



2025 Voluntary Local Review for the Town of Pirmasens

Implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Global Sustainable
Development Goals at the local level



Legal details

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Introduction



Dear Readers,

Our goal is for Pirmasens to become greener, fairer and more productive, making it a better place to live for everyone. I am personally dedicated to ensuring that Pirmasens remains an **attractive place to live and do business**, for ourselves and future generations alike. The path towards a town where our grandchildren will be happy to live, requires sustainable changes in the ways in which we all act and think.

The development plan for Pirmasens was drawn up in line with and geared towards the **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda**. We must now work together to breathe life into this plan.

We are all facing major challenges related to local and global crises. The **rapidly progressing climate change** that has become very noticeable also in our region, is not the only aspect that shows how urgently communities must accept their responsibility towards all human beings, now and in the future. Challenges we will have to deal with over the next few decades include the provision **of good and, above all, affordable housing, restructuring of mobility, decarbonising** the economy and existing buildings, the issue of growing land scarcity, as well as the task to **adapt our town in line with the consequences of climate change**.

In order to provide in-depth answers to these questions and to create **a basis for requirement planning and political decision making**, we have recently focussed on further developing our sustainability reporting, aiming to increase its transparency.

By publishing its first **Voluntary Local Review (VLR)**, Pirmasens has achieved yet another milestone. This sustainability report reflects our current status and progress made towards reaching the **17 Sustainable Development Goals** of the 2030 Agenda at the local level. To this end, we are **presenting regional data and indicators**, as well as activities, projects and measures realised in our town, as well as placing these in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The aim of the report is to provide **a sound basis for decision making that will determine our further course** on the path towards a more sustainable future. The effectiveness of measures, their progress and also their successes can be verified against specific data. The VLR is an **objective and transparent analytical tool**, whose purpose is to make the **strengths, but also any weaknesses** visible and measurable, and to assist in the implementation of the sustainability goals in this way.

The aim is for our sustainability reporting to be useful not only for policy-makers but also for **our town's citizens** and further stakeholders. This promotes **transparency and trust** in the integrity of policy-makers and the administration, as well as in their ability to take action. However, the VLR is designed to do even more than provide information and raise awareness. We also want it to **motivate and inspire** people, because each and everyone of us can and must

contribute to sustainable development in line with the 2030 Agenda. This is a shared responsibility that we must take on for our own good and to the benefit of our children.

Let's face the challenges of our time together and tackle them with determination, **optimism** and a strong sense of our **responsibility for one another**. Let's use this report as a starting point for our shared mission.



Michael Maas
Mayor of Pirmasens

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1. Introduction

Voluntary Local Reviews in the context of the 2030 Agenda

2030 Agenda

Back in 2015, the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Agenda has since been used as a global framework for sustainable development. Its aim is for global challenges to be addressed jointly and for all people around the world to live in dignity. The 2030 Agenda is unprecedented in its scope and significance. Its universal goals and targets apply to all countries in the world. Industrialised and emerging economies, as well as countries in the Global South, must contribute equally to the agenda's implementation. Involvement of policy-makers, business, academia and civil society is key here, as these groups are jointly responsible for global sustainable development.

The 17 goals are designed to strengthen all levels of sustainable development and to place the actions of all of us in a global context.

In Germany, a Voluntary National Review is drawn up to present the progress made in implementing the German Sustainability Strategy. The current 2025 report highlights measures and challenges from the 2021–2025 reporting period. The German Sustainability Strategy, which was adopted anew in January 2025, forms the basis for the German VNR as well as for German sustainability policy in general.

Following a decision made by the city council on 15 December 2025, the Town of Pirmasens signed the 2030 Agenda specimen resolution. It thus undertakes to contribute actively to the implementation of the 17 SDGs and to take appropriate local measures.

Voluntary Local Review

In the German VNR, particular emphasis is placed on the role of local authorities and their interaction with the state and federal governments. Implementation of the agenda requires commitment at the municipal level in particular, with towns, cities and municipalities playing a key role. Both the causes of global challenges and the scope for effective solutions manifest themselves here. A large proportion of the SDG goals can be directly influenced through local action. The 2030 Agenda provides for regular reporting to illustrate the progress made. In addition to Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) have become an established format at the municipal level.

The purpose of a VLR is to document a municipality's contribution to the implementation of the SDGs. This type of report creates transparency, promotes accountability and comparability, strengthens interdisciplinary cooperation in administration as well as with external stakeholders, and it also supports a continuous learning and improvement process. There are two ways in which a VLR is very helpful: it feeds relevant sustainability information into national and international reporting systems, and it also enables a strategic review of local sustainability policy and further development of such policy.

Context, methods and structure of this report

This VLR has been prepared as part of the Municipalities for Global Sustainability, Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) project run by Engagement Global's Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. The Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) supports municipalities, towns, cities and rural counties in their efforts to actively promote global sustainability in line with the United Nations' 2030 Agenda. The Town of Pirmasens was selected to prepare a Voluntary Local Review (VLR) in German and English in 2025, and the same was true of the City of Augsburg, the Hanseatic Town of Buxtehude, the state capital Saarbrücken and the Lamspringe Municipality. The report supplements the municipal sustainability strategy from 2021 and serves to place the town's activities to date in the context of the 2030 Agenda, as well as to make them internationally accessible.

The VLR is coordinated by the Sustainability Department that is part of the Mayor's Office for Environment, Finance and Construction. This department coordinates all activities related to sustainability, while the different specialist departments and teams are responsible for operational implementation. The report is based on the sustainability strategy adopted in 2021, which was developed as part of the model project "Biosphere Reserve for a Sustainable Rhineland-Palatinate" with support from the Institute for Rural Structural Research and the Palatinate Forest Biosphere Reserve.

The baseline review, which was conducted in 2020 and comprehensively updated in 2025, forms the starting point for the VLR. It includes an evaluation of existing concepts and strategies, qualitative surveys of administrative units, and analyses of statistical indicators, aiming to assess the status of sustainable development in Pirmasens. Both quantitative and qualitative data was taken into account to allow for a comprehensive presentation of the current situation and areas where action will be needed in future. The first step in drawing up the VLR was to identify the SDGs that are most relevant to Pirmasens. The baseline review and an analysis of the sustainability strategy and current challenges were used to identify these SDGs. Particular focus was placed on the areas in which Pirmasens is already active, where the town has scope for local action and those that play a key role in terms of quality of life in the local area.

The second chapter begins with a description of the local context. There is a brief portrait of Pirmasens with some basic facts and figures, followed by a short introduction to the town's sustainability work. The chapter is rounded off with an overview of a selection of key figures and indicators. The third chapter forms the core of the VLR. It covers the six SDGs that were chosen from the 17 SDG's. Each SDG is presented using the same structure, highlighting the connections between the global, national and local levels. Each of these sections starts with information about municipal development in the area of the respective SDG, followed by a list of the relevant strategic and operational objectives from the sustainability strategy. Activities, projects and strategies from administration, municipal policy, civil society, academia and business are introduced in the next part. The sections are concluded with some quantitative indicators on local development and an outlook on opportunities and challenges in relation to each SDG. This uniform structure allows for the local implementation of the 2030 Agenda to be depicted in a transparent and comparable manner.

The VLR is therefore a monitoring instrument for municipal sustainability activities which presents Pirmasens' contributions to the global 2030 Agenda in a structured manner. It demonstrates how a medium-sized town can contribute to sustainable development through integrated strategies, interdepartmental action and close cooperation with regional and international partners.

2. The municipality in the context of sustainable development

Short profile of the municipality

The independent town Pirmasens is located on the western edge of the Palatinate Forest and is the administrative centre of the County of Südwestpfalz ("South-West Palatinate"). The town has a population of approximately 42,000 and is home to various medium-sized companies as well as a small number of globally active industrial companies.

Pirmasens was the hub of the German shoe industry for a long time, until it became impossible for the area to compete with manufacturers from abroad that are able to produce at lower cost. Many shoe factories had to close as a result. In addition, the American military withdrew from Pirmasens, causing around 10,000 residents to leave the town and resulting in the loss of 4,000 jobs. All in all, some 19,000 jobs were lost in Pirmasens, giving rise to an unemployment rate to 14.9% in 2002 that was still as high as 12.7% in April 2025.

The independent town Pirmasens covers an area of approximately 61.37 square kilometres, a third of which is forested. It is located in Germany's largest connected forest area (Wasgau) and is divided into seven districts – Erlenbrunn, Fehrbach, Gersbach, Hengsberg, Niedersimten, Windsberg and Winzeln. The state of Pirmasens' municipal budget has deteriorated dramatically over the years. With liquidity loans totalling more than €8,175 per capita, the city is Germany's most indebted municipality.

An analysis of the economic conditions shows that Pirmasens has fallen behind other municipalities in terms of per capita economic performance over the years. This is due to poor development of value creation per job, while job density – i.e. the ratio of employed persons to population – developed on a scale similar to that observed in other municipalities. Likely reasons for the low level of value creation per job include the structure of jobs on offer and the skill structure of the workforce. The proportion of employees with university degrees and of those working in high-tech sectors is smaller in Pirmasens than in other municipalities of a similar size. All of this results in below-average growth in primary income per capita.

Demographic factors are also having a negative impact on the town's economic development. Pirmasens lost about a third of its population due to the shoe industry's loss in significance and the US army garrison being closed down. This was accompanied by the population getting older, which is reflected in a decline in the employment rate (proportion of the working-age population in the total population). At the same time, the proportion of the population dependent on social benefits increased, as people with good job prospects tend to be more mobile.

An analysis of general financial conditions reveals a considerable need for consolidation. The unfavourable socio-economic development is reflected in the town's financial weakness which is structural in nature. When it comes to the municipality's share of income tax, both the payments per taxpayer and the ratio of taxpayers to population are lower than in other municipalities. Tax productivity is also below average in the case of trade tax.

Sustainability and the 2030 Agenda in the Town of Pirmasens

The issue of sustainability is handled in Pirmasens by the Mayor's Office for Environment, Finance and Construction. This is where the Sustainability Department is based, which is responsible for coordinating all of the town's activities relating to sustainability, both within and outside the administration. The different specialist departments and teams share responsibility for implementing the activities.

Pirmasens has a diverse range of concepts and strategies for sustainable development, and the town's administration has been committed to developing and refining these for many years. Back in 2007, a biomass master plan was drawn up to lay the foundation for sustainable energy generation for Pirmasens. This was followed in 2011 by the launch of the Pirmasens-Winzeln energy park project. In addition, several climate-action sub-concepts were created between 2011 and 2014, concerning topics such as renewable energy, municipal real estate. An Integrated Climate Protection Concept (ICPC) was also drawn up. In 2016, the town introduced sustainability controlling for its urban water management activities in order to systematically incorporate ecological criteria into planning. With its sustainability strategy adopted in December 2021, Pirmasens set the course for a structured long-term approach to sustainability policy. In 2023, the town began to focus on a number of new projects: It further developed its integrated urban development concept for the town centre (ISEK) and the Horeb ISEK (social cohesion), drew up a comprehensive heavy rain preparedness concept and conducted potential studies on wastewater and waste. Clear future goals for digital administration processes are defined in the 2023 digital mission statement. More recently, Pirmasens updated its mission statement (resolution of the town council from May 2025) and drew up a mission statement for digitisation and a digital strategy (January 2025). All of this shows that the focus in Pirmasens is on achieving sustainable, future-oriented urban development.

The ICPC is to provide for "recommendations for action to reduce greenhouse gas emission and expand renewable energy" based on a comprehensive analysis of energy and pollutant flows in the town. The climate protection sub-concept for real estate is to build upon this and serve as a basis for decision making aiming to achieve "the greatest possible reduction in energy consumption and emissions of climate-damaging gases from an economic, ecological and social perspective" for selected properties owned by the town. The biomass master plan represents a sustainable strategy for the use of locally available biomass. Based on a biomass potential survey, three projects are outlined in the master plan: the agricultural biogas plant as part of the Pirmasens-Winzeln energy park, energy supply for WASGAU AG with renewable energy (focussing on biomass) and approaches for using green waste to derive energy. The transport development plan includes a very detailed baseline review and analysis in which different modes of transport (including pedestrian traffic and accessibility), road safety, environmental impacts, road space compatibility and mobility management are taken into account. In accordance with the provisions of the Federal Circular Economy Act and the Rhineland-Palatinate Circular Economy Act, the solid waste management concept for Pirmasens includes the objectives of circular economy and municipal material flow management, as well as measures taken and planned in this regard. In addition, a sustainability control system is in place in the urban water management department (NaCoSi) of the wastewater disposal company for Pirmasens, which aims to minimise risks that might jeopardise sustainable development and to increase the efficiency of water utilities. Furthermore, there are numerous other strategies and projects that relate to sustainable development.

Over the past decade, the Town of Pirmasens has repeatedly distinguished itself as a best practice example, for example through technical innovations for resource conservation, efficient energy use, and climate adaptation measures. Pirmasens took part in various competitions, such as the German Sustainability Prize and the Blue Compass Award by the Federal Environment Agency in which the town was selected as a winner and its successful entries were acknowledged.

The global network of 714 UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in 12 countries has set itself the task to contribute to the realisation of the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda. The UNESCO Biosphere Reserves represent all types of landscapes in the world and act as large-scale model regions for sustainable development. Their purpose is the protection and development of the respective landscape type and its ecosystems, species and biodiversity. In addition, they are sites for experimentation with environmentally friendly and socially acceptable economic practices and ways of life, aiming to establish a balanced relationship between "humans and the biosphere".

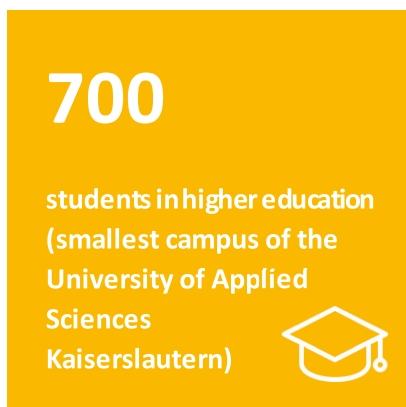
In 2019, the project "Palatinate Forest: SDG model region for a sustainable Rhineland-Palatinate" was initiated against this backdrop, with Pirmasens acting as one of the model municipalities located in the biosphere reserve. The aim of the project was to advance realisation of the 2030 Agenda's SDGs by developing sustainability strategies, strengthening the network of municipalities in the Palatinate Forest Biosphere Reserve, and identifying key points and perspectives for regional sustainable development. Strategy development in this context was based on a qualitative and quantitative analysis of existing activities contributing to the SDGs.

The Biosphere Reserve's model project for a sustainable Rhineland-Palatinate provided an opportunity for pooling the various topics, measures and projects of the town Pirmasens under one umbrella strategy. The overall sustainability strategy for all of the town's activities allowed for the challenges of our time to be considered and addressed in a holistic manner. The Mayor's Office for Environment, Finance and Construction took the lead in drawing up the strategy with support from the Economic Development Agency, the Palatinate Forest Biosphere Reserve and the Institute for Rural Structural Research. A future workshop and a dialogue format enabled the citizens of Pirmasens to contribute their own ideas and visions for a sustainable town to the strategy-creation process.

The sustainability strategy for Pirmasens was presented to the public and adopted by the Town Council in December 2021. It includes strategic and operational objectives, which are to be gradually implemented through 155 short, medium and long-term measures. The strategy has since been implemented, reviewed and updated by means of a cyclical process involving various population groups. The monitoring system introduced in 2022 allows for the current status of implementation to be tracked, as well as for analyses of the effectiveness of individual measures in promoting sustainable development at the local level.

The purpose of this sustainability dashboard is to clarify and visualise the sustainability efforts made in Pirmasens. It links the 17 global Sustainable Development Goals with local indicators. These indicators are concrete figures that allow for the achievement of the goals stated in the sustainability strategy to be measured. This illustrates the development in recent years and thus acts as a control instrument for interdisciplinary cooperation for sustainable development in Pirmasens.

