

SOUNDS LIKE A COMMON FUTURE.

Municipality of Braga
Sustainability Report 2024

ABOUT THE REPORT

The 2024 Sustainability Report of the Municipality of Braga was prepared as a voluntary response and in compliance with the latest GRI Standards.

This is the third edition of the Municipality of Braga's Sustainability Report, consolidating the annual publication cycle. For the 2024 edition, a new materiality assessment was carried out, based on extensive engagement with stakeholders and the wider municipal community.

The results of this process were incorporated into the definition of the material topics and also constitute an essential element in the development and updating of the Municipality's Sustainable Development Strategy.

The 2024 report highlights the Municipality's performance across the different material topics identified, ensuring consistency and alignment with national, European and international sustainability agendas, in particular the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Accordingly, the report presents a strategic and integrated perspective of municipal action in Braga, demonstrating how its organisational structure contributes in a concrete manner to addressing sustainability challenges, rather than merely reporting on indicators or achieved targets.

Reporting period, scope and boundaries

The Sustainability Report covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2024, compiling consolidated information on the initiatives carried out throughout that year. Whenever possible, the indicators presented were updated with the most recent data available, ensuring an accurate assessment of progress up to 2024.

To ensure a comparative perspective, the Report also includes, in most cases, information dating back to 2020, allowing for the monitoring of trends and the assessment of the Municipality's sustainable development trajectory, although the time span varies according to data availability in each area.

The boundaries of the information presented are defined by the operational activities and the direct impacts of the Municipality of Braga, based on the exercise of the competencies of its elected representative bodies, within the context of its role as a local authority.

External verification

The information validated in this report relates exclusively to the financial component, based on the Annual Management Report and Consolidated Accounts. As this is a voluntary reporting exercise, the remaining content results from contributions collected from the governing bodies of the Municipality of Braga, as well as from public and private entities, regulatory bodies and statistical institutions.

FOREWORD

Mayor of the Municipality of Braga

The year 2024 represented, for Braga, another significant milestone along a path we have pursued with conviction and a strong sense of responsibility: affirming sustainability as a collective commitment and an effective practice in municipal management. More than an objective, sustainability has become part of Braga's identity—embedded in decision-making, projects and the way we envision the city's future.

The results confirm this trajectory. The Municipal Sustainability Index reached 70.8%, the highest value ever recorded. This recognition reflects the collective effort of a community that has consistently responded with vision and commitment to the environmental, social and economic challenges of our time.

At the international level, Braga strengthened its position as a reference city by hosting the Annual Conference of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network, which resulted in the Braga Manifesto—a document that places culture at the heart of sustainable development and has been endorsed by hundreds of cities worldwide. This was a moment of affirmation and leadership that projected Braga as a city that thinks globally and acts locally.

At the national level, we also continued to rank among the municipalities with the strongest sustainability policies, according to the ECO XXI programme of ABAAE—an honour that confirms the consistency and quality of the work carried out over the years. We also maintain our commitment to the principles of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), which ensure transparency and rigour in the way we assess and communicate the impact of our policies and projects.

We continue to implement the Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development, which guides municipal policies through to 2030 and has demonstrated full coherence with the objectives set. Its lines of action remain a benchmark in consolidating a governance model that values quality of life, environmental balance and social cohesion—pillars of a city that progresses with stability, confidence and a clear vision for the future.

All of this is only possible thanks to the active participation of the Braga community—institutions, businesses and citizens—who are, ultimately, the protagonists of this transformation.

Sustainability is built through daily choices, shared commitments and collective results. This is the path we will continue to follow, with the same determination as always and with the conviction that Braga can increasingly stand as an example of a well-crafted future.

Ricardo Rio
Mayor of the Municipality of Braga



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1

BRAGA IN FOCUS

The year 2024 reaffirmed Braga as a national and international benchmark in sustainability, with external recognition and clear improvements in municipal performance.

European benchmark for innovation

THE EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF INNOVATION

European Innovation Council

Braga has established itself as a leading European city in innovation and entrepreneurship.

It was recognised in the Financial Times (fDi Intelligence) **European Cities & Regions of the Future 2024**, ranking among the top European cities in the FDI Strategy category, and won 1st place in **European Rising Innovative City 2024**, awarded by the European Commission.

At the European Enterprise Promotion Awards 2024, InvestBraga, E.M. received the 1st and 2nd National Awards for the projects "Talent Program: Entrepreneurial Skills" and "Bragameter – Monitoring Braga's Development Actions". The *Human Power Hub* received the URBACT Good Practice Label, and was also a finalist in REGIOSTARS 2024, recognising the city's impact on social innovation and entrepreneurship.

Human resources excellence management

Braga received the **Healthy Workplaces Seal – Level II**, confirming exemplary policies on well-being, mental health, safety and work-life balance.

Strengthened cooperation

Integration and active participation in strategic international networks such as **NetZeroCities, EUROCITIES, ICLEI e UN-Habitat SDG Cities** (Silver level), strengthening global cooperation and leadership in sustainable transition.

Recognition in sustainable tourism

Braga has consolidated its position as a responsible, high-quality tourist destination.

It was named the **World's Leading Emerging Destination by the World Travel Awards,** a distinction associated with heritage preservation, sustainability and unique tourist attractions.

It also received the **Green Destinations Award 2024 – Platinum**, an international certification that reinforces Braga's position in the global ranking of the most sustainable destinations, validating environmental management practices, heritage enhancement and the promotion of responsible tourism.

Recognised commitment in the social field

Braga was recognised in 2024 for strengthening its inclusion and social support policies.

It received the **"Living in Equality" Award** (CIG), the **Municipal Excellence Award – Social Action and Education** (ANMP) and the **Flag of Social Merit** (ANGES), recognising the municipality's work in promoting equality, social cohesion and inclusive public policies.

Strengthened environmental commitment

In 2024, Braga further reinforced its environmental commitment through national and international distinctions.

The film supporting its application for **European Green Capital 2026** won the ART&TUR 2024 Award in the category of Sustainability and Climate Change. The city also received the national Go Green Award and increased the number of schools and parishes awarded the Green Flag, as well as the number of river beaches awarded the Blue Flag. In 2024, the Municipal Environmental Education Strategy was approved, and the climate monitoring report confirmed that Braga is aligned with the pathway required to achieve its emissions reduction targets by 2030.

Positive and consistent progress on the 2030 Agenda

Braga achieved a score of **70.8% on the Municipal Sustainability Index**, the highest value ever recorded, demonstrating continuous and robust progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Global leadership in culture

The city hosted the **UNESCO World Conference on Creative Cities**, which resulted in the **Braga Manifesto**, an international reference on the role of culture in sustainable development. Braga also maintained its designation as a **UNESCO Creative City** in the field of **Media Arts**, a title held since 2017.

Clear and shared strategic priorities

The analysis of relevant topics demonstrated a high level of alignment between municipal management and stakeholders, with converging priorities in the following areas:

- Sustainable mobility and public transport
- Green spaces and biodiversity protection
- Decent and affordable housing
- Transparency, public ethics and anti-corruption
- Waste management and circular economy
- Education, talent and quality training
- Health and well-being
- Climate action and energy transition

These domains structure Braga's strategic vision and guide the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Plan.



The essence of the city, where history, culture and the character of its people shape the unique profile of the municipality and its development.

2

THE IDENTITY OF BRAGA

2.1 History and identity

Founded by the Celts in 300 BC, the castro communities were the first to inhabit the territory we now know as Braga. Since then, the city's diversity has been shaped by successive migratory movements and periods of occupation.

Appointed an administrative centre of the Roman Empire in 27 BC, the territory was elevated to the status of a city by Emperor Augustus in 16 BC, who granted it the name Bracara Augusta in his own honour. In 411 AD, following the fall of the Western Roman Empire, Bracara Augusta became the political and intellectual capital of Gallaecia, a kingdom founded by the Suebi, a people of Germanic origin.

The medieval period opened a new chapter in the city's history, with its remarkable Cathedral (Sé) as the central landmark around which the historic centre developed. During this period, and prior to the foundation of Portugal, Braga was granted to the Archbishops, becoming an important religious centre on the Iberian Peninsula.

The city's strong religious presence was marked over the centuries by a growing number of churches from different periods and architectural styles, as well as a valuable collection of sacred art, which earned Braga the title of the "Portuguese Rome".

The art of representing the City's Coat of Arms also dates from this period, when the elements of Braga's heraldry were established.

In the 18th century, the Baroque period left a remarkable imprint on the city, making Braga one of Portugal's foremost exemplars of this architectural style. Industrialisation brought the railway to the city and endowed it with basic infrastructure, creating the conditions for the development of a strong industrial sector.

In the 1990s, in response to the crisis in traditional industrial sectors, Braga successfully reinvented its economic fabric with the emergence of a technology cluster that ushered in a new era for the city, propelling it to the status of a hub for innovation and knowledge.

Learn more
History and Heritage

Learn more
Ethnography and Tradition

City Coat of Arms

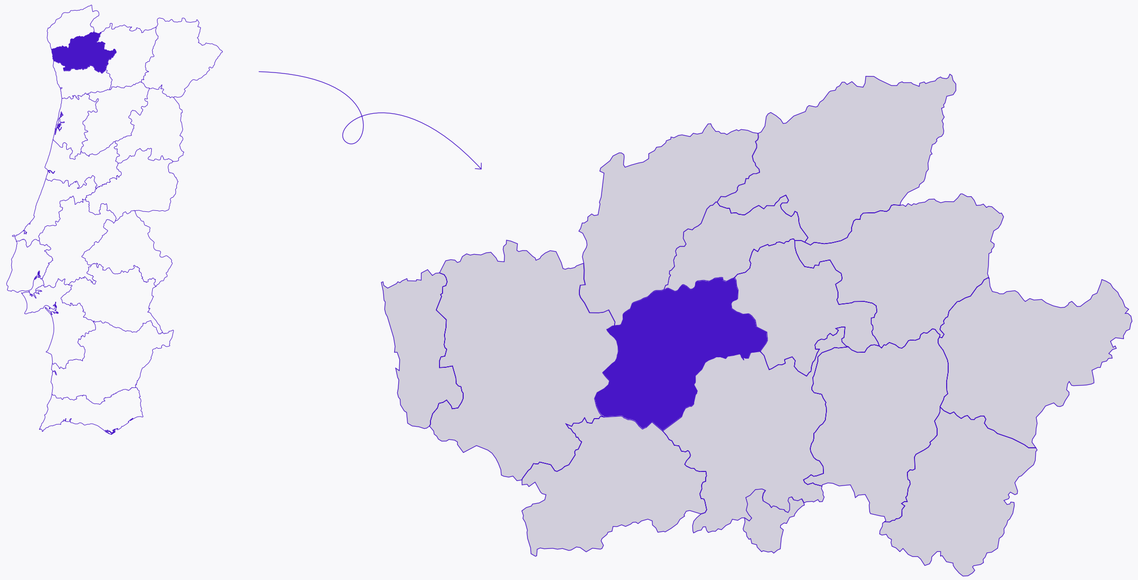
Our Lady, dressed in a purple tunic and a cerulean blue mantle, crowned in the ancient style in silver, holding a lily in her hand and supporting the Child Jesus on her left arm. She is flanked by two silver towers, masoned in black, and accompanied by three shields of ancient Portugal bearing five blue escutcheons arranged in a cross, each escutcheon charged with five silver bezants. Above, a mural crown with five silver towers, and below, a scroll bearing the legend «Braga»

Municipal Flag

Blue and white, with cords and tassels in silver and blue. The staff and spearhead are gold. The flag, rectangular (in a 2:3 proportion) or square, must display the municipal coat of arms at its centre.

2.2 Territory and demographics

Braga is one of the most significant municipalities in Portugal, standing out for its demographic and economic dynamism. With an area of approximately 183 km², the municipal territory is divided into 37 civil parishes, combining consolidated urban areas with rural areas undergoing transformation.



The municipality has established itself as a hub for innovation, culture and youth, with a distinct identity deeply rooted in the history and traditions of the Minho region.

The Municipality of Braga is bordered to the north by the Cávado River, to the south by the range of elevations forming the Serra dos Picos (566 m), and to the east by the Serra dos Carvalhos (479 m). In terms of territorial classification, Braga is part of NUTS I – Mainland Portugal, NUTS II – Northern Region, and NUTS III – Cávado.

Together with the cities of Barcelos, Guimarães and Vila Nova de Famalicão, Braga forms the Urban Quadrilateral, an urban network focused on strengthening the competitiveness and innovation of the territory shared by the four municipalities.

Its privileged geographical location is reinforced by excellent accessibility, placing it within less than one hour of Porto and Vigo (Galicia, Spain). Braga is close to the region's main seaports — Leixões, Viana do Castelo and Vigo — and to Francisco Sá Carneiro Airport, the main air hub in the north-west of the Iberian Peninsula. In addition, Braga is the main gateway to the Peneda-Gerês National Park, one of the country's most emblematic protected areas, recognised as a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve.

The Municipality of Braga recorded a resident population of 201,583 inhabitants in 2023 (Statistics and Studies Office – Portuguese Republic) and a population density of 1,081 inhabitants per km² in 2022, figures above both regional and national averages. The resident population of the municipality accounted for approximately 2% of the national population in 2023.

An overall analysis of the age structure shows that the elderly population (65 years and over) represented 19.7% of the total in 2023. The youth population remains significant, with Braga consistently recognised as one of the youngest municipalities in the Northern Region in terms of the number of residents under the age of 25.

Between 2011 and 2023, Braga recorded an average annual growth rate of +0.8%, outperforming the Northern Region (0.0%) and Portugal as a whole (+0.1%). Within the Cávado region, Braga concentrates around 47% of the population (2023) and was one of the municipalities to record population growth during the period analysed. In line with the national trend of strong growth in the foreign population, Braga registered a significant increase in foreign residents, totalling 11,280 people in 2021 (PORDATA), representing approximately 5.8% of the resident population (based on the number of residents in the municipality in 2021).

2.2 Territory and demographics

Braga at a Glance

Territorial Structure

183,4 km² area

37 civil parishes

Resident Population — 2023

201 583 inhabitants

~2% of the national population

~47% of the Cávado population

Demographic Growth — 2011 a 2023

+0,8% / per year

Northern Region 0,0%

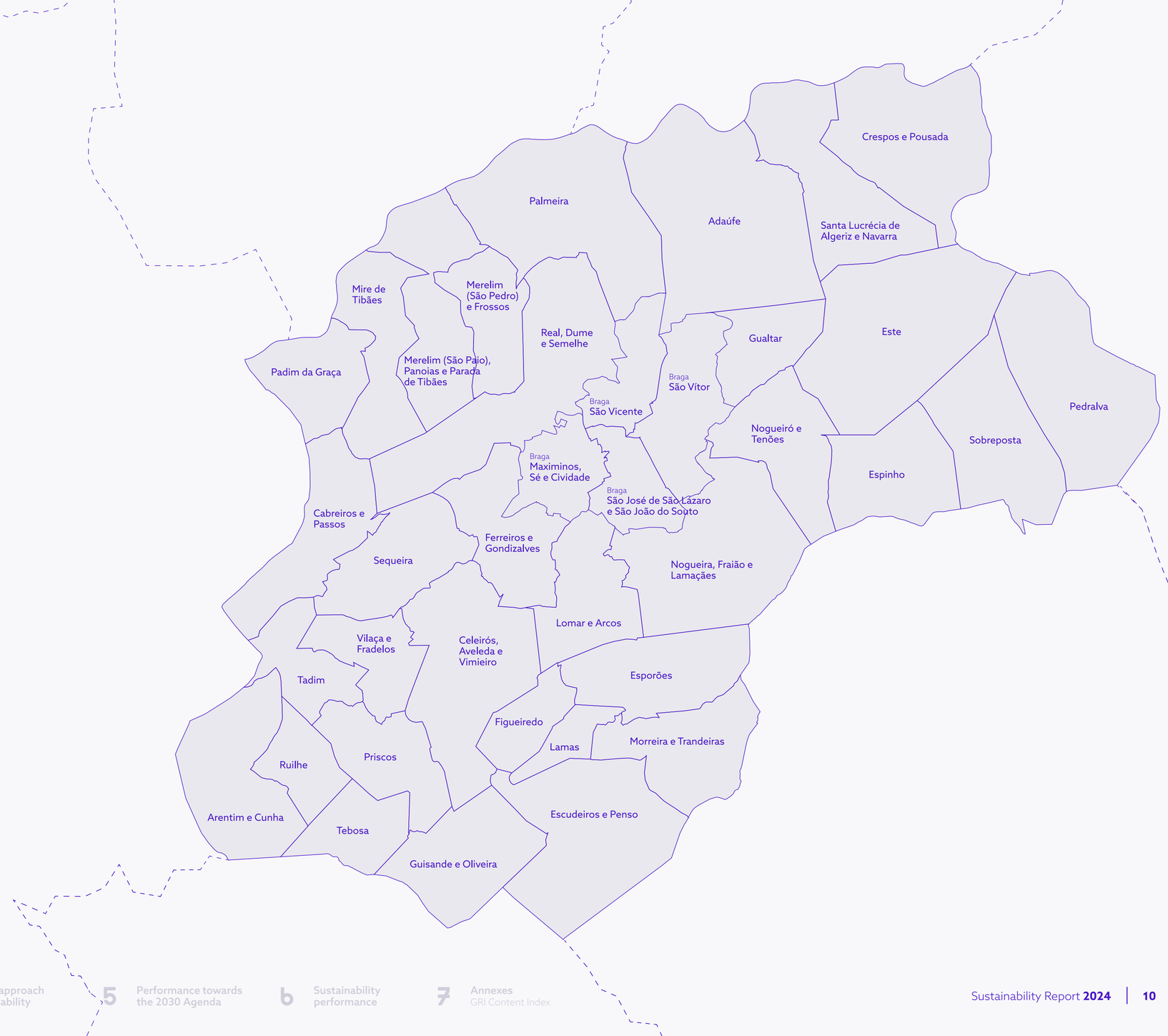
Portugal +0,1%

Age Structure

19,7% of the population aged 65 and over

Foreign Population

~5,8%





3

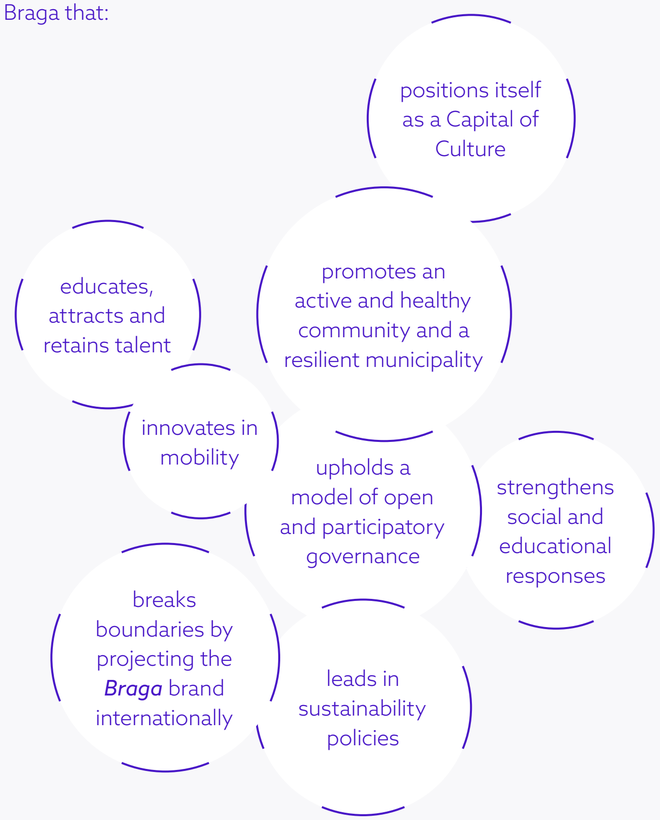
The way in which the Municipality is organised to fulfil its mission, sustaining citizens' trust through principles, responsible governance and sound management.

MUNICIPAL ECOSYSTEM

3.1 Mission, vision and values

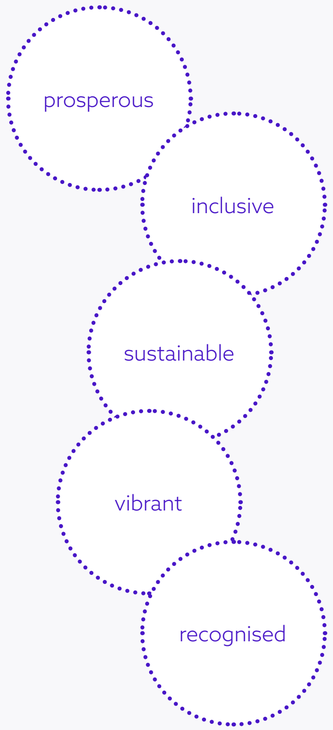
Mission

To lay new foundations for a happy city of the future, in a Braga that:

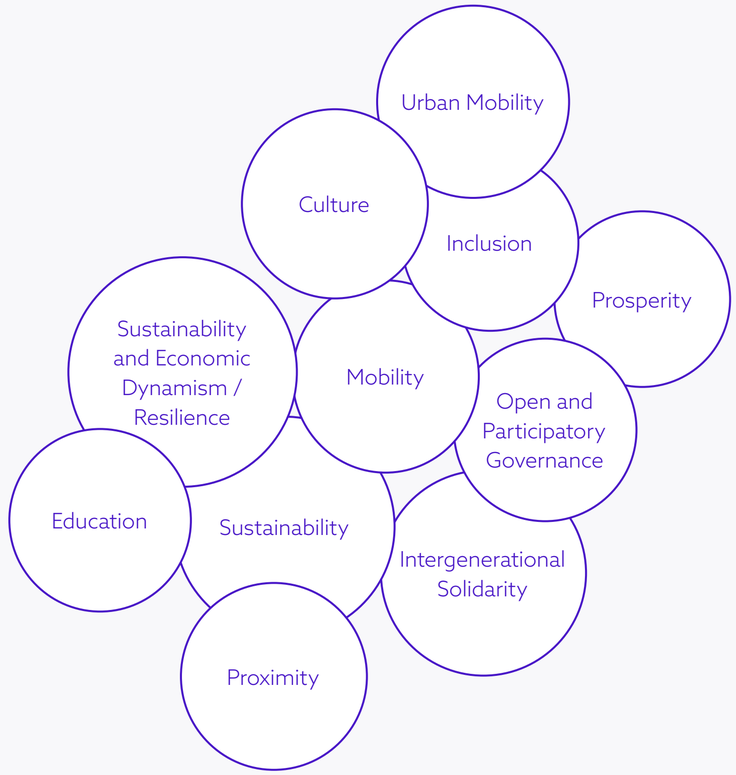


Vision

Braga, a city that is:



Values



3.2 Governance

Constitution of the Portuguese Republic

With an organisational model focused on efficiency, debureaucratisation and proximity to citizens, the Municipality is administered and structured in accordance with the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic, standing out for the existence of representative bodies that ensure the pursuit of the local population's own interests.

Under the terms of the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic, the democratic organisation of the State includes the existence of local authorities, which are territorial legal entities endowed with representative bodies and aimed at pursuing the specific interests of their respective populations (Article 235). Municipalities are the local authorities responsible for pursuing the interests of the population residing within the municipal territory, through representative bodies elected by that population.

The organisational model of the Municipality of Braga's services aims to contribute to the implementation of the Municipality's medium-term vision and strategy with greater efficiency and effectiveness, from a perspective of proximity to citizens, debureaucratisation, efficient allocation of public resources, and quantitative and qualitative improvement of the services provided.

The representative bodies of the Municipality of Braga comprise a deliberative assembly and a collegiate executive body accountable to it, namely:

Municipal Assembly

The deliberative body of the Municipality of Braga, composed of directly elected members in a number greater than that of the Presidents of the Civil Parish Councils who are also members.

Composition::

75 members

38 directly elected members
37 Presidents of the Civil Parish Councils

Town Council

The collegiate executive body of the Municipality of Braga:

Mayor

10 Councillors

At the political level, the Municipal Council of Braga is therefore governed by a municipal executive currently composed of 11 elected representatives, led by the Mayor.

The executive is composed of 6 elected representatives (including the Mayor of the Municipality of Braga) from the Juntos por Braga coalition, to whom all portfolios were assigned, 4 representatives from the Socialist Party (PS), and 1 representative from the CDU – Unitary Democratic Coalition (PCP-PEV).

3.2 Governance
Allocation of Portfolios

Ricardo Rio
Mayor

- Economic Development
- Sustainability
- Civil Parishes
- Finance
- International Relations
- Regional Cooperation
- Local Business Sector
- Culture, Heritage and Tourism
- Animal Welfare Policy

Sameiro Araújo
Deputy Mayor

- Sport
- Youth
- Health and Well-being
- Civil Society and Associations
- Citizenship and Participation
- Municipal Administration
- Human Resources
- Interculturality and Integration

Altino Bessa
Councillor

- Environment and Climate Change
- Civil Protection and Professional Firefighters
- Energy
- Rural Development

João Rodrigues
Councillor

- Planning and Spatial Development
- Urban Planning Management
- Urban Regeneration
- Housing
- Urban Intelligence and Technological Innovation

Olga Pereira
Councillor

- Municipal Works
- Mobility
- Management and Maintenance of Municipal Facilities
- Management and Maintenance of Public Space
- Municipal Police
- Relations with Higher Education Institutions

Carla Sepúlveda
Councillor

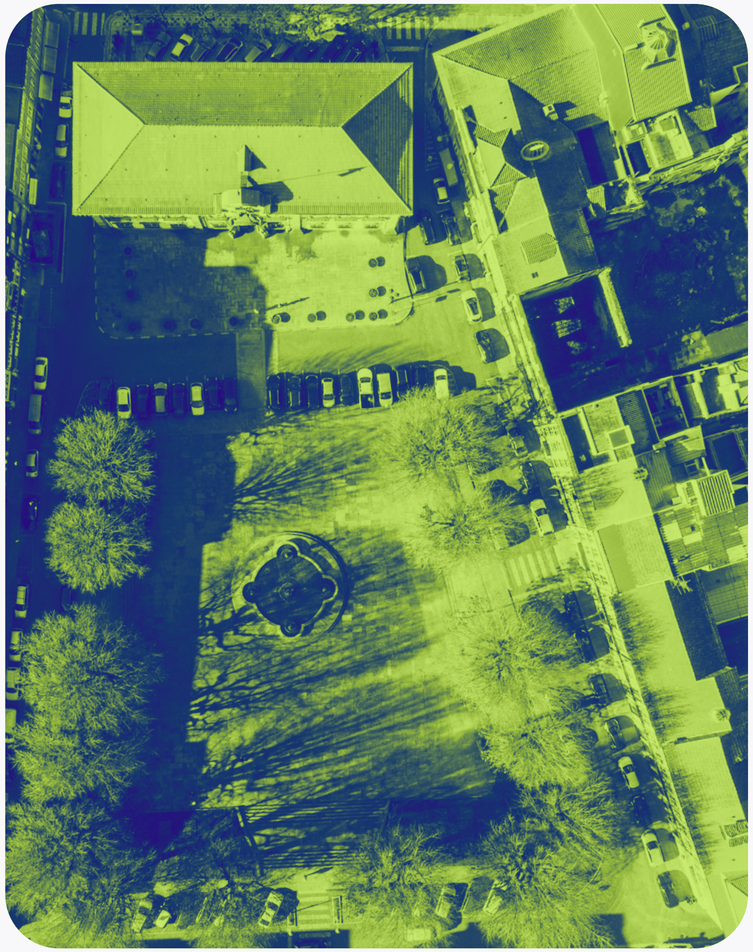
- Education
- Social Innovation and Cohesion

3.2 Governance

Regulatory Code of the Municipality of Braga

The Regulatory Code of the Municipality of Braga is a legal instrument that brings together the Municipality's main regulations with external legal effect. This code consolidates the principal regulations with such effect, excluding municipal spatial planning and land-use management instruments.

Consult
Regulatory Code



Organisational structure

The Municipality of Braga adopts an organisational model based on the organic, core and flexible structure of Municipal Services, developed under Decree-Law No. 305/2009 of 23 October, which establishes the legal framework for the organisation of local authority services.

The version currently in force was approved at a session of the Municipal Assembly held on 1 April 2022, following a proposal by the Municipal Council approved at its meeting of 21 March 2022.

The organisation, structure and functioning of municipal services are guided by the principles of unity and effectiveness of administrative action, proximity to citizens, debureaucratisation, rationalisation of public resources and means, efficiency, continuous improvement of the services provided and citizen participation, in accordance with constitutional principles and the Code of Administrative Procedure.

The municipal organisational regulation has undergone successive amendments and updates

30 September 2022

Amendment approved by the Municipal Assembly and published by Order No. 12033/2022 of 13 October.

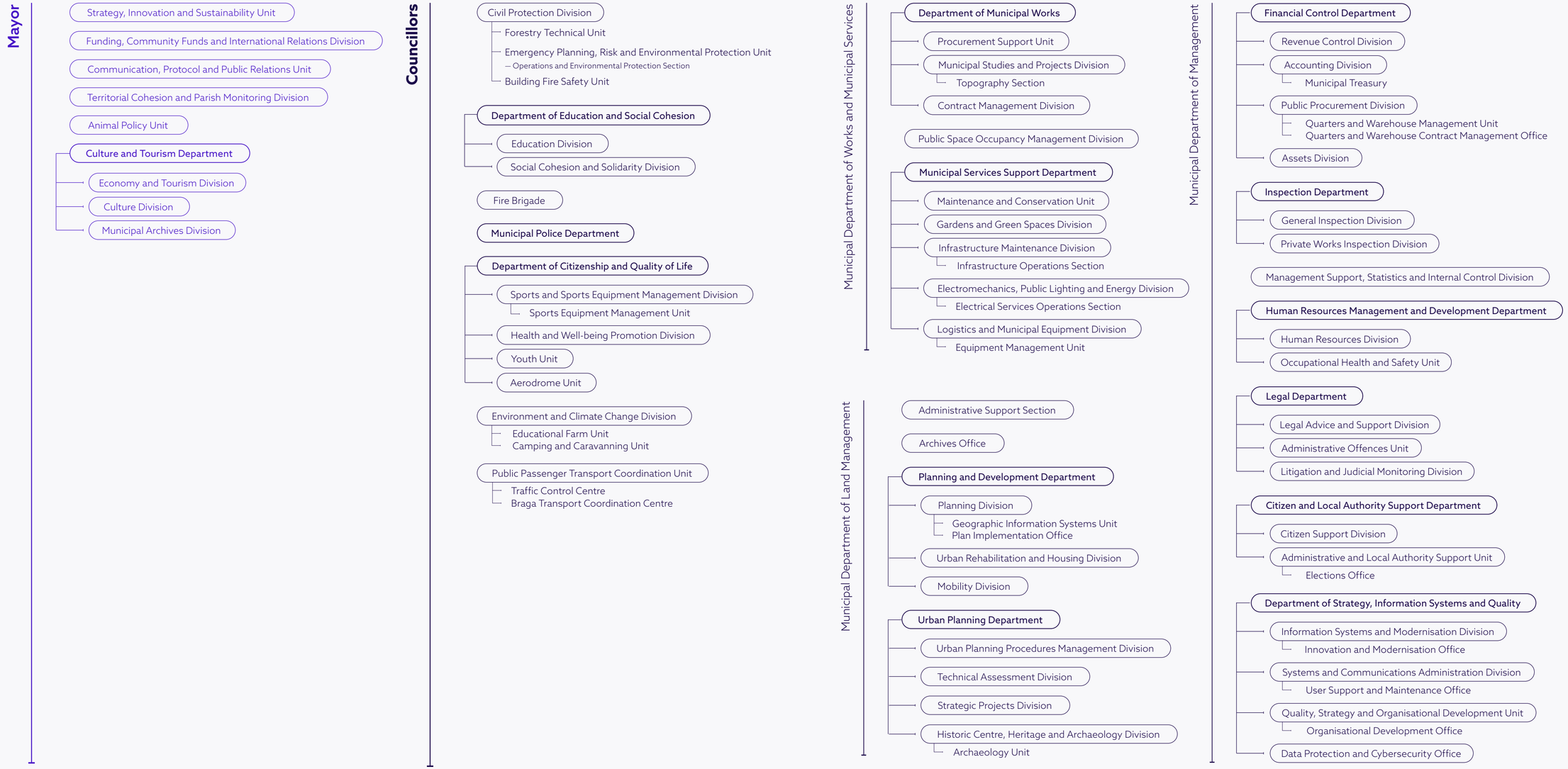
24 July 2023

Further amendment approved by resolution of the Municipal Council and published by Order No. 8834/2023 of 30 August.

21 June 2024

Revision approved by the Municipal Assembly, following a proposal by the Municipal Council dated 29 April 2024, resulting in the amendment and full republication of the regulation, published through Order No. 8132/2024 of 22 July.

3.2 Governance



3.2 Governance
Civil Parishes

The Municipality of Braga comprises 37 civil parishes, which represent the level of public administration closest to citizens and the most direct point of contact with the population.

The Civil Parish Councils are key partners of the Municipal Council, exercising their own competencies in areas such as the management and maintenance of public spaces, community-based social support, community engagement and the preservation of local identity.

The Presidents of the Civil Parish Councils, as elected local representatives, play a highly relevant political role, promoting alignment between local needs and the municipal strategy.

Civil Parishes and Unions of Civil Parishes

- Adaúfe
- Arentim e Cunha
- Cabreiros e Passos (São Julião)
- Celeirós, Aveleda e Vimieiro
- Crespos e Pousada
- Escudeiros, Penso Santo Estêvão e Penso São Vicente
- Espinho
- Esporões
- Este (São Pedro e São Mamede)
- Ferreiros e Gondizalves
- Figueiredo
- Gualtar
- Guisande e Oliveira (São Pedro)
- Lamas
- Lamaçães
- Lomar e Arcos
- Merelim (São Paio), Panóias e Parada de Tibães
- Merelim (São Pedro) e Frossos
- Mire de Tibães
- Morreira e Trandeiras
- Nogueira, Fraião e Lamaçães
- Nogueiró e Tenões
- Padim da Graça
- Palmeira
- Pedralva
- Priscos
- Real, Dume e Semelhe
- Ruilhe
- Santa Lucrécia de Algeriz e Navarra
- São José de São Lázaro e São João do Souto
- São Vicente
- São Vítor
- Sequeira
- Sobreposta
- Tadim
- Tebosa
- Vilaça e Fradelos

3.2 Governance

Municipal and participated companies

Braga's municipal and participated companies are central to the implementation of public policies. They represent specialisation, territorial proximity and management efficiency, enabling the Municipality to internalise strategic competencies, optimise resources and ensure high-quality public services tailored to the real needs of the population.

These entities act as drivers of territorial cohesion, institutional innovation and social and economic sustainability, translating the Municipality's strategic vision into practice.

Their activities cover areas that are critical to quality of life—from culture to housing, from mobility to water and waste management—reinforcing the commitment to a more balanced and sustainable city. The integration of these companies within the municipal accounts consolidation perimeter further ensures stronger alignment between local governance and responsible financial management, strengthening community trust in public action.



3.2 Governance

Municipal and participated companies

Municipal Companies

AGERE – Braga Water, Wastewater and Waste Management Company, E.M. is responsible for water abstraction and distribution, wastewater treatment and the management of urban waste in Braga.

It operates in infrastructure maintenance, selective waste collection and public cleansing, ensuring environmental quality and public health.

Its mission is to provide a sustainable and efficient service, promoting the well-being of the community within the municipality.

TUB – Urban Transport of Braga, E.M. is responsible for the operation of road-based public passenger transport in the municipality of Braga.

It operates fixed routes, defines timetables and ensures urban mobility, promoting sustainable and inclusive solutions.

Its mission is to deliver an efficient, accessible and environmentally friendly transport service. TUB operates throughout the municipality, integrating urban mobility modes and supporting the future coordination of systems such as the BRT.

InvestBraga – Agency for the Economic Development of Braga, E.M. is responsible for promoting the economic development of the municipality of Braga by attracting national and international investment, stimulating entrepreneurship and fostering strategic events.

It implements initiatives such as startup acceleration programmes (through Startup Braga), the organisation of fairs and congresses (at Fórum Braga), and the management of projects aimed at talent attraction and retention.

Its mission is to position Braga as a competitive, innovative and attractive business hub, valuing innovation as a key differentiating factor.

Faz Cultura – Braga Municipal Culture Company, E.M. is responsible for the management and programming of Braga's cultural venues—such as Theatro Circo and gnration—and for coordinating cultural projects including Braga Media Arts and Braga 25.

Its mission is to promote access for the entire community to high-quality artistic initiatives, fostering a diverse and inclusive cultural offer.

It operates across the municipality of Braga with the aim of consolidating Braga as a regional cultural reference.

BragaHabit – Braga Municipal Housing Company, E.M. manages social housing, urban rehabilitation and housing support programmes in the municipality of Braga.

It promotes interventions in the housing stock, affordable rental programmes and social inclusion measures, with the mission of ensuring decent and sustainable housing for families in situations of vulnerability.

BragaHabit also coordinates its activities with the Human Power Hub, supporting the incubation, acceleration and capacity-building of entrepreneurship projects focused on social impact, thereby strengthening the local innovation ecosystem.

3.2 Governance
Municipal and participated companies

Empresas participadas

BRAVAL – Solid Waste Recovery and Treatment, S.A. manages the collection, sorting, recovery and treatment of solid waste across several municipalities in the Braga region.

It implements initiatives such as the operation of eco-parks, the recovery of biowaste and energy production through biogas, promoting the reduction of waste sent to landfill.

Its mission is to transform waste into resources, contributing to a circular economy and environmental protection.

Its activities are carried out on an intermunicipal scale, covering the Cávado River region.

MARB – Wholesale Market of the Braga Region, S.A. is responsible for managing a logistics and food wholesale market that centralises fresh produce, fish, meat, flowers and related services for the north-western region.

It operates a modern food distribution centre, with pavilions for wholesalers and small traders, ensuring regional supply.

Its mission is to ensure efficiency, quality and food safety, promoting proximity between producers and markets. MARB operates on an intermunicipal scale, serving Braga and the wider Minho region and northern Portugal.

3.3 Human resources management

Recognising that people are the organisation's greatest asset, the Municipality of Braga has made the promotion of well-being, professional development and quality of life for its employees a priority, giving rise to the project "Seeing Braga Through People" (ver BRAGA pelas PESSOAS) — a flagship initiative in the field of people management and organisational transformation. This project aims to foster an organisational climate conducive to achieving goals and results, encouraging change and innovation. It also seeks to support ongoing internal transformations, such as digital transition, the revision of the organisational structure and the transfer of competencies, while ensuring the implementation of the Executive's Strategic Programme.

At the same time, the project places particular emphasis on improving the quality of life of municipal employees by enhancing working conditions and overall well-being. This commitment has been translated into an Action Plan with specific measures that accompany the entire employee lifecycle within the Municipality—from recruitment to exit.

For 2024, five strategic objectives were defined:

- Ensure the human resources required to deliver municipal services, promoting a culture of well-being and organisational happiness that supports talent attraction and retention.
- Guarantee continuous service improvement through sustainable practices aligned with the needs of the organisation and the community.
- Improve working conditions, quality of life and employee well-being, creating an organisational environment that encourages innovation, change and the achievement of results.
- Establish close and effective internal communication, promoting employee engagement and active participation.
- Foster the qualification of municipal employees, ensuring that competencies are aligned with service requirements.

