



BĂLŢI STUTTGART

GORAŽDE GREIFSWALD

DÜSSELDORF CHERNIVTSI

HOYERSWERDA NOVOVOLYNSK



Dr. Robert Brandt, AEE Managing Director says: "The 'Energy Transition Town Twinnings 3.0' project offers a wonderful opportunity to connect municipalities across Europe. Renewable energies are a great opportunity for society. They strengthen the democratisation of energy supply at a municipal level and create new economic foundations for the communities."





Daphne Büllesbach, Managing Director of BGP, emphasises the importance for citizens of the twin towns and beyond: "The 'Energy Transition Town Twinnings 3.0' project creates a common learning place that connects people across borders and is dedicated to the common Herculean task of a socially and ecologically successful energy transition, from trans-national to municipal."

# **BĂLȚI**

The municipality of Bălţi, also called "the northern capital", is the second administrative unit in the Republic of Moldova in terms of area and inhabitants – an industrial, commercial, educational and cultural hub and urban centre in the North Development Region. Bălţi is located 138 km away from the capital Chişinău, 65 km from neighbouring Romania and 120 km from Ukraine. The territory of the municipality of Bălţi (including Elizaveta and Sadovoe villages) is 7,800.6 ha. Bălţi has a population of 89,356 inhabitants (as of 2024), representing about 15% of the population of the region and 5% of the population of the country.

The municipality of Bălţi is the only territorial-administrative unit in the Republic of Moldova that has implemented projects in all 3 cross-border and trans-national cooperation programmes eligible for local authorities in the Republic of Moldova in

the period from 2014 to 2020 (Romania-Republic of Moldova Joint Operational Programme 2014–2020; Danube Trans-national Programme 2014–2020; Black Sea Basin Programme 2014–2020). In the last 10 years, the municipality of Bălţi has implemented 30 development projects worth a total of around € 7,700,000.00 (excluding loan agreements).



The municipality faces the challenges of uneven development, environmental pressures from industry and transport and a degraded urban infrastructure. Other challenges relate to social inequality, negative demographic processes, inefficient use of energy and public land, as well as outdated infrastructure networks. In order to overcome these challenges, the municipality is committed to adopting various policies and implementing a series of programmes and action plans aimed at modernising public services, developing investment opportunities, increasing economic competitiveness and rethinking public spaces through the application of integrated urban development measures. From this perspective, the following topics are of relevance to the municipality of Bălţi: Clean Energy, Climate Change, Energy Transition & Efficiency, Green Districts, Renewables, Resilience, etc.



# WHAT KIND OF CHALLENGES DOES OUR CITY FACE WITH REGARD TO ENERGY TRANSITION?

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The municipality of Bălţi owns and administers over 400 buildings. Considering the energy efficiency level of these, there is huge scope for reducing GHG emissions and increasing citizens' quality of life. The global consumption of energy resources and energy in the municipality of Bălţi in 2023 constituted about 200,000 tonnes of oil equivalent. According to statistical data, public sector buildings consume about 35% of the total share. The largest share in the consumption of energy resources in 2023 was recorded by thermal energy, accounting for 55%, followed by natural gas – 25%, and electricity – 18%. The rest of the energy resources accounted for up to 10% of consumption. At the same time, it should be mentioned that the share of the municipality in the national consumption of energy resources and energy represents about 10%. High energy consumption is proof of the fact that public buildings are energy-inefficient and require urgent interventions to reduce public expenditure, increase energy efficiency and promote, monitor and enforce compliance with European Union environmental rules.

# WHAT DO WE EXPECT TO GAIN FROM THE PROJECT?

The main expectation for the municipality of Bălţi is to build trans-national partnerships in order to benefit from the exchange of experience and good practices and to study innovative technologies in the field of energy efficiency.

#### HOW CAN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES SUPPORT US WITH ENERGY TRANSITION?

The municipality of Bălți declares its special interest in obtaining support to learn best practices in energy transition at local authority level, studying opportunities for development, investment and financial support for the municipalities and exploring the latest market-ready urban solutions.

# **STUTTGART**

Stuttgart is the capital of the German state of Baden-Württemberg in the South-West of Germany. The original meaning goes back to the "Stutengarten", a horse stud, which was protected by the first fortress around 950. This is reflected in the city's coat of arms, which features a horse.

