

In4Green

ACTION PLANNING NETWORK

URBACT



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Interreg



**DĄBROWA
GÓRNICZA**
dla aktywnych



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SECTION 1

1. GREEN TRANSITION IN EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL CITIES

The URBACT In4Green network aims to empower and build the capacity of local actors in industrial areas to overcome the barriers that prevent the transition to greener economies while remaining competitive and inclusive cities.

The overall challenge that the In4Green network wants to address is the green transition in small and medium-sized European cities with an industrial past.

The green transition in industrial cities is a major challenge. These areas face obstacles to adopting more sustainable practices due to their dependence on traditional industry and lack of resources. However, it is crucial to include these cities in the transformation towards a greener economy. They contribute significantly to the economic development of their territories and represent an important part of EU employment and GDP.

The green transition can be an opportunity to revitalise these areas, improve the quality of life of inhabitants and reduce pollution. To achieve this, public authorities need to be empowered and industrial actors need to be trained.

It is also essential to involve all stakeholders and civil society in the development and implementation of local green transition policies .

Collaboration and networking are key to overcoming challenges and moving towards a more sustainable future. Modernising industries and improving urban management are key elements in this process. Only through the joint efforts of all actors involved will we be able to lead the transformation towards a more efficient and environmentally friendly economy, improving the quality of life of our communities.

In short, the green transition in industrial cities is essential to achieve sustainable development. Despite the challenges, these areas have much to gain by adopting more sustainable practices and promoting innovation. Working together, we can drive positive change and make these cities examples of success in the transition to a greener economy.

2. CURRENT SITUATION IN DĄBROWA GÓRNICZA

Dąbrowa Górnicza is the largest city in the Silesian Province in terms of area and the largest industrial centre in the Dąbrowa Basin. In the past, it was covered with oak forests, hence its name. A significant part of the Błędowska Desert, known as the Polish Sahara, is located within the boundaries of Dąbrowa Górnicza. The biggest tourist attraction in the city is the Dąbrowa Lake District, consisting of four water reservoirs collectively known as Pogoria. The largest of these is Kuźnica Warężyńska with a dam, which is ideal for tourist trips. The place is adapted for recreation and water sports.

There are many interesting and eye-catching parks in Dąbrowa Górnicza. The most beautiful and largest in the city is Zielona Park. Nemo Świat Rozrywki, the largest complex of its kind in the Silesian Province, covering an area of approximately 5 hectares, also attracts visitors to Dąbrowa Górnicza like a magnet. Well-known people such as Janusz Gajos and Dawid Podsiadło are also associated with Dąbrowa Górnicza. One of the most characteristic buildings in Dąbrowa Górnicza is the Zagłębie Culture Palace.

In the 1970s, the largest industrial complex in Poland and one of the largest in Europe, Huta Katowice, was built here. This place attracted a large number of residents and gave impetus to the development of the city centre of Dąbrowa Górnicza. The last hard coal mine, 'Paryż', located closest to the city centre, was closed in 1995, which resulted in dynamic socio-economic changes. Between 2002 and 2021, the population decreased by 11.3%. This is the result of both negative natural growth and net migration. The natural growth rate in 2021 was -1,146, which corresponds to a natural growth rate of -9.75 per 1,000 inhabitants of Dąbrowa Górnicza.

Currently, Dąbrowa Górnicza has a population of 113,460 (according to the local data bank as of 31 December 2023), which makes it a medium-sized city in Poland. Of this number, 52.2% are women and 47.8% are men. The forecast is not optimistic, as it is assumed that by 2050 only 84,316 people will live in Dąbrowa Górnicza. Currently, the average age of residents is 44.9 years, which is slightly higher than the average age of residents of the Silesian Province and higher than the average age of residents of Poland as a whole. It has also been observed that 56.7% of the inhabitants of Dąbrowa Górnicza are of working age, 15.8% are of pre-working age, and 27.5% are of post-working age.

After years of dominance by the mining, metallurgical, coking and heavy industries, the service and processing industries are growing in importance. The largest companies currently are: ArcelorMittal Poland S.A., Koksownia 'Przyjaźń' of the JSW KOKS S.A. Group, Huta Bankowa Sp. z o.o. and STALPROFIL S.A. These are well-known brands that are the driving force behind Dąbrowa Górnicza's economy. Dąbrowa Górnicza companies invest in technological development and conduct their own research and analysis in search of more modern, environmentally friendly forms of production. The city gives priority to business ventures that support economic activation based on innovation, environmentally friendly technologies, and initiatives in the field of recreation and tourism. This is facilitated by attractive investment areas and an extensive workforce that supports entrepreneurship.¹ The unemployment rate in 2021 was 4.8% in Dąbrowa Górnicza, while in the Silesian Province it was lower, at 4.2%.

The diagnostic documents prepared by the municipality include social issues related to building and maintaining social cohesion and improving the accessibility of public spaces. Social cohesion involves reducing poverty and social pathologies, improving the quality of the living environment, and supplementing and enriching the cultural, educational, recreational and sports offer for residents of areas affected by crisis phenomena. Due to architectural barriers, the participation of people with disabilities, including the elderly, in the public space of the city centre is minimised. The elderly and people with disabilities are brought directly to their destination, so their participation in events is planned in advance. In this regard, it was assumed that the most important design decision to increase the number of users of the city centre and, at the same time, extend the time spent in the city centre is to improve the accessibility of public pedestrian space. The organisation of pedestrian spaces connecting different public transport stops is crucial. At the same time, as has been repeatedly emphasised in public consultations, it is important that this space is multifunctional and offers a variety of ways to spend time.

Since 2017, an air quality monitoring system has been in operation in Dąbrowa Górnicza, commissioned by the Municipal Office. Seventeen sensors have been installed in the city to monitor the concentration of PM10 and PM2.5 particulate matter. The Low Emission Reduction Programme for 2024-2026 has now been adopted. This is a continuation of the Dąbrowa local government's efforts to improve air quality and protect the environment. In

¹ <https://www.dabrowa-gornicza.com/dlaczego-dabrowa/potencjal-gospodarczy-miasta/>

recent years, mainly thanks to the financial support of the city, over 7,000 smoky coal-fired boilers have been replaced in Dąbrowa Górnicza.

3. EXISTING STRATEGIES AND POLICIES

At the European level, the **Pact of Amsterdam**, which establishes the **Urban Agenda for the European Union**, does not mention industry directly. However, many priority themes are linked to the industrial sector, in fact most of them are: Air quality, Circular economy, Jobs and skills in the local economy, Energy transition, Sustainable use of land and Nature-Based solutions, Urban mobility, and Digital transition.

The **European Union Cohesion Policy** is a set of funds aimed at supporting regional development and economic cohesion in the EU Member States. The policy is based on the principle that all EU citizens, regardless of where they live, should have access to the same economic and social opportunities.

