

Local Green Deal for Climate Protection and Sustainability in Gelsenkirchen – Sparkasse Gelsenkirchen

Gelsenkirchen - Germany

Short description

This Local Green Deal (LGD) between the City of Gelsenkirchen and Sparkasse Gelsenkirchen demonstrates the commitment of local financial institutions to sustainability and climate action. Building on the savings bank sector's national self-commitment, Sparkasse Gelsenkirchen pledges to achieve carbon neutrality in its operations by 2035 and actively support customers in the green transition. Through targeted monitoring, sustainable mobility schemes, and climate-aligned investment strategies, the LGD contributes to the city's overarching transformation under the Intelligent Cities Challenge.



Industry/Sector

- Energy & Renewables
- Mobility & transport

Parties of LGD/Participating parties

- City of Gelsenkirchen
- Sparkasse Gelsenkirchen

Scope of LGD

- This LGD aims to decarbonise Sparkasse Gelsenkirchen's internal operations and extend sustainability impacts through customer support and product offerings. It includes energy monitoring, resource reduction, mobility incentives, and climate-friendly finance. The City of Gelsenkirchen enhances the LGD's impact by offering visibility, advisory services, and business networking platforms, fostering alignment with the goals of the European Green Deal and Paris Climate Agreement.

Concrete measures/commitments

Sparkasse Gelsenkirchen commits to:

- Achieving CO₂-neutral business operations by 2035
- Measuring and reporting electricity, heat, and water consumption per square metre and per employee
- Continuously reducing internal energy use and resource consumption
- Supporting the modal shift to public transport through Deutschland Ticket subsidies
- Enabling employee bicycle leasing for commuting
- Aligning financing and investment activities with the goals of the Paris Agreement
- Supporting customer climate transition through tailored services and green product offerings
- Regularly publishing sustainability progress and impact reports

City of Gelsenkirchen commits to:

- Publicising the LGD via the ICC platform and Connected City Gelsenkirchen
- Providing consulting, funding, and partnership opportunities to implement LGD actions
- Promoting collaboration between Sparkasse Gelsenkirchen and other companies through business networks and events

Local Green Deal for Climate Protection and Sustainability in Gelsenkirchen

Gelsenkirchen – Germany

Short description

The Local Green Deal (LGD) in Gelsenkirchen represents a strategic partnership between the City of Gelsenkirchen and Volksbank Ruhr Mitte eG, reinforcing corporate commitment to sustainability and climate neutrality. As one of the ICC's German Core Cities, Gelsenkirchen promotes green transformation through public-private cooperation. Volksbank Ruhr Mitte eG pledges to align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, achieve climate neutrality in operations by 2035, and enhance access to sustainable finance. The LGD combines concrete targets in sustainable investments, mobility, digitalisation, and local engagement.



Industry/Sector

- Energy & Renewables

Parties of LGD/Participating parties

- City of Gelsenkirchen
- Volksbank Ruhr Mitte eG

Scope of LGD

- This LGD formalises the climate and sustainability commitments of Volksbank Ruhr Mitte eG as part of Gelsenkirchen's broader ICC strategy. It covers corporate climate neutrality, ESG-aligned investments, green product offerings,

and internal digitalisation. The city supports the LGD through networking, visibility, and access to advisory and funding tools. Together, the partners advance regional resilience and promote local sustainability role models, such as the Klimaheld*in Award.

Concrete measures/commitments

Volksbank Ruhr Mitte eG commits to:

- Achieving climate-neutral business operations by 2035
- Reducing internal resource consumption and paper use
- Offering digital and mobile access to financial services
- Promoting mobile working and phasing out car-related subsidies
- Gradually modernising local branches while maintaining regional presence
- Aligning all investments using ESG scoring with a target score of 3.25 by 2028
- Expanding sustainable finance and investment products
- Supporting clients with energy efficiency and climate adaptation
- Participating in local sustainability networks (e.g. KlimaForum Gelsenkirchen)
- Organising and funding educational activities and sustainability awards (e.g. Klimaheld*in)
- Providing over ,Ç“100,000 in sustainability awards and donations from 2021 to 2023

City of Gelsenkirchen commits to:

- Publicly promoting the LGD via the ICC platform and Connected City Gelsenkirchen
- Providing advisory, funding, and matchmaking support for sustainability actions
- Encouraging collaboration between Volksbank Ruhr Mitte eG and other local businesses
- Hosting network and information events to scale LGD actions

Local Green Deal for Climate Protection and Sustainability in Gelsenkirchen – Westfälische Hochschule

Gelsenkirchen - Germany

Short description

This Local Green Deal (LGD) formalises the collaboration between the City of Gelsenkirchen and the Westfälische Hochschule (Westphalian University of Applied Sciences) to advance climate protection, sustainability, and the green transition in higher education. The university commits to integrating sustainability across teaching, research, campus operations, and outreach. The LGD supports the ICC's mission by turning educational institutions into drivers of ecological innovation, social responsibility, and climate leadership in the Ruhr area.



Industry/Sector

- Energy & Renewables

Parties of LGD/Participating parties

- City of Gelsenkirchen
- Westfälische Hochschule (Westphalian University of Applied Sciences)

Scope of LGD

- The LGD strengthens the role of the Westfälische Hochschule as a sustainability frontrunner within Gelsenkirchen's urban ecosystem. It covers climate-neutral campus operations, sustainability education, applied research in hydrogen, renewables and circular economy, and external engagement via its "Third Mission." The city supports this mission by enabling visibility, facilitating funding access, and fostering cooperation with local businesses and civil society actors.

