



Network
Nature

Greening Cities Initiatives in the EU and other countries

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INTERACTIONS BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE, NATURE AND PEOPLE

Climate change is a threat to nature

Global warming of 1.1°C has already caused dangerous and widespread disruption to ecosystems and species, including from worsening extreme events and sea-level rise

CO₂ CO₂ CO₂



NATURE

CLIMATE CHANGE

Nature loss amplifies global warming

Ecosystem conversion, such as deforestation, releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere

Nature is a powerful ally in the fight against climate change

Land and ocean ecosystems can act as carbon sinks, which helps regulate the climate and slow down global warming

People must safeguard and restore nature

30% to 50% of Earth's land, freshwater, and ocean areas must be conserved to maintain biodiversity and ecosystem services on a global scale

Climate change affects people

Melting ice, rising sea levels, worsening extreme weather events and decreased food security are some of the impacts and future risks

Human activities drive nature loss

Humans drive climate change-related environmental changes and modify natural habitat for food production

PEOPLE

Global warming is caused by burning fossil fuels, destroying nature and unsustainable food systems

Rapid, deep and sustained cuts to greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors are needed

CO₂ CO₂ N₂O N₂O CH₄ CO



Compromising nature compromises people

When nature is intact, it can provide more ecosystem services such as carbon storage, climate regulation, and enhanced resilience to climate hazards

Based on the reports from the IPCC Sixth Assessment Cycle and the IPBES Global Assessment

Nature-based solutions & urban green infrastructure

*“Solutions that are inspired and supported by nature, which are **cost-effective**, simultaneously provide **environmental, social and economic benefits** and help **build resilience** [...] more **diverse features** [...] and **systemic interventions**. Nature-based solutions **must therefore benefit biodiversity** and support ecosystem services.” (EC, 2015).*

*“A **strategically planned network of natural and semi-natural areas designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services** such as water purification, climate mitigation and adaptation” (EC, 2016)*



Combine green-grey / **multi-functional use** of space



Ensure **connectivity** of blue-green spaces

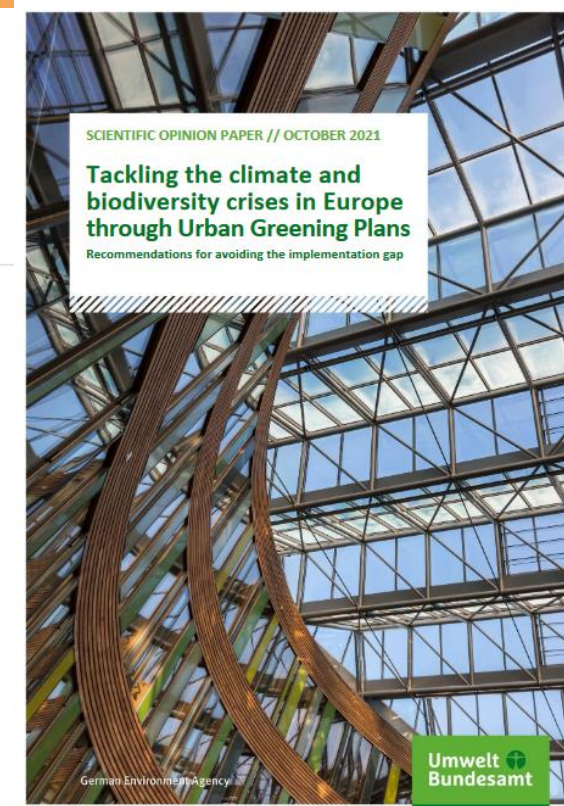


Biodiversity-positive design & management of green spaces

EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030: Urban Greening Plans



*European cities of at least 20,000 inhabitants to develop ambitious **Urban Greening Plans** by the end of 2021. These should **include measures to create biodiverse and accessible urban forests, parks and gardens; urban farms; green roofs and walls; tree-lined streets; urban meadows; and urban hedges.** They should also help improve connections between green spaces, eliminate the use of pesticides, limit excessive mowing of urban green spaces and other biodiversity harmful practices.*



Urban Greening Plans Guidance & Toolkit

- Support cities in the implementation of the Urban Greening Plans
- Structured around the phases and steps
- Tools ranging from EU level data to citizen-led initiatives
- Each tool includes an overview, 'how to use' and 'alternatives'

What does the EU Nature Restoration Law mean for cities?