Cohesion policy has been used to support a wide range of industry-related projects, including:

- The construction of industrial infrastructure, such as factories, ports and airports.
- Funding for industrial research and development.
- Supporting industrial innovation.
- Promotion of industrial cooperation between European companies.
- Helping small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to access financial markets and technical assistance.

Cohesion Policy has had a positive impact on the EU's industrial sector. It has helped to create new jobs, increase investment and improve the competitiveness of European companies. Cohesion Policy has also helped to reduce regional disparities in the EU by providing stronger support to regions lagging behind.

Today, Cohesion Policy is being reoriented to focus on the challenges of the green and digital economy. The policy is being used to support European businesses to adapt to the transition to a more sustainable and digital economy. Cohesion Policy is also being used to support European regions most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The **European Green Deal** is a European Union policy initiative that aims **to make the EU the first climate-neutral continent by 2050**. The Green Deal focuses on a number of areas, including energy, mobility, agriculture and industry. In the field of industry, the Green Deal sets out a number of targets, including:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from industry by 40% by 2030 and 80% by 2050.
- Promote the development of clean and innovative technologies in industry.
- Increase energy efficiency in industry.
- Reduce the EU's dependence on fossil fuels.
- Create new jobs in green industry.

The Green Deal is an ambitious initiative, but it is necessary to tackle climate change and to ensure a sustainable future for the EU. Industry has a key role to play in the transition

to a greener economy, and the Green Deal offers a number of opportunities for European industry to become a world leader in clean and innovative technologies. In this framework, the European Commission updated the **EU Industrial Strategy** in 2022 to ensure that its industrial ambition takes full account of the new circumstances following the COVID-19 crisis and helps drive the transformation towards a more sustainable, digital, resilient and globally competitive economy.

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as the main innovation actors in the different ecosystems, must be taken into account in all actions carried out under this Strategy. This is reflected across the board in the increased focus on regulatory burdens for SMEs. New actions will greatly benefit SMEs and start-ups, whether through a strengthened Internal Market, reduced supply chain dependencies or accelerated green and digital transitions. The Strategy also includes some specific measures for SMEs, such as increasing resilience, tackling late payments and supporting solvency.

Across all these initiatives and policies the European Commission has identified the following **main challenges facing European industry**:

The transition to a greener and digital economy: the EU is committed to achieving climate neutrality by 2050 and to being a leading digital economy. This will imply major changes for European industry, which will need to adapt to new technologies and forms of production.

Competition from other regions: European industry faces strong competition from other regions, such as China and the United States. These regions are investing heavily in research and development, enabling them to develop new technologies and products.

Talent shortage: European industry faces a shortage of skilled talent. This is due to a number of factors, such as an ageing population, low scientific literacy and a lack of investment in education and training.

Lack of investment: European industry faces a lack of investment. This is due to a number of factors, such as the 2008 financial crisis, legal uncertainty and lack of public funding.

At the national level, the industry has been framed by actions aimed at a fair transformation and the development of a modern economy. The main objectives of the Strategy for Responsible Development are: sustainable economic growth, increasingly driven by knowledge, data and organisational excellence; socially responsive and territorially sustainable development; an effective state and economic institutions contributing to growth; and social and economic inclusion.

In Poland, the Concept of National Development to 2050 has been developed. It encapsulates values based on:

- democracy - the principles of a democratic state of law underpin development;
- inclusion (inclusiveness and social solidarity) - social relations are based on policies of social inclusion and reduction of inequalities;
- a clean environment - respecting the right to a clean environment as a fundamental right of every individual and ensuring the conditions for the survival and development of society by primarily: (1) stopping soil, water and air pollution; (2) sustainable use of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems; (3) halting/reversing the loss of biodiversity; and (4) changing consumption patterns and business models;

- socially responsible economy (economic cohesion) - the basis for effective development is a free market, taking into account social needs, where growth/profit is not the only goal;
- spatial order - the balanced use of functionally managed space, which is a finite good; order is the shaping of space that takes into account: (1) natural constraints and environmental and aesthetic values; (2) social and economic needs; and (3) the common good. Spatial order influences the quality of life, indirectly determining access to, among other things, services and public spaces, clean water and air.

Important for the development of Polish cities is the National Urban Policy. The strategic objective indicated in the document is to strengthen the capacity of cities and urban functional areas to create sustainable growth, jobs and improve the quality of life of their inhabitants. It refers to 10 main themes. These are spatial development, social participation, demography, transport and urban mobility, low-carbon and energy efficiency, revitalisation, investment policy, economic development, environmental protection and climate change adaptation and urban management.

At the regional level, two strategies are worth mentioning: the Silesian Voivodeship Strategy and the GZM Metropolitan Strategy. The voivodeship document focuses on issues related to responsible economic transformation, the quality of the environment, space and management model and the quality of life of the inhabitants. The Metropolis Strategy emphasises priorities related to regional cooperation, in particular on:

- climate change adaptation,
- mobility and accessibility,
- space and social cohesion,
- metropolitanity and innovation,
- cooperation and openness.

At the municipal level, the City Development Strategy: Dąbrowa Górnicza adopted the following main objectives:

- A city where every person has the opportunity to participate in social and professional life and has easy access to social services,
- a strong, dynamic economy that is resilient to economic shocks,
- a city where transformation and sustainable development processes are supported by technology, dialogue and cooperation.

The following priorities of the city's development strategy are taken into account in the Revitalisation Programme for Dąbrowa Górnicza:

- strengthening and sustainability of economic development, through the re-development of degraded areas and facilities, utilising the endogenous potential of the inhabitants and strengthening their entrepreneurial attitudes,
- building and maintaining social cohesion, through limiting the problems of poverty and social pathologies, improving the quality of the living environment and supplementing and enriching the cultural, educational, recreational and sports offer for the inhabitants of the areas of crisis phenomena concentration,
- supporting broadly understood local activity, by creating conditions that enable personal and professional development of social groups at risk of exclusion,

promoting active and healthy leisure time, and restoring business and cultural activities using and protecting the industrial, cultural and natural heritage of the city.

4. PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

During the ULG meetings, 30 key stakeholders were defined. Accordingly, invitations were addressed to: representatives of the local government, representatives of business units, representatives of residents, representatives of entrepreneurs, representatives of schools and universities, representatives of NGOs. 30 people declared their participation in the project. Over time, the commitment to the ULG decreased. At the last meeting 18 people attended. All in all there were 115 participants at all meetings, of which 61 were women and men.

Meetings were held on several occasions using URBACT tools. The best results came from the 'problem tree' tool. The workshops succeeded in identifying different, often conflicting interests in the problem areas. The work in the workshops showed the complexity of the problem situations in the Market place and 3 May Street.

