





with an idea for the future



#### Ladies and Gentlemen,

When I began my first term of office in 2010, investors viewed the attractiveness of cities through quite different eyes and using quite different parameters than today. The last decade has seen us, as a city, move from being an employer's market to an employee's market. I have faced the sizeable challenge of reforming almost all the ways of working in the local administration, reshaping them so that Łódź is well prepared to begin a new chapter in its history.

The challenge for the Łódź economy is not only to bring new jobs to its inhabitants, but also to fight unemployment, a key indicator in measuring the success of our efforts. What really counts today is creating opportunities for professional development, bolstering the middle class and, in so doing, stimulating the city's transformation, visible through, for example, demand for new residential, mixed-use and other commercial projects.

In our dialogue with investors, it's visible how perceptions of our city in the international economic ecosystem are changing - we are no longer a place where costs are optimised; we are a city in which quality, specialised staff are expected and provided. The strength of cities today is measured in their ability to attract and retain educated and enthusiastic residents. This potential is the result of a city's quality of life, public services and image, which is why we have undertaken many ambitious projects in the fields of revitalisation, green transformation and leisure time activities. We know well that the most effective incentive we can offer investors is the prospect of a modern European agglomeration providing all the advantages that such centres can give.

I invite you to read this report, which clearly sets out the direction in which  $\pm \delta dz$  is heading.



Hanna Zdanowska Mayor of the City of Łódź



Łódź with an idea for the future





Quality of life





Culture





Transport and logistics



Urban regeneration



Regeneration - mixed-use projects



# ŁÓDŹ WITH AN IDEA

# ŁÓDŹTODAY

### **Quality of life**

- "Best of the World 2022" National Geographic •
- Łódź is a leader in the "Sustainable Development" category
  - City of civic activity •

#### Green Łódź

- Building the image of Łódź as a green city •
- Eco-pact as a green city strategy for Łódź •

#### **Culture**

- City of Polish street art •
- Polish capital of design
  - UNESCO City of Film •
- The largest centre of Polish cinematography •

#### **Science and business**

- Centre for design and the creative industries
  - Combining creative and artistic sectors •

with modern technological solutions

The most attractive city for business in Central and Eastern ■ Europe 2021 (Business Friendly Perception Index 2021)

## **Transport and logistics**

- Centrally located on the map of Poland •
- One of the three largest logistics regions in Poland •

#### Revitalisation

- Revitalisation of the Greater Urban Area •
- A city that cares about its post-industrial identity •



# FOR THE FUTURE

# ŁÓDŹ TOMORROW

## Quality of life

- A city on a human scale
- A city committed to sustainable development and the circular economy
- A safe city
- A city of valuable leisure

#### Green Łódź

- "Garden City"
- Organisation of World Horticultural EXPO 2029
- A zero-emission, clean city

#### Culture

Łódź as leader in the audio-visual sector

#### Science and business

- Development of creative industries
- Łódź attractive for investors
- Digital Łódź
- A centre dedicated to knowledge-based business

## Transport and logistics

- A strategic logistics hub for Central Europe
- A city of intelligent and sustainable infrastructure

#### Revitalisation

Inwards city development



## CITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

"A-NEW" ŁÓDŹ

#### City of Łódź Development Strategy 2030+

he city's strategy identifies its long-term challenges and defines the tools that are to contribute to achieving the objectives set out in the strategy. It also determines the local government's direction and forms the basis for planning urban investments.

Łódź's new city development strategy focuses primarily on pro-ecological development and building the city's resilience to various types of crisis. The document devotes particular attention to creating "a greener city", a sustainable economy, infrastructure and transport, as well as building mechanisms for enhanced participation and human capital development. An important element of Łódź's new development strategy is to involve its inhabitants in creating a friendly and open city, e.g., through active participation in the process of designing changes. Close cooperation between the community, institutions and administration will form the foundation of the "Development Strategy of the City of Łódź 2030+", with the City of Łódź acting as moderator in the process.

"CITY OF ŁÓDŹ DEVELOP-MENT STRATEGY 2030+" IS THE ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE DIRECTION OF THE CITY'S DEVELOPMENT.



### Strategic city development goals

**4 basic strategic objectives** define the activity of Łódź in the spatial, economic and social dimensions.



The key to achieving this objective will be to ensure that the city's social, economic and spatial management systems are resilient when faced with challenging external and internal conditions, and that the infrastructure, including social infrastructure, is kept in the best possible condition.

#### ŁÓDŹ ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The development of Łódź's economic and social capital will contribute to guaranteeing the development of current and future generations of inhabitants. Development decisions taken today are investments in the future: in the quality of life, space, and business.



A city cannot only be seen as an efficient management system aiming to provide the highest possible quality of public services and conditions for development. It is becoming crucial to adapt the city's potential to the expectations of those who live, work and carry out their initiatives in the city. The city is a space where the need to function as well as possible in a supportive environment is fulfilled.

#### WONDERFUL ŁÓDŹ

The expectations of Łódź's citizens towards their city, apart from satisfying their basic needs, include inspiring and building a sense of pride. To these ends, the city is looking for ideas to increase the attractiveness of Łódź, not only for its inhabitants but also for visitors to the city. The new strategy for the city's development assumes that the voices of its inhabitants will make a significant contribution to the creation of new ideas and pro-ecological programmes. As a result, the city will be perceived as unique both through its attractions and its assets.

# Spatial development directions in Łódź



In 2018, Łódź City Council adopted a document defining its vision of the city's spatial development for the coming years **The Spatial Development Conditions and Directions Study for Łódź**.

The study's urban development model considers both the need to limit excessive urbanisation and the need to revitalise the Greater Łódź Urban Zone.

Key directions of changes in shaping the city's spatial development policy:



#### "RE-TURN TO THE CITY":

a programme to support the historic inner city of Łódź as a place to live and work, which will turn the city's development "inwards".



#### **STOP SUBURBANISATION:**

to combat urban sprawl, the study should aim to limit urbanised areas to existing structures, with a limited reserve of land resulting from rebalancing of areas allocated for building.



#### **OUALITY DEVELOPMENT:**

understood as an intensification of investment activities in a limited and strictly defined area, which will allow development that meets the contemporary needs of Łódź's inhabitants.



#### **ECONOMIC ACTIVATION:**

activities based on the city's existing potential: favourable location in relation to the national transport system, academic base and qualified employees, competitive real estate prices and rents. activities of industrial clusters and economic zone.



#### **RATIONALISATION OF RESERVES:**

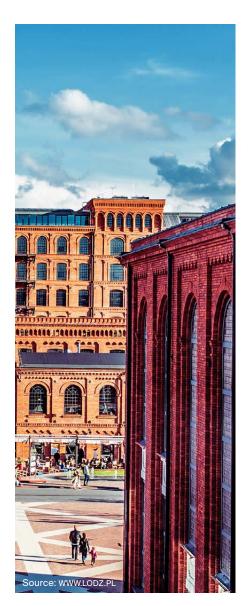
adopting a city programme tailored to real needs will provide the opportunity to focus organisational efforts on a limited number of locations and targets, and thus avoid dissipating economic potential.



#### STOP DEPOPULATION:

a decisive role in reversing the depopulation trend can be played by economic activation, but also by strengthening academic and cultural Łódź, encouraging regeneration and increasing the quality of life and housing.

Adopted acts of local law are the basis for the direction of spatial changes in the city, but they also influence a number of activities and initiatives undertaken in other areas of "city life", such as culture, science, business, infrastructure, social development and ecology. Here, projects are undertaken both by the city authorities, the academic community and local organisations, as well as developers and local communities. The goal, however, is common. The changes we are observing in Łódź are subsequent "milestones" along the way to improving the quality of life in the city and building an inhabitant-friendly place.





# **QUALITY OF LIFE**



n the last few years,
the city has undergone
a significant metamorphosis, with
the long-term goal being to create

a space friendly not only for tourists but, above all, inhabitants, Because of the action taken, Łódź is becoming more and more attractive every year. The concept of the city's spatial development has also changed compl etely - the increasing emphasis is put on greenery and pedestrian traffic. Appropriate funding has made it possible to revitalise the city centre, selected streets have been turned into city woonerfs, and pocket parks have been introduced into the public space. The city centre is undergoing a metamorphosis thanks to such projects as the New Centre of Łódź, a place open to residents and entrepreneurs alike, full of attractions and modern, unique architecture. Additionally, based on Łódź's post-industrial identity and unique, historical buildings, former factories are being transformed into places full of life and energy.

All these upgrades to the public space are changing the perception of the city compared to Poland. This is confirmed by a number of prestigious awards; Łódź was included in National Geographic Traveler's Best of the World 2022 list, appearing as a leader in sustainable development.