Concrete measures/commitments

Westfälische Hochschule commits to:

- Embedding sustainability across all academic disciplines, including a new open-access "Sustainability" module for all students
- Ensuring research contributes to renewable energy, hydrogen innovation, and circular economy solutions
- Pursuing climate neutrality as part of the state administration target of a climate-neutral public sector by 2030
- Achieving EMAS environmental certification and identifying opportunities for reducing environmental impact
- Expanding sustainability-related outreach and employer practices under its "Third Mission" mandate
- Continuing certification as a bicycle-friendly employer, targeting advancement to the next level
- Promoting global awareness, democratic values, and ecological responsibility through its teaching mandate

City of Gelsenkirchen commits to:

- Publicly recognising the LGD on the ICC platform and Connected City Gelsenkirchen
- Offering advisory support and funding tools in cooperation with local and regional partners
- Initiating and supporting collaboration between the university and local businesses
- Strengthening the role of the university in city-wide sustainability and climate-related educational structures

Local Green Deal for Climate Protection and Sustainability in Gelsenkirchen – ZINQ

Gelsenkirchen - Gaermany

Short description

This Local Green Deal (LGD) between the City of Gelsenkirchen and ZINQ GmbH & Co. KG supports industrial decarbonisation and the circular economy through concrete, innovative actions. ZINQ's corporate sustainability strategy includes low-carbon production, electrification of logistics, recycling systems, and digitalisation. Through this LGD, Gelsenkirchen strengthens its role as a sustainable industrial hub, while ZINQ contributes to the EU Green Deal and Paris Agreement targets.



Industry/Sector

- Mobility & transport

Parties of LGD/Participating parties

- City of Gelsenkirchen
- ZINQ GmbH & Co. KG

Scope of LGD

- The LGD highlights ZINQ's circular business model and comprehensive measures to lower emissions and close material loops. It includes cutting-edge initiatives such as the ZINQ CO₂ Bank, ReZINQ take-back system, low-carbon zinc alloys, and full Cradle to Cradle® certification. The city enhances these efforts by fostering industrial collaboration, providing visibility and access to

support instruments, and building local knowledge partnerships on decarbonisation.

Concrete measures/commitments

ZINQ GmbH & Co. KG commits to:

- Optimising production and logistics under the “Planet ZINQ” circular business model
- Operating fully electric tractor units and installing hyperchargers powered by green electricity
- Reducing carbon footprint via the “Low-Carbon-ZINQ” programme for products and processes
- Introducing ecoZINQ surfaces for sustainable steel corrosion protection
- Launching the “ZINQ CO₂ Bank” using Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) to track savings
- Using low-carbon zinc and optimised alloys to cut Product Carbon Footprint (PCF)
- Operating the “ReZINQ” system for closed-loop recycling of galvanised steel
- Holding Cradle to Cradle® certification for surface technologies
- Advancing digitalisation through “ZINQ-4.0” for resource efficiency
- Participating in sustainability networks such as Klimahafen and Transform To Zero

City of Gelsenkirchen commits to:

- Publicising the LGD via the ICC and Connected City Gelsenkirchen platform
- Providing advisory services, funding access, and technical support via local partnerships
- Fostering cooperation between ZINQ and other companies through networks and events
- Supporting education and workforce development in decarbonisation and circular economy through collaboration with vocational and higher education institutions

Local Green Deal for Sustainable Employee Mobility at the Gelsenkirchen Climate Port

Gelsenkirchen - Germany

Short description

This Local Green Deal (LGD) brings together the City of Gelsenkirchen, Wissenschaftspark Gelsenkirchen Projekte gGmbH, BOGESTRA, IHK Nord Westfalen, and VRR to address mobility challenges in industrial areas like the Gelsenkirchen Climate Port. Through joint data collection, surveys, and targeted measures, the partners aim to increase the share of sustainable employee commutes, reduce traffic emissions, and improve access to public transport and active mobility options. The LGD supports broader climate and mobility goals set out in Gelsenkirchen's Climate Concept 2030/2050 and Mobility Master Plan.



Industry/Sector

- Mobility & transport

Parties of LGD/Participating parties

- City of Gelsenkirchen
- Wissenschaftspark Gelsenkirchen Projekte gGmbH
- BOGESTRA
- North Westphalia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IHK)
- Rhine-Ruhr Transport Association (VRR)]

Scope of LGD

This LGD focuses on overcoming structural mobility barriers in industrial zones through public-private cooperation. It aims to increase the modal share of low-emission transport by leveraging aggregated mobility data, employee surveys, and stakeholder alignment. The Climate Port serves as a pilot area to develop replicable models for sustainable connectivity across similar economic zones in Gelsenkirchen.

Concrete measures/commitments

City of Gelsenkirchen commits to:

- Analysing local transport plans for optimisation
- Acquiring funding for sustainable mobility projects
- Launching corporate mobility advisory services
- Deploying mobility data sensors at the port
- Exploring innovative transport solutions
- Promoting Climate Port replication across other industrial areas
- Wissenschaftspark Gelsenkirchen Projekte gGmbH commits to:
- Developing business networks (e.g. Climate Port and Climate Forum)
- Organising networking events and identifying mobility optimisation needs

BOGESTRA commits to:

- Promoting mobility offers like the Germany Ticket for companies
- Supporting survey and sensor data analysis
- Participating in public and stakeholder events
- IHK Nord Westfalen commits to:
- Raising awareness on corporate mobility management
- Conducting company surveys and organising information sessions
- Supporting business engagement in mobility data collection

VRR commits to:

- Expanding corporate offers like the Germany Ticket Job
- Contributing to the implementation of the VRR Target Network 2040
- Sharing anonymised residential location data for planning
- Supporting coordinated action plan development.