Facts & figures



3. Implementation of the 17 global Sustainable Development Goals in the municipality

Main Messages



Zero hunger

The town Pirmasens is taking a multifaceted approach to promoting sustainable and equitable nutrition for all population groups. The goals to improve access to healthy food and raise awareness of sustainable nutrition are pursued through social engagement, regional value creation and education. In this context, the town Pirmasens combines measures to ensure regional supply with social support and education initiatives, aiming to ensure food security and to permanently embed responsible consumption in the town's society.



Affordable and clean energy

Energy supply is one of the key areas of sustainable development in Pirmasens. The town actively promotes the local energy transition by focusing on the expansion of renewable energy sources, greater energy efficiency and innovative technologies. Energy consumption and greenhouse gas emission are steadily reduced through provision of solar power and bioenergy, and prospectively also hydrogen energy, paired with comprehensive renovation and modernisation projects. A sustainable and affordable energy supply that is kind on the climate and the environment is therefore gradually established, and regional value creation is promoted at the same time.



Sustainable cities and communities

Pirmasens pursues future-oriented and socially equitable urban development that combines ecological responsibility, participation and economic stability. The town is committed to sustainable neighbourhood development, energy-efficient construction and environmentally friendly mobility that benefits all generations. By upgrading public spaces, expanding green and open spaces and funding innovative forms of living, Pirmasens is creating urban neighbourhoods that offer a high quality of life and are characterised by a sense of community, climate friendliness and sustainability.



Climate action

Aiming to become a climate-neutral town by 2030 as well as more resilient to the effects of climate change, Pirmasens is working equally on expanding renewable energy sources, encouraging energy-efficient renovations, and promoting biodiversity as well as blue-green infrastructure. Among other aspects, the goal here is to ensure heavy rain preparedness. Climate action is being established as an interdisciplinary task across all areas of urban development that is subject to continuous further development and is addressed with support from regional and national networks.



Peace, justice and strong institutions

Pirmasens aims to strengthen social cohesion through targeted measures for social integration and intergenerational participation, as well as by promoting voluntary work. Consultation, security and participation are promoted by local networks, and citizens are able to get actively involved in municipal decision making. One of the town's goals is to ensure an effective and fair city administration through financial stability and co-operative partnership.



Partnerships for the goals

Pirmasens is dedicated to international cooperation, which is taking place in the shape of long-standing city-to-city partnerships in Europe and the town's development-related activities in the Global South. Local initiatives and associations are involved in education, healthcare and infrastructure projects around the world, in which local solidarity and global responsibility are combined. The result of this is a strong network of exchange and cooperation in which Pirmasens distinguishes itself as an open-minded, committed and future-oriented town that makes valuable contributions to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

2 KEIN HUNGER



SDG 2 · Zero hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.

Background



Globally

Even though progress has been made in some areas in recent years, figures are still above the level seen in the years before the pandemic. Between 638 and 720 million people are suffering from chronic hunger, according to United Nations estimates – that is roughly one in eleven people worldwide. 2.3 billion people continue to be affected by food insecurity. An estimated 50 percent of all countries are affected by high to very high food prices, three times as many as between 2015 and 2019. One of the causes of food shortages in countries in the Global South is the increasing use of cropland for food exports. Progress has been slowed down by several factors, including ongoing conflicts, economic crises, climate change and the aftermath of the pandemic. Current estimates suggest that it is unlikely that SDG 2 will be achieved by 2030.¹



Nationally

Germany ensures a high level of food safety through strict food laws and comprehensive controls, and has structures in place that fundamentally guarantee access to food. There is no acute malnutrition, but there are significant social differences in access to healthy food. Low-income households are affected by food poverty to a disproportionate extent. This is the case for an estimated 3 million people.² In addition, overweight and obesity are major problems in Germany: over two thirds of men and half of women are overweight and around one quarter of adults are considered severely obese. Germany is above the EU average here.³ Food waste also remains a key challenge. These general national conditions create a basis which local authorities can supplement with their own strategies and measures.



Pirmasens

The town Pirmasens also aims to strengthen food security and promote a sustainable food supply. The focus is on projects to improve access to regional products and promote healthy eating habits. This is complemented by urban agriculture initiatives, educational programmes and measures to prevent waste and support low-income households. In this way, Pirmasens is making a concrete contribution to the implementation of SDG 2, visibly anchoring the goal of "Zero hunger" in everyday local life.

The following examples illustrate a selection of measures and projects through which Pirmasens contributes towards these subgoals.

Our engagement

Meadow orchards and fruit tree register

For several years now, the town Pirmasens has been managing its public fruit trees using a digital fruit tree register, which is accessible to all citizens via the Geoportal. In addition to individual stocks, municipal meadow orchards, such as those in the Strecktal landscape park, have also been mapped and people are permitted to pick the fruit. Pirmasens also participates in the nationwide "Yellow Ribbon Campaign," in which private and public owners mark their fruit trees with a clearly recognisable yellow ribbon that indicates that the fruit is available for public consumption. Telescopic fruit pickers are available to borrow for picking fruit in hard to reach parts of the trees. The combination of a digital register and yellow ribbons creates transparency, helps to prevent food waste and promotes sharing of regional resources.



Image source: Municipality of Pirmasens/Felicitas Lehr



Image source: Municipality of Pirmasens/Bernd Recktenwald

Edible Town

In the context of its "Pirmasenser Stadtsalat" project, the town has been converting public green spaces into freely accessible kitchen gardens since 2015. Every year, up to 16,000 plants – including lettuce, tomatoes and herbs – are planted in beds along roads, in squares and in parks. Harvesting is expressly encouraged to give all citizens direct access to fresh, seasonal food. The project is supported through a year-round maintenance programme, which begins with the cultivation of young plants in winter. In addition, Pirmasens offers educational programmes such as workshops and guided tours designed to inform the participants about sustainable garden design and urban agriculture, as well as to raise awareness of healthy eating.



Image source: Die Rheinpfalz/Seebald

Local initiatives against hunger and food waste

Several thousand people in need are supported every week through a close cooperation with the local food bank PirmasenserTafel e.V. The town administration provides personnel and logistical resources for this as part of the "PS: hilft!" initiative, as well as operating a delivery service for supplying people with limited mobility. The "Bio-Brotbox" campaign in schools helps to ensure that children – especially those from low-income families – get healthy and sustainable breakfasts and snacks. In addition, Pirmasens relies on awareness raising and resource conservation, which includes campaigns to promote the purchase of regional products, funding for a zero-waste shop, and cooperation with food-sharing initiatives that distribute surplus goods from retailers and restaurants.



Image source: Bio-Brotbox gGmbH



Image source: Die Rheinpfalz/Seebald

"Pirmasens aims to strengthen food security and anchor the goal of *zero hunger* in everyday local life by actively promoting access to regional food through initiatives such as the *Yellow Ribbon Campaign*, the *Edible Town project* and the *Lunchbox Campaign at primary schools in Pirmasens*."

Maximilian Zwick, Press Officer



Pirmasens' weekly market

The weekly market on the centrally located square Exerzierplatz is among the town's most important shopping and socialising venues. Three times a week, local producers and traders offer a wide range of fresh food here, including fruit and vegetables, meat and cheese specialities, baked goods, honey, spices and vegetable oils. In addition, a German-French market is held on the first Saturday of every month, showcasing products from the Palatinate Forest/Northern Vosges Biosphere Reserve. This not only strengthens regional supply, but also visibly promotes cross-border cooperation.



Image source: Wochenblatt Reporter

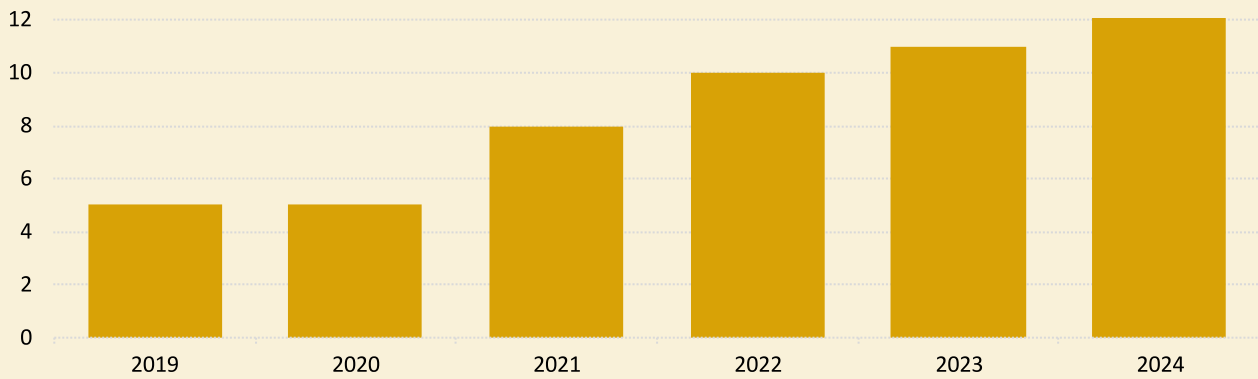
Development at local level



Edible Town (number of beds/sites)

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 5 | 5 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 15 |

The indicator shows the number of freely accessible kitchen gardens within the town limits of Pirmasens (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



435
publicly accessible fruit trees

Since 2015, Pirmasens has been converting public green spaces into freely accessible kitchen gardens. Harvesting is expressly encouraged to give all citizens direct access to fresh food (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



1/10
agricultural businesses in Pirmasens are run as organic farms.

Opportunities and challenges

Pirmasens pursues a holistic approach to strengthening food security, participation and sustainability in the everyday lives of the town's population. Various projects create direct access to regionally produced food and aim to raise awareness of sustainable nutrition in public spaces. Environmental education is combined with social responsibility in these projects which also promote a culture of sharing and participation. Particular opportunities lie in combining environmental and social sustainability, for example by using urban open spaces for community gardening projects, integrating regional value chains and strengthening civic engagement. Challenges arise, however, from structural circumstances such as limited space in urban areas, an ageing population and the need for long-term financing and maintenance of such projects. However, by combining urban agriculture, social participation and regional economic development, Pirmasens can further expand its pioneering role in municipal food policy and get actively involved in shaping the transition to a sustainable, equitable food system.

7 BEZAHLBARE UND SAUBERE ENERGIE**SDG 7 · Affordable and clean energy**

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

Background**Globally**

Significant progress has been made worldwide regarding access to energy. 92 percent of people had access to electricity in 2023 (2010: 84 percent). Renewable energy sources are currently growing more rapidly than all other types. Nevertheless this progress is not sufficient to achieve SDG 7 by 2030. If investment is not accelerated, around 645 million people will still be living without electricity in 2030. Rapid expansion of renewable energy sources, improved energy efficiency, and targeted funding for developing countries are crucial to achieving SDG 7.⁴

**Nationally**

With its energy transition and Renewable Energy Sources Act, Germany has a legal framework in place that ensures further expansion of renewable energy sources in the long term and is regarded as exemplary around the world. The share of renewable energy is rising steadily: 59.4 percent of electricity generated in Germany and fed into the grid came from renewable energy sources in 2024. The expansion of wind power and photovoltaic systems contributed significantly to this. The amount of electricity from coal that was fed into the grid declined further. At the same time, electricity from natural gas fed into the grid rose to a share of 14.9 percent. Accelerated expansion of wind and solar energy systems and efficiency gains remain key to achieving the targets by 2030.⁵

**Pirmasens**

For Pirmasens, municipal heat planning is a key step on the path towards ensuring climate-friendly heat supply by 2045. The aim is to achieve a sustainable, efficient and cost-effective energy supply that is independent of fossil fuels. This is based on determining the current heat demand and the potential for renewable energy and waste heat utilisation. A target scenario and a strategy specifying the step-by-step conversion of the heating system are to be derived from this. The renewable energy company "Erneuerbare Energien Pirmasens GmbH", the structural and civil engineering departments, the building management office and town planning office are in charge of the strategy's implementation. Private and commercial renewable energy systems are already making a significant contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Pirmasens: the amount avoided is equivalent to the CO₂ storage capacity of around 2,977 hectares of forest – that is about 48.5% of the total land area of Pirmasens.^a

^a Source: Stadtwerke Pirmasens ([22944-Standortbilanz 2024.indd](#))

Through its sustainability strategy, Pirmasens is pursuing the following specific goals relevant to SDG 7:

- Strategic objective: Systematic development of heat supply and the necessary infrastructure and provision of the required space for renewable energy sources are hardly possible without local heat planning. For this reason, Pirmasens will be drawing up a comprehensive municipal heating plan by June 2028 at the latest, in close cooperation with the municipal utilities for Pirmasens (Stadtwerke Pirmasens).
- Strategic objective 2.2: Pirmasens has energy-efficient and resource-friendly infrastructure in place in its municipal facilities and buildings. Innovative approaches to energy-efficient refurbishment are constantly being examined and, where possible, implemented.
- Strategic objective 2.3: Pirmasens will contribute to climate protection in the period up to 2030 through innovative approaches in the areas of renewable energy sources, resource conservation and sector coupling.

The following examples illustrate a selection of measures and projects through which Pirmasens contributes towards these subgoals.

Our engagement

Pirmasens-Winzeln energy park

Established in 2010, the Winzeln energy park is a key component for realising the municipal energy transition in Pirmasens. The starting point had been an analysis of biogenic residues, and the energy park has continued to develop ever since. It now comprises not only a biogas plant but also a biomethane production facility and a biorefinery. Preparations are currently underway to start hydrogen production. In future, the energy park is to be further expanded, among other things by coupling electricity and heat generation, through innovative storage methods and by connecting the Felsalbe sewage treatment plant. This allows for different forms of energy, such as electricity, heat, gas and wastewater, to be interlinked smartly. With these projects, the Winzeln energy park is making a vital contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting the use of renewable energy across various areas in Pirmasens.



Image source: PFI Germany

Ohmbach solar park

Commissioning of the Ohmbach solar park on 31 May 2023 constituted a vital step in the town Pirmasens' endeavour to promote renewable energy. An open-space photovoltaic plant with a peak capacity of around 5 megawatts was built on the former Ohmbachtal domestic waste landfill site. Based on average consumption estimates and ideal conditions, a solar park of this size can theoretically cover the annual electricity needs of 1,000 to 1,500 households.^b The panels cover around 2.3 hectares of the landfill site



Image source: Solar server/Erik Stegner

that has a total size of 13 hectares. The project, has an investment volume of around €3.6 million, and is supported by Stadtwerke Pirmasens, the municipal network operator, that is responsible for ensuring the connection and feed-in. For the time being, the electricity generated is fed into the public grid. A direct connection to the Winzeln energy park is planned for the future, to allow for green hydrogen production for local use. This combination of photovoltaics and wind power lays the foundation for cross-sector energy use.

"Pirmasens is resolutely pursuing a clean and affordable energy transition as a contribution to climate protection."

Michelle Eichhorn, Municipal Administration



Energy-efficient refurbishment of schools and daycare centres

The town Pirmasens is increasingly focusing on energy-efficient renovations in the education and childcare sector, aiming to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Comprehensive refurbishment projects have already been completed at the Landgraf Ludwig Secondary School (2024) and the vocational school (2024). Refurbishment measures are currently taking place at the Hugo Ball Grammar School (2021–2027) and the Leibniz Grammar School (2022–2026). Renovation work at the Kant Grammar School (2025–2026) has begun, following the council's decision in February 2025. At the Käthe Dasser School, the energy supply was converted from gas to district heating in 2021/22, saving around two megawatt hours and two tonnes of CO₂ per year. Opportunities to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions are also made use of at the Gersbach and Pfiffikus daycare centres.

^b Assumption: average consumption of a four-person household between 2,600 kWh (in a flat) and 4,500 kWh (in a house) per year. Source: <https://www.adac.de/rund-ums-haus/energie/spartipps/stromverbrauch-im-haushalt/>

Conversion of street lighting to LED technology

The town Pirmasens has been pursuing the modernisation of its street lighting for a number of years, and has now largely completed the switch to LED technology. The report on the "5-year street lighting renewal programme" from October 2024 reflects significant progress: since 2010, electricity consumption for street lighting has dropped from 3,703,000 to 1,205,000 kilowatt hours per year, and greenhouse gas emissions have been reduced from 1,704 tonnes to 555 tonnes. This corresponds to annual cost savings of around €1.53 million compared to the old lights. The network currently comprises 6,730 lights, 5,875 of which are already equipped with LED technology or LED upgrading modules. In order to complete the transition, the remaining technically obsolete lights will be replaced by 2031. The town is investing around €750,000 for this project. In addition to significantly reducing energy consumption, emissions and operating costs, the modernisation also contributes to the protection of nocturnal species, as LED lights are designed to minimise light pollution.

