

A photograph of a community garden with several raised wooden beds filled with green plants. In the background, a large brick building with many windows is visible. A group of people, some wearing lanyards, are walking through the garden. The scene is set outdoors with trees and a clear sky.

# URBACT GreenPlace Let's do it Together! BASELINE STUDY

December 2023

## UBRACT GreenPlace. Let's do it Together! Roadmap

December 2023

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This Baseline Study serves as the basis of the work of the GreenPlace network over 2 years, 2024-2025, it is composed of the following parts:

1. **Unused, abandoned and forgotten places and buildings:** grounds the rationale for such an action, the EU framework for acting, existing approaches to solutions, as well as inspiring examples.
2. **The partners of the GreenPlace network:** presents the contexts, profiles and challenges of the partners of the network, together with what they wish to focus on
3. **Planning ahead:** presents a summary of the city profiles, the methodology for the work under GreenPlace and the timeline and roadmap to implement this work:
4. **The annexes:** present crucial information serving as the basis for the methodology of the network

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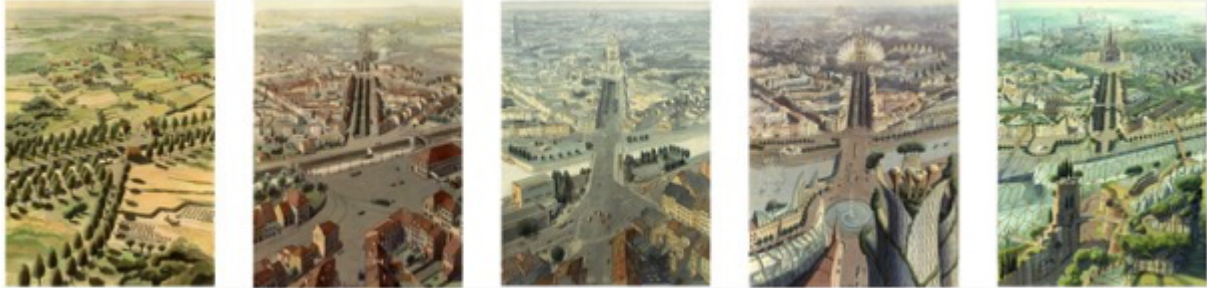
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# FOREWORD



Luc Schuiten, Belgian architect, claims that in 2100 “*sustainable development will have become a pleonasm*”. Starting from the past of cities, he seeks to update the permanent elements of the human organisations which go through history, in particular, urban frameworks which densify or de-densify. Based on the analysis of past changes he tests hypotheses of the future urban landscapes.

*Laeken 1800- 2200, La Cité végétale, Luc Schuiten*



His future cities (up to the year 2200) all encompass new living and working habits, mobility and organisation of human relations and interfaces. These lead to the need for deep green development of the city. Local authorities play a role in this transformative change, notably by working on infrastructure: abandoned buildings and spaces returning to green spaces, becoming part of the urban net, enabling a pedestrian connexion and infrastructure from one neighbourhood to the other. Notwithstanding the climate benefit of such measures. Streets and parks are places for playful, physical and artistic activities: public space becomes a place for creativity, learning and exchange. Specific fauna and flora adapted to microclimates develop.

He concludes by stating that “*Change will happen anyway because it is impossible to continue this path. It will happen despite us or thanks to us. We must choose!*».

In this light, the URBACT GreenPlace network has decided to act to address the issue of unused, abandoned and forgotten places with green revitalisation and regeneration, involving the local community.

# 1 UNUSED, ABANDONED AND FORGOTTEN PLACES AND BUILDINGS



The evolution of urban space has been exponential in the last decades, land usage has been prone to competition for activities making its utility obsolete, economic and social transformation processes in Europe have led to the [abandonment of many buildings and spaces](#). Former industrial or rail infrastructures, factories, construction sites, slaughterhouses, large health and social care facilities, shopping centres, offices or incomplete buildings city centres, parks and greenfields - a variety of buildings and spaces have lost their original functions and are being left unused, abandoned and/or forgotten.

The [potential](#) of these areas has risen in increasingly densified cities not only for land use such as to maximise existing land and infrastructure, but also for artistic purposes and citizen appropriation, looking at urban space differently, designing trendy spots to go out or shop, empowering local communities and bringing neighbourhoods back to life, but also to develop and experiment green solutions to reduce cities' climate impact - to experiment and incubate the city of tomorrow.

*La Friche Gourmande in Lille, France ([UIA TAST'in FIVES](#))*



## 1.1 Scoping the challenge

### 1.1.1 What are we talking about?

Getting the data about the share or number of unused, abandoned or forgotten spaces and buildings for individual countries or the overall EU is difficult: the situation is changing constantly, spaces and buildings might not be registered as actual unused, there is no single definition or unused/forgotten/abandoned...

It somehow “easier” to account for “vacant” spaces even if [no single definition](#) exist either. An [article from the Guardian](#) in 2014 acclaimed a figure of 11 million empty homes in Europe. In the [Region of Brussels Capital](#), Belgium, 7.7 % of offices were vacant in 2020 (i.e. 978.424 m<sup>2</sup> over 12.701.973 m<sup>2</sup>). A [study from 2022](#) indicated that the number of vacant dwellings was available for some countries only, amongst which :

- Malta, Japan, Cyprus and Hungary with the largest share of vacant dwellings, at over 12%;
- Iceland, Switzerland and United Kingdom with the lowest at less than 3%.

In addition, the study showed that the share of vacant dwellings was larger in rural areas, compared to urban areas, in all countries except Portugal.

Qualitative data on unused, forgotten and abandoned places and buildings does exist though, especially when referring to specific cases, mostly collected by amateur architects and urbanists or

tourist guides, such as for example the following websites: [European Best Destination](#), [Uniplaces](#), [Dom](#), [European CEO](#), or [WebUrbanist](#).

*Examples of abandoned places in Liguria - Italy, Gabrovo - Bulgaria, Istanbul - Turkey, and Famagusta - Cyprus (from [European Best Destination](#))*



These buildings and sites can be abandoned or unused for a variety of reasons:

- radical changes, conditioned by historical or economic events;
- negative connotation linked to the place;
- evolutionarily over longer time intervals;
- the place if becoming derelict;
- social changes, which usually accompany historical and economic changes, complete the set of main factors changing the face of the city;
- people migrating from rural areas to cities and people using more residential space per capita (e.g. larger houses, fewer people per family);
- low price of undeveloped greenfield land compared with the high cost of redeveloping land (e.g. regeneration of brownfields); or,
- too expensive to maintain.

*Zeltini Former Military Missile Base, Aluksne, Latvia*





### 1.1.2 What if we do not do anything about it?

While places are unused, forgotten and abandoned, even though they might not be visible, they have an impact on their territory.

#### Impact on environment

Abandoned spaces, especially post-industrial though not only, have a [negative impact](#) on local environment and biodiversity: because of stored pollution throughout years and centuries - and the lack of measure to address it., but also by remaining polluting products or materials, without adequate maintenance.

While being abandoned, these might form local "heat islands". With a small share of greenery, subject to uncontrolled natural succession over time, and their tight surfaces, former storage and manoeuvring yards sometimes cause problems with rainwater management.

#### Impact on land use

They do not account for the pressure that is put on the scarcity of space in cities. Indeed, [between 2000 and 2018](#), in the EU, artificial land cover increased by 13 %, approximately 1 263 000 ha of land was converted to urban use and approximately 44 % of all land-use changes. Such pressure can lead to uncontrolled [urban development \(sprawl\)](#) (that is generally considered unsustainable).

#### Impact on socio-economic equity

The areas where the [unused](#) - and often degraded - places are located is losing attraction, can become unsafe and insecure, can see the leave of public services, can marginalise local population, residents might leave.

*Bow String Bridge in Pompey, France*



### 1.1.3 What if we actually do something?

On the contrary, regenerating places which are unused, forgotten and abandoned, has [positive impacts on cities](#).

#### Improvement of the environment

With the use of nature-based solutions, green infrastructure but also other technical green solutions (including retrofitting, energy networks, ...) biodiversity can be enhanced, habitats protected, new fauna and flora attracted. In addition, solutions to climate change can be integrated: rainwater management, solutions to water retention, cool islands, etc.

#### Improvement of economy

The regeneration of these places helps to re-recreate economic activities on the sites. When economic activities return to degraded areas, these areas have been significantly improved at the same time as areas of greenfields are preserved. New activities can take place creating new opportunities for public, increase employment, income, etc.

Savings can be achieved through the opportunities offered by existing resources and infrastructure (buildings, energy, sewerage networks, etc.) and transport options.

Addressing these unused, forgotten and abandoned can also have an impact on real estate prices, which can be positive, but at the same time as promoting renovation though.

### Improvement of social cohesion

Regenerating places which are unused, forgotten and abandoned benefits the surrounding urban environment and improve social cohesion, protect cultural and historical values and the quality of life. Taking into account public needs can not only maximize the investments but also ensure that the new projects are actually meaningful for the neighbourhood and their inhabitants.

#### 1.1.4 Why is it difficult to address these?

The challenges of addressing these unused, forgotten and abandoned places are [manyfold](#):

1. **Environmental Remediation:** the pollution and contamination of the space require extensive environmental remediation efforts, ensuring the removal of hazardous materials and the restoration of the site's ecological balance;
2. **Integrated urban planning:** the space needs to fit into local and neighbourhood landscapes and activities, as a - by choice - continuation or a disruption;
3. **Remembering the past:** the proposed regeneration should integrate elements of the past, of memory, notwithstanding how dissonant and painful this can be for local residents;
4. **Financial Constraints:** high costs can be associated with remediation, infrastructure upgrades, and the revitalization of deteriorated buildings and spaces.
5. **Successful co-creation:** Involving local communities and stakeholders is key for the development of meaningful and relevant projects and to get consensus, addressing concerns, and fostering community ownership of the regeneration process.
6. **Socioeconomic Impact:** regeneration will have a socioeconomic impact on the surrounding communities (from readjustments to displacement of existing residents, gentrification, and access to affordable housing and amenities) that need to be considered upfront.
7. **Regulation:** fitting any project within existing regulation and planning documents such as urban planning, monument protection, biodiversity and environment protection, can require in-depth legal investigation and expertise.

#### *High Line, New York, USA*



## 1.2 The need to develop green regeneration and revitalisation

Green revitalisation and regeneration are a prominent way of addressing unused, forgotten and abandoned places. Even though no unique definition to greening, green regeneration or green

revitalisation exists, the concept refers to both the means and the end: transforming brownfield and derelict areas and buildings into green spaces (e.g. parks); at the same time as having a positive contribution to climate adaptation (e.g. creating of cool islands), by the use of green solutions (e.g. retrofitting, ...).

Its most common principles are addressed in the following approaches which are detailed below: circular economy, nature-based solutions and green infrastructure and cultural heritage as a resource. Before detailing them, we present the EU strategies and policies which frame these approaches.

### 1.2.1 Overarching EU policy framework

Green regeneration and revitalisation fall under a series of European Policies, Declaration and Strategies. As a starting point, this process potentially covers the five Policy Objectives of the [Cohesion Policy](#) as designed for the 2021-2027 programming period, and as a priority:

1. Policy Objective 2 “a greener, low carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy”: by the green focus as both a means and an end;
2. Policy Objective 4 “a more social and inclusive Europe”: by being centered on the neighborhood, inhabitants of the targeted areas and by involving them in the rehabilitation processes; and,
3. Policy Objective 5 “Europe closer to citizens by fostering the sustainable and integrated development of all types of territories”: through sustainable and integrated rehabilitation.

Green regeneration and revitalisation also address Policy Objective 1 (a more competitive and smarter Europe) and Policy Objective 3 (a more connected Europe by enhancing mobility) by the integration into the social, economic and geographical landscapes of the areas where they take place.

In addition, they address the Green City dimension of the [New Leipzig Charter](#), as well as share the values and principles of the [New European Bauhaus](#) (Aesthetics, Inclusion, Sustainability; Participation, Multi-level governance, Transdisciplinarity), within the overall scope of the [European Green Deal](#) and of the [Europe 2020](#) strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

Green regeneration and revitalization also address policies related to sustainable urban planning such as the [Sustainable Urban Development in the EU framework for action](#) as well as [Territorial Agenda 2030](#), and, at the global level, the UN HABITAT [New Urban Agenda](#).