Urban Greening Targets:

- No net loss of urban green spaces and tree canopy cover in every EU city, town and suburb by 2030;
- Increase in the total national area of urban green space by at least 3% of total area of cities, towns and suburbs by 2040 (compared with 2021), and 5% by 2050
- Net gain of urban green space integrated into existing and new building stock and infrastructure development (this includes renovations and renewals) by 2050;
- Minimum of 10% tree canopy cover in every EU city, town and suburb by 2050.

National Restoration Plans:

- identification & quantification of restoration areas, status quo, planned measures (timinig, monitoring mechanisms), finance needs
- Formalised governance and engagement mechanisms (design plans, monitoring and reporting)



<https://networknature.eu/proposed-eu-nature-restoration-law-key-green-future>

Vitoria-Gasteiz Green Belt – Green Infrastructure

Translating the NBS approach to the city

The urban green network of Vitoria-Gasteiz is made up of 445 hectares of urban green areas - with more than 115,000 trees - and 827 hectares of periurban green areas (Green Belt).



Solution to the periphery spaces, affected by **problems** of urban-industrial areas.

Promote **conservation** of **biodiversity**

Offer **outdoor leisure spaces**

Create an **educational and visitor centre**

Contain the urban growth of the city.





Improving
aesthetic values

Daily city-
nature
connection

Thermal
regulation

Reduction of urban heat
island effect

Safe and
accessible

High
biodiversity

Sports and leisure

Increasing the
carbon sink effect

Contemplation and spiritual
well-being

After the remodelling and ecological and landscape improvements carried out, Zabalgana Park is currently a forest of high natural value, right beside the Zabalgana Neighbourhood.



Reducing environmental pollution and noise

Improving the quality of the landscape

Increasing ecological connectivity and biodiversity

Increasing the carbon sink effect

Reduction in urban management costs

Several wide medians have been worked on to transform them into **urban green corridors**. To this end, small mounds of earth have been created, forming a wavy topography, and on them large trees and shrubs with colorful flowers have been planted.

NATURALIZATION OF ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

Lakua district, Vitoria-Gasteiz

46

Horizon 2020
& Horizon Europe
PROJECTS

923 PARTNERS

66 COUNTRIES

EUR 441M



NBS IN CITIES

CLIMATE AND WATER RESILIENCE

Connecting Nature
Grow Green

Urban GreenUP
UNaLab

INCLUSIVE URBAN REGENERATION

CLEVER Cities
EdiCiNet

ProGReg
URBINAT

INTERNATIONAL RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION OF URBAN ECOSYSTEMS

EU-CHINA:
CLEARING HOUSE
REGREEN

EU-CELAC:
CONEXUS
INTERLACE

IMPROVE WELL-BEING AND HEALTH

EUPOLIS
GO GREEN ROUTES

IN-HABIT
VARCITIES

NEW NBS GOVERNANCE, BUSINESS, FINANCING MODELS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT TOOLS

NATURVATION
NATURE4CITIES

WATER SECURITY

MULTISOURCE
NICE

CARBON NEUTRAL CITIES AND IMPROVED AIR QUALITY

DivAirCity
JUSTNature

Upsurge

NBS BEYOND CITIES

HYDRO-METEOROLOGICAL RISK REDUCTION

OPERANDUM
PHUSICOS

RECONNECT

ECONOMICS AND INSURANCE VALUE OF NBS

NAIAD
Invest4Nature

Naturance

INTER-RELATIONS BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE, BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

DRYvER
FutureMARES

MaCoBioS
PONDERFUL

NBS MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE PLATFORM

Think Nature
NetworkNature

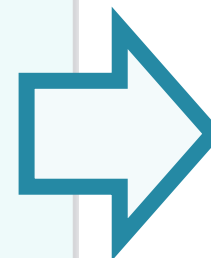
PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF ECOSYSTEMS

AMBER
MERCES
MERLIN
REST-COAST
SUPERB
WaterLANDS

Natura-Connect
EcoAdvance
MarinePlan
Marine SABRES
MSP4BIO

EUROPEAN BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP - BIODIVERSA+

The partnership will promote and support design and implementation of NBS



Consolidate, support and expand community of practice

Upscale the use of NbS across science, business, policy and practice

networknature.eu

- **370+ resources on nature-based solutions**
- **430+ case studies on nature-based solutions**



NbS Hubs in EU Member States

Why?