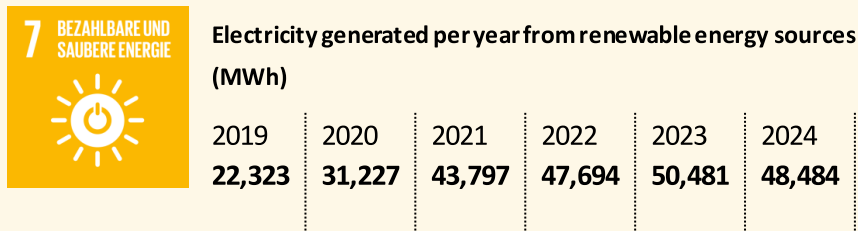


Image source: Die Rheinpfalz/Peter Brandstetter

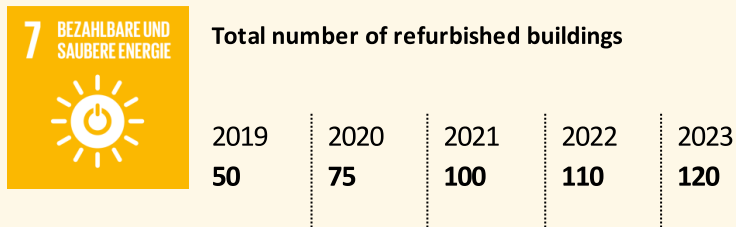
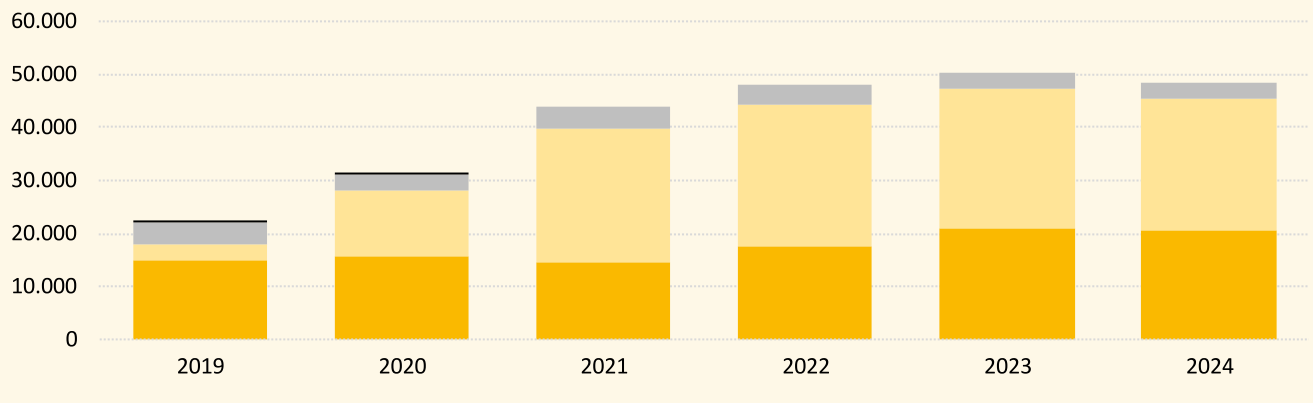
Energy optimisation of sewage treatment plants

As part of the environmental innovation programme of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV), the town Pirmasens performed a comprehensive optimisation of its sewage treatment plants' energy efficiency between 2011 and 2015. The aim was to reduce specific energy consumption from 40 to less than 20 kilowatt hours per population equivalent (PE – parameter for sewage treatment plants) per year. To this end, the biological treatment stage was made more flexible, the measurement and control technology was upgraded, and adaptive control software was introduced. The measures led to a reduction in consumption from around 1 million down to 250,000 kilowatt hours per year, despite an increase in utilisation from 45,000 to 49,000 PE. This has resulted in a reduction in electricity consumption of around 795,000 kilowatt hours per year and a decrease in CO₂ emissions of 445 tonnes. With this result, Pirmasens ranks among the top ten percent of all size category four sewage treatment plants in Germany. In the long term, this level of efficiency opens up the possibility of virtually energy-autonomous wastewater treatment, underlining the town's contribution to resource conservation and climate protection.

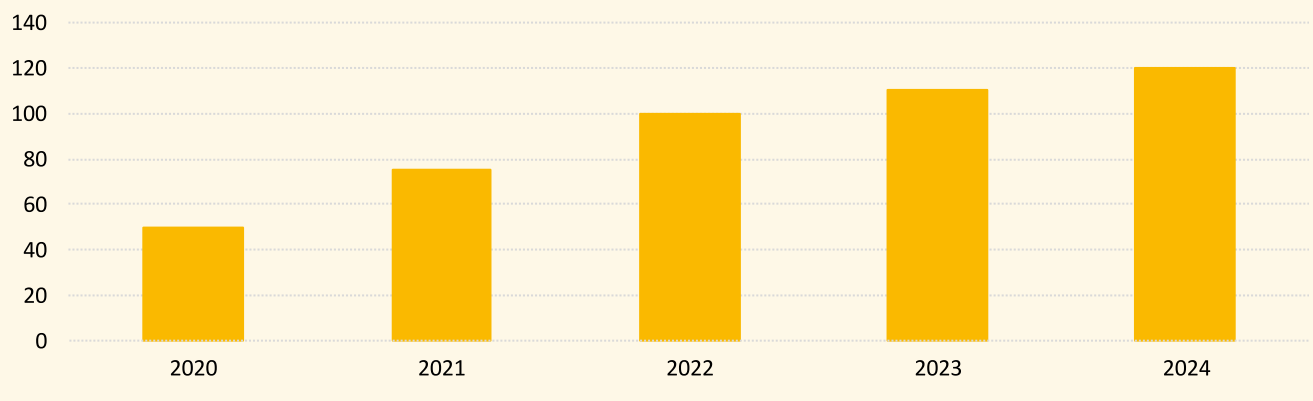
Development at local level



Electricity generated per year from renewable energy sources: photovoltaics, wind power, solid biomass, biogas (source: Stadtwerke Pirmasens).



Gradual refurbishment of municipal buildings: schools, daycare centres and administrative buildings (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).





21

public charging stations within the town limits

Number of publicly accessible charging points for electric vehicles within the town limits (source: Federal Network Agency).

Opportunities and challenges

Opportunities and challenges in the area of affordable and clean energy for Pirmasens are linked in particular to the strategic development of municipal infrastructure and innovative energy projects. Aiming to gradually realise energy-efficient refurbishment of schools, daycare centres and administrative buildings, around ten properties are to be modernised by 2030, with contracting models with municipal utilities opening up additional scope for action. Cross-sector use of renewable energy is being promoted at the same time: key steps include the construction of an electrolyser at the Winzeln energy park, the connection of the Felsalbe sewage treatment plant, studies concerning the energy efficiency of wastewater treatment plants, as well as updating of the municipal vehicle fleet. The Town Council has granted its approval for the Winzeln wind farm with a planned peak capacity of 20.4 megawatt and an annual production of over 50 gigawatt hours. Together with the solar area register with twelve suitable potential areas covering around 141 hectares, this illustrates the great expansion potential in the field of wind and solar energy. This opens up considerable opportunities for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and strengthening supply reliability, while key challenges exist in connection with approval processes, investment volumes and long-term integration into existing infrastructures.



SDG 11· Sustainable cities and communities

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Background



Globally

More than half of the world's population is already living in towns and cities, and the trend is rising. Towns and cities are drivers of economic development, but they also cause around 75 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, consume more than three quarters of all resources and generate billions of tonnes of waste.⁶ This also makes them particularly vulnerable to the consequences of climate change: rising temperatures, flooding and the loss of green spaces are leading to even greater risks for billions of people. A strong involvement of civil society in urban planning can only be observed in about one in five towns and cities around the world, and this jeopardises equitable participation and resilient infrastructure.⁷ At the same time, many people continue to be affected by a precarious housing situation. Over half of the urban population of many countries in the Global South is living in slums. In Chad, for example, this figure is as high as 80 percent. However, some progress has been made: in Burkina Faso, for example, the proportion has dropped from over 80 percent in 2000 to now less than 30 percent.⁸



Nationally

Almost 78 percent of Germany's population lives in towns, cities and agglomerations.⁹ Urban development is shaped by rising rents and a shortage of affordable housing as well as the need to make cities more climate-resistant. In addition to this, there are challenges relating to air quality, traffic and adaptation to be able to handle extreme weather events. Public transport development and encouraging people to walk or cycle are further key aspects in this context. At the same time, rural areas require greater consideration. Action must be taken to close the gap between urban and rural areas in terms of quality of life, mobility and infrastructure, in order to counteract demographic pressure on cities. This is why the creation of affordable housing, reduction of land consumption and promotion of sustainable mobility and green infrastructure are highlighted in the German Sustainability Strategy as key areas for action.¹⁰



Pirmasens

Pirmasens is a medium-sized town on the edge of the Palatinate Forest Biosphere Reserve that offers a high quality of life, which is to be further enhanced. Alongside traditional forms of living, innovative approaches to cohabitation are emerging and providing a stimulating and supportive environment for students and start-ups in particular. The town attaches great importance to safeguarding municipal assets and finances in a manner that is fair to all generations and to promoting its qualities beyond the region. There are plans to upgrade the town centre of Pirmasens with a greater range of cultural offerings as well as by enhancing public spaces and green areas. At the same time, the barrier-free expansion of public transport continues, aiming to improve accessibility within the town and beyond its boundaries and to ensure participation for all population groups. These objectives are being implemented in close cooperation between various departments, including the town planning office, the economic

development office, the economic and service operations department (WSP), the civil engineering office, the fire and disaster protection office and the public utilities company Stadtwerke Pirmasens. In this way, Pirmasens is making an active contribution to the implementation of SDG 11.

Through its sustainability strategy, Pirmasens is pursuing the following specific goals relevant to SDG 11:

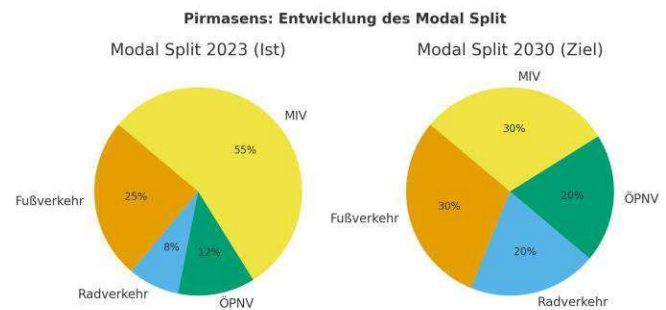
- Strategic objective 4.1: In 2030, Pirmasens will be an attractive place to live with an appealing town centre and room for different types of housing.
- Strategic objective 4.2: In 2030, Pirmasens will be a hub of innovation, characterised by a strong start-up landscape and skilled workforce, and will be particularly attractive to companies in the STEM sector and the creative industries.
- Strategic objective 4.3: By 2030 the town Pirmasens will have made investment decisions regarding the maintenance of municipal assets and their further development for future generations.
- Strategic objective 4.4: In 2030, Pirmasens will be well-known as an attractive medium-sized town in the Palatinate Forest Biosphere Reserve.
- Strategic objective 5.1: Active forms of mobility and public transport will be the primary means of transportation in 2030. Services will be interlinked and multi-modal, and known and accessible to all citizens.
- Strategic objective 5.2: Motor vehicle traffic will be reduced to a bare minimum by 2030. Environmental pollution will be minimised thanks to smart traffic management and efficient parking space management. Training courses and speed reduction measures will have led to greater road safety.

The following examples illustrate a selection of measures and projects through which Pirmasens contributes towards these subgoals.

Our engagement

Holistic transport and mobility development

The transport development plan for Pirmasens is setting the course for the town's mobility and transport development up to the target year of 2030. The transport development plan is based on a detailed analysis of the initial transport situation, supplemented by forecasts and development scenarios. The guiding principle "Holistic transport and mobility development – Pirmasens gets fit for the future" was adopted in a participatory process involving the administration, politicians and civil society. The transport development plan provides for five equally important overall objectives, ranging from environmentally friendly motor vehicle transport and strengthening eco-friendly transport options to improving road safety. 41 specific areas of action in the areas of pedestrian traffic and accessibility, cycling, public transport, motor vehicle traffic and interdisciplinary issues were derived from these objectives. Continuous progress monitoring is assisted by an evaluation concept with indicators such as accident statistics, modal split and traffic flow measurements. Initial measures have already been performed in areas including upgrading of barrier-free crossings in the town area, expansion of the cycle path infrastructure and modernisation of public transport services. This is complemented by initiatives promoting electric mobility and car sharing. By taking these steps, Pirmasens is not only improving accessibility and road safety, but is also making an active contribution towards reducing environmental pollution.



Source: Municipality of Pirmasens (original illustration)

Strategic framework for a bicycle-friendly town

Following a decision made by the Town Council on 24 April 2023, there is now a cycling strategy for Pirmasens that serves as a binding framework for promoting bicycle traffic going forward. It forms the basis for bundling and prioritising measures as well as for applications for funding. Its goals include the creation of a comprehensive network of routes suitable for everyday use, increasing the proportion of bicycle traffic, as well as targeted integration of the different town districts. The status analysis includes a categorisation of the network of travel routes and information about shortcomings of routes and points. Feedback from over 100 representatives of the civilian population was taken into account at the planning stage. The concept provides for measures to be taken across various different areas: opening up one-way streets and pedestrian zones to bicycle traffic, establishing bicycle-friendly side streets, expanding 30 km/h zones and improving the cycle path infrastructure. In the long term, plans include the expansion of a secure parking and charging infrastructure for electric bikes, parking regulations, and continuous monitoring with regular updates. Minor defects such as missing markings and signage are to be addressed in the short term. In doing so, the town Pirmasens is laying the foundation for a systematic and sustainable promotion of cycling as well as contributing to safe, inclusive and climate-friendly mobility systems.

Sustainable neighbourhoods

With its "Energy-Efficient Urban Redevelopment" programme, Pirmasens is pursuing the goal of increasing energy efficiency in urban districts and gradually converting the town's heat supply to renewable energy. Six neighbourhoods were examined and an individual concept tailored to the respective local conditions was developed for each neighbourhood. In the Kirchberg area, the focus is on connecting households to local and district heat

networks and using biomass, solar thermal energy and geothermal energy, while on Anton-Bruckner-Strasse the focus is on landlord-to-tenant electricity supply models featuring photovoltaics as well as solar and biomass options for individual buildings. The intergenerational housing project "PS:patio!" is being developed further in the Winzler district, where new buildings are constructed in line with the energy-efficiency standard 40 and older buildings are being refurbished. Concepts for energy-efficient renovations and the implementation of various different approaches to energy-efficient construction were developed for the Hahnenruhe housing district. In the town centre, synergies are to be created through an innovative project involving waste water heat utilisation and sewer renovation, opening up new avenues for local energy supply. In addition to technical solutions, funding opportunities and measures from the areas of climate protection and climate adaptation are taken into account in all neighbourhood concepts. These activities contribute greatly to the goal of a transition towards climate-neutrality in Pirmasens, as well as helping to increase the quality of life in the neighbourhoods.

"Pirmasens contributes actively to the implementation of SDG 11 by increasing its appeal as a medium-sized town in the Palatinate Forest Biosphere Reserve that is a place of innovation, by offering a more diverse cultural programme that can help revitalise the town centre, as well as through innovative approaches to cohabitation and participation for all citizens. All of these efforts are ultimately aimed at making Pirmasens fit for the future."