In line with the idea of "a city created together", Łódź is paying great attention to its inhabitants' opinions, addressing the quality of life in the city. To this end, surveys and reports are conducted, on the basis of which city development strategies are shaped and facilities for Łódź inhabitants are planned. As a result, Łódź's inhabitants are evaluating the quality of life in their city ever more positively. Moreover, the city placed fourth in the ranking of family-friendly cities, thanks to such categories as access to education (a large number of state-run crèches and kindergartens) and low housing prices (much lower than the average price for the largest cities).

#### RESIDENT-FRIENDLY CITY

#### Piotrkowska Street

Piotrkowska Street is one of the most famous streets not only in Łódź, but also in Poland. It is also the longest Polish pedestrianized street. The street plays host to renovated tenement houses with the shops of Polish fashion designers, restaurants, cafes, pubs and music clubs. It resonates with life year-round. Fairs and festivals take place there, and arcades such as the Rose Passage and courtyards off Piotrkowska Street - among them Artystyczna 120 Piotrkowska, Piotrkowska 217 and OFF Piotrkowska - surprise and delight tourists. Piotrkowska also has the Avenue of Stars, Poland's equivalent to the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

#### **OFF Piotrkowska**

OFF Piotrkowska can be found in the revitalised yard of the former cotton factory of Franciszek Ramisch. It has become a gathering place for people from the creative industries, housing designers' studios, cafés and showrooms. It is also a space where pro-social, cultural and artistic events are held.

#### Piotrkowska 217

217 Piotrkowska Street is located in the buildings of a former textile machinery and metalwork factory. In the revitalised space, the Creative Zone was established, the aim of which is to rent space on preferential terms to those in the creative industries. This place is a draw for those interested in exhibitions, workshops, festivals and concerts.





#### Łódź Centre of Events

Łódź Centre of Events is an organisation which addresses the needs of inhabitants and tourists, preparing for them a rich cultural offer. Its main tasks include the organisation of artistic, cultural and entertainment events such as festivals, exhibitions and concerts.

#### Łódź Multicultural Centre

Łódź Multicultural Centre is a place where every foreigner resident in Łódź can obtain the help they need. Foreigners can receive information and advice on everyday life in the city, along with support in filling in and submitting challenging official forms. The centre carries out activities for getting to know the city and supporting settling down, and also offers psychological support and the chance to meet others from outside Poland.

#### Łódź Citizen Card

Łódź Citizen Card is a system of discounts that aims to encourage people from Łódź to actively use the city's cultural, entertainment and service offer. The card is it's a way of thanking the citizens of Łódź, who have contributed to the development of the city by running their businesses and spending their free time there. Under the programme, card holders can benefit from discounts in institutions such as museums, restaurants, shops, doctors' surgeries and all kinds of service points. Importantly, any resident of Łódź, regardless of their place of birth, can apply for the card and it is issued in the form of a mobile phone application or a traditional plastic card



#### Youth in Łódź

The programme, implemented by the Office of Economic Development and International Cooperation of the City of Łódź, was created to encourage young people to associate their future with Łódź, to support the career development of Łódź students, and to provide local entrepreneurs and potential investors with highly qualified staff. In cooperation with the largest universities in Łódź and leading employers, the programme's initiatives include an internship and apprenticeship portal, paid summer internships, a scholarship programme, free training, company visits and a discount card. Discounts available to students of Łódź universities may be used, for example, in theatres, cinemas, language schools, dance schools, driving schools, fitness clubs, entertainment centres and restaurants. Participants in the programme also have the opportunity to take part in open days, competitions and other career-building events in Łódź. Students, and other people who are at the beginning of their professional journey, have the opportunity to receive necessary support and knowledge concerning the Łódź labour market. Thus, the Young in Łódź programme contributes to the building of the image of Łódź as a city friendly to professional development.



# QUALITY OF LIFE METAMORPHOSIS OF PUBLIC SPACE

# The New Centre of Łódź

The New Centre of Łódź is a city centre revitalisation project, focusing on the quality of life of its inhabitants. Thanks to the transformation of an area of almost 100 ha, a space will be created combining office, service, cultural, entertainment, transport and residential functions - all in accordance with the ideals of the inner city development.

The underground Łódź Fabryczna station, a transport hub connecting railways, long-distance buses and public transport, is already proving its worth. As part of building revitalisation, the EC1 power plant building has been restored, modern office buildings have been constructed, and a new town hall and housing estate are planned. Moreover, the road system in the vicinity of the station is being rebuilt - an underground route will connect Kilińskiego Street with Scheibler Family Avenue, and the public space on the surface will be accessible to pedestrians.

#### Woonerfs in Łódź

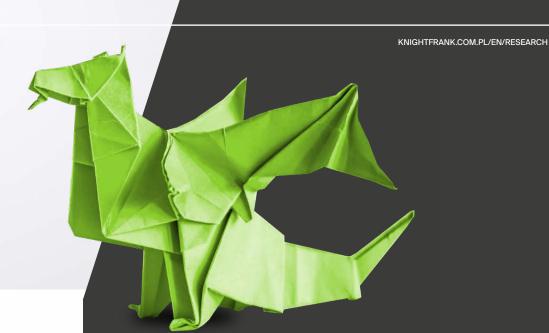
Woonerfs, built in cities, are safe spaces for pedestrians. They narrow the roadway, calm car traffic, introduce greenery and small-element architecture into the public space, whilst creating places for social interaction. The map of Łódź already contains 21 such projects. The first woonerf in Łódź was created, at the behest of the citizens as part of the Civic Budget, in 6 Sierpnia Street. After successful regeneration, other streets of this type are being created in the city. The best known is the "knee" at the junction of Lipowa and Próchnika Streets, which intersect at a right angle.

A woonerf connecting EC1 with Łódź Fabryczna railway station, which is to be made more attractive by playgrounds, fountains and numerous plants, is also in the planning stage.

# Metamorphosis of Wolności Square

The renovation of Wolności Square is one of the most important municipal investments within the revitalisation programme. After completion of the investment, the green space in this area will increase from 5% to 20%. The planned, extensive planting of greenery will not, however, change its original character, and the area will remain a public space where open-air events and fairs are organised. Apart from the planned verdance, Wolności Square will also feature integrated tram and bus stops, intimate squares with restaurants, a fountain, playground and other small-element architecture. Car traffic will be limited to the vehicles of the municipal services, residents and commercial tenants, returning most of the square to pedestrians. The entire project will be complemented by the renovation of nearby tenement houses and the expansion of the Rose Passage.





# Green Revolution of Dąbrowskiego Square

The Green Revolution of Dąbrowskiego Square is an initiative aimed at "deconcreting" one of the most important city squares. It involves introducing green elements and water-permeable surfaces. The project is the responsibility of the Environmental Management Department of the City of Łódź, which has already carried out a similar redevelopment of a square in Ogrodowa Street. Consultation with residents has place in order to prepare a detailed concept for the redevelopment.

These are the first stages of a wider project, i.e. the Green Revolution of the Centre of Łódź, which will be implemented step by step over the coming years.

#### Space for Łódź

Space for Łódź is a campaign aimed at cleaning up advertising in Łódź's public space. The Foundation has worked towards the adoption of clear advertising policy principles, guiding the 'where' and 'how' of visual advertising media display in urban space, and intervening where necessary in cases of large-format advertisements displayed in Łódź. Thanks to such activity, in cooperation with the City Conservator of Monuments, a Łódź Cultural Park has been established in Piotrkowska Street. The visual chaos of umbrellas and satellite dishes has been cleaned up, and most banners and billboards have disappeared from the façades of historic buildings.

# **Green Polesie Programme**

The Stare Polesie district, with its metropolitan features, is home to some 40,000 people and covers an area of around 200 ha. It is characterised by the fastest deterioration and depopulation in the city, low developer and investor activity, a lack of greenery and public spaces, and its streets are dominated by car traffic. At the same time, it is an area with a well-developed educational and service infrastructure, and a local community that takes active measures to improve its surroundings. The aim of the municipal programme implementing the 're-turn to the city' policy is to manage the transformation of the Stare Polesie district in the face of demographic changes and depopulation. The measures, set out in a 10-year plan, concern:

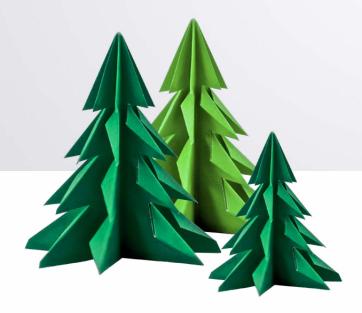




The main work of the programme includes: optimisation of the district's transport system, prioritising tram transport, reclaiming Barlicki Square for the needs of the local community, increasing the quality and diversity of greenery (including the creation of pocket parks and streets-gardens), developing educational, cultural and local trade facilities in relation to public spaces, establishing principles for the transformation of historic buildings and rules for the introduction of new buildings.



# **GREEN ŁÓDŹ**



# n 2021, Łódź is ranked a high third in the 'Europolis - Cities for a European Green Deal' ranking, due to its high scores in the categories of air quality

to its high scores in the categories of air quality measures (2<sup>nd</sup> position - where it particularly excels in the amount invested), public transport (4<sup>th</sup> position) and individual electric transport (4<sup>th</sup> position), active public transport fleet (2<sup>nd</sup> position - behind only Warsaw) and the number of bus stops per square kilometre (3<sup>rd</sup> position).

Irrespective of its high position in the ranking, Łódź has been intensifying its proecological activities, as its overriding objective is to build an image of Łódź as a green city - both in the context of improving the quality of urban greenery within its boundaries and with regard to general ecological aspects and sustainable development.

Among the city's key initiatives in this respect are: <code>,Eco-pact for Łódź'- the city's ecological strategy</code>, and the <code>,Łódz Ecoportal'- a corpus of knowledge on ecological initiatives</code>. A number of local social initiatives, projects and events held in the city, related to education, increasing ecological awareness and concern for the environment, as well as initiatives directly influencing the amount of greenery in the city, also contribute to the projects that help build the image of Łódź as an eco-friendly city. Moreover, the city's long-term plan for activities in this area is to organise a Horticultural EXPO in Łódź in 2029.



# Eco-pact for Łódź

"Eco-pact for Łódź" is the city's ecological strategy. The 5 main assumptions included in it are:



development and protection of green areas,



protection and improvement of air quality,



rationalisation of water management



improvement of efficiency of waste management,



#### formation of new attitudes, including education of children.

The document sets out the scope of specific actions and the methods of their implementation and financing, as well as the desired effects of the planned undertakings. In a long-term perspective, Łódź is to become a green city, with clean air, and free from smog and plastic. The vision contained in the "Eco-pact for Łódź" includes the planting of 50,000 new trees and the collection of 75% of the rubbish produced in the city. The actions described in the document are guided by the principles of sustainable development and a circular economy.

Proposals for pro-environmental initiatives in which external entities can engage under the programme are posted on the Łódź Ecoportal. These activities are participated in by Łódź entrepreneurs who attach importance to corporate social responsibility (CSR). The proposed projects include both smaller activities, such as sowing a flower meadows, building facade and rain gardens, and the planting of trees and flower beds, and larger initiatives, including comprehensive upgrades of selected areas of the city. Projects already implemented include tree planting campaigns, the creation of a pollinator-friendly site, and the installation of 20 air quality sensors providing residents with air quality information in the vicinity of their homes. Thanks to these actions, entrepreneurs are contributing to the creation of an ecological Łódź – one that is more resistant to climate change.



#### Łódź Ecoportal

Ecoportal (www.lodz.pl/ekoportal) is a website dedicated to environmental protection and ecological education in its broadest sense, and housing a body of information for inhabitants about the city's ecology activities. Moreover, the portal contains guides, items of interest and maps (e.g. the location of attractions in Łódź parks), instructions on how to save water, news, and information on how to participate in organised ecological initiatives.



# World Horticultural EXPO 2029 in Łódź

This is an event focused on greenery, care for the environment and sustainable development. It will have a holistic impact on Łódź and its inhabitants and will take place in the city over an area of 75 hectares in 2029. Horticultural EXPO, also called Green EXPO, refers to the positive influence of nature on people and every aspect of their lives. The uniqueness of the project is emphasised by its location in the very centre of Łódź - previous such events were held on undeveloped sites on city outskirts. The public, international exhibition located in the New Centre of Łódź, which will last for 5 months, will encompass many topics having a direct impact on ensuring a better, greener future for citizens. The event will consist of 5 thematic blocks, focusing on various aspects of people's relationship with nature:

**Nature of Life** - home and immediate environment: recycling, smart house, roof gardens, houseplants

2

**Nature of Business** - socially responsible economy: scientific conferences, presentation of new inventions, green technologies, designing an ideal workspace



**Nature of Leisure** - leisure time, hobbies and recreation: public parks and gardens, green corridors, blue-green urban network, outdoor recreation



Nature of Health - safe, ecological society: horticultural therapy, healing gardens, green cuisine



**Our Nature** - the presence of people in society and a sense of community: events that build relationships between people

The aim of the EXPO is to revitalise the area where the exhibition is held in order to fully exploit the potential of the site for the benefit of its inhabitants and encourage them to spend time outdoors, while simultaneously respecting the existing nature. The organisation of Horticultural EXPO is part of the city's long-term development strategy and, after the event, the area is to be used primarily as an urban park in the centre of Łódź.









# GREENERY IN THE CITY

#### **Forests and parks**

Nearly one fifth of the area of Łódź is covered by greenery. There are more than 30 municipal parks, including 11 historic parks under protection. The oldest park, Źródliska, established in 1840, was recognised as the most beautiful park in Poland in a competition organised by an American gardening company. One of Łódź's parks contains the "Fabrykant" oak, designated a natural monument. The Łagiewnicki Forest, at over 1,200 ha, is the largest forest complex in Europe. A remnant of the Łódź Forest, which existed at its full extent 200 years ago, is part of the Łódź Heights Landscape Park.

# Forest of Young Łódź

The initiative was launched in 2017 with the aim of encouraging the planting of trees to celebrate the birth of a child. This pro-social and pro-environmental action is cyclical, with repeated planting twice a year, in spring and autumn. As part of the initiative, the citizens of Łódź who become parents in a given year can plant trees in a chosen place in the city - an oak for a boy and a lime for a girl. The planted trees have a numbered, commemorative plaque beside them, with individually customized content by the parents of the child.



#### Łódź Zoo Orientarium

Łódź Zoological Garden's Orientarium is to contribute to increasing the city's attractiveness to tourists. The breeding and exhibition complex, which will occupy half of the current Zoo's grounds, will feature the fauna and flora of South-East Asia, including many critically endangered species. The investment will bring new animal species to Łódź, including Sumatran orangutans, anoa, gharial crocodiles, sharks and rays. The project also includes the construction of recreational and catering facilities and will be open to visitors year-round. This will be made possible by the creation of extensive enclosures and aviaries, which will keep a variety of animal species in appropriate environments, allowing them to act freely. Orientarium visitors will be able to observe the animals in conditions as close as possible to their natural habitat.





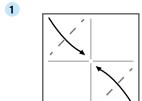


### ENVIRON-MENTAL INITIATIVES

#### Citizens' Panel

The Łódź Citizens' Panel is a means of making important decisions for the city. Through deliberative democracy, a randomly selected representative group, reflecting the general population and its structure, has the opportunity to decide on a given issue, taking into account the common good of Łódź citizens. The first edition of the panel called "Greenery in the city" was organised in 2020. The initiative was aimed at getting to know the needs of Łódź citizens in this aspect of the city's development, and led to recommendations and proposals in the context of joint activities for improving the condition of Łódź's greenery and counteracting the effects of drought. The purpose of these meetings was to prepare recommendations for the city, which were then presented to the Mayor of Łódź for implementation.

Assemble the boat yourself:



# "Sources" Centre for Ecological Activities

The "Sources" Centre for Ecological Activities deals with environmental, nature, global and civic education. It has been active for over 20 years, conducting workshops, training, field trips and information projects. The main areas of interest are water, greenery and air. As part of the centre's work, there is a project "Ecological education in Łódź", run by the "Green 27" Centre for Ecological Education and Culture. Schools and their pupils actively cooperate with the centre and are rewarded with a "Young Ecologist Diploma". Almost 40 schools in the Łódź agglomeration are involved in these activities, and nearly 8,000 primary and secondary school pupils benefit from the project.

#### ZazieleniaMY ('Together for Greenery')

The ZazieleniaMY programme is a targeted grant from the Łódź city budget. It replaced the Green Backyards programme, making it easier for residents to obtain funding. The grant is available to anyone who wants to invest the money in the revitalisation area - individuals, legal entities, housing associations, cooperatives or NGOs, It covers purposes such as outgoings for greenery, e.g., the planting of perennial plants - trees, shrubs, preparations to planting areas, as well as the establishing of flower meadows or lawns. The allocated budget in 2021 is PLN 800,000, of which an individual grant may amount to a maximum of PLN 20,000 and cover 80% of project costs.

#### **Facade Gardens**

Facade gardens are a way of improving the microclimate in Łódź. The project consists of removing facing stones from building exteriors and replacing them with soil for the growing of plants of appropriate species. The introduction of such small green areas will help with the retention of water in the city landscape, improve the flow of water into the ground, and increase humidity and air quality. In addition, the resulting plant beds will make the city space more attractive. The project area will take in the most urbanised parts of the city – those with the least greenery. It is planned to create facade gardens in at least several dozen locations throughout Łódź.





## **CULTURE**



of multicultural history and modern forms and

design. They shape the character and identity of the city. Thanks to a wide range of activities carried out by local authorities, organisations and artists, the city is becoming known internationally and is visited by more and more tourists each year.

By offering an artist-friendly environment, Łódź gives opportunities for the development of modern spaces presenting the history and roots of the city in an unconventional way. At the same time, **street art** has become a feature that has set Łódź apart on the map of Poland.

Łódź also offers unique interactive exhibitions and museums, often located in historic buildings which, after renovation, can once again delight visitors with their original architecture.



### STREET ART IN ŁÓDŹ

#### Murals of Łódź

Łódź is the city of Polish street art, attracting an increasing number of foreign artists to create their works there. The number of murals is growing by the year, and rundown buildings and old tenement houses are gaining a fresh face as elements of artistic installations. This tradition dates back to the times of the People's Republic of Poland, but the trail of murals in Łódź is becoming a unique tourist attraction, often highlighted by the world's media. Apart from a CNN programme about Łódź's murals, the HuffPost website has awarded Łódź the title of "Artsiest city", while according to the Boredpanda.com portal, Łódź is the second among cities in the world with the most interesting art in its urban space.

One of the first contemporary murals in Łódź, painted in 2001 by the Łódź artistic group Design Futura at 152 Piotrkowska Street, gained a place in the Guinness Book of Records and, for some time, was the largest piece of graffiti in the world.

#### Murals from the communist era

The murals in Łódź not only include modern compositions, but also number among them some 240 historical forms from the communist era. The most recognisable for Łódź residents were: a butterfly from Pewex, a sailor from Baltona and a cigarette - the only one to survive till day.



#### The Witcher Mural

One of the best-known contemporary murals in Łódź depicts Geralt of Rivia from The Witcher. The largest work of street art in Poland and one of the largest in the world is located on a residential building at 182 Piotrkowska Street. The idea to create it is the result of the city's cooperation with Andrzej Sapkowski, the author of the series, and the CD Project RED game studio. The creator of the mural is Jakub Rebelka, a comic book author and graphic artist born in Łódź

#### **Beauty Baluty**

Beauty Bałuty is an artistic neon placed on the wall of a building at 40 Wojska Polskiego Street. The creator of the project, a graphic artist from Łódź called by a nickname Gouda, used a play on words for its creation - the letters "ał" in Bałuty being changed to "ea" to form the word beauty. The neon sign forming the heart of Bałuty is a return to the classic roots of such neons.





#### The Birth of Dav and Birds in Paradise

"The Birth of Day" and "Birds in Paradise" are two paintings by the Polish sculptor and painter Wojciech Siudmiak, adorning the walls of the courtyard at 4 Więckowskiego Street. An innovative technique made it possible to transfer the works, made on stoneware tiles from the Tubadzin ceramics factory in Łódź, to the building façades. The works were part of the "Mia100 Kamienic" project.

#### The Rose **Passage**

The Rose Passage is a unique place at 3 Piotrkowska Street, where the walls of the tenement house are covered with pieces of broken mirrors in various shapes. The project, by the artist Joanna Rajkowska, creates a mosaic illuminating the dark courtyard. The work was created as part of the "Diamonds of Łódź" initiative, which is itself part of the Łódź of Four Cultures Festival.



### **Art Factory**

The Art Factory is a joint project between the City of Łódź. Łódź Art Center Foundation and Chorea Theatre Association. It is a space located in Księży Młyn, combining various fields of culture: theatre, film, music and the audio-visual arts. It hosts workshops, concerts, seminars, meetings, exhibitions and screenings.

#### Central Museum of Textiles

The Central Museum of Textiles is Europe's largest and most unique museum presenting textiles from many perspectives: as art, industry, fashion, and as objects of everyday life. The museum is located in the White Factory, which is a symbol of Łódź 's textile past.

#### EC1

EC1 is a revival of the first municipal power plant in Łódź. Work began in 2008 on the historic building, situated in the New Centre of Łódź area. Currently, the building houses, among other attractions, the most modern planetarium in Poland, the National Film Culture Centre, the Centre of Comics and Interactive Narration, and the interactive Centre of Science and Technology.

#### **The Centre of Science** and Technology in EC1

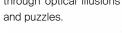
The Centre of Science and Technology is the largest interactive educational exhibition in Poland, where you can see both historical exhibits and learn about technologies currently used in the electricity generating process. There are three educational pathways presenting how energy is processed, the history of the development of knowledge and civilisation, and a presentation of the microand macro-world.

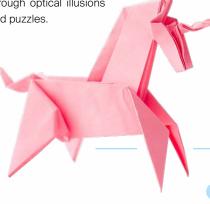
#### Planetarium in EC1 Łódź

The EC1 houses the most modern planetarium in Poland, equipped with a spherical screen providing an 8K image, making it possible to "immerse yourself in the projection". It hosts popular science events presenting the constellations and holds special shows using the dome.

#### Street of Elements in EC1

Street of Elements is an exhibition that takes children into a world of experiments based on the 5 elements. The aim of this interactive space is to engage, surprise and stimulate the imaginations of children through optical illusions







## **CULTURE**



#### FILM

At the Łódź Film School (PWSFTviT), the talents of the best Polish filmmakers and actors are honed, while at the Feature Film Studio (Wytwórnia Filmów Fabularnych), Educational Film Studio (Wytwórnia Filmów Oświatowych) and Se-ma-for Studio of Small Film Forms (Studio Małych Form Filmowych Se-ma-for) the best Polish film productions are made

Łódź also plays host to the National Film Culture Centre - a centre for the dissemination of audio-visual culture, knowledge of film technology and the history of cinema.

The city was also included in the list of UNESCO Cities of Creativity Network and was awarded the title of UNESCO City of Film, where it is among the 13 most creative centres from around the world.

The "Film Trail of the Łódź Province" project, created by the Association of Initiatives for the Development of REGIO, is aimed at the promotion of the Łódź Province's film heritage. Activities include expert analyses on



the potential, promotion and image building of a city open to culture and art.

The city has created the Łódź Route - City of Film, a tourist attraction and tribute to filmmakers and artists. The route consists of:

- an application presenting locations of film sets of such productions as "Cold War",
- plagues commemorating artists,
- maps of functioning cinemas and those no longer in existence.

The user-created film trail gives the opportunity for partakers to create their own cinematic journey around the city and learn about cinematography.

#### **Man in Danger Media Festival**

features hundreds of documentaries, and TV and radio reports. The aim of this annual event focusing on contemporary threats is to popularise non-commercial documentary cinema.



event in Łódź, during which films are screened all over the city in the open air - in parks, courtyards and on rooftops.

#### Kamera Akcja Festival is the only festival in

Poland dedicated to the art of film criticism. The event features film screenings, discussions and workshops with experts from across the film industry.





#### **THEATRE**

#### **Touch Theatre**

is a nationwide project organised on the occasion of International Theatre Day, where theatre artists and spectators meet.

# Theatrical Carousel of the Pinocchio Theatre

is one of the largest reviews of contemporary art for children, young people and their loved ones in Poland.

#### Retroperspektywy International Theatre Festival

is a theatrical review and presentation of dance from Poland and abroad.

# Festival of Theatre Schools

is an opportunity for young actors to perform on the stages of the most famous theatres in Łódź. It also means numerous discussions after the performances, and the opportunity for the performers and audience to meet.

# Festival of Pleasant and Unpleasant Arts

organised by the Powszechny Theatre, is a cyclical, international theatre event, during which plays from Poland and Europe are performed, as well as world premieres staged especially for the festival.

#### MUSIC

Source: WWW.LODZ.PL

#### **Urbanator Days**

is a unique music workshop blending the genres of jazz, rap and soul, and bringing together well-known artists with amateur musicians for jam sessions.

#### Summer Jazz Academy

is a summer event for lovers of modern jazz arrangements and sounds inspired by the roots of the genre.

#### Ravekjavik Festival

is an event promoting electronic sound, which brings together artists from Poland, Iceland, Ukraine and Belarus. A wide spectrum of genres from house, ambient and techno to IDM is presented on the stages.

#### Soundedit Festival

is an international festival, unique in the world, which for thirteen years has been attracting musicians, music producers, composers and music lovers to Łódź.

## ŁÓDŹ FESTIVALS

#### Light Move Festival

Light Move Festival - changing urban space through light. This is when numerous artistic light installations are displayed on the walls of tenement houses along the city's main thoroughfares. The festival is not, however, only about light; it also makes use of sound and modern technology to enable large-format shows to be projected onto the facades of the city's buildings.

#### Łódź of Four Cultures Festival

is an annual cultural event combining elements of theatre, literature, film, music and the visual arts. The name refers to the 4 cultures which have influenced the city's history, namely: Polish, Jewish, German and Russian. The aim of the festival is to cultivate the identity of Łódź and to show the city as an open, diverse and multicultural place.

#### Festival of Comics and Games

The Festival of Comics and Games is an international event - the biggest of its kind in Poland and Central and Eastern Europe. The comics, games, and Star Wars and Manga Corner zone attract many fans of picture stories, graphic novels and electronic interactive media. The festival also runs an international comics competition.

#### **Fotofestiwal**

is an international event that has been running for 20 years, during which meetings with famous photographers are organised and photography exhibitions take place in inspiring post-industrial spaces.



## **SCIENCE AND BUSINESS**





**18 universities with over 75,000 students.** The city's priority is to create attractive conditions for business, with development opportunities for young people via such programmes as **Youth in Łódź** or **I have an idea for a startup**, which serve to attract new residents and stem the outflow of young people from the city.

The city is focused on developing new technologies and creating an investment climate conducive to the IT and logistics sectors, although not only. Łódź's roots should not be forgotten - it is a place where young talents are shaped in the Łódź Film School or the Academy of Fine Arts. The Academic Design Centre, Łódź Young Fashion and VnLab are among the many projects which combine the traditions of the creative and artistic sectors with what modern technology has to offer.

In addition, numerous centres linking academic environments with business, free coworking spaces, clusters and laboratories are being established in Łódź, where the latest technological innovations are in use and a spirit of cooperation is aimed at creating knowledge exchange platforms.

Such activities have resulted in international awards distinguishing Łódź from other centres, e.g. the distinction of being the most attractive city for business in Central and Eastern Europe in the Business-Friendly Perception Index 2021.

### CREATIVE ŁÓDŹ

#### VnLab - Visual Narrative Laboratory

VnLab is a modern laboratory created thanks to the "Regional Initiative for Excellence", organised by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education and the Łódź Film School. It is a place where technology meets traditional forms such as film, theatre and photography. Within the framework of VnLab's activities, experimental artistic works, competitions and modern visual narratives are created. The VnLab cooperates with students of applied computer science from the Lodz University of Technology, who specialise in computer graphics and multimedia. The established S3D-VnLAB workshop enables the creation of state-of-the-art special effects and virtual scenery, offering ever more opportunities to the Polish film industry.



#### **Bionanopark**

Bionanopark is a science and technology park specialising in advanced technologies. The park has laboratories equipped with top of the range equipment that allows for product testing at every stage of development. It is also a place for young entrepreneurs and innovators; the aim of the park being to enable them to develop and create products using the most modern equipment available in the laboratories

# Academic Design Centre

The Academic Design Centre is a project that brings together 8 of the most prestigious design faculties of public art academies in Poland. It has become a platform for the exchange of experience between students. The ADC is housed in a restored historical building in Księży Młyn, once the first factory school in Łódź. The Centre's main aim is to combine the scientific and didactic potential of students, and to increase the attractiveness and competitiveness of Polish design studies. Since 2007, ADC has been organising, periodically, the Łódź Design Festival, which allows the presentation of modern, contemporary design, architecture and fashion. It is part of Łódź's strategy as a city to build a new identity based on creative industry.



#### **Art\_Inkubator**

Art\_Inkubator is a multidisciplinary artistic centre which aims to support the development of creative entrepreneurship and professionalization of the cultural sector. The place was created as a result of a public-non-governmental partnership.

#### Creativity Centre Factory

Creativity Centre Factory is an innovative place on the map of Łódź, combining coworking, exhibition and workshop space. It is a zone dedicated to the creative industries and artists making use of new technologies. The centre enables the production of short films and creation of artistic events. Innovation and new technologies are to help bring new levels of quality to the art market and highlight the coexistence between the digital world and culture, science and business.

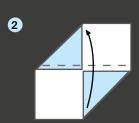


#### Łódź Young Fashion

The Academy of Fine Arts and the City of Łódź are the organisers of the Łódź Young Fashion festival, which sees the city become the capital of fashion for a few days. It is the biggest fashion event for designers in Poland. Fashion shows, film screenings and photography exhibitions await those attending the festival. The Fashion Film Festival, which takes place during the event, allows designers to present fashion in a completely different film version. This form is aimed at helping promote young talent and give them a good career start in the fashion world.

# The Comics and Narration Centre at EC1

The Comics and Narration Centre will be the first place in Poland devoted to the creation of computer games and comics. It will be divided into 3 permanent thematic zones: retro (telling the history of the development of games), new technologies with VR, and a Game Lab, focusing on the process of game creation. It will also be a place for the youngest, where they will be able to explore the secrets of comic book creation in the workshop spaces. The Centre will be the first interactive space in Poland to educate visitors in the art of comics and new media.



#### Łódź offic<u>e market</u>

Each year, more and more modern office buildings are opening their doors in Łódź, and by the end of 2021, the stock of office space had reached around 590,000 sq m. Despite the pandemic, new investments are being completed in line with developer schedules, and more are planned. As a result, Łódź is set to gain over 90,000 sq m of office space in the coming years.

A distinctive feature of Łódź office stock is its wide range of revitalised post-industrial projects, a feature of which are their unusual, post-industrial take on modern interiors. Two additional advantages of such investments are their excellent locations, and the fact that most of them have been awarded green certification.

Thanks to a good scientific background and the education of highly qualified IT specialists at Łódź universities, a number of IT companies have decided to choose office space in the city - in 2020, almost 50% of the leased space was taken by IT companies.

Rents in Łódź range between EUR 10.00 and EUR 14.00 / sq m / month, remaining at a competitive level in comparison to other regional cities. The city's advantage is the wide range of office space available "immediately", with over 98,000 sq m of existing space currently available for rent.

Moreover, there are many co-working operators on the Łódź market, including Chillispaces.com, Business Zone, Business Link and New Work. There are also initiatives such as SkyHUB, offering free office space with a library for start-ups, and a wide range of workshops or industry events that enable them to work with experienced investors.



## **SCIENCE AND BUSINESS**

### INNOVATIVE ŁÓDZ

#### Centre for Computing Excellence

The Centre for Computing Excellence programme is a prestigious, nationwide project created by Lodz University of Technology in cooperation with other Polish technical universities: AGH in Krakow, Gdansk University of Technology, Warsaw University of Technology, and Wroclaw University of Technology. It aims to strengthen Polish IT education and focus on educating talented students via the involvement of the community of renowned technical universities and teachers. The programme aims to encourage young people to develop their interest in algorithmics and programming.

# **Computer Science** without borders

The "Computer Science without borders" project is carried out by Lodz University of Technology together with the I love Math and Digital Dialog Associations. The aim is to reach children and young people aged 7 to 18 and enable them to acquire knowledge and skills in the field of computer science, mathematics and robotics. Through participation in the activities, the young can develop their interests, be inspired by new discoveries, and satisfy their curiosity. The long-term aim is to attract future students to technical fields of study and, as a result, to produce job candidates with developed professional skillsets.

### Startup Spark

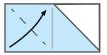
Startup Spark is an ecosystem for building effective cooperation between start-ups and entrepreneurs, which results in technological and business solutions. It is also the cooperation of young people with local business leaders and international corporations. As part of acceleration programmes, funding is obtained for projects. Startup Spark's activities have been recognised by fDi Magazine and in 2019 and 2020 it received the Innovation Award and a prize for supporting start-ups, implementing new technologies, and activities in the field of Industry 4.0.



### EkSoc startUP! Competition

The EkSoc startUP! competition is addressed to students and doctoral candidates from the Łódź Voivodeship who want to run their own business in the future. The competition is organised by the Faculty of Economics and Sociology of the University of Łódź in cooperation with the Business Council and market practitioners. The aim is to give the winning team the chance to realise their business idea and to offer a wide range of mentored business training and workshops.







### I have an idea for a Startup

"I have an idea for a Startup" is a competition aimed at showcasing scientific, technological, creative and artistic projects. There are thousands of business ideas, as well as hundreds of companies who, thanks to the contest, are already functioning in the market. The competition is a platform for sharing knowledge and getting help from more mature and more well-established businesses. Counselling, workshops, mentoring - all are given to the most talented young and imaginative entrepreneurs. Start-ups also receive six-month's access to the pilot 5G Network, as well as expert support from the Technical University of Łódź and the DIH5G project team. The competition led to the creation of, among other things, the CodeAlly application, used to recruit people in the IT area.

#### Łódź Solar Team

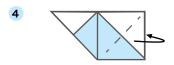
Eagle Two, a solar-powered car, is a project that helped students from the Łódź Solar Team become European runners-up in the iLumen European Solar Challenge Competition. The team was founded in 2014 at Lodz University of Technology and is still developing. The team's mission is to promote the use of solar energy in automotive transport and to encourage eco-technology solutions. Łódź-based constructors from the mechatronics faculty are proving successful not only in Europe, but also worldwide, including in Australia and South Africa.

#### GameDev Cluster

GameDev Cluster is part of the "New Technologies Cluster" project financed from EU funds. It gives the opportunity for developing cooperation in the computer games sector, bringing together business support institutions, universities and entrepreneurs. The cluster offers support and consulting, workshops, expert analyses, and assistance in obtaining sources of funding. The aim of the initiative is the cooperation of companies in the cluster with universities, as well as the development of the computer games industry in the Łódź region.

# ICT Central Poland Cluster

The ICT Central Poland Cluster aims to integrate the ICT sector - i.e. business, academic and business-related organizations involved in related activities. Entities involved in the cluster's development promote this business sector in the region and, by taking an active part in consultations, they strengthen the position of Central Poland in the ICT arena.



#### LODZistics Cluster

LODZistics cluster is a platform for sharing knowledge and experience and developing common good practice, bringing together companies from the logistics and transport sectors from across Poland. The aim of its activity is to increase the competitiveness of the Central Poland region, as well as conducting initiatives to improve the functioning of enterprises operating in this sector. The cluster is not only made up of companies and their activities - it can influence the vocational education of young people in the logistics sector through, for example, special courses raising qualifications, or help in activating the unemployed and supporting professional mobility.

#### AÇADEMIC ŁÓDŹ

#### European Universities Games

"Łódź We Can" is the slogan of the 6<sup>th</sup> European Universities Games. Europe's biggest celebration of academic sport will next take place in Łódź in July 2022. The EUG is held every two years, in a country selected by the European Federation of Academic Sport. The Games, in which athletes compete in 19 disciplines, are expected to bring together as many as 5,000 athletes from 400 universities from over 40 countries across Europe. The event will be accompanied by numerous concerts, family picnics and educational events.

The EUG will be the biggest academic sporting event organised in Poland since the Winter Universiade in 2001. The official mascot of the games will be the Łódź Unicorn.



## TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

#### The geographic and logistical heart of Poland

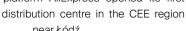
The infrastructure in the region of Łódź and Central Poland has undergone spectacular changes in the last two decades. After Poland's EU accession in 2004, work on the network of national connections intensified, resulting in new sections of express roads and motorways coming into service in subsequent years. Key investments for the Central Poland region were the construction of the A2 motorway, which in 2012 connected Łódź with Warsaw (130 km), the S8 expressway towards Wrocław (223 km), and the A1 motorway in 2016, connecting the city with Gdańsk (337 km) and ultimately with Katowice (204 km). Currently, people in Łódź can comfortably reach the largest Polish cities in less than 3 hours. By modernising and developing the road and rail infrastructure, and with the proximity of the airport, Łódź is making the most of its potential - its central location on the map of Poland, and its position at the crossroads of the most important European transport routes. The city's attractiveness creates excellent opportunities for business development and it is a naturally desirable location for the logistics sector - one of the most dynamically growing sectors on the Polish real estate market in recent years.

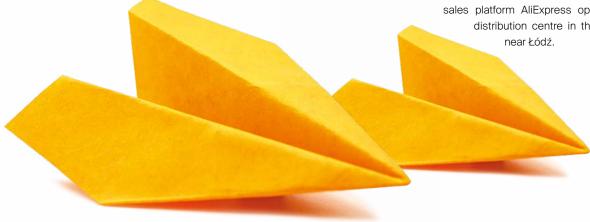
#### Poland's third largest concentration of warehouse **space**

The modern, well-developed infrastructure and central location of Łódź on the map of Europe are the driving force behind the development of the industrial and logistics sector, for which Łódź is one of the most important locations. Central Poland is one of the three largest logistics regions in Poland, after Warsaw and the Upper Silesia region, with resources estimated at 3.3m sq m of modern warehouse space at the end of 2021. The attractiveness of the Łódź region is appreciated by logistics operators, retail chains, the e-commerce sector and light manufacturing, who all choose to site their central warehouses and distribution centres in the region, servicing the entire Polish market. The largest logistics complex in the country, and one of the largest in Central and Eastern Europe, Central European Logistics Hub, is located in the city at Jędrzejowska Street, with a target space of over 570,000 sq m. Its tenants include BSH, Media Expert and Whirlpool. An additional advantage of Łódź is its direct connection with Chengdu in China as part of the New Silk Road, which has opened the city up to trade with countries in Asia and the Middle East.

#### New Silk Road

The New Silk Road is the idea of recreating historical trade routes from medieval times, connecting Asia and the Middle East with Europe by using land transport as a faster and cheaper alternative to sea transport. The first freight train on the new intercontinental service, consisting of 22 wagons, set off for Poland in the summer of 2013. Since this first journey, the number of trains on the Poland-China route has increased a hundredfold. Cargo trains cover the almost 11,000 km stretch of road in an average of 11-14 days. By comparison, sea transport averages 40-42 days. The connection to Chengdu, the capital of China's Sichuan province, is one of the key factors influencing the development of intermodal transport in the CEE region. The launch of the rail link between Łódź Olechów and the world's second largest economy has significantly increased the attractiveness of this part of the city and region, making Łódź one of the main ,gateways to Europe' for goods delivered by rail from Asia. For the city, it also creates the opportunity for the development of low-carbon transport and the modernisation of rail infrastructure, the development of intermodal transport companies from the light manufacturing sector and the wider e-commerce sector. In October 2021, Chinese global online sales platform AliExpress opened its first





An example of the further strengthening cooperation with China and the impact of the new trade route on the region is the construction of a modern intermodal terminal in Teofilów Przemysłowy, carried out by Contargo Hatrans. The construction of this investment, located on the S14 route, for the reloading and handling of food shipments, will improve and establish new connections China and ports and terminals network throughout of the Contargo Western Europe. The new intermodal terminal also influence the development of the area located in the north-western part of the city and increase its attractiveness to the logistics sector. The launch of the multimodal terminal Łódź-Północ scheduled for the end of 2022.



The S14 expressway, the western section of the Łódź ring road, is under construction. The near 30-km section of road is being built in two stages (Łódź Lublinek - Łódź Teofilów, Łódź Teofilów DK 91 - the town of Słowik). The investment is scheduled for completion in 2022 and 2023. The completion of the last section of the route will close the ring around Łódź, and Łódź will become the first city in Poland with a complete road ring. Completion of the investment will significantly improve communication within the entire Łódź agglomeration and increase the attractiveness of investment areas to the west of the city centre.



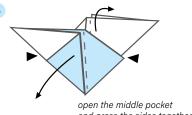
# Modernisation of A2 motorway

Preparations are under way for the expansion of the A2 motorway on the 89 km long Łódź-Warsaw section. In the summer of 2021, approval from the Regional Director for Environmental Protection in Łódź was obtained with a positive decision for the 46 km section from the Łódź Północ interchange to the border with the Mazovia Province. At the end of 2021, the General Directorate for National Roads and Motorways planned to announce a tender procedure, after securing funds for the construction of an additional lane in the Design and Build system. According to the work schedule, the investment should begin within two years, and the extension is planned for completion at the end of 2025. The expansion entails adding a third traffic lane in both directions, along with the construction and modernisation of the accompanying infrastructure. Widening of the existing carriageways will increase the capacity of a key section of A2 motorway - one of the most important east-west transit routes in the country.

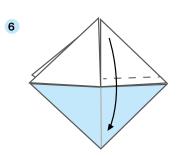
#### Władysław Reymont Airport Łódź

Łódź's Władysław Reymont Airport is in the south-western part of the city, 6 km from the city centre. The airport has three terminals: a passenger terminal, a General Aviation (Business Terminal), and a cargo terminal, thanks to which it handles international passenger flights, charter flights and cargo shipment services. The main advantage and determinant of further development of the Łódź airport is its proximity to major national routes (the A1 motorway, A2 motorway, and S8 expressway) and its location on the route of major European transport corridors (TEN-T trans-European transport network). The immediate vicinity of the Łódź airport plays host to, among other facilities, distribution centres for two of the world's largest online sales brands: Amazon and Zalando





and press the sides together





## TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

## **GREEN TRANSPORT**

of the biggest problems for cities nowadays is air pollution. In order to limit CO, emissions and reduce smog, cities are taking numerous measures to improve air quality in urban areas. One of the most important steps is the shift towards eco-mobility, which includes low-emission and electric vehicles and a sustainable, environmentally friendly transport infrastructure. Łódź was one of the first Polish cities to join the pro-environmental trend, which is reflected, for example, in the Eco-pact for Łódź initiated by the city - an invitation to residents and third parties to join in the pro-environmental activities that improve the city's quality of life.

The city's key eco-mobility measures investments are the Łódź Fabryczna station extension and the cross-town tunnel construction.





Raising the status of rail transport to one of the main means of public transport in its underground tunnel form will reduce exhaust emissions and will also have a noticeable effect on noise reduction in the city. The measures taken mark Łódź out as a forerunner among the largest Polish cities in the development of low-emission, tunnel-based transport.

The city's plans also include the upgrading of the public transport fleet with new electric buses and an ever-expanding network of charging points for electric cars which, for the comfort of users, have been distributed in 29 locations across the city. At the end of 2020, the city already had 200 stations. The high availability of electric car charging stations is designed to encourage Łódź inhabitants to give up on petrol and diesel cars in favour of electric vehicles. An additional incentive is the marking of Łódź bus lanes with pictograms indicating the possibility of use by electric cars. According to official sources, at the end of September 2021, there were over 300 electric cars registered in Łódź.

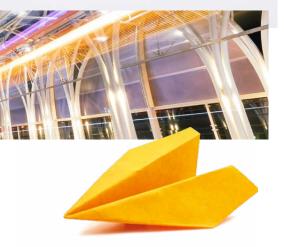
Łódź is also developing its cycling infrastructure. July 2021 saw the launch of, among other initiatives, the Łódź Bike Sharing programme and the #towaRower (bike delivery) pilot project, aimed at Łódź entrepreneurs, allowing them to benefit from funding for electrically assisted cargo bikes to use to help run their business.



#### "Łódź Underground"

The construction of the cross-town tunnel is the largest strategic infrastructure investment in the city, implemented as part of the New Centre of Łódź vision, which includes the revitalisation of almost 100 ha of city centre land. The construction of the underground tunnel is a continuation of works related to the expansion of the Łódź Fabryczna station.





#### Tramway for Łódź

The Tramway for Łódź project is another large-scale investment, directed towards modernising and expanding low-emission forms of public transport. As part of the investment, the city has modernised 11 km of  $tracks \, and \, added \, 2 \, km \, of \, new \, track \, to \, the \, tram$ map of Łódź, on Broniewskiego Street and at the junction of Marszałków junction and Łódź Fabryczna station. There are further plans to renovate the tram depot in Chocianowice. The Łódź authorities have purchased 30 low-floor trams that will serve all tram lines, eliminating, among other benefits, access issues for people with disabilities. The city has already

renovated 55 km of tram lines, including the rebuilding of the WZ route, along which a new 17 km tram route with a section to Janów and Olechów has been created. By the end of 2023, Łódź is planning to modernise a further 10 km of tramlines. Successive modernisation of the tramway infrastructure and construction of new lines enables comfortable east-west and north-south travel, encouraging Łódź residents to make increased use of public transport.

#### After modernisation in 2016 became one of Europe's most modern multimodal transport hubs combining rail, long-distance bus and public transport.

Ultimately, the cross-town tunnel will connect three stations: Łódź Kaliska, Łódź Żabieniec and Łódź Fabryczna, which will become a through station. PKP PKL will build three transfer stations: Łódź Śródmieście at the junction of Kościuszki and Zielona Streets, Łódź Polesie, located behind Manufaktura, near Karski Gardens, and Łódź Koziny, at the junction of Włókniarzy Avenue and Drewnowska Street, where the single-track tunnels branch off. The change in the railway map of the city and region will enable travel through the very centre of Łódź, on trains serving regional and long-distance lines on the east-west and north-south axes, significantly improving mobility within the Łódź agglomeration as a whole. The construction of the cross-town tunnel will also increase the capacity of the Łódź railway junction, improving everyday travel by integrating the new stops of the 'Łódź Underground' with public transport, cycling and walking. Improving transport conditions in the city will also enhance the quality of the urban space by reducing noise and developing urban areas reclaimed as a result of the shift of rail transport below ground. Completion of the cross-town tunnel is scheduled for the end of 2022

#### **Electric vehicle charging** stations in Łódź



Alternating current



# URBAN REVITALISATION



n a literal sense, revitalisation is understood

to be the restoration of life. In relation to urban areas, however, it refers to bringing degraded parts of the city out of crisis through integrated action for the benefit of the local community, space and economy. Revitalisation is a long-term process, and its objective is not only to beautify rundown parts of the city, but also to supplement them with new functions, contributing to increasing the quality of life of the inhabitants in the process. To facilitate comprehensive revitalisation measures with the participation of local communities in the designated area of Łódź, the "Revitalisation Programme for Łódź 2026+" was adopted. It is worth noting that it is the first such document in Poland. One of the first stages necessary in defining the area of Lodz, where revitalisation measures would apply, was to determinate the geographical limits of the degraded area - the parts of the city where negative social phenomena are concentrated. The next step was to determine the revitalisation area, which might cover either some or all of the degraded area. In Łódź, the degraded area coincides with the revitalisation area and its extent was established by a Łódź City Council resolution in 2016.

As part of the revitalisation, social activities are also carried out, the effect of which is to prevent the social exclusion of people living in revitalised areas. The activities undertaken include courses and training aimed at improving the skillsets and professional qualifications of the inhabitants of Łódź.





#### Special Revitalisation Zone

legal act regulating revitalisation processes in Poland is the Act of 9 October 2015 on revitalisation, which makes it easier for municipalities to carry out revitalisation activities within the framework of the Municipal Revitalisation Programmes (MRP) they adopt, allowing them to benefit from special measures such as Special Revitalisation Zones. These zones are established in the revitalisation area by the City Council for a period of up to 10 years, and their introduction facilitates the pursuit of activities within the MRP thanks to special legal regulations and facilities. The Special Revitalisation Zone was established in the entire revitalisation area of Łódź in 2017, enabling the city, among other things, to organise an annual competition for subsidies to renovate buildings.

# The New Centre of Łódź

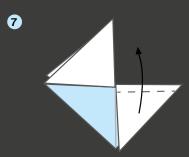
The New Centre of Łódź is an area of 100 ha. combining business, commerce, culture and transport. It is located in the city centre in the quarter including Narutowicza, Kopcińskiego, Tuwima and Piotrkowska Streets. The NCŁ programme includes, among other features, investments such as the construction of the cross-town tunnel, Grohman Alley, the construction of an underground road, and the revitalisation of urban space at 3 and Moniuszki Street (Mediategue), and 10 Tuwima Street (Urban Activity Factory). The New Centre of Łódź is one of the key elements of the project to revitalise the city centre. In the area originally planned as a large office centre, a different concept was perceived - that of a comfortable, attractive district combining office, residential and service functions - thanks to which Łódź may attract new inhabitants. The revitalisation of the New Centre of Łódź is to be a stimulus for the acceleration of the renewal process of the Łódź Metropolitan Area (broadly conceived as the centre) and the inward development of the city. The other strategic objectives of the NCŁ Programme include: improving the quality of life and increasing the confidence of the inhabitants, increasing transport accessibility, implementing improvements to the transport infrastructure, and making effective use of innovative solutions. The New Centre of Łódź is to be an inspiring, open and friendly place for everyone, an incubator for new ideas and technologies, and thus an impulse for the development of the entire city.





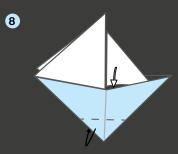
## Księży Młyn

In the past, the Księży Młyn housing estate has been an inspiration for artists - including Andrzej Wajda, whose film adaptation of "The Promised Land" was shot there. The investment, in progress since 2012, consists of a thorough renovation and reconstruction of 47 buildings - including multi-family housing and outbuildings, as well as storage and utility rooms - located at Księży Młyn, Przędzalniana, Fabryczna and Tymienieckiego Streets. It is worth noting that already in 2017, the Księży Młyn revitalisation project received an award under the European URBACT programme for "Best Urban Practice" for its model cooperation in working with people, solving residents' problems and sensitivity to their needs. Revitalisation of this area of Łódź is takes place under the "Szlakiem architektury włókienniczej" ("Textile Architecture Route") project, and its results will include the improved quality and aesthetics of public spaces, the increased safety of residents, as well as an increase in the amount of green areas. The Księży Młyn post-factory, historic, industrial and workers' housing estate will become a friendly and more accessible place for pedestrians. cyclists and drivers alike. When the investment is completed, the area will host, among other things, the Księży Młyn Club, a day care centre for children, a post office, a restaurant, a Social Integration Club and numerous creative workshops. Additionally, new benches, bicycle racks and waste bins will be installed, the existing lighting in the area will be extended, and the site of a former railway siding will be transformed into a pedestrian and bicycle



#### Famuły Poznańskiego

Famuly Poznańskiego is located in the immediate vicinity of Manufaktura and the Poznański Palace. It consists of three residential buildings with a usable area of 30,000 sq m, forming the frontage of Ogrodowa Street. Intended for employees of a nearby factory, it is one of the few estates of workers houses left in this part of Europe. The factory houses were built as a result of the dynamic development of the Poznański company in the years 1879-1896. The project of revitalisation of this area encompasses the renovation of the factory houses, together with the urban space, and a reconstruction of Ogrodowa Street. Once the reconstruction is completed, the post-factory interiors of the characteristic brick workers' houses will be used, among other uses, for housing and office-service functions. The revitalisation aims to exploit the investment potential of this part of the city - the proximity of green areas, historic surroundings and location in the immediate vicinity of the city's main attractions. The renovation of three houses built by Izrael Poznanski, planned by the city, is to be carried out with the participation of a private partner. The investment will likely be the largest revitalisation and mixed-use project carried out so far in Poland in the form of a public-private partnership.



put a small sail on the boat, fold the base back so the boat can stand up



## **REVITALISATION** MIXED-USE PROJECTS



he numerous revitalizations of neglected post-industrial areas, most often located in the city centre, with historic post-factory buildings, are certainly a distinctive feature of Łódź in comparison to other Polish cities. Thanks to such investments, unique places with original architectural concepts are appearing across the city map.

These are city-building projects which, by combining different functions, best meet the changing expectations of citizens today. The key in mixed-use projects is not placing buildings with different functions next to each other, but to create a leisure space that is "alive", i.e. services and cultural centres drawing on the character of the place and its surroundings. In Łódź, successive developers are rising to the challenge of creating extraordinary investments, distinguished by a unique sense of place and interesting architecture.

#### GEYER GARDENS

The revitalization of the former Ludwik Geyer factory buildings from the beginning of the 19th century, is the work of MONNARI TRA-DE S.A. Capital Group. Geyer Gardens, with an area of 10.5 ha, are located in the quarter around Piotrkowska. Wólczańska. Czerwona and Sieradzka Streets. The complex will soon combine residential with business, culture, food and drink functions. In addition, due to the extensive park across the street, there will also be ample opportunities for relaxation and recreation. The unique atmosphere of the place is enhanced by the numerous events hosted there, such as summer cinema, open-air exhibitions, concerts, fairs and markets, along with the nearby Textile Museum. The investment has been included in the Łódź Municipal Revitalisation Programme. About 10,000 sq m of the renovated space has been designated for commercial functions, including offices, shops, a gym, and restaurants. The plans also include the Museum of Printing in one of the revitalised buildings and an educational path.



#### PIOTRKOWSKA ZONE 217 & PROGRESS ZONE

Piotrkowska Zone 217 is a revitalisation of 19th century buildings of Józef John's iron foundry, carried out by OKAM Capital. The complex, located in the centre of Łódź at 217 Piotrkowska Street and 132 Kościuszki Avenue, is another unique mixed-use project on the map of Łódź, where business is intertwined with culture and entertainment.

The renovated buildings offer approx. 4,000 sq m of office space, along with retail, service and food and drink units with unique interiors. Regular events, including breakfast markets, Christmas markets and culinary festivals, give the place a unique character, creating an urban space that "lives".

As part of the next phase of the development, the residential function, PROGRESS Zone, was launched. The construction of 276 flats, together with commercial premises, with a total area of 11,400 sq m was begun in December 2021. Both zones are mutually complementary places. The PROGRESS zone includes a green courtyard, a gym, and a coworking space. Very close by, the Piotrkowska 217 Zone will offer entertainment, culture, food and drink, and a sandy beach.



#### OFF PIOTRKOWSKA

As part of the revitalisation of the former Franciszek Ramisch textile factory on Piotrkowska Street, a unique mix of office, retail and leisure functions was created. Over the years, the complex developed by OPG Property Professionals has become one of the most recognisable points on the Łódź map, attracting visitors with its unique blend of retail, services and eateries. The crowning achievement for OFF Piotrkowska was taking first place in the National Geographic Traveller magazine's 7 New Wonders of Poland list. The historic red brick buildings are complemented by new facilities, including the Teal building and the thoroughly renovated historic Sepia building. The Fern building, with Łódź's first public roof garden, hosting a relaxation zone and deckchairs, a summer cinema and viewing terrace, is at the planning stage.

#### **MONOPOLIS**

MONOPOLIS is a unique project, based on a combination of historical and modern architecture and combining the business and culture arenas. The project is addressed towards the business environment, as well as to the local community. In the revitalized buildings of the former Vodka Monopoly concern dating back to 1902, a space was created for cultural events, leisure activities and relaxation. Guests can enjoy a wide range of cultural and recreational activities, music events, exhibitions and theatre performances. The young can find a place for development and fun in the children's club. Monopolis is a place filled with a variety of cuisines from all corners of the world. The project was voted best mixed-use development at the MIPIM Awards 2020.







## **REVITALISATION** MIXED-USE PROJECTS





#### WI-MA WIDZEWSKA MANUFAKTURA

The revitalization of the 140-year-old historical buildings at 135 Piłsudskiego Street will be carried out by Cavatina. The 4 ha plot contains four buildings listed on the register of monuments as a post-industrial urban complex. The investment envisages the development of a diversified space of about 55,000 sq m, offering offices, flats for rent, and retail and service units. As part of the revitalization of the complex, elements of the former factory buildings will be preserved and the original urban layout of the area will be maintained. The project also includes an open space for rest and recreation, including food and drink and cultural zones. A distinctive element of the investment will be a 100-year-old park with a fountain, renovated by the investor.

#### **FUZJA**

A complex of historical buildings located in the city centre at 13 Tymienieckiego Street, which is being revitalised by Echo Investment. The project is being developed in the historic buildings of the former Karol Scheibler textile factory on an 8 ha plot. The complex, open to the city, will comprise 20 buildings with a total usable area of 90,000 sq m. 14 of the buildings are historical structures and they will be given new functions. The project will combine office, retail and service, catering and residential buildings, along with a new city square (Anna's Gardens) located next to the historic Scheibler power plant. There will also be publicly accessible, green spaces totalling nearly 4 ha.









#### **TEXTORIAL PARK II**

St. Paul's Developments Polska will revitalise a 2 ha post-industrial plot on the site of the former Karol Wilhelm Scheibler textile factory in Księży Młyn. As part of the investment, the developer will thoroughly renovate two 8,000 sq m historic cotton warehouses and construct modern 5-storey buildings. The complex will have commercial, office and residential functions. The total area of Textorial Park II will be 40,000 sq m, of which 9,000 sq m will be for attractive public space with a square and green areas.



# SUSTAINABLE REVITALISATION



#### ZIELONY BY SYNERGIA

The Synergia Business Centre is an office complex consisting of revitalized, post-factory buildings harmonized with modern office buildings, located in the very centre of Łódź. The revitalization of the only modernist factory in Łódź, and construction of the first sustainable office building on Wólczańska Street, is a project being led by the family-owned Synergia Hub Marzec.

The first passive office building in Łódź - Zielony by Synergia - proves that it is possible to build in harmony with nature. The building filled with and surrounded by greenery that is an integral part of the architecture, combines the needs of the city, its residents, tenants and the investor. Applied ideas and features, such as a windowless south wall, photovoltaic roof panels, a system of intelligent roller blinds, a water retention system, a teaching and "feeding" bee yard, and green terraces on the north side, make the office building a leading example of sustainable architecture in Łódź.



















THE AIM OF THE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN
IN ŁÓDŹ IS TO CREATE A CITY THAT IS
A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE. TO DO THIS,
EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND CLOSE
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE CITY AND
ITS INHABITANTS AND INVESTORS, WITHIN
THE FRAMEWORK OF THE IDEA OF A CITY
CREATED TOGETHER, IS ESSENTIAL.



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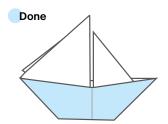
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