With around 633,500 inhabitants, it is the sixth-largest city in Germany with a high population density of around 3,000 inhabitants per square kilometre. The climate is relatively temperate. The unique topography in a pot-shaped location with many hills and the adjacent Neckar valley influences the urban landscape. Stuttgart is also known for its woods, numerous parks and vineyards on slopes.



oto: © Stuttgart-Marketing GmbH, Sarah 9

The city is an important centre for business and finance, and with companies such as Mercedes-Benz, Porsche and Bosch based locally, it is also regarded as a location for production. In addition to this, Stuttgart is also home to a thriving, industry-orientated research community, which includes a large number of scientific facilities and academic institutes.

### WHAT KIND OF ENERGY-RELATED TOPICS ARE RELEVANT FOR OUR CITY?

Fossil fuels need to be replaced in the coming years. Stuttgart has set itself the ambitious goal of becoming climate-neutral by 2035. In order to achieve this, the city is studying all regional potentials for renewable energies, including geothermal energy, photovoltaics, solar thermal energy, river heat, waste water heat and industrial waste heat. The city is also exploring ways to transform the required supraregional energy supply to renewable energies.

Analyses and strategic planning in the areas of heat, electricity and mobility are regularly updated. The municipality records, informs, initiates and manages the necessary measures. Funding, information and guidance are provided to ensure that the transition is as efficient as possible.

# WHAT KIND OF CHALLENGES DOES OUR CITY FACE WITH REGARD TO ENERGY TRANSITION?

BĂLŢI STUTTGART

The limited availability of local renewable energy resources presents a significant challenge. Given the city's valuable assets worthy of protection, such as nature reserves and mineral springs, there is limited available open space. Additionally, there are few winds, as the city is situated in a relatively wind- and weather-protected location, embedded in the surrounding mountain ranges (the Black Forest, Swabian Alb, Schurwald, Swabian-Franconian Forest Mountains).

The high building density and the resulting limited space present certain challenges regarding the construction of a new heating infrastructure. The high proportion of tenants also brings up some difficulties in the development of photovoltaics and the progress of refurbishment. The reduction of car traffic and the expansion of public transport and cycling also present unique challenges in a car-centric city. The limited space and the topography play a role in this context as well. The city is also facing significant challenges regarding residents' concerns about new technologies and high investments. Communication, information and support are key elements in this process.

#### WHAT DO WE EXPECT TO GAIN FROM THE PROJECT?

We all face similar challenges and share the common goal of creating a sustainable and liveable future. We believe that cooperative collaboration is essential to achieve this goal. In this project, we hope to gain a deeper knowledge of the participating municipalities and, if possible, to expand our network on the path to the energy transition.

# HOW CAN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES SUPPORT US WITH ENERGY TRANSITION?

Ideas and potential innovative solutions have the potential to strengthen and accelerate the path to a climate-neutral future, while also bringing us closer together as a European community. We therefore hope for a collaborative exchange of experiences that can help us move forward with common challenges, such as encouraging citizen participation in the implementation of necessary measures.

# **GORAŽDE**

The city of Goražde is located in the south-eastern part of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), in the canton of Bosnian-Podrinje (BPK), and is the canton's administrative, political, economic and cultural centre. The total area of the city is 252.5 km, which represents 49.21% of the territory of the Bosnian-Podrinje canton. The city of Goražde consists of 145 settlements organised into around 20 local communities (MZs) with about 20,000 inhabitants.

A favourable climate, fertile soil, rich forests, the city's good geographical and topographical location next to the Drina River, with many natural resources, are the most favourable natural conditions that give rise to the theory that, even in the distant past, people came together in Goražde and raised settlements.



o: © City of Goražde

The Drina River presents a unique attraction for many domestic and foreign tourists; tourism development is therefore mainly based on the opportunities that it offers. Cultural life in the city of Goražde takes place mostly within the public institution of the Goražde culture centre, which was founded by the city. A large number of young people are grouped together by cultural and artistic associations: the cultural-artistic association of the Goražde culture centre Goraždeand the "Azot" Vitkovici cultural-artistic association.

## WHAT KIND OF TOPICS ARE RELEVANT FOR OUR CITY?

Before the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1992–1995), Goražde was known as a developed industrial city. Goražde achieved this status thanks to the economic giants of the chemical industry "AZOT" and UNIS "Pobjeda". These firms employed more than 11,000 people, and Goražde's living standards were high. The war in BiH (1992–1995) put an end to this and the economy suffered great damage. Infrastructure was destroyed, production was halted, and there was a large expatriate population (which resulted in an exodus of professionals). After the war, the economy fell on its knees.