Annette Legleitner, Office Manager at the Mayor's Office



Community, self-sufficiency and care: a multi-generational living space

The PS:patio! project was launched in 2013 to establish an innovative housing model in Pirmasens, which is being implemented by Bauhilfe Pirmasens GmbH in cooperation with the municipality of Pirmasens and the diaconal welfare centre. The project is based on the "Bielefeld model" of independent living with guaranteed care options. Residents live in barrier-free accommodation and receive outpatient support as needed, for which they do not have to pay any fixed care fees. The concept is aimed at people of all ages and promotes an active neighbourhood community. Both young and older residents who require support are expressly welcome in the community. A residents' café and an on-site outpatient care team provide for additional safety as well as opportunities for socialising. This helps to prevent social isolation, strengthen participation and to actively promote intergenerational cohabitation.



Image source: Bauhilfe Pirmasens GmbH

Integrated urban development concept for Horeb

The integrated urban development concept (ISEK) for the Horeb neighbourhood provides a comprehensive framework for sustainable neighbourhood development with a focus on social and ecological aspects. The concept combines urban planning analyses with specific measures, thus providing a clear framework for strengthening the neighbourhood socially, environmentally and functionally. Key priorities include the modernisation of residential buildings, better utilisation of brownfield sites, expanding local services and creating attractive and safe public spaces. This includes more green spaces, safe bicycle and footpaths, and new meeting places that promote interaction among residents. The concept is supported through neighbourhood management activities, ongoing public relations work and a system for monitoring success. The aim is to significantly improve the quality of living, stabilise the neighbourhood from an urban development perspective and to sustainably promote social diversity.

Civic involvement for urban green spaces

With its Grünpaten ("green sponsors") project, Pirmasens encourages active involvement of residents in designing and maintaining public green spaces. The volunteer project that is run by the parks and cemeteries department aims to beautify residential areas, relieve the burden on municipal staff and strengthen the sense of community in the neighbourhood. It is based on the idea that around 70 sponsors take care of small green spaces, tree pits and flower beds in their neighbourhood. They maintain and water the spaces, keep them clean and can bring in their own natural design ideas, for example featuring bee-friendly plants or herbs. The parks department supports the participants by providing tools, plants and expert guidance, as well as in competitions such as "Pirmasens blüht auf" (Pirmasens blossoms). Green space sponsorships promote citizens' identification with their neighbourhood and strengthen their awareness of issues related to environmental protection and nature conservation. The volunteers also enjoy the appreciation and recognition of their work.



Image source: Die Rheinpfalz/Peter Kneffel

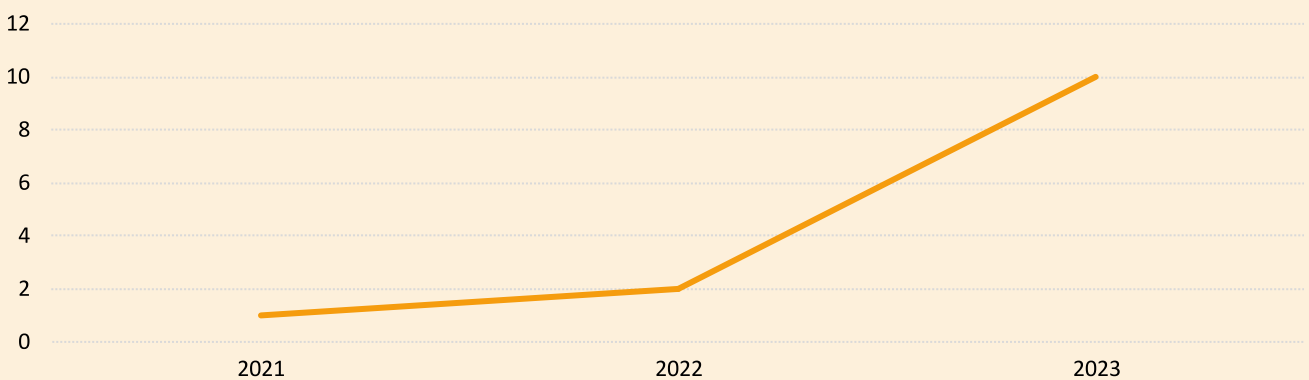
Development at local level



Review of the conversion of the municipal vehicle fleet to alternative drive systems (number of newly purchased vehicles with alternative drive systems)

| 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|------|------|
| 1 | 2 | 10 |

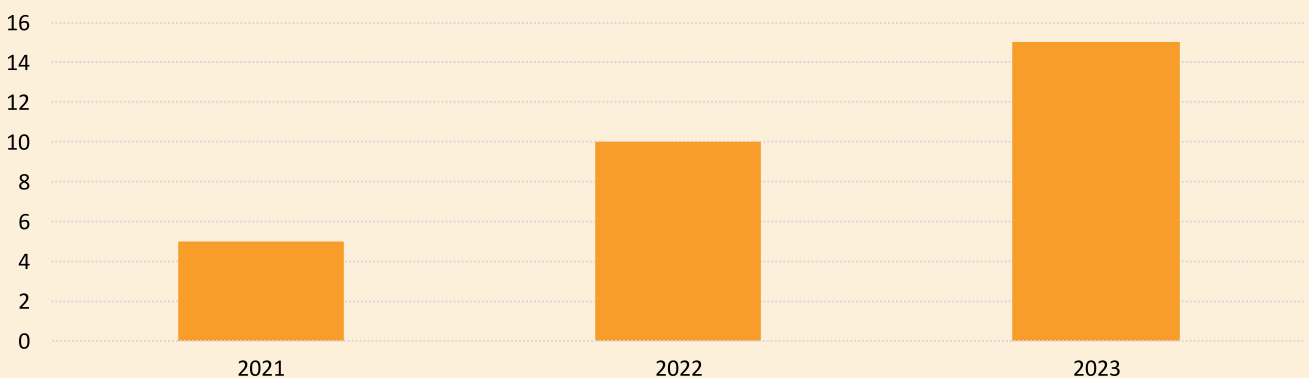
The conversion of the municipal vehicle fleet to alternative drive systems and the potential use of biogas from municipal facilities, e.g. from biogas plants or sewage treatment plants, are being continuously reviewed (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



Creation/facilitation of new, modern forms of housing (number of residential/work spaces available for rent)

| 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|------|------|
| 5 | 10 | 15 |

The indicator shows the creation and facilitation of new, modern forms of living, such as co-living, where work, leisure and housing are combined in one building (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



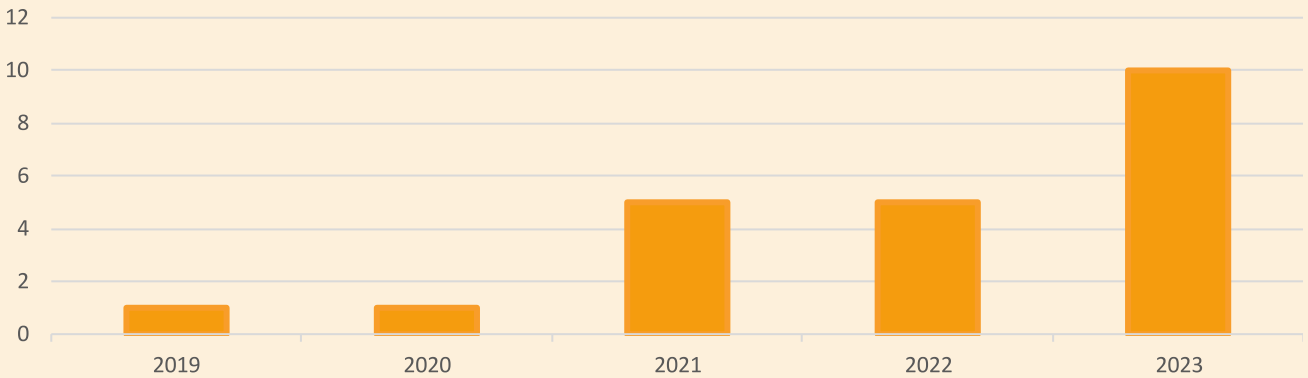


Establishment of traffic-free zones

(number of schools and daycare centres with traffic-free zones)

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 10 |

The indicator shows the number of schools and daycare centres with traffic-free zones that have been set up to counteract the risks posed by parents driving their kids to school/nursery (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).

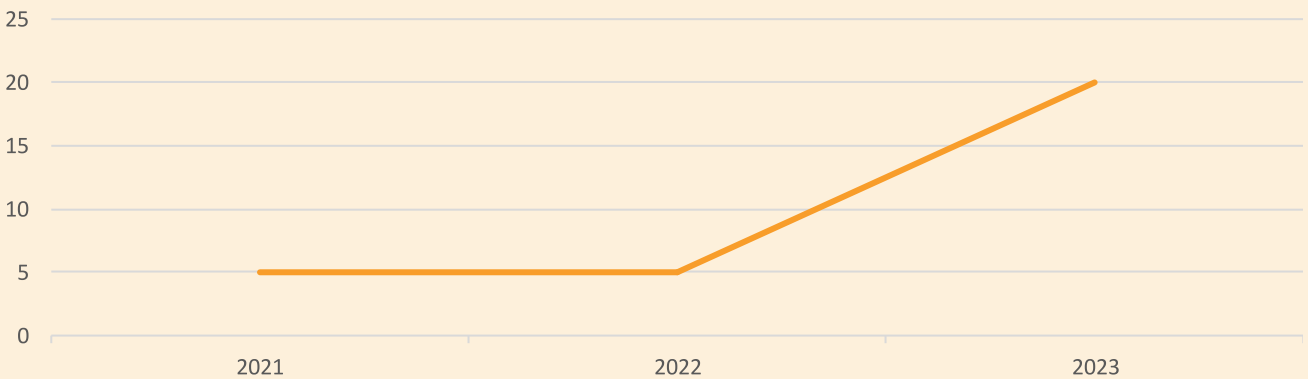


Implementation of the cycling strategy

(number of measures implemented)

| 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|------|------|
| 5 | 5 | 20 |

The indicator includes all measures relating to infrastructural installations, secure parking facilities and designated main routes (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).

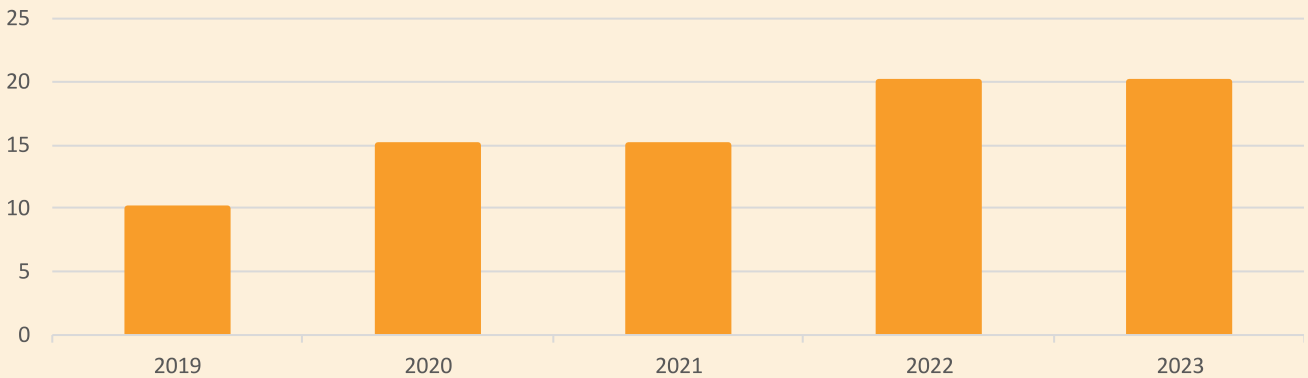




Lighting for footpaths and squares during the winter months (number)

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 10 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 20 |

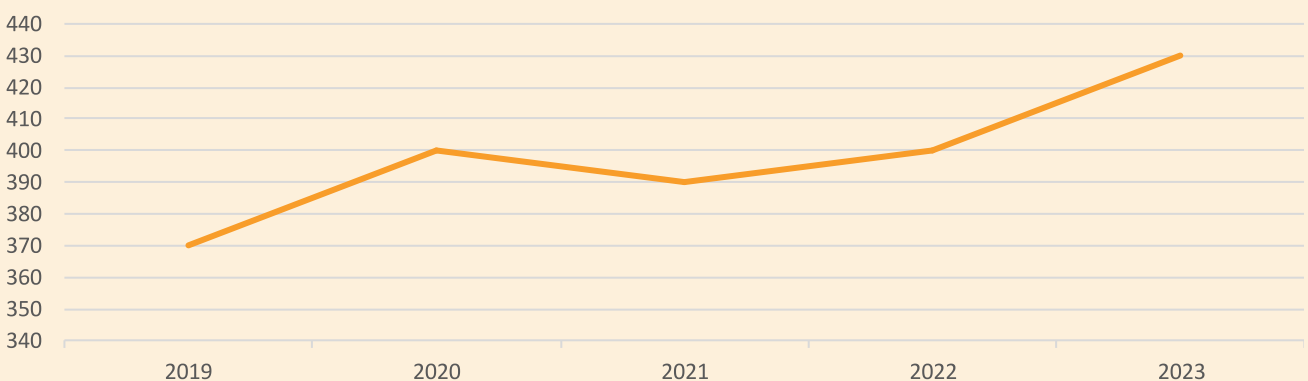
The indicator shows the number of footpaths and areas for active forms of mobility that are illuminated in winter to increase safety (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



Road safety training for children (number of children participating)

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 370 | 400 | 390 | 400 | 430 |

The indicator shows the number of children participating in road safety training at schools and daycare centres (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



Opportunities and challenges

Pirmasens faces the task of further enhancing its appeal as a place to live and work, trying out new forms of living and working, and revitalising the city centre. Opportunities stem from the town's diverse range of cultural offerings and clubs, targeted regional marketing and promotion of Pirmasens as a medium-sized town in the Palatinate Forest Biosphere Reserve and attractive tourist destination. Securing skilled workers will be just as important as upgrading the campus environment and networking local stakeholders. Further key challenges include the endeavour to secure sustainable municipal finances and ensure active involvement of citizens – for example, through concepts for citizen participation in budgetary matters. In the area of mobility, Pirmasens aims to promote bicycle traffic, further expansion of local public transport and a reduction of motorised private transport. The envisaged transformation is to be supported through smart traffic control, efficient parking space management and measures to increase road safety.



SDG 13 · Climate action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Background



Globally

In the Paris Agreement, the international community has committed itself to limiting global warming to well below 2°C. Nevertheless, climate change continues to accelerate: 2024 was the warmest year on record, with a global average temperature around 1.55°C above pre-industrial levels. Extreme weather events, climate-induced displacement, food insecurity and economic losses continue to increase. According to UN forecasts, the world is currently moving towards a temperature increase of 2.7°C.¹¹ To keep the 1.5°C target within reach, investment in emission reduction must be urgently accelerated. At the same time, increased investment in climate adaptation and resilience is needed to mitigate the already unavoidable consequences of global warming.



Nationally

With its Climate Protection Act, binding sector targets and the legally stipulated goal to achieve climate neutrality by 2045, Germany has created a clear and – by international comparison – ambitious framework. By 2030, greenhouse gas emissions are to be reduced by 65 percent compared to 1990 levels. Total greenhouse gas emission decreased by over ten percent in 2023. A total of around 673 million tonnes of greenhouse gases were released in Germany in 2023.¹² The transport and buildings sectors in particular are still failing to meet the targets. According to the Federal Environment Agency, it is still feasible that the national climate targets could be achieved by 2030.¹³



Pirmasens

Pirmasens aims to make an effective contribution to climate protection by 2030 and to become a climate-neutral town in the long term. Particular emphasis is placed on expanding renewable energy, increasing the energy efficiency of municipal buildings, and strengthening climate resilience by preserving and promoting biodiversity. In addition, flood control and heat protection concepts are being further developed to make Pirmasens more resilient to extreme weather events. Pirmasens bears particular responsibility due to its location on the edge of the Palatinate Forest Biosphere Reserve and the close interrelations between nature conservation and climate protection. The municipality therefore plays an important role concerning the implementation of the global sustainability goals of the 2030 Agenda, and in particular of SDG 7 "Affordable and clean energy", SDG 11 "Sustainable cities and communities", SDG 13 "Climate action" and SDG 15 "Life on land".