In summary, the "ver BRAGA pelas PESSOAS" project reinforces the Municipality's commitment to valuing its employees and to the continuous improvement of public services.

3.3 Human resources management

Human Resources profile and structure

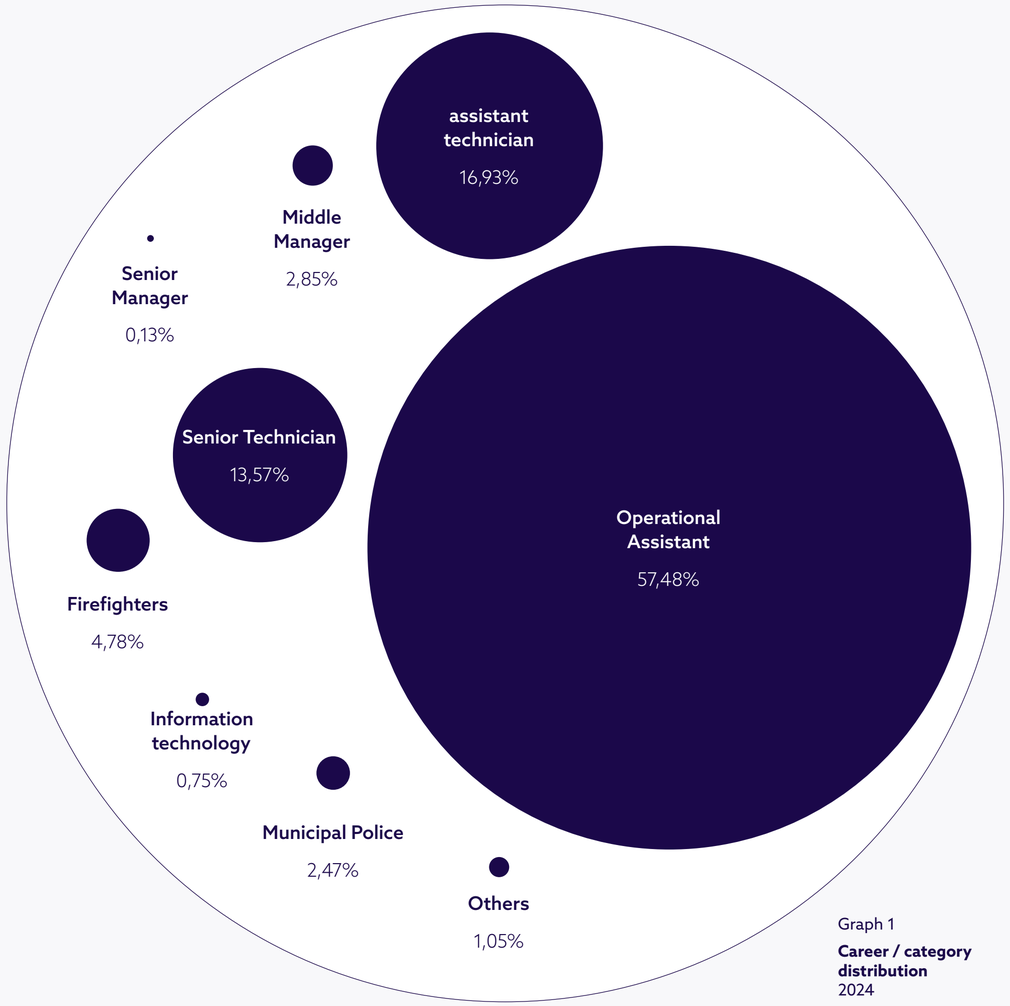
Indicator		2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of employees		1 737	2 033	2 267	2 387
Feminisation rate	%	55	61	61	62
Average age	years	50	50	50	49
Age range		3,29	3,14	3,63	3,63
Ageing rate	% >55 years	39,15	36,84	37,72	35,61
Technical qualification index – higher education		11,51	11,21	12,13	16,93
Average jength of service	years	24	18	16	15
Recruitment rate	%	13,07	27,99	21,70	19,60
Departure rate	%	7,89	13,43	11,38	14,60
Replacement rate	%	165,69	208,42	190,70	134,50
Absenteeism rate	%	11,65	11,78	11,72	13,24
Employees with disabilities	%	3,91	3,25	3,48	3,69
Foreign employees	%	0,17	0,44	0,49	0,50
Training participation rate	%	36,97	39,06	30,30	199,04
Time invested in training	%	0,60	0,53	0,60	1,50
Investment in training	%	0,28	0,24	0,42	0,74
Occupational accident incidence rate	%	8,12	9,44	8,47	8,88
Occupational health coverage rate	%	44,67	69,06	56,90	58,60
Disciplinary incident rate	%	0,06	0,20	0,13	0,46

Table 1

Human Resources profile and structure

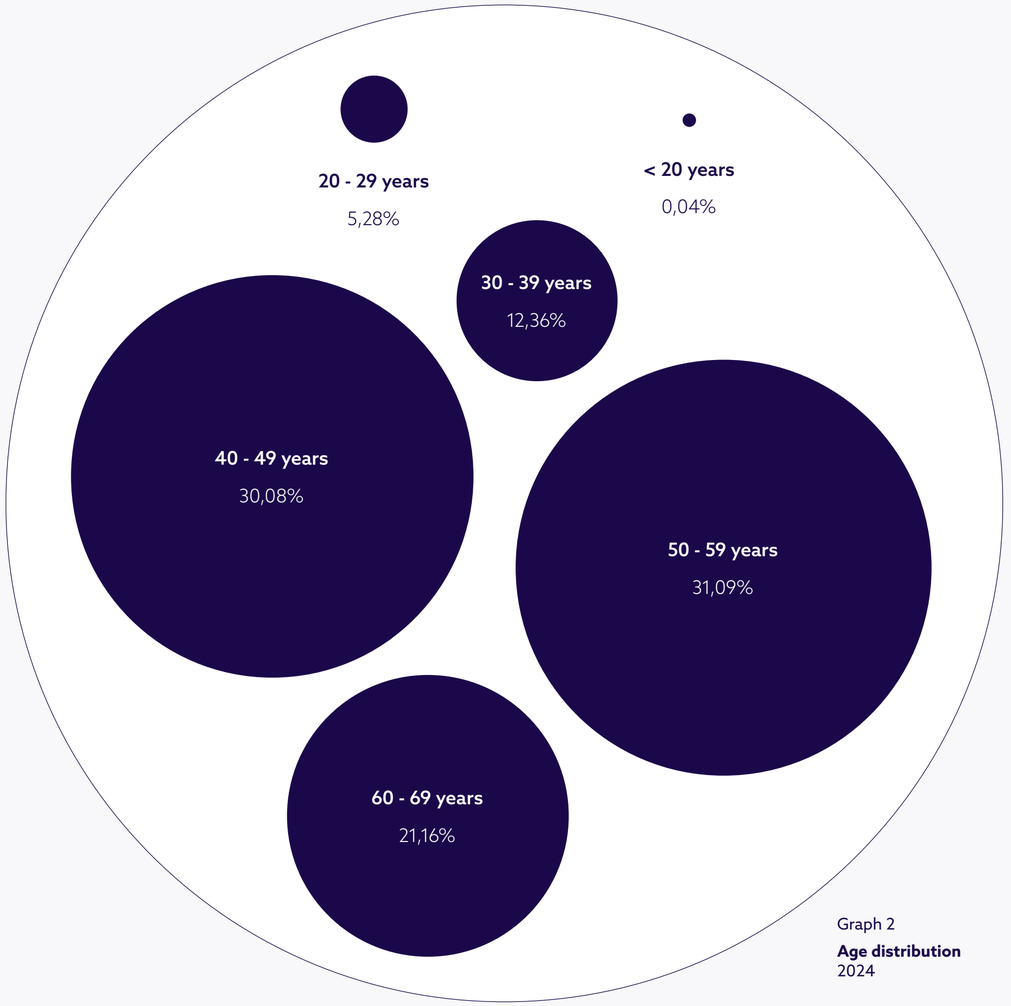
3.3 Human resources management

Human Resources profile and structure



Graph 1

Career / category distribution
2024

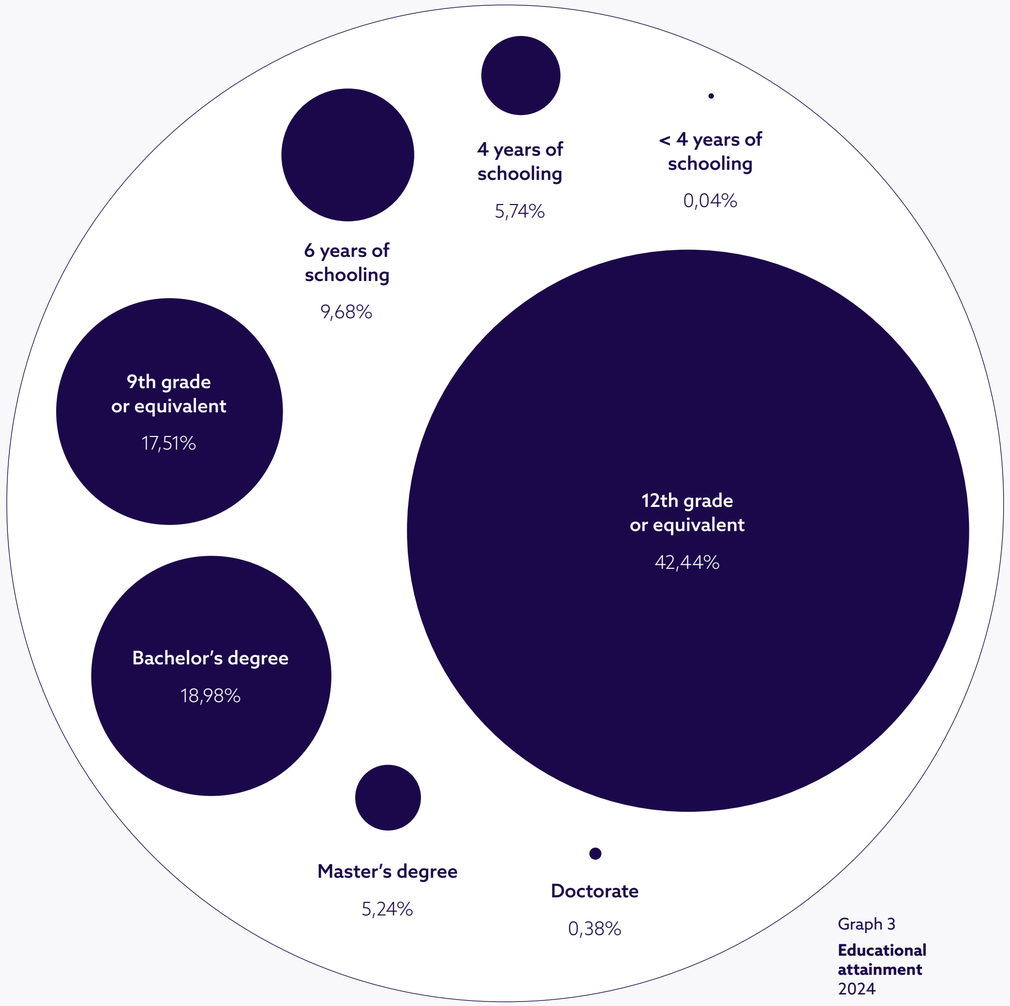


Graph 2

Age distribution
2024

3.3 Human resources management

Profile and structure of Human Resources



Graph 3
Educational attainment
2024

In order to ensure the human resources required for the delivery of municipal services, it was essential to review job functions and competency profiles by area. This process also included the approval of a recruitment plan and the annual staff map by service, with the aim of strengthening teams—particularly in specialised areas—increasing the technical qualification index, preparing for workforce turnover due to retirement, and integrating the processes associated with the transfer of competences in the areas of education, health and social action.

The main results achieved were as follows:

50% increase in the number of employees in technical career paths

In 2021, the Municipality had 200 Senior Technical Officers (11% of total municipal staff); by 2024, this number had increased to 404, representing 17% of the total workforce.

Significant reduction of 348 days in average recruitment times

The average recruitment time was reduced from 473 days (2021/2022) to 125 days in 2024.

27% increase in the total number of employees

The number of permanent employees increased from 1,737 in 2021 to 2,387 in 2024. This growth resulted, on the one hand, from the integration of staff following the transfer of competences in the areas of education and health and, on the other hand, from the reinforcement of essential technical teams, including senior technical staff in architecture, legal affairs, environment, civil engineering, management and organisation, as well as professional firefighters, municipal police officers, among others.

3.3 Human resources management

Training and development programme

In order to promote the continuous development of employees' competences and respond to the growing challenges of public administration, the Municipality of Braga implemented a Training and Development Programme focused on qualification, innovation and professional development.

In 2024, the Municipality approved its first annual Training Plan, developed on the basis of needs identified by municipal services and aligned with five strategic areas for competence development, considered essential to achieving high levels of effectiveness, quality and continuous improvement:

- Digital competences
- Management, innovation and sustainability
- Administrative law
- Public service
- Specific technical skills

In addition to the Training Plan, three specific training programmes were created:

- Organisational knowledge programme

aimed at the integration of new employees, promoting knowledge of the Municipality's dynamics, strategy and operating model.

- Leadership programme

focused on developing leadership competences among municipal managers, covering areas such as sustainability, communication, people management, budget management and emotional management

- Training academy "Empowering to Educate"

designed for operational assistants in the education sector, with training actions focused on paediatric first aid, intervention with children with specific needs, and conscious and positive education practices.

During 2024, several internal training, information and awareness-raising actions were also promoted, including:

- Ethics, culture and integrity management in organisations

in partnership with the Legal Department, following the approval of the Code of Ethics, Conduct and Prevention of Harassment at Work

- Data protection and cybersecurity
- Environment and sustainability

through initiatives such as:

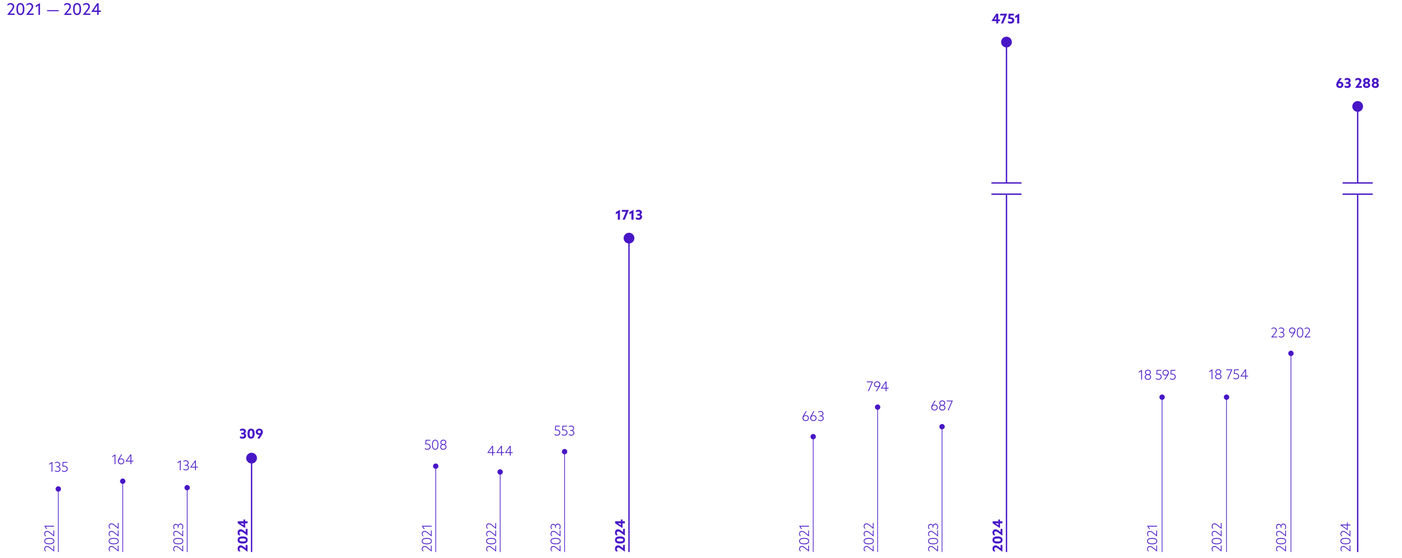
- Sustainability in events
- Climate Change and Sustainability
- Advanced Programme in Sustainability and Leadership
- Sustainability 1.0: Think Global, Act Local
- Environmental Criteria in Public Procurement: obligation or opportunity?
- Course on Administrative Offences in Local Authorities, with a focus on environmental offences.

3.3 Human resources management
Training and development programme

This investment in internal training resulted in a 162% increase in participation in training courses. In 2021, the participation rate was 36.97%, rising to 199.04% in 2024, representing an effective training coverage rate of 71%.

Graph 4

Training and development programme
2021 — 2024



3.3 Human resources management

Organisational well-being programme

Equilíbrio Programme

The Equilíbrio Programme is a health and well-being initiative designed for all employees of the Municipality of Braga. Structured around three pillars—Physical, Mental and Social Balance—it integrates more than 20 measures aimed at promoting healthy lifestyles and improving overall well-being.

Key initiatives included pilates, yoga, workplace exercise (online and in person), free consultations in psychology, nutrition and family medicine, health-related webinars, team-based celebrations of commemorative dates, and the Employees' Meeting, among others.

In 2024, 23% of employees participated regularly in programme initiatives, and a 300% participation rate was recorded in one-off activities. According to collected data, 78% of participants reported being satisfied or very satisfied with the programme.

Occupational health and safety

In 2024, the area of Occupational Health and Safety was further strengthened through the expansion of the technical team, enabling continuous monitoring of risk activities and risk assessments at all workstations. Occupational Medicine services were also internalised, contributing to greater proximity and effectiveness.

Another significant advancement was the revision and modernisation of workwear and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), accompanied by the implementation of a continuous supply procedure with centralised management through the Municipal Warehouse, significantly improving safety conditions.

Main results:

- Implementation of 399 corrective and improvement measures
- 6% reduction in general expenses related to safety
- 23% reduction in days lost due to workplace accidents.

Teleworking

A Teleworking Regulation was also developed, in collaboration with management and employee representatives. This regulation enables a hybrid working model adapted to the municipal context, with a positive impact on employee motivation, satisfaction and engagement.

Employee satisfaction survey

In 2024, the Municipality conducted an Employee Satisfaction Survey carried out by an external entity—the National Observatory for Human Resources (ONRH). The survey covered 2,263 employees and aimed to assess the organisational climate and measure levels of satisfaction, loyalty and engagement. The results revealed average values above the national average across all assessed dimensions.

3.3 Human resources management
Organisational well-being programme

Above-average satisfaction compared to the national benchmark

The satisfaction survey conducted in 2024 revealed that employees of the Municipality of Braga assigned an overall score of 67.6 out of 100, exceeding the national average recorded by the National Human Resources Observatory (ONRH), including that of public sector entities. The average overall satisfaction rating was 7.3 out of 10.

Areas of positive distinction

The Municipality of Braga stood out across several indicators when compared to the national average, particularly in satisfaction with sports, cultural and social activities, the benefits and incentives provided, pride in working for the Municipal Council, the perceived balance between personal and professional life, and the intention to remain associated with the municipality.

Differences in perception by gender

The study indicated that female employees tend to report higher levels of satisfaction than their male counterparts, demonstrating a more positive perception across the various dimensions assessed.

Higher satisfaction among recent employees

Employees with less than two years of service at the Municipal Council recorded the highest evaluations across all dimensions, which may reflect effective initial integration processes and expectations aligned with the organisational reality.

Impact of the organisational context

The analysis of the satisfaction model concluded that the organisational context — namely the working environment, internal culture and relationships among colleagues — is the dimension that most significantly contributes to overall employee satisfaction.

Graph 5

Satisfaction survey
2024



3.3 Human resources management

Certifications and recognitions

For the Municipality of Braga, this external recognition of its efforts and commitment to quality, employee well-being and professional development is a source of pride and a stimulus for continuous improvement.

Following the implementation of the various initiatives and policies aimed at valuing employees, the Municipality of Braga achieved, in 2024, significant certifications and recognitions that reflect its commitment to organisational quality, safety and well-being at work, namely:

Certification in

Norma ISO 9001:2015

of all activities carried out by the Human Resources Management and Development Department.

Awarding of the Seal, Level II

HEALTHY WORKPLACES AWARD'24
PRÉMIO LOCAIS DE TRABALHO SAUDÁVEIS
ORDEM DOS PSICÓLOGOS PORTUGUESES

This award comes as part of the application for the Healthy Workplaces Award 2024 initiative and recognises the company's ongoing commitment to practices that promote safety, well-being and physical and mental health.

3.4 Energy resources management

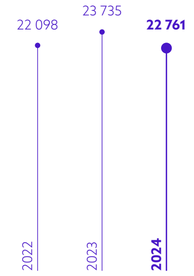
Energy consumption and production

As part of its commitment to sustainability and responsible resource management, the Municipality of Braga has been monitoring and optimising energy consumption and production, promoting energy efficiency and reducing environmental impact across its areas of activity.

One of the most significant components of this effort is electricity consumption, which represents a substantial share of municipal energy use, covering administrative buildings, schools, sports and cultural facilities, support infrastructures and public lighting. Between 2022 and 2024, overall electricity consumption remained relatively stable; however, there was a significant change in the internal distribution of consumption. The proportion of energy associated with public buildings and facilities increased from 35% in 2022 to 46% in 2024, reflecting the growth in the number of monitored installations and buildings under direct municipal management. Conversely, public lighting reduced its relative share from 64% to 53%, demonstrating the energy efficiency gains achieved through the progressive replacement of luminaires with LED technology.

Graph 6

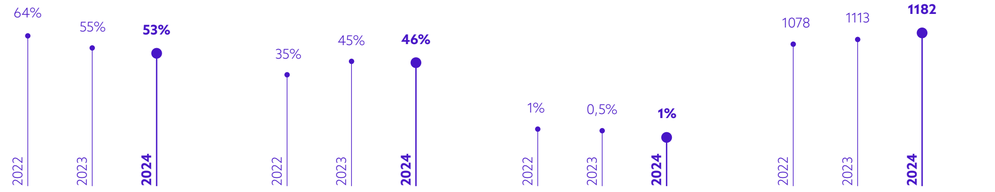
Electricity consumption
2022 — 2024



Total consumption (MWh)

Graph 7

Electricity consumption by type
2022 — 2024



Street lighting — Buildings — Others — Number of buildings

3.4 Energy resources management

Energy consumption and production

In terms of energy production, the Municipality operates photovoltaic solar systems installed in municipal buildings, such as the Pópulo Building and the Professional Firefighters' Headquarters. These systems contribute to reducing grid electricity consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, in line with carbon neutrality objectives.

Regarding fossil fuel consumption (diesel and petrol), this is associated with the operation of the municipal fleet, namely in public space maintenance services, staff transportation and logistical support.

Between 2022 and 2024, there was an overall increase in fuel consumption, with diesel accounting for the majority of the total. Nevertheless, in 2024 a reduction was recorded compared to 2023, demonstrating the Municipality's commitment to gradually reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

Water Consumption

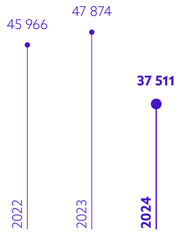
Responsible water management is one of the guiding principles of the Municipality of Braga's sustainability approach. Aware of the importance of this resource, the Municipality has been systematically monitoring its water consumption in order to ensure efficient use aligned with the needs of different services.

Municipal water consumption is associated with several operational areas, namely public buildings and facilities, maintenance of green spaces, urban cleaning and support infrastructures. Between 2022 and 2024, an upward trend in total consumption was observed, with a marked increase in 2024, reflecting both the expansion of municipal services and the reinforcement of urban and environmental maintenance activities.

Graph 8

Photovoltaic energy production
2022 — 2024

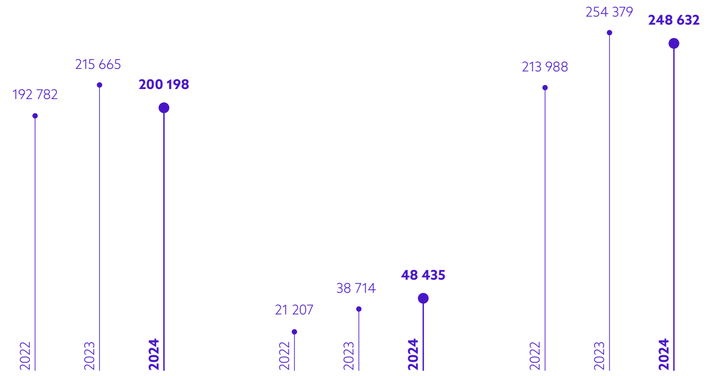
In 2024, one of the production units recorded a lack of data for four months, so the figure shown is not representative of total annual production.



Production (kWh)

Graph 9

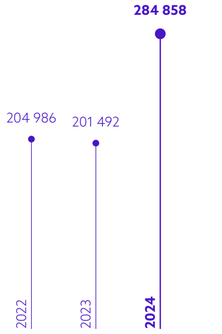
Fossil fuel consumption
2022 — 2024



Diesel (L) — Petrol (L) — Total (L)

Graph 10

Water consumption
2022 — 2024



Total consumption (m^3)

3.5 Financial performance

Income statement for the Municipality of Braga

This refers exclusively to the financial and economic activity of the municipality as an isolated entity. It includes revenue and expenditure directly managed by municipal services (such as taxes, fees, state transfers, personnel expenses, municipal investments, etc.), without considering the performance of municipal or affiliated companies.

In 2024, the Municipality of Braga's activity generated revenues of €165 million and expenditures of €188 million, resulting in a net loss of approximately

€23 million. The increase in expenditure compared to the previous financial year was around 19% (+€29.7 million), driven mainly by growth in personnel costs (+€5.6 million; +12%), transfers and subsidies granted (+€9.9 million; +23%) and interest incurred (+€0.6 million; +77%), reflecting greater recourse to credit and rising interest rates. On the income side, there was a positive change of +12.1 million euros (+8%), with emphasis on the growth in current transfers and subsidies obtained (+10.8 million euros; +18%) and the increase in taxes, contributions and fees (+2.6 million euros; +4%). On the other hand, there was the elimination of imputed income from controlled entities (-3.8 million euros) and a reduction in other income. The 2024 results show a strengthening of tax revenue and transfers from the State, as well as a positive evolution in total income (+8%), which partially mitigated the impact of the increase in expenditure. Despite the negative net result, the Municipality demonstrates its capacity for growth in generating its own revenue and greater robustness in attracting external financing, factors that consolidate the foundations for future financial sustainability and for maintaining investment in areas strategic for the city's development.

3.5 Financial performance

Income statement for the Municipality of Braga

	2023		2023 (reexpresso)		2024		Variation	
Expenses	**value**	**%**	**value**	**%**	**value**	**%**	**value**	**%**
CMVMC	1 022 162	0,7	1 022 162	0,6	1 130 393	0,6	108 231	11
FSE	37 427 008	24,7	37 427 008	23,7	41 612 589	22,1	4 185 581	11
Personnel expenses	46 285 308	30,5	46 285 308	29,3	51 877 753	27,6	5 592 445	12
Grants and subsidies awarded	33 807 634	22,3	33 807 634	21,4	43 756 453	23,3	9 948 819	29
Depreciation and amortization expenses	24 494 344	16,2	24 494 344	15,5	24 965 061	13,3	470 716	2
Provisions (increases)	223 159	0,1	6 947 223	4,4	12 660 251	6,7	5 713 028	82
Other expenses	7 419 209	4,9	7 419 209	4,7	3 527 289	1,9	-3 891 919	-52
Interest and similar expenses incurred	834 956	0,6	834 956	0,5	1 479 579	0,8	644 623	77
Imputed income from controlled entities	0	0,0	0	0,0	6 874 135	3,7	6 874 135	-
Impairment of receivables (gains)	0	0,0	0	0,0	43 418	0,0	43 418	-
Total	**151 513 780**	**100**	**158 237 844**	**100**	**187 926 921**	**100**	**29 689 077**	**19**
Revenue	**value**	**%**	**value**	**%**	**value**	**%**	**value**	**%**
Taxes, contributions, and fees	73 177 111	48,0	73 177 111	48,0	75 772 743	46,1	2 595 632	4
Sales, services rendered, and concessions	2 541 191	1,7	2 541 191	1,7	3 010 411	1,8	469 221	18
Imputed income from controlled entities	3 815 850	2,5	3 815 850	2,5	0	0,0	- 3 815 850	-
Current transfers and subsidies received	60 172 801	39,5	60 172 801	39,5	70 937 694	43,1	10 764 893	18
Work performed for own entity	25 549	0,0	25 549	0,0	48 222	0,0	22 673	89
Other income	11 561 023	7,6	11 561 023	7,6	14 577 260	8,9	3 016 236	26
Impairment of receivables (gains)	887 124	0,6	887 124	0,6	0	0,0	- 887 124	-
Interest and similar income received	182 912	0,1	182 912	0,1	161 231	0,1	-21 681	-12
Total	**152 363 560**	**100**	**152 363 560**	**100**	**164 507 561**	**100**	**12 144 001**	**8**
Net Result for the Period	**849 779**		**-5 874 285**		**-23 419 360**		**-17 545 075**	**299**

See
2024 Consolidated Financial Statements

Table 2
Income statement by nature comparative

3.5 Financial performance

Consolidated income statement of the Braga Municipal Group

The information presented integrates the Municipality of Braga with its municipal companies and affiliated entities within the Group's perimeter, offering a comprehensive and consolidated view of economic and financial performance. This approach allows an assessment of the combined impact of the Municipality's direct administration and its entities, as well as the interaction between local governance and the management of municipal companies.

In 2024, the Braga Municipal Group recorded a net loss of €23 million, largely influenced by the integration of Sociedade Gestora de Equipamentos de Braga (SGEB), which reported losses of €5.4 million. Nevertheless, several municipal companies achieved positive results, helping to offset the overall financial effort.

Consolidated revenues reached €209 million, reflecting a 7% increase compared to 2023. This growth was driven by higher municipal tax revenues — particularly from property tax (IMI) and corporate surtax (Derrama) — as well as state transfers and other significant income sources.

On the expenditure side, total spending of 229 million primarily reflects:

80,8 million € — Personnel costs, which increased by 11% due to career progression and new hires.

54,3 million € — External services, necessary to ensure operational responsiveness.

7,7 million€ — Interest charges, higher than in 2023 due to increased borrowing and rising interest rates.

The consolidated assets increased to €1,056 million (up €58 million from 2023). Liabilities rose to €252 million, reflecting new loans aimed at financing structural investments in the municipality. Despite this increase in obligations, net equity remained robust at €804 million, and financial autonomy stayed solid at 76%, even though the debt ratio rose to 23.9%.

Net result for 2024 of Braga Municipal companies

+5,4 million € — TUB
Urban Transport of Braga

+5,8 million € — AGERE
Water, Wastewater, and Waste Management

+215 thousand € — BragaHabit
Housing

+91 thousand € — Faz Cultura
Culture and Arts

+21 thousand € — InvestBraga
Economic Development

3.5 Financial performance

Consolidated income statement of the Braga Municipal Group

	2024	2023 (reexpresso)	2023
Expenses	**value**	**value**	**value**
Taxes, contributions, and fees	75 772 743,13	73 177 110,66	73 177 110,66
Sales	9 097 761,34	8 766 433,59	8 766 433,59
Services rendered and concessions	28 111 359,96	33 808 357,64	33 808 357,64
Imputed income/expenses from controlled, associated entities, and joint ventures	0	4 679,47	4 679,47
Current transfers and subsidies received	71 746 747,73	61 196 907,18	61 196 907,18
Work performed for own entity	1 372 511,90	1 125 848,75	1 125 848,75
Impairment of receivables (reversals)		726 497,76	726 497,76
Provisions	0	0	0
Interest and similar income received	625 226,21	293 397,70	293 397,70
Other income	22 643 295,28	16 442 809,04	16 442 809,04
Total	**209 369 645,55**	**195 542 041,79**	**195 542 041,79**
Revenue	**value**	**value**	**value**
Imputed income/expenses from controlled, associated entities, and joint ventures	15 165 350,59	0	0
Cost of goods sold and consumed materials	5 084 494,49	4 750 328,28	4 750 328,28
External supplies and services	54 344 197,85	54 932 247,92	54 932 247,92
Personnel expenses	80 859 369,80	72 507 709,78	72 507 709,78
Grants and subsidies awarded	15 976 271,23	17 639 095,24	17 639 095,24
Impairment of receivables (losses/reversals)	232 884,85	0	0
Provisions	2 675 627,27	6 927 223,19	203 159,19
Other expenses	9 830 355,15	12 287 958,20	12 287 958,20
Depreciation and amortization expenses / reversals	37 609 774,38	33 295 051,87	33 295 051,87
Interest and similar expenses incurred	7 753 866,01	2 568 856,13	2 568 856,13
Total	**229 532 191,62**	**204 908 470,61**	**198 184 406,61**
Net profit for the period	**-20 162 546,07**	**-9 366 428,82**	**-2 642 364,82**
Non-controlling interests	**2 850 071,62**	**41 085,21**	**41 085,21**
Net profit attributable to equity holders of the parent company	**-23 012 617,69**	**-9 407 514,03**	**-2 683 450,03**

See **2024 Consolidated Financial Statements**

Table 3

Consolidated Income Statement

A holistic and integrative view of sustainability, aimed at responding in a structured and consistent way to emerging challenges.

4

STRATEGIC APPROACH TO SUSTAINABILITY

4.1 Strategic model

In a time marked by profound change and unprecedented global challenges, Braga chooses to respond with vision and determination. The Municipality's commitment is clear: to transform the city into a territory capable of anticipating trends, integrating innovation, and placing people at the center of decision-making.

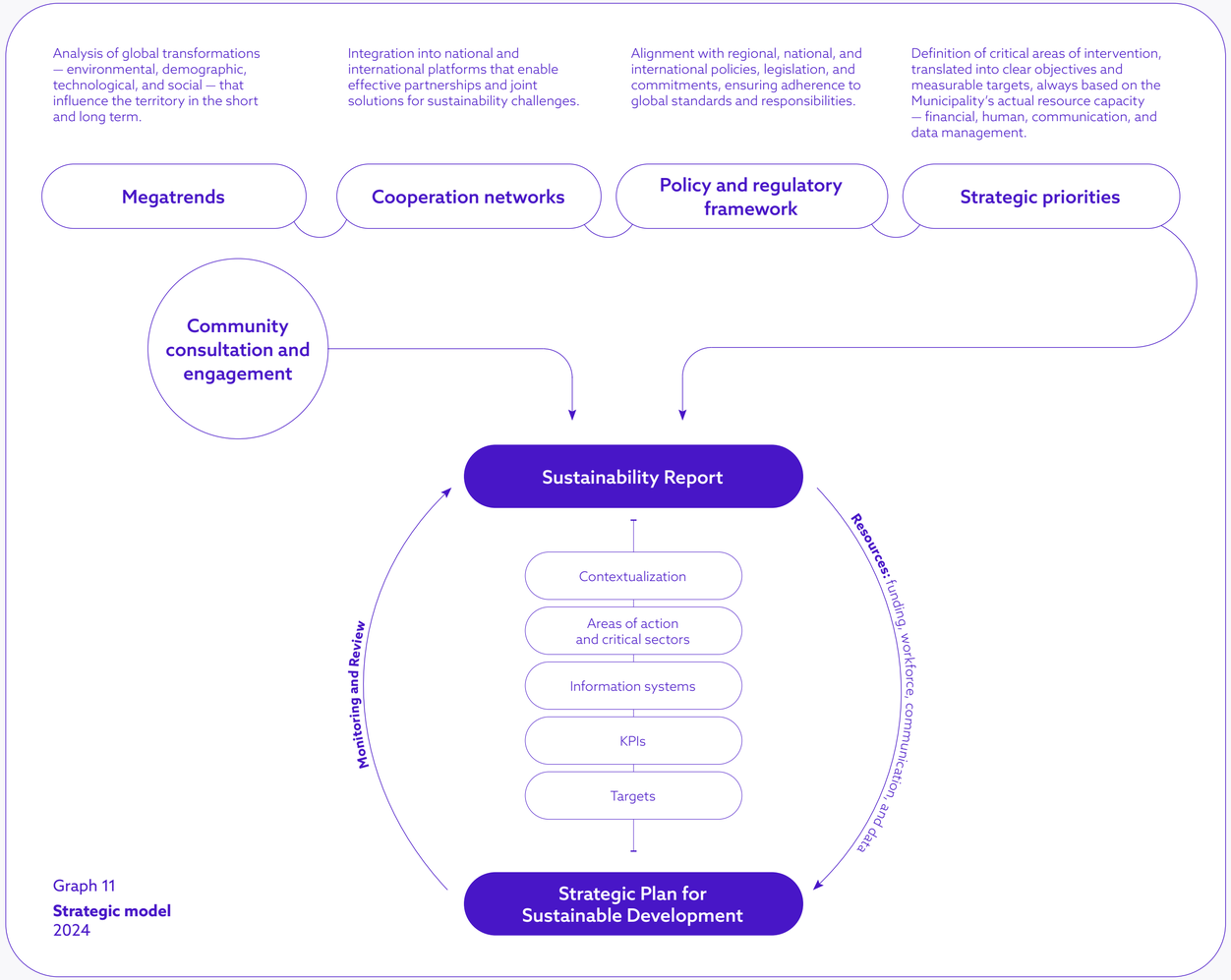
This journey is not only about planning for the future — it is about acting now, mobilizing citizens, institutions, and businesses to ensure that Braga increasingly stands out as a reference for sustainability, inclusion, and resilience at both national and international levels.

To give substance to this vision, the Municipality of Braga has designed a strategic model oriented toward the challenges of the 21st century, aiming to build a more sustainable, inclusive, and resilient future. This model results from a broad, participatory consultation process with the community, ensuring that citizens' concerns, expectations, and ambitions are reflected in decision-making.

The strategy is built upon four fundamental pillars: Megatrends, Cooperation Networks, Political and Regulatory Framework, and Strategic Priorities. This pragmatic framework enabled the formulation of viable and realistic actions capable of strengthening the Municipality's response to future challenges. In this context, the Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development of Braga 2030 emerges as the structured realization of this vision.

Developed in partnership with the University of Minho, the plan consolidates guiding principles into an integrative document, with a clear ambition to promote structural change within the municipal organization, making it more prepared, agile, and aligned with the commitments of the 2030 Agenda.

Adopting a holistic approach, the plan identifies transformative levers capable of positioning Braga as a model of urban innovation and leadership, accelerating in concrete terms the transition toward a more sustainable city.



Graph 11
Strategic model
2024

4.2 Community engagement and Cconsultation

Strategic Council for Sustainable Development

Stakeholder engagement is a central element in the development of the Sustainable Development Strategy. Through this process, the Municipality of Braga ensures that implemented policies and actions reflect the community's real concerns, enhancing transparency, legitimizing decisions, and creating space for innovative solutions tailored to the local context.

In 2023, the Strategic Council for Sustainable Development (CEDS) was established, bringing together leading experts, academic institutions, influential organizations, and committed citizens. Its role is to ensure that Braga's strategic decisions are informed by qualified contributions and oriented toward the effective implementation of sustainability goals.

