

Smart City Brno

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EN

City of Brno



Energy, security and climate change represent essential challenges for current agglomerations. However, modern cities find opportunities in these crises: they introduce innovative solutions that pave the way to a safer, more efficient, and sustainable future. **New solutions emerge from systematically promoting R&D and innovations and the courage to experiment and try new ways.** Cities today serve as living laboratories of our shared future. This short publication illustrates the approach of Brno to meet these challenges. How it encourages new solutions and strategies and the courage to experiment. In other words, what makes Brno a Smart City.



Brno in Numbers



Brno is the second largest city in the Czech Republic and the main commercial centre of the South Moravian Region. It is a university city focused on innovation, research & development.

■ Population	404,000
■ Brno Metropolitan Area	734,000
■ Number of students	69,500
■ Average monthly wage	2,395 EUR
■ Unemployment rate	5.9%
■ GDP per capita (EU28=100%)	147%
■ Number of passengers at Brno airport per year	740,000
■ Green area per inhabitant of Brno	110 m ²
■ For research and development from the Brno city budget	1.74 million EUR



Regional Innovation Strategy



The **Regional Innovation Strategy (RIS)** is the basic policy of the **City of Brno** and the **South Moravian Region** for developing economic competitiveness and added value through innovation. It is addressed to all actors of the innovation ecosystem interested in improving the standard of living – to share and make coordinated decisions.

A **partnership approach** is crucial for the RIS – both for achieving its objectives and for successful implementation. **The RIS intends to stimulate good conditions for innovative entrepreneurship in Brno.**

Mainly by improving the quality of education, encouraging researchers to engage more with businesses and the local environment,

strengthening the region's image, or directly supporting entrepreneurial activities in places where the market has failed.

RIS seeks to fulfil **seven goals**:

- **A Home for Globally Successful Entrepreneurs**
- **Embedded Foreign Corporations with Strong Autonomy**
- **Youth Prepared to Change the World**
- **Sufficiency of Experts for the Knowledge Economy**
- **Research with an Impact on Business and Society**
- **An Open and Attractive Innovation Ecosystem**
- **#brnoregion as the Lab of the Future**

IN.BRNO

Brno invests in its future!

The city **supports innovative entrepreneurship with high-added value** as part of the Regional Innovation Strategy. It prevents brain drain, attracts talented students and scientists, and looks after foreign expats. It **promotes science and technology** to the general public as attractive, world-changing fields and promising careers. It **works closely with research centres** to transfer knowledge and insight into the everyday functioning of the city.

Last but not least, it **digitises city services** and invests in caring for newcomers to make them feel at home in Brno. It is fearless to experiment with new solutions that emerge in the municipality and use them in the daily running of the city.



The City of Brno has started and continues to promote dozens of projects that help people turn their good ideas into reality. The South Moravian Innovation Centre, the Brno Observatory, the VIDA! Science Centre and the Brno iD e-shop are just the beginning. The **in.brno.cz** website helps its users orient themselves in all the possibilities and make use of their potential.

Brno simply remains IN! And national and international awards prove it.

IN



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Strategy #brno2050



Brno is developing systematically according to Strategy **#brno2050**. It defines strategic values and goals that the city wants to achieve in 5 thematic areas:

- **Environment:** Brno as a climate-resilient city, with plenty of greenery, quality public spaces, and clean air.
- **Prosperity:** Support for Brno as a European centre of science, research, and innovation. A city attracting talent and offering excellent education.
- **Services:** Provision of affordable housing for all generations, modern health care, diverse culture, and efficient and sustainable mobility.
- **Resources:** Transition to a circular economy, energy self-sufficiency of the

city, and economical water and waste management.

- **Governance:** A transparent and digital city, actively involving citizens in decision-making and efficiently cooperating with its partners.

For easier implementation, Strategy #brno2050 is divided into 3 parts:

Vision 2050: Long-term direction and ideal state of the city in 25 years.

Plan 2030: Mid-term milestones and specific strategic goals.

Projects 2021+: Current priority projects and activities implemented via Action Plans.

According to the Action Plan, 2021+ Projects are currently being implemented.

#brno2050

2050.brno.cz

Strategic planning at metropolitan level



The City of Brno does not see itself as unit enclosed in its functional and administrative boundaries, but as a part of a wider **metropolitan area**.

The **Brno Metropolitan Area** (Functional urban area) consists of **184 municipalities** with about **734 thousand inhabitants**. Brno cooperates with the municipalities in its hinterland for the purpose of the **coordinated and interrelated development of the entire territory**.