SWOT analysis

Strengths

- Place recognition - the spaces of 3 Maja Street and the market are full of people,
- The market has its loyal customers,
- Knowledge base on the needs of the residents and users of 3 Maja Street,
- The market is under the care of the Association of Market Merchants in Dąbrowa Górnicza

Opportunities

- The location of the 3 Maja Street space and the Market are poles of the city centre space and have the potential to build a coherent, more comfortable pedestrian space in the city.
- Customers and vendors appreciate the changes resulting from their needs and expectations
- The Association of Market Merchants in Dąbrowa Górnicza has the potential to make changes to the Market's operating model

Weaknesses

- 3 Maja Street is a pedestrian street and is not conducive to spending time in a public space
- The Market needs to be renovated and adapted to current market requirements
- The inhabitants of 3 Maja Street do not support the process of change, their expectations are in conflict with the needs of urban development and the expectations of city centre users

Challenges

- Designing a space which meets the expectations of residents and other users
- Finding a compromise with the operator of the Market and developing a new management model
- Gaining a sense of empowerment among residents of 3 Maja Street and gaining their support in the process of spatial change

A local priority is the revitalisation of the area associated with the Full Life Factory. Related to this is taking care of areas that could potentially lose value as a result of these activities, in particular 3 May Street and the Market Place. It is important to work out directions

of activities that will allow building a new reality in accordance with the needs of all key stakeholders without blocking revitalisation processes in Dąbrowa Górnicza.

3 Maja street ZONE Full Life Factory ZONE

The Market ZONE



5. VISION

The vision of the Dąbrowa local group is to create a coherent, green and attractive space combining the areas of the market place, the Full Life Factory and 3. Maja Street with a complementary and mutually non-rivalizing offer tailored to different audiences. What emerges is an image of a comfortable and pedestrian-friendly public space that involves key stakeholders supported by the city administration.

Dodać mapkę z szkicami koncepcyjnymi

6. MAIN INTEGRATION CHALLENGES

Sustainable development of the city space in Dąbrowa Górnicza is an important strategic objective for the citizens. The challenge is to integrate the revitalisation activities associated with the Full Life Factory with activities aimed at improving the quality of space to improve economic development in other areas of the city. The established municipal company FPŻ has in its plans the realisation of various spaces filled with an offer to support investment changes. Thus, it becomes a competitive element for the current offer of 3. Maja Street and the market place. Balancing the plans and expectations of building a new city centre becomes the biggest challenge next to the challenges related to the selected areas in detail. Each of the spaces: 3. May Street and the Market Place are of great importance in the context of the city's development, as it is here that the delays in relation to other dynamically changing places in Dąbrowa Górnicza are most apparent.

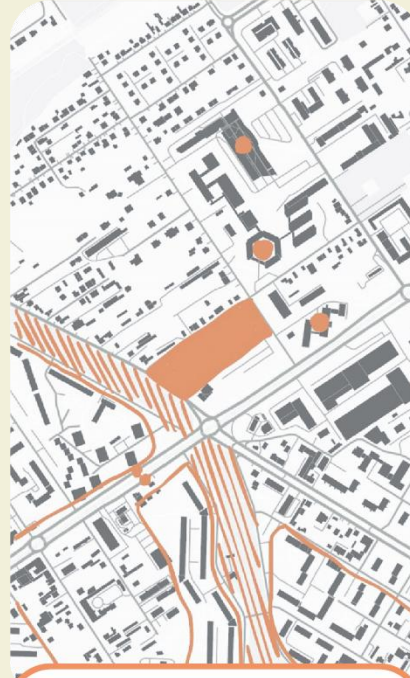
3 Maja Street



3 Maja Street is an integral part of the 'new town centre', the area of which includes:

- the new Railway Station
- the Full Life Factory
- the Palace of Zagłębie Culture and Plac Wolności
- the green city square
- Szttygarka City Museum and square
- Haller Park
- Sports and Entertainment Hall and Aqua Park

The Market



The City Market is located in the city centre, next to major traffic generators:

- Planty - a popular recreational area
- Schools: Technical Science Establishments, Technical School No. 3
- City Hall
- Two large housing estates
- Bus and tram stop at the main traffic axis of the city

In 2024, as part of the URBACT IV project activities, the city has identified the main challenges:

- to develop and carry out test activities on 3 Maja Street,
- defining target groups and stakeholders for the 3 Maja space,
- collecting the opinion of the inhabitants during an event on 3 Maja Street concerning expectations and potential directions for action,
- defining target groups and stakeholders for the Market,
- identification of the main problems of the Market merchants.

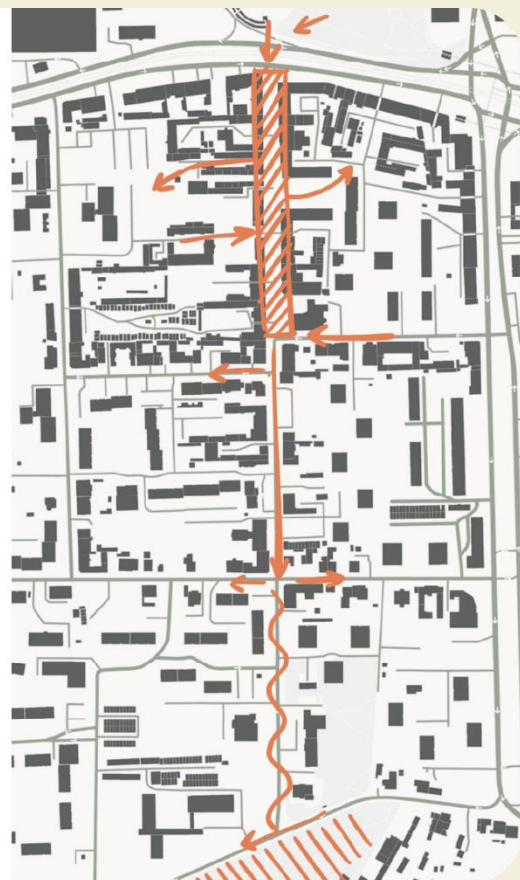
3 May Street has been the subject of many meetings with residents and community actions including the prototyping of initial visions for the street. As a result, quite a few ideas for changes have been developed, and residents feel unsatisfied due to the lack of real improvements and improvements to the street's attractiveness. There is a dissonance between the spatial assumptions related to the preservation of the commercial function of the promenade and the needs of the residents, who see the authority's actions as unfavourable to them, e.g. increasing noise and reducing their quality of life. During the work of the ULG, participants identified three main challenges for the street:

- lack of attractiveness,
- lack of parking spaces,
- lack of blue-green infrastructure.

3 MAJA STR.

DIAGNOSIS – CONSEQUENCES IDENTIFIED DURING WORK WITH THE LOCAL URBACT GROUP

- Lack of people and "city life"
- Empty premises
- Lack of a gastronomy offer
- Unattractive conditions for tenants
- Dissatisfied local street residents
- Lack of offer for city residents
- Lack of parking spaces
- Lack of greenery and "concretosis"
- Lack of blue-green infrastructure
- Interrupted pedestrian and vehicular routes
- Lack of functional connection between the top, bottom, and sides of the street



The market place is a kind of relic of the past, where the needs of users' needs are conflated with nostalgia for a bygone time. Emotions are aroused by the character of the development and the indirectly resulting atmosphere of the place, which gives many users a sense of security and stability. At the same time, the lack of change has a disruptive effect on the area, and the prospect of potential duplication of the market function on the FPŻ site puts the future in question. Referring to the latest research on the development of urban markets, it is worth noting that the history of this place and the attachment of local processors and traders to it provides a lot of capital for spatial changes that positively influence the development of trade as well as improving the quality of the space in the centre of Dąbrowa Górnicza. Participants of the ULG working group meetings pointed out mainly challenges:

- Lack of life beyond market days,

- Lack of spatial and functional changes makes the market unsuitable for today's times,
- The problem of the relationship between the traders and the land manager.