They also cover the main priorities of the strategies for protecting the environment and fighting climate change such as the [Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe](#), the [European Climate Law](#), the [EU Climate Adaptation Strategy](#), the [8th Environment Action Programme](#) and the [Zero pollution action plan](#).

Moreover, this issue covers directly the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDG) 11 “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”, as well as SDG 13 “Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy” and, SDG 15 “Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss”.

Finally, regarding the three approaches presented below, the following EU framework is also relevant:

- For circular cities: the [Circular economy action plan](#) and the [Circular Economy Packages](#)
- For Nature-Based Solutions and Green Infrastructure : the [EU Soil Thematic Strategy](#), the [EU Biodiversity strategy](#), the [Green infrastructure strategy](#) and [Action Plan for Nature, People and the Economy and Nature restoration law](#)
- For cultural as a resource: the [European framework for action on cultural heritage](#), the [New European Agenda for Culture](#) and the [EU Work Plan for Culture 2023-2026](#)

The multiplicity of topics and policies by the challenge of the GreenPlace network, has been addressed by three Urban Agenda Partnerships respectively focusing on [Circular Economy](#), on [Culture and Cultural Heritage](#), and on [Sustainable Land Use](#) and [Nature Based Solutions](#), as presented in the table below. Details of the relevant outputs produced which can be of inspiration and guidance for the network can be found in Annex 2.

## 1.2.2 Circular Cities

### What are Circular cities?

**Circular cities** are “Cities are taking their opportunities to improve efficiency and environmental impact by embedding circular economy principles in urban context. Making cities sustainable means rethinking every element of urban living and one of the circular city declinations concerns the re-use of buildings and spaces.”

### Main characteristics

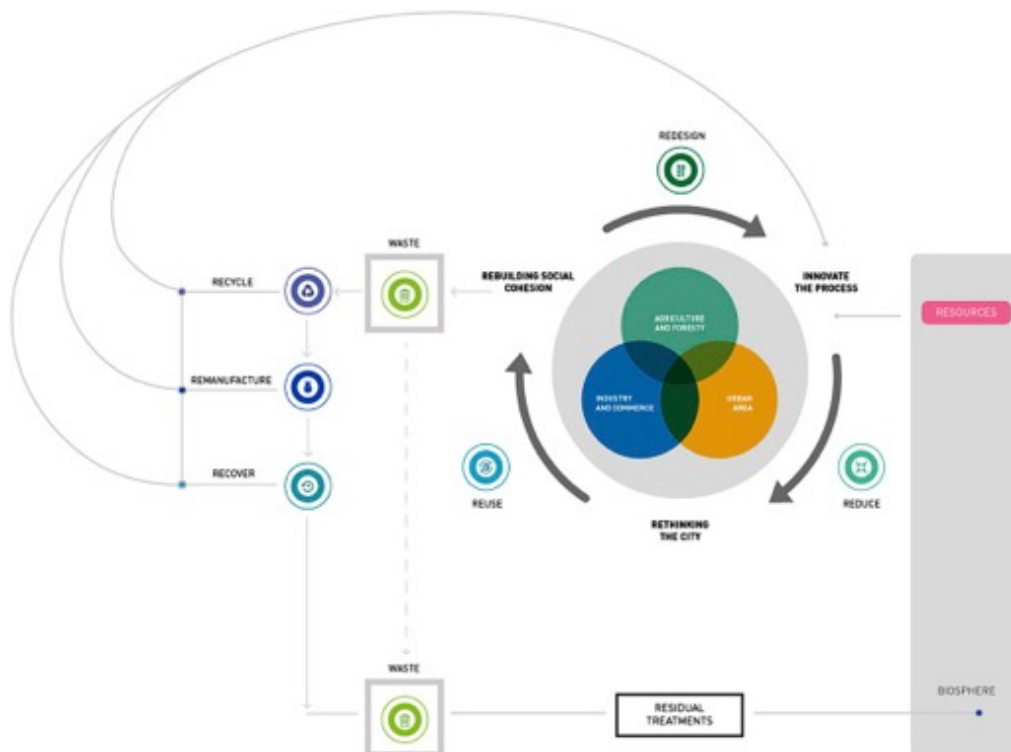
Circular cities promote [a new model of city governance](#) through the creation of a management capacity able to map disused/underused buildings and spaces, draw up a reusability index, and match these spaces with the various subjects able to transform them into new studios, start-ups, lodging, laboratories, creative residences, etc., giving life to new creative and innovative hubs.

### *Main elements of circular cities based on the logic of planning cycles*

- **Mapping:** exploration of empty and underused properties and creation of an inventory explicating ownership and type of building;
- **Activating, envisioning, experimenting:** definition of the incentives for people to participate to the collection of bottom-up ideas for the re-use of vacant properties through transparent and inclusive participatory processes;
- **Decision-making, financing:** measurement of the public usefulness of potential new functions considering economic and social impact of different alternatives of use and creation of links between the new ideas for re-use and the general urban development strategy (with appropriate financing);
- **Monitoring and evaluation:** creation of a feed-back mechanism for regular revision and potential modification of the strategy.

Circular cities can be operationalized as a holistic and systematic governance, bringing together public authorities, universities, enterprises, NGOs and citizens. Three interconnected traditional urban areas get connected: residential, industrial, and agricultural land and forestry.

### *Circular city model*



Application of Circular Cities entail, for example: reusing spaces and buildings, temporary use of vacant spaces, transformation of unused buildings and spaces into public spaces, ...

## Relevant EU initiatives and projects

The following table presents examples of past projects about Circular Cities with interesting insights and learnings from the Cities of GreenPlace

### *Relevant EU initiatives and projects for the Circular Cities approach*

Programme	Network	Description
URBACT	<a href="#">URGE</a>	Sharing solutions for circular economy in the construction sector - a major consumer of raw materials
URBACT	<a href="#">Resourceful Cities</a>	Developing the next generation of urban resource centres, to serve as catalysts of the local circular economy, by adopting a participative and integrated approach
URBACT	<a href="#">2nd Chance</a>	Activation of vacant buildings and building complexes for a sustainable urban development by self-organised groups
URBACT	<a href="#">REFIL</a>	Outlining the concept of temporary re-use of vacant spaces by “urban pioneers” facing various social challenges and creating new opportunities for social innovation in cities.
URBACT	<a href="#">Sub&gt;Urban</a>	Making the existing 20th century urban tissue attractive and qualitative again, adding a different urban layer
URBACT	<a href="#">(Re)making the City</a>	Sharing innovative practices to find new ways of using space in cities

*From a former industrial cleaner and office building to the Impact factory in Mechelen, Belgium ([URBACT Resourceful Cities](#))*



### 1.2.3 Nature-Based Solutions and Green Infrastructure

#### What are Nature-Based solutions and Green Infrastructure?

Nature-Based Solutions [are](#) “Solutions that are inspired and supported by nature, which are cost-effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience. Such solutions bring more, and more diverse, nature and natural features and processes into cities, landscapes and seascapes, through locally adapted, resource-efficient and systemic interventions.”

Green infrastructure [is](#) “a strategically planned network of natural and semi-natural areas with other environmental features, designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services, while also enhancing biodiversity.”

#### Main characteristics

Nature-Based solutions and Green Infrastructure can produce a wide range of [services and benefits](#) for the environment and cities more generally:

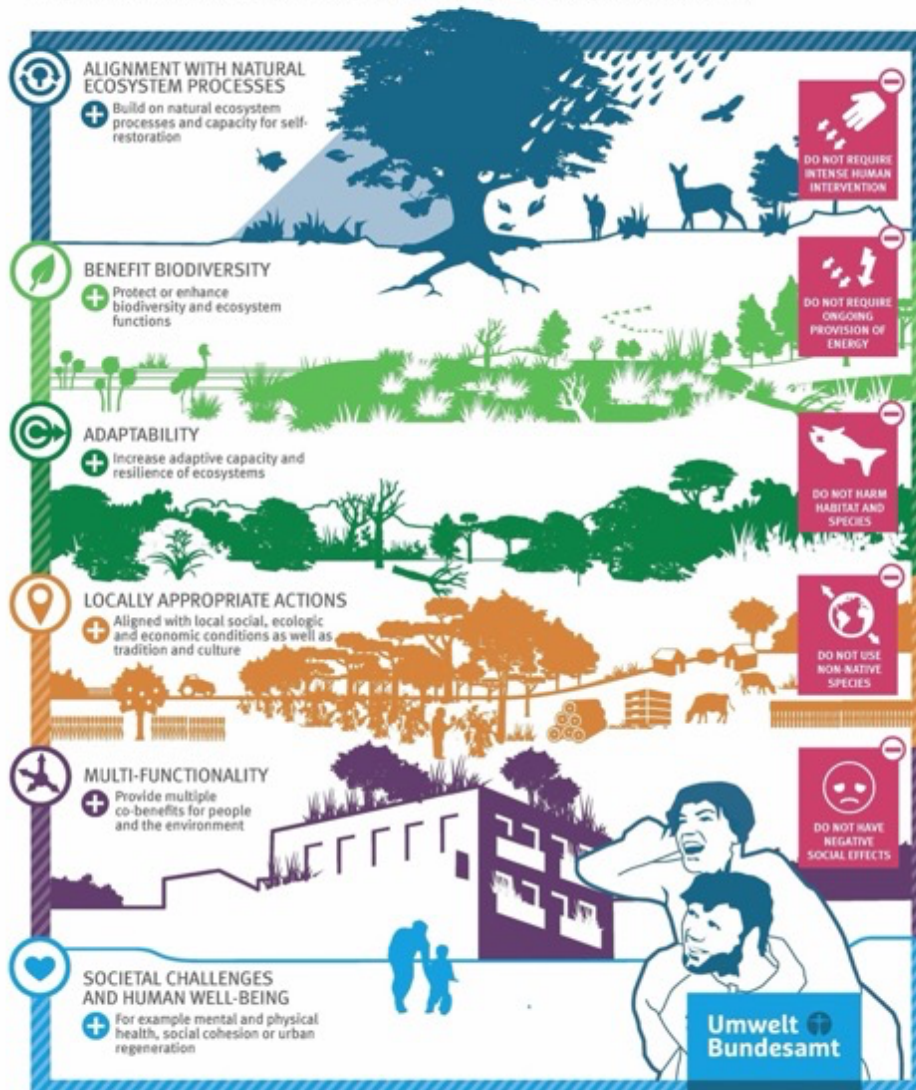
- Climate adaptation measures: mitigation of urban heat island effects, flood risk reduction, regulating water flows (reducing the need for investment in flood defences), sequestering carbon, the absorption of CO<sub>2</sub> (the emissions of which can be extensive)
- improving quality of life, health, and well-being (e.g noise reduction, carbon sequestration, new recreation opportunities, clean water, reduced pollution, etc.)

- reducing soil pollution, improving water infiltration and purification, and protecting from the impact of soil sealing
- renaturing the cities through conservation, restoration, regeneration and expansion of biodiversity and ecosystems, and through enhancing ecological connectivity between urban and peri-urban areas
- the provision of sustainable transport options (e.g., walking and cycling lanes),
- creating jobs and enhancing social cohesion and social innovation, diversifying local economies, and creating innovative and sustainable business and governance models
- improving urban and up-stream territorial/regional planning

### *Nature-Based Solutions in a nutshell*

## Nature-based Solutions

Nature-based Solutions are locally appropriate, adaptive actions to protect, sustainably manage or restore natural or modified ecosystems in order to address targeted societal challenge(s) - such as climate change mitigation -, while simultaneously enhancing human well-being and providing biodiversity benefits.



This graphic has been developed by Öko-Institut and Ecologic Institut on behalf of the German Environment Agency. It is based on Reize et al. (2021): Nature-based Solutions and global climate protection. Climate Change 01/2022. Dessau-Roßlau. Download at: <https://www.umwelt.bund.de/publikationen/nature-based-solutions-global-climate-protection>. Design: Erik Tacke, sichtgation.de.

Implementing Nature-Based Solutions and Green Infrastructure solutions can [for example](#) take the form of :

- remediation, restoration and prevention of formation of brownfield (uncovering the potential of brownfields to provide beneficial services and developing a vision for overall sustainable and successful economic and social redevelopment);

- limitation, mitigation or compensation of soil sealing;
- adaptive reuse of vacant and underutilised land, regeneration and increase of the multi-functionality of already built-up areas and conversion of old infrastructure;
- renaturing urban spaces to contribute to climate change mitigation (e.g. creating “carbon sinks”) and adaptation (e.g. mitigating flood risks, urban heat island effect);
- tackling the existing urban sprawl and preventing further urban sprawl; or,
- promotion of sustainable urban farming.