CEDS includes representatives from the University of Minho, INL, Universidade Católica Portuguesa, IPCA, CIM Cávado, CCDR-N, ODS Local, CESOP Local, and BCSD Portugal, combining scientific knowledge, practical experience, and community vision. This diversity guarantees a comprehensive approach to the city's priorities.

The Council meets twice a year, ensuring regular monitoring of the strategy and updating priorities in line with emerging challenges.

In 2024, CEDS continued its work, deepening the application of the Strategic Model for Sustainable Development. Concrete goals and actions were consolidated, reinforcing Braga's commitment to establish itself as a national and international reference in sustainable development, uniting different perspectives and promoting progress with environmental and social responsibility.



4.2 Community engagement and consultation

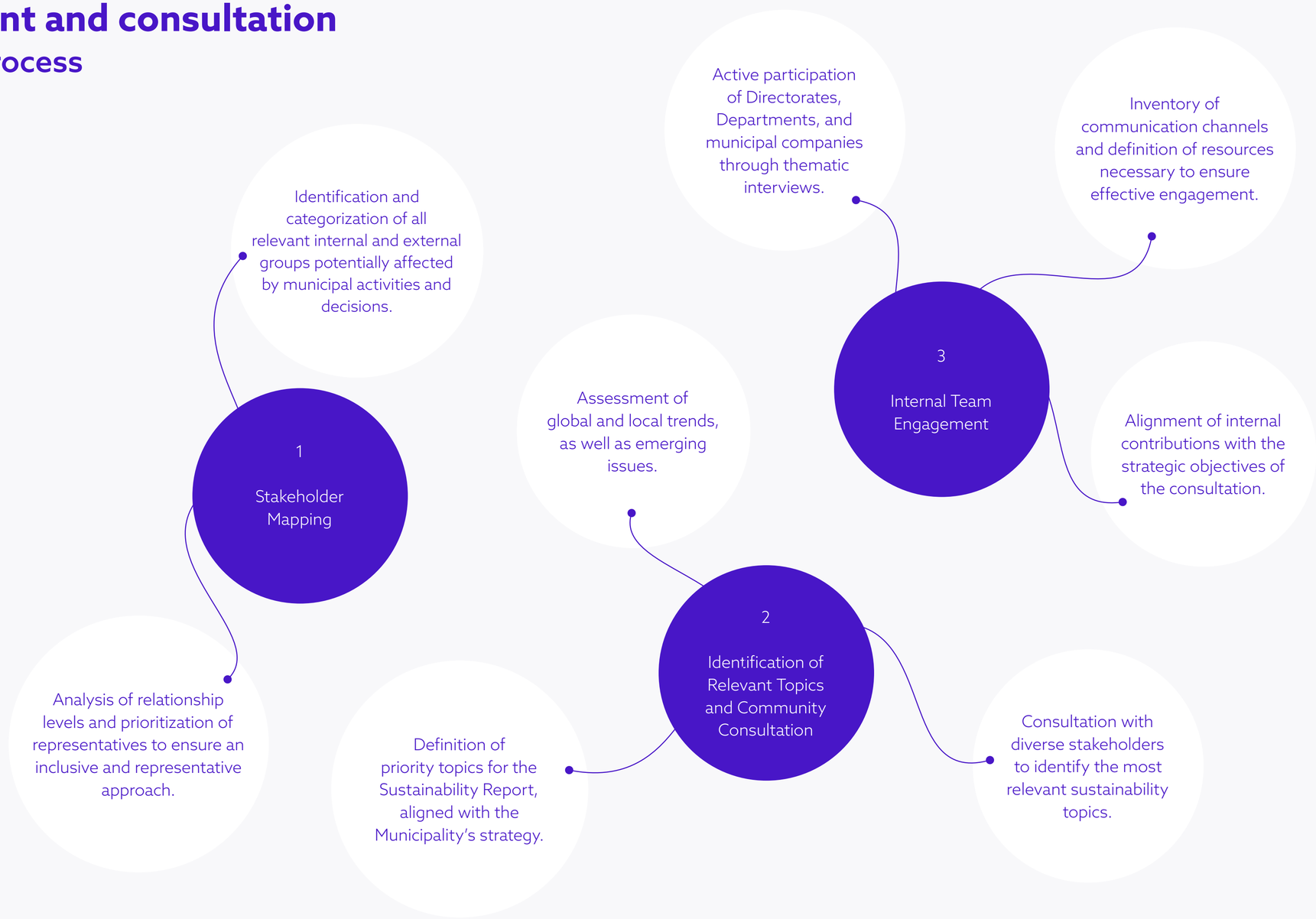
Stakeholder consultation process

As part of the preparation of the Sustainability Report, a structured stakeholder consultation process was conducted to support the definition of material topics for inclusion in the document.

This process allowed the collection of diverse perspectives and expectations from the community, ensuring that the topics addressed in the report reflect not only the Municipality's strategic vision but also the priorities expressed by various stakeholder groups.

The consultation process was carried out in three key stages, ensuring an inclusive and participatory approach.

The consultation was developed in three key stages, ensuring an inclusive and participatory approach. This process consolidated collaboration among citizens, entities, and municipal administration, establishing a robust foundation for defining the Municipality's strategic priorities.



4.2 Community engagement and consultation

Stakeholder groups

As part of the consultation process, the Municipality of Braga defined a broad set of stakeholder groups, representative of the social, economic, cultural and institutional diversity of the municipality. This identification ensures that different perspectives and expectations are considered, promoting an inclusive and transparent dialogue.

The inclusion of these groups ensures that the consultation is comprehensive and participatory, reflecting the multiplicity of interests and responsibilities existing in the Municipality of Braga.

General Community

Citizens at large, as recipients of municipal policies and services.

Business Sector

Companies and economic agents contributing to local development.

Municipal Companies

Entities under municipal responsibility providing essential services.

Associations and NGOs

Civil society organizations active in various social,

Governmental Entities

Public administration bodies operating within the municipality.

Education, Teaching, and Research Institutions

Schools, universities, and research centers, essential for training and innovation.

Sports Associations and Clubs

Entities dedicated to promoting sports and physical activity.

Healthcare Institutions

Hospitals, health centers, and other healthcare service providers.

Suppliers

Business partners and providers of goods and services to the Municipality.

Social Institutions

Organizations providing social support and solidarity services.

Regional Entities

Institutions coordinating regional-level policies.

Citizen Groups

Organizations or collectives representing the interests of the population.

Networks

Platforms for inter-institutional cooperation and coordination.

Religious Institutions

Faith communities with an active presence in the municipality.

Press

Local, regional, and national media outlets.

European Entities

European organizations and programs with local impact.

Cultural Entities and Associations

Cultural and artistic agents within the territory.

Municipal Employees

Municipality workers, essential to the functioning of local government.

Parish Councils

Local entities representing the parishes of the municipality.

Security and Civil Protection Institutions

Security forces and services responsible for community protection and safety.

4.2 Community involvement and consultation

Identification of relevant topics

Identifying the sustainability topics most relevant to the sustainable development of the municipality is a fundamental process that allows us to understand which issues are most relevant, both for municipal management bodies and for citizens, local entities and other stakeholders.

To this end, questionnaires were conducted with different community groups during the third and fourth quarters of 2025. The responses collected were weighted differently according to each group's contribution, ensuring that all perspectives were taken into account in the selection of the most significant topics.

The matrix presented represents the most relevant topics for the sustainable development of the Municipality of Braga, resulting from the intersection between the perception of municipal management (horizontal axis) and external stakeholders (vertical axis), such as citizens, institutions and community organisations.

Each point on the matrix corresponds to a priority topic, whose position reflects the degree of importance assigned by each side. The axes are organised into three levels of relevance: Relevant, Very relevant and Extremely relevant.

This analysis highlights the high degree of alignment between the perception of municipal management and external stakeholders, particularly in areas such as:

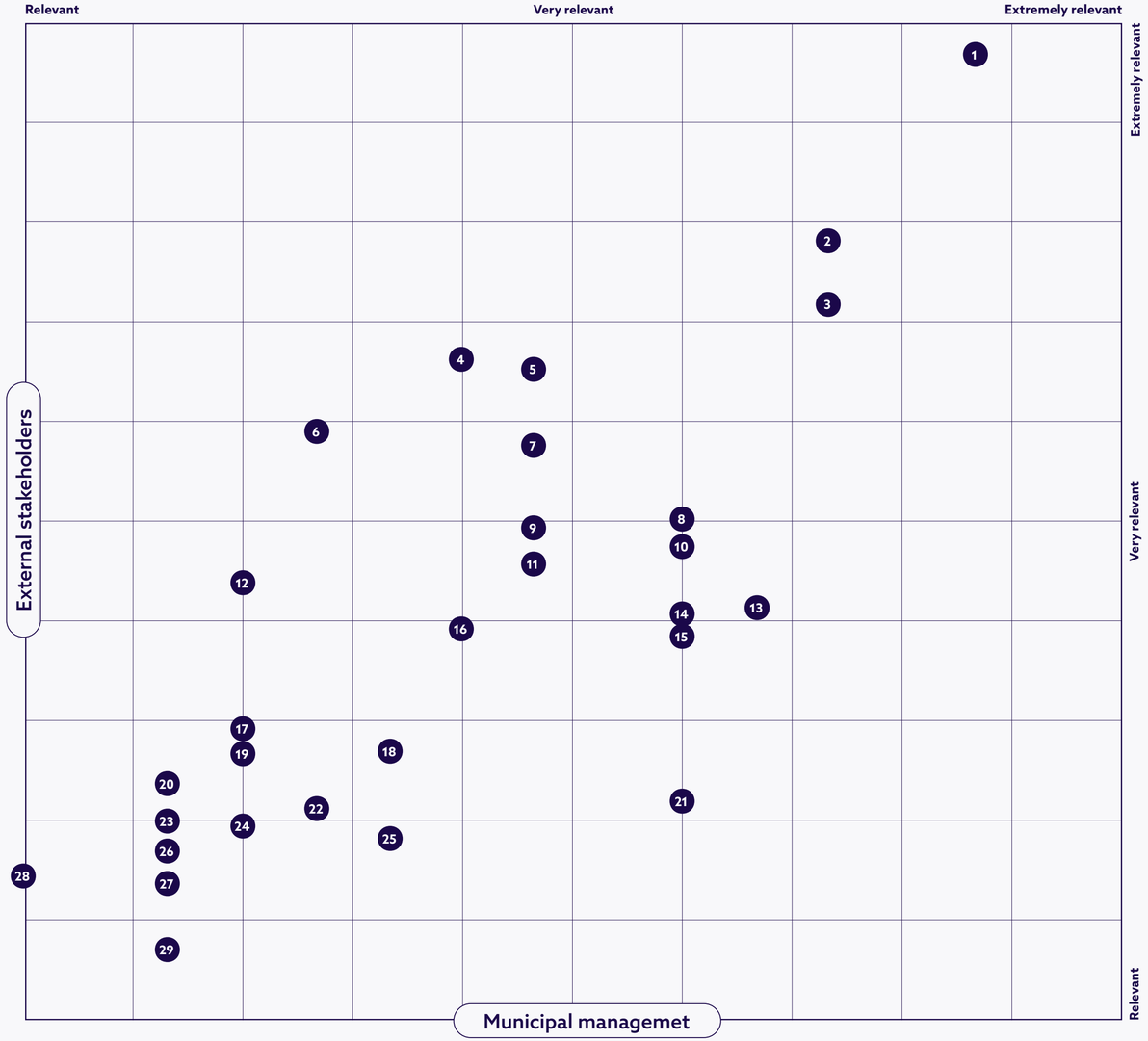
1. **Sustainable mobility and public transport**
2. **Green spaces and protection of biodiversity**
3. **Suitable and affordable housing for all**
8. **Transparency, public ethics and combating corruption**
10. **Waste management and circular economy**
7. **Quality education, talent and training**
4. **Health and well-being**
13. **Climate action and energy transition**

This alignment demonstrates that the priorities defined by the municipal executive meet the expectations and concerns of the community, reinforcing the legitimacy of public policies and sustainability strategies currently in place. The matrix also shows a balanced and cross-cutting approach, with themes that reflect the three dimensions of sustainability — environmental, social and economic — and which are distributed in a representative and coherent manner in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals, contributing to an integrated vision of the territory's development.

Although only some of the themes were identified as very or extremely relevant, the Municipality chose to voluntarily provide information on all the topics in the matrix, thus reinforcing its commitment to transparency, accountability and the inclusion of all areas relevant to the territory.

4.2 Community involvement and consultation

Identification of relevant topics



Matrix 1

Relevant topics

1. Sustainable mobility and public transport
2. Green spaces and biodiversity protection
3. Suitable and affordable housing for all
4. Health and well-being
5. Air quality and combating pollution
6. Longevity and active ageing
7. Quality education, talent and training
8. Transparency, public ethics and combating corruption
9. Water management
10. Waste management and circular economy
11. Land use and planning
12. Protection, rescue and safety
13. Climate action and energy transition
14. Inclusion and social development
15. Sport and healthy lifestyles
16. Efficient municipal services and administration
17. Promotion of employability
18. Historical heritage and enhancement of local identity
19. Animal welfare
20. Urban intelligence and innovation
21. Attracting investment and economic revitalisation
22. Sustainable tourism
23. Entrepreneurship and innovation
24. Youth and associations
25. Culture and creative industries
26. Information security and data protection
27. Innovation and social impact
28. Volunteering and civic and democratic participation
29. International cooperation and networks

4.3 Global megatrends and emerging challenges for cities

- Demographic and social transformations
- Digital and technological disruption
- Citizen expectations
- Climate change and resource sustainability

The analysis of global megatrends is an essential step in the strategic planning and sustainability process of the Municipality of Braga.

Understanding global trends allows us to identify external factors that directly or indirectly influence the city's environmental, social and economic performance, strengthening the municipality's capacity to anticipate and adapt, and contributing to more resilient management in line with the SDGs.

Megatrends are thus long-term forces of transformation resulting from interconnected global dynamics - demographic, technological, environmental, economic, political and cultural - that profoundly shape the evolution of societies and territories.

In this context, this chapter identifies and describes the main megatrends with the potential to impact the territory and community of Braga. The analysis focuses on characterising the trends and identifying the risks and opportunities associated with each of them, with the aim of strengthening the municipality's capacity for planning, innovation and integrated management, with a view to sustainable development. In order to prepare this analysis, the main reports from leading international institutions that systematically study global challenges and megatrends were consulted.

In addition to these reports, which analyse various megatrends in an integrated and cross-cutting manner, other sources focusing on a specific area (e.g. climate, digitalisation or demography) were also consulted, which were crucial for further exploring certain trends.

Report | Document	Institution | Entity	Main scope	Relevance to cities and sustainable development
Global Risks Report 2024	World Economic Forum (WEF)	Global and systemic risks	Identifies the main emerging and long-term risks — climatic, technological and social — with an impact on urban and global resilience.
OECD Regions and Cities at a Glance 2024	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	Economic, social and environmental performance of regions and cities	Provides comparative data on demographics, economics and urban sustainability, essential for detecting structural patterns.
ESPAS Global Trends Report 2024	European Strategy and Policy Analysis System (ESPAS)	Global and European megatrends until 2050	Identifies the forces of transformation — demographic, technological, environmental and geopolitical — that directly influence European cities.
World Cities Report 2024 Cities and Climate Action	UN-Habitat	Urbanisation, climate change and local action	Analyses how urbanisation and climate action shape the future of cities, offering an integrated reading of global trends.

Table 4

Key documents for the analysis of global megatrends

4.3 Global megatrends and emerging challenges for cities

- **Demographic and social transformations**
- Digital and technological disruption
- Citizens' expectations
- Climate change and resource sustainability

Demographic dynamics represent structural changes in the composition, distribution, and mobility of the global population — including accelerated urbanization, population ageing, migration, and socioeconomic inequalities — which influence urban development and the sustainable management of cities.

Timeframe — Medium to long term

Data

1.5 million people move to urban areas every week

Source: WEF

1/6 people will be ≥60 years old by 2030

Source: World Health Organization (WHO)

~68% of the global population will live in urban areas by 2050

Source: UN-Habitat

~1/3 of European households spend >40% of disposable income on housing

Source: European Central Bank

Opportunities

- Strengthening the role of medium-sized cities as hubs of innovation and talent attraction
- Inclusive urban planning adapted to age and cultural diversity
- Development of affordable housing and territorial cohesion policies
- Valorization of diversity and migrant human capital

Risks

- Increasing pressure on housing, transport, and essential services
- Rising social inequality and difficulty accessing housing
- Ageing workforce and demographic imbalances
- Cultural tensions and social segregation

4.3 Global megatrends and emerging challenges for cities

- Demographic and social transformations
- **Digital and technological disruption**
- Citizens' expectations
- Climate change and resource sustainability

Technological disruption is manifested in the rapid spread of digital technologies — such as artificial intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT), automation, and data analytics — which are transforming urban lifestyles, economic models, and local governance, creating new opportunities for sustainable development and efficiency.

Timeframe — Short to medium term

Data

4x the projected increase in energy consumption associated with AI by 2030

Source: International Energy Agency

90% of online content could be generated by AI by 2026

Source: Europol

47% of jobs are at risk of automation by 2035

Source: Oxford Economics

72% of organizations report an increase in cyber threats

Source: WEF

Opportunities

- Improvement of urban efficiency and transparency in public management
- Development of local digital economies and new jobs
- Optimization of urban services (mobility, energy, etc.)
- Innovation and data-driven governance

Risks

- Digital inequality and exclusion of vulnerable groups
- Cyberattacks and data privacy risks
- Loss of traditional jobs
- Difficulty in adapting educational and training systems

4.3 Global megatrends and emerging challenges for cities

- Demographic and social transformations
- Digital and technological disruption
- **Citizens' expectations**
- Climate change and resource sustainability

The rise in citizens' expectations reflects greater demand for quality of life, transparency, participation, and safety, driven by digitalization and new social dynamics. This trend redefines the role of municipalities and requires governance models that are more open, participatory, and people-centered.

Timeframe — Short to medium term

Data

45% of citizens express high or moderately high levels of trust in local governments and national public services (lower than for the police (63%) and courts (54%))

Source: OECD

56% of Europeans believe that the European Union and national governments are responsible for tackling climate change, followed by companies and industry (53%), while only 35% see themselves personally responsible

Source: Eurobarometer Special 538

99% of the global population lives in locations with pollution levels above recommended limits

Source: World Health Organization

96% of Portuguese consider corruption common in the country

Source: Eurobarometer Special 548

Opportunities

- Consolidation of public trust and civic engagement
- Urban planning focused on well-being and public health
- Development of participatory and transparent digital platforms
- Strengthening the social and digital capacity of communities to face changing contexts

Risks

- Political polarization and misinformation
- Erosion of institutional trust and fragmented governance
- Increasing pressure on healthcare and social protection systems
- Vulnerability to cyberattacks and crises

4.3 Global megatrends and emerging challenges for cities

- Demographic and social transformations
- Digital and technological disruption
- Citizens' expectations
- **Climate change and resource sustainability**

Climate change is one of the main global transformation factors, with increasing impacts on ecosystems, natural resources, and socio-economic dynamics. These transformations directly affect sustainable urban development and require integrated mitigation, adaptation, and energy transition policies.

Timeframe — Medium to long term

Data

2024 was the hottest year on record, with global average temperatures +1.55°C above pre-industrial levels

Source: World Meteorological Organization / Copernicus

70% of Southern Europe's population lives in regions with seasonal water scarcity during the summer, while 30% reside in areas with permanent water stress

Source: EEA

17% of global urban areas are at risk of flooding due to sea level rise and extreme weather events

Source: European Environment Agency (EEA)

€738 billion is the estimated economic loss caused by extreme climate events in the European Union between 1980 and 2023, of which approximately €162 billion occurred only between 2021 and 2023

Source: EEA

Opportunities

- Implementation of local climate mitigation and adaptation policies
- Promotion of a local economy based on sustainability and circularity principles
- Adoption of green infrastructures and nature-based solutions
- Promotion of energy transition and decarbonized mobility

Risks

- Increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events
- Damage to critical infrastructure and urban heritage
- Resource scarcity and rising energy costs
- Social and economic vulnerability of urban communities

4.4 Networks and cooperation projects

No territory builds the future in isolation. Braga's strength also lies in its ability to connect with other cities, institutions, and communities, creating bridges that leverage knowledge, innovation, and shared solutions. Networks—global, European, and national—provide the space where experiences intersect and collective responses are designed for global challenges such as the climate transition, social inclusion, and digitalization.

National Networks

CESOP LOCAL

Portuguese Catholic University

Monitoring the local implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

adapt.local rede de municípios para a adaptação local às alterações climáticas

Brings together municipalities and partners (academia, NGOs, and companies) to boost local climate change adaptation in Portugal.

local

ODS local

A national indicator platform for assessing Sustainable Development Goals across municipalities.

ASSOCIAÇÃO NACIONAL MUNICÍPIOS PORTUGUESES

SDG Section

Space for coordination and sharing of municipal practices aligned with the SDGs.

Cidades PELO Clima

National Association of Portuguese Municipalities initiative for local climate action.

SDSN Portugal

UniMunicípios Project

Academic and municipal network to accelerate the sustainable transition in Portugal, within the framework of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

4.4 Networks and cooperation projects

European Networks

EURO CITIES

The largest European network of major cities, where Braga participates in working groups related to urban sustainability, innovation, and culture.

Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy EUROPE

Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy

European commitment by cities to reduce emissions, increase energy efficiency, and strengthen climate resilience.

NET ZERO CITIES

Network of cities selected to lead the way toward carbon neutrality by 2050, within the framework of the EU Cities Mission.

URBACT

Cities for Sustainability Governance

Project focused on participatory governance and the implementation of the SDGs at the municipal level.

Cities After Dark

Network exploring urban policies to make cities more inclusive, safe, and sustainable during the night-time.

Global Networks

ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability

International network of municipalities committed to sustainability, climate action, and urban resilience.

SDG Cities Global Initiative

UN HABITAT

United Nations initiative that certifies and supports cities in the local implementation of the 2030.

Braga holds the "Silver" level, recognizing its alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Global Parliament of Mayors

International forum bringing together cities from around the world to discuss global urban governance, with a strong connection to sustainable development.

4.4 Networks and cooperation projects

International Cooperation Projects | Sectoral Networks via EU Programs and Bilateral Protocols

International Urban and Regional Cooperation (since 2021)

Partner city: St. John's — Canada

Projects / Themes: sustainable urban mobility, social inclusion, culture, and civic participation.

EU International Urban Cooperation (2021-2023)

Partner city: Villa María — Argentina

Projects / Themes: sustainable urban development.

International City Partnerships (2022-2024)

Partner city: Taoyuan — Taiwan

Projects / Themes: technological innovation, smart cities, circular economy, and sustainable transport.

Tripartite Project
Braga
Luanda
Villa María

2024
Funded by Camões I.P. and SEGIB

Partner cities: Luanda (Angola) and Villa María (Argentina).

Projects / Themes:
education for development,
global citizenship, civic participation,
and South-South cooperation.

Adelante 2

Digital Citizenship for Smart Talent (2023-2025)

Partners: Costa Rica (Technological Institute of Costa Rica) and Santa Fe (Argentina).

Projects / Themes: digital literacy, social inclusion of vulnerable communities, digital skills training, and urban innovation.

4.5 Policies

The Municipality develops its sustainability strategy within a broad political and regulatory framework, strongly influenced by international, European, and national guidelines. Local action, while tailored to territorial and social specificities, must align with global commitments that shape public policies and planning instruments across all scales of governance.

In this regard, the adopted methodological approach is based on three major structural pillars: the United Nations 2030 Agenda (SDGs), the Paris Agreement (2015), and the European Green Deal (2019).

2030 Agenda
United Nations and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Approved in 2015 by the United Nations, the 2030 Agenda establishes a global framework for promoting sustainable development. The 17 SDGs and their 169 targets serve as a roadmap for governments, businesses, institutions, and local communities, encouraging the balanced integration of social, environmental, and economic dimensions. In the municipal context, the 2030 Agenda guides the definition of strategic priorities, ensuring local action responds to universal challenges such as poverty eradication, energy transition, and climate resilience.

Paris Agreement on Climate Change
2015

Adopted under the UNFCCC, this agreement establishes an international commitment to limit global temperature rise to well below 2°C, striving for 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. This treaty binds signatories to concrete mitigation and adaptation measures. At the municipal level, this translates into the implementation of local greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction strategies and the promotion of energy efficiency.

European Green Deall
2019

The European Green Deal is the EU's strategy to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 while ensuring economic growth and social inclusion. It sets ambitious targets for the circular economy, biodiversity protection, and the decarbonization of productive sectors. For the Municipality, it serves as a regulatory reference, encouraging measures aligned with European funding and policies that support the "green transition."

4.6 Priorities

Considering global megatrends and the topics most relevant to the municipality, the following diagram summarises the interactions between these and the dimensions of sustainable development, allowing us to identify the areas where each megatrend has the greatest influence.

Table 5

Influence of megatrends on different dimensions.

- • Indirect
- ● Moderate
- ⬤ Direct

TOPICS		DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS	DIGITAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL DISRUPTION	CITIZENS' EXPECTATIONS	CLIMATE CHANGE AND RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY
1	Sustainable mobility and public transport	⬤	•	⬤	⬤
2	Green spaces and biodiversity protection	•	•	●	⬤
3	Suitable and affordable housing for all	⬤	•	⬤	•
4	Health and well-being	⬤	•	⬤	●
5	Air quality and pollution control	•	•	⬤	⬤
6	Longevity and active ageing	⬤	•	●	•
7	Education, talent, and quality training	●	⬤	⬤	•
8	Transparency, public ethics, and anti-corruption	•	●	⬤	•
9	Water management	•	●	•	⬤
10	Waste management and circular economy	•	●	●	⬤
11	Land-use planning and spatial planning	⬤	•	●	⬤
12	Civil protection, emergency response, and safety	•	●	⬤	●
13	Climate action and energy transition	•	•	●	⬤
14	Inclusion and social development	⬤	•	⬤	•
15	Sports and healthy lifestyles	●	•	⬤	•
16	Efficient municipal services and administration	•	⬤	⬤	•
17	Promotion of employability	⬤	⬤	●	●
18	Historical heritage and enhancement of local identity	•	•	●	•
19	Animal welfare	•	•	⬤	•
20	Smart cities and innovation	•	⬤	⬤	•
21	Investment attraction and economic dynamism	•	⬤	●	●
22	Sustainable tourism	●	•	●	⬤
23	Entrepreneurship and innovation	•	⬤	●	•
24	Youth and civic associations	•	●	⬤	•
25	Culture and creative industries	•	•	⬤	•
26	Information security and data protection	•	⬤	⬤	•
27	Innovation and social impact	•	⬤	●	●
28	Volunteering and civic and democratic participation	⬤	•	⬤	•
29	International cooperation and networks	•	●	●	•

4.7 Strategic plan for sustainable development 2030

The Strategic Plan for the Sustainable Development of Braga 2030 marks a decisive step in how the city prepares for the future.

More than just aligning policies with the United Nations 2030 Agenda, this plan reflects the ambition to transform Braga into a city where every decision generates a positive impact for the people and the territory.

The plan is structured around ten strategic measures that go far beyond defining targets. These are cross-cutting measures designed to break down organizational silos and promote work in multidisciplinary teams, where sustainability becomes the connecting axis between different areas. This approach promotes an integrated and collaborative vision, mobilizing resources and skills more effectively.

Measure 1
Establish the Municipal Master Plan (PDM) as the fundamental strategic framework for sustainable territorial development, incorporating specific SDG indicators and targets.

Measure 2
Promote sustainable incentive policies, including tax benefits, strategic partnerships, and the implementation of a public procurement policy aligned with environmental and social criteria.

Measure 3
Implement a comprehensive training policy on the SDGs, empowering municipal workers to integrate sustainability into their daily practices.

Measure 4
Create an Innovation Lab for the SDGs, stimulating sustainable entrepreneurship, cross-sector collaboration, and community awareness of innovative practices.

Measure 5
Integrate the SDGs as guiding principles within municipal competencies, ensuring that all areas of activity and municipal projects are aligned with global goals.

Measure 6
Strengthen the role of municipal companies as ambassadors for the 2030 Agenda, incorporating sustainable practices into their operations, contracts, and management models.

Measure 7
Ensure the integration of the SDGs into Braga's major events, promoting their execution in a sustainable manner, with criteria for resource management, mobility, and reduction of environmental impacts.

Measure 8
Foster multi-level cooperation, ensuring collaboration between different levels of government and international networks to develop integrated sustainable policies.

Measure 9
Structure the SDGs within the Municipality's reporting and accounting system, creating monitoring and transparency mechanisms aligned with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Measure 10
Guarantee the funding of the 2030 Agenda through the Municipal Budget, directing financial resources and diversifying funding sources to support sustainable projects.

These measures also represent a shift in the Municipality's own structure and management, preparing the organization to be an active lever for the sustainable development of the territory. This internal transformation creates new capacities and coordination mechanisms, making the Municipality not just a regulatory agent, but an engine for innovation and change.

Although several of these measures imply immediate adjustments in how the organization functions, their true impact is designed for the long term: creating solid conditions for Braga to evolve consistently and lastingly, with sustainable policies and practices rooted in the city's daily life.

The 2030 Plan is, therefore, more than a strategic roadmap: it is a process of organizational and territorial transformation that positions Braga as an international reference, demonstrating that sustainable development requires vision, commitment, and integrated action.

See
Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development



The United Nations 2030 Agenda brings together 17 SDGs to promote balanced human, social, economic, and environmental development.

The Municipality of Braga is committed to incorporating these SDGs into its public policies, integrating urban, social, and environmental planning within a framework of sustainability, inclusion, and well-being for all.

5 PERFORMANCE TOWARDS THE 2030 AGENDA

5.1 Global results

Braga has been collaborating with the CESOP-Local network and using these methodologies, which make it possible to assess the municipality's progress towards the targets set out in the 2030 Agenda.

The Municipal Sustainability Index (MSI) is based on a set of more than one hundred and fifty indicators and is applicable to all municipalities in Portugal, becoming a valuable instrument for territorial sustainability management.

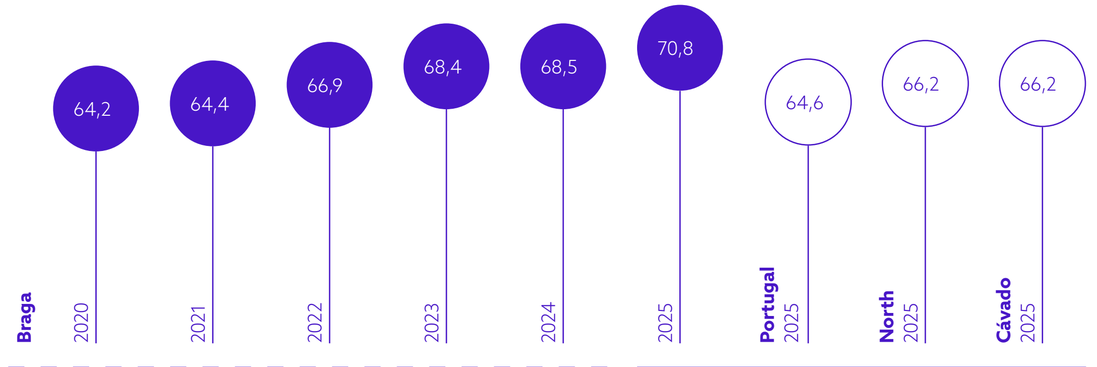
As the 2025 MSI had already been published by the time this report was prepared, the most recent available results were included, thus ensuring an updated analysis.

The overall performance of the Municipality of Braga in the 2025 MSI consolidates a trajectory of continuous improvement, achieving a score of 70.8 points, its highest ever. Since 2020, a positive and consistent evolution has been observed—from 64.2 points in 2020 to 70.8 in 2025—reflecting the Municipality's commitment to sustainable development.

Graph 12

Global Index

When compared with other geographical areas, Braga remains above the national average (64.6), as well as the regional averages of the North (66.2) and Cávado (66.2).



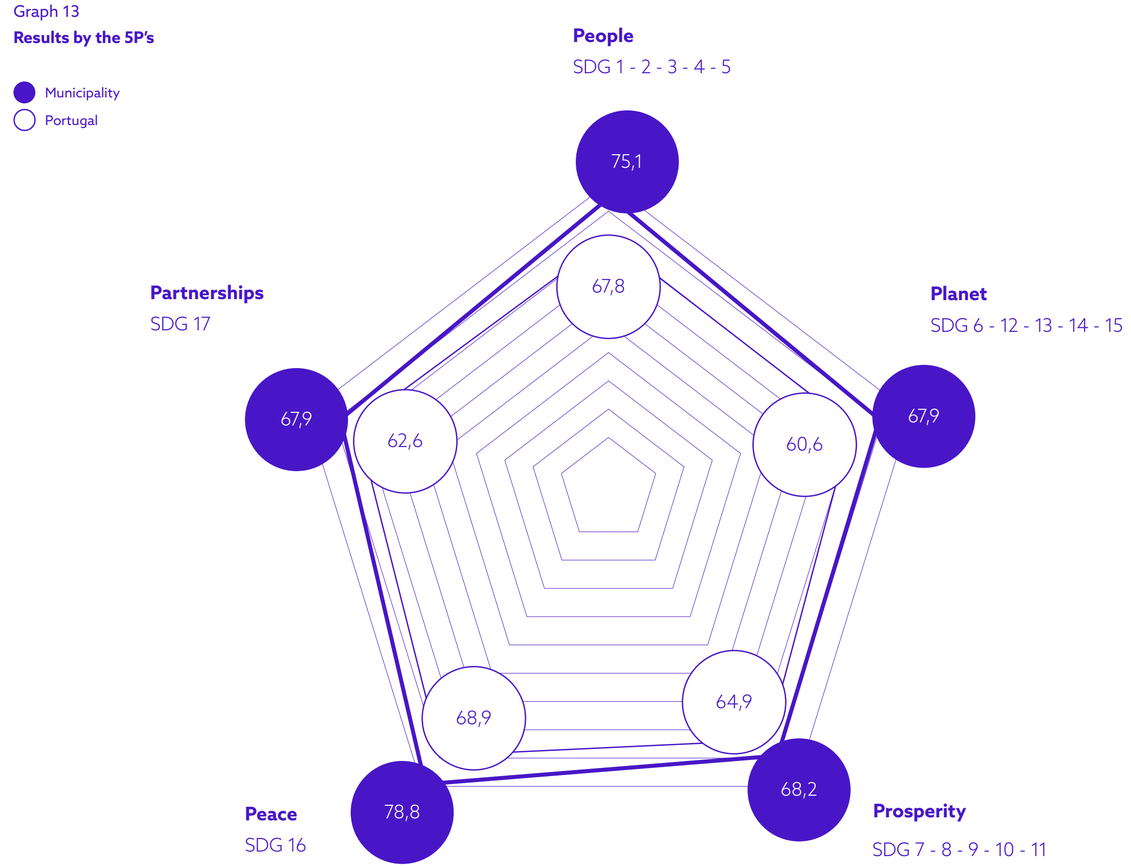
5.2 Results by the 5P's

The 5P's — People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership — were defined within the framework of the 2030 Agenda as the five crucial areas for humanity and the planet.

These dimensions reflect an integrated approach to sustainable development, based on the principle that achieving the SDGs requires a coordinated and balanced intervention across all areas.

The analysis of the chart reveals that Braga performs above the national average in all dimensions, with People and Peace standing out as the dimensions with the highest performance.

Graph 13
Results by the 5P's



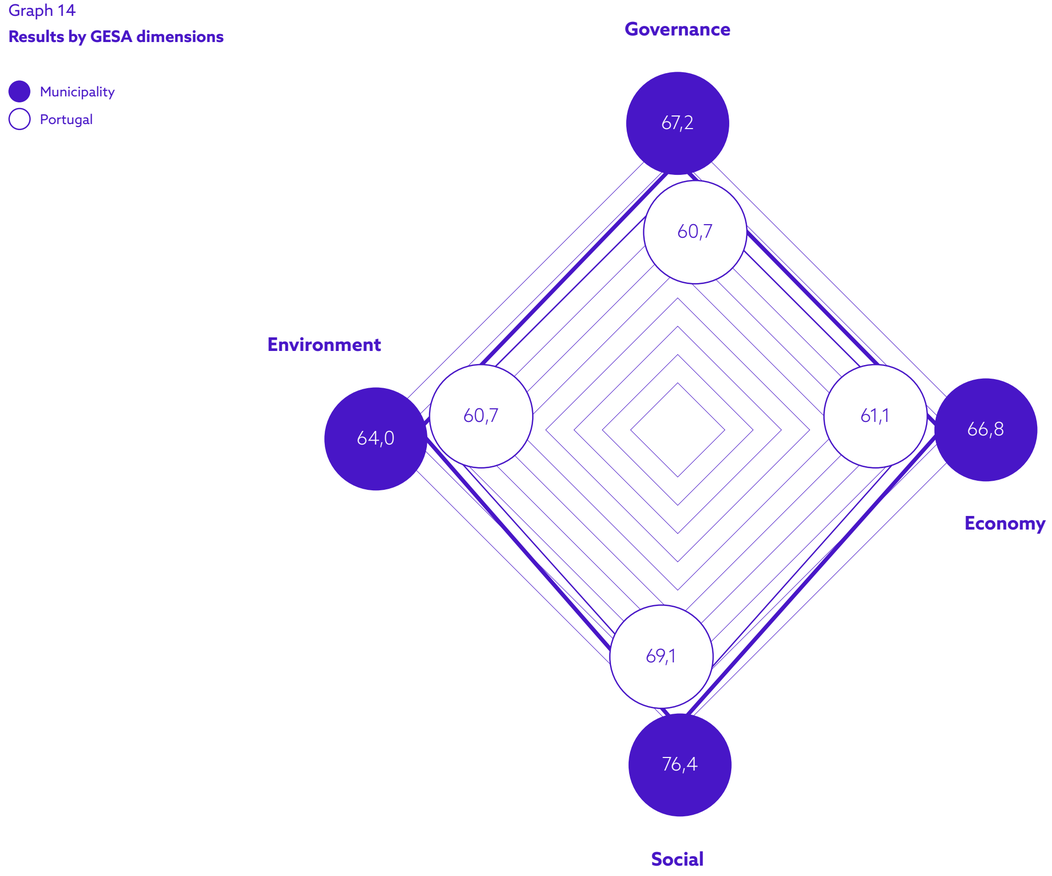
5.3 Results by GESA dimensions

The four dimensions — Governance, Economy, Social, and Environment — represent the primary spheres of society and must be interconnected to ensure sustainable development.

Braga performs above the national average in all of them, with a particular highlight on the Social dimension (76.4).

Strong results are also evident in Governance (67.2), Economy (66.8) and, finally, the Environmental dimension (64.0).

