METROPOLITAN AREAS AND AGGLOMERATIONS – THE POWER OF AN INTEGRATED APPROACH



METROPOLITAN AREAS AND AGGLOMERATIONS IN CZ

EDUCATION

COMPETITIVENESS

TOURISM AND CULTURE



TRANSPORT

SOCIAL AND HEALTH SECTOR

ENVIRONMENT



Source: The city of Olomouc

DEAR READERS,

You are holding the Metropolitan Areas and Agglomerations (MOAs) of the Czech Republic brochure, which shows that an integrated approach and cooperation at metropolitan and agglomeration level brings concrete results. Metropolitan areas and agglomerations are functional units that connect large cities to their natural hinterland and are key drivers of economic growth, innovation and competitiveness.

Thanks to the Integrated Territorial Investments (ITI) and the Integrated Territorial Development Plans (ITDs) instruments, more than 1,500 projects worth CZK 83 billion have been implemented in these regions, bringing tangible results: modernised transport infrastructure, new capacities in kindergartens, specialised classrooms in primary schools and the development of science and research, social services and cultural heritage. This enables us to plan development in a broader context, not just within the boundaries of individual villages. This is the only way to address the issues that affect people's daily lives today.

That is why we, together with the mayors of 14 statutory cities, have established the Union of Metropolitan Areas and Agglomerations of the Czech Republic. The Association brings a new platform for cooperation between metropolitan areas and agglomerations and government, regions and European institutions. It will enable us to engage better with international programmes and directly managed funds, to plan key development projects jointly and to deepen partnerships that will enable us to engage private, research and other partners for future investments. Our ambition is to contribute to making metropolitan areas and agglomerations one of the pillars of the development of the entire Czech Republic.

Thank you to all partners – for example, municipalities, schools, social and cultural institutions, companies and other organisations. It is only thanks to them that metropolitan areas and agglomerations become places where it is good to live, study, do business and create.

Using concrete integrated solutions from metropolitan areas and agglomerations, the brochure shows that strategic planning is not an abstract method but a practical tool with a real impact. Integrated solutions can thus become an inspiring example of good practice for the whole Czech Republic. I wish you pleasant reading.

Miroslav Žbánek

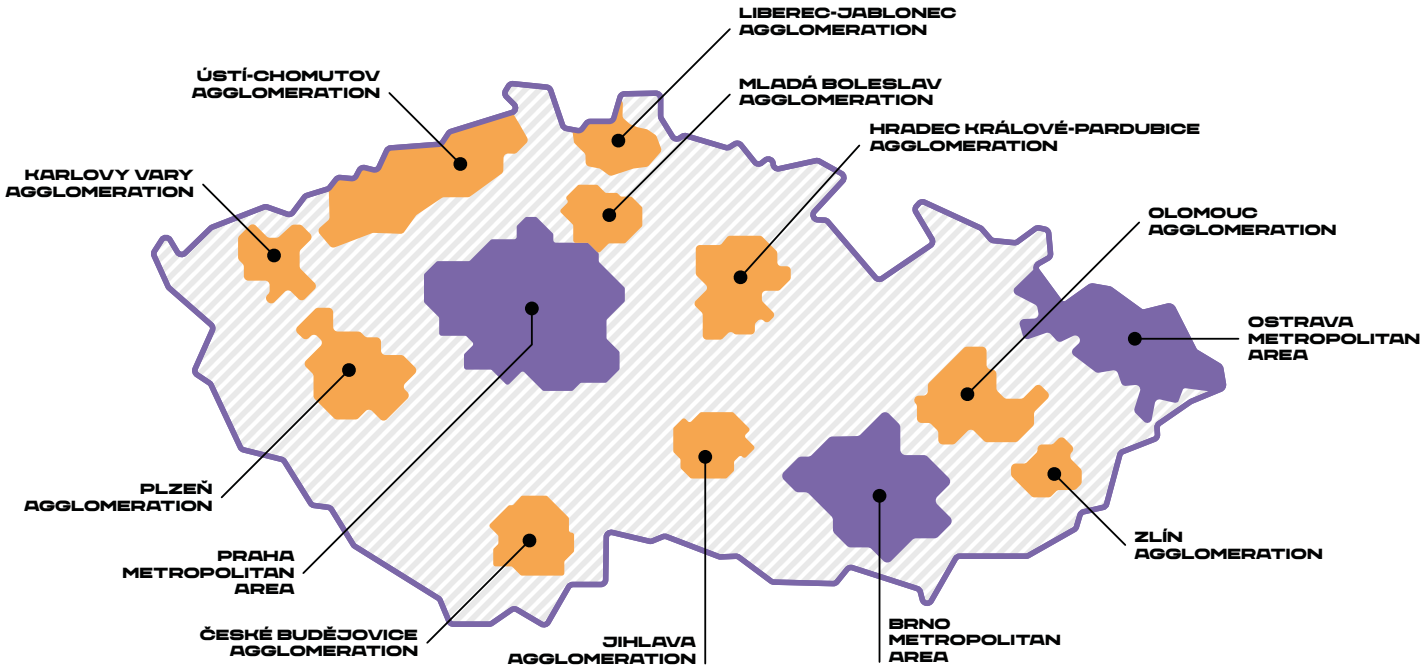
Chairman of the Union of Metropolitan Areas and Agglomerations of the Czech Republic

METROPOLITAN AREAS AND AGGLOMERATIONS – CENTRES OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Metropolitan areas and agglomerations are functional units made up of large cities and their natural hinterland. They are defined on the basis of everyday connections – commuting to work, to schools, to services – and they are the key drivers of the development of the entire Czech Republic.