### Relevant EU initiatives and projects

The following table presents examples of past or current projects about Nature-Based Solutions and Green Infrastructure for unused or abandoned places with interesting insights and learnings from the Cities of GreenPlace.

#### *Relevant EU initiatives and projects for Nature-Based Solutions and Green Infrastructure approach*

Programme	Network	Description
UIA	<a href="#">GreenQuays</a> (Breda)	Testing and implementing solutions for a green river Nieuwe Mark offering living space for a rich flora and fauna, making the centre more liveable.
UIA	<a href="#">UPPER</a> - (Latina)	Using vacant and underutilised land to self-producing nature-based technologies and services as a resource for social cohesion, ecosystems recovery and sustainable economic development.
EUI	<a href="#">S4T</a> (Rovereto)	Transforming the empty main building of the train station and its surrounding area into a public-civic hub whose spaces will serve as interactive venues for training, co-design, co-production and knowledge transfer for promising public, civic and economic initiatives on to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and heritage regeneration.
H2020	<a href="#">PROGIREG</a>	Living Labs to develop NBS which are citizen owned and co-developed by state, market and civil society stakeholders, in areas facing the challenge of post-industrial regeneration
H2020	<a href="#">URBINAT</a>	Promote an inclusive urban regeneration process of social housing neighbourhoods, where citizens and stakeholders are engaged in a co-creation process to implement a Healthy Corridor that combines territorial and technological NBS with participatory and solidarity economy ones.
H2020	<a href="#">CLEVER CITIES</a>	Demonstrating the added value of NBS in an urban regeneration context, displaying innovation pathways towards a nature-based transformation of the partner cities and addressing multiple challenges: loss of biodiversity, climate change, increasing demographic diversity, social inclusion, environmental injustice and a relative lack of economic prosperity in certain parts of the cities.
H2020	<a href="#">Connecting Nature</a>	Strengthening the policy and practices necessary to scale up urban resilience, innovation and governance via nature-based solution
2014 - 2020 INTERREG V-A Latvia - Lithuania	<a href="#">BrownReg</a>	Developing innovative and environmentally friendly regeneration of brownfields by using phytoremediation for a first time for cleaning and revitalizing of soils of brownfields in Latvia-Lithuania.
2014 - 2020 INTERREG VB Central Europe	<a href="#">GreenerSites</a>	Developing and testing actions based on a sustainable, integrated approach to improve the environmental management of the brownfields located in their territories.
2014 - 2020 INTERREG V-A Spain - Portugal (POCTEP)	<a href="#">Improving the urban environment in industrial areas, adapting to climate change and improving air quality through Nature Based Solutions (NBS).</a>	Design and apply environmental improvement systems for industrial estates in the Northern Portugal-Castilla y León cooperation area, through the implementation of Nature Based Solutions (NBS).

### *Vegetation growth on river walls (UIA GreenQuays)*



#### 1.2.4 Cultural heritage as a resource

##### What is cultural heritage as a resource?

Based on the [Urban Agenda Partnership on Culture and Cultural Heritage](#), and bearing in mind that Culture and Cultural Heritage can be important drivers for strengthening the social, ecological and economic assets of European cities, cultural heritage as a resource means: “a conscious, effective, integrated management of urban Cultural Heritage and urban cultural identities can help to improve urban sustainable growth policies in larger metropolitan cities, but also in medium and small-sized towns in Europe”-

##### Main characteristics

Cultural Heritage can be seen as [four types of resources](#):

##### Cultural heritage as an ecological resource

Natural and landscape heritage existing in our cities, suburbs and peripheral urban spaces are key to fight the pressures exerted by anthropic activities in the urban space. At the same time, the potential of built heritage - with related challenges in terms of monument protection legislation - is strong in contributing to preventing and adjusting to natural risks. There is also an increasing [recognition](#) of strong interconnections between natural and cultural assets and of the need for their integrated management, especially in the context of Natura 2000.

##### Cultural Heritage as an economic resource

Cultural Heritage can serve as an economic resource for local development as an essential element for civil cohabitation and for the processes of economic growth of a community. Such process includes the creativity and smart specialisation based on the enhancement of the local know how (the local way of producing, building, living). This can be promoted via increased collaborative approaches to develop products, to accelerate markets and to identify synergies, by fostering a convergence between public policies and private investments and supporting open, inclusive, and pluralistic societies.

##### Cultural Heritage as a social resource

As central for social process, Cultural Heritage affect citizens’ sense of belonging to a place and their respect of public spaces as well as their attitude towards public authorities and the state. Integrated, inclusive and innovative processes are central to define and manage Cultural Heritage sites.

##### Cultural Heritage as a governance and planning resource

As a planning instrument, cultural heritage becomes a political tool, recognising that integrated, inclusive and holistic approaches that bring together actors from all levels and relevant fields are required for embedding Culture and Cultural Heritage dimensions in urban development processes whilst ensuring the promotion and preservation of heritage.



## Relevant EU initiatives and projects

The following table presents examples of past projects about Cultural heritage as a resource with green solutions and objectives with interesting insights and learnings from the cities of GreenPlace.

### *Relevant EU initiatives and projects for Cultural heritage as a resource approach*

Programme	Network	Description
URBACT	<a href="#">Kairos</a>	Promoting cultural heritage as a driving force for sustainable development and urban regeneration
URBACT	<a href="#">MAPs</a>	Enhancing former military heritage as key elements for sustainable urban strategies, combining both functional and social aspects.
URBACT	<a href="#">C-Change</a>	Mobilising arts and culture sectors to contribute towards local climate change action
INTERREG IV A 2 Seas programme	<a href="#">Heritage recycled</a>	Providing communities with the tools and guidance to manage heritage buildings in sustainable ways.
H2020	<a href="#">CLIC</a>	Identifying evaluation tools to test, implement, validate and share innovative “circular” financing, business and governance models for systemic adaptive reuse of cultural heritage and landscape, demonstrating the economic, social, environmental convenience, in terms of long lasting economic, cultural and environmental wealth
H2020	<a href="#">ROCK</a>	Historic city centres as extraordinary laboratories to demonstrate how Cultural Heritage as unique and powerful engine of regeneration, sustainable development and economic growth for the whole city

### *Waterfront redevelopment by linking natural & cultural heritage landmarks in Belene, Bulgaria (URBACT Kairos)*



## 1.3 Implementing solutions

This last section presents a series of cases and practices involving green regeneration and revitalisation: they seek to trigger the interest of the partner cities in the projects they could develop.

### 1.3.1 Circular cities

#### Green temporary activation of unused spaces

##### Intermediate occupation via green activities, De Site, Ghent, Belgium

In 2007, the City of Ghent, social partner Samenlevingsopbouw Gent (Social Structures Ghent), and social-artistic organisation Kunst in de Stad (Arts in the City) started the temporary use project De Site on the location of former telecom factory Alcatel Bell in the Rabot district. De Site became a creative meeting place that got residents involved in their district and set them thinking about urban renewal.

They helped reshape their neighbourhood. Allotments, a greenhouse, urban horticultural plots, a football pitch, a bike playground, and an urban farmstead with a chicken coop were set up.

Additionally, in 2010, the alternative currency Torekes was launched. By working on De Site, residents could earn Torekes to buy vegetables and other supplies in local shops.

De Site involved residents in an urban renewal process that traditional participation methods would have left them out of. The temporary use project wasn't just another analysis of how poor, densely populated, diversified, and young Rabot is. It gave time and space to the neighbourhood's wishes, demands, and qualities and responded to several important needs in the district.



More [here](#)

#### Temporary community use of underused space, Stalled Spaces, Glasgow, UK

Many land plots across Glasgow currently have contamination issues which prevent housing or commercial developments from taking place due to the cost of remediation. The Stalled Spaces project gives communities the opportunity to temporarily use a plot of such land in a way which brings benefit to the community when the contamination issues do not prevent such re-use. The community can choose to adapt the plots for uses such as pop-up gardens, urban gyms, play or art spaces. Many of these initiatives represent nature-based solutions. Over 100 sites have been taken over by residents.



More information [here](#).

### Making the site visible on the city map, DOK, in Ghent, Belgium

Between 2011 and 2018, DOK NGO transformed the abandoned Old Docks in Ghent into a lively and inspiring meeting place in the Summer. It is a platform for creation and a working place, but at the same time DOK is a public place with large and smaller events for all ages. In short, everyone is welcome. A bunch of organizations, residential neighbors and upcoming artistic talents and companies are involved in making the project.

The terrain evolved from a new 'city beach site' with the largest terrace of Ghent to a sort of 'sculpture site'. The supposed intention of the terrain changed as well: from an event zone that needed tight maintenance to a place where visible traces of the past are more than welcome. It was put back on the city's map.



More information [here](#).

### 1.3.2 Nature-based Solutions and Green Infrastructure

#### Green renovation of brownfields for recreation activities

##### Brownfield regeneration in Schansbroek, Genk, Belgium

The aim was to create a multifunctional neighbourhood park for recreation, biodiversity and to restore water management. The 2013 design plan included measures to recreate a 'wet ecotope' by restoring a natural dam and ponds and transforming an artificial reservoir from the former mine. Local citizens requested allotments, children's play areas, cycling/hiking trails, picnic, and meeting areas which were all included in the design.

The new park created enhances the aesthetics of the area and strengthen links to the site making it more attractive to residents and workers at the neighbouring Thorpark. The model for community engagement will be scaled-up for the entire Stiemberbeck valley.



More information [here](#)

#### Green renovation of unused spaces for showcasing nature

##### Turning a disused zoo into a showcase for art and nature, LaBiomista, Genk, Belgium

LaBiomista is a nature-based solution that is re-using a disused zoo to provide a studio, exhibition, and public space. LaBiomista is a public-private partnership bringing art, wildlife, and people together. The old zoo infrastructure and greenspaces are being retained to provide a unique environment in which to support people in understanding their relationship with the natural world around them and how they influence it.



More information [here](#)

### Nature-Based Solutions on unused areas for mitigating climate change and social cohesion

#### More than 100 acres of new green surfaces in Ljubljana, Slovenia

Degraded, overlooked and unused areas of the city of Ljubljana are being converted into new green surfaces. This contributes to mitigating climate change and enhances the quality of life of citizens and visitors alike.



More [here](#).

#### From abandoned railway to sustainable food and urban agriculture park, ParckFarm, Brussels, Belgium

Parckfarm is located at Tour & Taxis and the railway wasteland left by the abandonment of the site. Launched in 2014, the original project was a temporary festival, based on a call for proposal of the Region of Brussels Capital, with the idea to promote sustainable food and urban agriculture. “From landscape to the plate” as the original slogan seeking to develop a new park concept an edible park with a social, ecological purpose and subject to a reappropriation of public green space by the inhabitants. The success of the festival led to the set-up of an NGO to manage the site and its activities, in operation till now. Covering nine hectares, the park is the largest in central Brussels.



More information [here](#).

### Gardens of the Future Home for Sustainability and Collective Transformation, Municipality of Nicosia, Cyprus

Gardens of the Future is a grassroots organisation transforming an abandoned area in Cyprus' politically divided capital Nicosia, into a community garden. The aim is to revive people's sense of belonging and connection, in the process of bringing a no man's land back to life. Gardens of the future is the leader of a growing network to develop sustainable change elsewhere in Cyprus, while preserving its unique cultural, social and environmental identities and values.



More information [here](#)

### Green infrastructure connecting/revitalising and connecting abandoned areas

#### From unused and disconnected lots to social gardens in Poznań, Poland

The creation of pocket parks and urban gardens on abandoned, brownfield and vacant or neglected land contribute to more equal distribution of green in the city, mitigate heat island stress within residential areas and improves the water retention potential of the area. These pocket parks and urban gardens increase water retention and minimise the pressure on drainage infrastructure. Multiplication of small-scale nature-based solutions interventions in the city with special focus on those areas that are densely urbanised and inhabited by citizens who have limited access to greenery. Such “up-scaling approach” will extend the network of green infrastructure in Poznań and also complement the green wedges which run through the city, from north to south and from east to west, creating a natural network.