Graph 14
Results by GESA dimensions



5.4 Results by sustainable development goals

SDG	Braga 2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Portugal 2025	2030 Agenda*
1 NO POVERTY	61.2	55.2	64.1	63.9	62.8	63.3	44.0	→
2 ZERO HUNGER	45.5	45.6	50.9	55.7	52.5	57.5	62.7	→
3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	86.3	87.7	88.9	87.8	88.5	88.4	80.8	→
4 QUALITY EDUCATION	77.7	74.8	79.1	76.7	78.4	81.5	72.9	→
5 GENDER EQUALITY	80.6	81.1	81.6	81.8	82.0	84.9	78.5	→
6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	88.6	88.2	85.6	86.3	86.4	85.5	76.0	↘
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	80.9	83.7	86.3	83.7	84.5	85.4	81.3	→
8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	60.4	54.9	51.5	56.1	60.2	61.1	64.2	→
9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	40.9	42.8	40.1	51.0	66.4	68.2	74.0	↑
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	79.0	81.0	82.0	81.8	80.3	81.0	57.5	→
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	47.4	43.6	47.0	47.1	45.5	45.2	47.8	↘
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	22.2	25.5	34.8	45.4	37.2	36.9	44.7	↗
13 CLIMATE ACTION	62.0	66.2	68.5	66.7	58.7	72.1	59.3	↗
14 LIFE BELOW WATER	43.9	46.6	41.0	41.0	41.0	50.8	60.0	→
15 LIFE ON LAND	91.9	91.4	94.3	94.4	94.5	94.1	62.9	→
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	77.5	76.8	81.7	80.0	79.2	78.8	68.9	→
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	44.9	49.3	60.4	64.2	66.5	67.9	62.6	↑

*** Braga's Status regarding the 2030 Agenda.**

- ↑ The Municipality shows a very positive and accelerated trend toward the 2030 goals.
- ↗ The Municipality shows a positive trend, although it is necessary to increase the pace to achieve the 2030 goals.
- → The Municipality shows a moderate trend toward the 2030 goals; actions need adjustment to ensure the desired progress.
- ↘ The Municipality shows a less favorable trend, requiring more robust intervention to return to the path toward the 2030 goals.
- ↓ The Municipality shows an unfavorable trend, needing a significant reorientation to approach the 2030 goals.

In the achievement of the SDGs, there was an overall solid performance across a large part of the SDGs, with several targets already achieved or on track to be so, while others require accelerated progress to reach full compliance by 2030. This evolution confirms the maturity of local sustainability policies, placing Braga among the national territories most committed to the 2030 Agenda and to balanced development across social, economic, and environmental dimensions.



The impact of municipal actions on sustainability dimensions reflects the ambition for sustainable development, ensuring transparent and accessible information for citizens.

SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE

6.1 Sustainable mobility and public transport

Promotion of sustainable, accessible, and interconnected urban mobility that ensures safe, efficient, and low-emission travel within the municipality of Braga. This topic covers the planning and management of the public transport system, digitalization, and technological innovation in the transport sector, and the creation of infrastructure that favors intermodality and social inclusion in access to mobility. This includes the joint action of the Municipality of Braga and Braga Urban Transports (TUB).





Management approach

Sustainable mobility constitutes a cross-cutting strategic axis of the environmental, energy, and territorial planning policies of the Municipality of Braga, promoting a more connected, inclusive, and resilient city.

Governance of this topic is ensured by the relevant department of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of municipal services within the Mobility Division and the Public Transport and Passenger Coordination Unit, in articulation with TUB, E.M. (the operational entity), and supported by the Braga Mobility Advisory Council.

Monitoring and follow-up are conducted based on performance indicators and progress in sustainable mobility, as well as through the TUB Annual Reports and the Execution Reports of relevant Municipal Plans.

6.1 Sustainable mobility and public transport

Strategic instruments

Braga Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP/PMUS)

This plan establishes the strategic vision for municipal mobility and has the following main strategic axes:

- Make Braga more walkable by expanding and upgrading the pedestrian network;
- Strengthen the "cycling city" by expanding infrastructure and incentives for bicycle use;
- Enhance public transport by increasing efficiency, quality, and attractiveness;
- Optimize the road system by promoting safety and the rational use of automobiles;
- Integrate transport modes by facilitating connections and intermodality;
- Regulate parking and logistics to ensure urban flow and functionality;
- Promote a culture of sustainable mobility through awareness and education.

Municipal Road Safety Plan (MRSP)

This plan is intended to promote road safety and reduce accidents on the municipality's roads. Detailed accident data were analyzed to identify high-risk areas and concerning patterns. Based on this analysis, preventive and corrective measures were proposed, including improvements to road infrastructure, reinforcement of signaling, and public awareness campaigns.

Resources and infrastructure

Fleet and Infrastructure (TUB)

The fleet and infrastructure of TUB, E.M. constitute the operational basis of the public mobility service in the municipality, ensuring regular, safe, and efficient travel for the population. TUB, E.M. has a fleet in a continuous process of modernization and decarbonization, sized to respond to the different needs of the territory. The support infrastructure includes workshops, parking lots, washing and maintenance areas, as well as technological systems for monitoring and operational management, which guarantee the reliability and performance of the daily operation.

Braga Transport Coordination Center (CCTB)

The CCTB is a vital infrastructure for the parking and stopping of public passenger transport, including express and international services, as well as passenger boarding and disembarking. Managed by the Braga City Council, it aims to provide an efficient and high-quality public collective transport service, suited to the population's needs, and contribute to the order and fluidity of urban traffic.

Urban Innovation Laboratory (LIU)

This laboratory was created to drive innovative interdisciplinary projects in terms of mobility and urban sustainability. In partnership with universities and local companies, the LIU promotes the co-creation of solutions for urban challenges, aiming for a smarter and more sustainable city. This space for collaboration and experimentation contributes to the development of pilot projects and the promotion of knowledge about sustainable urban practices in Braga.

6.1 Sustainable mobility and public transport

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Decarbonization of the TUB Fleet	With the arrival of 12 new electric buses, equipped with 16 bilateral chargers, TUB, E.M. has reached a total of 43 fully electric buses and 25 powered by natural gas.	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 13 CLIMATE ACTION
1st Phase of the Requalification of the Materials and Workshops Park	The project also includes a new diesel station, a natural gas station, and a sustainable washing station that reuses approximately 70% of the water. This requalification reinforces TUB, E.M.'s commitment to decarbonization and energy efficiency.	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 13 CLIMATE ACTION
BRT Bus Rapid Transit	The year was marked by the completion of the integration study for the yellow and red lines and the implementation of several microsimulations at strategic points. Multiple strategic meetings were also promoted with key stakeholders — University of Minho, Braga Public Hospital, the Municipal Council, and Infraestruturas de Portugal.	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 13 CLIMATE ACTION
Infias Interchange Intervention	The intervention at the Infias Interchange aims to improve traffic flow and road safety in one of the most congested areas of the city. Funded by the Northern Regional Operational Programme NORTE2020, the initiative includes land expropriation and the requalification of road infrastructure, contributing to more efficient and sustainable mobility in Braga.	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 13 CLIMATE ACTION
Strategic and Sustainability Plan 2030 TUB – PES 2030	Defines strategic axes such as fleet electrification, energy efficiency, service digitalization, and the promotion of fair and equitable mobility, aligned with the SDGs and the European Green Deal.	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 13 CLIMATE ACTION
Braga Corporate Mobility Pact PMEB	An initiative of the Municipality and BCSD Portugal to promote sustainable corporate mobility. More than 50 organizations are signatories, with over 280 commitments made.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 13 CLIMATE ACTION 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Reallocation of Public Space	The project "Eu Já Passo Aqui", funded by NORTE2020, improves pedestrian accessibility through tactile paving in areas near schools and public facilities. This axis also included the implementation of reduced-speed zones — Zones 30, the creation of parklets as extensions of pedestrian space, and the installation of bicycle parking facilities.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING 13 CLIMATE ACTION

6.1 Sustainable mobility and public transport

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Mobility for All	Interventions focused on universal accessibility were carried out, namely the installation of ramps, the creation of reserved parking spaces, and improvements to sidewalks and crosswalks, ensuring safer and more inclusive circulation conditions for people with reduced mobility.	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Active School Mobility	*School Bus aims to reduce car congestion around urban schools, promoting safety and sustainable travel; CicloExpresso encourages children to cycle to school accompanied by monitors; "Aprender a Ciclar" strengthens education on the use of bicycles as a means of transport; PediBus promotes walking routes to school, enhancing safety and air quality; Kiss&Go organizes short-stop drop-off zones for children at several schools; and Shared Green Deal implements Urban Mobility Laboratories in three schools, involving the community in the creation of more sustainable solutions and behaviors for school travel.*	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES, 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 13 CLIMATE ACTION
Mobility Week in Braga	Held between 16 and 22 September 2024, under the theme "Shared Public Space", promoting activities such as the night cycling tour and "Aprender a Ciclar". Braga was nominated as a finalist for the European Mobility Week Award 2024.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES, 13 CLIMATE ACTION, 4 QUALITY EDUCATION
Behavior Change and Co-creation Processes	Through the Veloteca program, electric bicycles were made available on a free loan basis to municipal employees for use in their daily commutes, replacing private car use. In parallel, the Municipality promoted co-creation and active participation processes, involving citizens, schools, and local communities in the design and implementation of sustainable mobility solutions.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES, 13 CLIMATE ACTION, 17 PARCERIAS PARA A IMPLEMENTAÇÃO DOS OBJETIVOS
TUB Application with Real-Time Information	Launch of an application that allows access to real-time information, such as bus location, waiting times, and available routes. The application also provides timetable consultation, route calculation, directions (origin and destination), among other features that facilitate and improve the customer experience.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES, 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, 13 CLIMATE ACTION

6.1 Sustainable mobility and public transport

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2015	2017	2019	2023	Unit	SDG	Source
Greenhouse gas emissions from the road transport sector	264 065	275 409	287 119	294 136	t CO_2 eq	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	APA CESOP calculations

Indicator	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	Source
Extension of pedestrian areas	24,5	24,5	24,5	24,5	ha	Mobility Division
Extension of the cycle network	8,8	9,7	11,6	12,8	Km	Mobility Division
Extension of roads with speed limits of 30 km/h	11,3	11,3	11,3	11,3	Km	Mobility Division
Refurbished pedestrian crossings	34	10	26	22	N.º	Mobility Division
Parklets	0	1	3	4	N.º	Mobility Division
Participants in Active School Mobility projects (CicloExpresso and Pedibus, excluding SchoolBus)		25	80	105	N.º	Mobility Division
Schools participating in Active School Mobility projects (CicloExpresso and Pedibus, excluding SchoolBus)		3	7	9	N.º	Mobility Division
Participants in Learning to Cycle			31	452	N.º	Mobility Division

6.1 Sustainable mobility and public transport

Key data and indicators

1 | 2

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Five-year mortality rate from transport accidents per 100,000 inhabitants	2,5	2,7	2,6	2,6	—	/100 000 hab.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE
Lines operated by TUB	74	74	74	75	78	N.º	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	TUB, E.M.
TUB network stops	1 873	1 873	1 894	1 904	1 932	N.º	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	TUB, E.M.
Vehicles in the TUB fleet	135	158	143	162	160	N.º	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES; 13 CLIMATE ACTION	TUB, E.M.
Extension of the TUB network	301,32	301,32	301,32	301,32	304	km	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	TUB, E.M.
Parishes served by TUB	37	37	37	37	37	N.º	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	TUB, E.M.
Total distance travelled by the TUB fleet	5 638 800	6 071 489	6 271 246	6 249 566	6 590 356	km	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES; 13 CLIMATE ACTION	TUB, E.M.
Passengers transported by TUB	6 961 913	8 226 764	11 201 603	12 742 024	13 905 609	N.º	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	TUB, E.M.

6.1 Sustainable mobility and public transport

Awards and recognition

2024 Finalist

European Mobility Week

European Commission award for good practices in active mobility and school awareness.

6.2 Green spaces and biodiversity protection

Preservation and enhancement of natural and urban areas, promoting environmental quality, climate change mitigation and conservation of local biodiversity. The theme covers the management and maintenance of municipal parks, gardens and forest areas, the ecological restoration of watercourses and ecosystems, and the implementation of environmental education and awareness programmes that reinforce the balance between urban space and the natural environment.







Management approach

The preservation, enhancement and expansion of urban and natural green spaces are a strategic focus of the Municipality of Braga's environmental sustainability policy, contributing to climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation and community well-being.

Governance of this issue is ensured by the relevant department of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of the Environment and Climate Change Division, including the Braga Educational Farm Unit and the Camping and Caravanning Unit, in close collaboration with the Gardens and Green Spaces Division, the Technical Forestry Unit (part of the Municipal Civil Protection Division), ensuring the integrated management of forests, parks and gardens, ecological corridors and riverside areas.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out through the collection and analysis of annual indicators of biodiversity, afforestation and ecological resilience, as well as activity reports, which assess the performance and effectiveness of the measures implemented in the municipal territory.

6.2 Green spaces and biodiversity protection

Strategic instruments

Municipal Regulation for the Management of Urban Trees and Green Spaces

This Regulation is grounded in a strong concern for the environmental, economic, and cultural reality of the Municipality of Braga, based on the following principles:

- Protecting and enhancing urban trees and green spaces, strengthening the population's connection to nature and promoting environmental sustainability;
- Implementing good management practices that optimize ecosystem services and contribute to climate change mitigation;
- Strengthening urban biodiversity, recognizing trees as habitats and support for multiple species;
- Implementing and expanding the green and blue corridors defined in the Municipal Ecological Structure, articulating them with environmental education and awareness actions;
- Ensuring the possibility of municipal intervention on private property when issues of safety, public health, fire risk, or public interest are involved.

Municipal Forest Fire Defense Plan (PMDFCI)

This local planning instrument frames the prevention and management of rural fire risk, aligned with the Integrated Rural Fire Management System (SGIFR), in accordance with Decree-Law no. 82/2021. With a strategy centered on active forest management, the Braga PMDFCI defined five strategic axes of action:

- Increasing territorial resilience to forest fires;
- Reducing fire incidence;
- Improving the effectiveness of firefighting and fire management;
- Recovery and rehabilitation of affected ecosystems;
- Implementation of an effective organic and functional structure t o coordinate these actions.

Municipal Environmental Education Strategy (EMEA)

This strategy is divided into three fundamental axes — Decarbonize, Circular, and Enhance Braga. The document more directly addresses biodiversity protection and the management of urban ecosystems through the latter strategic axis, namely through:

- Environmental volunteering programs;
- Awareness campaigns on urban trees;
- Training sessions and workshops on sustainable agriculture, composting, and pollinators;
- School projects dedicated to biodiversity and local habitats.

6.2 Green spaces and biodiversity protection

Resources and infrastructure

Urban Parks Network

Braga's Urban Parks Network includes reference spaces such as Monte Picoto Urban Park, Ponte Park, and Camélias Urban Park, which enhance environmental quality, leisure, and biodiversity in the municipality. These parks combine recreational areas, trails, and contemplation zones with ecological conservation actions, environmental education, and sustainable management, promoting well-being, inclusion, and connection to nature in an urban context.

Braga Pedagogical Farm

The Braga Pedagogical Farm is a reference educational and environmental space that promotes the community's connection to rural life, nature, and animal welfare. Through educational, agricultural, and scientific activities, it integrates awareness actions on sustainability, biodiversity conservation, and responsible practices. Its Environmental Education Center strengthens ecological literacy, welcoming thousands of visitors and contributing to intergenerational environmental education in the municipality. It received 63 858 visitors, including approximately 10 000 children and 534 elderly people, through pedagogical and inclusion programs.

Community Urban Gardens Network

Distributed across several parishes, these gardens total approximately 30,000 m^2, organized into more than 700 plots used by over 2,000 residents in 2021. In addition to providing cultivation spaces, the network encourages agroecological practices, strengthens environmental education, and contributes to healthy food and the valorization of ecosystems.

Braga Explorer Pedestrian Routes Network

An application and trail network with approximately 280 km, allowing the discovery of nature, rivers, valleys, and historical heritage. It encourages physical activity, sustainable tourism, and environmental appreciation, offering accessible routes for residents and visitors.

6.2 Green spaces and biodiversity protection

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Florestar Braga and Oxigenar Braga	Environmental awareness programs involving the planting of native trees and the cleaning and control of invasive species.	
Reforesting Monte do Picoto	Planting of more than 2,000 trees and consolidation of an area of 7.3 hectares with native species and natural leisure spaces.	
Phytosanitary Reports on Urban Trees	The Municipality monitors urban trees through phytosanitary reports and intervenes only in cases of risk. Felled trees are replaced with young and suitable specimens.	
Environmental Education Center of the Pedagogical Farm	This structure, created in 2023, strengthens the educational mission of raising public awareness about environmental sustainability.	
Implementation of the PMDFCI	As a structural prevention measure, the Municipality implemented 75.87 hectares of fuel management strips, improved 24 kilometers of forest roads, and installed three water points to support aerial operations. In 2024, the Municipal Surveillance and Initial Response System was also presented, composed of 34 personnel and 14 vehicles.	
Biodiversity Week	Included activities such as sheep shearing, mushroom production, and training on invasive species, raising awareness among children and adults about nature conservation and ecosystem protection.	

6.2 Green spaces and biodiversity protection

Highlighted practices and initiatives

"Braga Natural" and "Greener City"	Production of short films and documentaries highlighting Braga's nature and ecosystems, promoting lesser-known locations, native fauna and flora, and the city's relationship with the natural environment, developed within the scope of Braga's application for European Green Capital 2026.	
4th Edition "Braga Natural" Photography Contest	A challenge open to the community to highlight habitats, fauna, flora, and fungi of the municipality. It promotes biodiversity and raises awareness for the protection of natural heritage through three thematic photographic categories.	
Project "Charcos com Vida"	An educational project aimed at 8th-grade students, promoting contact with science, biodiversity, and aquatic ecosystems. It involves practical experiences and environmental awareness, encouraging responsible behavior through a partnership between the Municipality and the Casa da Ciência de Braga.	
Program "A Raposa Chama"	An environmental education program aimed at children and young people, focused on forest valorization and rural fire prevention, addressing self-protection measures and fuel management obligations in areas surrounding housing. In 2024, 5 awareness actions were carried out by the Forestry Technical Unit.	
Program "Cuidar Braga"	An initiative financed at 85% by EEA Grants, aimed at promoting good land-cleaning practices and reducing the use of fire in the disposal of agricultural residues. The program includes the free provision of a wood chipper, contributing to fire risk mitigation and sustainable biomass management. In 2024, 4 awareness actions were carried out by the Forestry Technical Unit.	
Other Forest Awareness Initiatives	Other complementary risk prevention and environmental education actions were carried out, including 2 awareness actions on the Asian Hornet Detection and Control Plan and 1 session on the importance of native forests.	

6.2 Green spaces and biodiversity protection

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Proportion of forest area	32,3	31,6	32,4	33,1	32,3	%	15 LIFE ON LAND	INE
Change in forest area	- 1,75		0,26		- 0,16	%	15 LIFE ON LAND	TUB, E.M.
Green areas on urban land per inhabitant		41,1			39,5	m²/hab	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	TUB, E.M.
Expenditure on cultural heritage and protection of biodiversity and landscape per capita	12,9	1,8		14,9	15,4	€	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	TUB, E.M.
Proportion of organic farmers and processors	7,3	10,4	10,4		13,6	%	2 ZERO HUNGER	TUB, E.M.
N.º of NGOs and similar organisations registered in the APA / Azores / Madeira Registers in partnership with the Municipality	2	2	2	3	3	N.º	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	Braga City Council Braga
N.º of other associations not registered in the Registers but involved in partnership projects with the Municipality	9	11	11	17	18	N.º	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	Braga City Council Braga

Indicator	2011	2021	Unit	SDG	Source
Proportion of women in total agricultural employers	34,8	37,1	%	5 GENDER EQUALITY	INE, CESOP calculations
Proportion of women in total self-employed agricultural workers	40,0	30,9	%	5 GENDER EQUALITY	INE, CESOP calculations

Indicator	2024	Unit	Source
Fuel Management Strips implemented	75,87	ha	Forestry Technical Unit
Forest roads benefited	24,03	km	Forestry Technical Unit
New forest roads	3	N.º	Forestry Technical Unit
Water points benefited	3	N.º	Forestry Technical Unit
Notifications to private individuals within the scope of Fuel Management Zones	200	N.º	Forestry Technical Unit
Traps for Vespa Velutina distributed/ monitored	72	N.º	Forestry Technical Unit
Field trips within the scope of Vespa Velutina	76	N.º	Forestry Technical Unit
Biomass shredding actions	170	N.º	Civil Protection Division

6.2 Green spaces and biodiversity protection

Awards and recognitions

National Award

"Go Green"

Distinction awarded to the Braga Pedagogical Farm for the exemplary application of Good Practices of the European Green Deal.

Pre-selected Candidacy

"European Green City 2026"

Highlights the municipal strategy for green infrastructure, the integration of sustainable planning, and the implementation of climate adaptation measures.

ART&TUR National Award 2024

Category "Sustainability and Climate Change"

Distinction awarded to the official film of the candidacy "Braga – European Green Capital 2026", recognizing the quality of environmental communication and the Municipality's commitment to the ecological transition.

ECO XXI Award 2024

ABAAE European Blue Flag Association

Renewal of the ECO XXI label, recognizing the integrated and sustainable management of environmental and energy policies. Braga joined the group of the "TOP 20" national municipalities in 2024.

6.3 Suitable and affordable housing for all

Guaranteeing the universal right to decent, affordable, and energy-efficient housing, ensuring social inclusion, territorial cohesion, and urban regeneration in the municipality of Braga. This topic covers the management of social housing stock, affordable rental programs, rehabilitation of degraded buildings, and fiscal and financial support measures for housing, implemented by the Municipality of Braga and the municipal company BragaHabit.







Management approach

Housing is assumed as a strategic priority of the social and sustainability policy of the Municipality of Braga, recognizing its central role in promoting territorial cohesion, social inclusion, and effective access to decent living conditions. Aware of the structural complexity of the housing problem, municipal intervention is developed in a responsible and well-framed manner, articulated with national public policies and with the available legal and financial instruments, while also affirming the regulatory role of the municipality in promoting balance in the local housing market.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of the Urban Rehabilitation and Housing Division, in close articulation with BragaHabit, which implements municipal housing policies and programs. This process is monitored by the Local Housing Council and the Braga Economic and Social Council, ensuring participation, transparency, and strategic alignment.

The Municipality assumes a complementary role to that of the State, intervening mainly in regulation, the promotion of urban rehabilitation, support for vulnerable groups, and the creation of conditions to increase the supply of housing at affordable costs. Monitoring and evaluation of policies are carried out continuously, based on annual performance indicators such as the number of families supported, dwellings rehabilitated, and the volume of investment mobilized, allowing the impact of implemented measures to be demonstrated and reinforcing the credibility of municipal housing policy in the face of one of the most significant contemporary urban challenges.

6.3 Suitable and affordable housing for all

Strategic instruments

Local Housing Strategy (LHS)

This Strategy aims to respond to the housing needs identified in the municipality through an approach based on a comprehensive diagnosis and periodically updated to monitor social and economic dynamics.

Its main objectives include:

- Responding to families in situations of severe housing deprivation;
- Ensuring access to housing for households without solutions in the conventional market;
- Promoting building rehabilitation and sustainable urban development;
- Fostering social and territorial inclusion and the diversification of housing solutions.

The ELH supports several municipal policies, such as Supported Rental, Subletting, the Direct Rent Support Scheme (RADA), and the Shared Residence Scheme (RRP), which operationalize access to housing.

Housing Support Regulations

These housing support instruments aim to guarantee universal access to decent solutions suited to household needs. The Housing Support Regulation includes modalities such as Supported Rental, which allows dwellings owned by BragaHabit, E.M. to be made available at prices calculated according to income, and Subletting, through which dwellings rented by BragaHabit, E.M. are allocated to households in situations of economic and financial vulnerability. RADA ensures a monthly financial contribution for free-market rental contracts, while RRP provides rooms in dwellings under the responsibility of BragaHabit, E.M., accompanied by permanent social support.

In 2024, complementary instruments were reinforced, including the First Amendment to the Municipal Affordable Rental Program (PMAA), approved by Regulation no. 1127/2024, and the Regulation on the Allocation of Tax Benefits (no. 619/2024), which provides IMI and IMT exemptions and incentives for rehabilitation and energy efficiency.

Resources and infrastructure

BragaHabit Housing Stock

BragaHabit, E.M., as the municipal housing company, ensures the management of Braga's social housing stock and plays a central role in guaranteeing the right to decent housing. Its activity focuses on providing housing solutions for vulnerable households, rehabilitating urban buildings, and promoting social inclusion.

6.3 Suitable and affordable housing for all

Highlighted practices and initiatives

1.º Direito Program Rehabilitation of Bairro das Andorinhas	A housing rehabilitation program integrated into the Local Housing Strategy, aimed at improving living conditions in Bairro das Andorinhas. The total investment amounted to approximately 6 million euros, supported by PRR funds. BragaHabit, E.M. submitted 81 applications from private owners in Bairro das Andorinhas, under the figure of Direct Beneficiary, enabling access to funding from the 1.º Direito program and the corresponding rehabilitation of private housing units.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 13 CLIMATE ACTION
360º Accessibility Program	A national initiative financed by the PRR and locally coordinated by DRUH, aimed at adapting housing for people with disabilities or reduced mobility. In 2024, 45 applications were implemented, with 100% municipal co-financing and eligible value exceeding €600,000.	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Residents' Assemblies	A participatory governance mechanism implemented in 15 housing complexes, promoting shared responsibility among residents in the management of buildings and common spaces. Multiple participatory sessions were held, resulting in proposals to improve safety, cleanliness, and energy efficiency..	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
Viva o Bairro	A municipal program for community engagement and social capacity-building, developed by BragaHabit, E.M. and implemented by the Human Power Hub. This program promoted cultural activities, neighborhood initiatives, and interventions to upgrade outdoor spaces, strengthening the sense of belonging and social integration in municipal neighborhoods.	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
Tax Benefits for Youth Housing	An incentive measure to encourage young people to settle in the municipality, through the granting of tax exemptions and refunds for the acquisition or construction of primary housing. In 2024, 26 IMT refunds and 3 supports for construction projects were granted.	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Porta de Entrada Program	A humanitarian initiative that provides urgent accommodation to refugees and people who have lost their homes due to exceptional circumstances. This initiative not only addresses urgent basic housing needs but also promotes integration and solidarity with those facing significant challenges.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

6.3 Suitable and affordable housing for all

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	Unit	SDG	Source
Weight of median rent for new rental contracts in median disposable income per tax household	60,2	58,4	62,4	68,0	%	1 NO POVERTY; 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	INE, CESOP calculations

Indicator	2011	2021	Unit	SDG	Source
Proportion of the population residing in non-classical family dwellings	0,4	0,1	‰	1 NO POVERTY; 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	INE, CESOP calculations

6.3 Suitable and affordable housing for all

Key data and indicators

Indicator		2022	2023	2024	Unit	Source
Litigation / Evictions	Eviction proceedings	10	44	23*	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Evictions carried out	10	6	23	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Evictions suspended by agreement	0	34	3	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
Contract Management / Rentals	Contracts with rent arrears	669	667	681	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Rent compliance rate	309	206	111	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Cases with payment agreements	54	69	83	%	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Cases with payment agreements in arrears	332	336	226	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Cases with delayed settlements	104	108	103	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.

* Seven evictions for unlawful occupation and sixteen for non-payment of rent.

Indicator		2022	2023	2024	Unit	Source
Income Reviews	Increases	0	0	5	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Decreases	13	18	10	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	No change	8	10	16	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Total revisions	21	28	31	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
Housing Support RADA - Direct Rental Support Scheme	Total	1 094	1 300	1 287	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	New applications	333	560	429	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Renewals	761	740	858	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.

6.3 Suitable and affordable housing for all

Key data and indicators

Indicator		2022	2023	2024	Unit	Source
Housing Support RADE - Direct Loan Support Scheme	Total		500	270	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	New applications		500	95	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Renewals			175	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.

Indicator		2022	2023	2024	Unit	Source
General Housing Support	Supported tenancy	152	383	342	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Housing mobility	16	17	19	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Shared residence	41	56	53	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Gateway		21		N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Affordable tenancy		61	37	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Combating energy poverty	228	355	197	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.
	Total requests for support	1 531	2 693	2 205	N.º	BragaHabit, E.M.

6.3 Suitable and affordable housing for all

Awards and recognitions

UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour Award 2023

Distinction awarded to the program "Viva o Bairro" and to the Braga Residents' Assembly, recognizing exemplary practices of citizen participation.

6.4 Air quality and pollution control

Promotion of a healthy and resilient urban environment through the monitoring and implementation of measures to reduce atmospheric, noise, and light pollution, with a direct impact on public health, quality of life, and population well-being. This topic covers air quality surveillance, control of emissions from traffic, urban activities and municipal works, noise and public lighting management, and the development of awareness-raising actions, planning, and technological innovation.







Management approach

Ensure risk prevention, emission mitigation, and the protection of population well-being.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is carried out by the municipal services within the Environment and Climate Action Division, which articulates the different partner entities involved in the monitoring, mitigation, and communication of atmospheric impacts.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out through the Municipal Air Quality and Noise Monitoring Network.

6.4 Air quality and pollution control

Strategic instruments

Municipal Climate Action Plan (PMAC)

This Plan, approved in 2024, is the main local instrument for climate change mitigation and adaptation, aligned with PNEC 2030, the National Roadmap for Carbon Neutrality 2050 (RNC 2050), and the Climate Framework Law (Law no. 98/2021). The PMAC is the main municipal strategic instrument for emission mitigation and air quality improvement.

This instrument:

- Recognizes that air quality is affected by climate risks such as heatwaves, droughts, and forest fires;
- Foresees the Municipal Air Quality and Noise Monitoring Network, including an atmospheric forecasting model;
- Identifies indirect benefits of sustainable mobility actions for air quality improvement.

Resources and infrastructure

Sensor Network (Air and Noise)

In 2024, the Municipality of Braga implemented an air quality and noise monitoring network composed of 12 sensors with high spatial density, reinforcing the dimensions of Smart Governance, Smart Environment, and Smart Living. The network complements the two air quality monitoring stations of CCDR-N.

6.4 Air quality and pollution control

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Municipal Air Quality and Noise Monitoring Network	Expanded in 2024, it enables continuous data collection on air quality and noise. Reports are produced monthly, and the data are applied in urban planning and environmental management decisions.	  
Environmental Education and Awareness	Seasonal campaigns for the prevention of atmospheric pollution and school programs integrated into Climate Week and "Oxigenar Braga".	

6.4 Air quality and pollution control

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2021	2022	2023	Unit	SDG	Source
Average annual concentration of PM2.5 particles	9,6	11,1	10,7	µg/m³	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	OCDE
Average annual concentration of PM10 particles	12,8	15,9	15,2	µg/m³	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	OCDE
Average annual concentration of NO_2 (nitrogen dioxide)	5,6	6,8	6,8	µg/m³	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	OCDE

6.5 Transparency, public ethics, and anti-corruption

Promotion of an organizational culture based on integrity, ethics, and transparency, ensuring compliance with legal standards and codes of conduct applicable to local public administration. This topic covers corruption prevention and related offenses, protection against harassment and discrimination, management of conflicts of interest, and the strengthening of trust between the Municipality and citizens.



Management approach

Transparency and ethics constitute transversal pillars of municipal governance, guiding integrity policies, risk management, and the relationship of trust between the Administration and citizens.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of the Quality, Strategy and Organizational Development Unit. Action is developed in articulation with the Litigation and Judicial Monitoring Unit, responsible for regulatory application and technical-legal support, and the Human Resources Management and Development Department, which ensures ethical training, harassment prevention, and disciplinary management.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out continuously through periodic evaluation of performance indicators, analysis of complaints, suggestions, and commendations with control of response deadlines, internal compliance reports, and audits within the quality management system.

6.5 Transparency, public ethics, and anti-corruption

Strategic instruments

Code of Ethics, Conduct and Anti-Harassment Policy

This code, revised in 2024, establishes guiding principles of integrity, respect, and responsibility, ensuring a safe organizational environment free from abusive behavior. It defines rigorous criteria for the prevention of and response to situations of moral and sexual harassment, guaranteeing the protection and confidentiality of all involved.

The code has the following fundamental elements:

- Formal definition of moral and sexual harassment;
- Reporting mechanisms with guarantees of confidentiality and protection against retaliation;;
- Internal procedures for analysis, investigation, and possible disciplinary action;
- Preventive measures and continuous training actions to strengthen institutional ethics.

Resources and infrastructure

Internal Whistleblowing Channel

This digital platform ensures secure, anonymous, or confidential communications and guarantees the protection of whistleblowers. It complies with the legal framework of Law no. 93/2021 and is managed by the Quality, Strategy and Organizational Development Unit (UQEDO).

6.5 Transparency, public ethics, and anti-corruption

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Public Ethics Training	Implementation of awareness-raising actions directed at managers and technical staff, including specific modules integrated into the onboarding process of new employees. Sessions addressed public ethics, institutional integrity, harassment prevention, and compliance with obligations established by the General Regime for Corruption Prevention, at national level.	 
Management of Complaints and Suggestions	Registration of 148 communications (106 complaints, 40 commendations, and 2 suggestions). The average response time was 13 working days, showing an increase compared to 2023 (9 days), influenced by greater operational pressure in the 3rd quarter.	
Prevention of Conflicts of Interest	Application of the rules of the Code of Ethics regarding the acceptance of gifts, reinforcing transparency and integrity in relations with suppliers, partners, and external entities.	
Supplier Qualification and Evaluation	Execution of the quarterly supplier evaluation procedure within the scope of the Quality Management System, based on issued requisitions and non-conformities detected by the services. Evaluation criteria are disclosed on the institutional website, in tender documents, and in communications sent to suppliers.	 

6.5 Transparency, public ethics, and anti-corruption

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Proportion of women in public office	54,2	55,5	60,6	61,4		%	15 LIFE ON LAND	Pordata, CESOP calculations
Percentage of parishes that applied for the Eco-Parishes project	2,7		8,1		16,2	%	15 LIFE ON LAND	ABAAE, CESOP calculations
Percentage of parishes awarded the Green Flag	2,7		2,7		13,5	%	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	ABAAE, CESOP calculations

Indicator	2022	2023	2024	Unit	Source
Complaints	80	97	106	N.º	Summary Report Complaints, Suggestions and Compliments – 2024
Compliments	40	43	40	N.º	Summary Report Complaints, Suggestions and Compliments – 2024
Suggestions	5	3	2	N.º	Summary Report Complaints, Suggestions and Compliments – 2024

6.6 Climate action and energy transition

Management of climate change mitigation and adaptation through the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, increased energy efficiency, and the promotion of renewable energy sources. This topic covers municipal policies and programs focused on sustainable energy management, carbon footprint reduction, public lighting modernization, and support for the energy transition of communities, including planning, monitoring, and awareness-raising actions, technological innovation, and energy literacy among the population.







Management approach

Climate action and energy transition constitute central axes of the environmental policy of the Municipality of Braga, understood not only as technical challenges, but as a collective process of social, economic, and territorial transformation. The municipal strategy promotes an integrated approach between mitigation, adaptation, and technological innovation, recognizing that the environmental transition also requires civic participation, environmental education, and active community involvement as essential drivers of behavioral change.

This topic integrates one of the structural axes of the municipal sustainability strategy, directly contributing to the achievement of national and European carbon neutrality targets by 2050 and to strengthening the environmental resilience of the territory. In this context, the municipality affirms a mobilizing and pedagogical role, fostering climate literacy, shared responsibility among citizens, organizations, and the local economic fabric, and the construction of shared solutions to environmental challenges.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is carried out by the municipal services within the Municipal Division of Environment and Climate Change and the Municipal Division of Electromechanics, Public Lighting and Energy, with advisory support from the Municipal Council for Environment and Climate Action (CMAACB).

Monitoring and follow-up are conducted through the biennial evaluation of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (PAESC) and the continuous monitoring of the Municipal Climate Action Plan (PMAC-Braga), as well as through the Execution Reports of other relevant Municipal Plans.

6.6 Climate action and energy transition

Strategic instruments

Action Plan for Sustainable Energy and Climate (PAESC)

This plan defines municipal guidelines for emissions mitigation and climate adaptation, in accordance with the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (signed in 2018) and the guidelines of the Joint Research Centre (JRC). It includes a Baseline Emissions Inventory (base year 2008) and a Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment. In 2024, the first monitoring exercise (referring to 2022) was completed, confirming a 28% reduction in CO_2 emissions, corresponding to 51% progress towards the 55% target by 2030.

The main targets established are:

- Reduce CO_2 emissions by 55% by 2030 (compared to 2008)
- Achieve carbon neutrality by 2050

The PAESC constituted the structural foundation of the municipal climate mitigation strategy, ensuring a clear pathway and quantified targets aligned with European commitments. It was subsequently replaced and updated by the Climate Action Plan, which deepens and consolidates this vision, reinforcing the ambition and coherence of municipal policies towards carbon neutrality.

Municipal Climate Action Plan (PMAC-Braga)

This Plan, approved in 2024, is the main local instrument for climate change mitigation and adaptation, aligned with PNEC 2030, the National Roadmap for Carbon Neutrality 2050 (RNC 2050), and the Climate Framework Law (Law no. 98/2021), and integrates and replaces the previous Municipal Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change.

This plan defines 37 actions organized into four strategic axes:

- Mitigation (13 actions) – energy efficiency and sustainable mobility;
- Adaptation (14 actions) – strengthening territorial resilience and response to extreme climate events;
- Management and governance (5 actions) – integration of climate policies into municipal planning;
- Knowledge and capacity building (5 actions) – increasing climate and technical literacy.

Public Lighting Master Plan (PDIP)

This technical and strategic instrument, approved in 2024, defines the public lighting policy of the Municipality of Braga, integrating principles of energy efficiency, technological innovation, and environmental sustainability. The PDIP aims to reduce energy consumption and associated emissions, improve citizen comfort and safety, and minimize light pollution.

Among the main lines of action are:

- Progressive replacement of conventional luminaires with low-consumption, high-durability LED technology;
- Implementation of smart management and sensor systems, allowing adjustment of luminous flux according to presence and ambient light levels;
- Definition of technical and environmental criteria for the planning and maintenance of the public lighting network, in accordance with European energy efficiency standards.

Municipal Environmental Education Strategy (EMEA)

This strategy, approved in July 2024, structures environmental education and awareness activities around three axes: Decarbonize, Circular, and Value Braga. This strategy promotes climate and energy literacy, citizen engagement, and sustainable behavior.

6.6 Climate action and energy transition

Resources and infrastructure

Public Lighting

Public lighting is a municipal priority, combining safety, well-being, and energy efficiency. The Municipality of Braga has been progressively replacing conventional luminaires with LED technology, allowing for reduced consumption. In 2022, the transition to smart management systems began, enabling remote control and adjustment of lighting intensity, promoting more efficient energy use.

Camellia Park as a living laboratory for adaptation

Parque das Camélias is an example of Braga's commitment to climate resilience and functions both as a public green space and a practical laboratory, incorporating sustainable water management, native species, and permeable pavements. These interventions strengthen the capacity to respond to urban climate impacts and demonstrate an integrated approach to environmental adaptation within the Municipality.

