

## Belgrade environmental sustainability

Belgrade was the 8th city to join the EBRD's Green Cities network in 2018. As an EBRD Green City, the capital of Serbia has agreed to strive towards building a better and more sustainable future for its residents.

On June 9, an important step in this regard was achieved: the City Assembly adopted the final Green City Action Plan (GCAP) and Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP).

"We are smartly developing a capital for all citizens and especially children, pursuing the ideals of an even greener, healthier, and more sustainable future."

Under this vision, developed by the city together with a wide range of stakeholder groups and interested citizens, Belgrade established a roadmap for maximising economic, environmental, and social co-benefits.

In the GCAP and SECAP, a series of 16 strategic objectives have been set out to tackle the environmental challenges identified and meet the city's green vision. These are arranged in three core sectors: Urban Planning and Mobility; Energy and Efficiency; and Water and Waste.

The draft Green City Action Plan and Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan of Belgrade include investments of EUR 5.2 billion until 2030

The Japanese government and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development - EBRD funded the development of two strategic documents that are available for public insight until March 17 with the accompanying reports on strategic environmental impact assessments. The draft Green City Action Plan (GCAP) and Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) for Belgrade for the ten years through 2030 have been produced in coordination and they have complementary goals.

The City of Belgrade plans investments and stimulus in areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy, wastewater treatment, afforestation and reforestation, sustainable mobility and measures against pollution. It estimated EUR 5.2 billion would be spent for the cause.

The draft SECAP says the city has the obligation to lower carbon dioxide emissions by at least 40%, as stipulated in the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, which the capital of Serbia joined in 2018. The local authority added fulfilling the target would increase the resilience to climate change impacts. The EBRD developed the methodology with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI).

According to the goals from the plan, 40% of buses in the city should be powered by electricity, compared to 80% for taxis, 100% of city-owned vehicles, 80% of commercial and 20% of private vehicles. Private



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investment should make up 36% of the total sum.

GCAP's main goal is to improve air quality. The draft reveals that EUR 2.9 billion out of the EUR 5.2 billion would be invested by 2026. The city needs to participate with EUR 3.3 billion.

Transportation accounts for EUR 1.2 billion of the total and EUR 2.9 billion was earmarked for energy and energy efficiency.

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