More information [here](#)

### From a railway to a green corridor, La petite ceinture in Paris, France

A former railway elevated all around Paris was transformed to connect different public places in the city. It is multifunctional -combining ecology, art, community, and shopping etc. while providing for biodiversity and strengthening the identity of the place:

- Identity of the place - through elements of former railway;
- Multifunctionality - place for everybody - move, sit, talk, read, do sport activities, etc;
- Biodiversity - less maintenance, wilderness in the city.



More information [here](#).

### Nature-Based Solutions on unused areas for integrated solutions to climate change

#### Integrated green energy production, recreational activities and biodiversity shelter in former landfill, Tramore Valley Park in Cork, Ireland

A former landfill in the early 1960's was closed in 2009 and has been closely monitored since. Ongoing monitoring of the landfill site continues today. The landfill is lined with a plastic Liner and has a network of gas collection and leachate (contaminated water) pipes beneath to remove harmful emissions from the site. Landfill gas collected on site is conveyed to a combined heat and power plant which is capable of producing one megawatt of power, enough to power 2% of all houses in Cork City. All the Leachate on site is pumped to storage lagoons and a treatment plant onsite. Here it is pre-treated before being pumped to local waste water treatment plant for final treatment and disposal.

The site is mostly known to the general public via its recreational facilities (walking trails, bmx track, rugby pitch, and outdoor gym) The site in addition combines a series of projects to reinter habitats and enhance biodiversity.



More information [here](#).

## Nature-Based Solutions on unused areas for biodiversity enhancement

### Ephemeral wetland roofs and Bombardier Beetle (*Brachinus sclopeta*) at Barking Riverside - brownfield landscaping, London, UK

During a research project, the roofs were created to investigate the potential for recreating key habitats associated with the site's pre-development brownfield state as part of the green infrastructure strategy. Habitat mosaics were created on the green roofs by manipulating the drainage, using different aggregates, and varying the substrate depths. The habitats enhanced site biodiversity, recording 148 species of higher plants on just 0.5 ha of urban landscape; significantly greater floral diversity on brownfield landscaping areas than on surrounding soft landscaped areas were also identified, such biodiverse GI can play a vital role in urban conservation efforts if incorporated at a landscape-scale.



More information [here](#).

## Nature-Based Solutions for rainwater management

### An integrated Ecocity in Augustenborg, Malmö, Sweden

Ekostaden Augustenborg is the collective name for a program to make Augustenborg into a more socially, economically and environmentally sustainable neighbourhood. The stormwater system has gone through a major change. Green roofs and open stormwater channels leading into ponds have stopped the flooding in the area and have created a beautiful environment and a richer biodiversity. The MKB houses have 2 100 m<sup>2</sup> green roofs, apart from the large facility at the Botanical Roof Garden covering 9 000 m<sup>2</sup>. There are a total of 6 km canals and water channels in Augustenborg. 90 % of the stormwater from roofs and hard surfaces is led into the open storm-water system in the housing area.



More information [here](#).

### 1.3.3 Cultural heritage as a resource

#### Cultural heritage renovated with green solutions showcase

##### La Fábrika, a factory for dreams, in Los Santos de Maimona, Spain

After being abandoned for years, an old cement factory is now a collaborative space for free culture. Located in a rural municipality of Spain, La Fábrika has become a landmark for an open network of creators, thinkers and social agents throughout the territory. Over the course of our ten years of activity, more than 3.000 people have contributed to regenerate the space.



More information [here](#).

##### Xifré's Rooftop: "Floating" Wild Garden, Barcelona, Spain

The Xifré Rooftop is a dual-purpose renovation project, in terms of both architecture and ecology. Covering an early 19th-century block of ten buildings, this contemporary roof garden creates a "floating" wild space that enhances urban biodiversity and opportunities for social interaction between neighbours. Furthermore, the rooftop elements of the historic building have been carefully restored.



More information [here](#)

##### Retaining agricultural heritage in a community-driven nature & sustainability park in Heempark, Genk, Belgium

Heempark is a community-driven nature and sustainability agriculture park established on disused land. The history of the park dates back to the 1970s when Genk City Council bought 5 ha of former



agricultural land in order to expand Molenvijver City Park. Local citizens were consulted on the park development and expressed a desire to retain the natural character of the site rather than convert to 'formal' park greenspace. A collaborative city citizens model for 'Heempark' was developed. The model represented a small-scale model of the former agricultural landscape with a focus on environmental sustainability and conserving native flora and fauna. The site has demonstration gardens, small farm animals, beehives, hayfields, ponds, nature areas and a children's playground.



More information [here](#).

### Using nature-based solutions to renovate cultural heritage

#### Phytoremediation for preserving cultural heritage, Landschaftspark Duisburg Nord, Germany

A Former coal factory, a unique industrial monument, was transformed using Phytoremediation for cleaning contaminated soil and water. It has strengthened local biodiversity and now provides a variety of activities: a museum, tourist attractions, cafes, small industries, shops, artists` studios, day center for children, and a climbing wall.



More information [here](#).

### 1.3.4 Community engagement

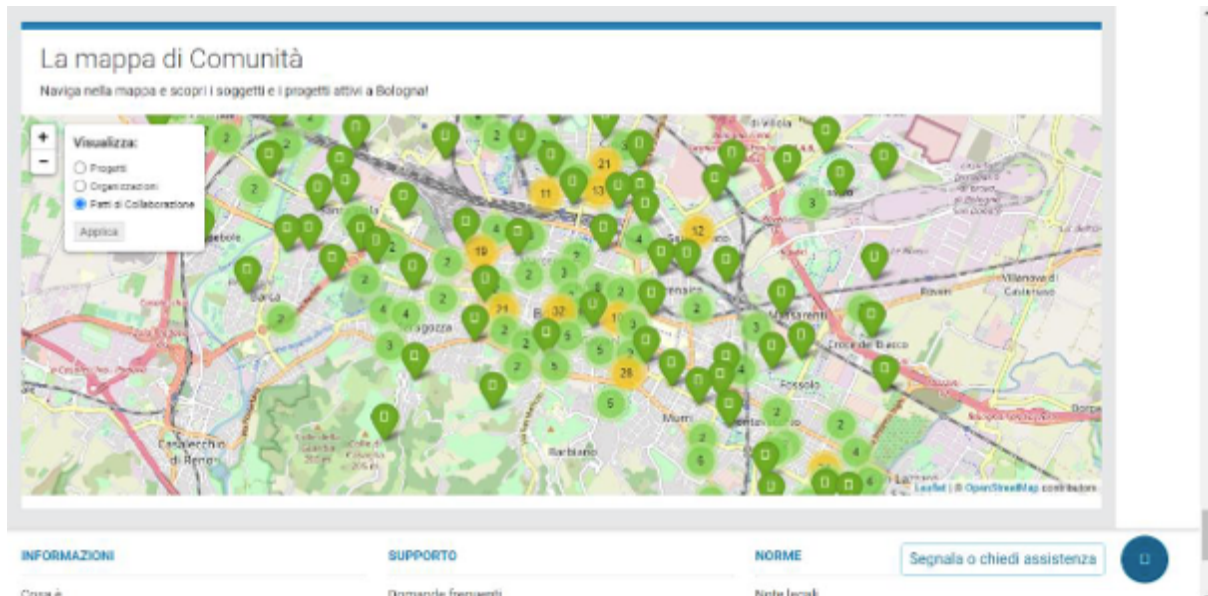
#### Stakeholders at the heart of green revitalisation

##### Regulation for Urban Commons - The Bologna Regulation, Municipality of Bologna, Italy

The Bologna Regulation is a tool of collaboration between the citizens and the urban authority to foster the reuse/regeneration of the Urban Commons. The Urban Commons are defined as the goods, tangible, intangible, and digital, that citizens and the Administration recognise to be functional to the individual and collective wellbeing. Common spaces and unused buildings can be considered as urban commons.

The collaboration agreement/pact is the tool by which the city and active citizens agree upon everything is necessary in order to realise interventions of care and regeneration of the objects identified. The content of the agreement/pact changes according to the degree of complexity of

the agreed intervention and to the duration of the collaboration. The following urban actors can take advantage of the regulation: third sector bodies, cultural associations, social vocational companies, informal groups of citizens, committees, foundations, cooperatives, individual citizens.

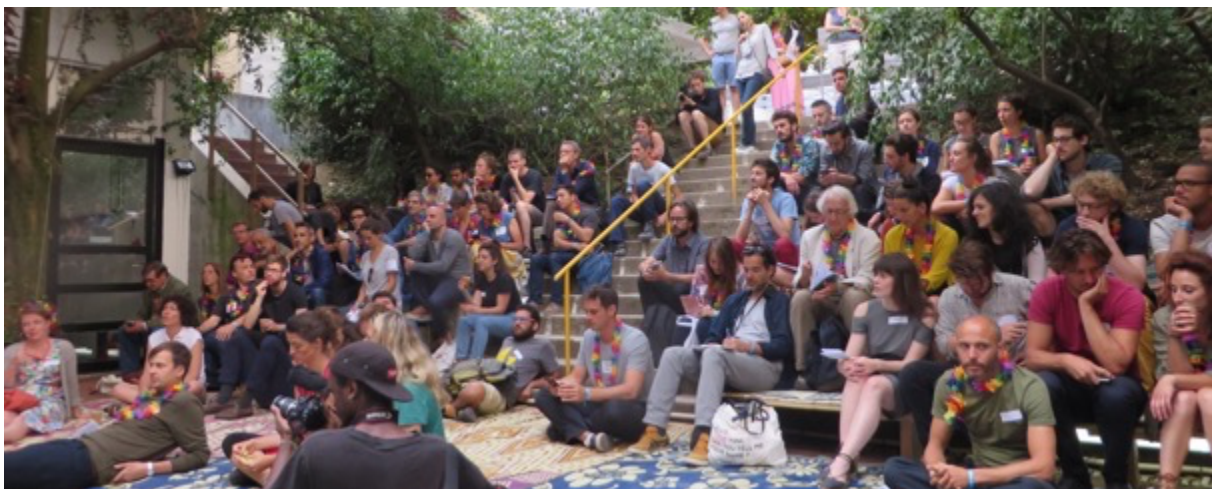


More information [here](#)

### Organising a bottom-up forum to discuss about the potential of an unused place, Forum Camping, Les Grands Voisins, Paris, France

Les Grands Voisins was A temporary reuse project or a transitional urban planning/program, useful for identifying the principles for redesigning the area of the former hospital of Saint Vincent de Paul. The project covered an area of approximately 3.5 hectares, involving 19 buildings.

Half-way through the project, the coordinators organised a “[Forum Camping](#)” over two days on 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017, on the site. Project holders, makers, artists, researchers, experts, public institutions from all around France and beyond exchanged on what makes a space move from being “public” to being “common”. This platform was meant to further feed into the exploration the conditions for shared urban spaces with high human value.



### Co-creating green regeneration in Fives-Lille, France

The UIA TAST’ in FIVES project sought to regenerate a part of a former brownfield and industrial site while using food both as a leverage and an objective. The City of Lille, mobilised local residents and users of its current and future facilities to, together, co-create their format. Beyond prototyping and directly testing the activities by partners and their beneficiaries, co creation took the form of a co-creation with all of them. In particular, a series of workshops has been carried out to identify the needs and wishes for the place (e.g. in terms of design, usage, etc.). For this, a Users’

Committee had been set up with monthly meetings and participatory workshops. The participants are volunteers who expressed interest in contributing to this process after having taken part in some initial activities of L'Avant-goût.



More information [here](#).

### Ensuring everybody is on board the green regeneration

#### Integrating just and green strategic dimensions in local projects, in Villadecans, Spain

In line with its SEAP and SECAP plans, the city of Viladecans, Spain, identifies digital and green transitions and social cohesion as cross-cutting goals. The Viladecans 2030 Strategy has 1 strategic goal (out of 6) on “Green & Digital Transition”, 17 challenges (out of 25) related to climate neutrality, and 1 mission (out of 5) on “*turning Viladecans into a climate neutral city by 2030*”. To ensure a Just Transition, one challenge that stands out is to “*Minimise the risks linked to economic, health, social and environmental adversities, especially among the most vulnerable groups, by transforming the City Council into a proactive, inclusive, digital and open administration, capable of offering high quality services focused on the user.*” The city’s Local urban agenda includes 7 actions (out of 134) to achieve climate neutrality and one Strategic Objective relating to social cohesion and equal opportunities.



More information [here](#).