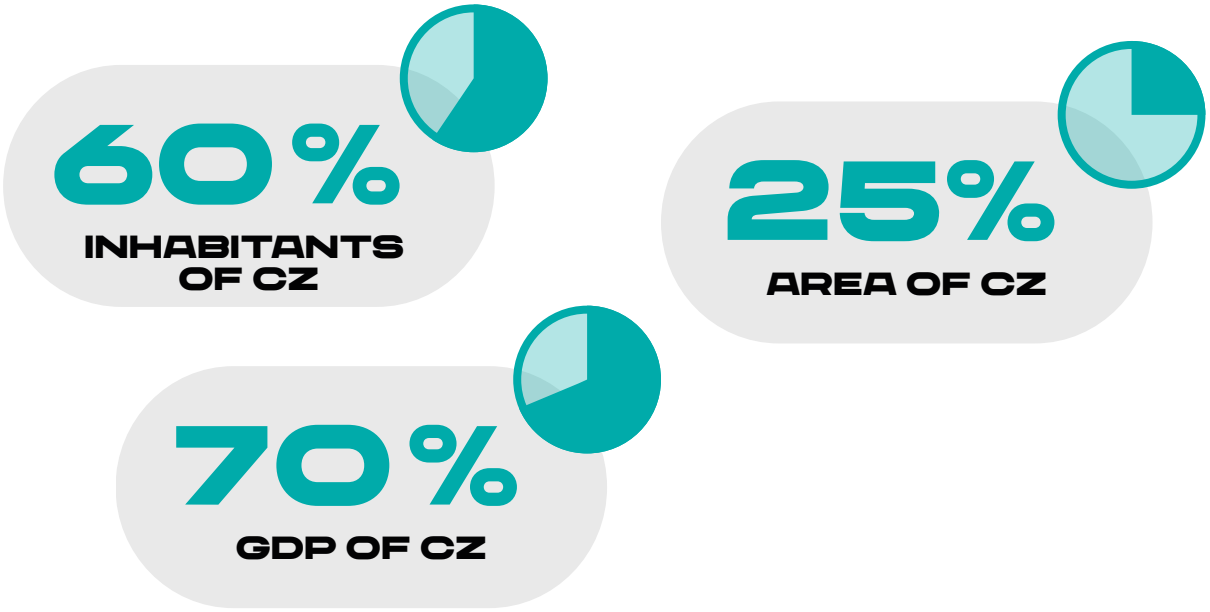
There are 13 of them – three metropolitan areas (Prague, Brno, Ostrava) and ten agglomerations: Ústí-Chomutov, Olomouc, Hradec Králové-Pardubice, Plzeň, Liberec-Jablonec, České Budějovice, Karlovy Vary, Zlín, Mladá Boleslav and Jihlava.

MAP OF METROPOLITAN AREAS AND AGGLOMERATIONS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC



MOA METROPOLITAN AREAS AND AGGLOMERATIONS IN CZ

Together, the MOAs cover approximately 25% of the country's territory, comprise almost a third of all municipalities and are home to 60% of the population. Their importance is underlined by the fact that they generate more than 70% of the total gross domestic product (GDP) of the Czech Republic. They are key poles of economic growth, competitiveness and innovation.



It is in these areas that the most important investments and projects are created, which have an impact far beyond the borders of individual cities. It shows that development cannot be planned in isolation – what happens in one village affects the whole area. This is why MOAs are taking an integrated approach that enables a search for common solutions across sectors and territories. This is achieved through the Integrated Territorial Investment instrument, implemented during the 2014–2020 and 2021–2027 programming periods; in the current period, it has been merged with the ITDs instrument, which was applied only during the 2014–2020 programming period. These instruments link financial resources from various operational programmes and provide space for the implementation of strategic projects with an impact on the whole territory. These include large infrastructure projects (transport terminals, tram lines, bypasses), the development of science and research and projects in the spheres of education, the environment and culture. Both instruments thus show that the integrated approach is not just a methodological concept, but a practical tool that brings measurable benefits to the citizens of the Czech Republic. Starting with the 2014–2020 programming period, more than 1,500 projects worth CZK 83 billion have been financed in the Czech Republic thanks to the ITDs and the ITI, which have improved the quality of life of inhabitants and the competitiveness of Czech metropolises and agglomerations.

This cooperation brings economies of scale, more efficient use of resources and higher-quality investments, as development is planned as a whole and not according to administrative boundaries. An integrated approach makes it possible to combine multiple interrelated activities into one project, ensuring better coordination of transport, infrastructure, education or public services while opening up space for sharing experiences and strengthening trust between actors.

The future of metropolitan areas and agglomerations lies in their ability to address challenges that go beyond municipal boundaries: affordable housing, quality transport, adaptation to climate change, innovation and strengthening social cohesion. In this brochure, we therefore present specific examples of successful integrated solutions from individual MOAs that show how joint planning and cooperation bring tangible results for the whole Czech Republic.

TRANSPORT: THE LARGEST INVESTMENTS OF METROPOLITAN AREAS AND AGGLOMERATIONS

Transport is undoubtedly a crucial issue for any metropolitan area or agglomeration. Their centres naturally attract residents from the immediate vicinity for work, study, services and leisure activities, which places demanding requirements on transport links.

Because of the ever-increasing intensity of traffic on the roads, individual areas and agglomerations are focusing on promoting modes of transport that reduce the need for cars and, on the contrary, encourage transport by public transport, cycling and walking. So that these modes of transport are at least as fast and comfortable as driving.

Integrated solutions for metropolitan areas and agglomerations financed through the ITI and the ITDs instruments thus focus on the expansion and modernisation of interchanges, car parks, public transport lines, cycle paths and smart traffic management systems (e.g. traffic lights at intersections).



MODERNISATION OF THE TROLLEYBUS FLEET

Source: Hradec Králové-Pardubice agglomeration

MODERNISATION OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT

In the very centres of areas and agglomerations, considerable attention is paid to the promotion of public transport. New vehicles are being purchased – trams, buses powered by compressed natural gas (CNG), electric buses or partial trolleybuses, i.e. ones that can run on battery power in addition to the overhead line. The expansion and improvement of rolling stock facilities is also important – depot and substation buildings in many metropolitan areas and agglomerations are undergoing complete renovation.

Cities with tram services are focusing on expanding or upgrading their lines. Brno has embarked on two of the city's biggest transport investments in the last



NEW TRAM LINE TO THE CAMPUS

Source: Brno metropolitan area



VISUALISATION OF THE KAMECHY TRAM LINE

Source: Brno metropolitan area

50 years – while the extended tram line to the university campus in Bohunice is already in operation, a new line to the Kamechy housing estate is currently under construction. In the Ústí-Chomutov agglomeration, the modernisation and reconstruction of the tram line between Most and Litvínov is in full swing, and includes, among other things, modifications of stops to make them barrier-free, the installation of new information systems, the acquisition of modern trams and the construction of a new transport terminal in Litvínov. And in Plzeň the construction of the line to Borská pole was completed. The development is not only about trams. In the Zlín agglomeration, the extension of trolleybus lines is being prepared in Příluky, Březnická Street, in the adjacent Gahurova-Vodní-Zarámí streets, and in Otrokovice. A new trolleybus line was also built in the northern part of Jihlava.

