages listed on the left and free stock PxHere.com





Agrovoltaika Piet Albers



PROJECT LAUNCH

2017

LOCATION

Netherlands, Babberich



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

approx. EUR 2.2 million

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Private capital

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Synergies between electricity generation and agriculture
- 2) Improved conditions for crop cultivation
- 3) Electricity production from photovoltaic panels
- 4) Substitute for hail nets

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Proper setting of shading ratio (ratio of crop production and electricity generation)
- 2) Choice of suitable crops
- 3) Agreement with machinery used for agricultural production

www.baywa-re.com/en/cases/emea/solarinstallations-bear-fruit-for-netherlands-agri-pv







The Piet Albers pilot project in Babberich, Netherlands replaces hail nets with agrivoltaic technology. Bifacial (two-sided) photovoltaic panels protect the raspberry crop and make electricity at the same time. The project covers an area of 33,000 m² and generates 2.67 MWp of electricity. The project unit costs were 850 EUR/kWp (2017 prices), which is comparable with conventional installations.

The primary objective of the installation is crop protection from hail damage. Given the partial shading, it can also be expected to provide greater soil protection from drought, improving the crop conditions. Thus, besides power generation from a renewable source of energy, the project is a climate change adaptation measure. The bifacial solar panels transform sunshine into electricity from both above and below (reflected light, or east-west orientation). This new technology enables higher electricity generation than an ordinary photovoltaic panel.



Images from the project pages listed on the left



Vertical Agrivoltaics WienEnergie

PROJECT LAUNCH

2020

LOCATION

Austria, Guntramsdorf



INVESTMENT COSTS

about 30% higher than standard conventional PV

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Own sources – Wien Energie

PROJECT BENEFITS

- High land use efficiency and synergies between electricity generation and agriculture
- 2) Electricity production from photovoltaic panels
- 3) Increased biodiversity thanks to protective strips between the PV modules and fields

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Proper setting of ratio between crop production and electricity generation
- 2) Appropriate choice of crops
- 3) Agreement with machinery used for agricultural production

https://positionen.wienenergie.at/ projekte/strom/agro-pv/

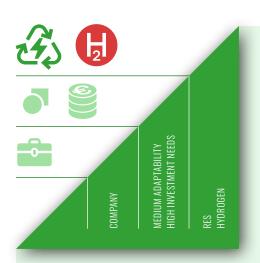




The vertical agrivoltaic project in Lower Austria is a part of a large 12 MW photovoltaic power plant. Conventional farm crops (winter wheat, potatoes, soya) are planted among the vertical panels. The project was launched in 2020 and has a total of 60 bifacial (two-sided) panels with an output of 22 kWp.

The project achieves a high efficiency of agricultural land use. Approximately 85% of the area is used for crop cultivation, 14% comprises flowering strips and 1% is used for the photovoltaic system. The dual use is economically more favourable than pure crop production, because the electricity provides the farmer with an additional source of income.

Vertically arranged panels generate a similar amount of electricity to conventional south-facing systems. The east-west orientation has the advantage of generating the most electricity when electricity consumption is the highest. The combination of conventional and bifacial photovoltaic systems thus offers the ability to smooth the production profile in the course of the day, thus relieving the power grid.



Valcamonica H2

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

2022-2025

COMMISSIONING

2025

LOCATION

Italy, Brescia



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 7.4 million

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

EU Innovation Fund FNM Group

www.h2valcamonica.eu/en



PDF



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Annual production of 830 t of green hydrogen from 43.9 GWh of electricity and 16,600 m³ of water
- 2) CO_2 emission reduction by 42,295 t CO_2 in the first ten years

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Finding a site with a suitable source of green electricity and local consumption of green hydrogen
- 2) Comprehensive project planning for the entire supply chain
- 3) Acquisition of necessary investment funds



www.fnmgroup.it

Valcamonica H2 is an ambitious project that aims to establish an integrated supply chain for the production, storage and distribution of green hydrogen. The project will contribute to a significant reduction in carbon dioxide emissions and to the carbon neutrality of Brescia region. The hydrogen will be produced from



a certified share of electricity from renewables generated in a waste energy recovery facility in Brescia. The resulting green hydrogen is then stored in a dual storage system (mobile and stationary).