- Create **long-lasting structures for NBS uptake** and mainstreaming;
- **Foster capacity building and knowledge exchange**, based on specific opportunities and challenges in hub regions
- **Build relationships** between national/regional/local partners; and **new partnerships for action**
- Create **nuanced understanding of benefits and risks** of NbS across climatic, geographic, ecological, political and economic contexts.



9 active regional NBS hubs building and sharing **knowledge on nature-based solutions**, in local languages, for local collective action.



Flanders Hub, Genk, Belgium

Southeastern Europe

Spanish Hub, A Coruna

Scottish Hub, Glasgow

Caucasus Hub

- Brazil
- Korea
- China
- Latin America



NetworkNature Nordic Hub



Starting Point and First Focus

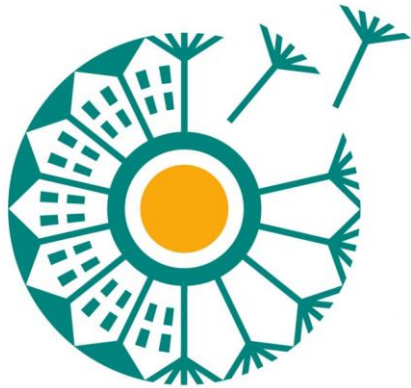
- Building on momentum from research projects sponsored by the Nordic Council of Ministers in all 8 Nordic countries
- Focus on removing barriers for local politicians and administrations to implement NBS - coastal, forest, water, land, city, and Arctic

**Launched In October 2022 in
Copenhagen!**

Core partners and Stakeholders

- Nordic Council of Ministers Nature-based solutions programme
- Umhvørvisstovan, Environment Agency Faroe Islands
- Norwegian Institute for Water Research (NIVA)
- Aarhus University
- NordGen
- Nordic Working Group for Biological Diversity (NBM)

Hungarian Network for Nature-based Solutions Természet-Alapú Megoldások Magyarországi Hálózata



**TEAM
HUB.**

Starting Point and First Focus

- Building on momentum from a project with DG Reform/OECD about barriers and opportunities
- Focus on urban regeneration and blue and green infrastructure
- Stimulating dialogue and cooperation between governmental, municipal, professional and civil actors for the widespread practice of nature-based solutions
- Address NBS related knowledge gaps
- Encourage EU-wide cooperation and best practices