#### Identifying the needs of vulnerable groups, in Barcelona, Spain

Cities have also carried out studies to identify the scale of the sustainable urban planning issues they are facing. In Barcelona, the UIA GBG\_AS2C (Climate Shelters) project decided on its priorities after studying vulnerabilities in relation to the impact of climate change in the city’s

neighbourhoods. Heat maps were developed to show the areas where the heat island effect is the most extreme. Vulnerability maps looked at the age of local buildings, the heat index, the age of the population and the socio-economic characteristics of the neighbourhood (average income numbers of migrants, etc.). Based on this study, the project drew up measures to ensure residents' health, survival, and quality of life and selected the schools that would participate in the project.



More information [here](#).

### Collective infrastructure for green transitions accessible to all

The city of Prato's Urban Jungle project aimed to re-nature several neighbourhoods home to high rates of migrants and low-income residents by testing the creation of 'urban jungles', designed to provide 'cool islands' during heatwaves but also to improve air quality in deprived areas. The project increased the permeable and green surfaces by 14,200 m<sup>2</sup>, with the creation of urban jungles in two public pilot areas of the city by transforming yards, roofs, buildings, walls, barriers, etc into natural places. For example, a shady green roof structure was built over the covered market in the Macrolotto zero area, and a vertical garden was built in the St Giusto social housing district. The project has also transformed 4800 m<sup>2</sup> of vacant industrial grounds / surfaces into green gardens, with the creation of a network of planted areas.



More information [here](#).

### 1.3.5 Governance

#### Regulations and frameworks supporting green regeneration

##### Unused spaces included in green area legislation in Krakow, Poland

Green spaces and green infrastructure in Kraków were most extensively described in “*Directions for the development and management of green areas in Kraków for 2017-2030*”. Cities' forests are mostly covered by the “Powiat Programme to Increase Afforestation in the City of Kraków for the

years 2018-2040". The first one defines cities' natural system as "consisting of not only arranged green spaces, but also those intended for agriculture, or ones staying unused - postindustrial, postagricultural or natural and semi-natural landscapes". It also accepts the concept of "third nature" by admitting nature is developing in various locations - housing estates, industrial zones etc, even though the name itself is not used. It also divides cities' green spaces into two categories - public green spaces and contributing green spaces. The first one being a at least partially designed, open for inhabitants and covered in greenery by at least 50%, the second consists of other spaces eg. cemeteries, gardens, allotment gardens, agricultural lands etc. Forests might be divided into two types - regular ones and forest parks and fall in both categories of green spaces, depending on their landscaping and infrastructure.



More information [here](#).

### Green Public Procurement for urban regeneration in Turin (IT)

In 2011, the City of Turin developed an ambitious and detailed set of environmental guidelines for the regeneration of the Barriera di Milano district. This integrated programme for urban development covered 15 construction projects, with a total investment cost of EUR 35 million.

For all procurement activities related to the regeneration programme, two types of environmental criteria were developed. The first type of criteria was related to the improvement of the local environment and significantly influencing the design in order to improve the usability of the final space, affecting overall environmental comfort and improving the habitability of the area and covered aspects such as the management of surface stormwater, use of local trees, green roofs and facades and the durability of the materials used for surface coating. The second type of criteria was related to the life cycle impacts of construction elements and covered aspects such as the use of recycled materials and the energy requirements of heating and lighting systems. These criteria were included in the tendering processes to promote the choice of products, techniques and technologies that are as innovative and environmentally friendly as possible.

One of the construction projects was the development of the new urban park of Spina4, on an area of 43 000 m<sup>2</sup> formerly occupied by car industry buildings. Many sustainable features were included in the design based on the set of environmental guidelines, such as photovoltaic panels, photocatalytic paving, light-emitting diode (LED) lighting and the use of recycled materials.



More information [here](#).

### Incentives to increase roof greening in Linz (AT)

During the 1960s and 1970s, Linz experienced an economic boom with high environmental degradation, leading to a dramatic loss of green spaces and loss of quality of life.

The municipal 1984 Green Space Plan included, among other things, incentives to increase greening in built-up areas in order to reduce air pollution. It was based on the following four pillars: (1) sound basic research, (2) legally binding development plans, (3) financial support and (4) information and advertising. The plan was strongly based on statutory instruments, while at the regional level more informal planning was pursued in the form of regional forums.

With the help of this plan and the incentives the city of Linz transformed into a post-industrial city and since 2008 has been officially recognised as the leading green roof city in Austria.



More information [here](#).

### Delegating temporary use with green and sustainable activities

#### A call for project for managing the temporary use of former military barracks SeeU, Ixelles, Belgium

Located at the former military barracks of Ixelles, USSquare will be a new district, where the needs of its inhabitants in terms of housing, facilities and quality of life are met. The Barracks Master Plan was finalised beginning of 2019. After a transitional phase via SeeU, the public space has been gradually redeveloped since 2023 onwards with restorations, renovation and construction of accommodations and local facilities.

Over the site of 45 000 m<sup>2</sup>, 25 000 m<sup>2</sup> were used on a temporary basis over 3 years and during the transition phase, for location experimentations and hosting of projects, with the creation of a whole local ecosystem of shared values of sustainability, innovation and participation. The Brussels-Capital Region, launched a call for project to coordinate the site and temporary occupants for parts of the site over 7 themes: Food, Gallery, Community, Lab, Family, Playground and Sustainable.



More information [here](#).

### Working with an intermediary agency in Bremen, Germany

In Bremen, the ZZZ is contracted by the municipality, to be its local temporary use agency: it promotes the re-use of buildings and spaces, carries out inventories of vacant properties and facilitates their re-use, it takes on a key [brokering role](#) between owners of buildings and potential residents, it supports initiatives with legal advice and project development, as well as with start-up funding, and it develops strategies to re-use buildings and urban spaces according to different models based on the needs, the vision of the cities.

It supports projects varying from economic to social and cultural projects and from short-term events to long-term uses. Most of the activities focus on deprived neighbourhoods, particularly in areas outside the public perception.

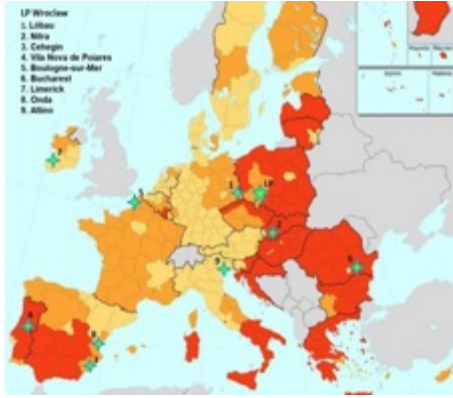


More [here](#).

## 2 THE PARTNERS OF THE GREENPLACE NETWORK







The GreenPlace network, led by the City of Wrocław in Poland, is composed of 10 partner cities from all over Europe: Wrocław (Poland), Boulogne-sur-mer Développement Côte d'Opale (France), Bucharest-Ilfov Metropolitan Area Intercommunity Development Association (Romania), Cehegin (Spain), Limerick (Ireland), Löbau (Germany), Nitra (Slovakia), Onda (Spain), Quarto d'Altino (Italy), and Vila Nova De Poiares (Portugal).

The profiles of the partner cities were completed based on: Questionnaires pre-filled by the project partners before the visit of the Lead Expert, Partner visits, Desk research and Proofreads of the city profiles by the project partners.

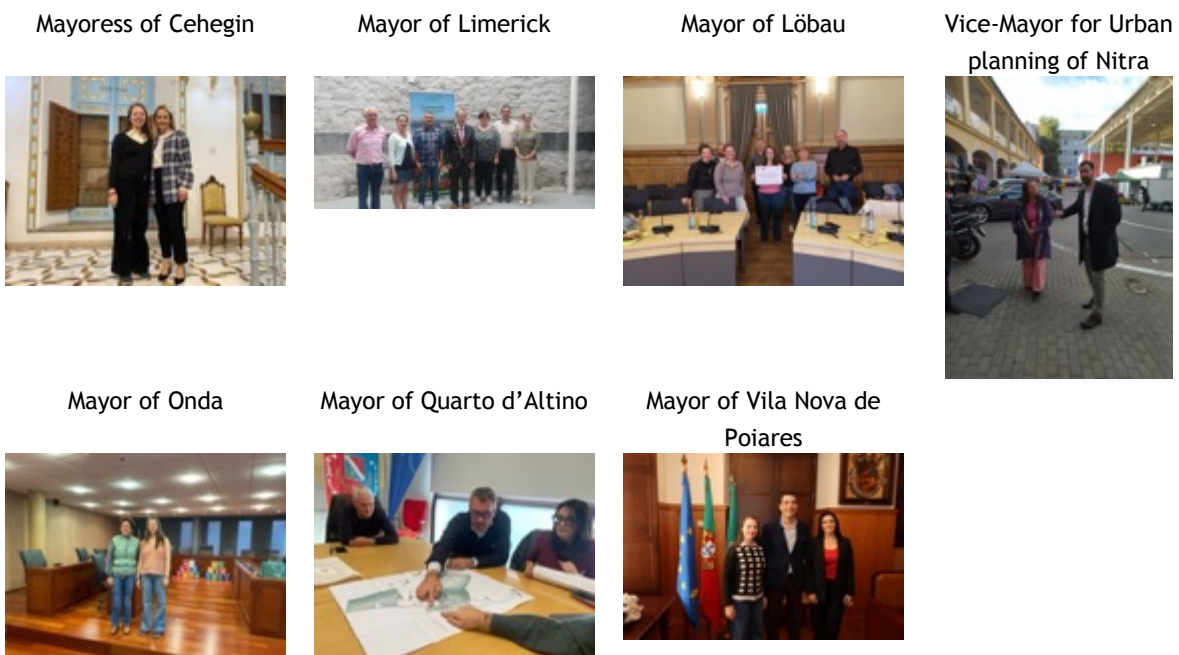
## 2.1 The partner visits - unique data collection and networking building experience

In particular, the Lead Expert went to visit the 10 project partners over 3 months, between 4 September and 24 November 2023. The Lead Expert met a total of 188 people (see the list in Annex 3). Below are some of the highlights of these visits.

### Meeting with core teams



### Meeting with elected representatives



Meeting with ULG members



The visits were the opportunity to discover the cities ....

... in the sun



... in the rain



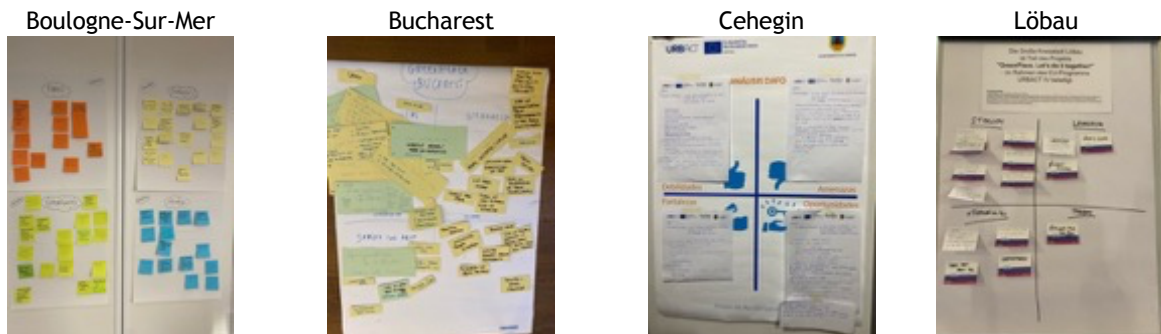
The project partners combined their strengths and creativity to reduce the carbon footprint of the visits by:

- providing sustainable food: vegan, with lowered meat consumption, with anti-food waste practices
- providing food in reusable dishes
- using soft modes of transports: by walking, scootering, using public transport and electric cars
- grouped in order to reduce the travel (by plane) of the Lead Expert.

To the extent that it was possible, the visits were grouped in order to reduce the travel (by plane) of the Lead Expert.