The combination of renewable energy and green hydrogen is a major step towards clean energy and CO_2 emissions reduction in the region. The green hydrogen will be used for an energy-intensive industrial sector and mobility in the region.

The project is an example of a hydrogen management cycle, using local RES production to produce hydrogen that replaces fossil fuels. When implementing a similar project, it is necessary to find a suitable site with good conditions for hydrogen production and local utilization. Similar projects require the existence/construction of a hydrogen infrastructure.



Images used from the project website (www.h2valcamonica.eu)





W.E.B Windenergie

PROJECT LAUNCH

1995

LOCATION

Austria, St. Pölten



SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Contributions from investors/ shareholders PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Development of renewable sources of electricity
- 2) Company based on active involvement of civil society and small shareholders (bottom-up)
- 3) Cooperation and sharing of benefits with local community

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) RES construction permit procedures
- 2) Establishing cooperation with concerned municipalities
- 3) Communication and information about projects, primarily wind power plants, and benefits for local community

www.web.energy/en/





GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLES FOR SELECTED AREAS OF JUST TRANSITION

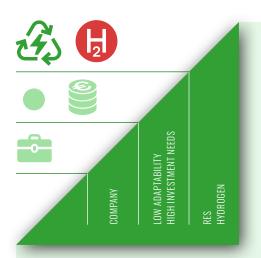


W.E.B Windenergie is a successful model of renewable energy systems based on citizen participation. The company was established in 1995 by a group of enthusiasts from Waldviertel region of Lower Austria, and has since become an example of successful engagement of inhabitants in energy transition.

Today, W.E.B Windenergie operates wind power plants in Austria as well as other countries (Germany, France, Italy, Canada, USA). Thanks to this geographic diversification, the company has a stable base for power generation and has made a significant impact on CO_2 emissions reductions.

Project financing involves investors, who buy the company shares, and an issue of bonds. The company has thousands of small shareholders, none of whom owns more than 4% of the shares. W.E.B Windenergie offers attractive rates for its customers and bonuses for those who reduce their electricity consumption. The company is also engaged in projects of decentralized electricity supply and runs electric car charging stations with its own renewable energy.

The W.E.B Windenergie project has won several awards for its contribution to the energy transition and sustainability, making it a major player in the area of renewable energy both in Austria and on a European scale.



HEAVENN

PROJECT LAUNCH

2020

LOCATION

Netherlands



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 80 million

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

EU (H2020)
Co-financed with Drenthe
province
Other public and private
institutions

heavenn.org



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) One of the leading projects demonstrating the potential of the hydrogen economy
- 2) Development of several innovative solutions in the area of green hydrogen
- 3) High economic potential and the creation of many jobs

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

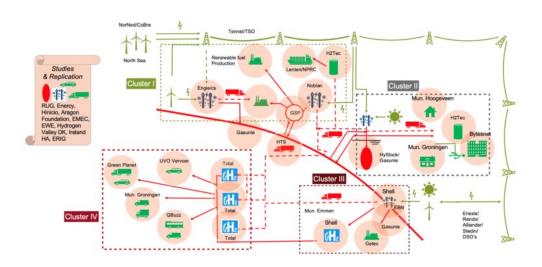
- 1) Acquisition of financing for a similarly sized project
- 2) Acquisition of experts with experience and a focus on hydrogen
- 3) Suitable source of (excess) renewable electricity



The HEAVENN project in the north of the Netherlands is an innovative six-year programme that integrates key elements of production, distribution, storage and local use of green hydrogen (H2) in a hydrogen valley ("H2 valley", H2V). Its objective is to make a model hydrogen management cycle for Europe and other regions.



The green energy for hydrogen production is obtained from onshore and offshore renewable sources. H2 production is also used to balance the power grid due to the instability of renewable electricity generation. The project increases the integration of renewables into the energy system and helps industrial decarbonization. The HEAVENN project tests innovations in the gas industry and various types of hydrogen power cells and their applications. Each subproject includes an analysis of its economic aspects and profitability.