**Launched In October 2022 in
Budapest!**

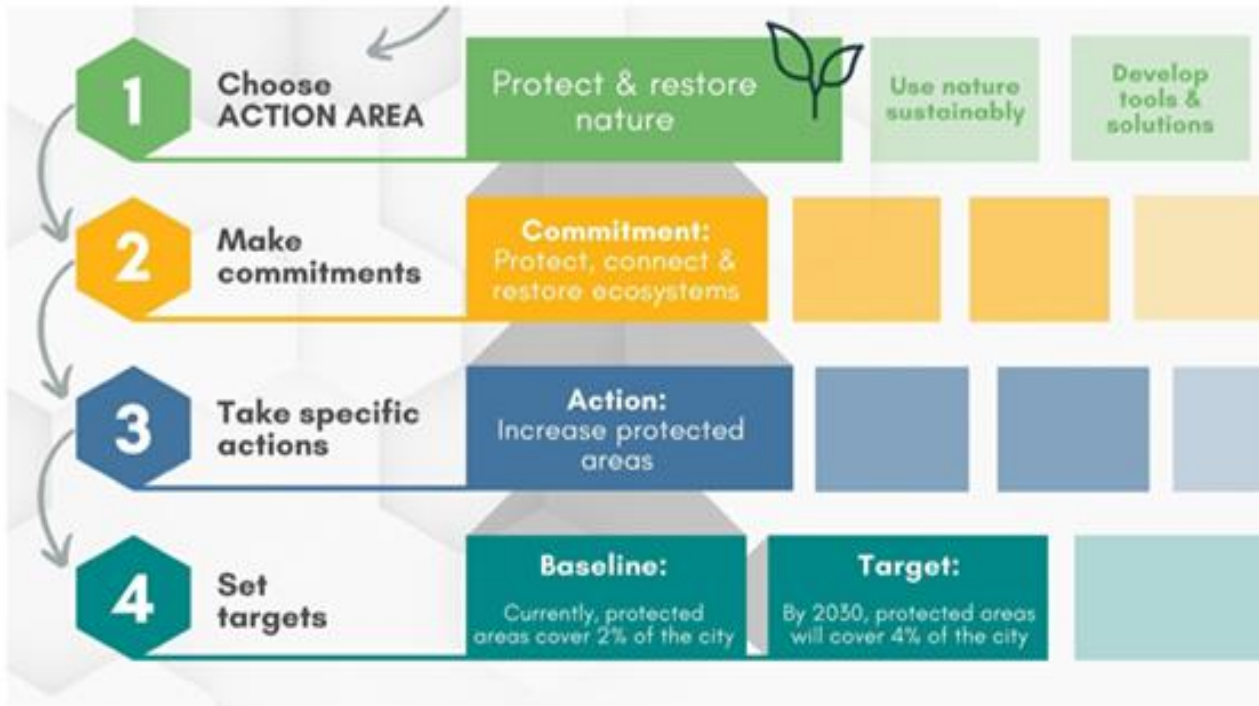
Core partners and Stakeholders

- BURST - Bright Urban Solutions Team
- Association of Climate Friendly Municipalities
- Grants Europe Consulting
- HBH Strategy and Development
- Ministry of Interior - Coordination Office for Local Governments
- Lechner Knowledge Centre
- Ministry for Innovation and Technology



RegionsWithNature

Aligned to post-GBF 2030 Action Targets



CitiesWithNature and RegionsWithNature a **global interactive platform** for cities and regions to exchange, report on and showcase their biodiversity actions

Officially recognized by SCBD as city and regions biodiversity commitment platform towards post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

250+ signatories from 65 countries

350+ tools and resources



Glasgow City Council

Glasgow, City of, United Kingdom

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<https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/>

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About

Overview

Journey

Actions

About Glasgow City Council

City Profile

The landform and geology of Glasgow has shaped the natural habitats that are present today. A broad and shallow valley is a central feature of the city. As it flows west towards the sea, its extensive river corridors form the framework of Glasgow's rich network of wetlands, which The name Glasgow comes from the Gaelic word 'Glaschu' meaning "Dear Green Place" and has its moniker with over 90 parks and gardens. At 32%, Glasgow, Scotland's largest conurbation, has a proportion of green space for its residents of any European city.



Susan Aitken, Mayor of Glasgow City Council

Head of Government

"Becoming a member of the Cities with Nature Group means we learn from our partners on how we can best use nature-based solutions in our city not only environmentally, but economically and socially. "Given the impact of climate change, it is vital that we use these solutions against this impact, and foster nature where we can to improve the quality of life."



Glasgow City Council

7 months ago



Glasgow City Council has made a **Commitment to Increase equitable and inclusive access to nature to enhance people's health and wellbeing.**



1



0 Comments



Like



Comment



Share



Glasgow City Council

7 months ago



Glasgow City Council has made a **Commitment to Promote inclusive monitoring, evaluation and learning.**



1



0 Comments



Like



Comment



Share



UrbanByNature

UrbanByNature is a facilitated knowledge-sharing and capacity-building programme on nature-based solutions,

- For cities, researchers, SMEs and NGOs to build bridges with the Nature-Based Solutions communities across Europe, Asia, Latin America, and other interested regions.
- Support integration of NBS in national, regional and local communities



1000+ registrants
+100 countries
+70 published videos
(10,000 clicks)

<http://urbanbynature.eu/>



→ [Networknature.eu](https://networknature.eu)

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🐦 [NetworkNatureEU](https://twitter.com/NetworkNatureEU)

🌐 [NetworkNature](https://www.linkedin.com/company/networknature)

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Network Nature

Pooling resources for the nature-based solutions community



What **commitments** can you choose from?

ACTION AREA: PROTECT AND RESTORE NATURE

- Protect, connect and restore ecosystems
- Conserve and restore fauna and flora
- Manage invasive alien species
- Control pollution
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation

ACTION AREA: USE NATURE SUSTAINABLY

- Equitable benefits through sustainable use of wild species
- Biodiversity in urban agriculture, -aquaculture and -forestry
- Promote people's access to green and blue spaces

ACTION AREA: DEVELOP TOOLS AND SOLUTIONS

- Mainstreaming biodiversity values
- Sustainable production and consumption
- Mobilize resources for biodiversity actions
- Use relevant knowledge, including traditional knowledge, for effective biodiversity management
- Equitable and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in biodiversity-related decision-making