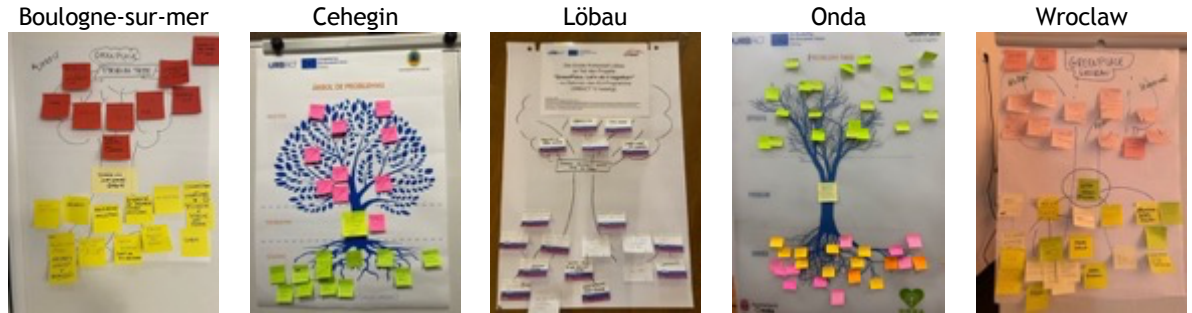
The partner visits were also the occasion to work on the first steps of the IAP process:

The SWOT of the forgotten urban areas





The Problem-Tree of the forgotten urban areas



Las but not least, the partners planed GreenPlace trees in two cities, in Wroclaw and Onda.



The remainder of this section presents the GreenPlace partner city profiles.

## 2.2 Boulogne-sur-mer Développement Côte d'Opale

### Context

The City of Boulogne-Sur-Mer is a coastal city in the north of France, with 44 000 inhabitants, 85 000 if encompassing the neighbouring cities which correspond to its active area (with Outreau, Le Portel and Saint Martin, physically part of the same entity, even if not administratively).

The main economic activities of the city focus on agro-food industry related to the fishing sectors: fishing as well as transformation, with some global leaders host there. Blue economy throughout the entire chain is crucial as well, including all levels of trainings, lifelong learning, with a pole of competitiveness. Other industries, such as the pens industry, BIC-Conté, have also been at the core of local economic activities.

As a coastal area, Boulogne-Sur-Mer possess major touristic infrastructures and assets: wild nature, preserved coasts, as well as Nausicaa, the largest sea life centre in Europe. The coast is classified “Grand site national”. Yet, costal erosion and increasing floodings are an increasing concern on the territory.

Even if the unemployment rate has fallen considerably in the last years, it still remains above national average (8% vs 7%) and the overall population is decreasing. The City of Boulogne is used to work with public consultation, as per law requirements, but seeks to increase its co-creation potential.

### Connexion for and by blue infrastructure

Being a coastal agglomeration, the City of Boulogne-Sur-Mer and its surroundings have developed several projects related to blue infrastructure. Reinforcing the link to it was improved by the renovation of the Liane River Banks for better city connexion and place to live.

#### Rethinking blue infrastructure for better city connexion and place to live



The traffic on the banks of the Liane River was planned in the afterwar to ensure easy access to the port from the highway, in a world of centrality given to the car. The City of Boulogne took advantage of the renovation of some pipelines on these roads to transform their usage and reflect upon current usages of the car and the city: by removing viaducts and, reducing car lanes and reorienting traffic, it streamlined the flow of cars entering the city for better mobility, increased greenery and public space as well as improved green and blue connectivity.

More information [here](#)

The blue infrastructure is also remembered physically as well as used practically, in. a former bus stop transformed into sea inspired playground with adjacent water solutions.

#### From bus stop to sea inspired playground and water solutions



The Place de France playground wase create in 2022. Even though what strikes the most when seeing it is its echoes to the marine theme, it is actually located on the site of the former bus station, which enabled creating a retention basin to improve the quality of bathing water, together with the recreational aspects of it.

More information [here](#).

Other water management solutions have developed, but using scallops shells to support draining in car parks.

#### Scallop shells to support draining in car parks



Within the Interreg Water Resilient Cities (WRC), Boulogne-Sur-Mer sought to improving its adaptive capacity of cities to heavy rainfall by demonstrating how SUDS can be retrofitted in public areas normally constrained by existing uses and infrastructure (above or below ground), or 'historic environment' protection. One of the adopted solutions was the usage of scallop shells paving stones for building a new a car park in the city centre, with draining functions. More formation [here](#)

The blue connexion has also been reinforced by other visual aspects and renewable and circular energy solution such as connected benches linked to photovoltaics....

#### Connecting for greener cities



As part of a major revitalisation of its port area, the City of Boulogne renovated its Entente Cordiale bridge to increase its connectivity to the city centre, improving both car and cycling mobility, while providing pedestrians with shaded benches, with the possibility to charge mobile devices thanks to the photovoltaics installed on the roofs. More information [here](#)

... or to the used of excess heat of a neighbouring factory.

#### Blue connexion for circular heat



A former mining site was totally transformed to connect to the river both in physical and conceptual aspects: it is now a swimming complex, Naturéo, using excess heat produced by the nearby factory. More information [here](#)

#### A focus on small and green natural and green revitalisation

In Boulogne-Sur-mer and its surroundings, several complementary projects have exemplified nature, environment and biodiversity, even if these were not their first aims. For example, it valorised nature and heritage by developing a new traffic plan.

#### Valorising nature and heritage with a new traffic plan



A part of the Bike Friendly Cities network, Boulogne-Sur-Mer Développement Côte D'Opale sought to support the city of Condette to promote and facilitate the use of bicycles as sustainable, healthy and friendly means of transport. Whereas the swamp was collapsing, the project closed the roads to cars to enable enjoying the landscapes and soft mobility modes, at the same time as heritage and touristic infrastructure. More information [here](#)

It also developed revitalisation a former flour mill site to create dense and green habitat.

### Revitalisation of a former flour mill for dense and green habitat



La Minoterie is an emblematic project of the Boulogne area, in Desvres, rich of ceramic heritage, where a former flour mill industry was transformed into accommodation: green revitalisation was not so much into the building which was destroyed, yet, a public garden was created amidst the social housing, making the most of orography, and the search was to create a dense habitat (as opposed to local detached houses). All this in the town centre. More information [here](#).

Over its seasonal temporary garden, the City of Boulogne-Sur-Mer has rethought its local mobility and attractivity, while many seasons focusing on green solutions and communication.

### A seasonal temporary garden to rethink local mobility and attractivity



Since 2015, a former parking lot in the centre of the fortified town of Boulogne-Sur-Mer, opposite the Town Hall, hosts a temporary garden, Jardin éphémère: originally from June to September, now, thanks to its success from May to November and even in winter. A new theme is designed for each season (e.g. Egyptology, “green” - with a play of words with homonyms). The transformation of the square creates a new dynamics to the city centre favourable to recreation activities, making it a nicer place to live as well as attractive, via renewed activities. Accessibility to commercial activities and public services for less mobile people is granted by mineral path (this year made with glass). More information [here](#).

More directly, in Isques, Boulogne-sur-mer Développement Côte d’Opale currently supports a nature revitalisation project to transform a former industrial, that of a sawmill factory, into a natural site.

### Industrial site to become (nature) wild



In Isques, the former Butel et Saison, sawmill factory was completely deconstructed in 2022. The land has already been flooded, even severely in 2023, and it was decided not to build again. The local authorities (CAB and city) have started a renaturation project to let fauna and flora flourish, as well as create new habitats.

### Going local to talk to residents

Boulogne-sur-mer Développement Côte d’Opale has developed several solutions to going very local to reach out to residents to inform, consult or co-create. It installed a marquee in a neighbourhood in the process of revitalisation.

### Engaging with local residents on site



In 2023, consultations with residents were organised in the Chemin Vert area, for a total revitalisation of the area. In order to engage with residents, a marquee was installed with various playful and informative activities to talk about their “neighbourhood of tomorrow”. This was collaboration between the municipality, social landlord and local partners (urban planning agency, associations, etc.). More information [here](#)

It also went collaborated with elderly people to test the city for them, but also as a benchmark, for other less agile people.

### Adaptation of Public space: workshops with seniors



In November 2021, as part of the Interreg AGE'IN project, Boulogne-sur-mer Côte d'Opal organised a workshop with elderly people to improve public space. It first selected pilot sites to test with seniors, presented the targetted are. It then organised a walk with a group of seniors to identify the walking issues and then discuss around a map to provide feedback (what did you like? What didn't you like? What was difficult? What is missing?). Following the workshop, a list of key issues/major improvements to make were sent to the City of Boulogne-sur-Mer. Following this workshop the City of Boulogne-sur-Mer undertook some changes to the specific sites.

More information [here](#)

### Local challenge: from a mineral industrial neighbourhood to a green residential neighbourhood

Boulogne-Sur-Mer was strongly affected by World World II bombings and the local architecture, except for its fortified city centre which remained untouched, has been strongly affected by post-war functionalist leading to an inadequacy of some infrastructure: in terms of building structure or usage or quality, mobility etc.

In the area of the train station, part of the Bréquerecque neighbourhood, “quartier Gare-Bréquerecque”, a 6.5 hectare-site welcomed a series of industries or activities which have now moved out of closed: a pen company (BIC Conté, 2.5 ha), a bus depot (5200m<sup>2</sup>), major trademarks, sweets company (Becasuc), Tires (Pneu Fauchille), former municipal workshops.

These forgotten buildings have led the site to become mostly a brownfield.

Some of these buildings are of architectural interest, with strong modernist architecture and the Chamber of Architects of France closely monitor what will happen to these.

Overview of the site



Abandoned factories



Modernist heritage



The site is not fully abandoned though: the Tires building hosts a temporary recycling and repair company (Resourcerie), the former bus depot and trademarks' buildings have become a storage facility, private activities take place through some offices, private accommodations, and cark parks. Some changes are already planned: a fire station is present on site, but it is planned to move out in 2026/2027. Contracts have been done with a public administration, Etablissement Public Foncier - EPF, to buy out the buildings and take care of deconstruction and depollution, after which the City of Boulogne will be able to act on site.

### IAP Focus

The revitalisation project is at its outskirts. Boulogne-Sur-Mer-Development Cote d'Opale and the City of Boulogne-Sur-Mer have already identified potentials and needs based on the urban design of the neighborhood, notably with regard to the close location to the town centre, Liane River banks, train station, but also local theatre, housing for disabled people, to develop projects in: housing, services, retails, green spaces, industrial heritage. A study will be procured by the end of 2023 to define the urban design of the site.

Temporary use



Private occupations



Current fire station



As such, the IAP will focus on identify the pre-programming for the development of activities on Bréquerecque neighbourhood, with the related methodology.

Generic objectives	Potential actions
Design a pre-programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roadmap for revitalising the site</li> <li>Identifying the sites and their activities</li> <li>Creating a link with the train station, neighbourhood and Liane River Banks</li> </ul>
Transient usage of the site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taking the time to develop adequate activities</li> <li>Taking the time to test activities</li> </ul>
Connection with the urban design study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating a synergy between GreenPlace and the urban design study</li> <li>Making the most out of both experiences</li> </ul>
Collaborating with stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying who is interested</li> <li>Co-creating the local project</li> <li>Identifying the right moments to involved them with the right messages</li> </ul>

**SWOT analysis**

The green revitalisation of the “quartier Gare-Bréquerecque” is embedded in the specific geographical an economical location and heritage.

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Localisation:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Geographical and strategic localisation</li> <li>close to city centre, close to Liane axis, close to the train station</li> <li>close to services and retailers</li> </ul> </li> <li>Ownership                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>large land companies</li> <li>property of local administration</li> <li>room for manoeuvre for local administration</li> <li>land available and controlled</li> </ul> </li> <li>Available space:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Size of the territory</li> <li>Available for usage</li> <li>Many opportunities for development</li> </ul> </li> <li>Habitants on site (+ theatre)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site not visible, not readable</li> <li>Identifying the perimeter</li> <li>Loss of image</li> <li>Bad connexion to the city centre</li> <li>Roads for trucks only</li> <li>Train station in a bad shape (not welcoming)</li> <li>Short-term move outs (e.g. fire station)</li> <li>Lack of private initiatives</li> <li>No public consultation</li> <li>Lack of needs identification</li> <li>No land control in 2023 (short-term)</li> <li>Costs of revitalisation of the site                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fallow buildings</li> <li>Pollution</li> <li>Bad quality of public space: no green, concrete prominence</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A realm of opportunities</li> <li>Connexions:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To the banks of the Liane River, to the city centre</li> <li>In the perimeter of action for the “hart of the city” plan</li> <li>Mobility, accessibility</li> </ul> </li> <li>Improving the quality of life                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating green spaces</li> </ul> </li> <li>Image and branding (identity, attractivity)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Memory of the place and of buildings</li> </ul> </li> <li>Cultural potential</li> <li>Third Place</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of funding</li> <li>Difficult collaboration                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of partners</li> <li>Lack of involvement of key stakeholders</li> <li>Combining different interest and needs</li> </ul> </li> <li>SERNAM difficulties to connect the sites</li> <li>Political changes</li> <li>Lack of adequate project management</li> <li>Demographic decline</li> <li>Lack of clear connexions</li> <li>Missing the link with existing people, building, heritage</li> </ul>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addressing economic challenges of the territory at the core of the city (craftshops)</li> <li>• Making a difference at the national level</li> <li>• External factors:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ New train station developments</li> <li>○ Impact of the new battery company in Dunkerque</li> <li>○ URBACT GreenPlace</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not taking the time to develop a consistent project</li> <li>• (heritage) Architectural constraints</li> </ul>
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**IAP resourcing**

At this, stage, it is anticipated that the implementation of the IAP actions will not be very expensive, and the Agency feels confident about the identification of potential resources. Major ones will be needed to at later stage, during the revitalisation of the process.