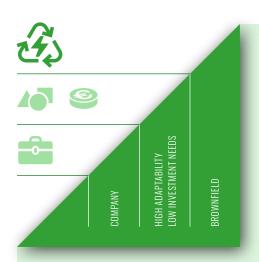




Images from the HEAVENN project pages listed on the left

HYDROGEN





Floating Photovoltaics De Krim Resort



PROJECT LAUNCH

2017

LOCATION

Netherlands, Texel island



SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Private funds

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Water evaporation from water reservoirs reduced by up to 30%
- 2) Reduced growth of algae and other undesirable plants in the water reservoir
- 3) Other uses of an otherwise hardy usable area

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Investment costs about 20–25% higher than conventional PV
- 2) Public acceptance
- 3) Expertise for implementing similar projects

www.solarfloat.com/en-us/casestudies/case-study-de-krim



PDF







The project comprises installation of solar panels on the water reservoir by De Krim resort.

Besides energy from a renewable source, the solar panels reduce the amount of direct sunlight on the water surface, bringing

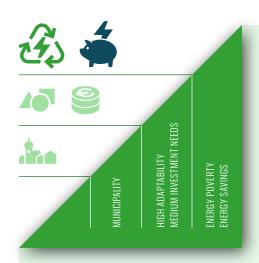
additional ecological and financial benefits. This reduces the growth of plants and algae on the water surface and reduces evaporation from the water surface, leading to retention of (locally) valuable freshwater. Thanks to this, the resort expects a reduction in the freshwater loss of up to 30%.

The floating solar facility is expected to produce 770 to 800 MWh a year, which is approximately 10–15% more energy compared to a similar land installation. That compensates, to a great extent, for the additional costs of installation of a floating solar system compared to conventional PV projects.

This type of project can be suitable as an addition for unused parts of water bodies, where it can also act as a climate change adaptation measure. It prevents major warming of water bodies, which may have positive impacts on water body biodiversity and ecosystems.







Českobrodská School Revitalization

PROJECT LAUNCH

2019

PROJECT COMPLETION

2022

LOCATION

Czechia, Prague



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

CZK 250 million

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

EU subsidy schemes Contribution by Prague City Authority EPC project

www.adapterraawards. cz/cs/Revitalizace-skoly-Ceskobrodska-Praha



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Smart, safe and sustainable school the first carbon-positive school in Czechia
- 2) Increased extent of green areas and reduced costs of energy
- 3) Very good interior environment and atmosphere
- 4) Very good example for replication (of selected elements) in other schools

IMPLEMENTATION CHAILENGES IN CZECHIA

1) Attention to quality project design

2) Initial building condition (presence of asbestos)

3) Acquisition of financial support from existing programmes



Revitalization of a school to an energy and carbon-positive building that meets requirements and recommendations for passive buildings. It comprises, among other things, a light ENVILOP wooden façade, the product of applied research at ČVUT.

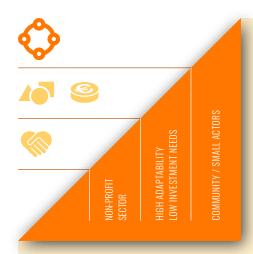


Heating, cooling and hot water is provided by

two ground-to-water heat pumps, and up to 70% of the cooling is passive. The building has forced ventilation with heat recovery. The system is controlled by sensors and time programmes, which the school timetable adheres to. The solution includes a green roof (810 m²) and a 147 kWp photovoltaic power plant with a 300-kWh battery. Additionally, the school has a rainwater management system and uses grey water from showers and washbasins for toilet flushing, saving another 20% of water consumption.

The students gave positive feedback to the project for its overall high-quality execution and a good interior environment, helping them feel good at school.