The metropolitan area has ensured funding through the **Integrated Territorial Investments (ITI)** tool, and it has developed the Integrated Strategy for the Brno Metropolitan Area 2021–2027. BMA has helped finance more than **250 integrated**

projects through the ITI tool, with a total value of more than **EUR 480 million**. These include, for example, investments in the development of transport terminals, an integrated network of cycle paths, new kindergartens and primary schools, and the expansion of green infrastructure.

The City of Brno also leads the current **national discourse on metropolitan** development in the Czech Republic.

The Integrated Development Strategy for the Brno Metropolitan Area 2028+ is currently under preparation. It is being developed in collaboration with a wide range of partners, and you can also contribute to its development.

data.Brno

City data portal

Since 2018, the City of Brno has been operating the **data.brno.cz** portal to make city data available to the public. The portal promotes transparency, improves the quality of city services and encourages innovation. Anyone can use city data – whether for their own projects, academic research, process control or to get an overview of what’s going on in the city.

One important part of the portal is “**Brno in Numbers**”. **Interactive statistics** provide an overview of life in the city, including housing, transport, economy, population and the environment. Data is presented through clear dashboards and maps that allow easy filtering and comparison.



The **data.brno.cz** portal is a valuable **resource for developers and students**. Open datasets can be further processed for applications, visualisations or analytical tools.

The website also offers **interactive maps and applications** that show things such as the location of public services, traffic situation, cycle paths or air quality. These tools make it easier to navigate the city, and some provide real-time updates.

A new feature is an overview of all traffic counters at <https://data.brno.cz/pages/dopravniscitace>. Sensors operated by city companies measure traffic phenomena in Brno. Open data and its visualization help the city plan more effectively.

URBIS The Smart Cities Meetup

Practical solutions for cities and municipalities

URBIS is a smart combination of a trade fair and an exclusive conference programme, which this year emphasizes the resilience of cities and municipalities in the areas of energy, digitisation, safety, mobility, climate, and the circular economy, on both a social and societal level. Cities as living labs form an integral part of the programme, with a special topic being Europe 2028+.

It is held annually **in June** at the **Brno Exhibition Centre** – in **2026** it is on **2–4 June**.

Over the course of three days, dozens of **representatives of Central European cities and municipalities and innovation experts** will get together with the sole aim of sharing experiences, ideas and examples of practical solutions and finding ways to improve



the lives of citizens. It is a platform for networking, collaboration and new partnerships across the public and private sectors.

The 2025 event attracted over 5,000 visitors from more than 20 countries, including over 500 representatives of cities, municipalities and regions. One major part of the event was the conference programme, with over 400 speakers sharing their experience. More than 200 exhibitors showcased examples of innovative solutions.

Thanks to **URBIS** and regular Czech national participation at the **Smart City Expo World Congress in Barcelona**, the Czech Republic has become a major player in urban innovation in recent years.



bvv.cz/en/urbis



Brno iD

City services online

Brno iD is an e-shop for city services.

It operates in Czech and English 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It brings together selected services offered by Brno City Municipality, municipal companies and contributory organisations of the city of Brno. The city has been developing it since 2017 and is a recognised Central European leader in this area.

Brno iD offers **16 standard modules** – public transport, the integrated transport system of the South Moravian Region, municipal waste, family vouchers, tourist card, library, zoo, sport, observatory, museum, resident parking, Brno Trade Fairs, municipal cemeteries, participatory budget, support for trees in the city and gift vouchers.



The Brno iD electronic account has **over 900,000 users** – residents and visitors of Brno, of whom 60% are in the verified “full” version. The advantage for the user is that all the services on offer are linked to their Brno iD account. For those that are linked to a carrier, such as prepaid tickets, everything can easily be transferred to another carrier if the identification carrier is lost.

In 2025, a total of 1,866,800 payments were made through Brno iD, increasing turnover to a record EUR 58,8 million.

Brno iD

brnoid.cz/en

BVV Living Lab

Testing in a real environment

Brno has been systematically developing its position as a centre of urban innovation. The **BVV Living Lab** was established at the Brno Exhibition Centre in 2024 as an innovation platform for **testing smart technologies in a real but safe environment**. It now operates as an **association** connecting municipal companies, research institutions, startups, and public administration, while accelerating the transfer of innovations into everyday city operations.

The project is a strategic response by the City of Brno and BVV Trade Fairs Brno to the current challenges of modern cities and the needs of the regional innovation ecosystem. The founding members are **BVV Trade Fairs**



Brno, Teplárny Brno, Dopravní podnik města Brna, and SAKO Brno. The platform is part of the national Living Labs network and connected to the **European ENOLL network**, enabling Brno to engage in international cooperation and know-how sharing.

The Exhibition Centre environment enables testing solutions in **mobility, energy, sustainability, circular economy, security, and digitisation**. **Open 5G Hub Brno** operates as an open, non-commercial private campus network for testing advanced applications and data solutions. The first companies are already active in the complex, with growing interest from additional partners.



Brno PhD Talent

The city supports science and top young talents

The Brno PhD Talent programme is a unique **grant initiative of the City of Brno**, which supports **talented PhD students in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)**. Not only does it offer financial support in the form of a **three-year scholarship**, it also develops students' skills in scientific communication, strategic research planning and international collaboration.

The programme takes the form of a competition: an expert jury selects **fifty finalists** who consequently present their research projects. Of these, **twenty-five awardees** are selected, who receive a scholarship for the following **three years**. Regular financial support enables them to



fully focus on scientific activity, develop their research, and achieve excellent results.

The programme is also a means of **retaining and attracting top talents** from home and abroad to Brno. Since 2009, **332 students** have received scholarships thanks to the programme, to which the city has contributed almost **CZK 116 million**. Today, many of them are prominent scientists, lecturers or researchers in prestigious institutions and the business sector.

Brno is thus strengthening its position as a city of research, innovation and a smart future.



Brno **Ph.D.** Talent

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Brno Expat Centre

Helping newcomers become locals in Brno

The expat centre assists qualified foreign professionals and their families both before their arrival and during their stay in Brno. With the support of the City of Brno it provides free services.

Expats come to the Centre to address a variety of issues related to their new life in Brno. They can use the services and assistance of experts on-site or find answers in online guides on the website.

The Centre also organises several events focused on networking, education, or culture. A key annual event is Expat Fair: „**Living in Brno**“. For more information and updates on events in Brno relevant to expats, you can subscribe to their monthly newsletter.



Helping with:

residence permits, medical services, housing, family, taxes, business, driving, schools, leisure.

A new project implemented by the Brno Expat Centre is **Talent Attraction and Integration Management**. It focuses on systematic support for professionals arriving from abroad and their integration in Brno. The aim is to strengthen the city's competitiveness as an attractive destination for international talent, especially in the fields of science, research and innovation.



Innovative business

From the first idea to world-class technologies

Brno has long been profiling as a city with a highly specialized and innovative economy, its key fields **including IT, electron microscopy, the aviation and defence industry, the space industry, cyber security and the game industry**. These fields capitalize on a strong connection between cutting-edge research, technical universities, innovation companies, and supportive infrastructure. Brno is building an international reputation as one of the leading centres of innovative business in Central Europe.

Collaboration plays a key role, and the city actively supports connections between private companies, academia, and the public sector. One example is the **Brno region Microscopy** platform, which brings together



companies, universities, research centres, the City of Brno, and the South Moravian Innovation Centre (JIC). This creates a unique environment for the development of advanced technologies, know-how sharing, and the transfer of research results into practice, further strengthening Brno's position as a centre of innovation and highly specialised industries.

The City of Brno has also been collaborating with other clusters, especially the Czech National Semiconductor Cluster, Life Sciences 4.0, the Brno Space Cluster, the Game Cluster, the Industry Cluster 4.0, and the Czech Optical Cluster.

Through the Brno **International Business Centre**, the city helps institutions and



companies from the South Moravian Region enter foreign markets, establish strategic partnerships, and develop long-term international business relations.

The **Czech Semiconductor Centre at Brno University of Technology** (VUT) connects top academic research with industry needs and focuses on specialist education, applied research, and support for innovation in chip design and semiconductor production.

Also based here is the **European Digital Innovation Hub** (IDIH), supporting the digital transformation of SMEs and public administration. There is also the **Cybersecurity Innovations Hub** (CIH), which connects technologies and services

in the field of digitisation with the specific needs of companies and institutions.

Innovative **space industry** projects are being developed in Brno. The private and public sectors, universities, the Brno Observatory and Planetarium and the Brno Space Cluster work together on these. From **BRNOsat**, the first urban experimental satellite with a gamma-ray detector, **QUVIK**, the first Czech space telescope, to **CIMER**, the first Czech student satellite, designed to test the survival of cyanobacteria in space. Another ambitious project is the **AMBIC** satellite mission, which will take high-resolution images of the Earth and then analyse them in orbit using AI, enabling an immediate response to, for example, natural disasters or changes in the landscape.



