



EnAct4CleanCities

LEIPZIG AND DRESDEN, GERMANY

Emissions domains addressed by the Pilot Activity



Consumption of non-electricity energy for thermal uses in buildings & facilities



Consumption of electricity generated for buildings, facilities & infrastructure

Key Terms

Digital citizen engagement | Energy maps | Citizen science | Property owner activation | Heat transition | Knowledge platforms | Gamification | Two-city collaboration

Levers of Change

Data and Digitalisation | Democracy and participation | Governance and policy | Learning and capabilities | Technology/infrastructure

Description of the Pilot Activity

EnAct4CleanCities is a joint pilot between Leipzig and Dresden addressing shared challenges in the energy transition by developing digital tools to activate and engage citizens. The EnAct4CleanCities toolkit includes a set of different digital tools: The Leipzig digital Energy Map, the Heat Transition Compass - a Digital Knowledge Hub for property owners in Leipzig, as well as citizen engagement tools used in Citizen Science Projects and the Climate Challenges in Leipzig App.

In Dresden, the toolkit features a Digital Knowledge Platform including a digital Energy Map, process support for the development of district heating networks and a digital activation tool for property owners.

Year One Highlights

EnAct4CleanCities spent Year 1 on the design and early build of a toolkit of interconnected digital tools for citizen engagement and energy transition in Leipzig and Dresden. Stakeholder mapping was completed through local workshops in both cities producing a standardised catalogue of requirements for all tools. All prototypes of the EnAct4CleanCities toolkit have been successfully developed in 2025 and tested with the target groups engaging city departments, research institutions, homeowner associations, NGOs, and consumer advice centres. Currently (May 2026), all tools have been fully developed, tested, and published.

The focus is now on promoting the toolkit through a tailored communication campaign to raise awareness and reach a broad audience. Beyond tool development, strong emphasis was placed on exchange and learning: A wide range of events engaged stakeholders at local, national, and international levels. Peer learning ran in parallel across three levels: city-to-city between Leipzig and Dresden on digital twins and heating transition, regional collaboration with Saxon municipalities and the State Ministry, and national exchange within the stronGERcities network.

Two challenges shaped the year: reconciling varying stakeholder requirements which required extensive clustering and prioritisation work; and navigating building-specific data gaps.

Innovation Highlights

The two-city structure pools resources and creates comparative learning across similar urban contexts. The interconnected toolkit approach — tools designed to work together rather than as standalone products — is intended to create a more coherent citizen experience than individual digital solutions typically deliver.

Collaboration with SAENA as well as participation in various events (e.g. the Saxonian Energy Days) extends the tools' reach to additional Saxonian municipalities, creating a multiplier effect beyond the two pilot cities.

Twinning with Pescara (Italy)

Site visit to Leipzig (June 2025) coincided with Data Week Leipzig. Exchanges covered Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAP), Climate City Contracts, and digital twins for energy transition. Pescara's effective public relations strategy — including a promotional video for internal stakeholders — demonstrated how impactful communication can boost interest and awareness. Leipzig's achievement of the EU-Mission Label was celebrated during the visit.