Moravian-Silesian Region Patriots

PROJECT LAUNCH

2012

LOCATION

Czechia, Moravian-Silesian Region



SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Membership fees, sponsorship Donations and non-monetary contributions PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Networking active involvement of the community and help for members by directing them to the right people/institutions
- 2) Experience sharing support the exchange of tried-and-tested career paths in the region
- 3) Strengthening the sense of belonging to the region
- 4) Help for entrepreneurs in Moravian-Silesian Region by means of business education and a foundation for talent in the region

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Existence of a group of entrepreneurs-patriots interested in supporting business development in the region
- 2) Choice of a suitable communication strategy towards entrepreneurs in the region
- 3) Quality activities and events on a regular basis (at least one activity a month)

https://patriotimsk.cz









MSR Patriots is an entrepreneurial platform focused on developing the business community in the Moravian-Silesian Region (MSR). The group's objective is to increase competitiveness of MSR, promote MSR, and carry out educational and awareness-raising activities. MSR Patriots promote the exchange of experience and sharing of good practice at the regional level, organise business events and conferences that combine business education and networking, host mastermind groups and support MSR entrepreneurs.

Moravian-Silesian Region Patriots serves as a good practice example of business community development support by means of mutual learning, experience sharing and networking. The foundation active as part of MSR Patriots primarily supports the innovative ideas of young entrepreneurs.





Spálov Town Strategy and Projects

PROJECT LAUNCH

2016

LOCATION

Czechia, Moravian-Silesian Region



SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Czech and European subsidy schemes by project type

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Municipal development based on long-term strategy
- 2) Attraction/retention of inhabitants
- 3) Communication, cooperation and involvement of inhabitants
- 4) Strengthening inhabitants' sense of belonging to the municipality

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Well-defined and gradually implemented development strategy
- 2) Appropriate communication strategy, openness towards community
- 3) Good cooperation between municipality and school



https://www.spalov.cz







Before the project, the municipality faced depopulation. Today, the municipal population is increasing due to support for housing (building plots with utilities) and the existence of a primary school, which offers both conventional and Montessori teaching for all nine years and kindergarten. Thanks to this innovative idea to extend the supply with alternative education and cooperation between the school and Spálov Municipality, the town became attractive for young families with children (with the possibility of commuting to Hranice, Olomouc or Ostrava).

The municipality is investing in its development based on a long-term strategy using various subsidies, particularly in cooperation with the Local Action Group (LAG) and micro-region (see \(\mathbb{O}\) www.spalov.cz/urad/projekty). This positive development is due to the communication and cooperation within the municipality, which has a very active community.





Young City Weiz

PROJECT DURATION

2017-2018

LOCATION

Austria, Weiz



PROJECT COSTS

EUR 40,000

(EUR 10,000 by Weiz town)

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Town's own resources
Support from land of Styria
EU subsidy schemes

www.weiz.at/Gemeinde/Projekte/ Junge_Stadt_Weiz



PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Support to involve young people in town life
- 2) Strengthening sense of belonging to the town and willingness to do something for it
- 3) Creation of independent project "Junge Stadt Weiz"

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Well-designed information campaign
- 2) Creation of conditions for accepting and implementing young inhabitants' ideas
- 3) Strong and long-term support to their activities







The project focused on youth with the objective to present the town of Weiz (about 12,000 inhabitants) as a lively, attractive and opportunity-rich regional centre of culture, education and work, which can offer young people many opportunities in a sustainable, environmentally oriented location. The project connected culture and identity, social media and the economy with cross-sectional topics of ecology, mobility and participation.

The town of Weiz organised workshops on process planning, urban administration and politics to establish a focus group and made online surveys on activities associated with the project.

The project Young City Weiz included an independent project "Junge Stadt Weiz," that engaged young people who create authentic content relevant to youth in cooperation with the town's communication department and disseminate it via various communication platforms (e.g. Facebook).





