



ГРАД ТЕСЛИЋ  
GRAD TESLIĆ

## City of Teslić – Profile of Municipality

The City of Teslić is a medium-sized municipality located in central Bosnia and Herzegovina, covering an area of approximately 846 km<sup>2</sup> with a population of around 38,000 inhabitants. Its territorial structure is characterized by a combination of a compact urban core—home to roughly 8,000 residents—and a widely dispersed network of rural and peri-urban settlements. This spatial configuration creates specific development challenges, particularly in ensuring equal access to public services, efficient mobility, and inclusive governance across the entire municipality.

Teslić faces a strong reliance on private car use due to this dispersion, contributing to traffic congestion, air and noise pollution, and increased pressure on urban infrastructure. At the same time, the city is increasingly experiencing climate-related challenges, including rising temperatures, urban heat effects, and issues linked to energy poverty and housing conditions.

In response, Teslić has established a solid strategic framework for sustainable development. As a signatory of the Covenant of Mayors, the municipality has adopted a Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP), which identifies key priorities such as reducing transport-related emissions, improving energy efficiency, and strengthening climate resilience. Alongside this, the city has developed a Digital Transformation Roadmap and broader development strategies that emphasize sustainability, innovation, and long-term resilience.

A notable strength of Teslić lies in its growing focus on participatory governance. Through collaboration with international partners, the city has introduced mechanisms such as a Local Dialogue Platform and digital tools for citizen engagement, enabling more direct involvement of residents—particularly youth and civil society—in decision-making processes.

Overall, Teslić represents a transition-context municipality that is actively working to bridge structural limitations—such as limited administrative capacities and fragmented systems—by adopting integrated, inclusive, and forward-looking approaches. It is particularly motivated to test practical solutions, strengthen institutional capacities, and engage in transnational knowledge exchange to support its shift toward sustainable, climate-resilient, and citizen-oriented urban development.

### City of Teslić's Thematic Areas of Interest for URBACT Action Networks

#### 1. Sustainable Mobility & Behavioural Change

Teslić is seeking to advance from isolated mobility measures toward a **systemic, behaviour-oriented sustainable mobility framework**.

Key priorities include:

- Integrating **mobility education** into schools and community programmes
- Promoting **active mobility** (cycling, walking) and improving related infrastructure
- Supporting the **transition to electromobility** and cleaner transport solutions
- Encouraging long-term **behavioural change** through awareness, incentives, and data-driven approaches



- Strengthening **public transport usage** in a context of high car dependency

The city is particularly interested in methodologies for **engaging youth and local communities** in shaping sustainable mobility habits.

## 2. Urban Environment: Congestion, Air Quality & Noise Reduction

Building on its SECAP, Teslić aims to develop a **comprehensive approach to reducing environmental pressures from transport**.

Focus areas:

- Integrated solutions to **traffic congestion, air pollution, and noise**
- Scaling up **traffic management interventions** and urban livability measures
- Increasing the share of **sustainable transport modes**
- Linking mobility policies with **public health and quality of life outcomes**

The city seeks practical tools and policies that enable **long-term modal shift** in small and medium-sized, territorially dispersed municipalities.

## 3. Climate Governance & Participatory Decision-Making

Teslić is working to extend its existing participatory practices into **climate governance and policy co-creation**, building upon existing participatory mechanisms in other areas.

Key ambitions:

- Strengthening **inclusive, participatory climate planning processes**
- Expanding existing mechanisms (e.g. local dialogue platforms) with formats such as:
  - Citizens' assemblies
  - Community-based climate forums
- Improving engagement of **underrepresented and vulnerable groups**
- Translating strategic climate commitments into **locally understood and supported actions**

The city is particularly interested in approaches that combine **democratic innovation with climate action implementation**.

## 4. Inclusive Urban Development & Prototyping

Teslić aims to foster **small-scale, visible, and participatory urban interventions** that improve everyday quality of life.

Priority directions:

- Prototyping **inclusive public spaces and services**
- Developing **urban micro-interventions** and behavioural “nudges”



- Promoting **co-creation of public space** with citizens
- Testing concepts such as:
  - Circular economy-focused “urban hubs”
  - Interactive public infrastructure for citizen input
- Ensuring accessibility and inclusion (e.g. inclusive playgrounds)

The city is interested in methods to **scale pilot actions into long-term policies**, especially under resource constraints.

## 5. Climate Adaptation & Urban Resilience (Heat & Energy Poverty)

Teslić is exploring **cost-effective and inclusive climate adaptation solutions**, with a strong social dimension.

Core interests:

- Addressing the **urban heat island effect**
- Tackling **energy poverty and thermal discomfort**, especially among vulnerable groups
- Transforming public buildings into:
  - **Climate shelters**
  - **Multifunctional resilience hubs**
- Integrating **nature-based solutions** and community-oriented services

The city seeks to connect **spatial interventions with social inclusion and public health outcomes**.

## 6. Digital Transformation & AI-Enabled Governance

Teslić is at an early but strategic stage of **digital transformation**, with a focus on inclusivity and service accessibility.

Key priorities:

- Exploring **AI applications in local governance**, including:
  - Chatbots-based citizen services
  - Predictive analytics and planning tools
- Improving **service delivery in rural and peri-urban areas**
- Enhancing **citizen communication and participation through digital tools**
- Ensuring **ethical, transparent, and inclusive AI deployment**

The city is particularly interested in **adaptable solutions for medium-sized municipalities with limited capacities**.



## 7. Data-Driven Governance & Integrated Urban Systems

Teslić aims to transition toward **evidence-based decision-making through improved data systems**.

Focus areas:

- Developing a **centralized municipal data platform**
- Improving **data integration and interoperability across departments**
- Applying **GIS-based solutions, digital twins, and smart city tools** in:
  - Urban planning
  - Mobility management
  - Energy transition
- Supporting implementation of **smart infrastructure solutions** (e.g. lighting, traffic systems)

The city seeks practical models for building **scalable, transparent, and interoperable data ecosystems**.

### Cross-Cutting Priorities

Across all thematic areas, Teslić emphasizes:

- **Inclusion of rural and peri-urban communities**
- **Capacity building for small and medium-sized cities**
- **Participatory governance and co-creation**
- **Practical, transferable, and scalable solutions**
- Alignment with **SECAP and long-term development strategies**, as well as with international commitments, i.e. **UN SDGs**