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FAASST NEWS #2

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Nathalie Koenders elected as new Mayor of Dijon: continuity and new impetus

The election of **Nathalie Koenders** as Mayor of Dijon, supported by **François Rebsamen** as President of the Métropole, ensures the continuity of political commitments for an ambitious ecological transition.

This **complementarity** between the two political leaders guarantees that the territory's proven long-term vision will continue with renewed efficiency and pragmatism.

This transition occurs as the metropolis, still presided over by François Rebsamen, continues its **ambitious commitments** to ecological transition. François Rebsamen's recent appointment as **Minister of Territorial Development and Decentralization** further enhances the influence of both local institutions.

The arrival of the new mayor is fully in line with a dynamic of continuity and collaboration between the two executives, united by a **shared vision for the territory**.





FAASST: Project Update

Beyond its ambition, the **FAASST project** illustrates the metropolis's ability to unite various stakeholders around a **shared vision**. Dijon Métropole thus positions itself as an inspiring example, showing that structured and cooperative local action can address global climate challenges while strengthening the territory's attractiveness and resilience.

Territorial Governance

To date, the FAASST project has achieved several significant milestones. In September 2024, a contract was signed with around **twenty local partners**, laying the groundwork for strengthened cooperation between public and private stakeholders. This initial phase successfully engaged institutional actors with a substantial impact on reducing GHG emissions. A second wave of partnerships is planned for mid-2025, reflecting the project's growing momentum.

This structured framework has given rise to concrete projects currently under development, such as collective photovoltaic energy self-consumption initiatives, sustainable mobility projects, and energy data sharing via a common data platform. These actions align with a systemic approach that seeks to maximize positive climate and social impacts while leveraging the pooled contributions of different partners.

Innovative Methodology

The FAASST project not only implements initiatives but also develops an evaluation methodology to measure achieved results. The metropolis has designed a system to assess all types of benefits (energy, carbon, economic, biodiversity, etc.) generated by these actions. This monitoring framework enables comparisons between actions and ensures transparency and the capacity for adjustments essential to achieving the set objectives.

European Perspective

Furthermore, Dijon Métropole reinforces its European leadership by sharing project financing experiences for ecological transition with cities such as Bristol, Lund, and Leuven. These international exchanges enrich the project, allowing the adoption of proven solutions from other contexts while adapting them locally.



Metropolitan Contract: An Exemplary and Integrated Ecological Transition at the European Level

Dijon Métropole stands out in the French and European landscape with an innovative approach to ecological transition, combining administrative efficiency and environmental ambition. While many local authorities struggle to coordinate multiple action plans and disparate documents, Dijon has chosen to merge planning tools for greater coherence and tangible results. Through its Climate and Biodiversity Plan 2024-2030, **the metropolis integrates local, national, and European issues within a single framework** aligned with the European Climate City Contract goals, which aim for carbon neutrality by 2030.

Dijon Métropole distinguishes itself by merging its national regulatory obligations, such as the **Territorial Climate Air Energy Plan**, and its European commitments into a single structure, thereby enhancing its capacity to systematically drive ecological transition. This approach relies on three pillars:



- Reducing emissions,
- Adapting to climate change,
- Cooperating with local and international stakeholders.

This integrated approach enables exemplary coherence, **simplifying the implementation of actions while maximizing their impact.**

By streamlining processes, Dijon not only optimizes resources but also effectively mobilizes local, economic, and institutional stakeholders. The metropolis relies on strong partnerships with territorial actors such as the **University Hospital Center of Dijon Bourgogne, the University Bourgogne Europe, Grand Dijon Habitat,** and the **Banque des Territoires,** alongside companies like **EDF, Crédit Agricole,** and **Bouygues Énergie Services,** as well as local and European institutions. These partnerships reinforce its capacity to attract funding and innovate.

This pragmatic and integrated method, combining local and European levels, positions Dijon Métropole as **a model of governance for other territories** seeking an effective and sustainable ecological transition. With its clear ambition and exemplary execution, Dijon Métropole stands as **a benchmark in the fight against climate change and biodiversity** preservation while enhancing its attractiveness and resilience.



An Innovative Partnership Approach

Through the **FAASST project**, Dijon Métropole embodies a new vision of territorial cooperation, where partners unite around a common objective and shared methodology, rather than focusing solely on cost and funding sharing. This approach extends beyond the local level: refining and **challenging the methodology** with European partner cities, Gabrovo and Matosinhos, follows the same dynamic. These cross-border collaborations allow for the sharing of experiences and solutions while aligning methodologies with European climate goals, particularly those of the Climate City Contract.