Work is the Goal

PROJECT DURATION

2017-2020

LOCATION

Czechia, Klášterec nad Ohří



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

CZK 2.7 million

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Public sources
OP Employment

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Involvement of people from socially excluded localities
- 2) Increased opportunities on the labour market for participants
- 3) Integration of socially disadvantaged people into the labour market and society

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Information about the project and the associated activation of individuals from socially excluded localities
- 2) Qualified project team experienced with the target group
- 3) Good knowledge of and connections to local firms for job provision

https://radka.kadan.cz/uvodnistranka/projekty/prace-je-cil/





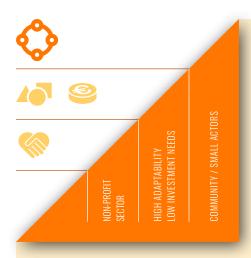
The objective of the project "Work is the Goal" was to involve people from socially excluded localities in activities that give them an opportunity to receive education, explore possibilities for their professional life and obtain practical experience. The target group was people of all age groups living in socially excluded localities in Klášterec nad Ohří, including ethnic minorities and people from different sociocultural



backgrounds. The project actively involved 90 participants. Individual plans were developed with 30 participants, and 58% of them (17 people) were successfully employed or had their current work problems resolved.

The project is an example of an activity focused on inhabitants from socially excluded localities, who belong to the most vulnerable on the labour market.





Green Entrepreneurship

PROJECT DURATION

2022-2024

LOCATION

Czechia, Spain, Slovakia



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

EUR 60,000

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Erasmus+
Small Scale Partnership

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Promotion and awareness raising about flexible forms of work for women (employment options that can be combined with motherhood).
- 2) Sharing of know-how in green entrepreneurship, which leads to reduction in energy consumption and raw materials
- 3) Promotion of sustainable development

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Hybrid and flexible approach to project activities, including elimination of the language barrier
- 2) Clear target group definition
- 3) Acquisition of financial support

www.greenwomen.eu/green



www.rovnovazka.cz/green







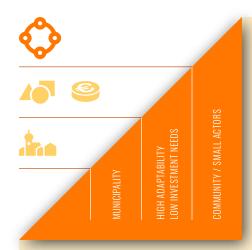




GreEn is an initiative implemented as part of Erasmus+ that connects three organisations (Rovnovážka, Adesos and Futureg) from Czechia, Slovakia and Spain. The objective of Green Entrepreneurship is to develop women's competencies in sustainable entrepreneurship, including flexible forms of work that allow harmonization of family and work life and the use of modern technologies for marketing purposes. The project offers a hybrid education course for women and supports an international community for experience sharing. The pilot version of the project involved 30 participants from the three countries.

The project enables the creation of a social network for sharing experiences, ideas and products among participants from three European countries and promotes the development of sustainable forms of entrepreneurship in the three regions.





Creative Timișoara

PROJECT LAUNCH

2015

LOCATION

Romania, Timișoara



SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

City budget and crowdfunding

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Involvement of secondary school students in municipal functioning
- 2) Contribution of young people to city development by innovative and creative projects
- 3) Development of entrepreneurial and investment knowledge among youth
- 4) Strengthening young people's sense of belonging to the city and region

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Need to earmark funds for the project in the municipal budget or obtain external financing (subsidies, sponsors, donations)
- 2) Appropriate communication strategy towards relevant stakeholders (secondary school students, teachers, entrepreneurs, local inhabitants)
- 3) Provision of transparent conditions for competing business or investment proposals

romaniacreativa.ro





Creative Timişoara introduces secondary school students to the functioning and to most important resources of the city and focuses on options for their improved utilization.

The objective is to involve youth in the city development since their generation will be impacted by the decisions made today. The project was launched in 2015 and includes

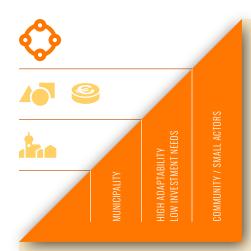


a series of courses in business, provided by the Faculty of Economics and

Management and experts from local businesses. Teams of secondary school students and teachers propose innovative start-ups or public investments. Within one month, they develop a business/investment proposal, which they promote on a crowdfunding platform. The money obtained belongs to the team members and are proof of the public confirmation of their proposal. The final evaluation of the proposals is based on experts' opinions and evaluation by local inhabitants. The first three teams are given a monetary award. All participants obtain certificates for participation in the education programme and prizes from sponsors.