A common element is the lack of attractiveness and offer for contemporary users and the lack of greenery to improve the quality of the space. A considerable challenge is the spatial linking of the indicated areas allowing for pedestrian exploration of the city influencing the economic and functional development in the city centre. The spaces of 3 May Street and the market place have the potential for territorial unity of the city centre creating integral pedestrian and bicycle paths allowing to explore the city and its offer. On the organisational side, it is becoming important to find a new and fresh approach to the management of the market, allowing the use of new technologies and forms of social communication favouring the modernisation of the offer and the support of local producers, farmers and traders.

7. TESTING ACTION

Testing is intended to foster the taming of potential changes. Accordingly, activities are proposed that will encourage the implementation of the developed changes on a smaller scale.

In the ULG meetings, the main challenges that hinder the implementation of changes emerged. Accordingly, actions are proposed to tame the needed changes and create a snowball effect.

On 18 May 2024, an event was organised in the 3 May Street space called 'Street Style Party'. The main aim was to test different aspects of community engagement including ways to connect residents and stimulate local collaboration during the event. Participants were able to take part in workshops, dance shows and a fashion show that promoted local talent and businesses. The public space was very well attended and this was an opportunity to invite them to the interactive boards, where we asked them for ideas for more events in the future. From the test we learned several key conclusions. Firstly, the importance of community involvement was reaffirmed; citizens felt more connected and engaged when they had a direct role in the activities. Secondly, the diversity of activities offered a wider audience, which is essential for future events. Lastly, the feedback mechanisms we implemented were effective, as they not only allowed us to gather insights but also made citizens valued and heard.



Fot. Kinga Jamrocha ²

Two possible future courses of action are now emerging that need to be agreed with the local group. The actions concern:

- integrative actions fostering the identification of links between the spaces of 3 May Street and the market as poles of the city centre under the slogan 'Market march'

- activities demonstrating the potential of the space for the introduction of new forms of participation and entrepreneurship in the public space under the slogan 'Move into the city'

'Market procession' is an activity to identify the potential for a reciprocal relationship between the Market, the Full Life Factory and 3 May Street. As part of the community group meetings, a parade will be designed where participants:

- learn about the resources of the Market,
- get a sense of the distances in the city and the barriers to exploring the city along a route linking important spaces in the city centre,
- find out what encourages users to move around.

The 'Move into the City' action is an attempt to test the potential of technological and spatial innovations to harness the potential of the Market Place and 3 May Street for urban development and city centre entrepreneurship. The technological and spatial initiatives will be developed through the work of a local group. It is planned to use participatory tools and methods to identify proposals for action and to give participants a sense of agency in the testing action (e.g. using the Dragon Dreaming method).

The selection of scenarios will take place during the local group meetings and will be aligned with the schedule of city events to increase participation.

² <https://dabrowagornicza.naszemiasto.pl/street-style-party-dzialo-sie-na-ulicy-3-maja-w-dabrowie/ga/c13-9706769/zd/89691193>

SECTION 2

1. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The strategic objectives guiding Dąbrowa Górnicza Municipality to achieve the vision set out and agreed by the Urban Local Group are:

1. Creation of a coherent, green and attractive public space in Dąbrowa Górnicza city centre connecting the areas: The Market Place, Full Life Factory and 3 Maja Street.
2. Creating a complementary and mutually supportive offer of key points in the city space tailored to different audiences.
3. Developing an environment for cooperation between various urban stakeholders supported by the public administration with the aim of improving the quality of public spaces in the city.

2. AERAS OF INTERVENTION

AREA OF INTERVENTION 1 - AESTHETICS & GREEN TRANSFORMATION

1. Aesthetic improvement and introduction of green and blue infrastructure to the pedestrian area of 3. Maja Street
2. Improving the aesthetics of the space and redeveloping the Market, taking into account the needs of users and customers of the Market

AREA OF INTERVENTION 2 - TRANSPORT & MOBILITY

1. Walking and bicycle infrastructure in the Dąbrowa Górnicza city centre.
2. Explore the space potential of the Augustynika housing estate to create public spaces which complement the urban offer of the city centre,

AREA OF INTERVENTION 3 - BUSINESS

1. Linking local retailers to local consumers through digital activities adapted to the expectations of today's audiences and strategic solutions embedded in the agenda of the city's institutions.
2. Launching a promotional programme to support the visibility of the Market and its offer.

AREA OF INTERVENTION 4 - CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

1. Information exchange network on the local identity of the city in the post-industrial area of Dąbrowa Górnicza.

2. Introducing a programme of mutually supportive local communities.

3. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND INTERVENTION LOGIC

VISION

The vision of the Dąbrowa local group is to create a coherent, green and attractive space combining the areas of the market place, the Full Life Factory and 3. Maja Street with a complementary and mutually non-rivalizing offer tailored to different audiences. What emerges is an image of a comfortable and pedestrian-friendly public space that involves key stakeholders supported by the city administration.

HOW?

By creation of a coherent, green and attractive public space in Dąbrowa Górnicza city centre and action for cooperation between various urban stakeholders.

WHAT?

Inclusive and esthetic public spaces and extensive network of cooperation between businesses, institutions and residents.

WHY?

To make the city centre more attractive and stimulate entrepreneurship, for example by improving mobility in the city centre

AREA 1 - AESTETICS & GREEN TRANSFORMATION

GOAL 1: Reconstruction the pedestrian area of 3 Maja Street with green and blue infrastructure.
GOAL 2: Reconstruction The Market with green and blue infrastructure.

AREA 2 - TRANSPORT & MOBILITY

GOAL 3: Walking and bicycle infrastructure in the Dąbrowa Górnicza city centre.
GOAL 4: Inclusion of the Augustynika housing estate in the public space system.

AREA 3: BUSSINES

GOAL 5: Design a digital system connecting businesses and customers.
GOAL 6: Promotion of entrepreneurs and merchants at the Market

AREA 4 - CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

GOAL 7: Involvement of the local community and entrepreneurs in the redevelopment of 3 Maja Street and the Market

4. ACTIONS

In order to achieve its strategic goals, Dąbrowa Górnicza has defined a set of measures that integrate infrastructure development, public space, business and community involvement, and sustainable development principles.

These measures provide an operational path for implementing the city's vision and can be summarised in the areas of intervention mentioned above.

