

Basel is a pioneer in the energy field

The city and canton of Basel can contribute a lot to the national energy strategy for 2050. It has, after all, been a trailblazer on a number of levels, such as 100% renewable electricity production, strict regulations for new buildings and conversions, Minergie-P as the target requirement for cantonal buildings, a levy and an incentive tax on electricity.

From the point of view of the canton of Basel-City, a key task of the Confederation will to advance with the phasing out of nuclear energy as quickly as possible and within specific time limits. In Basel itself, however, we have already gone a step further with 90% of power supplied by hydroelectricity and around 10% by wind. Thanks to this advance, we can focus on the future and the aim to further develop solar energy use. The aim is to turn the rooftops of Basel into a solar power station. To this end, the canton is supporting householders with a whole raft of measures. To ensure that buildings are properly and energy-efficient renovated, IWB, the city's energy supplier, offers comprehensive energy advice.

The canton itself is setting a good example. When it comes to new constructions and renovations, the standards applied for cantonal buildings are considerably stricter than the legal minima. In addition, Immobilien Basel-Stadt, the city's property department has conducted a survey to determine which of its buildings are most suitable for having their own solar installations. Meanwhile, the cantonal property managers are actively at work on building photo-voltaic installations. Even if the targets have been set very high and we still have a long way to go, Basel is effectively on the way to becoming a 2000-Watt society.

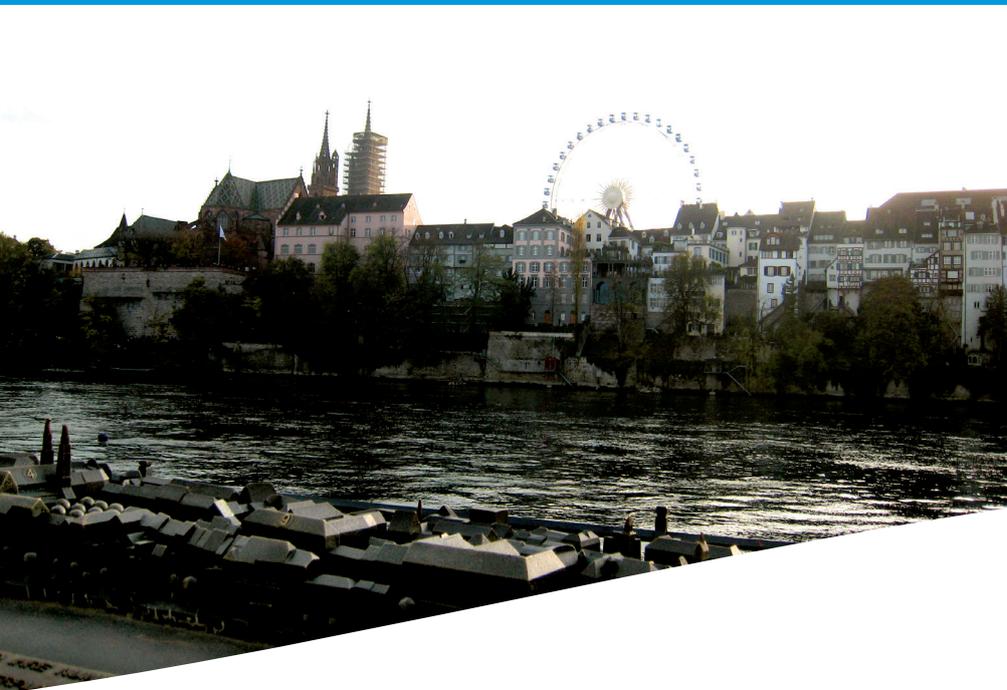
Energy project highlights

- Basel-City, the first pilot region of Novatlantis (ETH domain), has committed to the goals of the 2000-Watt society. Work is ongoing on 11 concrete pilot projects;
- There has been an incentive tax on electricity in Basel since 1983, the revenue serving to encourage energy savings and renewable energies;
- All of the municipality's electricity comes from renewable sources, with over 86% produced in Switzerland;
- The «Energy Detectives» campaign increases awareness of energy themes among children and young people.