The project focuses on the development of entrepreneurial and investment knowledge among secondary school students with the aim to involve them in city development. The project is demanding in terms of the organisation and coordination of activities, but may bring a new perspective of city development and future and ultimately strengthen young people's sense of belonging to the city.





Karviná Fans

PROJECT LAUNCH

2019

LOCATION

Czechia, Karviná



SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

City budget
Own resources of involved stakeholders

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Attraction and involvement of local inhabitants
- 2) Strengthening the sense of belonging to the town and willingness to do something for it
- 3) Promotion of local patriotism

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Existence of an active group of inhabitants who make use of a city initiative and continue to develop it
- 2) City support (moral and/or financial)
- 3) Appropriate communication strategy the project aims to involve inhabitants from various social and age groups



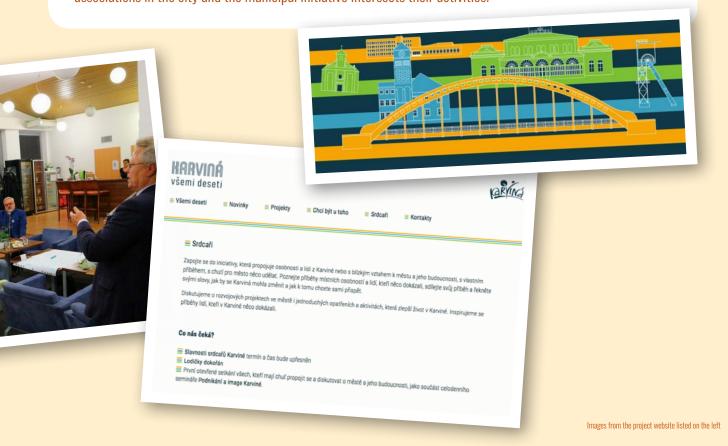
karvinavsemideseti.cz/srdcari/

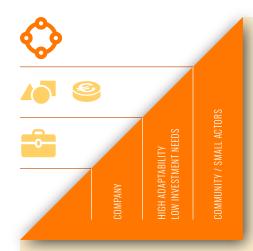




Initially a city initiative as part of the project Karviná Without Hesitation and guided by an effort to involve active inhabitants in city life, the project brings an opportunity to share, inspire and be involved in positive changes in the city. It includes the sharing of stories of interesting local personalities, debate on development projects and simple measures to improve life in the city, thereby promoting the active involvement of inhabitants in future development of Karviná.

Karviná Fans provides an example of good practice that shows how a municipal initiative, guided by an effort to approach active inhabitants (individuals, associations), has evolved into a wide range of diverse events and activities (meetings of Fans, cultural, awareness-raising and discussion events), which the city supports both formally and informally, including financial contributions. Importantly, there are active individuals and associations in the city and the municipal initiative intersects their activities.





Environmental Social Enterprise Biobýt

PROJECT LAUNCH

2016

LOCATION

Czechia, Chotěnov



SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Private financing

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Involvement of people who lack access to the labour market
- 2) Support for local ecological agriculture and organic food production
- 3) Development of agritourism connected with sustainable spatial development
- 4) Strengthening the relationship with nature for children and adults

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Need to build adequate facilities for the handicapped
- 2) Dependence on agricultural production of local farmers
- 3) Well-chosen and targeted promotion of the farm in terms of both its production and agritourism







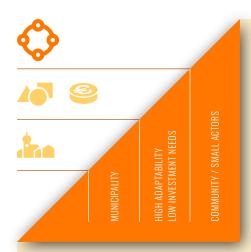




Biobýt Farm is an environmental social enterprise, employing persons disadvantaged on the labour market who have difficulty finding a job. The farm processes fruit from a local ecological farmer and other small-scale local farmers into juices, jams, plum butter and dried fruit. In 2018–2022, it organised day camps for children, and has provided accommodation since 2023. The social enterprise activity supports local farmers, who manage the landscape responsibly.

Biobýt Farm is an interesting example of a social enterprise that employs people disadvantaged on the labour market, supports ecological agriculture connected with landscape management and provides environmental education for the young generation. It thus contributes to sustainable spatial development.





