

# MENERGERS

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 Romania Final Conference

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 Bucharest, Hilton Garden Inn Centrul Vechi





## Department "Municipal Energy Manager" - The Bulgarian experience, Municipality of Ruse

Zhivodar Georgiev – Member of the Energy Team of the "Municipal Energy Manager" Service

Kaloyan Dechev – Member of the Energy Team of the "Municipal Energy Manager" Service

Blagovesta Blazheva – Member of the Energy Team of the "Municipal Energy Manager" Service



# Municipality of Ruse

## ■ About the city/Municipality of Ruse

- Ruse is a regional center located in a strategic location, preserving memories of history for over 20 centuries.
- Ruse is the largest Bulgarian city on the Danube River and the most significant transport, logistics, business, and cultural center in Northern Bulgaria.
- Our team of young, energetic, and well-trained professionals is ready to support any endeavor interesting to people wanting to do business in Ruse!



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# Municipality of Ruse



## Objectives of the Department "Municipal Energy Manager" (MEM) (for the specific Municipality of Ruse)

### Examples:

- *The need for changes in the municipality in energy management to reduce energy consumption and environmental impact.*
- *Covering as many municipal properties as possible to optimize energy consumption.*
- *Representatives from kindergartens and schools, with the help of the newly formed team, can properly track and optimize their expenses in real-time.*
- *Establishing a team/structure within the municipal administration with the functions of an Energy Manager facilitates their work.*
- *Our team will seek opportunities and funding from the municipal budget or through EU financial instruments to renew and/or issue new Energy Efficiency (EE) certificates, summaries, and technical passports for schools, kindergartens, and buildings for the needs of Ruse Municipality.*

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# Municipality of Ruse



## ■ Organizational structure of the Department "Municipal Energy Manager" (MEM)

The energy management team in Ruse Municipality consists of three members:

Zhivodar Georgiev – Senior Expert in the Directorate "Economy, Investments, International Cooperation and Projects,,

Kaloyan Dechev – Chief Inspector in the Department of "Infrastructure and Investor Control,,

Blagovesta Blazheva – Accountant in the Department of "Financial Management,,

At the beginning of their activities, the MEM team of Ruse Municipality quickly organized and explained to organizations with delegated budgets that use public buildings to provide monthly data in a tabular format on their energy consumption. Mayors of settlements and directors of municipal enterprises also provide their information on time. The accountant processes the data from the invoices of kindergartens and schools and provides it to the expert from the "Economy, Investments, International Cooperation and Projects" (EIICP) directorate to upload it into software that tracks real-time monthly consumption. Additionally, the team seeks opportunities for funding through European programs to implement energy efficiency measures in public and residential buildings. Through his expert input, Mr. Dechev helps his colleagues understand how to distribute energy certificates and reports for public municipal buildings into the EnEffect platform. He also checks invoices from small settlements for energy consumption.

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# Municipality of Ruse

## ■ Scope of the MEM Service

Objects under management include:

- Schools
- Kindergartens
- Street lighting
- School dormitories
- Social housing for people in poor financial conditions

By the end of 2024, after the issuance of energy efficiency certificates and technical passports for eight buildings managed by the municipal administration, these buildings will also be included within the scope of the MEM Service.



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# Municipality of Ruse



## Team Functions and Duties

### Functions and Responsibilities of the Team

- Participation in training, meetings, and conferences
- Preparation of orders to secondary budget holders within the Ruse Municipality to provide invoice data to the MEM team
- Reference checks in national documents for MEM to ensure alignment with municipal goals

### Additional responsibilities of the experts in Ruse Municipality:

Kaloyan Dechev – Currently preparing and coordinating technical documentation for various objects in the electrical sector, given the start of the new program period 2021-2027, as well as national budget financing. He monitors the municipality's progress after signing the ESCO contract and the introduction of LED street lighting.

Zhivodar Georgiev – Expert responsible for international relations of Ruse Municipality with twin cities and embassies of European and Asian countries in Bulgaria. He also handles the economic development of Ruse and maintains relations with local businesses.

Blagovesta Blazheva – Manages various invoices, verifies payments under civil contracts, and processes travel expenses, among other tasks.

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# Municipality of Ruse



## ■ What challenges (difficulties) do they face?

The main challenges facing the team include the need to issue energy efficiency certificates and technical passports for 35% of the buildings in Ruse and the surrounding small settlements, while the remaining 65% require updating these documents.

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# Municipality of Ruse



## ■ Personal motivation for working in the MEM Department?

Our motivation is to ensure that all buildings under the management of Ruse Municipality, in any form, have an Energy Efficiency (EE) report summary and a Technical Passport (TP). This documentation will enable us to apply for building renovations.

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# Municipality of Ruse

■ What does the Department/experts need to be effective?



<b>Training and Qualification</b>	<b>Annual training and certification in energy efficiency.</b>
<b>Technical Means:</b>	No additional needs reported.
<b>Financial Resources for Accompanying Activities (e.g., travel expenses):</b>	No additional needs reported.
<b>Opportunities for Experience Exchange:</b>	Participation in online seminars and on-site training.
<b>Additional Personal Incentives:</b>	Our team's motivation, as well as that of the expert energy managers, is to ensure that all buildings under Ruse Municipality's management have an EE report summary and TP to allow for the application for building renovation projects.
<b>Other</b>	No additional needs reported.

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# The MENERGERS impact in The Municipality of Ruse



What local activities were generated through the MENERGERS project?



How did the city change, due to the MENERGERS project?

What impact did the project have on you or your team's professional abilities?



How will your efforts continue to support Municipal Energy Management?

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# The MENERGERS impact in The Municipality of Ruse



**Increased awareness among the leadership of Ruse Municipality, directors, and experts regarding the role of the "energy manager."**

Enthusiasm among school and kindergarten directors to receive additional assistance from the municipality in reviewing and optimizing their energy, electricity, water, and heating expenses.



**Shifts in the mindset of Ruse's citizens toward "smart" energy consumption.**

Our motivation is to ensure that all buildings under the management of Ruse Municipality have an EE report summary and TP to apply for building renovations.



**Investments in green energy: We will focus on expanding renewable energy sources like solar panels, wind turbines, and biomass, reducing dependency on fossil fuels.**

Improvement in energy efficiency: Through upgrading the existing infrastructure in municipal buildings and street lighting, we will reduce energy losses and optimize consumption.

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**MORE INFO**

Sincerely,  
**Zhivodar Georgiev**  
**Kaloyan Dechev**  
**Blagovesta Blazheva**  
*Ruse Municipality*

For more information about Ruse, you can visit  
the following websites:

<https://investinruse.com/>

<https://obshtinaruse.bg/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ruse.municipality>

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