

4.2 BEST PRACTICES IN SUSTAINABILITY

4.2.1 COMBATTING OR ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

4.2.1.1 CO₂-Neutrality: Aarhus; Matosinhos; Porto

CO₂-neutral by 2030; Aarhus: Aarhus has a beautiful location, close to forests, beaches and water. Both citizens and visitors enjoy the convenience of having a clean city, nature within easy reach and the fresh air flowing free in their lungs. Preservation and further development of the blue and green city is a key target for the city. In 2008, Aarhus City Council set an ambitious goal to become a climate neutral society by 2030 exceeding the national target in Denmark of reducing emissions by 70% by 2030. The goal in Aarhus is a fixed-level target at net zero emissions in 2030. From 1990 to 2019, CO₂-emissions were reduced by 55,2%. As one of the fastest-growing cities in Denmark, Aarhus recognises that its goal to become CO₂-neutral by 2030 needs to go hand-in hand with responsibly planned commercial development and urban growth. That's why the City's ambitious sustainability strategies, including its Climate Plan 2021-24, were developed and in 2022, Aarhus has been selected to join the as one of '100 European climate-neutral and smart cities by 2030' by the European Commission.

Find out more at: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_22_2591

Project 'Living Lab' for a more sustainable city; Matosinhos: Since Matosinhos is aiming to become a sustainable city, it has created and introduced the 'Living Lab' project to test solutions for lower carbon dioxide emissions, to rise the energetic efficiency and to reduce the city's polluting emissions. The overall goal of the project and the city is to develop environmentally friendly and ecologic technology. The envisioned technology encompasses a range of innovations, such as lamps that measure CO₂ emissions, pavements that reduce vehicles' speed without the driver's intervention, a bicycle sharing system connected to the public transportation system, real-time accounting of carbon dioxide emissions saved with intelligent mobility, or a house covered in solar panels that follows the movement of the sun and stores energy. These are some of the technological innovations, developed by more than 18 partners, that will be implemented under this project. 'Living Lab' is being funded by the Ministry of Environment.

Find out more at: <https://www.cm-matosinhos.pt/servicos-municipais/comunicacao-e-imagem/noticias/noticia/acordo-cidade-verde>

The Porto Climate Pact; Porto: Is an initiative through which the municipality intends to bring society together in a commitment to ambitious goals regarding carbon neutrality. The pact brings together all aspects of society in Porto including but not limited to, institutions, academia, and businesses to seek collaborative action in making the city carbon neutral. Stakeholders and actors with the city can, at any time, sign the pact online and become part of the city's carbon neutrality transformation. The website contains a set of actions and information regarding carbon neutrality and how to achieve it as well as funding opportunities to implement.