Since 2014, 34 projects for the construction and modernisation of 65 kilometres of tram and trolleybus lines have been supported in metropolitan areas and agglomerations. By the end of 2029, another 30 projects are planned to be implemented with over 104 kilometres.

MODERNISATION OF TRANSFER TERMINALS AND P+R CAR PARKS

The modernisation of transfer terminals where people can conveniently transfer from one mode to another is crucial for the development of low-emission public transport modes. A total of six terminals have already been built in the Hradec Králové-Pardubice agglomeration to facilitate commuting throughout the region. These are terminals in Pardubice, Hradec Králové, Přelouč, Chrudim, Jaroměř and Chlumec nad Cidlinou.

A number of transport terminals are also linked to the construction of Park and Ride (P+R) car parks, which limit the entry of cars into congested city centres. Thanks to P+R, people do not have to drive the entire journey, but can change to an available train, bus, tram or other line. In the Ostrava metropolitan area, for example, one of the most important



MOST TRANSFER TERMINAL

Source: Ústí-Chomutov agglomeration

and largest interchanges is under construction – the Frýdlantské mosty in the centre of Ostrava on the Náměstí republiky square, which is scheduled for completion in 2027.



PURCHASE OF MODERNISED TRAMS

Source: Olomouc agglomeration



LITVÍNOV TRANSPORT TERMINAL

Source: Ústí-Chomutov agglomeration

DEVELOPMENT OF TELEMATICS

Better passability at intersections (especially for integrated rescue system and public transport vehicles), fluidity, safety, reduction of accidents and shorter travel times, but also the reduction of fuel consumption, greenhouse gas emissions and noise. These are the goals of transport telematics projects, which link information technology with transport infrastructure.

An example is the integrated solution of the Mladá Boleslav agglomeration, where at a total of 49 intersections they are modernising traffic lights, connecting signalling at level crossings with urban traffic control, installing surveillance systems for real-time traffic monitoring and telematic elements in public transport vehicles and modernising passenger information systems. They have also established a traffic information centre which collects and analyses data from various traffic sources to help manage traffic efficiently, and they have introduced a new check-in system on buses.

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR CYCLISTS

The network of cycle paths is also being expanded in individual areas and agglomerations. Cycling is one of the most popular forms of recreation and leisure. It is also a useful alternative to car transport when travelling to work or school or for services and produces far fewer emissions than car transport. For these reasons, cyclists deserve their own infrastructure – 175 kilometres of cycle paths and cycle routes have already been built in metropolitan areas and agglomerations since 2014, and a further 124 kilometres will have been built by 2029. Individual cycle paths and cycle routes are connected into complex networks. These include, for example, the network of cycle paths in Šlapanice in the Brno metropolitan area, the Elbe Trail in the Hradec Králové-Pardubice agglomeration, or the connection of Ostrava with the Beskydy Mountains along the Ostravice River and many others.



THE MOSS AND GINGERBREAD CYCLE PATH

Source: Hradec Králové-Pardubice agglomeration

BY THE END OF 2029, THANKS TO THE ITI, THE MOAS WILL HAVE BUILT:

46 NEW OR UPGRADED TRANSFER TERMINALS, OF WHICH 39 ARE ALREADY IN OPERATION

45 NEW P+R CAR PARKS, 34 OF WHICH ARE ALREADY COMPLETED

8,800 NEW CAR PARKING SPACES, OF WHICH 6,900 ARE COMPLETED

4,550 BICYCLE PARKING SPACES, OF WHICH 3,350 ARE COMPLETED

SOURCE: MONITORING SYSTEM (MS 2014+) AND MONITORING SYSTEM (MS 2021+), 2026, OWN PROCESSING

SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION: FROM KINDERGARTENS TO DIGITAL INNOVATION

Suburbanisation is one of the typical features of metropolitan areas and agglomerations. The relocation of people from cities to surrounding villages brings new challenges that require finding appropriate solutions. One of the impacts of suburbanisation is the growing number of children growing up in communities outside the core city. This puts pressure on the capacity of kindergartens and primary schools, while at the same time increasing the demands on the quality of teaching to meet current trends and the needs of the future.

That is why we at the MOAs are directing our support to both the expansion of existing kindergartens and the construction of entirely new facilities. In the 2014–2020 and 2021–2027 programming periods, 73 kindergartens were supported thanks to the ITDs and the ITI. The integrated approach has enabled the creation of new classrooms, sanitary and operational facilities and space for teachers. These investments not only improve the conditions for pre-school education, but also contribute to the development of the quality of life in the municipalities.



VOCATIONAL CLASSROOM AT SIROTKOVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Source: Brno metropolitan area

Support is also targeted at primary and secondary schools. Vocational classrooms for science, technology, crafts and languages, as well as classrooms for informatics and robotics, are being modernised. These projects contribute to innovative and progressive ways of learning and support the development of digital and technical competences. Thanks to the reconstruction, modern equipment and accessibility of the premises, pupils have wider opportunities for further studies and at the same time they gain better preparation for the labour market.

VIRTUAL REALITY AND ROBOTS IN SCHOOLS

The Ostrava metropolitan area is looking at education in a new and bold way. In order to develop computer literacy and prepare students for the digital future, its representatives have decided to promote the introduction of elements of virtual reality in schools in the metropolitan area.

The integrated solution has resulted in 70 projects in primary schools and two non-formal education projects, which aim to enrich the teaching of engineering, science, crafts and foreign languages with digital technologies – from virtual reality to humanoid robots. The intention of the solution is to arouse pupils' interest in technical and scientific fields, to prepare them well for further education and to strengthen their digital and technical skills. Support for selected subjects



Source: Ostrava metropolitan area

also strengthens the technological focus of the Ostrava metropolitan area, which its representatives perceive as a competitive advantage within the whole country.

The funds allocated through the ITI to support education in the Ostrava metropolitan area have enabled schools and non-formal education institutions to purchase virtual and augmented reality glasses, humanoid robots and related equipment, such as software, and to provide fast internet access in buildings. Support was also directed to minor building modifications and the acquisition of furniture and equipment for classrooms, laboratories and workshops. At the same time, the modernised spaces had to meet the barrier-free condition to be accessible to all pupils.