**Potential testing action**

The proposed testing actions will test different activities to support Boulogne-Sur-Mer in taking the time to design a relevant pre-programme.

**Testing Action 1**

<p><b>Transient usage</b> Boulogne-Sur-Mer wishes to test the transient usage of the buildings and areas on the site. It could be taking place in three phases: a first governance related phase with the EPF, a second one on the identification of potential projects, a third one on the development and implementation of such projects.</p>	
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**Testing Action 2**

<p><b>Joint application for national funding and support</b> A National public service, <a href="#">Urban Vitaliz</a>, addresses questions and blockages of local authorities in the recycling of their artificial (built, concreted, polluted) land which has lost its use. Boulogne-Sur-Mer would solicit this service jointly with EPF and ULG members.</p>	
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**Contributions and takeaways in the network**

	<b>Bringing</b>	<b>Wishing to get</b>
<b>Circular cities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scallop shells to support draining in car parks</li> <li>• Connecting for greener cities</li> <li>• Blue connexion for circular heat</li> <li>• A seasonal temporary garden to rethink local mobility and attractivity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reusing construction material</li> </ul>
<b>NBS and green infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rethinking blue infrastructure for better city connexion and place to live</li> <li>• From bus stop to sea inspired playground and water solutions</li> <li>• Revitalisation of a former flour mill for dense and green habitat</li> <li>• Valorising nature and heritage with a new traffic plan</li> <li>• Industrial site to become (nature) wild</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bringing green to a mineral place</li> <li>• Removing pollution</li> <li>• Managing runoff</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural heritage as a resource</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>
<b>Community engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging with local residents on site</li> <li>• Adaptation of Public space: workshops with seniors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging economic stakeholders</li> <li>• Engaging residents</li> <li>• Communicating with partners and general public</li> </ul>

	Bringing	Wishing to get
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bringing out new representations of a territory</li> <li>• European leverage for other European projects and funds</li> <li>• Project management and innovative methodologies and governance models</li> <li>• Approaches to diagnosis for these kinds of projects</li> </ul>

**Green Place in the working practices of the City**

The project is implemented by Boulogne-sur-mer Développement Côte d’Opale (BDCO), which is the Urban planning and economic development agency for the overall Boulogne-sur-mer District area (arrondissement: Communauté d’Agglomération du Boulonnais - CaB, Communauté de communes de la Terre des Deux Caps - CCT2C and Communauté de communes de Desvres - Samer - CCDS). The project is strongly supported by the Mayor of Boulogne-Sur-Mer, who is also the president of the Agency.

The agency is composed of 20 people who work closely on all their projects, as such, they are used to be working in an integrated way. It is also part of their working practices to work with other governance structures (CaB, CCT2C and CCDS)

**Stakeholder engagement**

The ULG group is totally new for this project. The coordinator has not been identified yet. It is planned that the meetings will be organised based on existing structures of technical committee and steering committees. Meetings will be organised when need is, depending on the needs of the project, and based on the IAP process, as well as at the outskirts of the transnational meetings.

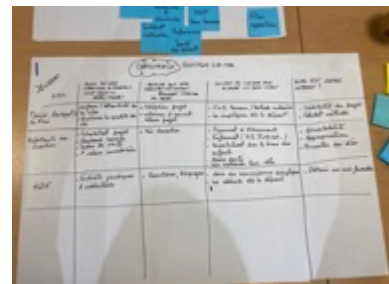
Stakeholder ecosystem map



Stakeholder influence/importance matrix



Stakeholder analysis table



The foreseen ULG members are:

- Elected representatives
- Pas-de-Calais Département, State, Region Hauts-de-France
- Communauté d’Agglomération du Boulonnais (CaB) and Ville de Boulogne civil servants
- IUT du Littoral Côte d’Opale - Campus de Dunkerque (ULCO)
- Social housing sector
- Etablissement Public Foncier (EPF)
- Chambre de Commerce et d’Industrie (CCI), CMA
- L’auberge de jeunesse? (youth hostel)
- Local retailer association
- Culture stakeholders: Rollmops et Faiencerie
- Local inhabitants including Mobicap

The project has not been consulted not co-created with residents yet, but they will be involved potentially during the Testing Actions.

## 2.3 Bucharest Metropolitan Area Intercommunity Development Association

### Context

Bucharest-Ilfov is the largest partner of the network, composed of the capital of Romania (1.8 inhabitants) and its neighbouring county (525 000 inhabitants). It has the highest GDP per capita in Romania and the key economic sectors are: information technology (IT), finance, real estate, professional services, and retail.

Bucharest-Ilfov has a mix of architectural styles due to its history, including Communist-era buildings and more historic structures. Regeneration efforts have in the past focused mainly on revitalizing neglected or historic areas like the Old Town (Lipscani), more so than in other historical though. At the same time, there is a large number of abandoned industrial areas in Bucharest, that are currently of high interest for real estate developers.

The city supports areas of healthy and diverse ecosystem, especially in outer areas, with abandoned territories with little human activities as well as a series of green and blue infrastructures of high relevance (even if with little accessibility and attractiveness for the population): Colentina Lake system, Dâmbovița River, and Văcărești Natural Park. Bucharest features several parks and green areas, such as Herastrau Park, Carol, Cișmigiu Park, which provide recreational spaces and improve urban aesthetics.

Yet, it is one of the most polluted cities in Europe, mostly due to car traffic, construction industry and concrete predominant in the urban landscape. Bucharest is also vulnerable to climate change impacts, including increased temperatures, extreme weather events, and flooding, due to very low soil permeability, lack of separation between waste and rainwater sewage, insufficiency of green areas.

Bucharest-Ilfov lacks experience in public participation and community engagement even though it is desired and legally regulated.

### Unexpected activities in forgotten and abandoned buildings and places

Bucharest-Ilfov possesses interesting examples of regeneration and new usages for forgotten or unused buildings and places, providing new services for neighborhoods and the entire city. The renovation of a former Customs House in the Uranus neighborhood seeks, for example, to be the trigger to revive the entire area.

#### Renovating a Customs house to improve an abandoned area



The Ark is a former Customs house transformed in the early 2000s: it is a hub of creativity, bringing together organizations dealing with communication, advertising, design, audiovisual, alternative education.

It is one of the most important examples of architectural recovery of a heritage building but is a last urban fragment witnessing the old Uranus neighbourhood, a historic, eclectic neighbourhood, devastated by the massive demolitions of the 80s. It has sought to put the Uranus neighbourhood back on the cultural agenda of Bucharest, together with other people who saw the potential of the area and made efforts to make it more valuable, through a series of activities such as: outdoor cinema, garden, joint activities with other local organisations, ...

More information [here](#).

Unexpected outcomes have also resulted from the abandonment of an unfinished water basin, leading to nature outburst, and the creation of the Văcărești Natural Park.

#### Abandoning instead of revitalising for nature outburst - Văcărești Natural Park



In 1988, the communist government began developing Văcărești Lake while also doing substantial hydro-technical work. In 1989, the work on the concrete earth dike leading to the lake and the lake bed was finished. Only 14 km of the 27 km required to feed the lake by gravity from Argeș via Lacul Mihăilești have been finished.

After this solution was abandoned, the basin was filled by pumping water from Dambovița. Due to execution flaws, infiltrations flooded the surrounding lands, particularly those around the Popești-Leordeni greenhouses, which caused a brief stoppage before the

project was finally abandoned after 1989.

Without human intervention, the area is renatured and populated by numerous animal and plant species, leading to the place to be called the Bucharest Delta:

A thorough process of research, documentation, lobbying and civic mobilization followed, which led to the declaration of the Vacarești Natural Park by government decision in 2016. Vacaresti Park is nowadays Romania's first urban natural park, occupying an area of 183 hectares and being 5 kilometres away from the capital's center. More information [here](#).

A series of diverse and inspiring activities are also taking place in a former Cotton Factory, providing good market value for a range of private-led activities.

#### Varied private activities in post-industrial buildings



A former Cotton Factory has seen the development of a range of private-led activities and occupations: from retail-related activities (shoemaking, electric cable production, ...) to sport (ninja club, cross-fit, pole dance) through art (Recul theatre).

More information [here](#)

In order to make the Dâmbovița River visible, activists organised a project, Dâmbovița Delivery, providing recreational activities at the same time as engaging residents.

#### Dâmbovița Delivery

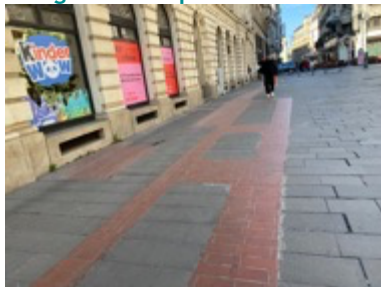


Dâmbovița Delivery is an effort to temporarily recover the public space adjacent to the Dâmbovița river, organized by members of the creative community in the Cotton Industry, Timpuri Noi neighbourhood. Its main goal was to test the interest of Bucharest residents for such events through specific actions such as: the water activities / rowing boat rides, artistic intervention on the facade of the Cotton Industry, improving in the garden of "La firul ierbii" and the online debate about "The role of the river in the city".

More information [here](#).

In order not to forget places which have disappeared throughout the life of the city, the City has used markers to make them visible, such as the ancient walls.

#### Using coloured pavement stones to make ancient walls visible



The ancient walls of the City of Bucharest are well document but not visible to the general public. In order to make them visible, the Municipalities has decided to use specific pavement stones to make them visible together with their main landmarks.

#### Building a knowledge and financial basis for innovative urban planning for forgotten spaces

Bucharest-Ilfov has started taking part in several projects enabling it to get new knowledge, expertise, methods and tools to better address forgotten or unused areas, corresponding to the needs of its communities. It has for example started to take part in a project on temporary use of vacant spaces.

#### Researching temporary use



Bucharest-Ilfov Regional Development Agency is part of the Interreg Impetus projects which seeks to change how cities and regions design sustainable development plans, including temporary uses for abandoned or under-utilised spaces to be regenerated. It seeks to improve urban governance, accessible services, and collaboration with

local communities, with the aim of increasing access and opportunities for the most vulnerable categories of residents and city users.  
More information [here](#)

Another project local stakeholders have been involved in evolved around the use of social mapping to innovation in local urban solutions.

#### Changing the ways to design urban spaces through social mapping



ATU and Ion Mincu University were part of the Urban Education Live JPI-Urban project to create and test a new model of collaboration between universities and urban communities. They developed social mapping to build a local agenda with a high sensitivity to situated knowledge and established local hubs for learning and doing that creates new networks and foster local innovative ecologies.  
More information [here](#)

Projects have also sought to diversify their financial basis, and the multiple use of private foundations and sponsorships has for example been used to its most for a former Cotton Factory.

#### Private foundations giving new life to post-industrial buildings



Nod Makerspace is the first and biggest MakerSpace of Romania. It takes place in the above-mentioned former Cotton factory, corresponding to another (initial) phase of its regeneration. Launched in 2015, the Nod Makerspace began from 650 m<sup>2</sup> and then expanded to 1050 m<sup>2</sup>. It provides a space and a community for creative industries, including. A FabLab, co-working space as well as training areas.  
Because of the lack of available funding the Makerspace benefited from a series of private sponsorships and donations e.g. from Saint-Gobain (for windows), Orange (for a material bank), ..., in exchange of promotion and/or social activities.  
More information [here](#)

#### Altogether for a greener city

Even if some say that Bucharest-Illfov is not the most active nor innovative city in terms of community engagement or inclusion green transition, some practices are extremely noteworthy and should inspire other cities. To start with, a bottom-up dynamics have enabled to regenerate a former cotton factory.