6.6 Climate action and energy transition

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Implementation of PMAC-Braga	Launched in March 2024, it promoted mitigation, adaptation, and technical capacity-building actions, with a focus on energy efficiency, sustainable mobility, and nature-based solutions.	13 CLIMATE ACTION 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
Monitoring of PAESC	The 1st monitoring was completed (reference year 2022), with a 28% reduction in CO_2eq emissions and 51% achievement of the 2030 target.	13 CLIMATE ACTION 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
adapt.local Network	The Municipality of Braga has been part of this network since 2020, collaborating with national municipalities on climate adaptation and benefiting from knowledge sharing, technical resources, and support in developing local resilience strategies.	13 CLIMATE ACTION 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Cities for Climate Network	The Municipality of Braga is a founding member and chairs the Cities for Climate Network, an initiative that accelerates climate neutrality by 2030 through municipal cooperation, climate contracts, and the sharing of innovative solutions.	13 CLIMATE ACTION 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy	European commitment subscribed by the Municipality since 2018. It reinforces the alignment of local targets with European mitigation and adaptation objectives.	13 CLIMATE ACTION 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Braga Climate Week	Held in October 2024, with debates, workshops, and exhibitions on carbon neutrality and adaptation, involving schools, universities, and local companies.	13 CLIMATE ACTION 4 QUALITY EDUCATION 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Greenfest Braga	Large-scale public event focused on sustainability, aimed at the community, with talks, workshops, and an ecomarket. It took place from 27 to 29 September 2024 at the Campus of the University of Minho – Gualtar.	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Application "Braga – European Green Capital 2026"	Formalized in 2024, it highlighted the municipal trajectory in sustainability, energy, and climate action. This application resulted in the creation of the website: bragaverde.pt	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 13 CLIMATE ACTION 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

6.6 Climate action and energy transition

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2015	2017	2019	2023	Unit	SDG	Source
Tons of greenhouse gases emitted	439 414	470 743	460 573	449 452	tCO_2 eq	13 CLIMATE ACTION	APA, CESOP calculations
Per capita greenhouse gas emissions	2,6	2,7	2,7	2,4	tCO_2 eq/hab	13 CLIMATE ACTION	APA, CESOP calculations

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Domestic electricity consumption per inhabitant	1 173,0	1 197,2	1 189,3	1 233,3		kWh/hab.	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	INE
Total electricity consumption for lighting public roads and the interior of state buildings in the municipality	28 176	27 297	29 329	29 817		kWh	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	INE
Electricity consumption for public street lighting in the municipality	15 659	14 765	14 288	12 529		kWh	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	INE
Electricity consumption for lighting the interior of state buildings in the municipality	12 517	12 532	15 042	17 288		kWh	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	INE
Proportion of buildings with energy certification in classes A to C in relation to the total number of buildings with energy certification issued in the year	79,5	76,6	70,7	72,9	73,9	%	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	SCE
Proportion of municipal expenditure on the environment	2,1	0,2	2,2			%	13 CLIMATE ACTION	INE, CESOP calculations

6.6 Climate action and energy transition

Awards and recognitions

ECO XXI Award 2024

ABAAE
European Blue Flag Association

Renewal of the ECO XXI seal, distinguishing the integrated and sustainable management of environmental and energy policies. Braga joined the group of the "TOP 20" national municipalities in 2024.

6.7 Health and well-being

Promotion of population health and well-being through integrated public policies, operational management of health units, prevention programs, health literacy, psychosocial and nutritional support, and encouragement of physical exercise. The topic includes the promotion of mental health, equity in access to healthcare, and the sustainable modernization of municipal health infrastructures.



Management approach

Health and well-being constitute a transversal strategic axis of the social and environmental policy of the Municipality of Braga, ensuring coherence between public policies, equity, and sustainability.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is carried out by the municipal services within the Division for Health Promotion and Well-being, integrated into the Department of Citizenship and Quality of Life, with the Community Council of ACeS Braga.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out continuously, based on annual performance indicators such as number of beneficiaries, consultations, investments, or awareness actions.

6.7 Health and well-being

Strategic instruments

Municipal Health Plan 2021–2026

This instrument guides local health policies, aligned with national and international guidelines.

Its main objectives are:

- Reduce premature mortality from non-communicable diseases;
- Promote physical and mental well-being;
- Strengthen health literacy and citizen participation;
- Ensure equity in access to healthcare;
- Integrate environmental sustainability criteria into health policies.

Resources and infrastructure

Municipal Health Office

Municipal multidisciplinary structure responsible for promoting population health and well-being, ensuring equitable access to healthcare and articulation between local and regional public policies. The Office is composed of a multidisciplinary team of professionals from the areas of health, psychology, nutrition, nursing, and social work, and develops actions aimed at preventing disease, promoting healthy lifestyles, and ensuring equitable access to healthcare, especially among the most vulnerable groups.

6.7 Health and well-being

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Braga + Health	Program providing free access to medication for citizens in situations of socioeconomic vulnerability. In 2024, it supported 922 beneficiaries (+127% compared to 2023).	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
Braga a Sorrir	Solidarity oral health program, developed in partnership with the organization "Mundo a Sorrir", aimed at people in situations of social vulnerability. In 2024, 5 646 consultations, 13 916 treatments, and 353 dental prostheses were carried out.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
Requalification and Energy Efficiency of Health Units	Installation of photovoltaic panels in six health units (Carandá, Paulo Orósio, Celeirós, Ruães, Sequeira, and Infias) and replacement of 19 vehicles with 100% electric vehicles.	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES, 13 CLIMATE ACTION
Rotavirus Child Vaccination	Support for vaccination against rotavirus, ensuring free access for low-income families. In 2024, 192 children were covered (478 vaccines administered). Since 2017, the program totals 1 532 beneficiaries and 2 912 vaccines administered.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
PMAP Psychological Support Programs	Municipal service providing free psychological support. In 2024, 19 users benefited from 203 individual sessions, reinforcing support for the mental and emotional health of the community.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
PMANA Nutritional and Food Support Programs	Nutrition consultation program aimed at residents in situations of social vulnerability. In 2024, 7 users were supported in 74 sessions, focusing on dietary re-education and prevention of chronic diseases.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
Therapeutic and Physical Rehabilitation Programs	Set of municipal programs promoting physical health and rehabilitation: PULSAR (25 oncology patients), Hydrotherapy (64 users), Diabetes em Movimento (16 participants), and Obesity Management (6 users).	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

6.7 Health and well-being

Featured practices and initiatives

Food Hygiene and Safety in School Canteens	Certified training aimed at operational assistants in school canteens. In 2024, 152 trainees participated, and the Manual of Good Practices in Food Hygiene and Safety was published and distributed to all municipal schools.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 4 QUALITY EDUCATION
Health Week 2024	Municipal event held from 6 to 12 April, with free screenings, healthy showcooking sessions, workshops, and webinars on lifestyles and disease prevention. It involved more than 1 000 residents and 30 partner entities.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Pink October Breast Cancer Prevention	Annual awareness campaign in partnership with Hospital de Braga, Associação Rosa Vida, and the Portuguese Cancer League. It included screenings and awareness actions.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Influenza Vaccination of Municipal Employees	Administration of 457 flu vaccines to municipal employees, strengthening occupational health protection and absenteeism prevention.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
UNICEF Application and Accession of Braga to the "Child Friendly City" Initiative	In 2024, the Municipality initiated the official application to the UNICEF Child Friendly Cities Network, reinforcing its commitment to children's rights, child participation, and the creation of healthy and safe urban environments for all children.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 4 QUALITY EDUCATION, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES, 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
RPMS Portuguese Network of Healthy Municipalities	Active participation in the RPMS, with technical coordination of one of the thematic working groups and recognized good practices in decentralization of competences.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES, 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
European Network of Healthy Cities	The Municipality of Braga has been part of the World Health Organization's European Healthy Cities Network since 2019, reinforcing Braga's contribution to the principles of sustainable urban health.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES, 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

6.7 Health and well-being

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Deaths due to complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period	1	1	0	0		N.º	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE
Proportion of live births attended by skilled health personnel	100,0	100,0	100,0	99,9	100,0	%	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE, CESOP calculations
Five-year mortality rate for children aged 0–4 years per 1,000 live births	1,7	1,6	1,3	1,3	1,6	‰	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE, CESOP calculations
Five-year neonatal mortality rate	1,1	1,0	0,8	0,9	1,1	‰	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE, CESOP calculations
Five-year rate of new HIV infections per 1,000 inhabitants	0,06	0,06	0,06			‰	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	DGS-INSA, CESOP calculations
Five-year mortality rate from tuberculosis, HIV and viral hepatitis per 100,000 inhabitants	3,4	3,2	3,1	2,6		/100 000 hab.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE, CESOP calculations
Mortality rate (30–70 years) attributed to circulatory diseases, tumours, diabetes and respiratory diseases per 100,000 inhabitants	176,5	192,0	196,1	170,9		/100 000 hab.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE, CESOP calculations

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Five-year mortality rate from self-inflicted injuries (suicide) per 100,000 inhabitants	4,6	5,7	5,4	5,9		/100 000 hab.	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE, CESOP calculations
Rates of registered users with drug use problems (aged 15–74)	3,56	3,37	3,34	3,33		‰	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	SICAD, CESOP calculations
Rates of registered users with alcohol-related problems (aged 15–74)	0,94	1,10	1,22	1,26		‰	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	SICAD, CESOP calculations
Accidental poisoning (intoxication) by drugs, medicines and biological substances	1	2	2	0		N.º	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE
Proportion of doctors	8,6	8,4	8,5	8,7	9,0	‰	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE, CESOP calculations
Proportion of pharmacists	1,09	1,25	1,24	1,30	1,34	‰	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE, CESOP calculations
Proportion of nurses	9,3	9,0	8,7	9,0	9,1	‰	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE, CESOP calculations
Proportion of dentists	1,53	1,59	1,62	1,62	1,65	‰	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING	INE, CESOP calculations

6.8 Waste management and circular economy

Promotion of an integrated system for urban waste management and circular economy, ensuring the sustainable collection, treatment, and recovery of waste produced in the municipality of Braga. The topic covers prevention, reuse, recycling, and material recovery operations, as well as awareness-raising actions, innovation, and institutional cooperation that enhance resource circularity throughout their life cycle. It includes the joint action of the Municipality of Braga, AGERE, E.M., and BRAVAL, S.A.





Management approach

Urban waste management and the circular economy constitute a strategic axis of the environmental and climate policy of the Municipality of Braga, enabling improvements in collection system efficiency, recovery rates, and the circularity of the municipality.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of the Division of Environment and Climate Change, in articulation with AGERE, E.M., which ensures undifferentiated and selective collection operations and specific waste streams (including bulky waste and biowaste), and with BRAVAL, S.A., responsible for sorting, recovery, composting, and final disposal of waste at the intermunicipal level.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out through operational and environmental indicators, internal and external audits, and Annual Reports and Accounts prepared by AGERE and BRAVAL, S.A.

6.8 Waste management and circular economy

Strategic instruments

Municipal Regulation of the Urban Waste Management Service

This Regulation establishes the foundations for efficient and sustainable waste management in the municipality of Braga, defining clear rules for service provision.

Among its main elements are:

- Assignment to AGERE, E.M. of exclusive responsibility for the execution of the municipal service of undifferentiated and selective collection of specific waste streams, in accordance with applicable legislation and the delegated management contract;
- Integration with BRAVAL, S.A., the entity responsible for multimaterial selective collection, sorting, recovery, composting, and final disposal of urban waste in the intermunicipal area;
- Promotion of integrated management, ensuring the collection, transport, routing, and recovery of waste, including the commercialization of recoverable products where applicable;
- Contribution to environmental sustainability, reinforcing efficiency and compliance with national and European targets.

Municipal Circular Economy Strategy (EMEC)

This strategy, currently under development, establishes the guidelines and actions that Braga will implement in partnership with institutions, companies, schools, and civil society organizations to accelerate the transition to a local circular economy.

- It presents a collaborative vision that enables the creation of more efficient systems, waste reduction, resource valorization, and active community participation across the various sectors involved;
- It complements PMAC-Braga and PAESC, promoting a just transition to a low-carbon economic model.

6.8 Waste management and circular economy

Resources and infrastructure

Urban Waste Collection System in the Municipality of Braga

The waste collection system has been progressively replaced by a proximity-based collection model, coordinated by AGERE, E.M. This process includes the installation of underground and surface containers, regular equipment washing, and fleet optimization. This modernization improves urban hygiene, facilitates waste disposal, and strengthens public health. In coordination with BRAVAL, S.A., selective biowaste collection is being prepared, financed by the Environmental Fund and Portugal 2030, enabling routing to composting and promoting circularity.

BRAVAL Ecopark

The BRAVAL, S.A. Ecopark integrates essential infrastructures for sustainable waste management, ensuring sorting, multimaterial recovery, biodiesel and biogas production, and leachate water treatment. It also includes a laboratory that guarantees the quality and environmental compliance of processes. This complex, aligned with circular economy principles, strengthens intermunicipal recovery capacity and demonstrates Braga's commitment to efficient, modern, and environmentally robust solutions for waste treatment and final destination.

Cleaning Equipment

AGERE, E.M. reinforced operations with specialized vehicles for container washing, ensuring greater hygiene and protection of public health. The most recent urban cleaning fleet is fully electric, and future collection trucks will follow the same standard, reducing emissions and noise.

6.8 Waste management and circular economy

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Garbagere	The result of a partnership between AGERE, E.M. and Enermeter, this application integrates urban hygiene services and facilitates the reporting of anomalies by citizens and Parish Councils, strengthening collaboration and promoting greater operational efficiency and environmental sustainability.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Fleetboard Optimized Network	This system modernizes fleet management at AGERE, E.M., reducing wear, consumption, and CO_2 emissions. Automation and monitoring increase driver safety and comfort, reinforcing efficiency and the entity's environmental commitment.	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
City Sweeping	The acquisition of electric urban vacuum cleaners improves worker well-being and increases urban cleaning efficiency. These devices reduce noise and emissions, reinforcing the Municipality's commitment to innovative solutions for a cleaner and more sustainable city.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 13 CLIMATE ACTION
AmbWTE Biomass & Waste to Energy System	This project uses gasification technology to convert waste into energy, reducing environmental impacts and promoting energy efficiency. It represents progress in sustainable waste management and reinforces the municipal commitment to circular solutions.	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 13 CLIMATE ACTION
Res2ValHum Organic Waste Valorization	This project promotes composting and values the resulting compost, reducing landfill disposal and promoting sustainable agricultural practices. It contributes to closing the organic matter cycle and strengthening the circular economy in the territory.	2 ZERO HUNGER 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 13 CLIMATE ACTION
Composting Awareness Actions in Schools	The Municipality equips schools with composters and develops training actions on composting and circular economy. Students apply knowledge in practice, both in school and family contexts, becoming active agents in the reduction and valorization of organic waste.	4 QUALITY EDUCATION 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

6.8 Waste management and circular economy

Featured practices and initiatives

BRAVAL Awareness Campaigns	In 2024, 45 visits to the BRAVAL, S.A. Ecopark were carried out, involving 1490 participants, with 96.5% satisfaction, and 26 public actions, highlighting "Separated Glass, Sustainable Planet!" and "Always Recycling at Your School".	
European Week for Waste Reduction	Coordinated by BRAVAL, S.A. for the 10th consecutive year, the initiative brought together 52 actions promoted by 19 entities. It involved schools, associations, companies, and citizens in prevention, reuse, and recycling activities, reinforcing awareness of sustainable resources.	
Circular Cities Declaration	The Municipality of Braga became a signatory of the Circular Cities Declaration, assuming the commitment to accelerate the transition to circular urban models, foster innovation, and strengthen European sustainability partnerships.	
TO-BE-GREEN APP	In partnership with To-Be-Green, this is a textile collection and valorization platform in schools and municipal buildings, allowing the delivery of end-of-life clothing and the accumulation of points. "Circular bags" with QR/RFID/NFC technology are used to promote traceability, and they were installed at 10 collection points.	

6.8 Waste management and circular economy

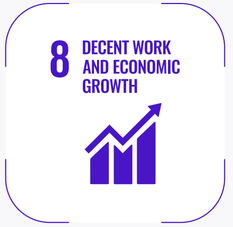
Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	Unit	SDG	Source
Proportion of hazardous sectoral waste recovered	54.8	62.9	56.4	56.0	%	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	EEA, CESOP calculations
Proportion of non-hazardous sectoral waste recovered	64.4	75.1	60.6	53.4	%	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	EEA, CESOP calculations
Proportion of municipal waste deposited in landfills	54.0	63.6	75.3	70.0	%	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	INE
Proportion of municipal waste prepared for reuse and recycling	67.3	40.8	10.1	11.2	%	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES; 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	INE
Urban waste collected per inhabitant	486	460	457	448	kg/hab.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES; 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	INE

6.9 Education, talent and quality training

Promotion of equitable and quality access to education, ensuring the comprehensive development of citizens and the acquisition of skills. This topic covers municipal policies and programmes that guarantee equal opportunities throughout the educational pathway, from pre-school education to lifelong learning, promoting academic success, pedagogical innovation, and social cohesion in the municipality of Braga.





Management approach

Education represents a structuring priority for the sustainable development of the Municipality of Braga, ensuring coherence between educational policies, social inclusion, and digital transition.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of the Education Division, integrated within the Department of Education and Social Cohesion, with monitoring by the Municipal Education Council.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out on a continuous basis, based on annual performance indicators, such as school transition and completion rates or the number of schools participating in environmental programmes.

6.9 Education, talent and quality training

Strategic instruments

Braga Educational Charter

This planning and organisation instrument of the municipal educational network guides local education policies and ensures that the educational offer is adapted to population needs. The Braga Educational Charter defines the strategic lines for the development of the education system, articulating the management of educational establishments, demographic projection, and territorial planning.

Four strategic axes define the approach:

- Promotion of inclusive schooling;
- Physical quality and educational success;
- A cohesive and participatory education policy;
- Adult education and lifelong learning.

During the 2024/2025 school year, the process of revision and updating of the 2nd Generation Educational Charter was initiated, with completion expected during the 2025/2026 school year.

Local Educational Project (PEL)

For the Municipality of Braga, it is essential to prioritise investment in citizens' education and training (formal and non-formal), debating and coordinating – transversally – the interventions of the different entities, partners, and educational stakeholders, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of Educating Cities. By harmonising a set of integrated policies, the objective is to homogenise the prosperity of the territorial structure and the (de)development of the community in educational and municipal intervention.

Local Plan for Children's Rights 2023-2026

This Plan aims to promote children's rights and make the municipality a reference in this area, focusing on non-discrimination, participation, access to services, protection, family, culture, and sustainable development. The plan has been implemented since October 2023 and covers a range of municipal initiatives.

6.9 Education, talent and quality training

Resources and infrastructure

Educational Infrastructure

Braga's educational network is composed of public and private education institutions, namely 12 school clusters and one non-clustered school. The public sector includes 62 kindergartens, 64 primary schools (1st cycle), 13 lower and upper secondary schools (2nd and 3rd cycles), and six secondary education schools. Additionally, more than 100 private institutions provide education from nursery to secondary and vocational education. Vocational education is represented by four schools, and higher education in Braga includes the University of Minho, the Catholic University, and the Polytechnic Institute of Cávado and Ave (IPCA).

Qualifica Centre / Employment Integration Office

The Braga Qualifica Centre, a collaborative consortium between educational and industrial entities, aims to qualify adults for the labour market by promoting lifelong learning. With a personalised approach, it identifies needs and directs candidates to appropriate educational programmes. It offers free training at various qualification levels, including academic and vocational, adapting to the individual needs of each participant to ensure effective and successful integration into the labour market.

Braga Ciência Viva Centre (CCVB)

The CCVB promotes scientific and technological culture and dissemination, fostering motivation to learn science through early contact with scientific knowledge, its agents, and processes. Experimental activities are carried out in several scientific areas, always guided by specialised monitors. Activities are adapted and directed to different audiences, namely schools and families. These scientific actions are carried out not only in the CCVB physical space but also in schools/school clusters, other entities/partners, and outdoors, such as environmental education activities in areas of high ecological interest and astronomical observations of the night sky.

6.9 Education, talent and quality training

Highlighted practices and initiatives

School Support and Social Action	Continuation of municipal programmes for school meals, free transport, and support for school materials, ensuring equitable conditions for attendance and educational success.	  
Environmental Education and Citizenship	The Braga Ciência Viva Centre carried out scientific and environmental awareness activities, while the Pedagogical Farm reinforced its intergenerational role, promoting sustainable agriculture practices, circular economy, and contact with nature.	  
BragaEduca Portal Education Portal	Launched in 2024, the Education Portal brings the school community closer together, providing a Municipal Education Observatory, a dedicated space for parents and guardians, and a participation channel where students can submit opinions and ideas.	
Supera-t and Capacit'art Programmes	Municipal programmes for personal development, inclusion, and well-being aimed at children and young people, promoting socio-emotional skills, school engagement, artistic expression, and psychosocial support, with a focus on vulnerable contexts and educational inclusion.	  
"Qualifica-te Braga 24" Fair	Annual school and career guidance event bringing together secondary, vocational, and higher education institutions, promoting qualification, re-entry into education, and the guidance of young people and adults towards lifelong learning pathways.	 
Family Animation and Support Activities	Municipal programme promoting access to quality educational activities, reinforcing inclusion and equality of opportunities.	 
Municipal Enrichment Programme	Set of complementary educational activities in the 1st cycle, covering arts, sports, science, and literacy, promoting equal access to diverse learning experiences and contributing to academic success.	

6.9 Education, talent and quality training

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Participation in the Eco-Schools Programme	Technical, material, and logistical support to Eco-Schools in the municipality, ensuring conditions for environmental actions. In 2024, 29 of the 33 schools were awarded the Green Flag. This includes materials, transport, and thematic sessions in partnership with the Braga Ciência Viva Centre, reinforcing environmental and citizenship skills.
Participation in the Young Reporters for the Environment (JRA) Programme	Environmental journalism sessions for students in the 2nd and 3rd cycles, secondary and vocational education, promoting environmental and media literacy. The sessions, conducted by the Braga Ciência Viva Centre, enable students to investigate, produce, and disseminate environmental reports. In 2024, two schools participated with published works.
Educating Cities Network	Active participation of Braga in the International Association of Educating Cities (AICE) and the Portuguese Territorial Network of Educating Cities (RTPCE), reinforcing education as a transversal axis of public policies and promoting the exchange of good practices in inclusion, citizenship, innovation, and sustainability.
UNESCO Learning Cities Network	Participation in the UNESCO Learning Cities Network dedicated to lifelong learning, promoting international cooperation, sharing innovative solutions, and developing local policies that strengthen skills, inclusion, and community participation.
Road Safety Education School	Municipal road safety prevention project aimed at the educational community, integrating theoretical and practical sessions on road safety and civic education. The initiative is part of extracurricular activities in schools in the municipality and also includes students from other municipalities. At the end, participants receive a Good Driver Certificate and educational materials to continue the work in family and school contexts.
incluIR Inclusive Holiday Programme	Municipal programme offering educational and social support during school holidays (Christmas, Easter, and Summer), through recreational and educational activities in the areas of art, culture, environment, and sports. It is aimed at children and young people aged 6 to 15, including participants with specific needs up to the maximum age of compulsory schooling, promoting inclusion, personal development, and social skills.

6.9 Education, talent and quality training

Key data and indicators

1 | 2

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Average number of students enrolled in non-tertiary education per computer with Internet connection	4,2	2,2	1,4	1,3		N.º	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	PORDATA
Proportion of students who obtained a positive mark in the first phase of the final examinations of the third cycle			63,5	68,5	72,4	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	DGEEC (2015/2016-2023/2024), CESOP calculations
Transition/completion rate in secondary education by type of course	92,9	93,6	92,4	92,9	92,6	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE (2014/2015-2023/2024)
Transition/completion rate in basic education by level of education	98,9	98,9	98,9	98,7	98,4	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE (2014/2015-2023/2024)
Gross pre-school enrolment rate	103,9	102,7	105,0	106,9	106,9	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE (2014/2015-2023/2024)
Proportion of the adult population enrolled in higher education, by municipality of permanent residence	8,1	8,6	8,6	8,6		%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE (2015-2022), CESOP calculations
Percentage of schools that applied for the Eco-Schools project	12,6	13,2	20,4	21,7		%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION 13 CLIMATE ACTION	ABAAE, CESOP calculations
Percentage of schools awarded the Green Flag	11,9	11,8	18,4	19,7		%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION 13 CLIMATE ACTION	ABAE, CESOP calculations

Indicator	Indicator	2011	2021	Unit	SDG	Source
Proportion of the resident population aged between 25 and 34 years with at least a completed higher education degree	Men	28,3	40,6	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE
	Women	43,2	58,1	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE
	Total	36,0	49,4	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE
Illiteracy rate by gender	Men	1,9	1,1	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE
	Women	4,7	2,7	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE
	Total	3,4	1,9	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE

6.9 Education, talent and quality training

Key data and indicators

1 | 2

Indicator		2020	2021	2022	2023	Unit	SDG	Source
Proportion of pupils who completed the cycle within the expected time frame	ES Professional Courses	75,7	72,1	76,6	74,8	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	DGEEC
	ES General Courses	75,0	82,3	82,0	81,1	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	DGEEC
	3rd Cycle Primary School	91,8	94,4	95,9	94,0	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	DGEEC
	Secondary School	98,0	97,2	98,9	98,7	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	DGEEC
	Primary School	94,4	95,0	94,7	94,3	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	DGEEC

Indicator	2020/ 2021	2021/ 2022	2022/ 2023	2023/ 2024	2024/ 2025	Unit	Source
Total number of pre-school, primary, secondary, vocational and arts schools in the municipality	117	177	177	177	177	N.º	Braga City Council
Schools enrolled in the Young Reporters for the Environment Project that have published at least one report	4	3	9	4	2	N.º	Braga City Council

Indicator	Indicator	2023 / 2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Transition/completion rate in secondary education by type of course	General courses	92,7	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE
	Professional courses	92,4	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE
	Total	92,6	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE
Transition/completion rate in primary education by level of education primary education	Primary School	99,2	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE
	Second Cycle	98,6	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE
	3rd Cycle	97,3	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE
	Total	98,4	%	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	INE

6.9 Education, talent and quality training

Awards and recognitions

Programme

Eco-Schools 2024

Distinguished 29 of the 33 Eco-Schools in the municipality of Braga, reflecting the Municipality's continued investment in environmental education and sustainability. The number of Eco-Schools increased by 50% between 2021 and 2022.

Social Action and Education

Municipal Excellence 2024

Recognition by the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities (ANMP).

Braga City Council was recognised for the projects: Capacit'Arte project and incluIR Project.

6.10 Inclusion and social development

Promotion of an inclusive, supportive, and equitable city, ensuring equal opportunities and universal access to essential services, regardless of origin, gender, age, or economic condition. This topic covers municipal policies and programmes aimed at reducing socio-economic inequalities, protecting vulnerable groups, integrating migrants, and promoting equality and non-discrimination. Given the relevance of longevity and active ageing, this topic is addressed separately, although it falls within the Municipality's social development framework.





Management approach

Inclusion and social development constitute a structuring axis of Braga's municipal social cohesion policy, ensuring coherence between policies on solidarity, equality, housing, and social innovation.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of the municipal services within the Social Cohesion and Solidarity Division, integrated into the Department of Education and Social Cohesion. Within the framework of decentralisation of social action competences, the Municipality contracted social institutions for social assistance and follow-up. The strategy for social development is ensured by the Braga Social Network, structured around two platforms: the Local Council for Social Action (CLAS), responsible for strategic planning and coordination of efforts, and the Parish Social Commissions (CSF) and Inter-Parish Social Commissions (CSIF), which ensure territorial implementation and dynamisation through information gathering, identification of vulnerabilities, and promotion of integrated community responses.

This structure also ensures decentralisation of competences in the social area, guaranteeing proximity-based assistance and follow-up, while monitoring and evaluation are carried out based on annual performance indicators and execution reports of municipal programmes.

6.10 Inclusion and social development

Strategic instruments

Social Development Plan Braga 2030 (PDS)

This Plan is a structuring instrument of the Braga Social Network and guides social diagnosis, planning, and intervention until 2030.

It is organised into three pillars integrating thematic dimensions and strategic objectives, promoting territorial cohesion, active inclusion, and social innovation:

Pillar 1 – Active and Creative City – Aims to adopt active solutions to improve qualifications and employability and promote active, healthy, and successful ageing processes, strengthening skills, autonomy, and healthy lifestyles throughout life;

Pillar 2 – Inclusive City – Aims to promote inclusive approaches to empowerment, autonomy, and social inclusion and to guarantee equal opportunities in access to resources, services, and support, acting in the areas of housing, education, migration, disability, and social emergency;

Pillar 3 – Governance for Innovation – Aims to consolidate Braga as a laboratory for innovation, creativity, and social entrepreneurship, strengthening the local innovation ecosystem and the quality of social responses.

Municipal Plan for Equality and Non-Discrimination (PMIND)

This Plan guides local equality policy, preventing discrimination based on gender, age, disability, origin, sexual orientation, or socio-economic condition. The PMIND focuses on integrating the equality perspective into municipal policies and strengthening internal capacities.

Its main areas of intervention include:

- Awareness-raising and capacity-building of technicians and managers;
- Promotion of equal opportunities in access to services, employment, and civic participation;
- Work–life balance;
- Prevention of discriminatory behaviours and gender-based violence;
- Networking with local entities and civil society.

Municipal Plan for the Integration of Migrants (PMIM)

This municipal plan ensures the full integration of migrants and refugees, promoting equitable access to rights, services, and opportunities. Monitored by the Municipal Council for Immigration, Integration and Interculturality (CMIII), this plan strengthens intercultural dialogue and civic participation.

Its main areas of action include:

- Linguistic, cultural, and labour integration;
- Access to housing, health, education, and public services;
- Orientation, capacity-building, and intercultural mediation programmes;
- Promotion of diversity and combating discrimination;
- Participation of migrant communities in local governance.

6.10 Inclusion and social development

Resources and infrastructure

Social Action Office

The Social Action Office is a reference point for individuals and families in situations of vulnerability and for referral to social services and responses. This resource offers a welcoming and confidential environment where citizens can obtain guidance and personalised support to overcome challenges and access essential resources for their well-being.

Centre for Assistance to Foreign Citizens (CACE)

The centre provides comprehensive assistance to migrants, supporting their social, legal, and labour integration into the Braga community. This resource offers support in obtaining documentation, access to healthcare and education, as well as guidance on rights and duties. In addition, it promotes intercultural awareness and facilitates migrants' integration into community life.

Inclusion Desk

The Inclusion Desk is a centralised access point to information and services related to social inclusion and equal opportunities. This resource provides guidance and referral to available programmes and support for individuals and groups in vulnerable situations. It operates as a welcoming and support space, promoting accessibility and participation of all in community life.

Information and Reception Office for Equality

The Information and Reception Office for Equality is a resource dedicated to promoting gender equality and combating discrimination in all its forms. This office provides information, counselling, and legal support to victims of discrimination, as well as promoting awareness and education for equality. Working closely with civil society organisations, the office contributes to building a fairer and more inclusive community for all.

6.10 Inclusion and social development

Highlighted practices and initiatives

NPISA Homelessness Planning and Intervention Unit	The NPISA focuses on planning interventions for the homeless population. In 2024, articulation and monitoring of reported cases continued, in compliance with the guidelines set out in the National Strategy for Intervention with People Experiencing Homelessness.	1 NO POVERTY, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Food Support Network	The Municipality of Braga coordinates the various food support responses in the municipality, within the framework of the solidarity network of Social Canteens and the Operational Programme for Supporting the Most Deprived, avoiding duplication of support and preventing food deprivation.	2 ZERO HUNGER
CLDS 5G Braga + Próxima	Local Social Development Contracts (CLDS) promote community resilience and social inclusion through strengthening the Social Network, ensuring an effective and integrated response in intervention contexts, social emergency situations, and exceptional scenarios.	1 NO POVERTY, 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Social Radar	Project funded by the Recovery and Resilience Plan (PRR), consisting of a community and local development intervention based on partnership and cooperation, referral, and (re)identification of situations of social vulnerability and social exclusion.	1 NO POVERTY, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES, 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
Cuidar de Todos | Braga	Operation approved under the PAIIA Call – Intermunicipal Action Plans for the Active Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups (ITI) – NORTE2030. The project promotes active inclusion through capacity-building, proximity mediation, and reinforcement of social responses in several parishes of the municipality.	1 NO POVERTY, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES, 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Braga Sol Fund	Financial support programme aimed at families in situations of energy vulnerability, helping to cover energy costs. This initiative aimed to ensure that all families had access to dignified and comfortable living conditions.	1 NO POVERTY, 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Large Family Card	Aimed at families with three or more children, offering benefits and discounts on various services and products. This card aims to support families in managing their expenses and promote equal opportunities for all families, regardless of their size.	1 NO POVERTY, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES, 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Braga Kid Card	The Braga Kid Card provided discounts and benefits for educational, cultural, and leisure activities for children and families. This card promoted social inclusion and equitable access to development opportunities, encouraging participation in events and activities that enriched children's growth.	4 QUALITY EDUCATION, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

6.10 Inclusion and social development

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	ODS	Source
Proportion of RSI beneficiaries in the working-age resident population	14,0	14,5	14,0	12,9		‰	1 NO POVERTY, 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	INE
Gini coefficient of declared gross income net of settled personal income tax per tax household	41,4	41,0	41,0	41,1		%	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	INE
Ratio between the average disposable income of tax households in the highest and lowest quintiles	3,2	3,2	3,2	3,2		–	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	INE
Existence of an accessible beach for people with reduced mobility	50,0	60,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	%	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	INE, CESOP calculations
Current expenditure for households and IPSSs as a share of total expenditure	7,7	8,6	11,5	9,7		%	1 NO POVERTY	Municipal Portal, CESOP calculations
Current expenditure for households and IPSSs per capita	30,7	37,2	57,8	53,9		€	1 NO POVERTY	Municipal Portal, CESOP calculations
Proportion of young women aged 16 to 19 who married	0,7	1,9	1,9	3,2	0,7	‰	5 GENDER EQUALITY	INE, CESOP calculations

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	ODS	Source
Relationship between the duration of initial parental leave of the father and the mother (social security)	28,9	29,0	29,2	35,2		%	5 GENDER EQUALITY	INE
Five-year adolescent fertility rate	4,6	4,4	4,0	3,7	3,6	‰	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING, 5 GENDER EQUALITY	INE, CESOP calculations
Number of people experiencing homelessness per 1,000 inhabitants	0,41	0,59	0,81	0,63		‰	1 NO POVERTY	ENIPSSA, CESOP calculations
Proportion of children and young people benefiting from the Social Security child allowance	42,3	41,8	43,1	42,0		%	1 NO POVERTY	INE, CESOP calculations
Median daily disposable income of the first quintile, per tax household	21,8	22,8	23,4	24,6		€	1 NO POVERTY	INE, CESOP calculations
Proportion of beneficiaries of the Social Energy and Natural Gas Tariff relative to the resident population	7,4	7,5	7,3	8,5	7,8	%	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	DGEG, CESOP calculations

6.10 Inclusion and social development

Awards and recognitions

Award

"Living in Equality"2024

Distinction awarded by the Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality (CIG).

Award

Municipal Excellence Award 2024 – Social Action and Education

Recognition by the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities (ANMP).

Braga City Council was recognised for the projects: RED MAY, Gender Equality and Non-Discrimination and Work–Life Balance project; and the programme "Braga é + Igual".

Social Merit Flag 2024

Awarded by the National Association of Social Gerontology (ANGES), recognising the commitment of Braga City Council to social cohesion, solidarity, and the development of inclusive and sustainable public policies.

6.11 Water management

This topic covers the integrated management of the urban water cycle, from abstraction, treatment and distribution to wastewater management and the protection of water resource quality, as well as stormwater management and the ecological restoration of watercourses, which are essential for climate adaptation and environmental enhancement of the territory.







Management approach

Water management is a central axis of the environmental policy of the Municipality of Braga, essential for the population's quality of life, environmental protection, and sustainable territorial development. Municipal action is integrated and covers all stages of the urban water cycle.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is shared between AGERE, E.M., responsible for public water supply and wastewater systems, and the municipal services. Within these, stormwater drainage management and riverine and ecological restoration are ensured by the Infrastructure Maintenance Division, the Roads and Infrastructure Division (DVI), the Municipal Directorate of Works and Municipal Services (DMOSM), and the Municipal Studies and Projects Division (DEPM), which are responsible for the maintenance, operation, planning, and upgrading of stormwater networks and associated infrastructures. The Environment and Climate Change Division intervenes in a complementary manner, namely in the environmental and strategic dimensions, through the monitoring and management of bathing waters, coordination with competent authorities on water quality matters, and the integration of environmental and climate adaptation dimensions into municipal policies.

Performance monitoring and follow-up are carried out on a continuous basis, based on technical and reporting instruments, including the Water Quality Control Programme (PCQA), performance reports submitted to ERSAR, the Report and Accounts of AGERE, E.M., as well as the Execution Reports of the Municipal Climate Action Plan (PMAC – Braga). The creation of the Operational Civil Protection Team – Environment reinforced the capacity to respond to environmental emergencies and protect water resources in Braga. This dedicated team carries out investigations of reported discharges and regular inspections of riverbanks, ensuring the safety and preservation of fluvial ecosystems.

6.11 Water management

Strategic instruments

Regulation of the Public Water Supply and Urban Wastewater Management Service and Industrial Discharge Regulation

This Regulation defines technical and administrative standards for the provision of services under the management of AGERE, E.M., ensuring quality, continuity, efficiency, and safety, and clarifying the responsibilities of the managing entity and users (network connections, metering and billing, loss prevention, and emergency management). It establishes the technical and legal framework for industrial effluent discharges into the public network, preventing pollution and protecting infrastructures and water bodies.

Municipal Climate Action Plan (PMAC-Braga)

This Plan, approved in 2024, integrates climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.

In the field of water management, the plan strengthens water and territorial resilience through:

- Rehabilitation and renaturalisation of watercourses, with emphasis on the Este River, Torto River, Panoias Stream, and the banks of the Cávado River;
- Mapping and monitoring of the stormwater network, in coordination with Civil Protection and AGERE, E.M.;
- Implementation of sustainable drainage solutions and green infrastructure in urban areas;
- Integration of urban water cycle management into municipal climate mitigation and adaptation policies;
- Development of awareness-raising campaigns for efficient and responsible water use.

6.11 Water management

Resources and infrastructure

Water Supply

Water supply in Braga is ensured by a robust infrastructure, comprising 27 reservoirs and 1,302 km of network, with abstraction from the Cávado River (Ponte do Bico). AGERE, E.M. guarantees safe drinking water to more than 98,000 customers, continuously investing in maintenance, remote management, and efficiency. In 2024, rehabilitation works continued on four reservoirs, reinforcing water quality and extending the lifecycle of the infrastructures.

Wastewater Network

Braga's wastewater system comprises 15 treatment systems, 16 WWTPs, and 40 pumping stations, supported by 1,024 km of network. AGERE, E.M. ensures full wastewater treatment, using technologies such as activated sludge and lagooning, adjusted to different population profiles. In 2024, the company reinforced the energy transition, completing the installation of +800 kWp of solar energy at the Ponte do Bico WTP, contributing to more than 1.3 MWh of renewable capacity and preparing the creation of an energy community.