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Attempts to revive it have not yielded great results and it needs to start from scratch. The company that has slowly started to resuscitate the economy of BPK Goražde is the former company Bekto-International, and today's Emka Bosnia. This was the first company in this region to begin hiring and opening new jobs. The companies formed from the process of privatising "Pobjeda" are slowly beginning to expand their production. Thanks to subsidies from local authorities, but also higher levels of incentives, Goražde is slowly opening up and doing everything to attract investors. It resulted in the arrival of new companies in this area and the expansion of existing facilities in companies.

# WHAT KIND OF CHALLENGES DOES OUR CITY FACE WITH REGARD TO ENERGY TRANSITION?

Due to the wartime events, many building façades still bear "scars" and an energy audit has not yet been conducted to begin insulation or façade restoration. The pre-war heating plants are also no longer operational, and most of the population heats its homes with firewood. People stack firewood in front of buildings and houses to heat their homes during the winter. These piles of wood are usually placed in visible areas in the yards, which creates an un-urban image of the city. The city does not have a gas supply, and a study conducted with the aim of bringing a gas pipeline requires significant financial resources and is not feasible given the number of residents and businesses.

#### WHAT DO WE EXPECT TO GAIN FROM THE PROJECT?

We expect to acquire new knowledge in the field of energy transition. Finding funds that would provide financial assistance in addressing the challenges of the energy transition process.

# HOW CAN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES SUPPORT US WITH ENERGY TRANSITION?

First and foremost, exchanging experiences with similar challenges that other cities face regarding the energy transition.

GORAŽDE GREIFSWALD

# **GREIFSWALD**

The university and Hanseatic city of Greifswald is a Baltic coastal town of around 60,000 inhabitants in the federal state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, which is also the district town of the Western Pomerania-Greifswald administrative district. The town lies at the mouth of the River Ryck into the Danish Wieck, part of the Greifswald Bodden, a bay of the Baltic Sea, at a very low altitude above sea level. Structurally, Greifswald is a densely built-up and heavily sealed settlement area (41% of the city area), while the surrounding area is characterised by forestry and agriculture (54% of the city area).

# WHAT KIND OF ENERGY-RELATED TOPICS ARE RELEVANT FOR OUR CITY?



o: © Stadtwerke Greifswald

Greifswald has a climate protection master plan that contains measures to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to zero. According to a resolution passed by the citizens, this should be achieved by 2035. One challenge is a climate-neutral heat supply. Greifswald has its own municipal utility company, which supplies around 70% of all households with heat via district heating lines. This heat is currently generated from solar thermal energy, natural gas and biogas. In combined heat and power plants, electricity and heat are produced simultaneously from gas or biogas. In the future, this supply will be provided entirely from renewable energies. The construction of the solar thermal plant, currently the largest in Germany, was a first step.

Houses that are not supplied with district heating are often connected to the gas network. Heat pumps are increasingly being used, almost exclusively in new buildings. Most buses in Greifswald run on biogas. There are no wind turbines on the city's territory because the necessary distance from residential buildings cannot be maintained. However, electricity is generated on many roofs using photovoltaic systems, and areas have been designated for larger photovoltaic systems.

# WHAT KIND OF CHALLENGES DOES OUR CITY FACE WITH REGARD TO ENERGY TRANSITION?

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The biggest challenge is the conversion of the heat supply from fossil to renewable energy sources. The city wants this to be done by 2035. It is important to involve citizens in the planning and conversion process. Heat supply must be plannable, but also affordable.

The challenge for municipal utilities is to expand the district heating network and heat it with renewable energies. If gas can no longer be used to supply buildings not connected to the district heating system, there will be a high demand for electrical energy for heat pumps. The electricity network capacities must be expanded for this and for the switch to electromobility.

#### WHAT DO WE EXPECT TO GAIN FROM THE PROJECT?

We hope that through the exchange within the network we will be able to benefit from the experiences of other municipalities. An important aspect, however, is the support of the energy network by the Agency for Renewable Energies, which is contributing its expertise and experience to the project. Through international cooperation, we also want to emphasise the importance of climate protection in the international consensus. Greifswald is active at various levels in order to live up to its global responsibility.