#### The bottom-up regeneration of a former cotton factory



The largest cotton processing plant in Romania, was privatisation in 1990, the factory steadily decreased production and was forced to close completely in the early 2000s. Subsequently, the company focused on renting the former production halls, as storage space, to various private companies, leading in 2009 to an advanced state of degradation. A first project of contemporary art gallery, a workshop for artistic production and a space for public events was launched in 2010.

In 2015, a multidisciplinary group of creatives decided to transform an abandoned industrial space of the former Cotton Factory in Bucharest into the first makerspace in Romania. Other projects then joined the adventure: Gastrobar, La Firul Ierbii, Creative Est #1&#2, CoWork160, WorkWork, Teatrul Recul, , .... Now, in 2023, the vision of creating a fully attractive center for creative industries is fully implemented!  
More information [here](#)

Other collaborative processes and activism have enabled kicking off the development of regulations long awaited from citizens, as is the case for the Dâmbovița River.

### Bottom-up regulation of the Dâmbovița River



Dâmbovița Delivery Masterplan Initiative was born as a result in shared interest, translated in a protocol of collaboration between major stakeholders of the site (NGO- Association Ivan Patzaichin - Mila 23, ADIZMB, Bucharest City Hall, Ilfov County Council, Water Company, Metro Company, National Water Company, the 6 sectors of Bucharest) in order to create and integrate a development plan for the area crossed by the river Dâmbovița in Bucharest and adjoining municipalities.

In order to make it operational, the project will have to start with a Zonal Development Plan with finance from the Ministry of Development and Public Administration, with several studies of circulation, utilities, sociological, environmental, heritage, landscape, urban design, economic, social.

Ensuring everybody is part of the city should go hand in hand in the exploration of urban space with all, including those with disabilities, for example visual impairment.

### Making urban space accessible to all

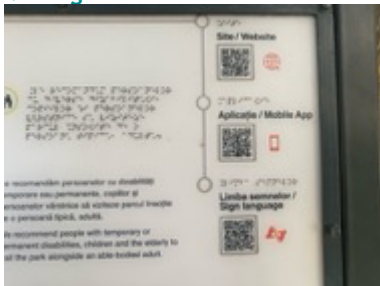


As part of its activities, the Amais NGO, has designed activities and tools making maps and orientation concrete to visually impaired people. It for example organises a learning curve around maps of different scales (from a room to a city), to enable their beneficiaries grasping a sense of scale.

More information [here](#).

Other inclusive solutions have enabled visually impaired and hearing deficient to enjoy natural richness of the city, for example with QR codes.

### Making nature accessible to all with QR codes



The Văcărești Natural Park welcomes all visitors by providing inclusive signboards: text is written with latin as well as braille alphabets. A sensitive map with volumes is also provided. Last but not least, QR codes give access to voice recorded tours as well as sign language guidance.

### An unsatisfying practice not to be repeated

In Bucharest-Ilfov, some old-fashioned urban planning practices, putting cars at the centre of city activities, prevent improving the aesthetic and usefulness of the landscape as is the case of the Dâmbovița River Banks

### Dâmbovița River Banks



The banks of the Dâmbovița River are enriched by beautiful trees. Yet, the river in itself is almost inaccessible: it is surrounded by large and dense roads with an average 70km-speed usage. Th river is not visible from the other side of the street, yet, very few pedestrian crossings are available. Then importance of the space and of its design has been the subject of Dâmbovița Delivery and River Masterplan as exemplified above.

### Local challenge: A central transport point opening up to the community

The Victorei depot was opened in 1872. It welcomed its first electric trams in 1894 and built iconic warehouses in 1926-1928. It became part of the public transport system in 1916. An emblematic typography building, still in charge of printing out the material needed for the entire public transport company of the city of Bucharest, was built in 1952. Because of World War II and a major fire, it lost 6 out of 8 of its warehouses.

The place is still being used as a depot. 180 people work on the depot: 90 as worker, 90 as maintenance and administration. The depot functions on a 24/7 basis. The trams nowadays are parked there and follow a strict routine of washing and daily maintenance.

Yet, the tram depot functions at reduced capacity. It hosts 40 trams, 24 are in usage. 5 trams are to be dismantled, 5 are technology trams (e.g. to remove snow), 2 trams serve as carriage trams for various work. The depot is also fostering old trams stored there before being dismantled.

Overall, it is not very accessible nor visible, even though it is at the heart of a densely populated district.



**IAP Focus**

A plan is about to be submitted by the City Hall, with the aim of accessing finance to kickstart a regeneration project (using New European Bauhaus Regional Fund), based on the proposals in the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) that mentions the reuse of some old depots in Bucharest. Some initial ideas have already been submitted such as: making the usage of the site more efficient, creating a transportation museum, with other activities for the population and to create new public spaces. At the moment of writing, it is not clear whether the plan will be submitted, if yes, when, with what methodology or with what exact content.

Bucharest-Ilfov Metropolitan Area Intercommunity Development Association (ADIZMB), in charge of the project, would like to seize this opportunity to involve stakeholders and future users of the site (to develop the most meaningful project: what activities should be developed? If a museum is to be implemented, how should it look like? Who should oversee it? Etc. It will also be the opportunity to address various environmental challenges and promote sustainability (by incorporating green and sustainable design principles, adopting nature-based solutions, and focusing on energy efficiency), as well as supporting job creation, as well as entrepreneurship and innovation with the newly design activities.



As such, the green revitalisation will be concerned mostly with the learning of participatory processes to co-design the future of the place, and the upscale of these learnings to other projects:

Generic objectives	Potential actions
Public participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-designing alternatives to the tram depot</li> <li>• Identifying the best stakeholders to work with on this process: partners as well as service providers.</li> <li>• Organising smaller and larger scale co-creation and consultation activities</li> <li>• Organising specific working meeting with the colleagues from the Public Transport Authority (STB) and the Metropolitan</li> </ul>

Generic objectives	Potential actions
	Association for Public Transport (TPBI) to inform them, engage them as well as influence their own ways of working.
Upscaling the learnings of brownfield regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carrying out an analysis of brownfield regeneration solutions</li> <li>Drafting a handbook/manual useful for other projects</li> </ul>

### SWOT analysis

Because of the paralleling Feasibility study of the SUMP of Bucharest-Ilfov, the green revitalisation of the Victorei Depot is bound by some objectives and activities which are not set yet.

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Location in the center of the city.</li> <li>Proximity to                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>residential area, museums and art school.</li> <li>Area of privileges individual housing with generous gardens</li> <li>Public transport (esp. Tram line)</li> <li>Embassies</li> </ul> </li> <li>Known place, easy to integrate in memory - visible - citizens love the place</li> <li>Large surface that cand allow for some flexibility and diversity of uses.</li> <li>Unbuilt area - flexibility of usage</li> <li>Existing historical buildings/first tram depot/history of the place</li> <li>Ownership (public land)</li> <li>Already allocated 35 million euros</li> <li>Privileged area with education can have financial means</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of interest in developing public spaces.</li> <li>Low engagement of public in general/lack of experience of public participation + public not used to these kinds of exercises</li> <li>Area is not very visible, it is not accessible from a main road, usually people don't know about its existence, being "hidden". How to build peer pressure?</li> <li>Lack of communication/trust/transversality in public administration</li> <li>Land + real estate value</li> <li>Seems unused + current bad state</li> <li>Privileged area with education might not be engaged</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legislation in Romania is starting to address urban regeneration.</li> <li>Connecting urban areas</li> <li>Old vs new built environment (evolving district)</li> <li>Co-funding for green actions at National/regional levels</li> <li>Training on mobility for all</li> <li>A gate over time</li> <li>Open access to 4 streets (only 1 today)</li> <li>A new public and community space</li> <li>Offering possibility for youth (from the art school) to be part of planning process</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To hurry up - being too fast in the design and implementation of the project</li> <li>Lack of capacity-building of public authorities to carry out such projects.</li> <li>Strategies for the city or region don't address the problem of regeneration of former industrial buildings.</li> <li>Lack of new depots or capacity for the ones in the periphery of the city - to take over the tram currently using the depot.</li> <li>Links between political and legal structures</li> <li>Political elections at municipal level might change priorities.</li> <li>Limited election-related popularity</li> <li>Potential influential private investors</li> <li>Business value of the land</li> </ul>

### IAP resourcing

At this, stage, The City Hall envisages a New European Bauhaus Regional Fund call to finance the final project.

### Potential testing action

The proposed testing actions would be the first concrete collaboration between ULG members and especially the current users of the site, the workers of the Public transport company

### Testing Action 1

#### Organising study visits of the depot

The first ones would be organised in a closed group for the ULG members (potentially in small groups). Others could follow up for the public (being strictly accompanied)





## Testing Action 2

### A Flashmob/pop up/temporary activity to open the site of the Tram Depot, to the public

Using urban design, it would make the place visible, test initial usages -e.g. visiting the tram depot, historical building, the typology factory, as well as encompass some co-creation activities for the future of the site.



## Contributions and takeaways in the network

	Bringing	Wishing to get
<b>Circular cities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Researching temporary use</li> <li>Varied private activities in post-industrial buildings.</li> <li>The bottom-up regeneration of a former cotton factory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>circular economy in building renovation (reuse)</li> </ul>
<b>NBS and green infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abandoning instead of revitalising for nature outburst - Văcărești Natural Park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>how to SDGs fit with heritage protection</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural heritage as a resource</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using coloured pavement stones to make ancient walls visible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>research and innovation in green renovation</li> </ul>
<b>Community engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dâmbovița Delivery</li> <li>Changing the ways to design urban spaces through social mapping</li> <li>Renovating a Customs house to improve an abandoned area</li> <li>Making urban space accessible to all</li> <li>Making nature accessible to all with QR codes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>how to include people? (participation)</li> </ul>
<b>Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Private foundations giving new life to post-industrial buildings</li> <li>Bottom-up regulation of the Dâmbovița River</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity-building for administration</li> <li>Rules to operate and funding principles: PPP, Public Procurement</li> <li>Urban data to take valuable decisions</li> </ul>

## Green Place in the working practices of the City

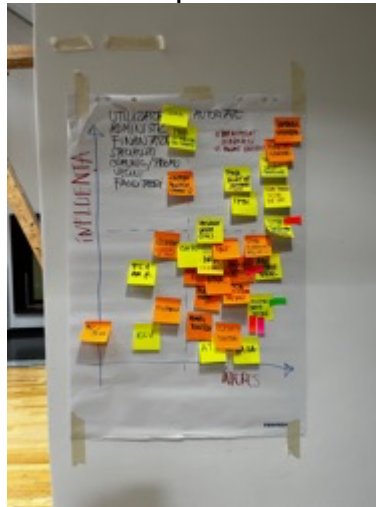
The project is implemented by Bucharest Metropolitan Area Intercommunity Development Association (ADIZMB), which was created by the Municipality of Bucharest and the County of Ilfov. It is a local agent defined as public or semi-public organization set up by a city, partially or fully owned by the city authority, responsible for the design and implementation of specific policies (economic development, energy supply, health services, transport, etc.). It has been created in order to better manage larger urban issues, that affect both these territories and need the resources and involvement of both administrative bodies and is delegated by the Municipality of Bucharest and the County of Ilfov to manage specific projects, such as this one.

The team is used to working in an integrated way, as part of its everyday practices, even it is not considered to be easy.

## Stakeholder engagement

ADIZMB has created a new group of stakeholders for this project. Their first meeting occurred during the Lead Expert partner visit of 19 October, where 23 people were present. The ULG will be coordinated by a core team member, Cristina Pavelescu who has already designed a throughout strategy to identify stakeholders, work with them and relay information from the transnational meeting. She will be supported by a colleague, Claudia Pamfil, with expertise of facilitation and management (as proven during the first meeting).

Stakeholder ecosystem map

Stakeholder  
influence/importance matrix

Stakeholder analysis table

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS TABLE			
Stakeholder interest analysis			
For understanding the various interested parties			
Stakeholder	Role/Influence	Interest	Impact/Influence on the project
Public authorities	Mayor of Bucharest, City Hall, Transportation Department, Mobility departments, Public Transport company, Regional Development Agency, