



Promoting energy efficiency and sustainable mobility SUSTAINABLE ENERGY STRATEGY IN ROMANIA



Renovating the energy systems of four schools in Brasov and Cluj-Napoca lowered both CO₂ emissions and costs for the city. © SECO

Switzerland actively engaged in promoting a sustainable energy, transport and environmental policy in Romania. To this end it supported Romanian towns and cities in developing and implementing sustainable energy strategies.

The EU has set itself the target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20% from their 1990 level by 2020, raising energy efficiency by 20%, and increasing the share of renewable forms of energy in overall energy consumption to 20%. It targets further significant improvements by 2030. In this context, Switzerland provided approximately CHF 36 million to four selected cities in Romania to help them develop and implement a sustainable energy policy. It also contributed to a fund that supports energy-related activities in Romania's poorest towns.

SHARING KNOW-HOW WITH 'ENERGY CITY SWITZERLAND'

Switzerland supported Romania in its pilot of the European Energy Award, which is based on the 'Energy City Switzerland' concept. The *European Energy Award* is an international quality management and certification system that has already been adopted by many municipalities in Europe over the last decade with a view to transforming their energy policies. The Energy City Switzerland association assisted its Romanian partners in rolling out the European Energy Award, contributing long-standing Swiss experience and expertise.

EIGHT ENERGY PROJECTS IN FOUR ROMANIAN CITIES

Romania selected four medium-sized cities from the 21 candidates to be the first pilot energy cities – Arad, Brasov, Cluj-Napoca and Suceava. On the basis of the action plans developed by these cities, Switzerland is supporting the following infrastructure projects:

- › Improved efficiency of the district heating system in Brasov
- › Energy-efficient renovation of public buildings in Brasov and Cluj-Napoca
- › Electric buses in Cluj-Napoca and electromobility in Suceava
- › LED street lighting in Arad, Cluj-Napoca and Suceava

Switzerland also contributed to a fund helping to finance energy-related projects in Romania's smaller and poorer towns, with a focus on modernising street lighting.

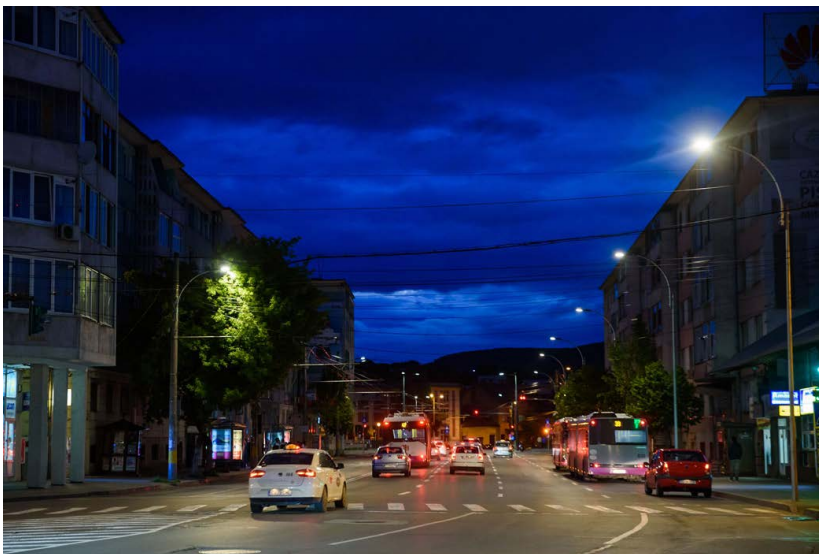
The chosen cities were able to reduce their annual energy and maintenance costs by over CHF 1 million and their annual CO₂ emissions by 7,000 tonnes.



Suceava purchased 20 electric vehicles and installed 28 charging stations. The city also operates an e-bike rental scheme. 10 new e-bikes were funded by Switzerland. © SECO



Romania's first 11 battery-operated buses in Cluj-Napoca, powered via new charging stations. © SECO



Many cities want to save electricity by using energy efficient street lighting. © SECO

THE PROJECT IN BRIEF

OBJECTIVE

Protecting the environment

THEME

Energy efficiency and renewable energies

COUNTRY

Romania

PARTNERS

Energy City Switzerland association

CURRENT SITUATION / BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The European Energy Award is an international quality management and certification system based on the Energy City Switzerland concept. It already supports more than 1,500 European municipalities working towards sustainable energy policies.

OBJECTIVE

Improved environmental protection through the promotion of energy efficiency and sustainable mobility

ACTIVITIES

- › Development of a sustainable energy strategy
- › Implementation of eight energy-related infrastructure projects in four selected cities.
- › Establishment of a fund to support energy-related activities in poorer towns.

TARGET GROUPS

Four selected cities (Arad, Brasov, Cluj-Napoca, Suceava) and poorer towns in Romania

COSTS

Swiss contribution
CHF 36 million

RESPONSIBLE FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Energy City Romania association, the four municipalities (Arad, Brasov, Cluj-Napoca, Suceava) and the Romanian Ministry of Regional Development

DURATION

2014–2019

SWISS ENLARGEMENT CONTRIBUTION

October 2019

www.contribution-enlargement.admin.ch