### HOW CAN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES SUPPORT US WITH ENERGY TRANSITION?

Each municipality brings something different to the network and supports the work of the partners. In the heating sector in particular, it is important to know and use all the possibilities of a renewable energy supply. Greifswald is very experienced in the area of district heating and is working on strategies to generate it in a climate-neutral way over the next 10 years. The municipality wants to create the necessary framework conditions for the upcoming changes. This includes the concept of municipal heat planning, but also the possibilities of a statute on heat supply and the participation of citizens. We hope to gain a lot of insights from the network and would like to contribute our experiences.

# **DÜSSELDORF**

Düsseldorf is the capital of the federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia. With about 18 million inhabitants, North Rhine-Westphalia is the state with the largest population within Germany. As of 31 December 2023, Düsseldorf had a population of almost 656,000 inhabitants.

City departments, city-affiliated companies and civil society organisations within Düsseldorf contribute to all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2022, the city identified 12 fields of action that have a high potential for achieving the SDGs that are relevant for Düsseldorf and that the city can influence. Climate protection and municipal development cooperation are among these fields of action.



to: © Ingo Lammert

Düsseldorf has nine official partner cities. Since March 2022, the city has been cooperating with its newest partner city, the Ukrainian city of Chernivtsi. Düsseldorf sent various aid items, such as food and power generators as well ambulances and waste vehicles. In addition, the two municipalities exchange expertise in the fields of city drainage, public lighting as well as urban and economic development.

# WHAT KIND OF ENERGY-RELATED TOPICS ARE RELEVANT FOR OUR CITY?

The city of Düsseldorf aims to be climate neutral by 2035. In order to achieve this goal, the city's energy demand must be reduced, energy efficiency must be increased and local energy production from renewable sources must be scaled up. Three projects, as examples for the path to climate neutrality, are crucial: all suitable roofs of the public buildings, including schools, nurseries and administration facilities, are to be equipped with solar systems. The city is developing a plan for municipal heating and cooperating with local enterprises in order to reduce the city's energy consumption and tackle global climate change.

# WHAT KIND OF CHALLENGES DOES OUR CITY FACE WITH REGARD TO ENERGY TRANSITION?

DÜSSELDORF CHERNIVTSI

Identifying and installing climate-neutral heating systems, especially with regard to 72,000 residential buildings, taking into account national legislation and funding projects as well as involving the citizens and other important stakeholders.

Düsseldorf is a densely populated area, thus developing projects for large-scale renewable energy production such as wind turbines and industrial solar plants or heat pumps is challenging.

#### WHAT DO WE EXPECT TO GAIN FROM THE PROJECT?

The city of Düsseldorf has committed itself to municipal development cooperation. Project cooperation and expertise exchange are meant to enhance knowledge within all participating sites. With a view to the extraordinary challenges that the Ukrainian partner city, Chernivtsi is currently facing, such as constant power outages, the project is especially supposed to support energy efficiency within Chernivtsi.

#### HOW CAN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES SUPPORT US WITH ENERGY TRANSITION?

The challenges on the road to climate neutrality in cities are often alike: the scope for producing renewable energy is limited, but the demand for electricity is increasing. The heating sector is of special concern: it includes 56% of the total energy demand, and even up to 81% in private households. In order to achieve climate neutrality, we need to reduce the energy demand and decarbonise our heat source, which is currently mainly natural gas. We are keen to discuss this challenge with other cities and learn from their approaches and experiences. Energy transition and climate action are global issues that should be best approached together!

# **CHERNIVTSI**

The city of Chernivtsi is located in south-western Ukraine, 40 km from the border with Romania. It is also the administrative, economic, social, historical and cultural centre of the Chernivtsi region.

Chernivtsi is located in the foothills of the Ukrainian Carpathians, through which flows the Prut River, which divides the city in a half. The river passes through the territories of the Republic of Moldova and Romania. In 2021 the Chernivtsi city territorial community (CTC) was created, incorporating the territory of the city of Chernivtsi and two other villages. The Chernivtsi CTC has around 270,500 inhabitants. The total area of Chernivtsi is about 153 km².



o: © City of Chernivit

Chernivtsi has a significant economic potential with many industrial facilities, cultural institutions, educational institutions and facilities. The geographical location of the city, with its proximity to the eastern borders of the EU, creates favourable conditions for the development of cross-border cooperation and European integration.

### WHAT KIND OF ENERGY-RELATED TOPICS ARE RELEVANT FOR OUR CITY?

SOLAR ENERGY: Chernivtsi has a high level of solar radiation. This means that theoretically, if the territory of Chernivtsi CTC would have completely been covered with solar panels, the amount of radiation could have been converted into 16,041,857.43 MWh of electricity. This exceeds the total electricity consumption of Chernivtsi CTC in 2020 by approximately 31 times.