ACTIONS FOR AREA OF INTERVENTION 1 - AESTHETICS & GREEN TRANSFORMATION

ACTION	INTENDED RESULT	RESOURCE	LEAD AGENCY	KEY PARTNERS	TIME SCALE
Reconstruction of the pedestrian zone on 3 Maja Street	green, inclusive public space connecting the main cultural and commercial centres	Data on user needs from previous participatory activities, cooperation with schools and involved entrepreneurs, Miastolab	Departments of Road Investment, Architecture and Urban Planning, Municipal Infrastructure	Local schools and entrepreneurs	Around 2028
Reconstruction of The Market	A functional, modern market space tailored to customer needs.	Proposals from the Merchants' Association, location close to the Town Hall, schools and green spaces. Miastolab	Departments of Architecture and Urban Planning, Municipal Infrastructure	Merchants	Around 2028

MARKET SQUARE

ASSUMPTIONS FOR THE TRANSFORMATION CONCEPT

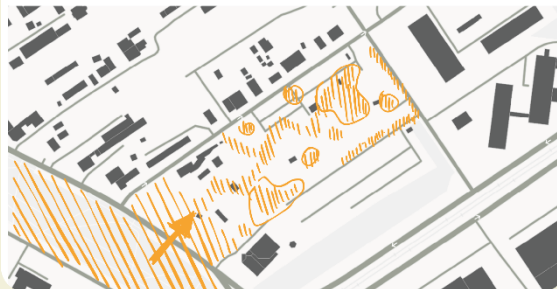
- Creating an open zone for selling large items (e.g. furniture, etc.) Or, e.g., organizing events (e.g. fair, bazaar, etc.) – a larger open square



MARKET SQUARE

ASSUMPTIONS FOR THE TRANSFORMATION CONCEPT

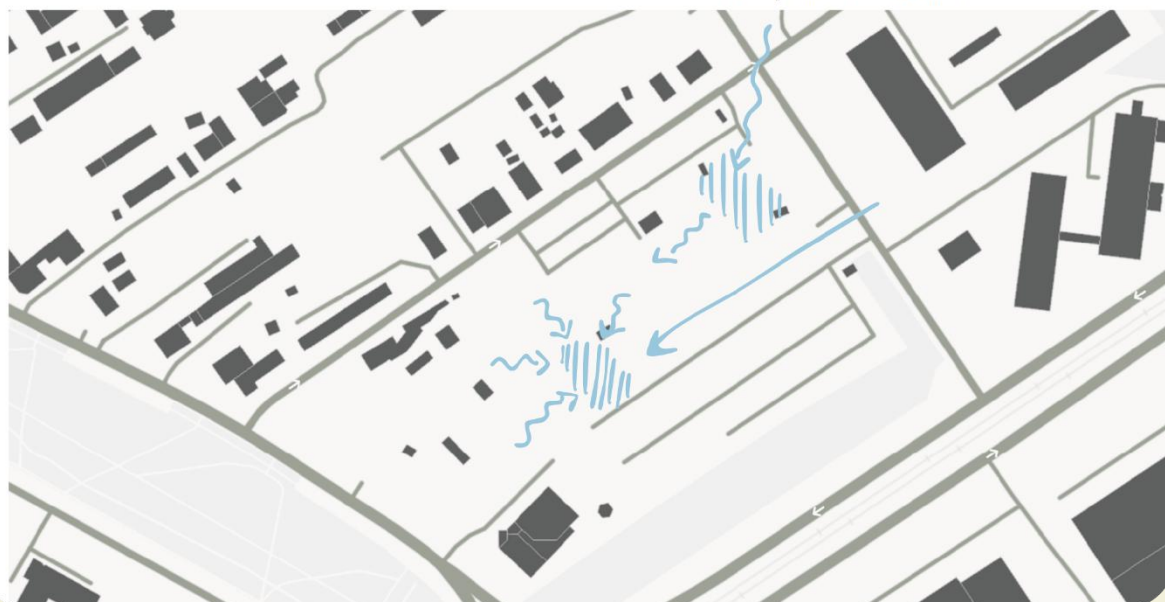
- Market frontage from Poniatowskiego Street as an "extension" of Plants
- Enrichment of the area with diverse forms of greenery (green areas, trees, green corridors, squares, insulation, etc.)



MARKET SQUARE

ASSUMPTIONS FOR THE TRANSFORMATION CONCEPT

- Creating a space for youth from nearby schools – hanging out, intimacy, gastronomy, spending breaks, integration (the space should be designed together with the youth)
- Sanitary and office facilities



ACTIONS FOR AREA OF INTERVENTION 2 - TRANSPORT & MOBILITY

ACTION	INTENDED RESULT	RESOURCE	LEAD AGENCY	KEY PARTNERS	TIME SCALE
Planning a pedestrian and bicycle mobility network of the Downtown of DG to support the development of entrepreneurship	The concept of pedestrian and bicycle networks to be implemented in municipal investment plans.	Existing footpaths and cycle paths, as well as railway and recreational areas to be developed, Miastolab	Departments of Road Investment, Architecture and Urban Planning, Municipal Infrastructure	Downtown residents, business owners, local schools, Students	2027-2028
Explore the potential of the Augustynik estate space to create public spaces to complement the urban offer of the Downtown.	Concept for the development of public space in the Augustynika Housing Estate, respecting local identity, the needs and expectations	Cooperation with WSB and the potential of residents, Miastolab	Departments of Architecture and Urban Planning, Non-Governmental Organisations and Civic Engagement, Culture	Residents, local actors, local schools	Around 2027

	of residents and determining the potential for integrating the estate into the system of public spaces in the city centre.				
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ACTIONS FOR AREA OF INTERVENTION 3 - BUSINESS

ACTION	INTENDED RESULT	RESOURCE	LEAD AGENCY	KEY PARTNERS	TIME SCALE
The “Poznaj Kupca” IT system.	An IT system enabling test activities connecting merchants and customers.	Cooperation between the Dąbrowski Business Incubator and young people	Dąbrowski Business Incubator, Department of Development, Entrepreneurship and Investor Relations	Creative young people, local school, business owners	Near 2028
Pilot actions in the Market space involving various target groups.	Conducting at least three pilot projects with different target groups	The involvement of market traders and the need to adapt the market's offering to the expectations of new customer groups	Dąbrowski Business Incubator, Department of Development, Entrepreneurship and Investor Relations	Traders, users, local institutions	First half of 2027

ACTIONS FOR AREA OF INTERVENTION 4 - CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

ACTION	INTENDED RESULT	RESOURCE	LEAD AGENCY	KEY PARTNERS	TIME SCALE
Involvement of the local community and entrepreneurs in the public space development	At least five social activities organised by the community to promote local identity and strengthen the potential of local	Functioning participatory budget, Miastolab.	Departments of Architecture and Urban Planning, Non-Governmental Organisations and Civic Engagement.	Downtown residents, business owners, local school students	2027

	entrepreneurs in the public space of Dąbrowa Górnicza city centre.				
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3 MAJA STR.