This innovative partnership reflects a collective determination to address climate challenges and biodiversity preservation by mobilizing a diverse range of stakeholders: public institutions, private enterprises, universities, and local associations. The primary goal is clear: **to scale up and accelerate ecological transition projects while ensuring effective coordination.**

This model of cooperation is based on a systemic approach, where **each partner contributes according to their skills, resources, and expertise.** For example, the University Bourgogne Europe brings its expertise in research and data, while the CHU Dijon Bourgogne and Grand Dijon Habitat share their experiences in energy efficiency and social innovation. Cooperation translates into the deployment of concrete projects, such as energy data sharing through a common data platform or the development of a coordinated mobility plan across the geographic sectors of the partners' activities, while also advancing actions to protect biodiversity.

Unlike initiatives that focus solely on pooling financial resources, the **FAASST partnership emphasizes the convergence of interests and the complementarity of actions.** Partners work together to define shared methodologies, evaluate each party's contributions, and ensure the consistency of implemented actions. This collaborative dynamic optimizes environmental and social gains while fostering innovation.

This partnership heralds exemplary territorial governance, where **the shared goal of carbon neutrality transcends traditional financial-based frameworks.** The FAASST project demonstrates that cooperation founded on a shared vision and concrete commitments can transform climate challenges into opportunities for collective progress. This inspiring model could serve as a reference for other territories, proving that together, it is possible to go further and faster in building a sustainable future!



The Energy Climate Platform

As part of the European RESPONSE project, Dijon Métropole has established the **Energy Climate Platform**, a central tool to coordinate and optimize local efforts in ecological transition. This platform aims **to collect, share, and analyze energy and climate data** from key stakeholders across the territory. Within the framework of the FAASST project, Dijon Métropole proposed to its partners, Grand Dijon Habitat, the University Bourgogne Europe, and the CHU Dijon Bourgogne, to collaborate on sharing energy data related to built infrastructure. Through this initiative, the metropolis **strengthens transparency and collaboration among its partners** while creating a shared database to effectively manage projects across the entire territory, not just those exclusively led by Dijon Métropole.

Using data provided by energy stakeholders, the platform calculates **real-time energy consumption and production across the territory**, enabling precise measurement of carbon emissions.

This data is instrumental in identifying areas for improvement, whether by reducing energy consumption or investing in energy self-consumption projects. By facilitating information sharing between partners, the platform **accelerates the implementation of innovative solutions** and allows for long-term impact measurement.

Among the priority projects associated with the platform are energy-efficient building renovations, the development of photovoltaic canopies, and sustainable mobility management, with a particular focus on decarbonizing vehicle fleets. Thanks to an accessible interface, local actors can not only **monitor progress** but also actively contribute to the planning of future actions.

The Energy Climate Platform embodies a systemic and collaborative approach, essential for coordinating local actions aligned with the objectives of the Climate City Contract.

By combining technological innovation and territorial cooperation, FAASST operates within an exemplary framework, placing data and analysis at the heart of its strategy to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.





Agenda

March 2025

Barcelona, Spain

From March 27 to 28, the **"Scalable Cities" roadshow** will take place at Ca l'Alíer. The aim of these meetings is to compare projects and emerging solutions.

Dijon, France

On March 27, during the Metropolitan Council meeting, the creation of the **"ENERGIES" mixed public-private company** will be officially approved. This new entity, bringing together both public and private stakeholders, will support the ecological transition, foster local innovation, and drive sustainable development throughout the region.

April 2025

Dijon, France

On April 25, as part of the monthly technical meetings held over a six-month period, Dijon's NetZeroCities twin cities will be welcomed for a feedback session on the methodology leading to a **territorial governance model**. This meeting will allow for an analysis of the methods employed and the identification of action levers to strengthen cooperation among stakeholders involved in climate governance.

May 2025

Vilnius, Lithuania

From May 6 to May 8, the **4th NetZeroCities Cities Conference** will take place.

Organized by the European Commission and the Mission Platform, the conference will bring together political representatives and practitioners from the 112 Mission Cities to celebrate the significant progress made over the past three years, share successes and experiences, and inspire all participants in their ongoing efforts toward climate neutrality.