

**“Municipal master plans for climate protection  
– a short introduction”**

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# The “Energiewende” and the role of communities

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- ✓ The Energiewende can not be achieved at national level alone. It also needs the active participation of communities.
- ✓ All communities (as well as all energy suppliers and consumers) have to contribute to the long-term 80-95% reduction target!
- ✓ Just as the power supply is increasingly decentralized, the political decision-making processes need to be strengthened to take place at the local level. This includes the participation of all local stakeholders and citizens .
- ✓ With this in mind, the ambitious local climate protection gets its key role as a compulsory task of general interest.
- ✓ The Energiewende also creates numerous economic opportunities in the course of implementing climate protection strategies. A central strategic approach is the development of a local “circular economy”.

# The National Climate Initiative

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At national level the Federal Environment Ministry supports effective climate protection measures through various programmes and projects in municipalities, in industry, for consumers and in schools and educational facilities.

The National Climate Initiative's programmes promote

- climate protection in municipalities, and in social and cultural institutions
- innovative projects in industry and in the consumer, education and municipal sector
- highly efficient small combined heat and power systems (mini CHP systems) and
- commercial cooling and air-conditioning plants.

# The Master Plan 100% Climate Protection

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- The "Master Plan 100% Climate Protection" was first offered in 2011.
- To participate in this programme, the municipalities are committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 95 % and cut the final energy demand by 50 % by 2050. For this purpose, a clear **political decision of the local council is required.**
- The **basic idea** of a Master Plan 100% Climate Protection:
  - maximum efficiency improvements,
  - closure of the energy, financial and material cycles
  - maximum use of renewable energy and other natural resources on site.
- **Benefits for the communities** are adding value through increased use locally and regionally available renewable energy resources as well as local services (planning, crafts, etc.). Through long-term savings in energy and raw materials, reduction of cost and independence from fossil fuels.

## What criteria qualify master plan communities?

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- 33 municipalities have submitted applications for funding under the Master Plan project.
- Relevant criteria for qualification as a master plan community were:
  - the municipality has already developed a strong climate and energy policy profile,
  - the municipality has the know-how and the administration is prepared in accordance to use this knowledge.
  - Scope, depth and feasibility of proposed implementation strategies.
  - the degree of participation of citizens in the development and implementation of the Master Plan project.
- Only 19 municipalities and counties / regions fulfilled these requirements.

## Funded municipalities and counties

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Total funding is 9.33 million EUR for 19 cities, municipalities and counties of nine federal states with a total of about 3.93 million inhabitants

- 16 cities and municipalities with almost 1.66 million inhabitants
- 4 counties with about 2.27 million inhabitants
- in a total of 100 cities and municipalities

residents classes	number	population	share of population
> 500,000	2	1,812,000	46%
> 150,000 - 500,000	5	1,417,000	36%
>30,000 - 150,000	9	674,000	17%
<30,000	3	30,000	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3,933,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

## The two implementation phases of the master plan projects

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### ➤ **Phase I (maximum of 1.5 years) :**

- Prepare the master plan that shows how the ambitious goals can be achieved and what technical/organizational measures are necessary.
- Involve all stakeholders in the master plan process.
- Appointment of a master plan manager to perform all necessary conceptual and strategic tasks (master plan manager as facilitator).

### ➤ **Phase II (maximum 3 years):**

- Implement the mitigation measures agreed as a result of phase I.
  - Institutionalize the master plan process as a long term process.
  - Build and strengthen structures to continue participation of the local stakeholders, as well as to inform and integrate the public.
  - Create a regular monitoring process to account for the results of the measures.
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