WIND ENERGY: In Ukraine, the total potential of wind energy is estimated by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) at an impressive 320 GW – it is enough to provide citizens with quadruple the amount of electricity, as the power of all types of power plants in the country is currently 55 GW.

# WHAT KIND OF CHALLENGES DOES OUR CITY FACE WITH REGARD TO ENERGY TRANSITION?

DÜSSELDORF CHERNIVTSI

Modern socio-economic challenges in the Ukrainian society, the need to preserve natural resources and the urgency to reduce dependence on traditional energy sources are among topics Chernivtsi would like to discuss during the project. It is at the same time clear that in order to address them, substantial financial investment is needed. Another major challenge is related to the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine. Not only must the municipality, under the conditions of martial law, protect civilian population, but also its critical and social infrastructure, which is a constant targeted of the attacks. Russian missiles, bombs, and drones are purposefully destroying electrical stations, cutting off power to residential buildings, hospitals, schools and nurseries. To ensure a sustainable autonomous energy supply solutions such as the development of renewable energy infrastructure and decentralised generation are needed.

# WHAT DO WE EXPECT TO GAIN FROM THE PROJECT?

Our mission is to ensure the sustainable development of the city by creating comfortable living conditions for residents, mitigating and adapting to the negative consequences of climate change, while reducing the energy consumption of the city's infrastructure and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. In 2023, the Action Plan for Sustainable Energy Development and Climate of the Chernivtsi CTC until 2030 has been approved. Within the framework of the project, we expect to gain new knowledge and experience in the field of renewable energy and be in the position to initiate projects related to the planning the construction of wind power plants and solar parks.

## HOW CAN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES SUPPORT US WITH ENERGY TRANSITION?

It is important to continue learning from each other in order to build on the municipality's potential. We see a big importance of partnership cooperation with the city of Düsseldorf. Moreover, the exchange of best practices regarding successful strategies and ways of implementing sustainable development goals at the local level as well as the implementation of activities related to the topic of renewable energy, which are currently extremely important, deserves a special focus.

# **HOYERSWERDA**

Hoyerswerda is located in the middle of the up-and-coming region of the Lusatian Lake District. "Happiness appears here" is the current tourist advertising slogan. This happiness is within reach in Hoyerswerda. Over 20 lakes in the Lusatian Lake District are just a stone's throw away from HoyWoy, as locals affectionately call our town. We look back on our 750-year history. From 1960s, Hoyerswerda blossomed from a small farming town into a young residential town for coal and energy workers in the Lusatian lignite mining area with over 70,000 inhabitants. A few years later, our town was considered the epitome of migration, population decline and housing demolition. All of that is behind us. Today, Hoyerswerda presents itself as a perfectly renovated, modern city with a historic old town centre, with residents full of ideas and bold visions, and with amenities that many cities' dwellers envy.



o: © Gernot Menzel

Hoyerswerda is centrally located on two federal highways between Leipzig and Wroclaw and between Berlin and Prague. The Saxon state capital Dresden is less than 60 kilometres away. The state borders with Brandenburg and the borders with Poland and the Czech Republic are even closer. Hoyerswerda offers a top location in the countryside, spectacular water sports opportunities, family-friendly leisure activities and varied excursion destinations.

### WHAT KIND OF ENERGY-RELATED TOPICS ARE RELEVANT FOR OUR CITY?

By 2050 the energy supply in Germany is to be essentially climate neutral. The Federal Government's climate protection plan envisages a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 67% by 2030 compared to 1990. A CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral heat supply in settlement planning is therefore becoming increasingly important. Municipalities are crucial players in this restructuring of the heat supply. With its strategic approach to new renewable heat generation, Versorgungsbetriebe Hoyerswerda GmbH (VBH) is creating supra-regional value creation with a pioneering character, particularly through inter-municipal cooperation. The partners are building on existing infrastructure. They are currently investigating different variants for a climate-neutral, safe and affordable green heat supply for 2030. A planned municipal energy control centre will enable intelligent regional networking.

# WHAT KIND OF CHALLENGES DOES OUR CITY FACE WITH REGARD TO ENERGY TRANSITION?

HOYERSWERDA NOVOVOLYNSK

With the federal government's decision to completely phase out brown coal by 2038, Hoyerswerda in the Saxon part of the Lusatian region is expected to be the city most affected. This impact results both from the expected loss of jobs directly affected by brown coal and its processing, which are well-paid for the region, as well as the service and craft activities indirectly dependent on it to maintain living and working conditions, but also from the loss of infrastructural services of general interest – in this case, specifically the heat supply to Hoyerswerda Neustadt from the Schwarze Pumpe power plant and other basic infrastructural services, such as the Lusatian drinking water network and sewage sludge incineration in the Schwarze Pumpe power plant.

#### WHAT DO WE EXPECT TO GAIN FROM THE PROJECT?

As part of the project, we hope to make exciting national and international contacts that will enable us to create long-term networking. We are also looking forward to learning about new technological approaches as well as the social aspects and approaches to transformation.

#### HOW CAN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES SUPPORT US WITH ENERGY TRANSITION?

The energy transition at municipal level is not only a technical challenge but also a task for society as a whole. It is important to ensure a sustainable, affordable and secure supply through transparency, communication and participation. In particular, the development of large-scale solar parks and wind turbines will become increasingly important in Hoyerswerda in the coming years and must be well prepared. We are curious to see whether and how other municipalities have approached this step.

# **NOVOVOLYNSK**

Novovolynsk is the centre of a municipal community of 8 settlements, with a population of 58,000 inhabitants. The total area of our community is 75.4 sq km. Novovolynsk has a favourable geographical location in the western part of Ukraine, only 5 km from the state border with Poland. The community's economy includes following industries: food, light, wood, chemical, engineering, as well as production of metal products, trade and services. Since the beginning of the war, Novovolynsk has become a refuge for internally displaced persons from the war zone.

# WHAT KIND OF ENERGY-RELATED TOPICS AND CHALLENGES DOES OUR CITY FACE?

We are interested in exploring the topics of: electricity generation, renewable energy sources, especially solar energy (installation of solar panels), heat supply, access to water resources, climate neutrality, circular economy and green transition. The overall goal of the community is to get as close as possible to creating an independent energy island.

We have already implemented 3 projects to install solar panels on the roofs of buildings. At the moment, we are working on a project to install a 900 kW solar power plant at Novovolynskvodokanal (water supply and sewage disposal services in Novovolynsk). Sadly, this is a very small part of the city's total demand. In total, we have 150 municipal buildings (schools, sport complexes and critical infrastructure) that need to improve energy security. The municipality is taking steps to solve this problem. For example, Ecodia, is helping to develop a catalogue of investment-attractive objects for the installation of solar power plants.

Another important topic is the energy efficiency and the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. There are many outdated, worn-out buildings that were built without taking into account energy efficiency principles. It is our task to carry out thermal modernisation measures that will not only save up to 50% of heat energy use but will also contribute to the reduction of GHG emissions.



oto: © Andrii Med

Novovolynsk has already developed a Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan, with several goals by 2030 such as the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, increase of the share of renewable energy sources and raising the awareness of residents for the rational use of energy, among others.

We should also emphasise the problem of a nature-focused approach to the region: increasing green spaces and biodiversity in our city as a territory that has suffered from the effects of the coal mining industry.

#### WHAT DO WE EXPECT TO GAIN FROM THE PROJECT?

- Exchange experience and knowledge to gain valuable experience in implementing renewable energy sources, energy efficient technologies and innovative solutions.
- Attract international investors for the development of renewable energy sources (wind and solar power plants) and infrastructure modernisation.
- · Develop joint energy solutions, sustainable development strategies thanks to international cooperation.
- Accelerate the process of modernising the municipal energy infrastructure incl. the implementation of energyefficient solutions in public buildings, heating and lighting systems.
- Implement innovative solutions that are not yet available on the Ukrainian energy market but are functioning at the level of the global community (e.g., sand energy, heat pumps that can replace boiler houses, hydrogen technologies, etc.)

### HOW CAN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES SUPPORT US WITH ENERGY TRANSITION?

- Share knowledge, experience and best practices to avoid repeating the same mistakes.
- · Develop joint projects in the area of renewable energy sources (solar, wind power plants, etc.).
- Receive international financial support and grants for energy projects aimed at reducing fossil fuel consumption thanks to cooperation with other municipalities.
- · Pool resources that would reduce costs and improve effectiveness.

HOYERSWERDA NOVOVOLYNSK

# **IMPRESSUM**

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