However, the support from the Ostrava metropolitan area did not stop with the purchase of equipment. Educators communicate regularly online and share their experiences and examples of good practice. This created space for collaboration between schools across the metropolitan area and for the effective use of the technologies that had been acquired in teaching.

EDUCATION IN MOAS IN NUMBERS:

58 % OF ALL CHILDREN IN KINDERGARTENS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC ARE IN THE MOAS

61 % OF ALL PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC STUDY IN THE MOAS

89 % OF ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS ARE LOCATED IN THE MOAS

547 NEW OR UPGRADED VOCATIONAL CLASSROOMS WILL BE SUPPORTED IN THE MOAS THROUGH THE ITI BY THE END OF 2029, OF WHICH 226 ARE ALREADY COMPLETED

SOURCE: CZECH STATISTICAL OFFICE (CZSO), 2024, OWN PROCESSING; MS 2014+ AND MS 2021+, 2026, OWN PROCESSING

METROPOLITAN AREAS AND AGGLOMERATIONS IN NUMBERS

TOTAL NUMBER OF PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED THROUGH THE ITI AND THE ITDS: 1,500

2014–2020 31 BILLION SPENT, 2021–2027 ALLOCATION 52 BILLION

70 % OF CZECH GDP

25 % OF THE AREA OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

60 % OF THE POPULATION OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

68 % OF ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE SUBJECTS

1,729 MUNICIPALITIES (28 % OF MUNICIPALITIES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC)

319 INHABITANTS PER KM²; THE CZECH AVERAGE IS 139 INHABITANTS PER KM²

IN 2024, 60% OF CHILDREN IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC WERE BORN IN AN MOA

THANKS TO THE ITI AND THE ITDS, WE HAVE REALISED MORE THAN

65 KILOMETRES OF NEW OR UPGRADED TRAM AND TROLLEYBUS LINES

34 PROJECTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND MODERNISATION OF TRAM AND TROLLEYBUS LINES

175 KILOMETRES OF NEW CYCLE PATHS AND CYCLE ROUTES

73 PROJECTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OR EXPANSION OF KINDERGARTEN CAPACITIES

437 PROJECTS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

231 SOCIAL PROJECTS

58 ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

IN THE MOAS THERE ARE

78 %

of all the large companies in the Czech Republic

69 %

of all the medium-sized enterprises in the Czech Republic

65 %

of all the small businesses in the Czech Republic

76 %

of all the economic operators in professional, scientific and technical activities

BY 2029, THE ITI WILL HAVE IMPLEMENTED IN THE MOAS

104 KM

of new or upgraded **tram and trolleybus lines**

30 PROJECTS

for the construction and modernisation of **tram and trolleybus lines**

124 KM

of cycle paths and **cycle routes**

33 PROJECTS

to build or **expand** the capacity of **kindergartens**

71 PROJECTS

in primary schools

80 PROJECTS

social projects

122 PROJECTS

environmental projects

164,692 NEW FLATS COMPLETED IN 2018–2024 = 67 % OF ALL THE NEW FLATS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

17,737 FLATS COMPLETED IN 2024 = 65 % OF ALL THE FLATS COMPLETED IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

SOURCE: CZSO, 2024, OWN PROCESSING; MS 2014+ AND MS 2021+, 2026, OWN PROCESSING; THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC, 2024, OWN PROCESSING

SOCIAL COHESION AS AN OBJECTIVE OF METROPOLITAN AREAS AND AGGLOMERATIONS

Social projects play a crucial role for the most vulnerable groups – the elderly, people with disabilities and those in housing need or at risk of social exclusion. In addition to transport and education, it is necessary to take care of those in metropolitan areas and agglomerations who require regular social, health and palliative care. That is why we support projects that increase the availability and quality of social services.

THE POWER OF AN INTEGRATED APPROACH – LINKING INVESTMENTS AND SERVICES

IThe integrated approach applied through the ITI and the ITDs combines investment and non-investment activities. The construction of facilities alone would not be sufficient without client-oriented services – that is why hard projects, funded by the Integrated Regional Operational Programme, are complemented by soft projects from the Operational Programme Employment. The result is a comprehensive system that supports not only housing and care, but also the prevention of social problems and the long-term integration of clients.

An example of a comprehensive approach is the integrated solution in Mladá Boleslav. It built on the work of the Centre 83 residential centre and expanded services for people with mental and combined disabilities. Four interconnected projects have created an activation centre with creative workshops, a home for people with low-functioning autism, supported housing and a community café providing jobs. The whole system offers clients a path from day care to housing to employment.

An integrated solution was built on a similar principle in the Jihlava agglomeration, where the city embarked on ten thematically linked projects in cooperation with non-profit and religious organisations. The investment part included the reconstruction and con-