Through its sustainability strategy, Pirmasens is pursuing the following specific goals relevant to SDG 13:

- Strategic objective 2.1: By 2030, the proportion of green spaces in Pirmasens will have increased significantly, contributing to greater biodiversity.
- Operational goal 2.1.1: By 2025, the biodiversity strategy will have been updated and at least three additional green spaces will have been created within the town limits.
- Operational goal 2.2.1: Energy-efficient refurbishment of approximately 5 buildings/properties will be completed by 2025, and work on around 10 buildings/properties will be completed by 2030. The focus of these measures is on schools and daycare centres. A feasibility study shall be conducted on innovative approaches to energy-efficient renovation (ZUG climate adaptation in schools, etc.).
- Strategic objective 2.4: By 2030, Pirmasens will be prepared for more severe and more frequent extreme weather events and will be able to mitigate the effects of anthropogenic climate change.
- Operational goal 2.4.1: The flood control plan for the municipality, including all suburbs, will be finalised and at least five of the measures included will be implemented by 2025.
- Operational goal: A heat action plan will be drawn up in 2025 with involvement of the public and vulnerable groups, and this plan will be implemented from 2026 onwards.

The following examples illustrate a selection of measures and projects through which Pirmasens contributes towards these subgoals.

Our engagement

Biodiversity conservation in the neighbourhood

In February 2024, the municipality of Pirmasens presented a biodiversity concept that addresses the decline in local biodiversity and focuses on protecting habitats within the town limits. The concept was prepared due to the significant decline in local biodiversity and the realisation that biodiversity is at the core of climate action, ecosystem services and a healthy population. Maintaining biodiversity is particularly relevant to Pirmasens, owing to the



Image source: Municipality of Pirmasens

town's situation on the edge of the Palatinate Forest and in the vicinity of various bird sanctuaries and special areas of conservation (SAC). The aim of the concept is to systematically integrate biodiversity into existing plans and funding programmes, in particular into the KfW neighbourhood concepts within the framework of the ZENAPA EU

LIFE project. This allows for climate action and nature conservation measures to be interlinked to create local synergies. The concept includes various specific measures aimed at promoting biodiversity in urban areas. These include the provision of nesting and roosting places for birds, bats and insects, growing native flowering and berry plants, green roofs and façades, and meadow orchards. These activities are complemented by bird-friendly glazing, insect-friendly lighting concepts and avoidance of chemical pesticides.

Husterhöhe campus park: promoting climate protection and biodiversity with green spaces

The municipality of Pirmasens is dedicated to creating habitats for honey bees and wild bees in the Husterhöhe campus park. Extensive species-rich flowering meadows with native wild grasses and flowers have been created to the east of the university, providing bees with a continuous food supply from spring to autumn. In addition, the municipality worked together with the Pirminiuschule school to set up insect hotels as nesting places for mason bees and solitary bees. The municipal parks department is responsible for maintaining the insect hotels. These environmental measures are complemented by education and public relations work: school classes and interested members of the public are able to learn more about the importance of bees and to actively participate in environmental tours and workshops. The Husterhöhe campus park is thus becoming an important component of the town's biodiversity strategy, promoting biodiversity and environmental education and making a visible contribution to sustainable neighbourhood development.



Image source: Wochenblatt Pirmasens/Frank Schäfer

Picopark coffee staircase: a new green space in the centre of town

A new so-called picopark has been created around the historic coffee staircase. This type of public park features a wide range of environmental and social characteristics in a very small space. The site connects Hauptstrasse with Strecktalpark, extending the existing "green belt" into the town centre. To create the picopark, areas were unsealed, natural meadows were created, and park-like and shaded areas with seating were established. There is also a community garden with raised beds, a small tool shed and communal areas for growing fruit and vegetables. The project is realised in cooperation with Pakt für Pirmasens, the town office, and the Universities of Heidelberg and Humboldt-Berlin. Involvement of local residents plays a key role in ensuring that local needs are taken into account. With this park, Pirmasens is creating an easily accessible, multifunctional green space and is sending a visible signal for greater quality of life, sustainability and community in the heart of the town.



Image source: Die Rheinpfalz/Christian Berger

Climate adaptation through municipal heavy rain preparedness measures

Heavy localised rainfall events have repeatedly led to flooding and considerable property damage in Pirmasens and its districts in recent years. In view of climate change and the expected increase in heavy rainfall events, the municipal

administration has cooperated with an engineering firm to develop a comprehensive provision plan. The concept focuses on three key areas: systematic risk assessment and hazard analysis for the town centre and the seven local districts, implementation of structural and non-structural measures to mitigate damage, as well as awareness raising and promotion of preparedness. This includes, for example, backflow prevention devices on buildings, keeping natural drainage routes clear, mobile drainage and retention systems, and setting up a municipal alarm chain in close cooperation with the weather service, fire brigade and building supervision authority. Another component is to raise public awareness, including through online services, and to provide advice on building-specific protective measures and recommendations for action for home owners. Planning provides for regular reviews and updates of the heavy rain preparedness plan going forward, to be able to respond flexibly to any new findings and changing climate scenarios.

"Pirmasens is determined to become a climate-neutral town by 2030 and to strengthen its climate resilience by promoting biodiversity, renovating municipal buildings to make them more energy efficient, and implementing effective preventive measures for handling extreme weather events such as heavy rain and heat." **Michael Maas, Mayor**



Networks for climate protection and adaptation to climate impacts

Pirmasens has been a member of the European Climate Alliance since 1994 and has thus been committed to consistent climate action for over 30 years. The alliance combines local climate action with solidarity towards indigenous peoples of the rainforests, who practise sustainable forestry within the framework of partnerships. An integrated climate protection concept and sub-concepts for the use of renewable energy were developed locally, and these serve as the basis for funding projects. CO₂ emissions are reduced by hundreds of tonnes per year, thanks to specific measures such as the decontamination and recultivation of the former landfill site in Ohmbachtal where a low-grade gas treatment plant was built. The municipality is also continuously developing its greenhouse gas monitoring system further and working towards improving air quality in networking meetings and work groups. In 2023, Pirmasens joined the Municipalities in Rhineland-Palatinate Climate Pact, thereby committing itself to the state's climate protection goals. In addition, Pirmasens benefits from customised expert advice from the Rhineland-Palatinate Energy Agency and the Competence Centre for Climate Change Impacts.



Image source: Climate Alliance



**Kommunaler
Klimapakt
Rheinland-Pfalz**

Image source: Municipalities in Rhineland-Palatinate Climate Pact

Development at local level



18,500 m²
green spaces within the town limits

The indicator shows the size of green spaces created in 2023 by converting land within the town limits that was previously used for other purposes into green spaces (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).

Opportunities and challenges

Pirmasens has already implemented viable approaches to promote climate protection and adaptation to climate impacts. Opportunities stem in particular from measures that simultaneously promote biodiversity and strengthen the city's resilience to climate change: updating of the biodiversity strategy, green space sponsorships and urban gardens help to increase climate resilience, quality of life and biodiversity. The town's preparedness for extreme weather events is improved by means of the heavy rain preparedness plan, which includes a risk analysis, structural and organisational measures, and the plan to develop a heat action plan. Implementation-related challenges arise from the required approval and participation procedures for early involvement of citizens in a manner appropriate to the target group. Memberships and programmes such as the Climate Alliance and the Municipalities in Rhineland-Palatinate Climate Pact provide advice, monitoring tools and access to funding for Pirmasens' successful transformation into a climate-neutral town.



SDG 16 · Peace, justice and strong institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Background



Globally

Peace, justice and strong institutions are key prerequisites for sustainable development. Peace is not something that can be taken for granted, as demonstrated by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, which marked the end of the longest period of peace in the history of the European continent. In 2024, there were 27 wars and armed conflicts around the world.¹⁴ Worldwide, nearly 50,000 people lost their lives as a result of conflicts – one person every twelve minutes statistically speaking – and by the end of the year, 123.2 million people had been displaced, more than ever before. These wars have prompted many countries to significantly increase their military spending, and an all-time high of 2,718 billion US dollars was recorded in 2024. Access to justice remains unattainable in many places: one third of the world's prisoners are being detained without a valid sentence, and threats against human rights activists and journalists are on the rise. At the same time, some progress has been made with regard to transparency laws and human rights institutions.¹⁵



Nationally

With its established democracy, functioning rule of law, low levels of corruption and diverse media landscape, Germany is characterised by stable institutional structures. Internationally, it focuses on multi-lateralism and partnership-based action. As a major funding provider in the areas of development work and humanitarian aid, Germany is strongly committed to strengthening peace, the rule of law and human rights. The German Sustainability Strategy from 2025 emphasises the importance of protecting democratic institutions and involvement of civil society. International cooperation, for example with the African Union and the African Free Trade Area is aimed at increasing international confidence and enabling a joint approach to tackling global challenges.¹⁶ Against the backdrop of recent challenges related to security policy, Germany has also stepped up its investments in its defence capabilities. A special fund was set up to provide for the armed forces and increased defence spending, and the NATO target of two percent of GDP was met for the first time in 2024.



Pirmasens

The goal to ensure strong institutions, justice and participation forms an essential pillar of municipal sustainability policy in Pirmasens. The focus is on funding participatory processes to involve urban society in decision-making, on projects to combat extremism, as well as on enhanced networking and cooperation. In addition, Pirmasens relies on dependable control and administrative structures as well as a support framework that promotes social integration and fair coexistence. In this way, Pirmasens is playing an active role in the implementation of SDG 16.

Through its sustainability strategy, Pirmasens is pursuing the following specific goals relevant to SDG 16:

- Operational goal 1.3.1: By 2024, the municipality of Pirmasens participated in at least two different projects aimed at promoting civil society engagement and combating extremism.
- Strategic objective 3.1: Pirmasens will be a diverse town in 2030. Societal life will be characterised by mutual acceptance and support, and those in need of help and the socially disadvantaged will be encouraged and supported.
- Strategic objective 3.2: Children and young people are the future of Pirmasens. In 2030, there will be a wide range of services and projects to assist families in times of need and to provide future generations with opportunities for education and recreation.
- Operational goal 3.2.2: From 2022 onwards, the Pirmasens Youth Council will be involved whenever a strategy or concept relating to the future development of Pirmasens is to be adopted.
- Strategic objective 3.3: In 2030, Pirmasens will be a place where senior citizens can age with dignity. Mobile care and support services and other forms of assistance will be made available.
- Operational goal 3.3.3: The Senior Citizens' Advisory Council has been involved in all socio-political decisions that directly affect the lives of older people since 1999.
- Strategic objective 4.3: By 2030 the town Pirmasens will have made investment decisions regarding the maintenance of municipal assets and their further development for future generations.

The following examples illustrate a selection of measures and projects through which Pirmasens contributes towards these subgoals.

Our engagement

Social integration and networks

By establishing comprehensive neighbourhood management, Pirmasens is strengthening social integration and social cohesion. The neighbourhood offices are playing a key role by providing advice to refugees, unemployed people and senior citizens, as well as creating spaces for people to meet and interact with their neighbours. In the Winzler district, the "Patio 11" neighbourhood centre offers a wide range of support services and participation opportunities, while the "Mittendrin" meeting place in the centre of town serves as an inviting point of contact for civic activities and networking. In Horeb, advisory and neighbourhood services aimed at supplementing the local infrastructure are available at the neighbourhood management facility "Horeb-Treff". The new meeting place "Sommerwald-Treff" was opened in 2025 as part of the "Tour de Quartier". These four facilities form a low-threshold neighbourhood network that promotes social participation through proximity to the people and highlights the co-operative partnership between the municipality, welfare organisations and citizens.

Pakt für Pirmasens

Since 2008, the organisation Pakt für Pirmasens ("Pact for Pirmasens") has been bringing together local authorities, as well as church and civil society organisations to provide targeted support for children and young people from socially disadvantaged families. The organisation is based at a coordination office, which is in charge of project approval, public relations work and networking between partners. A steering committee comprising representatives from the administration, education stakeholders and welfare organisations oversees the strategic direction, while parents and volunteers are also closely involved. The network includes youth and social welfare offices, schools and daycare centres, welfare organisations, sports clubs and cultural associations, as well as volunteer life mentors. Around 1,030 young people are currently benefiting from learning support, homework supervision, leisure activities and one-on-one mentoring. In addition, holiday programmes and workshops are organised in cooperation with partners such as the youth culture workshop "JuKuWe" and the CVJM (German branch of YMCA). With this long-term approach, Pakt für Pirmasens creates sustainable structures for education, participation and social integration, thereby making a significant contribution to strengthening social cohesion in Pirmasens.



Image source: Municipality of Pirmasens

Participation and dialogue with all generations

In Pirmasens, citizens of all generations are able to actively present their interests to policy-makers and the administration. The Youth Council has been representing the concerns of young people between the ages of 11 and 18 for many years. Its 21 elected members meet on a regular basis to develop their own projects and proposals, and they also attend events where they directly engage with children and young people. For older generations,



Image source: Municipality of Pirmasens/Lina Merz

the Senior Citizens' Advisory Council plays a similar role: as an advisory board with the right to have a say in municipal committees, it advises the mayor, administration and Town Council on all issues relevant to senior citizens. In addition, the Senior Citizens' Advisory Council implements its own projects, such as certification of senior-friendly businesses, the "Digitaler Stammtisch" training series in cooperation with the vocational school, and activities performed by safety advisers. In 2024, the Senior Citizens' Advisory Council celebrated its 25th anniversary, underscoring its importance as an established fixture in the town's intergenerational development network. With the series "Talk of the town – Top administrators in dialogue with citizens" ("Stadtgespräch – Verwaltungsspitze im Dialog mit Bürgern"), Pirmasens has created a regular forum for direct exchange between municipal authorities and citizens. The Head Mayor, Mayor and Deputy Mayors pay regular visits to the different neighbourhoods and local districts to present the latest plans and gather suggestions. Open debate forums provide a space for discussions on topics such as urban development, infrastructure, social issues and cultural matters. Transparency, participation and trust are strengthened through the Youth Council and the Senior Citizens' Advisory Council and the "Talk of the town" sessions. Pirmasens is characterised by its civil society that actively participates in municipal decision-making.

Promoting voluntary work

Pirmasens has introduced a volunteer card to honour the voluntary commitment of its citizens and send a palpable sign of recognition. The card is issued to persons aged 14 and over who volunteer for at least five hours per week or 250 hours per year without receiving any regular compensation. Around 600 different benefits are available to holders of the card, such as discounts in retail outlets and restaurants, and reduced admission to museums, swimming pools and cultural facilities. In addition, volunteers in Pirmasens benefit from further municipal

advantages, such as reduced admission prices for local events and discounts from partner businesses. The volunteer card therefore strengthens the appreciation and visibility of voluntary work and contributes to promoting involvement of civil society.



Image source: Municipality

"The goal of strong institutions, justice and participation forms an essential pillar of municipal sustainability policy in Pirmasens, with social integration and intergenerational participation being actively promoted."

Mark Schlick, Head of Economic Development and Real Estate Department



"Safe Places" work group

The Crime Prevention Council's "Safe Places" ("Sichere Orte") work group aims to establish a network of places across town, where children and young people in particular can easily find help and protection in dangerous situations. To this end, suitable facilities such as shops, libraries and community centres are identified and marked with a uniform identification sign. Regular training courses prepare employees at these locations to deal with emergencies, and public relations work is carried out to raise awareness of the project, which is coordinated by the Public Order Office in close cooperation with the police, youth and social services, intervention centres, local associations and businesses. The workgroup meets quarterly and consults external experts as required. The idea behind the project is to provide immediate assistance in acute situations to improve the population's sense of security, as well as to promote networking between the administration, police and civil society to form an effective prevention chain.

Municipal financial stability and representation of interests

Pirmasens was able to significantly reduce its debt burden by taking part in the Rhineland-Palatinate programme for municipal debt relief (PEK). Between the reporting date of 31 December 2020 and June 2024, the town was been able to reduce its total liabilities of €342 million by around €294 million. Planning provides for the remaining amount of around €48 million to be repaid over the next 30 years. The annual interest burden was also reduced significantly as a result, and this opens up new scope for action for Pirmasens. The debt relief is provided through assumption of debt by the state of Rhineland-Palatinate and is subject to clear repayment conditions. For many years, Pirmasens has also been involved an action group called "For the dignity of our towns" ("Für die Würde unserer Städte"), an association of around 70 financially weak municipalities in Germany. The group members call for a fundamental reform of financial relations, a simplification of funding programmes and the establishment of a long-term investment fund. While the steps taken have improved Pirmasens' financial flexibility, they also highlight the need for a fairer distribution of burdens between the federal government, the federal states and municipalities.