Urban Watercourses

Braga's urban watercourses — the Este River, Torto River, and Panoias Stream — perform essential functions in biodiversity, ecological regulation, and urban quality of life. The Municipality has invested in their ecological rehabilitation, including bank restoration, improved access, and landscape integration. Actions to enhance the banks of the Cávado River are also ongoing, expanding recreational areas, promoting contact with nature, and strengthening the protection of riparian ecosystems.

River Beaches

In Braga, there are several river beaches, such as Merelim S. Paio River Beach, Ponte do Bico River Beach, and the Navarra Leisure Area. More recently, Cavadinho River Beach was added, a site of excellence with all the necessary infrastructures, which also earned it the Blue Flag award. River beaches are not only a leisure resource but also a testament to Braga's commitment to preserving and enhancing its water resources.

6.11 Water management

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Efficient Water Use and Management	Proactive and efficient water management, using advanced technologies. The network is monitored daily, enabling the detection and correction of flow and pressure anomalies. The maintenance of pressure-reducing valves and continuous pressure analysis reinforce efficiency. In parallel, the remote metering project will reduce non-revenue water and increase system transparency and efficiency.	
Project Rios	Engages the community in the conservation of fluvial spaces, promoting environmental awareness and active participation. It enables the adoption of stretches of the Este River by local entities, with periodic visits carried out for monitoring and improvement of fluvial conditions.	
Stormwater Network Mapping and Cleaning of Riverbanks	More than 100 kilometres of stormwater network were mapped, strengthening control over discharges into the Este River and protecting local water resources. In addition, investment was made in the cleaning and desilting of riverbanks, ensuring the conservation of natural habitats and the prevention of negative environmental impacts.	
Rehabilitation and Renaturalisation of Sections of the Banks of the Torto River, Castro Stream, and Panoias Stream	An ecoway was created and 2,933 trees of 13 different species were planted along sections of the banks of the Torto River and Castro Stream between 2023 and 2024. These plantings were carried out through volunteer actions, municipal actions, or actions contracted by the Municipality.	
Archaeological and Hydrogeological Studies of Sete Fontes	As part of the preliminary study of the Detailed Plan for Sete Fontes, archaeological and hydrogeological studies were conducted. The archaeological studies revealed significant remains dating back to the Roman period, while the hydrogeological studies assessed water productivity and quality at six locations within the system. This comprehensive approach provides crucial information on the history and sustainable management of the Sete Fontes water capture system in Braga.	
Environmental Green Line	A channel created in 2024 for reporting incidents (illegal discharges, obstructions in the stormwater network), reinforcing inspection and rapid response.	

6.11 Water management

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Physical accessibility to wastewater treatment services	100,0	100,0	100,0			%	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION; 14 LIFE BELOW WATER	INE / ERSAR
Physical accessibility of wastewater sanitation services	100,0	100,0	100,0			%	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	INE
Nitrate in groundwater	2,0	2,2	2,0	1,8	1,7	mg NO_3/litre	2 ZERO HUNGER; 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION; 15 LIFE ON LAND	SNIRH, CESOP calculations
Real water losses	60,0	65,0	60,0	59,0		m^3/(km·day)	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	INE, CESOP calculations
Proportion of collected wastewater treated	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	%	14 LIFE BELOW WATER	INE/ERSAR, CESOP calculations
Proportion of collected wastewater treated	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	%	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION; 14 LIFE BELOW WATER	INE/ERSAR, CESOP calculations
Proportion of water bodies with good environmental quality	33,3	33,3	33,3	33,3	33,3	%	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION; 14 LIFE BELOW WATER	INE, CESOP calculations

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Domestic water distributed per inhabitant	44,2	41,6	41,0	41,3		m^3/hab.	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	ERSAR, CESOP calculations
Safe water	100,0	99,8	100,0	99,7	100,0	%	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	INE
Bathing waters with excellent quality	75,0	60,0	60,0	60,0	40,0	%	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION; 14 LIFE BELOW WATER	INE, CESOP calculations
Proportion of groundwater with ammoniacal nitrogen within the Recommended Maximum Value	10,0	20,0	20,0	20,0	33,3	%	14 LIFE BELOW WATER	SNIRH, CESOP calculations
Proportion of groundwater with phosphorus within the Recommended Maximum Value	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	%	14 LIFE BELOW WATER	SNIRH, CESOP calculations

6.11 Water management
Awards and recognition

Recognition

"District capital with the lowest water, wastewater, and waste management bills in the country"

According to a study conducted by DECO, Braga remains at the top of the list as the district capital with the lowest bill for an average annual consumption of 180 m^3, and the second lowest for an average annual consumption of 120 m^3.

Exemplary Drinking Water Quality Seal
ERSAR

AGERE, E.M. was distinguished, for the 10th consecutive year, for excellence in the water supply service, attesting to full compliance with quality and safety parameters.

Merelim S. Paio, Bico and Cavadinho Bridge

Blue Flag River Beaches

Recognition awarded by ABAAE, highlighting Braga's commitment to environmental excellence and the quality of its bathing areas.

6.12 Sport and healthy lifestyles

Promotion of the universal right to sports practice and the adoption of healthy lifestyles, contributing to physical and mental health, social inclusion, and quality of life for the population. This topic covers municipal policies and programmes that encourage physical activity, the upgrading of infrastructures, health education, and the integration of vulnerable groups, reinforcing the role of sport as a driver of well-being.







Management approach

Sport and the promotion of healthy lifestyles are managed as a cross-cutting axis of municipal policies for health, inclusion, and sustainable urban development.

executive, while technical coordination lies with the municipal services, through the Municipal Division of Sport and Sports Facilities Management, integrated into the Department of Citizenship and Quality of Life, with the support of the Municipal Sports Council. This council is composed of various stakeholders and sports agents from the city, who analyse and monitor the functioning of the sports system and propose actions deemed appropriate to promote sport and physical activity.

Monitoring is carried out through annual activity reports, assessment of participation, health and inclusion indicators, satisfaction surveys, and audits of facilities.

6.12 Sport and healthy lifestyles

Strategic instruments

Municipal Sports Charter

This instrument establishes Braga's vision for the integrated development of sport, understanding it as a multifaceted phenomenon that goes beyond competition and performance.

The document is based on fundamental principles:

- Recognition of the universal right to physical culture and sport;
- Promotion of participation in all forms of physical activity, oriented towards personal and social well-being;
- Alignment with the values of the European Sports Charter and the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic;
- Appreciation of the enjoyment of sports practice, health, and connection with nature;
- Commitment to a sports culture based on inclusion, social cohesion, and equitable access to opportunities.

In 2024, the implementation of the Charter demonstrates significant progress. Between 2014 and 2024, the number of practitioners increased by 79.4%, compared to a population growth of only 6.5%. The municipality now has 190 additional sports facilities, representing a 26.9% increase in total sports area. Municipal support for the sector grew by 118%, exceeding €1.5 million. The Municipality is now preparing a strategic document that synthesises this evolution and defines guiding lines for the future.

Strategy "Braga Active City 2030"

This strategy is part of the Braga 2030 Social Development Plan (PDS) and aims to promote active ageing and social inclusion, particularly for older people, and to transform Braga into an age-friendly municipality. Its objectives include promoting health and well-being, strengthening social support networks, fostering intergenerational interaction, removing barriers to social participation, and engaging all citizens in all areas of community life.

Resources and infrastructure

Sports Facilities

The Municipality of Braga has invested in the creation and maintenance of a wide network of sports facilities accessible to the population. These include football pitches, sports halls, municipal swimming pools, and spaces for outdoor sports, such as parks and running tracks.
These facilities were designed not only to promote sports practice but also to foster an active and healthy lifestyle among residents. Equitable access to these infrastructures has contributed to improving community health and well-being, promoting inclusion and social cohesion.

Sports Medicine Centre

The Braga Sports Medicine Centre was established as an essential resource to promote health and well-being through sports practice. Equipped with advanced technology and a multidisciplinary team of healthcare professionals, the centre provided physical assessment services, rehabilitation, injury prevention, and nutritional counselling. In addition, it collaborated with local sports clubs and schools in promoting training and sports development programmes. The Sports Medicine Centre played a vital role in promoting active lifestyles and reducing risk factors associated with physical inactivity, thus contributing to the sustainable development of the community.
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6.12 Sport and healthy lifestyles

Highlighted practices and initiatives

MEXE-TE Braga Programme	A flagship municipal initiative to encourage sports practice. It mobilises the population of Braga across various modalities during the months of April, May, June, July, and September. It promotes regular physical activity and community engagement, with a diversified offer and sessions held in various locations throughout the municipality.	
BragActiva, Senior Swimming and Senior Boccia	Physical activity programmes for the senior population, including general mobility exercises, muscle strengthening, walking and dance, and adapted aquatic activity for older people and/or those with functional limitations. These programmes contribute to active ageing, inclusion, and improved quality of life.	
Pulsar – Physical Activity for Oncology Patients	A municipal programme aimed at people undergoing oncological rehabilitation, offering physical activity supervised by specialised professionals. It supports the physical, emotional, and social recovery of participants.	
Portuguese Network of Healthy Municipalities and European Healthy Cities Network	Participation in the Portuguese Network of Healthy Municipalities and the WHO European Healthy Cities Network, with active involvement and the implementation of various initiatives to promote health within the community.	
Large-Scale Sports Events	Including the Braga Half Marathon, the São João Run, and the Braga Move Festival — these are structuring initiatives for community mobilisation and encouragement of physical activity.	

6.13 Land use planning and territorial management

Integrated management of land use and occupation in the municipality of Braga, ensuring balance between urban development, environmental preservation, and territorial resilience. This topic covers municipal policies and instruments that guide territorial planning and transformation, promoting efficient land use, containment of urban sprawl, enhancement of natural resources, and mitigation of natural and anthropogenic risks.



Management approach

The management of spatial planning and sustainable land use is a strategic axis of the Municipality of Braga, ensuring coherence between urban, environmental, and territorial policies. This commitment aims to strengthen territorial cohesion and promote urban consolidation, avoiding building dispersion and ensuring the preservation of soil, biodiversity, and natural and cultural resources.

Governance in this domain is ensured by the competent portfolio of the Municipal Executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of municipal services. The Municipal Directorate for Urbanism, Spatial Planning and Planning is responsible for land-use planning and management, operating through two departments: the Department of Spatial Planning and Land-Use Planning, which develops territorial strategies, urban planning, and monitoring of planning instruments; and the Department of Urbanism, responsible for the execution, control, and monitoring of urban operations, ensuring rigorous, transparent management aligned with territorial management instruments.

Monitoring and follow-up of this topic are carried out continuously by municipal services, based on key performance indicators and periodic execution reports of municipal plans and programmes.

6.13 Land use planning and territorial management

Strategic instruments

Braga Municipal Master Plan (PDM)

This plan, whose 2nd revision was approved in 2015, establishes the territorial and urban strategy of the municipality, defining the municipal land policy, the development model, land-use rules, and coordination with neighbouring municipalities and European and national instruments. As a structuring instrument of territorial management, the PDM follows the social, demographic, and environmental evolution of the municipality, requiring continuous updating. In 2024, the technical preparation of the 3rd revision of the PDM was completed following a broad stakeholder consultation process, and the proposal was submitted to the City Council meeting of 12 November 2024 for the purposes of the 1st Public Consultation.

Braga Landscape Strategy

This Strategy, published in 2020, is an instrument integrated into the PDM revision process and guides territorial qualification based on the reading, enhancement, and management of the municipality's landscapes. It is based on the identification of Landscape Units and Sub-units and the definition of Landscape Quality Objectives (LQOs), acting as a bridge between territorial diagnosis and the future development model.

Its main objectives are:

- To integrate landscape as a strategic dimension of territorial policy;
- To strengthen climate resilience by promoting sustainable management of water, soils, and biodiversity;
- To structure a Green and Blue Infrastructure ensuring ecological connectivity between urban and rural spaces;
- To enhance natural, agricultural, and cultural heritage;
- To guide concrete actions based on nature-based solutions, contributing to the health, well-being, and quality of life of the population.

Resources and infrastructure

Urban Innovation Laboratory (LIU)

Promoted by the Municipality of Braga, the LIU acts as a catalyst for innovation and research in the field of sustainable housing. This laboratory is a collaborative space involving higher education institutions, companies, and municipal technicians, aimed at developing interdisciplinary projects. With a focus on mobility, environmental sustainability, and urban management, the LIU drives the implementation of pilot projects for city decarbonisation. In addition, the LIU recreates an educational project for the city, engaging citizens and emphasising the sustainable development of public space. As such, this resource plays a crucial role in promoting innovative solutions for sustainable housing in Braga.

Braga Urban Observatory

The Braga Urban Observatory has played a fundamental role in monitoring and evaluating urban development policies. This resource brings together relevant data and indicators on access to housing, quality of living conditions, and the environmental impact of urban activities. Through regular analyses and reports, the Observatory identifies trends, challenges, and opportunities to improve sustainability in urban development. It also serves as a platform for communication and awareness-raising, engaging citizens and stakeholders in debate on urban planning issues.

6.13 Land use planning and territorial management

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Strategic Environmental Assessment of the 2nd Revision of the Braga Municipal Master Plan	This assessment analysed the potential environmental and territorial impacts of the plan, defining mitigation measures and monitoring indicators. Structured around five critical factors, it assessed governance; spatial planning; heritage, natural resources and environment; mobility and accessibility; and socio-economic development.
1st Public Consultation under the 3rd Revision of the PDM	On 12 November 2024, Braga City Council launched the 1st Public Consultation for the 3rd revision of the PDM, opening a 30-working-day period for the submission of comments and suggestions.

6.13 Land use planning and territorial management

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Rhabilitations completed per 100 new contructions completed	4,1	5,7	4,8	5,7	5,7	N.º	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	INE

Indicador	2018	Unit	SDG	Source
Evolution of the efficiency of artificialised territories per inhabitant	-4,8	%	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	INE (2015-2018), CESOP calculations
Artificialised territories (m^2 per capita)	308,8	m^2/hab	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	INE, CESOP calculations

6.14 Investment attraction and economic dynamisation

Promotion of a competitive, innovative and sustainable economic ecosystem, oriented towards attracting investment, strengthening the local business fabric and creating qualified employment. This topic covers municipal economic development policies, including instruments to support investment, entrepreneurship, innovation and talent development, aiming to strengthen the competitiveness of the municipality and stimulate its economic dynamism. It includes the joint action of the Municipality of Braga and InvestBraga, E.M.



Management approach

Investment attraction and economic dynamisation constitute a strategic axis of the sustainable development policy of the Municipality of Braga, oriented towards strengthening territorial competitiveness, sectoral diversification and the stimulation of innovation.

Governance in this domain is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is carried out by InvestBraga, E.M., in articulation with the Strategic Council of InvestBraga, E.M. for local economic development and with local innovation infrastructures.

Policy monitoring is carried out through activity reports, performance indicators and continuous evaluation mechanisms, allowing the effectiveness of implemented initiatives to be assessed.

In recent years, Braga has established itself as a territory that catalyses investment, standing out among the most exporting municipalities in the country and consolidating itself as a technological and entrepreneurial hub. This trajectory has been driven by the creation of municipal structures that attract and support new investments, promoting projects with high growth potential, such as Startup Braga and the Human Power Hub Social Innovation Centre. Complementarily, it is important to highlight the contribution of municipal services directly involved in economic development, namely the Division of Economy and Tourism, which defines and operationalises the municipal strategy for economic promotion, and the Division of Licensing of Strategic Projects and Economic Activities, responsible for the technical monitoring of projects of economic interest and for articulation with public and private entities, facilitating business activity within the municipality.

6.14 Investment attraction and economic dynamisation

Strategic instruments

Braga Strategic Economic Development Plan (PEDE)

A structuring document, revised in 2028, which establishes the long-term vision and strategic objectives for the economic competitiveness of the municipality. It is based on the vision of a sustainable, innovative and culturally dynamic city that facilitates entrepreneurship.

The strategic goals of the plan include:

- Positioning Braga among the 10 most dynamic cities in the Iberian Peninsula and among the top 3 in Portugal, in economic, cultural and quality-of-life terms;
- Ensuring economic growth that is 1% higher than the average of Portugal and Spain;
- Achieving the average creation of 500 new jobs per year;
- Evolving into a reference Iberian Innovation City, articulating contemporary knowledge with historical heritage;
- Consolidating the city as a centre for creative industries and youth.

The implementation of PEDE Braga is monitored by the Strategic Council of InvestBraga, E.M., with the Monitoring and Execution Committee responsible for monitoring and operationalising the actions included in the plan, ensuring coherence between strategic priorities, economic dynamisation instruments and innovation policies.

Resources and infrastructure

InvestBraga, E.M

An operational structure dedicated to investment promotion, business dynamisation and territorial internationalisation. Launched in March 2014, it positions itself as Braga's economic engine, with the mission of boosting regional development, attracting investment and entrepreneurs, standing out for its strong focus on innovation. It operates in four key areas: attracting national and international investment, supporting startups with global ambition through Startup Braga, organising events at Altice Forum Braga and managing the Braga Youth Centre, promoting non-formal education, human rights and youth projects. InvestBraga, E.M. is essential for driving economic growth and sustainable development in the region.

StartupBraga

An infrastructure supporting technological entrepreneurship, responsible for pre-acceleration, acceleration and incubation programmes. Integrated into InvestBraga, E.M., StartupBraga operates as a strategic resource for stimulating innovation, competitiveness and the creation of new technology-based companies within the municipality.

Investor Space

The Investor Space, located at Altice Forum Braga, represents a crucial innovation for the sustainable economic development of Braga. This centre functions as a single point of support for company establishment, streamlining processes and facilitating the identification of local, national and international incentives. It also assists in locating spaces for economic activities and identifying human resources, contributing to job creation and business growth. In 2024, it facilitated 114 investment projects, totalling 1198 cumulative projects since 2014.

6.14 Investment attraction and economic dynamisation

Highlighted practices and initiatives

+ Industry Strategy	The + Industry Strategy, an integral part of the Strategic Plan for the Economic Development of Braga 2014–2026, promoted private and public investment, revitalising industrial areas and boosting business competitiveness.	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Braga Business Ambassadors Group	The Business Ambassadors Group brings together national and international business leaders who promote Braga as a global business destination. In 2024, 121 ambassador visits were received and 57 visits to companies were carried out. A total of 33 Business Ambassador titles were awarded between 2014 and 2024.	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Economy Week	The 7th edition of Economy Week, organised by InvestBraga, E.M., promoted economic debate, knowledge exchange and networking between companies, institutions and experts. The 2024 edition brought together around 5,000 participants across 49 events. This edition also included the first International Conference on Design and Industry – Design Commit'24.	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Braga Economic Forum and Business Showcase	The Business Showcase of Economy Week established itself as a platform for local companies to highlight their products and services. This event, together with the Economic Forum — the central event of Economy Week — reinforced Braga's image as a centre of excellence in technology and innovation, boosting the sustainable economic development of the region.	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
"Sustainability and Innovation Braga" Conference	The "Sustainability and Innovation" Braga 2024 Conference brought together leaders, entrepreneurs and visionaries to discuss the latest trends and solutions for a better world.	4 QUALITY EDUCATION 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Bragameter	Launched in 2024, this is a digital tool that tracks strategic economic development actions and projects, enabling the assessment of progress against defined plans. It facilitates access to structured information for companies, investors, entrepreneurs and other economic agents, strengthening transparency and territorial monitoring capacity. The platform supports decision-making and public communication on objectives, implementation and impact of municipal initiatives.	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

6.14 Investment attraction and economic dynamisation

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Gross value added (GVA) of manufacturing industry per capita	26 763	31 068	32 319	34 074		€	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	INE, CESOP calculations
Employees in the manufacturing industry as a percentage of the total	20,5	20,8	19,5	19,1		%	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	INE, CESOP calculations
ATM machines per 10 000 inhabitants	11,8	11,5	10,5	10,3	10,1	/10 000 hab.	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	INE
Other monetary intermediation establishments per 10 000 inhabitants	3,6	3,2	2,6	2,6		/10 000 hab.	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	INE
Evolution of the number of establishments	2,4	2,4	5,9	6,7		%	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	INE, CESOP calculations
Ratio between companies created and dissolved	1,2	1,4	1,4	1,6		–	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	INE, CESOP calculations
Proportion of taxes in total municipal council revenue	58,6	49,5	45,4			%	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	INE

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Proportion of actual municipal expenditure financed by total municipal tax revenue	46,0	46,0	43,1			%	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	INE, CESOP calculations
Ratio between environmental taxes and labour taxes	0,00	0,00	0,01			–	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	INE, CESOP calculations

Indicador	2015	2017	2019	2023	Unidade	SDG	Fonte
CO_2 emissions per unit of GVA of municipal companies	0,31	0,26	0,21	0,15	kg CO_2/€	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	APA/INE, CESOP calculations

6.14 Investment attraction and economic dynamisation

Awards and recognitions

2nd Place

European Cities & Regions of the Future 2024

The Financial Times (fDi Intelligence) positioned Braga in the European ranking in the FDI Strategy category (small cities), recognising its capacity to attract investment and talent.

Top 10

Cities in Europe with the Best Quality of Life in 2024

Recognition awarded by the European Commission, highlighting Braga among the ten European cities with the best quality of life in 2024, based on indicators of urban satisfaction, public services, public space, safety and well-being.

European Enterprise Promotion Awards (EEPA) 2024

2nd National Prize for the project "Bragameter – Monitoring Braga's Development Actions", in the category Business Environment Development and Support for Business Internationalisation.

6.15 Efficient municipal services and administration

Efficient management of municipal services, ensuring quality of citizen service, resource optimisation and integrity of public administration. This topic covers administrative modernisation, service digitalisation, prevention of management and corruption risks, financial transparency and the enhancement of human capital, as pillars of effective local governance.



Management approach

Administrative efficiency constitutes a fundamental axis of the policies of the Municipality of Braga, promoting ethical, digital and results-oriented public management.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of the Department of Strategy, Information Systems and Quality, through the Quality, Strategy and Organisational Development Unit.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out on a continuous basis, based on internal performance evaluation mechanisms and reporting and audit instruments that ensure regulatory compliance and improvement of organisational processes.

6.15 Efficient municipal services and administration

Strategic instruments

Risk Management Prevention Plan (PPRG)

The PPRG establishes the model for identifying, assessing and mitigating organisational risks of the Municipality of Braga, ensuring compliance with Recommendation No. 1/2009 of the CPC and integration into the Quality Management System. The document defines responsibilities, methodology, preventive measures and continuous monitoring mechanisms.

The main elements of this plan are:

- Assigns responsibility for risk management of respective units to managers and process owners;
- Uses a structured methodology: identification, assessment, definition of actions and continuous reassessment;
- Covers areas such as quality, citizen service, public procurement, information systems, human resources, urban planning and inspection;
- Provides for continuous monitoring, with internal reviews and consolidation of information for annual reporting to the CPC;
- Includes risks of corruption and related offences, articulating preventive measures, internal controls and mitigation.

In 2024, 319 risks were assessed, of which 7 were classified as high (and zero critical risks). A total of 62 mitigating actions were defined, 58% of which were completed, all of them assessed as effective.

Resources and infrastructure

Municipal One-Stop Shop

A multi-channel integrated service platform that brings together, in a single physical and digital point, access to the main services of Braga City Council. Located at the Convento do Pópulo, it centralises administrative processes and improves service efficiency. In parallel, the Municipality reinforces decentralisation through Citizen Spaces distributed across the municipality, allowing residents to access public services in a nearby and accessible manner. This combination of functional centralisation and territorial presence facilitates the relationship between citizens and municipal administration.

6.15 Efficient municipal services and administration

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Risk Assessment and Mitigating Actions	In 2024, the Municipality of Braga carried out a full assessment of risks identified under the PPRG, totalling 319 risks analysed, of which 7 were classified as high and none as critical. A total of 62 mitigating actions were defined, with 58% completed, all assessed as effective.	
Sustainable Public Procurement	The Municipality integrated environmental and social criteria into public procurement procedures, in alignment with the National Strategy for Green Public Procurement. Suppliers were assessed for technical compliance, deadlines and price, also including sustainability requirements such as the use of recycled materials, decent working conditions and supplier diversity.	  
Sustainable Offices	An internal initiative aimed at improving the environmental performance of municipal services, promoting reduced resource consumption, digitalisation of administrative processes and the adoption of circular economy best practices in offices.	  

6.15 Efficient municipal services and administration

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Average duration of completed proceedings (months) in courts of first instance	21.6	15.9	15.0	13.5	12.9	Months	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	DGPJ, CESOP calculations

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	Source
Certifications/accreditations awarded to the municipality or its services	2	4	4	4	4	N.º	Braga City Council
Water supply, sanitation and/or waste treatment entities, certified/accredited municipal or multi-municipal companies	4	4	4	4	4	N.º	Braga City Council

Indicator	2022	2023	2024	Unit	Source
Average response time to complaints	10	9	13	N.º of days	Summary Report on Complaints, Suggestions and Compliments – 2024
Satisfaction Index Municipality	97	90	93	%	Management Review Report – QMS Performance 2024

6.16 Longevity and active ageing

Promotion of active, healthy and dignified ageing in the municipality of Braga, ensuring autonomy, social participation and quality of life for older people. This topic covers municipal policies and programmes aimed at inclusion and protection of the senior population, strengthening proximity care and home support, promoting digital literacy and encouraging intergenerational interaction.



Management approach

Longevity and active ageing constitute a strategic axis of the social and community policy of the Municipality of Braga, promoting well-being, autonomy and inclusion of the senior population.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is carried out by municipal services within the Division of Social Cohesion and Solidarity, integrated into the Department of Education and Social Cohesion.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out on a continuous basis, based on indicators of coverage, participation and user satisfaction, complemented by programme execution reports and periodic consultation of partner entities.

6.16 Longevity and active ageing

Strategic instruments

Municipal Plan for Longevity 2024–2027

A strategic instrument dedicated to promoting healthy, inclusive and dignified longevity for the senior population of the municipality. The document is based on a detailed characterisation of the demographic and social context and identifies needs, opportunities and disparities within the territory. It is articulated with other municipal instruments, namely the Municipal Health Plan 2021–2026, the Municipal Plan for Equality and Non-Discrimination 2022–2027 and the Municipal Plan for Migrant Integration 2022.

The main objectives of this plan are:

- Promoting active and healthy ageing;
- Transforming Braga into an age-friendly municipality;
- Fostering innovation and optimisation of resources and services in the field of ageing.

Priority areas of intervention were also identified, associated with different specific objectives and operationalised through four strategic axes of intervention: (1) Well-being & Quality of Life, (2) Participation, (3) Safety and (4) Innovation & Capacity Building.

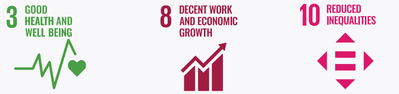
Resources and infrastructure

Elderly Support Office (GAPI)

A support service for older people, providing counselling and referral. This service ensures immediate response to situations of social isolation and illness for elderly and/or dependent residents experiencing economic hardship.

6.16 Longevity and active ageing

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Braga +65	A telephone and in-person follow-up service for older people in situations of isolation, provided by technical teams and volunteers. It contributes to reducing social isolation and strengthening proximity networks.	
Senior Academy	An educational and socio-cultural offer for people aged over 55, with courses and thematic workshops delivered in both in-person and digital formats. It promotes lifelong learning and intergenerational participation.	
Informal Caregivers Network	A programme for capacity building and emotional support for family caregivers, including training actions, psychological support and respite care schemes.	
RED MAY	A municipal proximity project that provides social and health services to people aged over 55, with a focus on dementia prevention and well-being promotion. RED MAY offers free social assistance, nursing consultations, neuropsychological assessments and psychomotor sessions.	
Senior Card	Offers advantages and discounts on services and products aimed at older people, promoting active and healthy ageing. This card encouraged participation in recreational, cultural and sports activities, strengthening social ties and improving quality of life for older people in Braga.	

6.16 Longevity and active ageing

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Proportion of elderly beneficiaries of the Solidarity Supplement for the Elderly (CSI)	6,3	5,9	5,6	5,6	7,3	%	1 NO POVERTY	INE; CESOP calculations
Ageing index	125,6	134,2	140,1	146,0	-	N.º		INE
Elderly dependency index	26,3	27,6	28,6	29,4	-	N.º		INE
Longevity index	43,8	43,8	43,5	43,9	-	N.º		INE

6.17 Protection, emergency response and safety

Set of measures, policies and actions aimed at protecting people, property and infrastructure against risks, disasters and emergencies, as well as promoting a sense of safety among the population. It covers the activities of Civil Protection, the Firefighters Battalion (Sapadores Bombeiros) and the Municipal Police.







Management approach

Protection, emergency response and safety ensure the safeguarding of people and property, territorial resilience and the population's sense of security. Municipal action is structured around the phases of prevention, preparedness, response and recovery, in accordance with the National Civil Protection System.

Governance of this topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of the municipal services, namely the Municipal Civil Protection Division (DPC), in close collaboration with the Firefighters Battalion (BSB) and the Municipal Police. The Civil Protection Division includes the Emergency Planning, Risk and Environmental Protection Unit, the Forestry Technical Unit, the Fire Safety in Buildings Unit and the Operations and Environmental Protection Section. Municipal action also relies on the collaboration of the Municipal Aerodrome Unit, responsible for logistical and technical support to aerial emergency resources.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out through reports that include operational records (alerts, incidents, mobilised resources), as well as risk and response indicators.

6.17 Protection, emergency response and safety

Strategic instruments

Municipal Civil Protection Emergency Plan (PMEPC)

Instrument for coordinating civil protection actions within the municipal territory, ensuring an articulated and effective response to situations of serious accident or disaster. It defines the command structure, the missions and responsibilities of the intervening entities, and the procedures for integrated emergency management.

The main general objectives of this plan are:

- To coordinate and guide the actions of the various civil protection bodies and services;
- To ensure unity of command and coordination among all intervening entities;
- To inventory and mobilise available resources and means quickly and efficiently;
- To minimise human and material losses and mitigate the effects of emergencies;
- To strengthen the preparedness and readiness of the entities responsible for response;
- To promote information and awareness among the population, fostering a culture of self-protection and community involvement in risk management.

Resources and infrastructure

Operational buildings and facilities

The Municipality of Braga has essential operational infrastructures, including the Braga aerodrome, the Braga Firefighters Headquarters, Local Civil Protection Units and Municipal Police stations. These facilities house teams and technical resources, as well as warehouses, workshops and vehicle parks, ensuring maintenance and operational readiness.

Civil protection and emergency infrastructure

Municipal civil protection infrastructure includes water points, fire support reservoirs, coordination centres and shelter areas provided for in emergency plans.Response capacity is reinforced by a diverse and comprehensive fleet of vehicles and equipment, including tactical personnel transport resources, special operations units, multi-risk and environmental protection vehicles, hazardous materials vehicles, ambulances, animal rescue vehicles, 4x4 motorcycles and an aerial ladder vehicle. The network of forest roads and fuel management strips ensures safe access for firefighting operations.

6.17 Protection, emergency response and safety

Key practices and initiatives

Simulations and operational preparedness	Municipal programme for training and inter-institutional coordination in emergency situations, involving schools, public facilities and large-scale events.
Event coordination plans	Technical planning and safety instrument for large-scale events, ensuring the protection of people, property and infrastructure.
Fire safety in buildings (SCIE) and self-protection measures	Set of fire safety procedures in municipal and private buildings, ensuring compliance with current legislation.
Field operations – Operational response	Joint actions by Civil Protection, Municipal Police and the Firefighters Battalion in urban patrols, emergency response and public safety operations.
Public communication and alerts	Consolidation of the official communication channels of Municipal Civil Protection, ensuring real-time information and public awareness. Weather alerts, prevention campaigns and dissemination of good practices were carried out.
New parking apron for aerial resources at the Braga Aerodrome	Construction of a new parking apron for aerial resources at the Braga aerodrome. This infrastructure significantly strengthens access, operation and logistical support conditions for aerial emergency resources, improving response capacity in rural fires and other civil protection incidents.



6.17 Protection, emergency response and safety

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2023	2024	Unit	Source
Alerts recorded by the BSB	8 062	8 811	N.º	Braga Firefighters Battalion
Firefighters on duty	92	92	N.º	Braga Firefighters Battalion
Structural fires with BSB intervention	320	364	N.º	Braga Firefighters Battalion
Rural fires with BSB intervention	101	117	N.º	Braga Firefighters Battalion
Response to fallen trees carried out by the BSB	137	154	N.º	Braga Firefighters Battalion
Response to flooding and episodes of intense rainfall with BSB intervention	116	30	N.º	Braga Firefighters Battalion

Indicator	2023	2024	Unit	Source
Pre-hospital emergency responses ensured by the BSB	4 052	4 730	N.º	Braga Firefighters Battalion
Prevention actions in leisure activities conducted by the BSB	108	115	N.º	Braga Firefighters Battalion
Animal search and rescue carried out by the BSB	377	431	N.º	Braga Firefighters Battalion
Interventions in Asian hornet nests by the BSB	1 157	1 460	N.º	Braga Firefighters Battalion
Awareness-raising actions delivered by the BSB	54	58	N.º	Braga Firefighters Battalion

6.17 Protection, emergency response and safety

Key data and indicators

1 | 2

Indicator	2024	Unit	Source
Alerts recorded	5 566	N.º	DPC
Operations carried out	6 976	N.º	DPC
Vehicles mobilised	2 972	N.º	DPC
Simulations carried out	84	N.º	DPC
Event coordination plans	16	N.º	DPC
SCIE processes	87	N.º	DPC
Self-Protection Measures	185	N.º	DPC
Regular SCIE inspections	42	N.º	DPC
Interventions in fallen trees	185	N.º	DPC
Environmental inspection – discharges	136	N.º	DPC
Road cleaning and hazard signage	358	N.º	DPC

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Estimated proportion of victims in crimes recorded as domestic violence by a spouse or equivalent	3,9	4,0	4,1	4,1	4,1	‰	5 GENDER EQUALITY	DGPJ, CESOP calculations
Five-year rate of victims in crimes recorded as rape per 100 000 inhabitants aged 15+	3,5	3,4	2,9	2,8	3,2	/100 000 hab.	5 GENDER EQUALITY	DGPJ, CESOP calculations
Average burned area	2,3	1,5	1,2	1,0	1,3	ha	15 LIFE ON LAND	INE
Five-year rate of homicides per 100 000 inhabitants	0,52	0,72	0,61	0,60	0,29	/100 000 hab.	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	DGPJ, CESOP calculations
Proporção de crimes relacionados com a violência física, psicológica ou sexual	3,9	3,6	4,0	4,1	4,2	‰	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	DGPJ, CESOP calculations
Proportion of crimes related to physical, psychological or sexual violence	0,21	0,20	0,20	0,30	0,20	/100 000 hab.	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	DGPJ, CESOP calculations
Five-year rate of human trafficking crimes per 100 000 inhabitants Incidence rate of children and young people (under 18 years) monitored by CPCJ	2,3	2,6	3,0	3,1	3,4	%	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	DGPJ, CESOP calculations

6.18 Historical heritage and enhancement of local identity

Preservation and enhancement of the historical, archaeological and cultural heritage of the municipality of Braga, ensuring the protection of tangible and intangible assets that reflect collective memory and local identity. This theme covers the management, conservation and rehabilitation of built and archaeological heritage, as well as the promotion of intangible heritage through cultural and educational actions that reinforce social cohesion and the attractiveness of the territory.





Management approach

The management of historical heritage and local identity is one of the structuring vectors of the cultural and urban planning policy of the Municipality of Braga, ensuring preservation and integration between culture, tourism and territorial sustainability.

Governance of this topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of the municipal services, namely the Division of the Historic Centre, Heritage and Archaeology, which ensures the safeguarding, inventory and classification of tangible assets, and the Division of Culture, which coordinates the enhancement, mediation and public enjoyment of heritage, including intangible heritage, with the support of the Strategic Council for Heritage and Urban Regeneration of Braga.

Monitoring and follow-up are ensured on an ongoing basis by the municipal services, based on the periodic updating of the municipal inventory of historical heritage, key performance indicators and periodic execution reports of municipal plans and programmes.

6.18 Historical heritage and enhancement of local identity

Strategic instruments

Municipal Master Plan (PDM)

This plan, currently under revision, is the main territorial planning instrument and framework for heritage safeguarding policies.

This plan:

- Integrates cartography and delimitation of heritage and archaeological protection zones, reconciling urban development and historical preservation;
- Defines specific rules for interventions in classified properties or properties under classification;
- Provides for technical assessment and opinion by the DCHPA in urban development operations;
- Articulates spatial planning, cultural sustainability and landscape conservation;
- Ensures alignment with the Basic Law on Cultural Heritage and the European Convention for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage;
- Serves as the basis for the Municipal Inventory of Cultural Heritage, integrating it into geographic information systems (GIS).

Braga Cultural Strategy 2030

The Braga Cultural Strategy 2030 is a crucial guiding document for cultural development and the preservation of the Municipality's historical heritage. This plan reflects the city's commitment to sustainable development, placing culture at the centre of its identity.

The strategy values the preservation and promotion of the city's historical heritage. The revitalisation of historical structures and the enhancement of architectural heritage are priorities, aiming to conserve Braga's cultural legacy and make it relevant for future generations.

6.18 Historical heritage and enhancement of local identity

Resources and infrastructure

Built heritage

Braga has a rich built heritage, ranging from the majestic Sanctuaries of Santa Maria Madalena da Falperra and Bom Jesus do Monte to the charming residences annexed to Casa Maciéis Aranhas. Praça Mouzinho de Albuquerque, with its historic pillory, and churches and convents such as Tibães and Pópulo, are testimonies to the city's unique cultural heritage. Emblematic buildings, such as the City Hall and the Convento dos Congregados, are important landmarks of Braga's identity and history.

Archaeological heritage

Braga's archaeological heritage reveals the deep layers of its history, from the Roman Ruins of Carvalheiras and the Roman Baths of Alto da Cividade to Castro Máximo and the Archaeological Ruins of São Martinho de Dume. These archaeological sites provide valuable information about the life and culture of the ancient civilisations that inhabited this region, contributing to the understanding and preservation of Braga's past.

Statuary heritage

The sculptural elements and monuments spread throughout the city, such as the "Porta Aberta" Monument, the Bust of António Peixoto and the Memorial to Francisco Salgado Zenha, enrich Braga's urban environment, telling stories and honouring important figures in its history and culture. These statues and monuments not only decorate the city's public spaces, but also serve as reference points and sources of pride for its inhabitants.

Bracara Augusta Foundation

Entity created in 1996 dedicated to the enhancement and dissemination of Braga's historical, archaeological and cultural heritage. Its mission focuses on supporting research, cultural mediation and the promotion of the historical identity of the territory. The Foundation's role includes promoting and revitalising Braga's historical and Roman heritage, including historical re-enactment events, exhibitions and cultural activities, with Braga Romana – Reviver Bracara Augusta being the main annual focus of these actions.