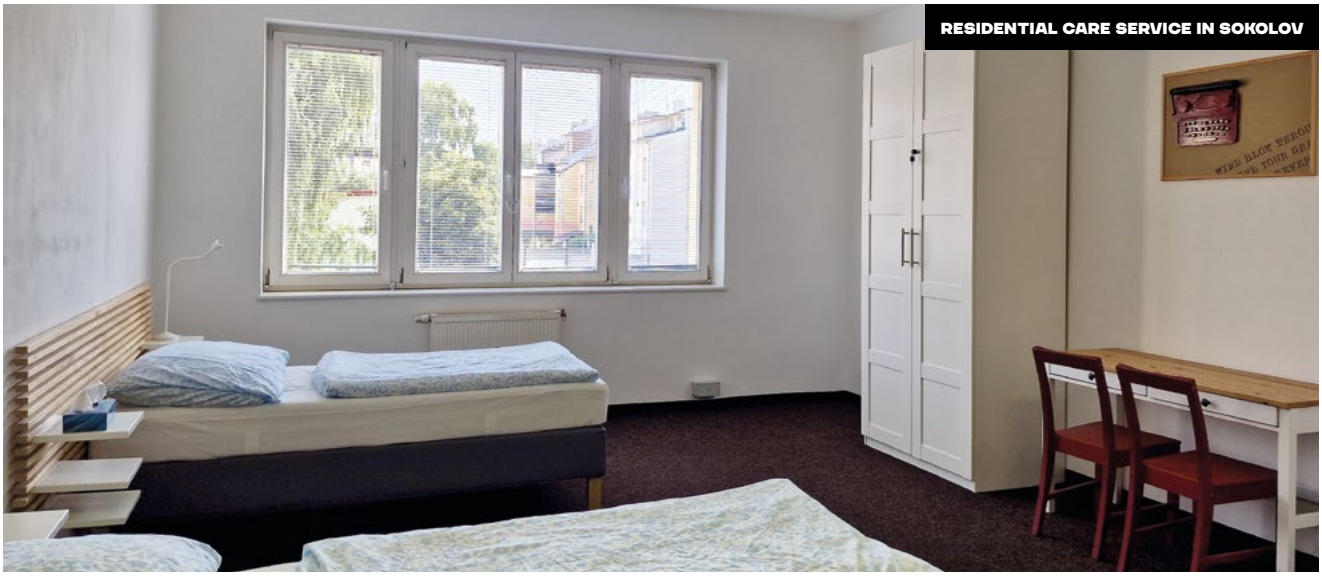
HOME FOR PEOPLE WITH LOW-FUNCTIONING AUTISM

Source: Mladá Boleslav agglomeration



NEW VEHICLES FOR THE BÁRKA HOME HOSPICE

Source: Jihlava agglomeration



RESIDENTIAL CARE SERVICE IN SOKOLOV

Source: Karlovy Vary agglomeration

struction of day care centres, shelters and supported housing and the purchase of vehicles for hospice services. Subsequently, projects focusing on social work, therapeutic programmes for people recovering from addiction or the development of community services were also supported. Here, an integrated approach has helped to widen the availability of services across the area and promote the inclusion of people in difficult life situations.



SOCIAL HOUSING IN KARLOVY VARY

Source: Karlovy Vary agglomeration



SOCIAL HOUSING IN KARLOVY VARY

Source: Karlovy Vary agglomeration

SOCIAL SERVICES AS A STEPPING STONE IN THE KARLOVY VARY AGGLOMERATION

The Karlovy Vary agglomeration conceived the social area with the motto that the network of services should function like a trampoline – to catch people in need, support them and help them get back on their feet. Five investment projects were completed, which strengthened the capacity of social housing and outreach services, and five soft projects aimed at, for example, promoting employment for the elderly, the reintegration of people into society after serving a sentence or the development of a community and intergenerational centre. The integrated solution thus covers the whole spectrum of needs – from housing and mental health care to support in the labour market.

SOCIAL HOUSING IN THE LIBEREC-JABLONEC AGGLOMERATION

Integrated solutions in the field of social housing can be found in the Liberec-Jablonec agglomeration. It was possible to link the construction and reconstruction of social housing with accompanying services. As of 2023, 77 social housing units had been built here, complementing three soft projects. For example, the Housing Centre Liberec provides social work, housing loss prevention and support in settling in, and the introduction of caretaker positions filled directly by people from the target groups is innovative. These workers keep the houses running, help prevent conflict and strengthen community life. Through a combination of investment and non-investment activities, it has been possible to create an environment that offers not only a roof over people's heads, but also support to maintain housing and return to normal life.

These examples show that an integrated approach is indispensable in the social field. Linking investments and services ensures long-term sustainability, more efficient use of resources and a higher quality of life for a broader spectrum of the population. Social services thus become not only a tool for assistance, but also for the prevention of social exclusion and a path to a more cohesive society.



SHELTER FOR MEN IN JIHLAVA

Source: Jihlava agglomeration



SOCIAL HOUSING IN LIBEREC

Source: Liberec-Jablonec agglomeration



PSYCHOLOGICAL CONSULTATION ROOM IN SOKOLOV

Source: Karlovy Vary agglomeration

SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN MOAS IN NUMBERS

THE CAPACITY OF ITI-FUNDED SUPPORTED SERVICES AND SOCIAL WORK WILL INCREASE BY 4,948 PEOPLE BY THE END OF 2029, OF WHOM CAPACITY FOR 3,869 HAS ALREADY BEEN CREATED

457 SOCIAL HOUSING UNITS WILL BE SUPPORTED BY THE END OF 2029, OF WHICH 375 ARE ALREADY IN USE

THE MOAS CONTAIN 52% OF ALL HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

SOURCE: CZSO, 2024, OWN PROCESSING; MS 2014+ AND MS 2021+, 2026, OWN PROCESSING

SUSTAINABLE MOA DEVELOPMENT: BLUE-GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE, BROWNFIELDS AND WASTE

The development of metropolitan areas and agglomerations is not only about transport or education, but also about the environment. Being densely populated, each MOA faces challenges in the form of climate change, a lack of quality public spaces or unused brownfield sites. Environmental projects are therefore playing an increasingly important role.

One of the solutions is to build so-called blue-green infrastructure – i.e. greenery, parks and water areas. They help cool cities on hot days, retain rainwater and reduce the risk of drought or flooding. ITI-funded projects also focus on the efficient management of natural resources, especially drinking water, and energy.

FOUR INTERCONNECTED BROWNFIELD REVITALISATION PROJECTS

In addition to promoting green spaces, MOAs also focus on revitalising neglected sites and transforming unused brownfield sites. An example of a specific integrated solution is the transformation of a brownfield in Benešov in the Prague metropolitan area. A modern museum depository is being built in the building of the former Regional Administration and Maintenance of Roads. It will offer top-quality facilities for the professional care of collection objects of Central Bohemian museums and archaeological institutions.

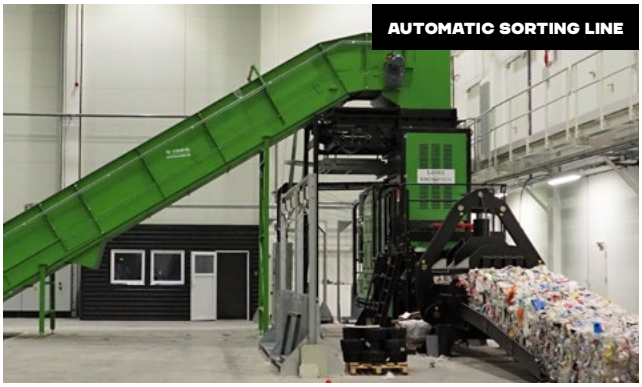
This integrated solution combines funding from two operational programmes and includes four separate projects. Three of them, financed by the Operational Programme Environment, focus on the revitalisation of two existing buildings (the future depository and the administrative building) and the completion of other parts, together with the improvement of their surroundings. Emphasis is placed on environmental aspects – the buildings are designed to a passive standard with the use of green roofs, rainwater retention systems and measures to reduce the energy consumption of the buildings. The fourth project is implemented through the Integrated Regional Operational Programme and deals with the establishment of the depository itself as a specialist centre for the preservation, research and management of collections.