ASSUMPTIONS FOR THE TRANSFORMATION CONCEPT



Street Zones: from the facade - Space for tables. Pedestrian or shared pedestrian/vehicular route, forest zone with gastronomic gardens, linear rain garden and walking path with an arranged outdoor exhibition. Additional attraction will be graphical illuminations cast onto the walls of the tenements, so the scenery is always changing.



3 MAJA STR.

ASSUMPTIONS FOR THE TRANSFORMATION CONCEPT

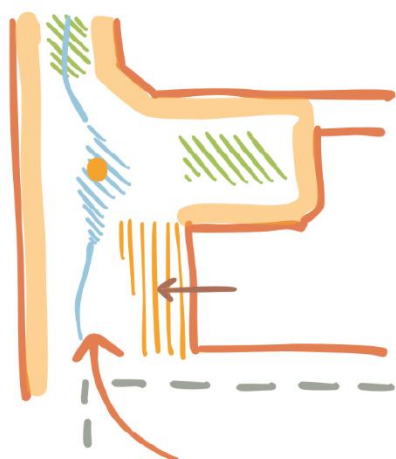
Recreational Zones: The city square will be used daily for relaxation among greenery, skateboarding, and playing street chess. During city events, it will accommodate a large number of residents, and its additional function will be to receive excess rainwater during downpours - it will then turn into a "sponge-square," which will be equally attractive in its flooded form thanks to a perform-runway for fashion shows.



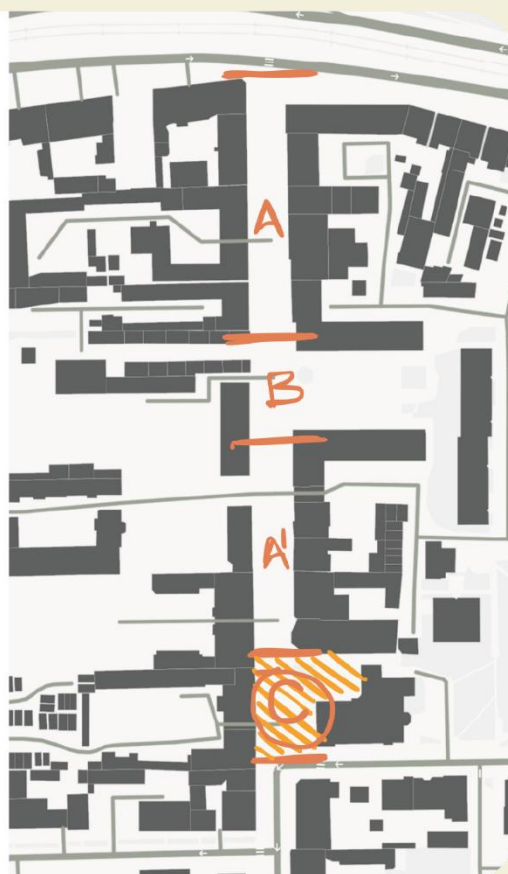
UL. 3 MAJA

ASSUMPTIONS FOR THE TRANSFORMATION CONCEPT

Square opening the woonerf: in the form of an open city square. This is the place to begin the blue-green infrastructure, e.g., as an emerging water feature combined with a decorative spatial form (e.g., a sculpture) and subsequent plantings that provide shade.



The preserved forecourt of the historic Resursa building allows for breathing space, and gastronomic gardens invite people further into the street.



5. INTEGRATED APPROACH

The activities identified by the URBACT Local Group will be implemented within the framework of the existing activation activities included in the support programmes for local leaders and entrepreneurs. A key action is to complement the existing projects with activities for schools and young people in order to use their innovative approaches to solve marketing and organisational problems. The planned ideas have the capacity to stimulate the involvement of local residents and the processing and farming community throughout the municipality and surrounding area.

Importantly, the planned activities will complement the municipal offer. Widening the circle of active stakeholders involves targeting the strengthening of the economic potential of existing entrepreneurs from The Market, 3 Maja Street and others located in the inner city.

SECTION 3: ACTION PLANNING DETAILS

AESTHETICS & GREEN TRANSFORMATION

GOAL 1: Green and blue infrastructure to the pedestrian area of 3 Maja Street.

ACTION 1: RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PEDESTRIAN ZONE ON 3 MAJA STREET

This action aims to reshape public space and incorporate it into the city's sustainable strategy. The design and implementation aim to create a coherent, green, and attractive public space in the city center. It is important to implement plans related to the redevelopment of 3 Maja Street as the culmination of many years of participatory activities and prototyping related to the revitalisation of the downtown area of Dąbrowa Górnicza.

Key stakeholders:

Downtown residents and business owners, local school students and users

Action Owners:

Dąbrowa Górnicza City Council
Departments of Road Investment,
Architecture and Urban Planning, and
Municipal Infrastructure

Implementation plan

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE	OUTPUT	RESPONSIBLE
Concept & participation	Month 0-6	implementati on concept	Miastolab
Secure funding	Month 3-8	financing	departments of the municipal office
Documentation	Month 8-18	Project	Specialists
Reconstruction	Years 2027-2028	Final public space	departments of the municipal office

Risk assesment

- lack of public consent to the proposed spatial solutions,
- failure to secure adequate financial resources,
- changes to the design and unplanned cost increases.

Budget information

Estimated total costs:

~ PLN 30 million

Allocated funding sources:

Municipal budget based on
estimated costs,
EU funds: extra construction costs

AESTHETICS & GREEN TRANSFORMATION

GOAL 2: Green and blue infrastructure to the pedestrian area of The Market

ACTION 2: RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MARKET

This action aims to reshape public space and incorporate it into the city's sustainable strategy. The design and implementation aim to create a coherent, green, and attractive public space in the city center. The redevelopment of the Market is necessary to improve its aesthetics and functionality in connection with an increase in the number of users of the space and customers for traders.

Key stakeholders:

Traders, users, downtown residents

Action Owners:

Dąbrowa Górnicza City Council
Departments of Road Investment,
Architecture and Urban Planning, and
Municipal Infrastructure

Implementation plan

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE	OUTPUT	RESPONSIBLE
Concept & participation	Month 0-12	implementation concept	Miastolab
Secure funding	2027	financing	departments of the municipal office
Documentation	2027	Project	Specialists
Reconstruction	Years 2028-2029	Final public space	departments of the municipal office

Risk assesment

- lack of public consent to the proposed spatial solutions,
- failure to secure adequate financial resources,
- changes to the design and unplanned cost increases.

Budget information

Estimated total costs:

~ PLN 25 million

Allocated funding sources:

Municipal budget based on estimated costs,
EU funds: extra construction costs

MOBILITY

GOAL 3: Walking and bicycle infrastructure in the Dąbrowa Górnicza city centre.

ACTION 3: Planning a pedestrian and bicycle mobility network in the centre of Dąbrowa Górnicza to support the development of entrepreneurship.