6.18 Historical heritage and enhancement of local identity

Key practices and initiatives

Heritage classification and safeguarding	Completion of the classification processes of the Fontes de Santiago and dos Granjinhos and of building no. 5–9 on Rua de São Vítor.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Cultural Heritage Inventory	Updating of the municipal inventory, totalling 449 architectural properties and 88 archaeological sites. The inventory of statuary, sculptural, memorial and monumental heritage was also updated, integrating a total of 68 elements, as well as the hydraulic heritage inventory, comprising 105 fountains and water features.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Hydraulic Heritage Route	As a way of enhancing and disseminating this heritage, routes were developed, in a first phase, covering the fountains of the Historic Centre of Braga and integrating the Sete Fontes complex, totalling 25 fountains and water features, duly signposted on the city map and accompanied by a brief description.	4 QUALITY EDUCATION; 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH; 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
21st edition Municipal Photography Competition	The 2024 edition of the Municipal Photography Competition had the theme "The Classified Architectural and Archaeological Heritage of the Municipality of Braga", focusing on classified architectural and archaeological heritage as a way of recognising a cultural and historical legacy that is part of the everyday environment of Braga's residents and visitors. The exhibition took place at Fonte do Ídolo.	4 QUALITY EDUCATION; 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

6.18 Historical heritage and enhancement of local identity

Key practices and initiatives

European Heritage Days and National Historic Centres Day	Within the scope of the 2024 European Heritage Days, under the theme "Routes, Networks and Connections", a route dedicated to the statuary, sculptural, memorial and monumental heritage of the Historic Centre of the Municipality of Braga was developed, and a guided tour was organised, including the main sculptural elements of the historic centre. Within the scope of the celebration of the 2024 International Day for Monuments and Sites, under the theme "Disasters and Conflicts in the Light of the Venice Charter", a guided visit to the Braga City Hall building was carried out, including the preparation of an informative leaflet for support.	
Management of archaeological spaces	Maintenance and revitalisation of spaces such as Fonte do Ídolo, Domus of the Old Cathedral School, Roman Baths and Convento do Pópulo, ensuring conservation, technical monitoring and regular public opening of these archaeological and museological sites.	
Braga Romana – Reviver Bracara Augusta	This event celebrates the city's historical legacy, transporting visitors to the Roman era through historical re-enactments, street performances, exhibitions and educational activities. In addition to promoting cultural tourism, this event reinforces the pride and identity of Braga's inhabitants in relation to their historical heritage, contributing to the preservation and enhancement of the city's cultural heritage.	 
Braga Baroque	Celebration of Baroque art and culture, highlighted through concerts, exhibitions, workshops and historical re-enactments. In addition to enriching the city's cultural calendar, this event strengthens community ties, encouraging active citizen participation in the preservation and promotion of Braga's Baroque heritage.	 

6.18 Historical heritage and enhancement of local identity

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	Source
Museums, monuments and buildings classified as national and/or world heritage	29	29	29	29	29	N.º	Braga City Council
Museums, interpretation centres and other museological spaces	15	15	15	15	15	N.º	Braga City Council
Museums, interpretation centres and other museological spaces with information in more than one language	9	9	9	9	9	N.º	Braga City Council
Museums, interpretation centres and other museological spaces with information in more than one language	60	60	60	60	60	%	Braga City Council
Artisanal production units	27	30	30	30	30	N.º	Braga City Council

6.19 Sustainable tourism

Promotion of a sustainable tourism model that values local, cultural and natural resources, ensuring their long-term preservation and contributing to balanced economic, social and environmental development of the territory.
This theme covers the integrated management of the Braga destination, the preservation of tangible and intangible heritage, community involvement, diversification of the tourism offer and the adoption of responsible practices in the accommodation, restaurant and entertainment sectors, in alignment with the SDGs.







Management approach

Sustainable tourism is a transversal strategic axis of the municipal sustainability policy, encompassing environmental destination management, offer diversification, business capacity-building and the sustainable internationalisation of the territorial brand.

Governance of this topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of the municipal services, within the Division of Economy and Tourism, integrated into the Department of Culture and Tourism, in articulation with various local, national and international partner entities, and with the support of the Advisory Council for Tourism Development.

Monitoring is carried out through environmental, social and economic tourism performance indicators, execution and impact reports of funded projects, and participatory evaluation with tourism operators, residents and visitors.

6.19 Sustainable tourism

Strategic instruments

Strategic Plan for Economic Development (PEDE) of Braga

Main guiding instrument of municipal economic policy, defining priorities, strategic sectors and mechanisms for attracting investment.

Structured to strengthen territorial competitiveness, innovation and the creation of qualified employment, the plan integrates tourism as a central development area. With regard to tourism, the plan:

- Positions the sector as a strategic lever for economic diversification, job creation and the international projection of Braga;
- Encourages the qualification and modernisation of the tourism offer through innovation, digitalisation, service improvement and diversification of segments;
- Enhances the development of new infrastructures, tourism products and thematic routes, strengthening Braga's attractiveness as a sustainable and competitive destination aligned with international trends.

The Tourism Friendly Manifesto

The Municipality of Braga joined the Tourism-Friendly Manifesto, committing to promoting a sustainable tourism model based on URBACT network practices. The Municipality assumed measures to reduce negative impacts in sensitive urban areas, manage visitor flows and protect natural and cultural heritage. This commitment aims to ensure that tourism contributes to community quality of life, balancing the needs of residents and visitors. It also includes inclusion goals, involving the population in tourism planning and ensuring an equitable distribution of benefits.

6.19 Sustainable tourism

Resources and infrastructure

Tourist Offices and Welcome Centres

In 2024, Braga had 3 tourist offices and welcome centres, which played a crucial role in guiding and supporting visitors. These tourist information points were strategically located throughout the city and offered assistance services, providing information on attractions, events, accommodation and local activities. The Municipality of Braga recognised the importance of these resources in ensuring a positive visitor experience and promoting regional hospitality. Continuous investments were made to improve and expand the network of tourist offices, aiming to meet the growing demands of the tourism sector.

Altice Forum Braga

Altice Forum Braga is a nationally recognised municipal facility dedicated to hosting congresses, fairs, cultural events and economic activities. Integrating an exhibition centre, auditorium and multifunctional rooms, the venue contributes to the cultural, tourism and business dynamism of the municipality. Its diverse programme, combined with the capacity to host large-scale events, strengthens Braga's attractiveness as a hub of innovation, culture and economy.

Youth Hostel

The Braga Youth Hostel is a municipal infrastructure aimed at promoting youth tourism, student mobility and participation in cultural, sporting and educational initiatives. The space offers affordable and inclusive accommodation, supporting exchange programmes, volunteering and youth associations. The hostel plays a relevant role in integrating young visitors into the cultural and community life of the city.

Municipal Market

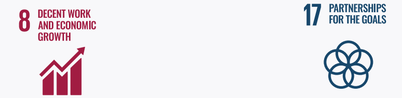
The Braga Municipal Market is a central facility for local commerce and community interaction, dedicated to promoting fresh and locally sourced products. In addition to its commercial function, the market plays an important cultural and social role, hosting gastronomic events, thematic initiatives and actions to enhance local traditions. The space reinforces Braga's food and craft identity and supports the local economy.

Thematic tourist routes, itineraries and trails

Braga offered a variety of thematic tourist routes, itineraries and trails, providing visitors with the opportunity to explore the historical, cultural and natural richness of the region. From religious routes to gastronomic itineraries and environmental trails, there was something for all tastes and interests. These routes not only allowed visitors to discover Braga's attractions, but also promoted sustainability by encouraging responsible tourism and the preservation of natural resources.

6.19 Sustainable tourism

Key practices and initiatives

SMARTGuide Inclusive Tourism Experience	This application stood out for its inclusive approach, allowing both conventional tourists and visually impaired visitors to fully enjoy Braga's cultural richness. With audio-guide features and informational pop-ups, monuments came to life through detailed descriptions, ensuring that everyone could explore the city's history and beauty.	
Tourist passport	Collaboration with the Braga Business Association, aiming to create a set of seasonal experiences in partnership with local tourism operators, offering visitors a renewed view of attractions while providing exclusive benefits during different times of the year.	
Destino4All	This programme has been a catalyst for the inclusion of people with special needs in guided tours. By adapting tourist routes to meet different mobility and accessibility needs, Braga has stood out as a welcoming and inclusive destination. This initiative reinforces the commitment to promoting sustainable tourism, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to experience the cultural richness of the city.	
Can I Help You	Project implemented during the Braga Holy Week celebrations. Through a QR Code available at various points in the city, tourists can access information in four languages about the programme of festivities, history and monuments, in an accessible and sustainable way.	
URBACT Cities After Dark e Innovative Management Model for Sustainable Cultural Tourism	The Municipality of Braga is involved in the URBACT Cities After Dark and Innovative Management Model for Sustainable Cultural Tourism projects.	

6.19 Sustainable tourism

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Proportion of tourism GVA in total GVA	2.3	2.6	3.8	3.9		%	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	INE, CESOP calculations
Average annual growth rate of tourism GVA	- 4.9	- 3.0	7.6	8.8		%	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	INE, CESOP calculations

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	Source
Certifications, seals, and awards in sustainability for tourism operators	2	3	3	3	3	N.º	Braga City Council
Certifications, seals, and awards in sustainability for local accommodation and tourist enterprises	0	0	1	2	2	N.º	Braga City Council
Tourist offices or welcome centres	1	3	3	3	3	N.º	Braga City Council
Total accommodation revenue per overnight stay in tourist accommodation	30,69	30,32	36,68	40,00		%	Braga City Council
Bed occupancy rate in tourist accommodation	25,5	35,0	48,2	46,1		%	Braga City Council
Average length of stay in tourist accommodation	1,6	1,8	1,9	1,8		N.º night	Braga City Council
Seasonality rate in tourist accommodation	39,0	39,2	33,0	32,4		%	Braga City Council

6.19 Sustainable tourism
Awards and recognitions

Braga Youth Centre
Green Key 2024

Maintenance of the international sustainable tourism label, as the only youth hostel distinguished in Portugal.

Platinum award
Green Destinations Award 2024

International recognition for the continuity of Braga as a sustainable destination in the global ranking.

World's Best Emerging Destination

Distinction awarded by the World Travel Awards (WTA).

6.20 Animal welfare

Promotion of conditions that ensure the protection, health and respect for animals, within an integrated "One Health" approach, which recognises the interdependence between animal, human and environmental health. This topic covers municipal policies, programmes and infrastructure dedicated to animal welfare, including the operation of the Braga Official Collection Centre (CRO), and partnerships with animal welfare associations, schools and local communities, integrating actions related to collection, sheltering, sterilisation, responsible adoption and civic education.





Management approach

Animal protection and welfare constitute an essential axis of the Municipality of Braga's policy, promoting harmonious coexistence between people, animals and the environment.

The governance of this topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of the Animal Policy Unit (UPA), which works in close cooperation with the CRO, the Municipal Animal Ombudsman and local animal welfare associations.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out through annual performance indicators, such as collections, sterilisations, adoptions and vaccinations, which are analysed and reported in municipal activity reports.

6.20 Animal welfare

Strategic instruments

Municipal Regulation on Animal Welfare

This instrument has as its main objective the promotion of animal welfare, health and population control, especially of companion animals. It defines the conditions for housing, ownership, keeping and circulation of animals in public spaces, as well as establishing measures to combat abandonment and promote responsible adoption, and regulating the operation of the CRO.

This regulation has the following objectives:

- Establish guidelines for the identification and control of the animal population, aiming to prevent uncontrolled growth and the spread of diseases;
- Define minimum animal welfare standards to ensure that animals have adequate housing and care conditions provided by their keepers;
- Implement measures to prevent animal abandonment and promote responsible adoption, encouraging the community to assume responsibility for the animals it shelters;
- Ensure the implementation of disease prevention and treatment measures, guaranteeing the health and well-being of the animals covered by the regulation.

Resources and infrastructure

Braga Official Collection Centre (CRO)

Municipal infrastructure for the sheltering, treatment and reintegration of companion animals without an identified guardian, playing an essential role in the implementation of local animal welfare, public health and community awareness policies. With renovated facilities, it includes 27 cat boxes, a cat park for 50 animals, 30 kennels for dogs divided into different wings, and 24 new parks with shelter areas for dogs, providing adequate space for the accommodation and physical and behavioural recovery of the animals. In addition, the 2 quarantine boxes ensure the necessary separation in specific cases. The CRO also has 24 outdoor parks for dogs and 1 for cats, promoting exercise and socialisation, thus contributing to the animals' physical and emotional well-being.

6.20 Animal welfare

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Veterinary Voucher	The Municipality of Braga, in collaboration with the Portuguese Veterinary Order, actively participated in the National Programme for Veterinary Health Support for Companion Animals at Risk, offering the Sterilisation Veterinary Voucher.	
Support for Animal Protection Associations	Logistical support to partner associations within the scope of the Capture, Sterilise, Return (CED) project.	
Actions against animal abandonment and abuse	Municipal prevention and awareness actions, including the Voluntaria-te Programme, the Incluir Project, the Escola Amiga dos Animais Project, among others.	
Municipal Animal Ombudsman	Body responsible for receiving, analysing and forwarding complaints related to animal welfare, strengthening mediation and the protection of animal rights within the community.	
Animal Food Bank	Provision of food and essential goods to animals in vulnerable situations, CED colonies and shelter institutions.	
"Animal Rescue" Project	Rapid response to emergency situations involving animals, such as rescues, accidents and assistance to animals in imminent danger.	
Extraordinary Sterilisation Campaign	Municipal campaign for ethical control of the animal population, ensuring free or low-cost sterilisation for families and associations in the municipality.	
Educational Project "Escola Amiga dos Animais"	Educational initiative that raises awareness and educates children and young people about respect for animals, through lectures, pedagogical activities and educational materials.	

6.20 Animal welfare

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2021	2022	2023	2024	Source
Vaccinated animals	1 931	2 648	1 714	1 294	UPA
Collected animals	917	1 163	623	774	UPA
Adopted animals	729	1 040	909	729	UPA
Sterilized animals	490	943	772	2052	UPA
Euthanized animals	9	5	2	10	UPA

6.20 Animal welfare

Awards and recognitions

Renewal of certification

Braga Official Collection Centre (CRO)

Awarded by the Directorate-General for Food and Veterinary Affairs (DGAV), certifying full compliance with national standards of animal welfare, hygiene and safety.

6.21 Promotion of employability

Promotion of policies and programmes that strengthen employability, qualification and professional integration, through the enhancement of talent, the encouragement of entrepreneurship and the creation of qualified employment. This topic covers the articulation between academic and professional training, business innovation and local economic development, aiming to ensure an inclusive, competitive and sustainable economy. It includes the joint action of the Municipality of Braga and InvestBraga, E.M.





Management approach

The promotion of employability is part of the municipal policy for economic and social development, ensuring the enhancement of talent, innovation and inclusion in the labour market.

The governance of this topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of InvestBraga, E.M., in articulation with Startup Braga, the Professional Integration Office (GIP) and the Strategic Council of InvestBraga, E.M. for local economic development.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out through Bragameter, a digital system that monitors economic development and employability actions.

6.21 Promotion of employability

Strategic instruments

Strategic Plan for Economic Development (PEDE) of Braga

The Strategic Plan for the Economic Development of Braga 2014–2026, updated in 2018, defines the long-term vision for an economically competitive territory, capable of generating qualified employment, retaining talent and promoting favourable conditions for professional development.

This plan reinforces the ambition of an open and multicultural city, where qualification, innovation and knowledge underpin economic development and the capacity to attract workers and companies. The PEDE Braga defines targets that directly integrate the employability dimension, including:

- Maintain economic growth capable of generating, on average, 500 new jobs per year;
- Promote an ecosystem with diversified opportunities, integrated into emerging sectors and creative industries.

The implementation of the plan is monitored by the Strategic Council of InvestBraga, E.M., with execution overseen by the Monitoring and Execution Committee, which ensures articulation between economic policies, business dynamics and the needs of the local labour market.

Resources and infrastructure

Qualifica Centre

The Braga Qualifica Centre is a municipal structure dedicated to lifelong learning and requalification, promoting processes of recognition, validation and certification of skills. In articulation with educational institutions and employers, it guides training pathways aligned with labour market needs, supporting adults in professional reconversion, unemployed individuals and workers seeking to raise their qualification levels. It contributes to social inclusion, skills improvement and the strengthening of employability in the municipality.

Professional Integration Office (GIP)

The GIP is a municipal service located at the Municipal One-Stop Shop, dedicated to guiding and supporting unemployed citizens. In cooperation with IEFP and employers, it promotes referral to job offers, internships and training, strengthening socio-professional integration. The GIP particularly supports young people, long-term unemployed individuals and vulnerable groups, contributing to qualification, active inclusion and the dynamisation of the local labour market.

6.21 Promotion of employability

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Talent Programme Entrepreneurial Skills	This programme promotes training in entrepreneurial and digital skills, targeting young people and adults undergoing qualification or professional reconversion processes. The initiative organises workshops, mentoring sessions and practical challenges, stimulating creativity and entrepreneurial spirit.	
Work in Braga Portal	Digital platform promoted by InvestBraga, E.M. that connects candidates, companies and educational institutions, facilitating the dissemination of employment, talent and training opportunities. The platform strengthens the attraction and retention of professionals in the municipality, promoting alignment between company needs and available profiles. In 2024, the platform recorded 482 job offers, 175 registrations and 705 company–candidate interactions.	

6.21 Promotion of employability

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unidade	SDG	Source
Proportion of work accidents reported per staff in service by type of accident	6.88	6.16	6.02			%	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL BEING; 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	GEP/MTSSS, CESOP calculations
Disparity in average monthly earnings between sexes of employed population under an employment contract	8.2	8.4	8.0	8.1		%	5 GENDER EQUALITY; 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	INE
Average monthly earnings	1186	1235	1286	1391		€	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	INE
Estimated unemployment rate	6.1	5.6	4.9	6.0	5.7	%	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	PORDATA, CESOP calculations
Population registered in long-term unemployment	1.9	2.1	1.8	1.5	1.7	%	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	PORDATA, CESOP calculations
Proportion of employees who changed companies relative to total employment	8.6	10.3	11.0	11.6		%	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	INE
Proportion of employees with permanent employment contracts	68.0	67.2	68.1			%	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	DGT

Category	Indicator	2024	Unit	Source
WorkinBraga Portal	Company registrations	25	N.º	InvestBraga, E.M.
	Job opportunity registrations	482	N.º	InvestBraga, E.M.
	Active job opportunities	88	N.º	InvestBraga, E.M.
	Professional registrations	175	N.º	InvestBraga, E.M.
	Applications submitted by professionals	555	N.º	InvestBraga, E.M.
	Interactions between candidate professionals and companies	705	N.º	InvestBraga, E.M.

6.21 Promotion of employability

Awards and recognitions

European Enterprise Promotion Awards (EEPA) 2024

InvestBraga, E.M. was awarded the 1st National Prize for the programme "Talent Program: Entrepreneurial Skills", in the category Investment in Entrepreneurial Skills.

6.22 Culture and creative industries

Promotion of culture and creative industries as pillars of sustainable development, social cohesion and the territorial identity of Braga. This topic covers cultural creation, production and dissemination, the valorisation of tangible and intangible heritage, the capacity-building of cultural agents and the dynamisation of the creative economy. It also includes the management and programming of municipal cultural facilities, the territorial decentralisation of cultural offerings and the promotion of responsible cultural tourism. It includes the joint action of the Municipality of Braga and FAZCULTURA.



Management approach

The Municipality of Braga's action in the field of culture and creative industries is based on cultural creation, production and dissemination, artistic training, support for the creative economy and the territorial decentralisation of cultural offerings, ensuring a balance between economic dynamism, community inclusion and heritage preservation.

The governance of this topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is carried out by the Culture Division, integrated into the Department of Culture and Tourism, in articulation with Faz Cultura, E.M., responsible for the management and programming of Theatro Circo and gnration, and with the support of the Municipal Culture Council. This commitment is also driven by Braga Media Arts, whose dynamics, framed by Braga's status as a UNESCO Creative City, reinforce artistic innovation, internationalisation of the sector and the development of digital and collaborative ecosystems.

Monitoring is carried out through Faz Cultura, E.M.'s Report and Accounts, the execution reports of the Cultural Strategy and indicators of participation, economic impact and territorial access to culture.

6.22 Culture and creative industries

Strategic instruments

Braga Cultural Strategy 2020–2030

Braga's Cultural Strategy 2030 is a key guiding document for cultural development and the preservation of the Municipality's historical heritage. This plan reflects the city's commitment to sustainable development, placing culture at the core of its identity.

This plan is structured around four pillars:

- Empower – training and qualification of cultural professionals and agents;
- Decentralise – decentralisation of programming and promotion of territorial cohesion;
- Entrepreneur – stimulation of the creative economy and cultural innovation;
- Path – internationalisation and positioning of Braga as a global creative city.

Another important aspect of the strategy is the strengthening of the local cultural fabric, promoting the empowerment and skills development of cultural agents. This is essential to enrich Braga's cultural offer and stimulate the growth of the creative economy. The strategy integrates structural programmes such as Saber-Fazer, ATLAS and Descentrar, which contribute to the consolidation of a more innovative, inclusive and territorially balanced cultural ecosystem.

Resources and infrastructure

Cultural spaces

Braga offers a wide range of cultural spaces, such as Theatro Circo and GNRation, which serve as vibrant stages for artistic performances and cultural events. The Tourist-Cultural Interpretation Centre and the Lúcio Craveiro da Silva Library are essential resources for education and the promotion of culture within the community. In addition, museums such as the Image Museum and historic sites such as the Torre de Menagem provide educational and enriching experiences for visitors and residents of Braga.

The Theatro Circo, with its history and iconic architecture, has been one of the main pillars of Braga's cultural dynamics. This multifunctional cultural venue not only offers a wide range of cultural events, including theatre, dance and music, but also serves as a centre of convergence for the local community and visitors. Its broad approach to sustainable management and its commitment to cultural diversity have made it an inclusive and accessible space for all citizens, thus promoting Braga's cultural and social development.

The gnration emerges as an innovative space where contemporary music and technology merge to create unique cultural experiences. Its sustainable approach and openness to the community have positioned it as a dynamic hub of creativity and culture. By offering exhibitions, performances and interactive activities, gnration not only stimulates creativity but also promotes the development of new audiences, thereby enriching Braga's cultural landscape.

Museums and galleries

Braga is home to a wide variety of museums and galleries that offer a fascinating journey through the region's history, art and culture. These cultural spaces not only preserve and display valuable collections, but also promote education, creativity and intercultural dialogue. By providing access to enriching cultural experiences, Braga's museums and galleries play a vital role in the city's sustainable development, fostering understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity.

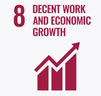
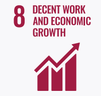
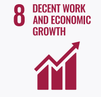
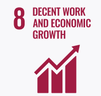
6.22 Culture and creative industries

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Descentrar 2024	Cultural decentralisation programme that brings cultural activities – theatre, music, interpretative cultural trails, artistic workshops and educational actions – directly to the parishes. In 2024, 2 489 participants were recorded across 18 parishes.	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
ATLAS – MAPEAR	Cultural mediation programme of the Municipality of Braga focused on schools, inclusion and artistic literacy. In 2024, the programme involved 12 schools, 3 500 students and an investment of €26 256,80, with revenues reinvested in schools.	4 QUALITY EDUCATION, 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Braga En'Cena 2024	Theatre festival dedicated to stimulating local creation, increasing the visibility of Braga-based companies and audience development. In 2024, 3 042 spectators were recorded and 9 companies were supported. Municipal investment totalled €50 600.	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Braga25 Portuguese Capital of Culture	Strategic project for preparation and planning for 2025, focused on sustainable creativity and urban regeneration.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES, 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Braga Manifesto UNESCO Creative Cities Network	Founding document of the international creative cities network, signed in Braga in 2024. It affirms culture and creativity as pillars of sustainable urban development and responsible cultural tourism. Braga led the international working group on sustainable cultural tourism and urban regeneration.	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH, 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES, 13 CLIMATE ACTION, 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Noite Branca	Night-time cultural event that transforms Braga's streets and squares into a stage for artistic performances, live music, light installations and interactive activities. This event attracts thousands of visitors, stimulates the local economy and promotes the city's nightlife in a sustainable way, while providing unique and accessible cultural experiences for all audiences.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

6.22 Culture and creative industries

Highlighted practices and initiatives

International Organ Festival	This event stands out for celebrating the unique sound of the organ, offering concerts of high artistic quality in historic locations throughout the city, thus enriching Braga's cultural heritage.	 
Festival Para Gente Sentada	An international music festival that attracts a diverse audience, offering a unique cultural experience and promoting Braga as a vibrant cultural destination.	 
Semibreve	Recognised nationally and internationally, Semibreve stands out as one of the leading electronic music and digital arts festivals, promoting innovation and creativity in Braga's music scene.	 
Encontros da Imagem	With almost 30 years of history, this photography festival stands out for its innovative approach to the exhibition and dissemination of photography, exploring new technologies and forms of artistic expression.	
OCUPA	This event is noted for its inclusive and collaborative approach to promoting electronic music and digital arts, consolidating Braga as a reference centre in Media Arts.	 
Circuito (Educational Service of Braga Media Arts)	A diverse educational programme that promotes the relationship between artistic creation, technology and community, fostering knowledge and engagement with Media Arts in Braga.	
Index	A pioneering event dedicated to the intersection between art and technology, positioning Braga as a hub for thought and experimentation in Media Arts, attracting artists and thinkers of international renown.	 

6.22 Culture and creative industries

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	Unit	SDG	Source
Expenditure on cultural and creative activities in municipalities per inhabitant	16.5	18.2	29.5	37.5	€	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	INE

6.22 Culture and creative industries

Awards and recognitions

Territory and cultural democracy category

National Arts Award 2024

Awarded to ATLAS – Braga Cultural Mediation Programme, recognising the municipal commitment to bringing artists and communities closer together and promoting the democratisation of access to artistic creation.

Media Arts domain

UNESCO Creative City

Distinction maintained in 2024, since 2017, awarded by the UNESCO Creative Cities Network. It recognises Braga's capacity to integrate digital innovation and artistic creativity into the city's social, cultural and economic development.

UNESCO Creative Cities Network

Annual Conference 2024 and approval of the Braga Manifesto

Recognition for hosting the 16th Annual Conference of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network, during which the Braga Manifesto was approved.

Braga25

Portuguese Capital of Culture 2025

Selection of Braga as Portuguese Capital of Culture 2025, consolidating the city's positioning as a creative, innovative and culturally dynamic territory.

6.23 Youth and civic associations

Promotion of civic, cultural and social participation among young people in the municipality of Braga, through strengthening youth associations, citizenship education, volunteering and the creation of opportunities for personal and professional development. The theme integrates municipal policies that encourage youth involvement in public decision-making processes, support for youth associations and representative structures, and the promotion of training, creativity and inclusion programmes.



Management approach

Municipal youth policy is a strategic axis of Braga's social and community development, oriented towards promoting autonomy, participation and active citizenship among young people.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is carried out by the municipal services, namely the Youth Unit, integrated within the Department of Citizenship and Quality of Life, with the support of the Municipal Youth Council, a representative youth body that monitors and proposes initiatives of interest to young people in the municipality.

Monitoring is carried out annually through the report of activities developed by the Youth Unit, complemented by quantitative and qualitative indicators relating to participation, associativism and volunteering.

6.23 Youth and civic associations

Strategic instruments

Municipal Youth Plan

This plan, currently under development, is being prepared with technical support from the DYPALL Network, an entity specialising in youth policies and civic participation.

In this context, the plan:

- Aims to define clear priorities, measurable targets and impact indicators to guide municipal action in areas essential to young people's lives, promoting sustainable, inclusive public policies aligned with the real needs of Braga's youth;
- Follows a participatory approach to its development, integrating contributions from young people, associations, schools, higher education institutions and civil society organisations, ensuring that strategic decisions reflect the diversity of the territory;
- Is directly aligned with the National Youth Plan 2022–2025, ensuring coherence with national and European guidelines in the areas of education, employment, mental health, culture, housing, environmental sustainability, innovation and democratic participation.

Resources and infrastructure

Youth Shop

Municipal space where the Youth Project Support Office operates, equipped with consultation offices and providing information and guidance services to young people in areas such as education, employment, international mobility and associativism. It also acts as a catalyst for new ideas and a facilitator of youth initiatives.

6.23 Youth and civic associations

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Youth Portal	Cultural decentralisation programme that brings cultural activities – theatre, music, interpretative cultural trails, artistic workshops and educational actions – directly to the parishes. In 2024, 2 489 participants were recorded across 18 parishes.	
Afeta-te **Youth Mental Health**	Free and confidential psychological support programme, promoting emotional well-being, anxiety management and gender equality through individual sessions and school-based actions. In 2024, it reached more than 500 young people through in-person interventions in schools and thematic workshops at Fórum Braga, marking World Mental Health Day and strengthening youth emotional literacy.	
Encarreira-te **Internships and Career Guidance Programme**	Initiative that supports professional integration through curricular and extracurricular internships, guidance activities and direct contact with the local economic fabric. In 2024, 65 internships were carried out (54 curricular and 11 extracurricular) and the Youth Open Day was promoted, involving 60 students and 25 entities, strengthening skills and youth employability networks.	
Desafia-te **Youth Artistic Creation**	Programme that promotes artistic expression and youth creativity through competitions in music, dance, visual arts, theatre and writing, including Jovens Criadores, Jovens Talentos, Sonhos nos Pés and A(r)riscar. In 2024, it involved more than 200 participants, awarded €10 000 in prizes and recorded increased participation from secondary schools and cultural associations, strengthening the local artistic ecosystem.	

6.23 Youth and civic associations

Highlighted practices and initiatives

1st edition Braga Youth Festival	Annual event celebrating youth through music, debates, workshops and an associative showcase, promoted by the Youth Unit and the Municipal Youth Council. In 2024, it brought together hundreds of young people and more than 40 entities, promoting interaction, creativity and civic participation, strengthening community cohesion and recognising youth as active agents in the territory.	 
Project "My First Pages"	Family literacy and equitable access to reading programme aimed at children aged 0–10 and their families, developed with libraries and educational institutions. In 2024, it involved 172 families (238 children) and was presented at the 39th IBBY International Congress, establishing itself as a good practice in inclusion, reading and child development.	  
Erasmus+ International Exchanges	European mobility initiatives that promote global citizenship, intercultural learning and international cooperation among young people. In 2024, the projects Your Part Matters! and Youth Bridge were implemented, involving 60 young people from Portugal, Italy, France, Greece, Poland, Cyprus and Hungary, strengthening social skills, intercultural understanding and youth cooperation networks.	 
European City Network Meeting Braga 2024	International meeting of the European Youth Cities Network focused on intergenerational participation, collaborative governance and democratic innovation. Held in Braga in 2024, it brought together 40 delegates from 18 European cities, promoting the exchange of practices, strengthening international cooperation and recognising the Municipality as a reference in local youth policies.	 

6.23 Youth and civic associations

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Unit	SDG	Source
Proportion of young people (aged 16-24) registered as unemployed	3.5	3.6	2.5	2.6	2.6	%	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	PORDATA, CESOP calculations

Category	Indicator	2024	Unit	Source
Youth Volunteering – Voluntaria-te	Company registrations	>150	N.º of youths	Youth Unit
	Volunteering hours completed	>5000	Hours	Youth Unit
Mental Health – Afeta-te	Youth reached by sessions and initiatives	>500	N.º of youths	Youth Unit
Internships – Encarreira-te	Internship requests received	65	N.º of requests	Youth Unit
	Internship requests denied	4	N.º of requests	Youth Unit
	Participants in the Open Day	~60	N.º of students	Youth Unit

Category	Indicator	2024	Unit	Source
Youth Participatory Budget "You Decide!"	Proposals submitted	12	N.º of proposals	Youth Unit
	Proposals validated	10	N.º of proposals	Youth Unit
	Total budget available	100 000	€	Youth Unit
Braga Volunteering	Partner entities	65	N.º of entities	Youth Unit
	Volunteer opportunities	>70	N.º of opportunities	Youth Unit
	Volunteers involved	>500	N.º of volunteers	Youth Unit
Support to Youth Associations	Associations supported	~70	N.º of associations	Youth Unit

6.23 Youth and civic associations

Awards and recognitions

Innovation and Entrepreneurship category

National Education Award 2024

Reconhece o trabalho desenvolvido no Orçamento Participativo Escolar, que promove o envolvimento ativo dos alunos nas decisões que influenciam a vida escolar, integrando as áreas de Educação, Inovação, Juventude e Participação Cívica.

6.24 Urban intelligence and innovation

Promotion of a smart and sustainable city through the application of digital technologies and innovative solutions that enhance the efficiency of public services, data-driven municipal management, and citizen participation. This theme covers the digital transformation of the administration, the modernisation of urban infrastructures, and the strengthening of the local innovation ecosystem.







Management approach

Urban intelligence and technological innovation constitute a transversal strategic axis of the Municipality of Braga, involving all organisational units in building a smart, inclusive, and participatory city.

Governance of the theme is ensured by the competent political portfolio, guaranteeing the integration of innovation policies, information management, data security, and system interoperability across the entire municipal organisation.

Monitoring is carried out through continuous analysis of indicators of digital maturity, performance of online services, technological accessibility, and the impact of urban innovation initiatives, enabling an integrated assessment of the Municipality's digital evolution.

6.24 Urban intelligence and innovation

Resources and infrastructures

Urban Innovation Laboratory (LIU)

The LIU is a municipal structure dedicated to experimentation, co-creation, and testing of innovative solutions, operating as a transversal axis that drives the city's digital transformation and sustainable development..

As a living and collaborative laboratory, the LIU:

- Acts as a platform linking public administration, the scientific system, and the business sector;
- Tests, demonstrates, and validates technological solutions applied to domains such as mobility, energy, environment, culture, and citizen participation;
- Supports the preparation of applications and the development of innovation projects at national and European levels;
- Functions as a municipal observatory for urban innovation, promoting the dissemination of good practices and the assessment of their respective impacts;
- Strengthens the local innovation ecosystem, articulating with the University of Minho, INL, and the technology-based business sector.

At the operational level, the LIU positions itself as a dynamic space for experimentation and collaboration, fostering joint work between municipal units, universities, startups, and technology companies, accelerating the creation and implementation of innovative solutions to urban challenges.

6.24 Urban intelligence and innovation

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Management, maintenance, and updating of municipal technological systems	Includes regular activities for operation, support, and maintenance of information systems used by municipal services, ensuring continuity of digital services, application interoperability, and efficiency of existing technological infrastructures.	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
Digital capacity-building and internal training	Implementation of training actions for municipal employees on digital skills, data management, use of technological platforms, and principles of personal data protection. Continuous training sessions and digital onboarding sessions for new employees were carried out.	4 QUALITY EDUCATION 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Intelligent Cities Challenge (ICC)	An initiative of the European Commission that supports cities in transitioning towards smarter, more sustainable, and inclusive urban models. Braga's participation enables the development of integrated strategies in areas such as mobility, energy, tourism, creative industries, and the built environment. The ICC provides access to European networks, technical mentoring, and sharing of good practices, strengthening the Municipality's capacity to implement digital solutions aligned with the European Green Deal and to accelerate urban innovation.	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

6.24 Urban intelligence and innovation

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	Unit	SDG	Source
Mobile broadband speed	40.3	63.0	112.6	Mbps	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	JRC, cálculos CESOP
Proportion of localities with average mobile broadband speed above 100 Mbps	0.0	16.7	51.5	%	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	JRC, cálculos CESOP
Fixed broadband speed	105.3	141.4	169.2	Mbps	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	JRC
Proportion of localities with average fixed broadband speed above 100 Mbps	67.6	86.5	97.3	%	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	JRC

Indicator	Detail	2023	Unit	SDG	Source
Average number of students enrolled in non-tertiary education per computer with Internet connection by education level	Basic Education / 1st Cycle	2,3	N.º	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	PORDATA
	Basic Education / 2nd Cycle	1,9	N.º	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	PORDATA
	Basic Education / 3rd Cycle	2,1	N.º	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	PORDATA
	Secondary Education	2,7	N.º	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	PORDATA

6.25 Entrepreneurship and innovation

Promotion of an entrepreneurial and innovative ecosystem that drives economic diversification and the creation of qualified employment, grounded in knowledge, talent, and collaboration between the public sector, companies, and scientific institutions. This theme covers the activity of Startup Braga, namely the dynamisation of innovative startups and SMEs, attraction of investment, knowledge and technology transfer, and the strengthening of local and international cooperation networks.







Management approach

Entrepreneurship and innovation constitute central axes of the sustainable development strategy of the Municipality of Braga, ensuring articulation between policies on economy, youth, knowledge, and territorial competitiveness.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent political portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of Startup Braga, integrated within InvestBraga, E.M., in articulation with municipal economic development services.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out through performance reports that include activity indicators, namely the number of startups supported, investment attracted, jobs created, and innovation events held.

6.25 Entrepreneurship and innovation

Strategic instruments

Strategic Plan for Economic Development (PEDE) of Braga 2014 – 2026

This Plan, revised in 2018, defines the long-term vision for the economic competitiveness of the municipality, reinforcing the role of innovation, entrepreneurship, and technological value creation in territorial development.

This plan:

- Consolidates the transition from the positioning "made in Braga" to "invented/designed in Braga", reflecting the ambition of an open, multicultural, knowledge-based city oriented towards creativity and innovation;
- Is structured around seven strategic axes: Engineering Centres, Innovation and Shared Services; Industry and Construction; ICTE – Information, Communication and Electronics Technologies; Health and Medtech; Tourism and Culture; Commerce; and Territory, promoting a diversified economic ecosystem favourable to entrepreneurship.

Implementation of PEDE Braga is monitored by the Strategic Council of InvestBraga, E.M., with the Monitoring and Execution Committee responsible for tracking and operationalising the actions included in the plan, ensuring coherence between strategic priorities, economic dynamisation instruments, and innovation policies.

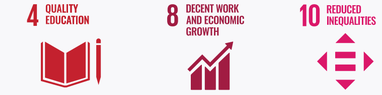
Resources and infrastructures

Startup Braga

Startup Braga, integrated within InvestBraga, E.M., is an essential innovation hub for sustainable development, offering pre-acceleration, acceleration, and incubation programmes for startups with global ambition. Focused on technology-based companies, it has boosted entrepreneurship and the creation of qualified jobs, contributing to the diversification of the local economy of the Municipality of Braga and to the international projection of Braga as an innovation centre.

6.25 Entrepreneurship and innovation

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Acceleration Programme	Acceleration Programmes support startups in validating business models, developing MVPs, and preparing for international markets through specialised mentoring and connections to strategic partners. The programme reinforces support for innovative projects across the 5 verticals of Startup Braga, consolidating entrepreneurial capacity-building and the growth of scalable technological solutions.	
Startup Point	A Startup Braga programme in partnership with Liftoff and AAUMinho, focused on rapid validation of business models through intensive bootcamps. This programme strengthens the creation of new technological ventures, promoting entrepreneurial skills, agile experimentation, and access to essential resources — mentors, training, and partner networks — contributing to the strengthening of the local ecosystem and sustainable economic development.	
Incubation Programme	A programme aimed at early-stage startups that require workspace and specialised services. It offers 24/7 access to offices, continuous mentoring, connections to entrepreneurs and investors, partner benefits, funding opportunities, and integration into international networks.	
Integration of the sustainability vertical	In 2024, Startup Braga integrated a new Sustainability vertical, expanding the previous ones (Biotechnology, Digital Economy, Health Technologies, and Nanotechnology). Two startups joined this area, reinforcing the commitment to green solutions and innovation oriented towards the ecological transition.	
Innovation Day	Innovation Day, organised by Startup Braga in collaboration with the Academic Association of the University of Minho, played a crucial role in catalysing the development of entrepreneurial ideas. By promoting a culture of innovation and sustainability in the region, the event stimulated creativity and entrepreneurial spirit, creating an environment conducive to the emergence and growth of startups and innovative projects.	
Empreender@Braga	This Ignition Programme for Entrepreneurs and Youth Associations, promoted by the Municipality of Braga, InvestBraga, E.M., Startup Braga, and the Braga Youth Centre, was designed to foster the development of new businesses and to build capacity within youth organisations, in an inclusive and dynamic environment based on knowledge exchange.	