Development at local level

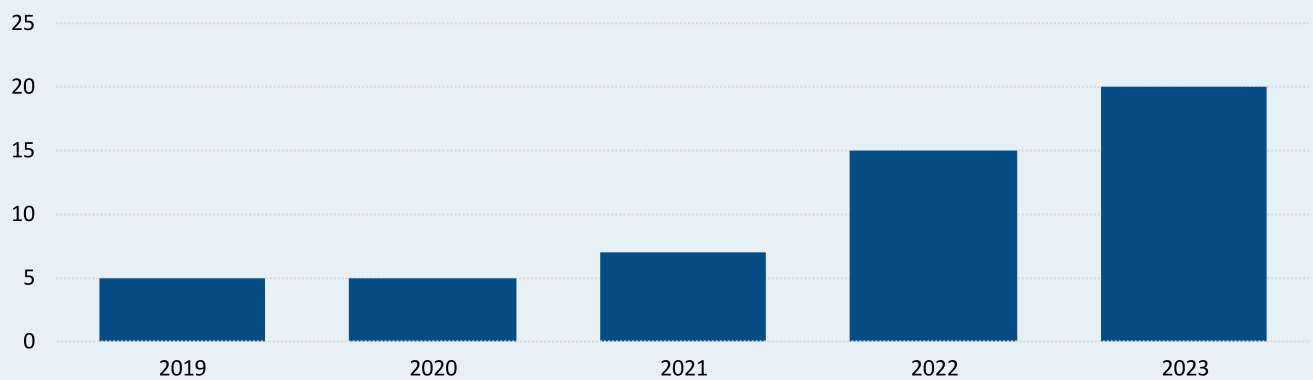


Participation in the "Demokratie leben" ("Living Democracy") campaign with various projects

(Number of measures)

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 5 | 5 | 7 | 15 | 20 |

Participation in various projects promoting civil society engagement and combating extremism (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



20

networking meetings to support the "Pact for Pirmasens"

Number of meetings held in 2023 to support and promote networking between families and social institutions that are part of the administration, as well as between volunteer and professional services in the social sector (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



24

public workshops on mobility development planning

Number of events and public workshops held in 2022 and 2023 to enable citizens to get involved in mobility development planning (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



50
citizens reached by the Sommerwald neighbourhood office in 2025

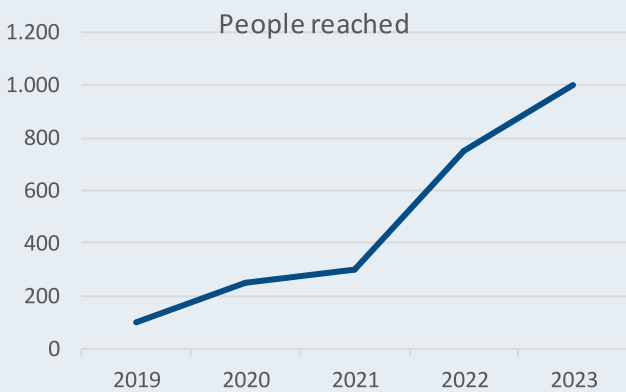
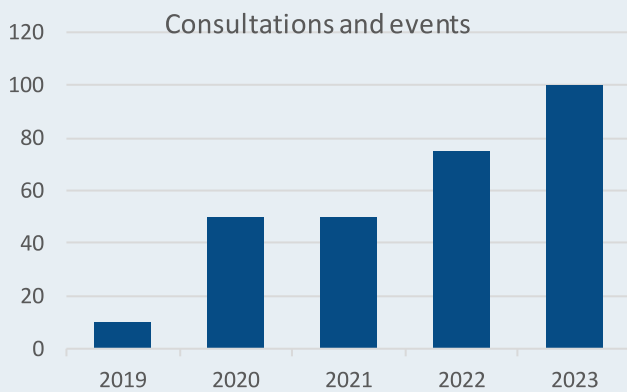
The neighbourhood offices serve as a point of contact and encounter for all citizens. They aim to promote voluntary work, neighbourly relations, sustainable improvement in the quality of housing and life, and a stronger sense of community (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



"P11" neighbourhood office

| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Number of consultations and events | 10 | 50 | 50 | 75 | 100 |
| Number of people reached | 100 | 250 | 300 | 750 | 1,000 |

The neighbourhood offices serve as a point of contact and encounter for all citizens. They aim to promote voluntary work, neighbourly relations, sustainable improvement in the quality of housing and life, and a stronger sense of community (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).

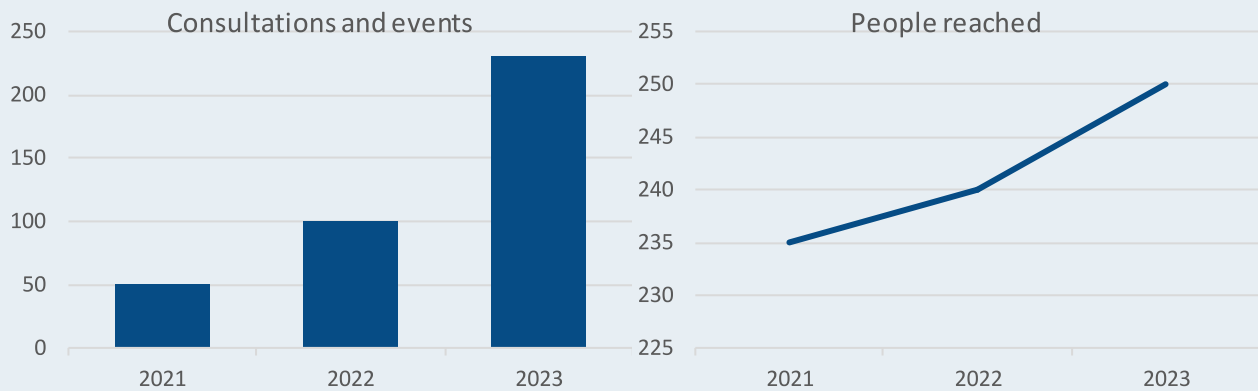




"Horebtreff" neighbourhood office

| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|------------|------------|------------|
| Number of consultations and events | 50 | 100 | 230 |
| Number of people reached | 235 | 240 | 250 |

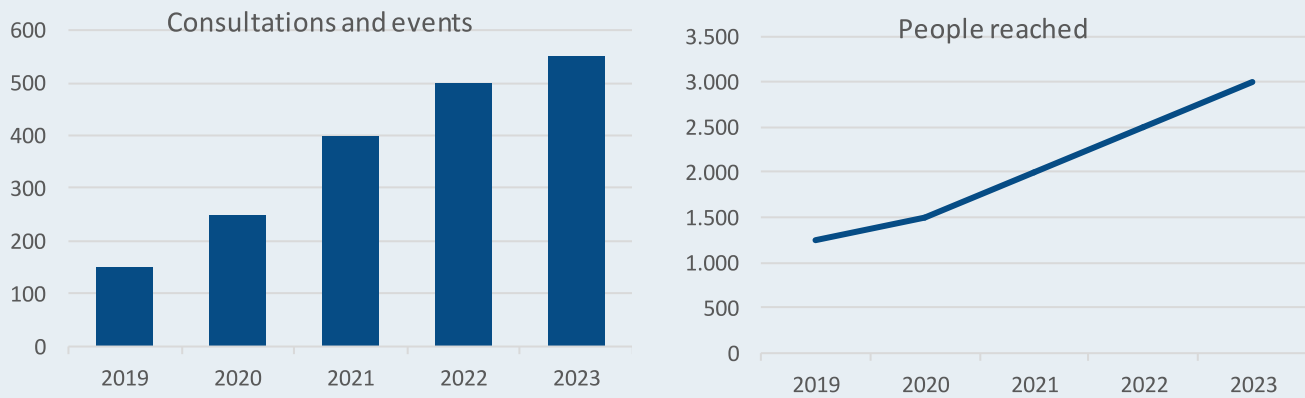
The neighbourhood offices serve as a point of contact and encounter for all citizens. They aim to promote voluntary work, neighbourly relations, sustainable improvement in the quality of housing and life, and a stronger sense of community (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



"Mittendrin" neighbourhood office

| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Number of consultations and events | 150 | 250 | 400 | 500 | 550 |
| Number of people reached | 1,250 | 1,500 | 2,000 | 2,500 | 3,000 |

The neighbourhood offices serve as a point of contact and encounter for all citizens. They aim to promote voluntary work, neighbourly relations, sustainable improvement in the quality of housing and life, and a stronger sense of community (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).

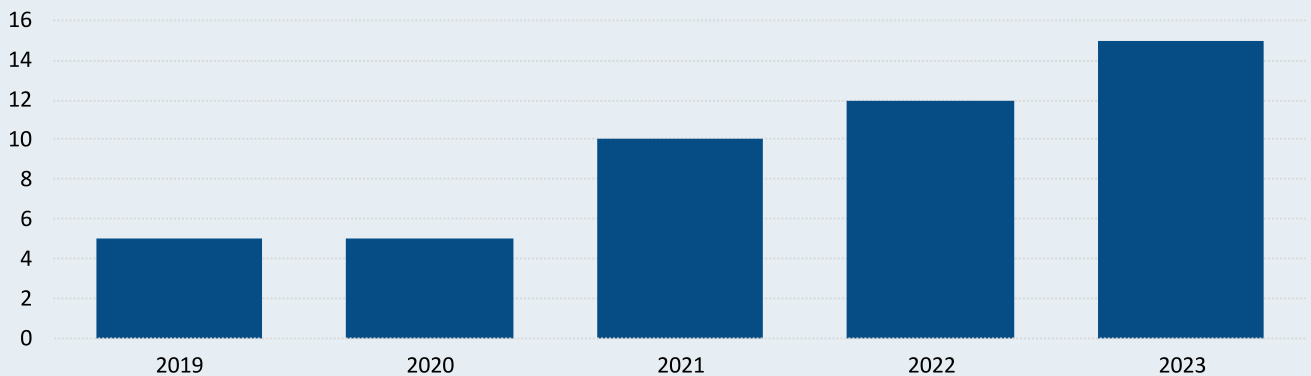




Involvement of the Youth Council in socio-political decisions (number of decisions it was involved in)

| Year | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Number of decisions | 5 | 5 | 10 | 12 | 15 |

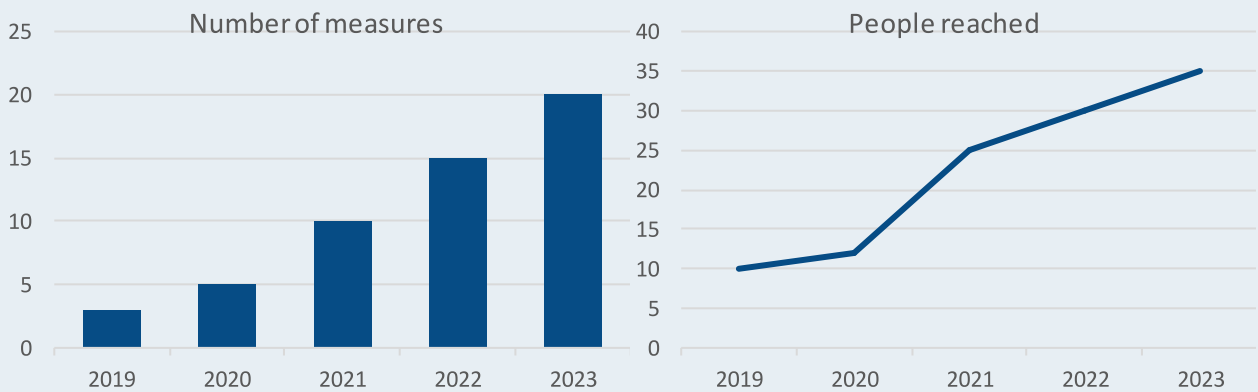
Involvement of the Youth Council is sought in decision-making regarding the transport development plan, school development plan, cycling concept and biodiversity strategy (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



Involvement of volunteers in municipal tasks/promotion of voluntary work (number)

| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Number of measures | 3 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 |
| Number of people reached | 10 | 12 | 25 | 30 | 35 |

The indicator shows the number of measures taken to involve volunteers in municipal tasks and promote voluntary work (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).

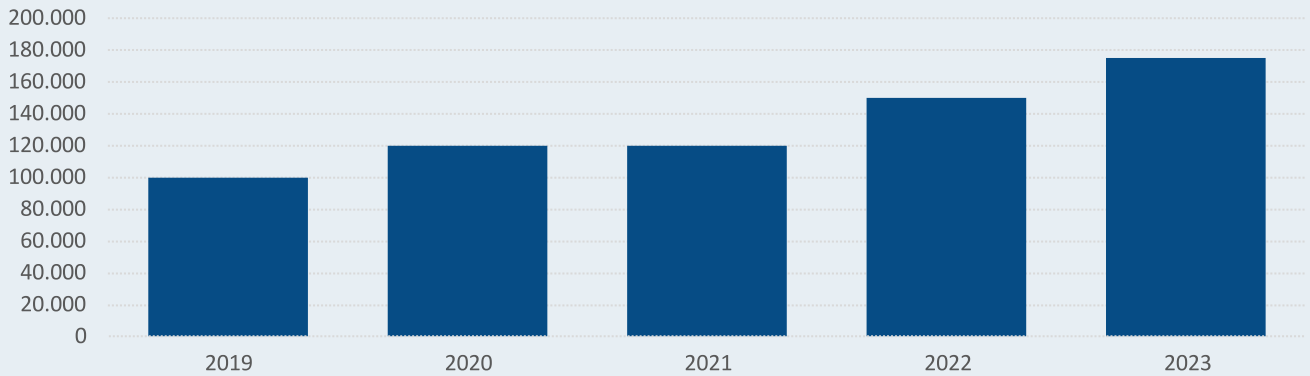




Informing the public about the development of concepts (number of pieces of information material distributed)

| | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| 100,000 | 120,000 | 120,000 | 150,000 | 175,000 |

The indicator shows the number of pieces of information material distributed (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



41,000

people were reached with information materials about the latest concepts.

Opportunities and challenges

In Pirmasens, the promotion of peace, justice and strong institutions is linked closely to social cohesion, participation and transparency. The town employs a broad approach with a wide range of specific measures to take the needs of children, young people, families and senior citizens into account and get these groups actively involved in its society, aiming to benefit from diversity. Planning provides for inclusion projects to be expanded, support services for people in need and homeless people to be developed, and for preventive measures against poverty in old age to be established by 2030. The Youth Council and the Senior Citizens' Advisory Council represent institutionalised forms of participation that enable cross-generational involvement. Actively involving citizens in strategic processes – for example when drawing up a sustainable municipal budget – is also a way to increase transparency and trust. Participation in projects aimed at strengthening civil society engagement and preventing extremism, meanwhile, provides additional important impetus for a resilient and democratic urban society.



SDG 17 · Partnerships for the goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

Background



Globally

Strong international partnerships are essential for achieving the SDGs. However, overall conditions have deteriorated: in 2023, low and middle-income countries had to service debts amounting to 1.4 trillion US dollars, with the annual investment deficit amounting to around 4 trillion US dollars. At the same time, public development cooperation declined for the first time in many years (by 7.1 percent). The share of world trade accounted for by the poorest countries has also been stagnating at 1.1 percent. Progress in the expansion of digital infrastructure and data systems is offset by a continuously wide gulf between wealthy and poorer countries. Greater international cooperation and innovative financing approaches are urgently needed.¹⁷



Nationally

Germany is among the most important industrial nations and is committed at the international level to promote the realisation of the sustainability goals. Fair trade, social cohesion and the transfer of knowledge and technology are embedded in the German sustainability strategy. Germany is also one of the largest funding providers in international development cooperation, i.e. activities aimed at helping to reduce global poverty, secure peace and alleviate emergencies. Furthermore, such cooperation aims to make globalisation fairer and to protect the environment. The focus is on healthcare, education, climate action and good governance, as well as the transfer of technology and knowledge, for example in the areas of renewable energy and digital infrastructure.¹⁸ The Federal Republic of Germany has recognised the need for close and long-term cooperation and is therefore working together with a wide range of stakeholders. In 2023, Germany made approximately €35 billion available for this purpose, once again achieving the international target of 0.7 percent.¹⁹ In addition, municipal partnerships – for example, within the framework of municipal development policy – can also contribute greatly to strengthening international cooperation on an equal footing as well as making sustainable development a tangible experience through direct exchange with partner municipalities worldwide.



