

## Ready4Heat Newsletter

### Ready4Heat at a glance

The project *Ready4Heat* is funded by the EU under the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE program. The *Ready4Heat* association comprises nine partners, including five technical partner dealing with environmental, social, governance and health issues, and 4 key demonstrations cities (pilots). For 36 month of activities, from March 2023 to February 2026, the project *Ready4Heat* aims to set up Heat and Health Actions Plans (HHAPs). The action plans carry out various pilot actions: Development of cooling green “urban islands” (Hajdúböszörmény), shading of a playground through the use of a green pergola (Maribor), the environmentally friendly cooling of rooms in a retirement home (Weiz), and the involvement of stakeholders within an urban area to build an active network (Worms). Furthermore, the partners set up local networks of concerned groups to support each other and tackle the heat problem. The project also makes proven and tested measures such as heat warning systems accessible to the cities and helps them to adopt these quickly.

**Interreg**  
CENTRAL EUROPE

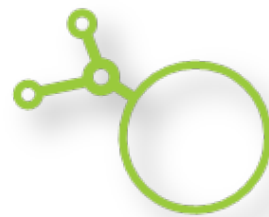


Co-funded by  
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Ready4Heat

### Contents of newsletter 07/2024

1. Strategy and action plan concept published
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## 1. Strategy and action plan concept

The Ready4Heat project published a strategy and action plan concept on how to develop a heat-health action plan (HHAP). The concept paper formulates the lessons learned during the creation of the Worms HHAP, one of our pilot cities. The document provides insights into the creation and implementation process and emphasizes the



importance of understanding local structures and involving stakeholders. It discusses the requirements for creating a HHAP, including the need for time, personnel and funding, as well as recommendations for external support and clear responsibilities. It provides a basis on which the other three pilot cities of the Ready4Heat project can build their own heat action plans.



Picture: Patrick Perkins via Unsplash

[Learn more](#)



## 2. Creation of heat maps



Picture: Ready4Heat

In order to develop the most efficient heat adaptation strategies possible, the pilot cities needed to know where the heat spots in their respective cities are. To this end, we used satellite images to analyse the heat levels in the different parts of the cities and assess where measures are particularly necessary, as well as where vulnerable infrastructure and groups are located in the heat spots. In addition, a climate ensemble was created to illustrate the coming changes and show how climate change can influence important indicators such as heat days or tropical nights in the coming decades.

[Heat map for the city of Hajdúböszörmény](#)

[Heat map for the city of Maribor](#)

[Heat map for the city of Weiz](#)

Find the whole heat maps deliverable [here \(pdf\)](#).



## 3. Citizen engagement workshops

Citizen engagement in the context of heat adaptation is of paramount importance due to the multifaceted and far-reaching consequences of extreme heat. For this reason, the Ready4Heat pilot cities Hajdúböszörmény, Maribor and Weiz carried out citizen engagement processes. As a first step, kick-off events were held in summer 2023. This was followed by stakeholder and citizen engagement workshops in late 2023 and early 2024.

[Learn more](#)



Picture: City of Maribor

### [Workshops in Hajdúböszörmény](#)

In Hajdúböszörmény, nine workshops took place. Especially infrastructural needs were identified by the stakeholders, for example less paved surfaces, more green and shaded spaces, water playgrounds, addressing energy deficiencies in buildings and solutions for cooling down school buildings by night ventilation. A common need expressed by all stakeholders was general information on (target group specific) heat risks, for example via awareness-raising campaigns. Furthermore, workshop participants marked on a map where they thought green islands and tree-lined areas should be established in the city.

## Workshops in Maribor

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In Maribor, ten engagement workshops were carried out. Most of them were held in the facilities of the stakeholder groups in order to address people on their own premises. (for example kindergartens, schools and health care centres). During the workshops, different ideas were suggested by the participants, including for example an increase of green spaces and benches with the possibility to rest in the shadow of trees, neighbourhood support for elderly people who live alone and at least one air-conditioned room in institutions such as kindergartens and elderly homes.

## Workshops in Weiz

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In Weiz, ten engagement workshops took place, which also addressed different sectors and institutions. During the workshops, short-term measures (including increasing shaded seating in outdoor areas, updating city maps to highlight water dispensers and establishing volunteering programs such as heat buddies) as well as long-term measures (for example enhancing greenery in urban areas by planting trees for shade or updating energy regulations to prioritize heat protection in building refurbishments) were suggested. Furthermore, an awareness-raising campaign was proposed that utilizes regional media platforms.



## 4. Update: Pilot actions

The four Ready4Heat pilot cities Hajdúböszörmény, Maribor, Weiz and Worms - besides elaborating heat action plans for their cities - also implementing pilot actions in order to make their cities more resilient against heat waves. The main purposes of the pilot actions are to protect vulnerable target groups among their citizens from heat and furthermore to transfer the knowledge, gained throughout the implementation of the pilot actions, to other European cities. These measures were now documented in a **joint pilot actions concept**.

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### City of Hajdúböszörmény



Picture: Hajdúböszörményi Városi TV

The city of Hajdúböszörmény is planning the creation of 47 green islands in public areas and around public buildings. The installation has already begun. The locations have been selected on the basis of heat maps, as well as in cooperation with local stakeholders. The green islands will have a bench to rest under the shade created by the plants growing on a wooden structure. It is also planned to plant trees next to the green islands in order to have a bigger shade in the future.

[Learn more](#) (Hungarian)

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### City of Maribor



The city of Maribor has installed two pergolas in two different kindergartens. The first one is supposed to protect the south oriented part of the building from the heat in summer days. The second is to provide shade for the kindergarten's playground. Two different plants will be tested and compared (kiwi and white Isabella vine). The pergolas are made of local wood.



Picture: City of Maribor

[Learn more](#) (Slovenian)



### City of Weiz



Picture: City of Weiz

The city of Weiz invests in the feasibility of an innovative and sustainable cooling solution for buildings. In order to determine the feasibility, a solar-assisted cooling solution will be installed at a pilot location (dining hall of a nursing home). The operation of the system will be monitored and energy data will be collected in order to be able to compare the performance of the pilot system with other types of building cooling solutions.

[Learn more](#) (Austrian)



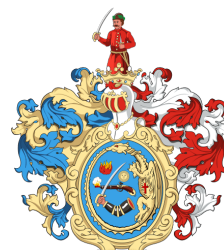
### City of Worms



Picture: City of Worms

The city of Worms is establishing long-term structures for raising awareness on heat and health among the citizens. The pilot action will test how a network with relevant actors can be kept alive in a long run. The purpose of the network is to develop and implement a district concept for heat reduction in a particularly affected part of the city.

[Learn more](#) (German)



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