BRNO REGIONAL
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Popularization of science

Brno invests in future generations

The popularization of education in the **STEM** fields (**science, technology, engineering, and mathematics**) is essential for Brno because science and technology in particular form the basis of its long-term development. Therefore, the city supports activities that develop curiosity, creativity and interest in technical sciences and modern technologies. The unconventional educational activities of the **Brno Observatory and Planetarium** help make this happen by explaining science in a clear and attractive way.

JINTEK, an organization combining education, the popularization of science, and practical work with technologies, also plays an important role. It hosts the **VIDA! Science Centre, FabLab Brno** and the **Future Shapers** projects, which facilitate



learning through experience, experimentation, and the development of technical thinking in the younger generation.

Brno also reminds **the general public** of its cutting-edge fields with festivals focusing on **electron microscopy (Days of Electron Microscopy), and the space industry (Brno Space Days)**, which present the world of modern technologies in an understandable and enthralling way. Thanks to these events, people can realize that they live in a city that **produces about 30% of the world's electron microscopes** and is home to **ambitious space projects and satellites**, which strengthen the international reputation of Brno as a centre of cutting-edge technologies and innovation.

Creative Industries

Helping creative business

The City of Brno supports creative industries to encourage the growth and entrepreneurship of **talented creatives** and involve them in the development of the city.

Brno supports creative professionals through **information services and financial support**, particularly via the **Pro Kreativní Brno** grant programme, while also promoting the city as a hub of creativity and innovation.

The **Brno Creative Days** festival has become a key event for the presentation of creative projects, linking science, art and technology. The opening of the **Brno Creative Centre**, which will provide facilities for creative activities, will further the development of the city.



Connecting creative entrepreneurs, the professional public, and institutions is an important part of this support. Brno creates space for collaboration across industries and supports the development of new projects, services, and innovative solutions. The creative sector is becoming a **natural part of urban life** and its future direction.

At the same time, the development of creative industries contributes to Brno becoming an **attractive place for work, business and living**. It strengthens the city's **competitiveness**, brings new **opportunities** for talented people, and supports the establishment of an inspirational environment.

CREATIVE BRNO

kreativnibrno.cz/en



Prepare Brno

City adaptation to climate change

Brno has signed **the Covenant of Mayors** and since 2019 has a **Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan SECAP**. It is doing its best to lead by example in its implementation. We want Brno to be greener and healthier.

Reducing CO₂ emissions by 40% by 2030 is a big commitment, so citizens are informed about **10 simple steps to follow**. They can also take advantage of subsidy programmes with an allocation of almost **EUR 3 million**.

A lot of Brno companies and organisations have also joined in. The aim is to reduce greenhouse gases in energy consumption, production and operation, building use or construction activities.



Brno also has a specific memorandum for the occasion, which already has more than 100 signatories and 10 steps on how a specific company can contribute.

The city is promoting the expansion of blue-green infrastructure necessary for climate change adaptation.

As part of its educational efforts, it runs environmental education programmes in schools and organises awareness-raising events for the public, such as Earth Day.

#PripravBrno

priprav.brno.cz
ekodotace.brno.cz

Other smart projects

Brno is a laboratory of the future

Since 2017, over 142,000 residents have voted in the **Dáme na vás (We give it to you) participatory budget**. They have helped implement more than 66 projects that have improved the quality of life in the city and fostered cooperation between local communities. Another 25 are currently in the implementation phase.

The **C-ROADS project** utilises cooperative intelligent transport systems for citizens' safety on the streets and at intersections.

Urban Centrum Brno is an open exhibition space of the Brno municipality where people can learn how the city grows, changes, and plans its future. It offers a space for meetings, inspiration, and dialogue about

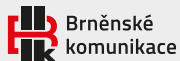


ideas and visions that influence life in Brno.

The city is also developing a long-term strategic partnership with the non-profit organization **Czechitas**, which opens the world of IT to women.

The Chief Executive Director's Innovation Challenge is a unique internal pro-innovation programme for designing and implementing improvement proposals and small innovations at **Brno City Municipality**. Now in its fourth year, it enables all employees of the municipality to easily submit their innovation proposals online straight to the office management, and at the same time enables the best innovations to be implemented.

Dáme na vás



Brněnské
komunikace



URBAN CENTRUM BRNO



czechitas

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Chytré Brno



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