Pirmasens

Pirmasens attaches great importance to international, regional and civil society partnerships. The town has maintained close ties with its twin town Poissy in France for decades, and a number of school partnerships are in place to promote language skills and cultural exchange. Pirmasens is also committed to civil society participation and the fight against extremism. The town is therefore dedicated to strengthening local democracy and international cohesion alike. Pirmasens combines local initiatives with global responsibility to actively contribute to the implementation of SDG 17, "Partnerships for the goals".

Through its sustainability strategy, Pirmasens is pursuing the following specific goals relevant to SDG 16:

- **Strategic objective 1.3:** A peaceful and non-violent culture, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity will be firmly established across all social strata in Pirmasens by 2030. Horizons are to be broadened through numerous partnerships and exchange programmes with schools and companies abroad, and cultural exchange will be an integral part of the city's culture.
- **Operational goal 1.3.2:** By 2025, Pirmasens will have further enhanced its existing city-to-city partnership, and will have established at least two school partnerships with schools in other places abroad.

The following examples illustrate a selection of measures and projects through which Pirmasens contributes towards these subgoals.

Our engagement

City-to-city partnership with Poissy

Since 1965, Pirmasens has maintained a close partnership with the town Poissy in France, and this contact is considered a real-life example of German-French friendship. The "Boulevard Pirmasens" in Poissy and the "Jardin de Poissy" in Pirmasens' Strecktal landscape park are visible signs of this connection. The partnership is actively shaped by regular student and delegation exchanges, cultural events and artistic collaborations. Projects such as joint exhibitions, language courses and school partnerships help to deepen inter-cultural exchange and open up new perspectives, especially for young people. There are plans to further expand cooperation through digital formats, thematic environmental and sports projects, and stronger networking between clubs in the two towns. In this way, Pirmasens contributes to promoting cultural diversity, facilitating international encounter and anchoring a culture of understanding, peace and cosmopolitanism in its society.



Image source: Municipality of Pirmasens/Jonas Melzer

Supporting the Global South

Partnership with Verein der Togofreunde Jockgrim e. V.

The association "Verein der Togofreunde Jockgrim e. V." ("Jockgrim Association of Friends of Togo") is a non-profit organisation based in Jockgrim with a coordination office in Pirmasens. The organisation was founded on 13 April 1996 to establish sustainable development aid in Togo, West Africa. Projects realised to date include a child sponsorship programme, through which around 40 children receive regular support in the shape of school clothing, learning materials and school fees. In the village of Gbalavé, the association has built a range of infrastructural facilities, including a social services centre, a training centre for trades such as tailoring, carpentry, electrical work,

bricklaying and hairdressing, as well as setting up several schools and school sponsorships. Most recently, the social services centre was expanded in 2025 to include a building for prenatal care and midwifery. With these measures, the association is helping to improve educational opportunities, open up career prospects for young people and ensure local healthcare services. In the "Gaga" sponsorship project, donations in kind and monetary donations are collected to enable more children to attend school and participate in sporting activities. With its close links to Pirmasens, this support project is an important example of active municipal responsibility and international solidarity.



Image source: *Togofreunde Jockgrim e.V.*



Medical aid missions by PS:4 Kenia e.V.

The PS:4 Kenia e. V. association has been organising regular medical aid missions in Nairobi since 2013. An interdisciplinary team of doctors and nurses travels to Kenya every year to provide free surgery and medical care to street children and socially disadvantaged patients. At the SOS Children's Village in Buru-Buru, Nairobi, the team primarily performs hernia and inguinal hernia surgery, as well as carrying out phimosis treatment to reduce the risk of infection and give children better long-term prospects for life and development. The missions are carried out in close cooperation with Kenyan experts and contribute to the mutual exchange of knowledge. The



Image source: *PS:4 Kenia e.V.*

organisation also supports projects to improve sanitary infrastructure. Free toilet and shower facilities are currently being built in the City of Juja in the context of a pilot project, aiming to improve hygiene conditions in particularly disadvantaged neighbourhoods. In addition, PS:4 Kenia provides direct assistance in the areas of education, nutrition and livelihood security. Families and children receive targeted support, for example through funding for school fees, basic foodstuffs and for setting up small businesses.

Second Help shop

Since 2018, the PS:4 Kenia e. V. association has been running a very special second-hand shop in the Winzler district of Pirmasens. Every item of clothing is sold for one euro here, in order to directly support local people with low-incomes, refugees and social welfare recipients in particular. The name "Second Help" illustrates the shop's dual impact: people in Pirmasens benefit from the donated clothing, while all proceeds go towards the association's projects in Kenya. The proceeds are used to finance medical missions and purchase necessary equipment for operations on site. The project combines local support with international aid, contributing to social participation in Pirmasens as well as improved healthcare in Nairobi.



Image source: PS:4 Kenia e. V.

Rotary Club Pirmasens: accepting global responsibility

The Rotary Club Pirmasens has been involved in international partnerships for many years, including with Rotary clubs in Africa and Asia. Joint activities include projects related to drinking water and sanitation, construction of and equipment for schools, as well as exchange programmes for pupils and skilled workers. The Rotary Club Pirmasens is also actively involved in the global End Polio Now campaign, which aims to eradicate polio once and for all. Activities here include participation in vaccination and awareness raising campaigns and running information stands, for example on World Polio Day. The Rotaract Pirmasens youth organisation, too, supports this initiative. Through campaigns in local supermarkets, fund-raising events, and educational campaigns in schools and clubs, Rotaract helps to spread the word about the importance of vaccinations and to raise awareness of global health issues.

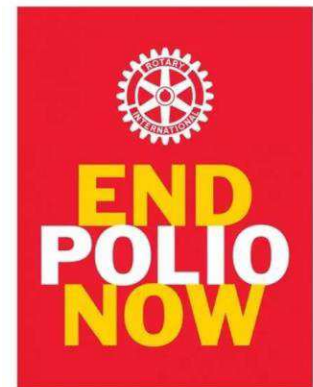


Image source: Rotary International

"Pirmasens consistently combines local initiatives with global responsibility and actively contributes to the implementation of SDG 17 by fostering international partnerships, promoting intercultural exchange, and supporting development and health promotion through its associations." **Michael Maas, Mayor**



Development at local level



15

PS: NiPS events on the integration of so-called 16i workers under SGBII (German Social Code Book II)

NIPS – New in Pirmasens is a welcoming network that, among other things, carries out activities to integrate newcomers and introduce them to the job market (source: Municipality of Pirmasens).



55

surgical procedures were carried out during PS:4 Kenia's last aid mission in November 2024.



Since 1996, the association

Verein Togofreunde e.V.

has been promoting education and healthcare in the West African country.

Opportunities and challenges

Through its international partnerships, Pirmasens presents itself as a cosmopolitan and open-minded town where intercultural exchange is firmly established. A key concern is to keep these partnerships dynamic, to maintain them continuously and make sure they remain attractive for younger generations. To achieve this, financial and organisational conditions must be safeguarded in the long term and international cooperation must be closely integrated with local educational and cultural activities. These long-standing partnerships open up valuable opportunities for broadening people's horizons beyond their hometown, promoting mutual understanding and strengthening cosmopolitan perspectives in education, administration and civil society. This creates long-term connections that contribute to sustainable development.

4. Summary and outlook

With the creation of its first Voluntary Local Review (VLR), the town Pirmasens is documenting its commitment to implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as well as emphasising the importance of municipal action for sustainable development. This report shows how Pirmasens is already contributing to the 2030 Agenda across various areas, and it highlights how sustainable development can only succeed through long-term planning, reliable structures and cooperation between all societal stakeholders.

The VLR creates transparency, enables systematic evaluation of the progress made to date, and forms an important component of municipal sustainability management. It supplements the sustainability strategy adopted for the first time in 2021 and helps to derive and manage future activities. As a monitoring tool, it demonstrates how Pirmasens is making its strategy come to life, and where additional efforts are needed. At the same time, the report aims to encourage other local authorities to report on their sustainability activities and indicators, too.

The VLR focuses on six areas in which Pirmasens is already setting trends: food security (SDG 2), affordable and clean energy (SDG 7), sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), climate action (SDG 13), peace, justice and strong institutions (SDG 16) and partnerships for the goals (SDG 17). These priorities illustrate how Pirmasens has anchored sustainability in administration and urban society as an interdisciplinary task, and how the town strategically interlinks the different topics.

The analysis highlights the particular opportunities and challenges facing Pirmasens as a result of its geographic, social and economic circumstances: structural conditions such as limited land potential, demographic change, scarce financial resources and complex approval procedures are areas where additional action will be needed going forward. However, the report also shows that a growing culture of civic involvement, strong local networks, innovative approaches to energy and mobility, a vibrant educational landscape and long-standing international partnerships provide a solid foundation for sustainable development.

The first VLR therefore does not mark the end, but rather the beginning of an ongoing process to consistently continue on the path towards a fair, climate-neutral and sustainable town.

5. Appendix

Summary of the 169 SDG goals

SDG 1 – End poverty in all its forms everywhere

- 1.1 Eradicate extreme poverty
- 1.2 Reduce poverty rate
- 1.3 Implement social protection systems and measures, achieve substantial coverage of the poor and vulnerable
- 1.4 Equal rights to economic and other resources (access to basic services)
- 1.5 Build the resilience of the poor (concerning economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters)
 - 1.a Ensure mobilisation of resources for developing countries to implement programmes and policies to end poverty
 - 1.b Create policy frameworks for eradicating poverty at the national, regional and international levels

SDG 2 – End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

- 2.1 End hunger, ensure access to food
- 2.2 End all forms of malnutrition
- 2.3 Double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers
- 2.4 Ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices
- 2.5 Maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals (and their related wild species)
 - 2.a Increase investment in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries
 - 2.b Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets
 - 2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and facilitate access to market information

SDG 3 – Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

- 3.1 Reduce the maternal mortality ratio
- 3.2 Reduce deaths of newborns and children
- 3.3 Combat communicable diseases
- 3.4 Reduce premature mortality from non-communicable diseases and promote mental health and well-being
- 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse
- 3.6 Halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents
- 3.7 Ensure access to sexual and reproductive health-care services (family planning, information and education)
- 3.8 Achieve universal health coverage / access to health-care services and access to necessary medicines / vaccines for all
- 3.9 Reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and pollution of environmental assets
 - 3.a Strengthen the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control
 - 3.b Support the research and development of and the access to vaccines and medicines (developing countries)
 - 3.c Increase health financing / development and training of the health workforce in developing countries
 - 3.d Strengthen the capacity for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks

SDG 4 – Ensure inclusive, equitable and quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

- 4.1 Ensure that all girls and boys complete free quality education
- 4.2 Ensure access to quality early childhood education and care
- 4.3 Ensure access to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education
- 4.4 Ensure sufficient qualifications for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship
- 4.5 Ensure equal opportunities and equal access to all levels of education and vocational training
- 4.6 Optimise the literacy rate
- 4.7 Improve the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development (ESD)
 - 4.a Build and upgrade safe, inclusive and effective (child, disability and gender sensitive) education facilities
 - 4.b Expand the number of scholarships available to developing countries
 - 4.c Increase the supply of qualified teachers in developing countries

SDG 5 – Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

- 5.1 End discrimination against women and girls
- 5.2 Eliminate violence against women and girls
- 5.3 Eliminate child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation
- 5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work (promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family)
- 5.5 Ensure women's participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making
- 5.6 Ensure access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights
 - 5.a Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic and other resources
 - 5.b Enhance the use of enabling technology to promote the empowerment of women
 - 5.c Strengthen sound policies / legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women

SDG 6 – Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

- 6.1 Achieve access to safe and affordable drinking water for all
- 6.2 Achieve access to adequate sanitation and hygiene for all
- 6.3 Improve water quality
- 6.4 Increase water-use efficiency, reduce water scarcity
- 6.5 Implement integrated water resources management
- 6.6 Protect and restore water-related ecosystems (mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes)
- 6.a Expand international cooperation and support to developing countries in water and sanitation-related activities
- 6.b Strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management

SDG 7 – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

- 7.1 Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services
- 7.2 Increase the share of renewable energy
- 7.3 Improve energy efficiency
- 7.a Enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology
- 7.b Expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying sustainable energy services for all in developing countries

SDG 8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

- 8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth (GDP)
- 8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation
- 8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support decent job creation, entrepreneurship and innovation (small enterprises)
- 8.4 Improve resource efficiency in consumption and production, endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation
- 8.5 Achieve full employment and decent work for all (women, men, persons with disabilities), and equal pay for work of equal value
- 8.6 Reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training
- 8.7 Take measures to eradicate forced labour, child labour, slavery and human trafficking
- 8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments
- 8.9 Devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism
- 8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to promote access to banking, insurance and financial services
- 8.a Increase Aid for Trade support for developing countries
- 8.b Develop and operationalise a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact

SDG 9 – Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation

- 9.1 Develop sustainable and resilient infrastructure to support economic development and human well-being
- 9.2 Promote sustainable industrialisation and significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product
- 9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises to financial services
- 9.4 Upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable
- 9.5 Enhance scientific research and upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors
- 9.a Facilitate sustainable infrastructure development in developing countries
- 9.b Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries
- 9.c Increase access to information and communications technology and provide access to the Internet

SDG 10– Reduce inequality within and among countries

- 10.1 Achieve income growth for the poorest part of the population
- 10.2 Empower all human beings and promote inclusion
- 10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities
- 10.4 Adopt policies that promote equality (wage policy, social protection)
- 10.5 Improved regulation of global financial markets and institutions
- 10.6 Ensure enhanced representation for developing countries in decision-making in global economic and financial institutions
- 10.7 Facilitate orderly and safe migration and mobility of people, implement well-managed migration policies
- 10.a Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries (in accordance with the WHO)
- 10.b Encourage development assistance and financial flows to developing countries
- 10.c Reduce transaction costs of migrant remittances

SDG 11 – Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

- 11.1 Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services
- 11.2 Provide access to sustainable transport systems for all, improve road safety
- 11.3 Enhance sustainable urbanisation, implement participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management
- 11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage
- 11.5 Reduce the adverse effects of natural disasters
- 11.6 Reduce the environmental impact of cities (air quality, waste)
- 11.7 Provide access to green and public spaces for all

- 11.a Support economic, social and environmental links between urban and rural areas by strengthening higher-level development planning
- 11.b Develop integrated policies and plans for sustainable urban development (inclusion, resource efficiency, climate protection, climate adaptation) and holistic disaster risk management
- 11.c Support developing countries in building sustainable and resilient buildings

SDG 12– Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

- 12.1 Initiate measures to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns
- 12.2 Achieve sustainable management and use of natural resources
- 12.3 Halve food waste and reduce food losses
- 12.4 Ensure environmentally sound disposal of waste and chemicals
- 12.5 Reduce waste generation
- 12.6 Encourage companies to adopt sustainable practices and sustainability reporting
- 12.7 Promote sustainable public procurement practices
- 12.8 Ensure that all people are informed about and aware of sustainable development issues
- 12.a Support developing countries to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production
- 12.b Develop and implement tools to monitor the impact of sustainable tourism
- 12.c Reduce fossil-fuel subsidies in consideration of specific needs of developing countries

SDG 13 – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

- 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change
- 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies
- 13.3 Improve education and institutional capacity for the area of climate protection and adaptation to climate impacts
- 13a. Provide financial support for climate action in developing countries
- 13b. Raise planning and management capacity in the area of climate protection for developing countries

SDG 14 – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

- 14.1 Reduce marine pollution
- 14.2 Sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems
- 14.3 Minimise and address the impacts of ocean acidification
- 14.4 Implement sustainable fishing practices
- 14.5 Contribute to the conservation of coastal and marine areas
- 14.6 End subsidies contributing to overfishing and illegal fishing
- 14.7 Increase the economic benefits from sustainable use of marine resources for developing countries
- 14.a Increase scientific knowledge to improve the health of oceans and enhance biodiversity
- 14.b Ensure access to marine resources and markets for small-scale fishers
- 14.c Improve conservation and a sustainable use of oceans and their resources

SDG 15 – Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

- 15.1 Ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems
- 15.2 Promote sustainable management of all types of forests
- 15.3 Combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil
- 15.4 Ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems
- 15.5 Reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity
- 15.6 Promote fair sharing and adequate access to genetic resources
- 15.7 End poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna
- 15.8 Prevent the introduction of invasive alien species
- 15.9 Integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into local planning and policies
- 15.a Increase financial resources to conserve biodiversity and ecosystems
- 15.b Increase financial resources for sustainable forest management and provide corresponding incentives to developing countries
- 15.c Combat poaching and trafficking of protected species

SDG 16– Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

- 16.1 Reduce violence and related death rates
- 16.2 End violence against children
- 16.3 Ensure equal access to justice
- 16.4 Combat organised crime and illicit financial and arms flows
- 16.5 Reduce corruption
- 16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions
- 16.7 Ensure participatory decision-making at all levels
- 16.8 Strengthen the participation of developing countries in institutions of global governance

- 16.9 Provide legal identity for all
- 16.10 Ensure access to information and protect fundamental freedoms
- 16.a International cooperation: prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime
- 16.b Enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies

SDG 17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Financing

- 17.1 Mobilise domestic resources to improve revenue collection in developing countries
- 17.2 Implement development assistance commitments
- 17.3 Mobilise additional financial resources for development assistance
- 17.4 Assist developing countries in attaining debt sustainability
- 17.5 Implement investment promotion regimes for developing countries

Technology

- 17.6 Enhance knowledge-transfer cooperation (North-South) in the areas of science, technology and innovation
- 17.7 Promote development, transfer and dissemination of sustainable technologies in developing countries
- 17.8 Systematise science/technology/innovation cooperation, introduce a global technology promotion mechanism

Capacity development

- 17.9 Enhance international support for capacity-building in developing countries

Trade

- 17.10 Promote an open, equitable and rules-based global trading system
- 17.11 Increase the exports of developing countries
- 17.12 Implement duty-free and quota-free market access for developing countries

Systemic issues

- 17.13 Enhance global macroeconomic stability
- 17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development
- 17.15 Respect national leadership to implement policies to promote sustainability
- 17.16 Enhance the global (multi-stakeholder) partnership for sustainable development
- 17.17 Encourage public, public-private and civil society partnerships
- 17.18 Enhance capacity-building to increase the availability of data in developing countries
- 17.19 Develop measurements of progress on sustainable development, support statistical capacity-building in developing countries

Indicators at a glance

The list below provides an overview of the quantitative SDG indicators. In 2022, the town Pirmasens developed a monitoring system in cooperation with the Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW), which includes further information on the indicators and can be found here: <https://opensdgde.github.io/pirmasens-site/>

| Indicator | Definition | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|--|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| SDG 1 – No poverty | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Life coaching | Expansion of the coordination office with the aim of giving children and young people from educationally disadvantaged families early access to education and social participation; additional personnel capacity in person-days | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| Use of street workers | Number of street workers | | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Use of street workers | Number of locations | | 10 | 15 | 18 | 25 |
| SDG 2 – Zero hunger | | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Edible Town | The Edible Town project is being extended to include suburbs; number of beds/locations | 5 | 8 | 10 | 11 | 16 |
| Growing fruit and vegetables in public green spaces | Fruit and vegetables planted in public green spaces are available to be harvested by citizens; number of fruit trees | 435 | 435 | 435 | 435 | 435 |
| Organic farming | One in ten farms within the town limits of Pirmasens is run as an organic farm. | | | | | 1 |
| SDG 3 – Good health and well-being | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Expansion of the "Lunchbox Campaign" in schools | Expansion through an "Organic Lunchbox" campaign for schoolchildren carried out by municipal waste advisory services | 370 | 400 | 390 | 400 | 430 |
| Support for senior citizens | Support services for the older generation to improve their living situation and provide assistance in everyday life: assistance with everyday tasks, support for household chores, visiting service, accompaniment for special occasions; number of services provided | 4 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 8 |

| Indicator | Definition | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 60Plus senior citizens network | Strengthening social cohesion across generations in Pirmasens, promoting participation of senior citizens in cultural and social life, support for existing initiatives and volunteers; number of citizens supported | 20 | 25 | 25 | 30 | 30 |
| Awareness-raising campaigns for retirement provision | Free information services regarding various pension options; number of offerings | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Awareness-raising campaigns for retirement provision | Free information services regarding various pension options; number of participants | 20 | 30 | 35 | 40 | 50 |
| Raising awareness of the issue of work-life balance | Promotion of a better work-life balance via economic development networks and projects, e.g. via the regional employer brand PRO FACHKRAFT WESTPFALZ; number of measures | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| SDG 4 – Quality education | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| PS:Digital! campaign | Promoting digitalisation; number of information events organised by the economic development agency | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| PS:Digital! campaign | Number of institutions represented | 5 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 10 |
| PS:Digital! campaign | Number of participants | 500 | 500 | 550 | 600 | 600 |
| Support and funding for activities and training sessions | Funding and support for activities and training sessions in the area of education for sustainable development; number of activities funded | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Support and funding for activities and training sessions | Number of participants | 30 | 35 | 30 | 40 | 45 |
| Activity day: children's sustainability conference at a municipal school | Annual conference on sustainability at urban schools; number of participating schools | | | | | 2 |

| Indicator | Definition | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Activity day: children's sustainability conference at a municipal school | Number of participating pupils | | | | | 50 |
| SDG 5 – Gender equality | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Advice services for female entrepreneurs | Information gathering on the subject of starting or taking over a business; number of consultations | 5 | 10 | 20 | 25 | 30 |
| Advice services for female entrepreneurs | Number of start-ups resulting from this | 3 | 5 | 5 | 10 | 12 |
| PS: NiPS campaign | Expansion of the network for executives, companies and entrepreneurs who have recently moved to Pirmasens; number of events | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| PS: NiPS campaign | Number of participants | 20 | 25 | 35 | 40 | 50 |
| SDG 7 – Affordable and clean energy | | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Annual amount of electricity generated from renewable energy sources | In MWh, from: photovoltaics, wind power, solid biomass, biogas | 31,227 | 43,797 | 47,694 | 50,481 | 48,484 |
| Gradual refurbishment of municipal buildings | Energy-efficient refurbishment of schools, daycare centres and administrative buildings; number of buildings | 75 | 100 | 110 | 120 | |
| Electric charging points | Number of publicly accessible charging points for electric vehicles within the town limits | | | | | 21 |
| SDG 8 – Decent work and economic growth | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Pro Fachkraft Westpfalz | Initiative for promoting and expanding economic development matching platforms; number of measures | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Training opportunities for people of working age | Offering more education opportunities for people of working age; number of courses offered | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Training opportunities for people of working age | Number of participants | 20 | 45 | 30 | 75 | 100 |

| Indicator | Definition | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|--|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| "GO: PS21" | Implementation of measures under the start-up initiative; number of measures | | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Establishment of start-up hubs | Targeted funding to revitalise the town centre of Pirmasens; number of hubs established | | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Establishment of start-up hubs | Number of start-ups renting premises | | | 10 | 15 | 30 |
| Launch of the "PS:STARTER" network | Network for entrepreneurs and anyone who wants to become one; number of measures | | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Patrons of P-Town | Establishing mentoring models between experienced, established and young entrepreneurs; number of measures | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| WIPPS! campaign | Information and career information platform; visits to the platform | 80 | 120 | 150 | 200 | 220 |
| SDG 9 – Industry, innovation and infrastructure | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Marketing campaign promoting industrial culture in Pirmasens | Number of campaigns implemented | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| SDG 10 – Reduced inequalities | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Accessible play equipment in playgrounds | Installation of accessible play equipment in playgrounds; number of items installed | | | | 1 | 2 |
| Social work with children at daycare centres and schools | Establishment of social work at daycare centres and schools; number of daycare centre/primary school social workers | 5 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 |
| Volunteering to support families | Volunteers assisting families with shopping, visits to authorities, doctor's appointments and leisure activities; number of volunteers | 10 | 12 | 15 | 20 | |
| Advice on claiming benefits and professional help | Advising families on dealing with authorities and accepting professional help; number of consultations | | | | | over 1,500 |
| Advice on claiming benefits and professional help | Advising families on dealing with authorities and accepting professional help; number of families consulted | | | | | over 720 |

| Indicator | Definition | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|--|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| "Aufwind Family Centre" campaign | Expansion of care services through the network; number of additional care services | | | 10 | 15 | 18 |
| "Aufwind Family Centre" campaign | Number of people reached | | | 500 | 510 | 520 |
| Newcomer information folder | Information folder containing key information on offers and services; number of information folders issued | 100 | 150 | 175 | 250 | 300 |
| Newcomer website | Website with key information on offers and services; number of website visits | 1,500 | 1,400 | 1,750 | 2,000 | |
| Club days for newcomers | Regular event organised by one or more clubs in Pirmasens that take turns to give newcomers an opportunity to get to know the clubs, e.g. every three months; number of events | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Club days for newcomers | Number of participants | 20 | 30 | 45 | 50 | 50 |
| PS:niPS – New to Pirmasens | Meet and greet for healthcare professionals; number of events | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| PS:niPS – New to Pirmasens | Number of participants | 20 | 25 | 35 | 40 | 50 |
| Accessible public transport stops | Barrier-free design of all public transport stops in accordance with the Federal Transport Act and the Disability Equality Act; number of stops | 2 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 12 |
| SDG 11 – Sustainable cities and communities | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Review of the conversion of the municipal vehicle fleet to vehicles with alternative drive systems | Use of biogas from municipal facilities, e.g. biogas plant or sewage treatment plant; number of newly purchased vehicles with alternative drive systems | | | 1 | 2 | 10 |
| Creation/facilitation of new, modern forms of housing | Initiating projects that involve new forms of living and working, such as "co-living" where work, leisure and housing are combined in a building with hotel amenities; number of residential/working spaces available for rent | | | 5 | 10 | 15 |

| Indicator | Definition | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| Expansion and marketing of motorhome parking spaces | Number of new motorhome parking spaces | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 10 |
| Establishment of traffic-free zones | Review of the option to establish "traffic-free zones" in front of schools and daycare centres to counteract risks related to parents driving their children to school/nursery; number of schools and daycare centres with traffic-free zones | 1 | 11 | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| Networking among municipal and regional tourism stakeholders | Number of meetings | | | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Networking among municipal and regional tourism stakeholders | Number of participating institutions | | | 10 | 15 | 20 |
| Implementation of the cycling strategy | Measures include infrastructure installation, secure parking facilities and designated main routes; number of measures implemented | | | 5 | 5 | 20 |
| Lighting for footpaths and squares during the winter months | Lighting for active mobility routes to increase safety; number of footpaths and squares illuminated in winter | 10 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 20 |
| Introduction of speed reduction measures | Implementation of speed reduction measures in residential areas, near retirement homes, daycare centres and schools, as well as for noise protection at night, including on through roads; number of permanent and temporary speed limit zones introduced | | | 10 | 10 | 12 |
| Introduction of speed reduction measures | Road sections with new speed limits (in kilometres) | | | 8 | 10 | 10 |
| Regular traffic inspections with support from experts | Regular traffic inspections with the traffic authority, traffic watch and police, including the evaluation of accident statistics; number of inspections | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Road safety training for children | Regular road safety training at schools and nurseries; number of children participating | 370 | 400 | 390 | 400 | 430 |

| Indicator | Definition | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| SDG 12 – Sustainable consumption and production | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Initiate and establish a sustainability festival | Companies hold an information event on sustainable consumption for citizens, featuring activities and stands; number of events | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Initiate and establish a sustainability festival | Number of companies involved | 10 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 25 |
| Promote and expand waste management advice provided by the municipality (Müll-scout) | Advice on sustainable and environmentally friendly use of resources, e.g. through an information flyer entitled "How to pack a hiking rucksack with a view to avoiding waste", professional disposal of small electric appliances, etc.; number of consultations performed | 500 | 750 | 1,000 | 1,500 | 2,500 |
| Promote and expand waste management advice provided by the municipality (Müll-scout) | Number of pieces of information material distributed | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| Establishment of the municipal crockery van for public events | Reduction in waste production using a crockery service; number of rentals | | 30 | 40 | 45 | 55 |
| SDG 13 – Climate action | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Creation of additional green spaces | Conversion from other types of use to green spaces within the town limits; green spaces within the town limits (m ²) | | | | | 18,500 |
| SDG 15 – Life on land | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Simulation game "Starting a business with a focus on biodiversity" | Annual simulation game to introduce future generations to options for starting businesses in consideration of sustainability; number of participating pupils | | | | 5 | 7 |
| Simulation game "Starting a business with a focus on beekeeping" | Number of participating pupils | | | 3 | 5 | 10 |
| Biodiversity competition | Annual competition to increase biodiversity in Pirmasens; number of participants | 30 | 50 | 55 | 53 | 52 |

| Indicator | Definition | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|--|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Educational work and campaigns for the conversion of rock gardens | Information and campaigns to promote the conversion of rock gardens into natural areas to improve biodiversity; number of gardens converted | | 1 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| SDG 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions | | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| Participation in the "Demokratie leben" ("Living Democracy") campaign with various projects | Participation in various projects promoting civil involvement and combating extremism; number of projects | 5 | 5 | 7 | 15 | 20 |
| Support and funding of the "Pakt für Pirmasens" (Pact for Pirmasens) network | Support and promotion of networking between families and social institutions that are part of the administration, as well as between volunteer and professional services in the social sector; number of networking meetings | | | | | 20 |
| Support and funding of the "Pakt für Pirmasens" (Pact for Pirmasens) network | Number of participating institutions | | | | | over 75 |
| "P11" neighbourhood office | Promotion of volunteering and socialising in the neighbourhood, sustainable improvement of the quality of housing and life in the Winzler district; strengthening community spirit, contact point and meeting place for all citizens; number of events and consultations held | 10 | 50 | 50 | 75 | 100 |
| "P11" neighbourhood office | Number of citizens reached | 100 | 250 | 300 | 750 | 1,000 |
| "Horebtreff" neighbourhood office | Number of events and consultations held | | | 50 | 100 | 230 |
| "Horebtreff" neighbourhood office | Number of citizens reached | | | 235 | 240 | 250 |
| "Mittendrin" neighbourhood office | Number of events and consultations held | 150 | 250 | 400 | 500 | 550 |
| "Mittendrin" neighbourhood office | Number of citizens reached | 1,250 | 1,500 | 2,000 | 2,500 | 3,000 |

| Indicator | Definition | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|--|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Involvement of the Youth Council in socio-political decisions | Involvement of the Youth Council in decisions regarding the transport development plan, school development plan, cycling strategy and biodiversity strategy; number of decisions in which the Youth Council was involved | 5 | 5 | 10 | 12 | 15 |
| Involving volunteers in municipal tasks/promotion of volunteering | Number of measures | 3 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 |
| Involving volunteers in municipal tasks/promotion of volunteering | Number of people reached | 10 | 12 | 25 | 30 | 35 |
| Public workshops on mobility development | Organisation of public workshops designed to promote public involvement in mobility development planning; number of workshops | | | | 10 | 12 |
| Informing the public about the development of the concepts | Expansion of communication and provision of information on current concepts in Pirmasens; number of pieces of information material distributed | 100,000 | 120,000 | 120,000 | 150,000 | 175,000 |
| Informing the public about the development of the concepts | Number of people reached | 41,000 | 41,000 | 41,000 | 41,000 | 41,000 |
| SDG 17 – Partnerships for the goals | | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| PS:NiPS – Introduction to the labour market | Campaign: integration of so-called 16i workers according to SGB II; number of offers | | | 15 | 15 | |
| PS:4 Kenia relief campaign | Number of activities performed during the last relief mission | | | | | 55 |

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