Business Start Academy

PROJECT LAUNCH

2021

LOCATION

Czechia, Pardubice Region



TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

CZK 80,000/course

SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Region

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Development of skills of local future, beginning and existing entrepreneurs
- 2) Support to entrepreneurship in the city and its surroundings and connection of entrepreneurs via business clubs
- 3) Diversification of local/regional economy

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Targeted and effective promotion of entrepreneurial education
- 2) Development of entrepreneurial knowledge and skills
- 3) Quality and experienced instructors with expert knowledge and practical experience

https://paradnikraj.cz/ akademie-zacinajicihopodnikani-je-tady/

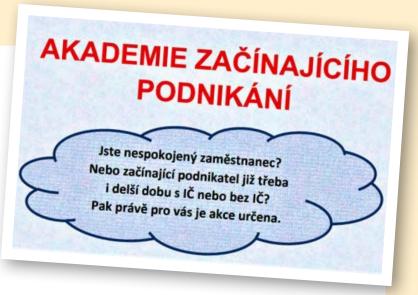


https://ekonomika.dobrapraxe. cz/cz/priklady-dobre-praxe/ kraliky-akademie-zacinajicihopodnikani





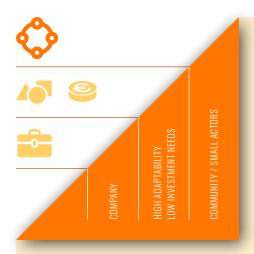
Local and regional entrepreneurship is an important development factor. That is why Pardubice Region supports the development of entrepreneurial skills with its course "Business Start Academy" in towns across the region. P-PINK



(Pardubice Business Incubator) implements a course for entrepreneurs across all stages of entrepreneurship. The Academy includes five workshops, five individual and joint consultations, establishment of a business club in each town and marketing support. The objective of the course is development of the participants' entrepreneurial skills. For example, participants learn to make their business plan, calculate and eliminate business risks, how to attract their customers and outsmart competitors. The project includes a special lecture and workshop for local primary schools (8th and 9th years). The Academy content and staffing are connected to the promotion of entrepreneurship in secondary schools.

The course "Business Start Academy" is a comprehensive package of entrepreneurship development and support that Pardubice Region purposefully and systematically uses to support municipalities and LAGs in developing their inhabitants' entrepreneurial skills. The project success also hinges on the active involvement of municipalities (e.g., by informing citizens via communication channels such as local press, Facebook, radio).





Dejskart

PROJECT LAUNCH

2015

LOCATION

Czechia, Šumperk



SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Private financing

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Involvement of disadvantaged people on the labour market
- 2) Diversity of economic activities provides work for people with various handicaps and offers companies the opportunity to offset their obligation to employ physically disadvantaged persons
- 3) Development of circular economy at the local and regional levels

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Need to adjust work conditions and facilities for the handicapped
- 2) Promotion of company activities and customers' willingness to collect old paper for exchange
- 3) Acquisition of demand for services



www.dejskart.cz







The social enterprise deals with collection and sorting of paper in a "PAPER for PAPER" system: exchange of old paper (i.e., newspapers, magazines, books, etc.) for money or new paper (i.e., toilet paper, paper kitchen towels and tissues). Old paper is shredded and turned into packaging of various materials. The social enterprise also runs a haulage service up to 3.5t and a small shop that features employees' products (bracelets, trees of life, etc.). The social enterprise is useful by offering work to people with minimal chances of participation on the labour market. In turn the social enterprise provides other companies with the opportunity to offset their statutory obligation to employ disabled people by means of selected activities. Its activity contributes to development of circular economy.

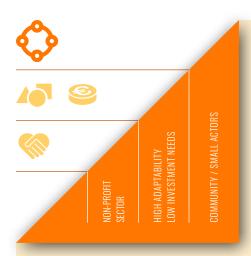
This is an example of a company dealing with waste processing (circular economy), which is moreover a social enterprise that employs people disadvantaged on the labour market.