The aim of this action is to develop a direction for the development of cycling and pedestrian infrastructure, together with public spaces, in order to strengthen the potential of existing service points in the city centre and encourage the creation of new service locations. We are developing a map of service points and spatial connections that improve accessibility for users of public spaces.

Key stakeholders:

Downtown residents and users, business owners, local school students

Action Owners:

Dąbrowa Górnicza City Council
Departments of Architecture and Urban Planning, Non-Governmental Organisations and Civic Engagement and Culture

Implementation plan

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE	OUTPUT	RESPONSIBLE
Analysis of spatial conditions	Month 0-6	design guidelines	dep. of the municipal office
Secure funding	Month 3-8	financing	dep. of the municipal office
Participation	Month 8-18	Social idea	Miastolab
Development concept	Years 2027-2028	Final design	departments of the municipal office

Risk assesment

- failure to secure adequate financial resources,
- low public engagement
- change in spatial conditions and lack of acceptance for the proposal

Budget information

Estimated total costs:

~ PLN 150 000

Allocated funding sources:

Municipal budget based on estimated costs,
EU funds: for social engagement and sustainable solutions

MOBILITY

GOAL 4: Inclusion of the Augustynika housing estate in the public space system.

ACTION 4: Explore the potential of the Augustynik estate space to create public spaces to complement the urban offer of the Downtown.

The aim of the project is to examine the Augustynika Housing Estate in order to identify public spaces that could be incorporated into the system of public spaces in Śródmieście. Analysis of the estate has the potential to stimulate the local community to explore local identity and prioritise the needs of the estate's residents.

Key stakeholders:

downtown residents, local actors, local schools, business owners

Action Owners:

Dąbrowa Górnicza City Council
Departments of Architecture and Urban
Planning, Non-Governmental
Organisations and Civic Engagement and
Culture

Implementation plan

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE	OUTPUT	RESPONSIBLE
stakeholder engagement	Month 0-6	social cooperation	Miastolab
Secure funding	Month 2-6	financing	departments of the municipal office
co-planning of activities	Month 6-12	Ideas	Miastolab
Development concept	2027	Final design	departments of the municipal office

Risk assesment

- low public engagement
- failure to secure adequate financial resources,
- low public engagement
- change in spatial conditions and lack of acceptance for the proposal

Budget information

Estimated total costs:

~ PLN 50 000

Allocated funding sources:

Municipal budget include civic
budget
EU funds: extra construction costs

BUSINESS

GOAL 5: A digital system connecting businesses and customers

ACTION 5: The 'Poznaj Kupca' IT system.

The aim of the action is to plan, in cooperation with the Dąbrowa Business Incubator and Youth, an online system that will allow local entrepreneurs to present themselves and introduce innovative functionalities. The planned features will enable remote interaction between customers and entrepreneurs, as well as support closer cooperation between local companies and public institutions.

Key stakeholders:

Business owners, Dąbrowski Business Incubator (DIP), local schools, creative young people

Action Owners:

Dąbrowa Górnica City Council
Dąbrowski Business Incubator, Departments of Development, Entrepreneurship and Investor Relations, Non-Governmental Organisations and Civic Engagement

Implementation plan

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE	OUTPUT	RESPONSIBLE
stakeholder engagement	Month 0-12 2026	implementation concept	DIP
Secure funding	Month 3-8	financing	departments of the municipal office
co-planning IT system	Month 8-20	IT System	Specialists
Development concept	Year 2028	Final public space	departments of the municipal office

Risk assesment

- low public engagement
- failure to secure adequate financial resources,
- lack of public consent to the proposed IT solutions

Budget information

Estimated total costs:

~ PLN 1 million

Allocated funding sources:

Municipal budget based on estimated costs,
EU funds: for IT and innovative business solutions

BUSINESS

GOAL 6: Promotion of entrepreneurs and merchants at the Market

ACTION 6: Pilot actions in the market space involving various target groups

The aim of the action is to invite various target groups to the market area in order to assess their needs and expectations regarding the planned offer of merchants. Pilot changes to the market's opening hours are planned, as well as workshops for children and young people aimed at developing organisational and marketing solutions to increase the number of customers for the market's offerings.

Key stakeholders:

Traders, users, local institutions, Dąbrowski Business Incubator (DIP)

Action Owners:

Dąbrowa Górnicza City Council
Dąbrowski Business Incubator,
Departments of Development,
Entrepreneurship and Investor Relations

Implementation plan

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE	OUTPUT	RESPONSIBLE
Planning	Month 0-6	pilot plans	DIP
Secure funding	Month 2-6	financing	departments of the municipal office
Implementation	Month 6-12	Pilots	Merchants
Evaluation	Month 12-15	Final conclusions	departments of the municipal office

Risk assesment

- low public engagement
- failure to secure adequate financial resources,
- little interest from traders,
- desire to maintain the status quo.

Budget information

Estimated total costs:

~ PLN 10 000

Allocated funding sources:

Municipal budget based on estimated costs,
EU funds: for engagment and sustainable activities

PARTICIPATION

GOAL: Involvement of the local community and entrepreneurs in the public space development

ACTION 7: Launching a social dialogue process on spatial changes

The campaign aims to develop social dialogue related to the development of public space supporting the development of entrepreneurship in the centre of Dąbrowa Górnicza. We want to encourage the local community to search for local identity and strengthen mutual bonds. The goal is to strengthen the city's potential by making public space available.

Key stakeholders:

Downtown residents and business owners, local school students and users

Action Owners:

Dąbrowa Górnicza City Council
Departments of Architecture and Urban Planning, Non-Governmental Organisations and Civic Engagement

Implementation plan

ACTIVITY	TIMELINE	OUTPUT	RESPONSIBLE
Dialog about The Market	Month 0-6	project	Miastolab
Process planning	Month 2-5	engagement plan	Miastolab, dep. civic engagement
Engagement	Month 5-12	Ideas	Miastolab
Social activities	2027	operations in space	Miastolab, suitable dep.

Risk assesment

- lack of public consent to the proposed spatial solutions,
- low interest in cooperation,
- lack of financial resources for the implementation of social ideas

Budget information

Estimated total costs:

~ PLN 100 000

Allocated funding sources:

Municipal budget based on estimated costs,
EU funds: for engagement activities

SECTION 4: IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

1. GOVERNANCE

The implementation of the Integrated Action Plan (ZPAP) for Dąbrowa Górnicza will be overseen by the Dąbrowa Górnicza Municipality, with coordination across multiple departments to ensure alignment with existing plans for revitalization, entrepreneurship development, spatial planning, social participation, and urban mobility. In4Green is managed by the Dąbrowa Górnicza City Council, with its departments of Development, Entrepreneurship and Investor Relations, Architecture and Urban Planning, NGOs and Civic Engagement, and Urban Infrastructure, among others. This ensures that work is carried out in line with the revitalization vision and not in silos. This means focusing technical teams around a single work program and a shared budget framework, rather than a loose list of projects.