Facts and figures

Municipality:Basel
Canton:Basel-Stadt
Population: 195,590
Area:23,95 km²
Internet: www.bs.ch

Joined Energienstadt programme in: ... 2005
First certification:2006 (GOLD)
Second certification: 2010 (GOLD)
Third certification: 2014 (GOLD)





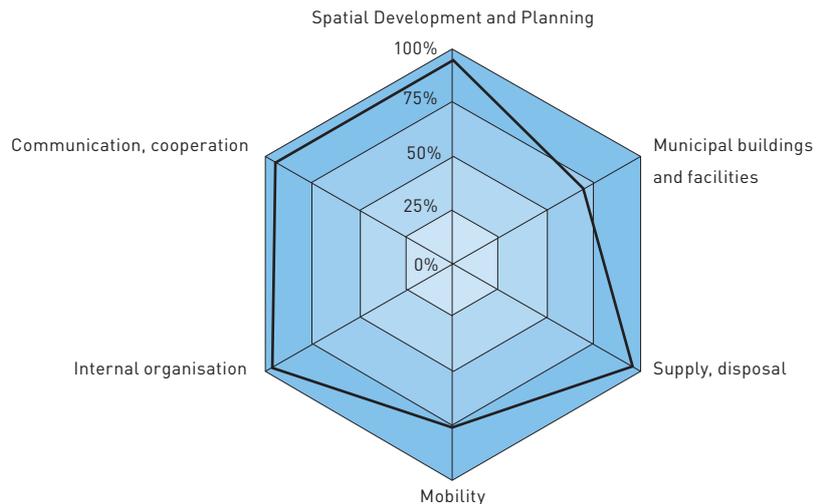
We need action not just words!

«Many of the instruments conceived for the Confederation's Energy Strategy 2050 have already been in practical use in Basel for years. For example, the city has more than ten years' experience of how an incentive tax can serve not only to promote but also to channel energy savings. Local funding for building renovation, is now available for more than thirty years.

However, we are still a long way from reaching our objective. If we are really serious about climate protection, we have to pursue our efforts to get to the 2000-Watt society. Thanks to the cooperation between politics, administration, research and industry, we are constantly seeing the emergence of beacons of the 2000-Watt society. They shine out over the region, attract specialists and motivate others to do the same or even better.»

*Christoph Brutschin
Councillor, Basel-City Canton*

Energy policy profile in 2014



The spider chart shows the development already implemented by the municipality in each of the six sectors of the range of measures as a percentage of the total for action. To obtain the Energiestadt label, the municipality must have implemented or planned 50% of its potential. The score needed to obtain the European Energy Award®Gold is 75%. In 2014, the Basel municipality achieved a level of 81%.

The next steps

During the coming years, Basel intends:

- to renovate city buildings in line with the «climate-neutral management» project in accordance with exemplary standards and to construct new buildings exclusively in accordance with these standards.
- to increase the percentage of renewable or CO₂-free energy in the city heating system (e.g. by building a second wood-fired power station).
- to support the construction of energy-efficient forms of housing (e.g. the 2000-Watt sites at Schorenstadt and Erlenmatt).

- to continue exceeding the contributions of the building programme of the cantons for building renovations.

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european energy award

What does the Energiestadt label stand for?

The Energiestadt label is a certificate developed in Switzerland and extended to the European level in the form of the European Energy Award®. The label is awarded to municipalities which have instituted quality management for the implementation of their energy and development policies. The award was conceived within the framework of the SwissEnergy programme for the Confederation. In this way, the Swiss

Federal Office for Energy (SFOE) promotes the implementation of national energy policy in the fields of energy efficiency and renewable energies. Through the sub-programme entitled SwissEnergy for Municipalities, the SFOE systematically supports projects at the municipal level. The owner of the label is the Energiestadt Association.