KultiVary

PROJECT LAUNCH

2021

LOCATION

Czechia, Karlovy Vary



SOURCE OF PROJECT FINANCING

Grants, subsidies, donations Revenues from own activity, volunteerism

PROJECT BENEFITS

- 1) Building and development of local community
- 2) Meeting and connecting ideas and people to strengthen their sense of belonging to the city and region
- 3) Activation and involvement of young people in local and regional affairs that affect future
- 4) Retention/attraction of young people in the region

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES IN CZECHIA

- 1) Existence of active individuals or groups willing to implement a similar non-profit project, and project sustainability over time
- 2) Correctly set strategy for activation of youth (set up the project so that it attracts them)
- 3) Choice of appropriate communication channels promotion and communication via social media (Facebook, Instagram, podcasts)

www.kultivary.cz



www.facebook.com/kultivarykv/



www.instagram.com/ kultivarykv/?hl=en



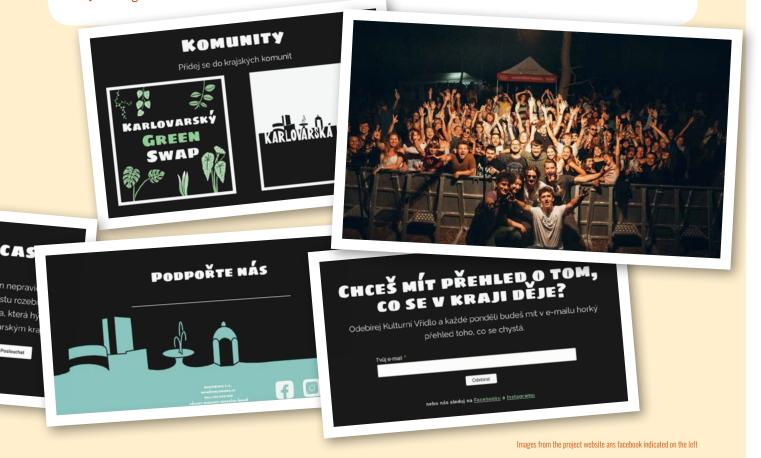




KultiVary is a non-governmental non-profit organisation that assumes

an awareness-raising role in the transition process through projects such as Karlovy Vary Gang, Karlovy Vary Green Swap, Listen West (podcasts on current topics). KultiVary strives to attract and activate young people in the region and involve them in the debate on local and regional problems (uses for an old cinema, making podcasts, organizing festivals). KultiVary also tries to communicate with people who have left the region and find ways to attract them back to the community. To this end, KultiVary use communication channels such as face-to-face meetings and social media such as Facebook, Instagram, podcasts.

An example of an initiative of young inhabitants of Karlovy Vary (Region) who want to actively develop their city and region.





















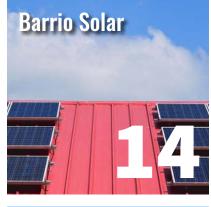






























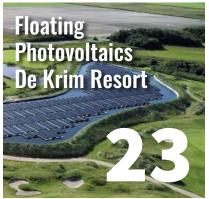




















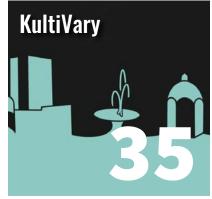














Overview of potential project financing

Selected national and European public support schemes

	Sources	RES A HYDROGEN	ENERGY POVERTY	BROWNFIELDS & RESTORATION	INVOLVEMENT OF "SMALL" ACTORS
(Operational) Programmes in Czechia	OP TAK				
	OP JAK				
	Integrated Regional OP				
	Nová Zelená úsporám				
	Programme Just Transition				
	OP Employment Plus				
	Modernisation Fund				
	National Recovery Plan				
Other sources in Gzechia	National Development Bank				
	Rural Development Programme				
	Tourism Support				
EU programmes	European Investment Bank				
	LIFE				
	Horizon Europe				
	Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values				
	Interreg Europe				
	European Urban Initiative (EUI)				
	Innovation Fund				
	Research Fund for Coal and Steel				
Other supranational programmes	Visegrad Fund (V4F)				
	EEA and Norway Grants				
	Czech-German Future Fund				









