2. ONGOING STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The URBACT Local Group serves as a foundation for further activities aimed at implementing the jointly developed vision for Dąbrowa Górnicza City Center. Therefore, all work on construction plans, marketing plans, and cross-sectoral collaboration will be consulted with group members.

The marketing plan, pilot plan will be developed in close collaboration with the URBACT Local Group participants, who will be engaged to engage other businesses in the city.

In the context of the redevelopment of 3 Maja Street and the Market area, all work will be conducted in close collaboration with URBACT Local Group members and other involved stakeholders. In particular, 3 Maja Street requires a sensitive approach to designing changes that do not violate the interests of residents and businesses while simultaneously meeting their needs and expectations.

3. OVERALL COSTINGS AND FUNDING STRATEGY

The initial total budget for the implementation of the Integrated Action Plan over a three-year period will be financed in a pluralistic manner to ensure continuity of activities and maximise the relief on the municipal budget.

The vision for financing the Integrated Action Plan as a whole assumes the use of the municipality's own funds planned in the budget and approved by the Dąbrowa Górnicza City Council, as well as funds included in programmes such as the Citizens' Budget. It is also planned to use external funds obtained for thematic activities: workshops, social activities, digital innovations, etc. Support is planned for entrepreneurs in terms of participation in grant programmes offered at the national level, e.g. by the National Centre for Research and Development, and at the European level.

4. OVERALL TIMELINE

The In4Green project in Dąbrowa Górnicza is being implemented on two scales of intervention. Investment activities involving the redevelopment of public spaces (3 Maja and Targowisko) require high-budget measures, hence their schedule is spread over several years. 3 Maja Street is a priority investment due to the long-term process that requires the completion and implementation of proposals submitted by residents and users of this urban space. Targowisko is an investment of great importance in terms of image and organisation and requires long-term activities, which the Miastolab team also implements as part of metropolitan projects. The renovation of this urban space alone requires in-depth participation and spatial analysis on a city and regional scale so that the investment can be a driving force for further positive changes in Śródmieście. Hence the prospect of implementing measures until 2028. An important addition is the planning of a pedestrian and bicycle network, including the Augustynika Housing Estate, which is being planned in parallel to emphasise the role of the Market Square as a link between public spaces, but also to take care of the potential and needs of other entrepreneurs in the city. The most immediate actions are marketing and participatory activities, which aim to achieve real results and sustain ULG's involvement by introducing elements of agency within a maximum of 1.5 years.

5. RISK ASSESSMENT

The biggest challenge in the project is maintaining the commitment of merchants and other stakeholders involved in the ULG. There is a real risk of discouraging cooperation due to lengthy planning and decision-making procedures resulting from the municipality's limited financial resources. It is therefore crucial to include actions in the change process that give a sense of agency and progress. This approach requires further meetings with the initiative group and maintaining interest in cooperation in the implementation of joint proposals.

Another important challenge is the municipality's budget, which requires approval by the Dąbrowa Górnicza City Council. In terms of the project, the investment priority is undoubtedly 3 Maja Street, and it is likely that funding for this investment will be approved first. Financing the renovation of the Market Hall requires detailed planning of activities and determination of organisational matters that will affect the functioning of this space after the renovation. Therefore, it is crucial to monitor financial plans and engage in dialogue with the City Council in the context of renovation plans and their significance for the sustainable development of Dąbrowa Górnicza.

Public procurement is important for investment activities, requiring appropriate administrative procedures and interest from designers and builders. These factors may contribute to potential delays. Therefore, it will be important to research the market before initiating administrative procedures.

Some of the activities planned in the project may be financed from the Citizens' Budget. However, the procedures for selecting projects to be implemented from this pool of public funds pose a risk. Those involved in planning individual activities will have to engage a wide range of residents in order to obtain approval for their initiatives. This is a challenge, so it will be important to promote the planned participatory activities and, at the same time, seek external funding to implement the projects in case of failure in the Participatory Budget voting.

6. MONITORING AND REPORTING

To ensure the measurable impact of the IAP plan for Dąbrowa Górnicza, a monitoring and risk management framework has been implemented. The indicators are closely aligned with the SMART objectives of the plan and track both measurable outputs — new, renovated public spaces with green and blue infrastructure, organised events, completed conceptual work — and actual outcomes, such as user satisfaction, increased biodiversity, spatial and social changes.

Data will be collected by the relevant action leaders and consolidated quarterly by a coordination task force from the Department of Development, Enterprise and Investor Relations, with support from the Architecture and Urban Planning Department, so that internal reports — and gradually public reports — can reflect progress, course corrections and lessons learned.

The coordination task force – city employees from relevant departments, working under the supervision of the city local group (ULG) – oversees the entire monitoring process to ensure the accuracy, relevance and timeliness of interventions. ULG meetings are held every six months to analyse quarterly summaries, resolve issues and, if necessary, change the order of actions.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

Creation of a coherent, green and attractive public space in Dąbrowa Górnicza city centre connecting the areas: The Market Square, Fabryka Pełnego Życia (Full Life Factory) and 3 Maja Street.

Progress in spatial transformation will be monitored through an increase in the number of new or renovated public spaces, which will reach a total of four (three sections of the 3 Maja Street pedestrian zone and the Market Square) by 2028, combined with evidence that all new facilities use participatory solutions and include elements of green and blue infrastructure. A final survey of residents will aim to achieve ≥80% satisfaction with the new spaces, and environmental assessments will record a ≥10% increase in biodiversity in selected areas. Visitor counters will help confirm that the network of new or adapted pedestrian and cycle routes attracts ≥10,000 visitors per year by the end of the period, indicating not only implementation but also actual use. Data collection will be based on quarterly city reports, verified by annual field surveys and semi-annual measurements.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

Creating a complementary and mutually supportive range of key points in urban space, tailored to different target groups.

Progress in business transformation in Dąbrowa Górnicza will be monitored by the increase in the number of new or adapted offers for various target groups, including children and young people, which will reach 30% compared to the current situation on the services market by 2028. The assessment of the degree of achievement of the indicator will be made at the ULG meeting and will concern the actual number of new offers in public space and the degree of involvement of entrepreneurs in creating a network of services for the residents of Dąbrowa Górnicza and other target groups.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

Developing an environment for cooperation between various urban stakeholders supported by the public administration with the aim of improving the quality of public spaces in the city.

Progress in the socio-spatial transformation of Dąbrowa Górnicza will be monitored by the increase in the number of cultural, social and spatial initiatives supporting the development of entrepreneurship and the quality of public space, which will reach a level of 10 initiatives per year. In order to engage stakeholders in the activity, the team of officials responsible for running the Participatory Budget will provide information on the directions of action in the In4Green project and support the promotion of initiatives related to this strategic objective. The degree of achievement of the indicator will be assessed on the basis of reports summarising the social activity of residents, including their activity in the Citizens' Budget and other programmes related to local initiatives.