



Project Title | ASCEND (Accelerate Positive Clean Energy Districts)

Project Number | 101096571

Call | Research and Innovation actions to support the implementation of the Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission (HORIZON-MISS-2021-CIT-02)

Type of Action | HORIZON-IA HORIZON Innovation Actions

Intervention Region | Lordelo do Ouro e Massarelos – Porto, **15 entities:**

- Serralves Foundation
- **Social housing**
- **Public and Private Schools**
- **sports complexes**
- SMAS **water tanks**
- Among others

Leader | SPL LYON CONFLUENCE (local urban planning agency)

Partners | **39 partners** all over Europe

- As "Lighthouse Cities", **Lyon** and **Munich** will be the first to implement innovative, high-impact solutions to **reduce** the **district's carbon footprint** and implement at least **two fully developed Positive Energy Districts**.



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

- The cities of **Budapest** (Hungary), **Prague** (Czech Republic), **Porto** (Portugal), **Charleroi** (Belgium) and **Alba Iulia** (Romania) will implement tailored solutions in target districts and prepare them for getting positive after the project.
- **Experts in investment, IT, community building, and communication** will bring their know-how to extract the best solutions and prepare them to be fit for implementation elsewhere.
- **Research institutes** and **networks of cities** will ensure the monitoring, impact assessment, collaboration and dissemination of results to ensure a massive uptake of solutions throughout Europe.



Start Date | January 2023

End Date | January 2028

Total attributed Budget | 25M EUR



Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

A brief description of the project |

ASCEND (Accelerate positive Clean Energy Districts) seeks to accelerate the implementation of **positive, clean energy districts (PCED)** for cities' transition toward **climate neutrality and social justice** across Europe.

ASCEND will:

- Deliver two inclusive, affordable **PCEDs** in **Lyon** and **Munich**;
- Successfully "**bootstrap**" implementation of **PCEDs** in the Multiplier Cities of **Alba Iulia** (RO), **Budapest** (HU), **Charleroi** (BE), **Prague** (CZ), **Porto** (PT), **Stockholm** (SE);
- **Scale-up solution packages** for a large community of cities and investors across Europe;
- Disseminate our results widely to the smart cities community.

The overarching goals are:

- **Make cities healthier**, inclusive and **climate-neutral**;
- **Speed up and scale up** the deployment of **cost-effective PCEDs solution packages**.

Actions for **ASCEND** for "Getting PCEDs done" across Europe:

1. **Large-scale demonstrations** in Lighthouse Cities (LHCs), using existing knowledge built by the generation of Smart Cities Projects, offering well-proven and cost-effective solutions packages, scalable by design to cities across Europe.



2. **Developing** our **solutions packages** across the entire life of the district: from design to implementation and maintenance, performances must be maintained and increased thanks to an urban orchestrator aiming to coordinate the ecosystem in the long run.
3. **Creating a PCEDs replication wave** during **ASCEND** in our eight partnering cities by iterating between the development of solutions packages and deployment in LHCs and Multiplier cities (MCs) during the project and not after. MCs will achieve impact by bootstrapping their PCEDs during the project.
4. **Triggering a PCED wave** through **outcome-driven collaboration** with EC initiatives, such as **Climate-Neutral and Smart City Mission, Covenant of Mayor, Smart Cities Marketplace, Scalable cities**, and the deployment of City Alliances in the eight cities, targeting small cities, not used to European projects.

Website: [Website Ascend \(ascend-project.eu\)](https://ascend-project.eu)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/ascend-eu/>

