

M100 – Mirror Mission Cities Hub Romania

 <https://m100.ro>

Romania's **M100 – Mirror Mission Cities Hub** is a pioneering national platform established to **replicate and scale the objectives of the EU Mission “100 Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities by 2030”** at the national level. It aims to empower Romanian cities to accelerate their green and digital transition through cooperation, knowledge sharing, and access to tailored funding and technical assistance.

The hub was officially launched in **December 2023 in Cluj-Napoca**, in partnership with the **European Commission**, the **Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration (MDLPA)**, the **Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests**, the **Ministry of Education**, and national innovation agencies. It provides a structured mechanism to coordinate Romania's mission cities and extend the benefits of the EU Mission to additional “mirror cities” working toward climate neutrality.

Objectives and Structure

M100's primary goal is to support **cities outside the EU Mission** to prepare their own **Climate City Contracts, Action Plans, and Investment Strategies**, aligned with the EU framework. It operates as both a **policy coordination platform** and a **capacity-building mechanism**, ensuring coherent alignment between European, national, and local policies.

The initiative currently supports three Romanian cities already part of the EU Mission — **Cluj-Napoca, Bucharest (Sector 2), and Suceava** — and has selected **10 additional “mirror cities”** to join the national mission process. These cities receive guidance, technical assistance, and training to design pathways toward climate neutrality by 2035.

M100 is governed by an **interministerial coordination committee** including representatives of key ministries, mission cities, research organisations, and national funding agencies. This structure ensures policy coherence and direct dialogue between cities and national decision-makers.

Stakeholders and Partnership Ecosystem

A defining feature of M100 is its **multi-stakeholder collaboration**. The hub connects:

- **Cities and municipalities** developing local transition plans and piloting innovative projects.
- **National ministries and agencies** coordinating regulatory frameworks and funding alignment.
- **Universities, research centres, and innovation clusters** providing technical expertise and digital tools.
- **Private companies and SMEs** contributing through investments in green technologies, mobility, and energy systems.
- **Civil society and citizen groups**, which are engaged through participatory planning and local dialogues to ensure social acceptance and inclusivity.

Regular **capacity-building workshops** and **Dialogue Forums** allow these stakeholders to exchange experiences, share data, and replicate solutions. M100 thus functions as a **community of practice** for climate neutrality in Romania, connecting local initiatives with EU-wide networks such as **NetZeroCities** and **the European Mission Platform**.

Funding and Implementation

The hub facilitates access to targeted research, innovation, and investment programmes supporting climate-neutral and smart city initiatives. Developed in cooperation with the Romanian government and the European Commission, M100 aims to mobilize investments of around €1 billion through national and European funding instruments to advance mission-aligned urban projects across Romanian cities¹.

Each participating city works on developing **integrated Climate City Contracts**, bringing together energy transition, sustainable mobility, circular economy, and digital governance. These contracts are both strategic and operational — serving as commitments for implementing climate neutrality pathways and attracting private and public funding.

Impact and European Relevance

The **M100 Hub** represents one of the first national-scale replications of the EU Cities Mission, demonstrating how mission governance can be localised and embedded in national innovation systems. By combining coordination, capacity building, and financial mechanisms, it has created a **national ecosystem for climate-neutral transformation** that aligns public authorities, academia, and industry under a shared vision.

For the **Danube Region**, M100 offers a highly transferable model:

- It illustrates how national hubs can bridge EU-level missions and regional/local implementation.
- It provides a tested mechanism for multi-level governance and stakeholder coordination.
- It supports integrated planning, monitoring, and investment mobilisation for climate neutrality.

Through its collaborative structure, *M100 – Mirror Mission Cities Hub Romania* has positioned Romania as a frontrunner in mission-based urban transformation — turning European policy ambitions into tangible local action.

¹ [Romania's €1B bet on making cities carbon neutral | Science | Business](#)