6.25 Entrepreneurship and innovation

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	Unit	SDG	Source
Survival rate of companies established 2 years earlier	58.6	57.8	59.8	58.2	%	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	INE

Indicator	2024	Unit	Source
Projects supported by Startup Braga programs	72	N.º	InvestBraga, E.M.
Startups supported (cumulative 2014–2024)	274	N.º	InvestBraga, E.M.
Startups incubated (cumulative 2014–2024)	106	N.º	InvestBraga, E.M.
Investment raised by supported startups (cumulative 2014–2024)	491.395.733	€	InvestBraga, E.M.
Pre-Acceleration, Acceleration, and Training programs conducted	6	N.º	InvestBraga, E.M.
Entrepreneur capacity-building initiatives	20	N.º	InvestBraga, E.M.

6.25 Entrepreneurship and innovation

Awards and recognitions

iCapital Awards

European Rising Innovative City 2024

Within the European Capital of Innovation Awards, this distinction recognises Braga's commitment to leading the European innovation agenda, integrating disruptive technologies and strategic partnerships to sustainably address social and economic challenges.

Startup Braga

European Innovation Recognition 2024

In 2024, it received the distinction of being among the 10 most innovative incubators/ innovation hubs in Europe, ranking 7th in the Europe's Leading Start-Up Hubs list, produced by the Financial Times in partnership with Statista.

6.26 Information security and data protection

Integrated management of digital security and personal data protection, ensuring the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information. This theme covers the protection of technological infrastructures, information systems, and municipal digital services, as well as compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and international information security standards.



Management approach

Information Security and Data Protection aim to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information, guaranteeing the protection of personal data, the resilience of critical technological infrastructures, and compliance with applicable European and national legislation. This approach seeks to ensure the secure, efficient, and reliable provision of digital services, in accordance with the principles of transparency and public accountability.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent political portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of municipal services within the Department of Strategy, Information Systems and Quality, in articulation with the Data Protection Officer (DPO), who ensures the application of the GDPR and acts as the point of contact with competent authorities.

Monitoring and performance evaluation are carried out through periodic GDPR compliance reports, internal audits, and specific indicators of maturity and performance in digital security, enabling the effectiveness of implemented measures to be tracked and opportunities for continuous improvement to be identified.

6.26 Information security and data protection

Strategic instruments

Privacy and personal data processing policy

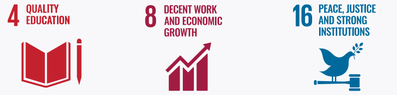
This Policy defines the commitments of the Municipality of Braga regarding the collection, use, retention, and protection of personal data of citizens and users of its services, ensuring compliance with the GDPR and guaranteeing the rights of data subjects.

The main provisions and principles of the policy are:

- The Municipality assumes the commitment to protect citizens' privacy, ensuring the accuracy, integrity, and confidentiality of collected personal data;
- The document establishes the legal bases for data processing (consent, contract, legal obligation, public or legitimate interest, public authority), in accordance with the GDPR;
- It stipulates the rights of data subjects: access, rectification, erasure, restriction of processing, objection, portability, and withdrawal of consent;
- It ensures that data will not be disclosed or used for commercial or marketing purposes without explicit consent;
- It provides that data are retained only for the time necessary to fulfil their purpose.

6.26 Information security and data protection

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Internal training in digital security	Capacity-building actions aimed at municipal employees, focusing on good practices in data protection, safe online behaviour, identification of phishing attempts, and compliance with internal security policies. Training helped strengthen digital literacy and significantly reduce exposure to behavioural risks.	
Incident response plan	Implementation of digital incident simulation exercises, including scenarios of cyberattacks and critical system failures. The simulations contributed to improving internal coordination, streamlining response procedures, and substantially reducing the time required to restore essential services.	
GDPR compliance	Periodic checks on compliance with internal policies, identification of deviations, and implementation of corrective actions.	
Secure digital infrastructure	Gradual adoption of more robust and secure technological solutions, including the modernisation of system infrastructure and the progressive integration of digital environments with reinforced requirements for information protection and encryption.	

6.27 Innovation and social impact

Promotion of an ecosystem of impact innovation and entrepreneurship that integrates incubation, acceleration, capacity-building, and open innovation programmes, aiming to develop sustainable and inclusive solutions to social and territorial challenges. It covers the activity of the Human Power Hub (HPH), including acceleration programmes, collaborative platforms, citizen participation initiatives, and open social innovation projects.



Management approach

Innovation and social impact are part of the municipal strategy for sustainable development, promoting the creation of collaborative solutions that combine innovation, inclusion, and community value.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent political portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is the responsibility of BragaHabit, E.M., through the Human Power Hub – Braga Social Innovation Centre.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out based on performance and impact evaluation reports, which include quantitative and qualitative indicators on social innovation, impact entrepreneurship, and the development of collaborative projects with economic and social benefits for the territory.

6.27 Innovation and social impact

Strategic instruments

Braga 2030 Social Development Plan

The Braga Social Development Plan is the main municipal instrument guiding policies for inclusion, territorial cohesion, and protection of vulnerable groups. It is based on an in-depth diagnosis of the municipality's social dynamics and promotes integrated intervention among public entities, social organisations, the private sector, and citizens. The Plan understands social innovation as the development of new solutions to complex social challenges, based on collaboration and experimentation, and social impact as the positive, measurable, and lasting changes generated by those solutions.

Resources and infrastructures

Human Power Hub

The Human Power Hub stems from a people-centred concept developed within the framework of Braga's participation, together with the Bracara Augusta Foundation, in the European URBACT Network – Boosting Social Innovation. Its objective is to create an impact ecosystem that promotes the transfer of social innovation within the public sector, increases corporate social responsibility, and encourages scientific research by higher education institutions.

6.27 Innovation and social impact

Highlighted practices and initiatives

Social Innovation Festival	Holding of the 6th edition of the Social Innovation Festival and the 3rd edition of the Social Expo on 15 June 2024. The event included the presentation of 15 impact and social entrepreneurship initiatives and the participation of more than 20 organisations in the Social Expo. The 2024 Municipal Social Innovation Awards of the Municipality of Braga were presented to participants in the Innovation Boostcamp for Social Organisations, the HPH Acceleration Programme, and the Tech4Good – Acceleration Programme for Digital Businesses, with a total investment of around €15 000.	
Acceleration and pre-acceleration programmes	These programmes support social entrepreneurs and organisations, combining training, mentoring, and solution development with impact. In 2024, these programmes supported 23 projects, of which 10 joined the HPH Acceleration Programme, 7 participated in the Boostcamp – Social Organisations, and 6 joined Tech4Good dedicated to digital businesses.	
2nd edition of Open Innovation Programmes (ISA-Braga)	An open innovation programme that mobilises social organisations, citizens, companies, and institutional partners to create solutions for priority challenges. The 2nd edition took place in 2024 and focused on the employability of Roma communities. Ten projects were selected in Phase 1, each supported with €2.500.	
Social Ignition incubation and mentoring	Integration of new projects into the HPH incubator, ensuring specialised follow-up through mentoring and connections to technical and institutional partners. In 2024, 7 incubation protocols and 13 mentoring protocols were signed, strengthening the support network for promoters of impact initiatives.	

6.27 Innovation and social impact

Featured practices and initiatives

"Mãos na Massa" capacity-building	The programme promotes practical capacity-building in digital, technological, and operational areas, oriented towards immediate application by organisations and social entrepreneurs. In 2024, 5 thematic sessions were held, dedicated to digital acceleration, digital commerce, Web 3.0, Internet of Things, and programming.	
2nd edition of HPH Summer School	The HPH Summer School is an intensive programme aimed at young people aged 15 to 18, focused on developing skills in social entrepreneurship, creativity, and collaboration. In 2024, the 2nd edition included 6 participants, who over 1 week took part in ideation, prototyping, technological experimentation workshops, and project presentations in pitch format.	
Human Power Match	A digital platform that connects social organisations and companies, facitilating partnerships and resource optimisation to strengthen collaboration and corporate social responsibility. In 2024, 6 connections between social organisations and companies were recorded.	
Human Power Market	An online platform that promotes impact projects, services, and products, facilitating interactions, transactions, and partnership attraction among initiatives and entities within the HPH community. In 2024, the platform had 9 active projects.	
Viva o Bairro Citizen participation programme	Viva o Bairro is a municipal citizen participation programme that finances community projects proposed by residents, promoting inclusion, local revitalisation, and cooperation between entities. In 2024, the 2nd edition supported 10 projects with a total allocation of €200.000. The 3rd edition will fund 12 projects with the same allocation of €200.000.	

6.27 Innovation and social impact

Key data and indicators

Category	Indicator	2024	Unit	Source
Viva o Bairro — Citizen Participation Program	Funded projects – 2nd edition	10	N.º	HPH
	Total funding – 2nd edition	200.000	€	HPH
	Funded projects – 3rd edition	12	N.º	HPH
	Total funding – 3rd edition	200.000	€	HPH
Acceleration and Pre-Acceleration Programs	HPH Acceleration Program – projects supported	10	N.º	HPH
	Boostcamp – Social Organizations – projects supported	7	N.º	HPH
	Tech4Good – Digital Impact Businesses – projects supported	6	N.º	HPH

Category	Indicator	2024	Unit	Source
Awards (Social Innovation Festival)	Awarded categories	3	N.º	HPH
	Total amount per category	5.000	€	HPH
	Event participants	>250	N.º	HPH
Incubation, mentoring and pipeline	Incubation protocols (Social Ignition)	7	N.º	HPH
	Mentorship protocols (Social Ignition)	13	N.º	HPH
	Cumulative pipeline – incubated initiatives	89	N.º	HPH
	Pipeline – social organizations	31	N.º	HPH
	Pipeline – entrepreneurs	37	N.º	HPH
	Pipeline – scaling projects	20	N.º	HPH

6.27 Innovation and social impact

Key data and indicators

1 | 2

Category	Indicator	2024	Unit	Source
Capacity Building and Community	"Hands-On" Sessions	5	N.º	HPH
	HPH Summer School	6	N.º	HPH
Social and Circular Economy Platforms	Human Power Match – connections made	6	N.º	HPH
	Human Power Market – active projects	9	N.º	HPH
	Goods and Equipment Bank – transactions	14	N.º	HPH
	Registered users	116	N.º	HPH
ISA Braga Program (2nd Edition)	Projects selected – Phase 1	10	N.º	HPH
	Support per project – Phase 1	2.500	€	HPH
	Funding for winning project – Phase 2	35.000	€	HPH
Funding Obtained and International Projects	NORTE 2030	579.471,65	€	HPH
	Erasmus+ (KA220-YOU)	22.800	€	HPH
	Interreg SOCILIBRE	10.706,52	€	HPH

6.27 Innovation and social impact

Awards and recognitions

URBACT *Good Practice Label*
Human Power Hub
2024

Awarded by the European Commission's URBACT programme, recognising the Human Power Hub social innovation centre.

Finalist in the category "A Europe closer to citizens"
REGIOSTARS 2024

Awarded by the European Commission's REGIOSTARS Awards, highlighting the impact of the Human Power Hub on social innovation and citizen engagement in urban solutions.

6.28 Volunteering and civic and democratic participation

Promotion of active citizen involvement in volunteering, solidarity actions, and participation in public decision-making processes, strengthening citizenship, trust in institutions, and social cohesion. This theme integrates the dimensions of civic participation, local democracy, and community volunteering.







Management approach

The promotion of volunteering and democratic participation constitutes a priority dimension of the governance and citizenship policy of the Municipality of Braga, reinforcing social co-responsibility and civic engagement of citizens.

Governance of the topic is ensured by the competent political portfolio of the municipal executive, while technical coordination is carried out by municipal services, within the Youth Unit, integrated into the Department of Citizenship and Quality of Life, and through the Braga Voluntária structure.

Monitoring and follow-up are carried out through annual activity reports, which include the number of volunteers, projects, and partners.

6.28 Volunteering and civic and democratic participation

Strategic instruments

Municipal Strategy for Participatory Democracy

This strategy defines the vision and guiding principles of citizen participation in Braga, promoting transparency, access to information, and the active involvement of the community in public decision-making. It includes participation mechanisms such as Participatory Budgeting, Municipal Councils, and Public Assemblies.

Resources and infrastructures

Braga Voluntária

Braga Voluntária is a municipal structure that coordinates volunteering and active citizenship programmes, integrating more than 65 partner entities and around 500 volunteers. It promotes social inclusion, interinstitutional cooperation, youth civic participation, and strengthens the range of opportunities through the promotion of social, environmental, and cultural actions.

6.28 Volunteering and civic and democratic participation

Key practices and initiatives

Youth Participatory Budget "Tu Decides!"	Participatory democracy mechanism that allows young people aged 14–30 to submit, debate, and vote on projects of collective interest, with monitoring by the Municipal Youth Council. In 2024/2025, it received 12 proposals, of which 10 were validated, with a total budget of €100.000. The process strengthened decision-making skills, active participation, and co-responsibility in public management.	 
School Participatory Budget 2024	Programme that promotes citizenship, co-responsibility, and democratic management in schools from the 2nd cycle to secondary education, allowing the submission and voting of proposals to improve the school environment. In 2024, €130.000 were distributed to 13 school clusters for projects focused on well-being, inclusion, health, and sport, expanding student participation and the involvement of the educational community in school decisions.	 
Voluntaria-te	Municipal youth volunteering programme aimed at young people aged 15–30, promoting active citizenship and solidarity in social, cultural, and environmental projects. In 2024, it was extended to Easter and Christmas, involving more than 150 volunteers and 5.000 hours of civic service in initiatives such as Biblioteca de Verão, Escola Amiga dos Animais, and Natal com a Pequenada, expanding community impact.	  
Democratiza-te / Politiquices à Séria	Cycle of debates, workshops, and democratic literacy actions that encourages critical reflection, political participation, and dialogue between young people, schools, and student structures. In 2024, it mobilised more than 550 participants across 12 thematic sessions covering legislative and European elections, strengthening democratic awareness, informed participation, and proximity between youth and public decision-making processes.	  

6.28 Volunteering and civic and democratic participation

Key data and indicators

Indicator	2017	2021	Unit	SDG	Source
Rate of blank and null votes	4,6	4,1	%	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	Municipal Transparency Portal, CESOP calculations
Abstention rate	45,0	46,4	%	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	Municipal Transparency Portal, CESOP calculations

6.29 International cooperation and networks

Promotion of institutional, technical, and scientific cooperation between the Municipality of Braga and other cities, regions, and international networks, strengthening urban governance and innovation for sustainable development. This theme includes urban diplomacy initiatives, participation in European and multilateral networks, and the attraction of funding and knowledge.





Management approach

International cooperation and networking position Braga as a reference network city in Europe and in the Lusophone space. Political coordination of the topic is ensured by the portfolio for International Relations, responsible for defining strategic guidelines and monitoring municipal initiatives in this field.

Technical coordination is ensured by the Division of Funding, Community Funds and International Relations, responsible for the planning, submission, and monitoring of applications to European and international programmes, as well as for articulation in the definition and implementation of policies and strategies for international relations. Complementarily, the Communication, Public Relations and Protocol Unit manages institutional, diplomatic, and protocol relations, ensuring coherence in the Municipality's external representation and in the communication of international partnerships.

Monitoring and follow-up of international cooperation are carried out through international project execution reports, indicators of funding secured, active partnerships, technical results, and participation in European forums for the sharing of good practices.

6.29 International cooperation and networks

Key practices and initiatives

EUROCITIES Executive Committee	The Municipality of Braga was re-elected to the EUROCITIES Executive Committee for a new three-year term. The city maintained active participation in working groups on sustainability, climate, innovation, and culture, strengthening its presence as a reference European network city.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
URBACT Cities for Sustainability Governance (CSG)	Network dedicated to participatory governance and the implementation of the SDGs at municipal level. In 2024, the work carried out prepared the development of a pilot action in the territory of Braga.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
URBACT Cities After Dark	Network focused on policies that make cities more inclusive and safer during the night-time period. In 2024, the Baseline Study & Network Roadmap was published, defining the priorities and methodologies of the network.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability	Global network of cities focused on sustainability, climate action, and urban resilience. Braga participates as a member, benefiting from access to international knowledge, tools, and experiences.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 13 CLIMATE ACTION 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
SDG Cities (UN-Habitat)	United Nations initiative that supports local implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Braga holds the SDG Cities – Silver certification, recognising strategic alignment with the SDGs.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Forum of Mayors UNECE (United Nations)	Ricardo Rio, Mayor of Braga, served as Vice-President of the 4th Forum of Mayors, held in 2024 under the theme "Cities Summit of the Future", in Geneva.	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Global Parliament of Mayors (GPM)	Independent international forum that brings together cities from around the world to debate global challenges of urban governance, local democracy, and sustainable development. The Municipality of Braga participates as a member city.	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

6.29 International cooperation and networks

Key practices and initiatives

Annual Meeting of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network	Held in Braga in 2024, bringing together more than 350 cities that make up the prestigious network, positioning Braga on the global stage and enabling the sharing of its innovative contributions.	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy	European commitment to climate mitigation and adaptation, energy efficiency, and urban resilience, assumed by the Municipality of Braga in the context of the 2030 Agenda.	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 13 CLIMATE ACTION
NetZeroCities – Missão Cidades UE	Network supported by the European Commission that supports cities in the transition towards climate neutrality by 2050. The Municipality of Braga is part of the Mission Cities learning community.	13 CLIMATE ACTION 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
ICP-AGIR International City Partnerships	Partnership between Braga and Taoyuan (Taiwan), focused on technological innovation, smart cities, circular economy, and sustainable mobility.	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
Tripartite Project Braga–Luanda–Villa María	Project funded by Camões I.P. and SEGIB, involving Luanda (Angola) and Villa María (Argentina). It addresses themes of education for development, global citizenship, civic participation, and South–South cooperation.	4 QUALITY EDUCATION 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
ADELANTE 2 Digital Citizenship for Smart Talent	Partnership with Costa Rica (Costa Rica Institute of Technology) and Santa Fe (Argentina). It promotes digital literacy, social inclusion of vulnerable communities, and capacity-building in digital skills.	4 QUALITY EDUCATION 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



7

ANNEXES

7.1 GRI Content Index

Statement of use The Municipality of Braga reported in accordance with the GRI Standards for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024.
GRI used: GRI 1: Foundation 2021

GRI Standard		Disclosure		Location	
GRI 2	**General Disclosures 2021**	2-1	Organizational details	2.	Identity of Braga
		2-2	Entities included in the organization's sustainability reporting		The report focuses on activities carried out by the Municipality of Braga and also includes detailed information about the activities of municipal companies and affiliated entities, which are part of the structure dedicated to citizen services.
		2-3	Reporting period, frequency and contact point		About this Report
		2-4	Restatements of information		No restatements to report.
		2-5	External assurance		Data have not been subject to independent external verification.
		2-6	Activities, value chain and other business relationships		The activities of the Municipality of Braga cover a wide range of areas, including urban services, environmental management, mobility, and social inclusion. The Municipality's value chain is focused on efficiency and sustainability, from the management of natural resources to the provision of essential services to citizens. Commercial and institutional relationships with various entities, such as municipal companies and local partners, strengthen the Municipality's capacity to implement projects that promote sustainable development. These strategic partnerships are crucial to achieving environmental, economic, and social objectives, ensuring continuous improvement in the quality of life for the Braga community.
		2-7	Employees	3.3.	People Management
		2-8	Workers who are not employees		The Municipality of Braga is characterized by the vast majority of workers having a direct contractual relationship with the Municipality. This approach reflects a commitment to stability and security for its staff, ensuring stable and consistent working conditions. However, there are small exceptions where collaboration with external entities occurs for specialized or specific services, such as temporary projects or technical assignments. These exceptions aim to complement internal capabilities while maintaining a focus on the quality and efficiency of services provided to the community. For municipal companies of Braga performing distinct and specialized activities, external collaborations may be established for specific projects requiring technical skills or additional resources, ensuring efficiency and excellence in service delivery.
		2-9	Governance structure and composition	3.2.	Governance
		2-10	Nomination and selection of the highest governance body		In the Municipality of Braga, according to Portuguese constitutional norms, municipal structures consist of two main bodies: the Municipal Assembly and the Municipal Council. The Municipal Assembly acts as the deliberative body, composed of members elected by direct and universal suffrage, including parish council presidents by right. The Municipal Council functions as the executive body, led by the mayor, who is the top candidate of the most voted list in local elections. The mayor is responsible for appointing the deputy mayor among the elected councilors, assigning various responsibilities, including substitution during the mayor's absence or incapacity.

7.1 GRI Content Index

Statement of use The Municipality of Braga reported in accordance with the GRI Standards for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024.
GRI used: GRI 1: Foundation 2021

GRI Standard	Disclosure		Location
	2-11	Chair of the highest governance body	In the context of the Municipality of Braga, the governance model is structured with two distinct bodies: the Municipal Council and the Municipal Assembly. The Municipal Assembly is recognized as the deliberative body, composed of elected members and parish council presidents by right. On the other hand, the Municipal Council functions as the executive body, led by the mayor, who is the top candidate of the most voted list in the local elections. Thus, when referring to the head of the highest governance body, we refer to the mayor, who is responsible for the executive management of municipal policies and decisions. It is acknowledged, however, that standard 2-11 may not fully apply to the context of municipal governance.
	2-12	Role of the highest governance body in overseeing the management of impacts	The coordination of initiatives and projects with environmental, social, and economic impacts is carried out by municipal directorates, departments, and municipal companies. The Municipal Council of Braga closely supervises these processes, ensuring that specific targets are defined for each department from the outset and that results are evaluated annually through the municipal management report.
	2-13	Delegation of responsibility for managing impacts	The delegation of responsibility for impact management in the Municipality of Braga follows a formalized and structured process (as outlined in the organizational structure of the Municipality of Braga on page 16). Initially, impacts are identified through specific assessments, considering both internal operations and interactions with the community and the environment. Based on this identification, responsibilities for managing each type of impact—environmental, social, economic, or related to service quality—are assigned. These responsible parties are designated within the different areas of the municipal administration, ensuring that each critical aspect is monitored and addressed according to established internal policies and practices. The delegation of responsibility ensures a systematic and effective approach to mitigating and managing impacts arising from municipal activities, thereby promoting sustainable and responsible development.
	2-14	Role of the highest governance body in sustainability reporting	The Mayor of the Municipality of Braga holds the portfolio for sustainability and oversees the coordination of the Sustainable Development Report.
	2-15	Conflicts of interest	Conflict of interest management in the sustainability report is governed by the regulatory code, which establishes clear guidelines for the identification, management, and mitigation of conflicts. The regulatory code defines detailed procedures for the declaration of interests by individuals involved in the preparation of the report, ensuring transparency and impartiality of the presented information.
	2-16	Communication of critical concerns	The Code of Conduct of the Municipality of Braga is the primary policy guiding ethical and responsible behavior of all staff and collaborators. This code sets clear guidelines on ethical conduct, transparency, respect for human and environmental rights, and the proper management of conflicts of interest. In addition, the code defines procedures for communicating critical concerns and investigating reports confidentially and impartially.

7.1 GRI Content Index

Statement of use The Municipality of Braga reported in accordance with the GRI Standards for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024.
GRI used: GRI 1: Foundation 2021

GRI Standard	Disclosure		Location
	2-17	Collective knowledge of the highest governance body	There are several approaches to understanding and applying collective knowledge within the highest governance body. This concept refers to the synthesis and collaborative use of information, experiences, and perspectives from individuals or groups, resulting in insights and solutions that broadly benefit a community or organization. The Municipality of Braga regularly participates in national and international associations related to environmental, social, and economic areas. Participation includes the adoption of decisions, initiatives, and programs that promote development in these domains. In turn, the Municipal Assembly plays a crucial role in overseeing municipal activities, staying informed, and deliberating on the actions of the Municipal Council. This process ensures transparent and accountable governance, aligned with the interests and needs of the Braga community.
	2-18	Evaluation of the performance of the highest governance body	In the Municipality of Braga, members of the main governance body, the municipal executive, are not formally subject to internal evaluations, as they are not part of the municipal staff.
	2-19	Remuneration policies	The remuneration of governance bodies in the Municipality of Braga follows a pay system based on standards established for local public administration. The salaries of locally elected officials are determined based on the gross salary of the President of the Republic, with full-time Municipal Council Presidents and councilors receiving 55% and 80% of the amount assigned to the President of the Republic, respectively. For part-time councilors, the remuneration corresponds to 50% of the salary established for a full-time councilor. This remuneration policy is transparent and publicly accessible on the Municipal Portal.
	2-20	Process to determine remuneration	The remuneration of local elected officials (Mayor, councilors, and municipal deputies) is established by national legislation – the Local Elected Officials Statute (Law No. 29/87, amended by Law No. 49/2019) – and is set annually by Government Ordinance. For municipal employees, salary progression follows the legal framework defined in the General Law on Public Function (LTFP) and is determined through the Integrated System for Performance Management and Evaluation in Public Administration (SIADAP), which evaluates objectives, competencies, and individual performance. Pay scales are uniform across the entire Local Public Administration.
	2-21	Annual total compensation ratio	The salary of the highest-paid individual and the median compensation of other employees are not determined by the municipality itself. The highest-paid individual's salary is regulated by law, as established in Law No. 4/85 of April 9. The remuneration of municipal employees follows the public service pay table, as defined in Decree-Law No. 10-B/2020 of March 20. This information is publicly accessible and available for consultation.
	2-22	Statement on sustainable development strategy	Message from the Mayor 4. Strategic Approach to Sustainability
	2-23	Policy commitments	6. Sustainability Performance Management Approach – Strategic Instruments
	2-24	Embedding policy commitments	6. Sustainability Performance Management Approach – Strategic Instruments

7.1 GRI Content Index

Statement of use The Municipality of Braga reported in accordance with the GRI Standards for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024.
GRI used: GRI 1: Foundation 2021

GRI Standard		Disclosure		Location	
		2-25	Processes to remediate negative impacts	6.5.	Transparency, Ethics, and Anti-Corruption
		2-26	Mechanisms for seeking advice and raising concerns		Single Desk, Citizen Space, Whistleblowing Channel, Municipal Animal Ombudsman.
		2-27	Compliance with laws and regulations	6.5.	Transparency, Ethics, and Anti-Corruption
		2-28	Membership associations	4.4.	Networks and Cooperation Projects; Participation in various national and international networks.
		2-29	Approach to stakeholder engagement	4.2.	Community Engagement and Consultation
		2-30	Collective bargaining agreements		The Collective Labor Agreement No. 27/2021, signed between the Municipality of Braga, the Federation of Public Administration and Public Entities Trade Unions (FESAP), the Union of Public Administration and Public Entities Workers (SINTAP), and the National Union of Professional Firefighters (SNBP), regulates the employment relations of workers affiliated with these unions. This agreement is established under the General Law on Public Function (Law No. 35/2014) and has an initial validity of two years, automatically renewable. It covers approximately 1,640 workers and aims to reconcile personal and professional life while enhancing motivation in job performance.
GRI 3	**Material Topics 2021**	3-1	Process to determine material topics	4.2.	Community Engagement and Consultation Materiality Analysis 2024
		3-2	List of material topics	4.2.	Community Engagement and Consultation 29 topics identified
		3-3	Management of material topics	6.	Sustainability Performance Management Approach
GRI 201	**Economic Performance 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	3.5. 6.14.	Financial Performance Investment Attraction and Economic Dynamism
		201-1	Direct economic value generated and distributed	3.5.1 3.5.2	Municipal Income Statement: revenues €165M, expenses €188M Consolidated results of the municipal group
		201-2	Financial implications and other risks and opportunities due to climate change	6.6.	Climate Action and Energy Transition
		201-3	Defined benefit plan obligations and other retirement plans		Not applicable.
		201-4	Financial assistance received from government		Not applicable.

7.1 GRI Content Index

Statement of use The Municipality of Braga reported in accordance with the GRI Standards for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024.
GRI used: GRI 1: Foundation 2021

GRI Standard		Disclosure		Location	
GRI 202	**Market Presence 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics		Not applicable.
		202-1	Ratios of standard entry level wage by gender compared to local minimum wage		Not applicable.
		202-2	Proportion of senior management hired from the local community		Not applicable.
GRI 203	**Indirect Economic Impacts**	3-3	Management of material topics	6.14.	Investment Attraction and Economic Dynamism
		203-1	Infrastructure investments and services supported	6.	Sustainability Performance Resources and Infrastructure
		203-2	Significant indirect economic impacts	6.14. 6.19. 6.21.	Investment Attraction and Economic Dynamism Sustainable Tourism Promotion of Employability
GRI 204	**Procurement Practices 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	6.15.	Efficient Municipal Services and Administration
		204-1	Proportion of spending on local suppliers	6.15.	Efficient Municipal Services and Administration
GRI 205	**Anti-corruption 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	6.5.	Transparency, Public Ethics, and Anti-Corruption
		205-1	Operations assessed for risks related to corruption	6.5.	Transparency, Public Ethics, and Anti-Corruption
		205-2	Communication and training about anti-corruption policies and procedures	3.3.2 6.5.	Training and Development Program Transparency, Public Ethics, and Anti-Corruption
		205-3	Confirmed incidents of corruption and actions taken	6.5.	Transparency, Public Ethics, and Anti-Corruption
GRI 206	**Anti-competitive Behavior 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics		Not applicable.
		206-1	Legal actions for anti-competitive behavior, anti-trust, and monopoly practices		Not applicable.

7.1 GRI Content Index

Statement of use The Municipality of Braga reported in accordance with the GRI Standards for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024.
GRI used: GRI 1: Foundation 2021

GRI Standard		Disclosure		Location	
GRI 207	**Tax 2019**	3-3	Management of material topics		Not applicable.
		206-1	Legal actions for anti-competitive behavior, anti-trust, and monopoly practices		Not applicable.
		3-3	Management of material topics		Not applicable.
		207-1	Approach to tax		Not applicable.
		207-2	Tax governance, control, and risk management		Not applicable.
		207-3	Stakeholder engagement and management of concerns related to tax		Not applicable.
		207-4	Country-by-country reporting		Not applicable.
GRI 301	**Materials 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	3.4. 6.8.	Energy Resource Management Waste Management and Circular Economy
		301-1	Materials used by weight or volume	3.4.	Energy Resource Management
		301-2	Recycled input materials used		Material recovery through BRAVAL, S.A. and AGERE, E.M.
		301-3	Reclaimed products and their packaging materials		Not applicable.
GRI 302	**Energy 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	3.4. 6.6.	Energy Resource Management Climate Action and Energy Transition
		302-1	Energy consumption within the organization	3.4.	Energy Resource Management
		302-2	Energy consumption outside of the organization	6.6.	Climate Action and Energy Transition
		302-3	Energy intensity	3.4.	Energy Resource Management
		302-4	Reduction of energy consumption	3.4. 6.6.	Energy Resource Management Climate Action and Energy Transition
		302-5	Reductions in energy requirements of products and services		Not applicable.

7.1 GRI Content Index

Statement of use The Municipality of Braga reported in accordance with the GRI Standards for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024.
GRI used: GRI 1: Foundation 2021

GRI Standard		Disclosure		Location	
GRI 303	**Water and Effluents 2018**	3-3	Management of material topics	3.4.2 6.11.	Water Consumption Water Management
		303-1	Interactions with water as a shared resource	6.11.	Water Management
		303-2	Management of water discharge-related impacts	6.11.	Water Management
		303-3	Water withdrawal	6.11.	Water Management
		303-4	Water discharge	6.11.	Water Management
		303-5	Water consumption	3.4.2 6.11.	Water Consumption Water Management
GRI 304	**Biodiversity 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	6.2.	Green Spaces and Biodiversity Protection
		304-1	Operational sites in or adjacent to protected areas	6.2.	Green Spaces and Biodiversity Protection
		304-2	Significant impacts on biodiversity	6.2.	Green Spaces and Biodiversity Protection
		304-3	Habitats protected or restored	6.2.	Green Spaces and Biodiversity Protection
		304-4	IUCN Red List species and conservation list species		Not applicable.
GRI 305	**Emissions 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	6.6.	Climate Action and Energy Transition
		305-1	Direct (Scope 1) GHG emissions	6.6.	Climate Action and Energy Transition
		305-2	Energy indirect (Scope 2) GHG emissions	6.6.	Climate Action and Energy Transition
		305-3	Other indirect (Scope 3) GHG emissions	6.6.	Climate Action and Energy Transition
		305-4	GHG emissions intensity	6.6.	Climate Action and Energy Transition
		305-5	Reduction of GHG emissions	6.6.	Climate Action and Energy Transition
		305-6	Emissions of ozone-depleting substances		Not applicable.
		305-7	Significant air emissions	6.4.	Air Quality and Pollution Control

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Statement of use The Municipality of Braga reported in accordance with the GRI Standards for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024.
GRI used: GRI 1: Foundation 2021

GRI Standard		Disclosure		Location	
GRI 306	**Waste 2020**	3-3	Management of material topics	6.8.	Waste Management and Circular Economy
		306-1	Waste generation and impacts	6.8.	Waste Management and Circular Economy
		306-2	Management of significant waste impacts	6.8.	Waste Management and Circular Economy
		306-3	Waste generated	6.8.	Waste Management and Circular Economy
		306-4	Waste diverted from disposal	6.8.	Waste Management and Circular Economy
		306-5	Waste directed to disposal	6.8.	Waste Management and Circular Economy
GRI 308	**Supplier Environmental Assessment 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics		Not applicable.
		308-1	New suppliers screened using environmental criteria		Not applicable.
		308-2	Negative environmental impacts in the supply chain and actions taken		Not applicable.
GRI 401	**Employment 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		401-1	New employee hires and employee turnover	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		401-2	Benefits provided to full-time employees	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		401-3	Parental leave	3.3.	Human Resources Management
GRI 402	**Labor/Management Relations 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		402-1	Minimum notice periods regarding operational changes		Labor legislation compliance

7.1 GRI Content Index

Statement of use The Municipality of Braga reported in accordance with the GRI Standards for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024.
GRI used: GRI 1: Foundation 2021

GRI Standard		Disclosure		Location	
GRI 403	**Occupational Health and Safety 2018**	3-3	Management of material topics	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		403-1	Occupational health and safety management system	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		403-2	Hazard identification, risk assessment, and incident investigation	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		403-3	Occupational health services	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		403-4	Worker participation, consultation, and communication	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		403-5	Worker training on occupational health and safety	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		403-6	Promotion of worker health	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		403-7	Prevention and mitigation of OH&S impacts	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		403-8	Workers covered by an OH&S management system	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		403-9	Work-related injuries	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		403-10	Work-related ill health	3.3.	Human Resources Management
GRI 404	**Training and Education 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		404-1	Average hours of training per year per employee	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		404-2	Programs for upgrading skills	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		404-3	Employees receiving performance and career development reviews	3.3.	Human Resources Management
GRI 405	**Diversity and Equal Opportunity 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		405-1	Diversity of governance bodies and employees	3.3.	Human Resources Management
		405-2	Ratio of salary and remuneration of women to men	3.3.	Human Resources Management
GRI 406	**Non-discrimination 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	6.5.	Transparency, Public Ethics, and Anti-Corruption
		406-1	Incidents of discrimination and corrective actions taken	6.5.	Transparency, Public Ethics, and Anti-Corruption
GRI 407	**Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics		Right to association guaranteed; union representation
		407-1	Risk to freedom of association		No risks identified; labor legislation compliance

7.1 GRI Content Index

Statement of use The Municipality of Braga reported in accordance with the GRI Standards for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2024.
GRI used: GRI 1: Foundation 2021

GRI Standard		Disclosure		Location	
GRI 408	**Child Labor 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics		Compliance with child protection legislation
		408-1	Child labor risk		No risks identified
GRI 409	**Forced or Compulsory Labor 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics		Compliance with fundamental labor rights
		409-1	Forced or compulsory labor risk		No risks identified
GRI 410	**Security Practices 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	6.17.	Protection, Rescue, and Safety
		410-1	Security personnel trained	6.17.	Protection, Rescue, and Safety
GRI 411	**Rights of Indigenous Peoples 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics		Not applicable.
		411-1	Incidents involving indigenous peoples		Not applicable.
GRI 413	**Local Communities 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	6.	Sustainability Performance
		413-1	Community engagement and impact assessments		The Municipality focuses most of its operations on the development of the local community. The report highlights numerous programs and projects addressing stakeholders' needs, with active community participation. This participation occurs regularly through municipal-promoted activities as well as discussion forums and advisory groups for policy and municipal plan evaluation. Continuous communication channels also allow the community to clarify questions about the city and municipality, as well as to submit complaints when necessary.
		413-2	Negative impacts on local communities		The Municipality manages various operations that can have significant positive and negative impacts on local communities. These operations range from urban development projects to infrastructure and public service initiatives. The Municipality continuously evaluates potential adverse impacts of these operations, ensuring mitigating measures are implemented when necessary. Community participation is essential in this process, through public consultations, discussion forums, and other mechanisms allowing stakeholders to raise concerns and suggest improvements for the common good.
GRI 414	**Supplier Social Assessment 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics		Municipal Services and Administration Social criteria in procurement.
		414-1	New suppliers screened using social criteria		Supplier Qualification System; social criteria in tender specifications
		414-2	Negative social impacts in supply chain and actions taken		Quarterly monitoring; corrective actions when non-conformities exist

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GRI used: GRI 1: Foundation 2021

GRI Standard		Disclosure		Location	
GRI 415	**Public Policy 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics		Not applicable.
		415-1	Political contributions		Not applicable.
GRI 416	**Customer Health and Safety 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	6.7.	Health and Well-Being
		416-1	Health and safety impacts of products/services		Not applicable.
		416-2	Non-compliance relating to health and safety		Not applicable.
GRI 417	**Marketing and Labeling 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics		Not applicable.
		417-1	Information and labeling requirements		Not applicable.
		417-2	Non-compliance: information and labeling		Not applicable.
		417-3	Non-compliance: marketing communications		Not applicable.
GRI 418	**Customer Privacy 2016**	3-3	Management of material topics	6.26.	Information Security and Data Protection
		418-1	Complaints concerning breaches of customer privacy		Not applicable.

BRAGA

SOUNDS LIKE A COMMON FUTURE.

Municipality of Braga
Sustainability Report 2024

OPINION

Your opinion is important to us. We kindly ask you to complete the feedback questionnaire for this Report on the Braga Municipality website or send it to the institutional email address:

braga.pt

sustentabilidade@cm-braga.pt

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