The depository will be used by contributory organisations and museums established by the Central Bohemia Region. We already know that it will be used by four entities – three museums (the Podblanicko Museum, the Regional Museum in Jílové u Prahy and the Regional Museum Prague-East) and the Institute of Archaeological Heritage Care of Central Bohemia. The repository should be completed by 2028.



VISUALISATION OF THE MUSEUM DEPOSITORY IN BENEŠOV

Source: Praha metropolitan area



AUTOMATIC SORTING LINE

Source: Brno metropolitan area

AN INTEGRATED APPROACH IMPROVES WASTE MANAGEMENT

Inspiring environmental projects are also being developed in other metropolitan areas and agglomerations. In addition to the revitalisation of brownfields and the construction of green spaces, many areas are also addressing a comprehensive waste management system. The aim is to increase the proportion of recycled materials, reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and prevent the creation of illegal dumping site.

Thanks to integrated solutions, new containers for sorted waste are being purchased, collection yards are being set up, and investments are being made in automatic sorting lines. These activities increase the comfort of residents, promote material recovery and contribute to a cleaner and healthier environment.

MOAS WILL SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH THE ITI INSTRUMENT UNTIL 2029

180 PROJECTS, OF WHICH 58 HAVE ALREADY BEEN IMPLEMENTED

123 HECTARES OF GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE, OF WHICH MORE THAN 8 HECTARES HAVE ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED

8,783 TONNES OF NEW CAPACITY FOR MUNICIPAL WASTE PREVENTION, OF WHICH 881 TONNES HAVE ALREADY BEEN CREATED

SOURCE: MS 2014+ AND MS 2021+, 2026, OWN PROCESSING

CULTURAL HERITAGE COMES ALIVE THANKS TO THE INTEGRATED INSTRUMENTS

Metropolitan areas and agglomerations are not only centres of the economy and development, but also places with a rich cultural heritage. The support is directed to a wide range of activities – from the restoration of national cultural monuments to support for museums, libraries and tourism infrastructure.

A NEW CHAPTER IN THE GOČÁR MILLS

One of the most significant integrated solutions in this area is the transformation of the former site of Gočár's Automatic Mills in Pardubice. This industrial complex, which closed in 2013 after more than 100 years, has been transformed into a modern cultural and educational institution thanks to the collaboration of the public, private and non-profit sectors. The complex is a national cultural monument and today forms the heart of a new urban space. At the beginning of the revitalisation of the Automatic Mills stood the Smetana couple, who together with their friends decided to revive the area. They ensured the preparation of project documentation for the entire area and sold two of the buildings to the Pardubice Region and the Statutory City of Pardubice with the condition that the individual buildings be used in accordance with their vision. In the main mill building, the regional Gočár Gallery with exhibitions of historical and contemporary art was created. A city information centre and a multifunctional art and conference space were then created in the silo. The city of Pardubice used a former flour warehouse to build the SFÉRA craft and technology education centre. The centre offers clubs, workshops and laboratories, a spherical playground and the unique Science on a Sphere technology and is open to schools and the public. After the expansion of the warehouse building, the ground floor was used for the Gallery of Modern Art (GAMPA). The revitalisation of the site combines respect for the industrial heritage with modern architecture and brings a new cultural and social dimension to the city. The second stage of the revitalisation is currently being prepared,



REGIONAL GOČÁR GALLERY

Source: Hradec Králové-Pardubice agglomeration



SILO – MULTIFUNCTIONAL HALL

Source: Hradec Králové-Pardubice agglomeration



GOČÁR'S AUTOMATIC MILLS IN PARDUBICE

Source: Hradec Králové-Pardubice agglomeration



GOČÁR'S AUTOMATIC MILLS IN PARDUBICE

Source: Hradec Králové-Pardubice agglomeration



SFÉRA EDUCATION CENTRE

Source: Hradec Králové-Pardubice agglomeration

and should include three new residential and commercial buildings with amenities. Thanks to them, the whole area will be transformed into a lively urban district.

REVITALISATION OF THE BAŤA SKYSCRAPER AS A SYMBOL OF THE ZLÍN AGGLOMERATION

The tradition of industrial architecture is also continued in the Zlín agglomeration, where a comprehensive revitalisation of the iconic Baťa skyscraper – the dominant feature of the city and a symbol of its business history – is underway. The integrated solution divided into several stages includes the restoration of the external parts of the building, the reconstruction of the entrance areas, the modernisation of the exhibitions and the repair of the legendary Baťa lift – a mobile office, which is a technical rarity and a popular tourist attraction.



BAŤA SKYSCRAPER

Source: Zlín agglomeration

INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS FOR CULTURAL HERITAGE IN THE ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE AGGLOMERATION



NATIONAL CULTURAL MONUMENT (NKP) THE BIRTHPLACE OF JAN ŽIŽKA OF TROCNOV

Source: České Budějovice agglomeration

Attention to the cultural heritage is also being paid in the České Budějovice agglomeration, where an integrated solution is being implemented – the restoration of the National Cultural Monument The Birthplace of Jan Žižka of Trocnov. A new visitor and education centre with facilities for visitors and staff, completed with a car park, is being built as part of two successive projects. The museum part of the project includes the construction of a new exhibition space, a depository for archaeological collection objects and space for restoration, museum and research activities. The aim is to create a modern complex that combines the historical heritage with education and the current needs of visitors. The integrated solution is scheduled for completion in 2026.

Revitalisation of the cultural heritage in metropolitan areas and agglomerations brings concrete results – monuments are restored, the public space is enhanced and the relationship of citizens to cultural values is strengthened. Thanks to the cooperation, it is possible to revive historical places so that they are not only preserved but also actively used.

CULTURE AND TOURISM IN MOAS IN NUMBERS

66 HERITAGE BUILDINGS WILL BE REVITALISED BY THE END OF 2029, OF WHICH 34 HAVE ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED

12 LIBRARIES WILL BE SUPPORTED THROUGH THE ITI BY THE END OF 2029

16 MUSEUMS WILL RECEIVE SUPPORT THROUGH THE ITI BY THE END OF 2029

50% OF ALL THE HOTELS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC ARE LOCATED IN THE MOAS

21.7 MILLION PEOPLE VISITED THE MOAS' TOP TOURIST DESTINATIONS IN 2024

SOURCE: CZSO, 2024, OWN PROCESSING; MS 2014+ AND MS 2021+, 2026, OWN PROCESSING; CZECHTOURISM, 2024, OWN PROCESSING

HOW DO WE STRENGTHEN COMPETITIVENESS IN MOAS?

Metropolitan areas and agglomerations are the economic nuclei in which the labour force and GDP of the entire Czech Republic accumulate. However, the potential of individual areas and agglomerations is often even higher. To strengthen their position, they need to develop entrepreneurship and value-added industries – science, research, innovation.

BRNO AS A CYBER SECURITY CENTRE

The integrated solution of the Czech Cyber Security Centre connects two related projects funded through the ITI – CERIT Science Park II and the Junior Centre of Excellence at the Čichnova Secondary School of Informatics, Postal Administration and Finance.

The Čichnova Secondary School is one of two in the Czech Republic that offer a specialisation in cyber security. The new Junior Centre of Excellence has state-of-the-art equipment and supports other information technology (IT) and telecommunications disciplines. Students learn how to defend against cyber attacks, protect information systems and develop skills for the labour market and research. The project connects teaching, the practical application of experts and teacher training, while the cloud platform enables the sharing of knowledge with other schools in the region.

The secondary school prepares qualified graduates who can build on their knowledge, for example, at the CERIT Science Park in the IT CAMPUS CITY CENTRE. In 2023, a second building, CERIT Science Park II, opened in the complex, expanding Brno's infrastructure for research and innovation. It serves as an incubator for start-ups focused on security technologies and strengthens Brno's position in the IT sector in the Czech Republic and internationally. Thanks to the interconnectedness of both projects, a synergy is created: researchers and companies in the science park prepare human resources, while students from the Čichnova Secondary School get a direct path to employment.

JUNIOR CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE



Source: Brno metropolitan area

CERIT SCIENCE PARK II



Source: Brno metropolitan area



VISUALISATION OF FORT TAFELBERG

Source: Olomouc agglomeration

TRANSFORMATION OF THE OLOMOUC FORTRESS

Fort Tafelberg, the historic Olomouc fortress on the Tabulový Vrch hill, is being transformed into a modern research and cultural centre thanks to support from the ITI. The building, which previously served as the archive of the Olomouc University Hospital, will become a multifunctional space for scientists, innovators and the general public.

The integrated solution includes three parts funded by different operational programmes. The Operational Programme Technology and Applications for Competitiveness will create a state-of-the-art innovation centre for digital health at Fort Tafelberg, equipped with cutting-edge laboratories for motion analysis, research on the senses and the mind, the effects of light on humans, user interface testing, music therapy and data processing using artificial intelligence. These spaces will connect research, technology and practice and become a place where innovations for modern healthcare are created. This project is followed up by the Jan Amos Komenský Operational Programme, which provides technological and research content. It will be used to purchase specialised hardware – servers, data storage and graphics cards for machine learning and artificial intelligence.



VISUALISATION OF FORT TAFELBERG

Source: Olomouc agglomeration

The third part of the solution, funded by the Integrated Regional Operational Programme, will open the fortress to the public. A Health Museum with interactive educational programmes on health and prevention and a new tour route through the underground will be created here. The revitalisation of Fort Tafelberg will offer facilities for professionals in the fields of healthcare, gastronomy and transport, but also an attractive space for residents and tourists who can admire the modern use of the former fortress.



VISUALISATION OF THE HEALTH MUSEUM

Source: Olomouc agglomeration

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH CENTRES IN PLZEŇ

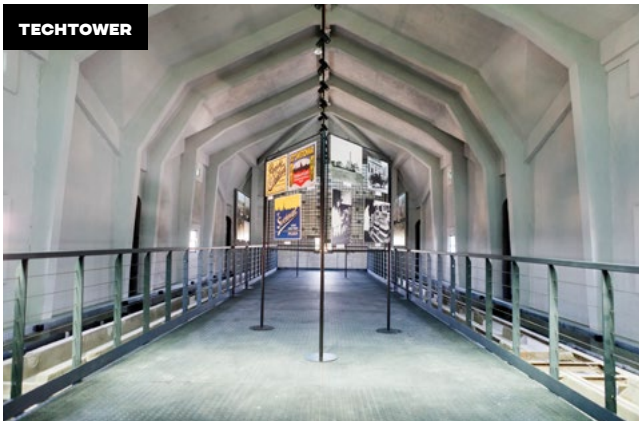
The Plzeň agglomeration has also been developing as a centre of innovation, science and entrepreneurship for a long time. Thanks to the support from the ITI instrument, three major science and technology park projects have been created here, combining funding from the Operational Programmes Entrepreneurship and Innovation for Competitiveness (2014–2020) and Technology and Applications for Competitiveness (2021–2027).

Behind the first project is the Business and Innovation Centre BIC Plzeň, which supports start-ups and established companies. Under its banner, modern co-working spaces and a virtual reality laboratory were created, followed by the construction of the Technology Centre in the Science and Technology Park Plzeň at Borská Pole. The centre provides equipment for electromagnetic compatibility testing, thermal testing and prototype production.

The second project is the transformation of the former Světovar brewery into the TechTower technology park. The revitalisation of the brownfield site has brought new spaces for innovative entrepreneurship and revitalised the surrounding urban area. TechTower is one of the most modern technology parks in the Czech Republic today – it offers co-working, workshops, laboratories and facilities for start-ups. It also serves as a hub for conferences, festivals, hackathons and educational events. A unique feature is a ten-metre test tank for water drones and robots.

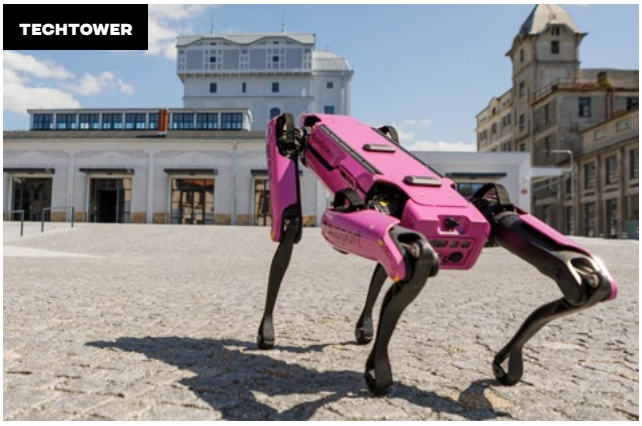
The third project, TechTower 2, builds on the success of its predecessor and prepares a training centre for aerial drones. Although the project is not implemented directly through the ITI, it is part of an integrated solution. In this way, too, an integrated approach can be understood – as a combination of different sources of funding that together contribute to the development of the MOA.

TECHTOWER



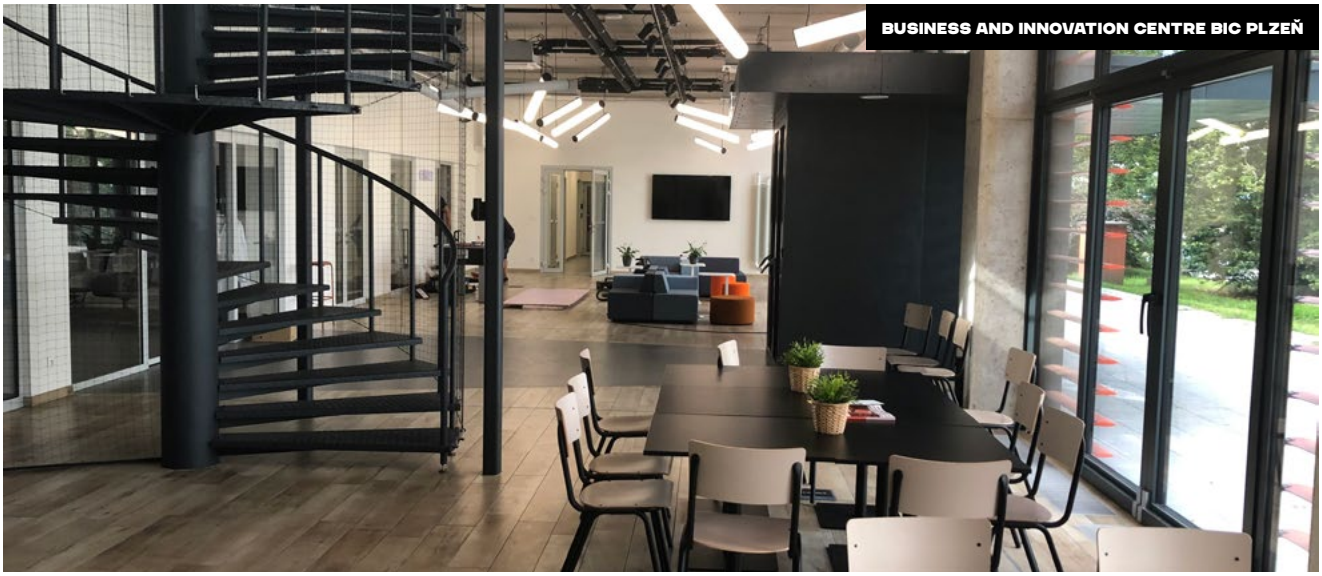
Source: Plzeň agglomeration

TECHTOWER



Source: Plzeň agglomeration

BUSINESS AND INNOVATION CENTRE BIC PLZEŇ



Source: Plzeň agglomeration

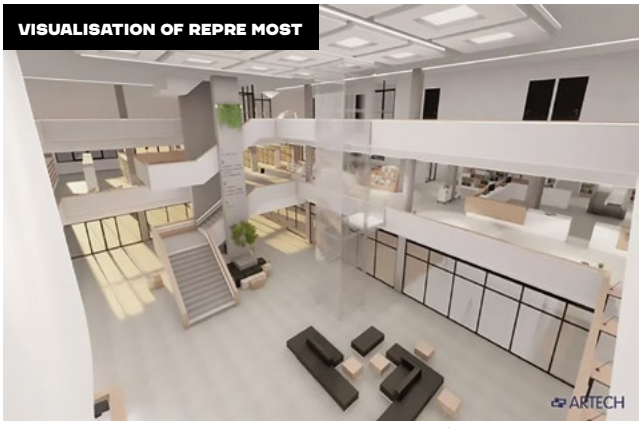


VISUALISATION OF REPRE MOST

Source: Ústí-Chomutov agglomeration

NEW COAT AND USE FOR REPRE MOST

The integrated solution of REPRE Most of the Ústí-Chomutov agglomeration consists of an extensive reconstruction of the iconic house of culture in the centre of Most, which will transform the building into a modern cultural and educational centre with a public library. The building, which for many years served mainly cultural and social purposes, will become a multifunctional space linking education, culture and community life.



VISUALISATION OF REPRE MOST

Source: Ústí-Chomutov agglomeration

The new complex will include a modern library with reading rooms and spaces for community activities, funded through the ITI. There will also be a ballroom for about 800 people, a 167-seat cinema, a restaurant, a planetarium and a number of open areas for residents to meet in. The project emphasises accessibility, digital technology and sustainability. The public library will be relocated here to be closer to the town centre, making it a natural centre of learning and culture for all generations.

The architectural design preserves the original Brutalist expression of the building, but adds new functional layers. The project also refers to history – REPRE remains a symbol of the post-war construction of Most, but with a new meaning for the present.



VISUALISATION OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN REPRE MOST

Source: Ústí-Chomutov agglomeration

THANKS TO THE SUPPORT OF ITI, THE FOLLOWING RESULTS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED

1,066
PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS
PUBLISHED

58
MODERNISED RESEARCH CENTRES

57
PATENT APPLICATIONS
FILED

1,523
FULL-TIME POSITIONS
IN RESEARCH FACILITIES

MS 2014+ AND MS 2021+, 2026, OWN PROCESSING

DEVELOPMENT
INTEGRATION
COOPERATION

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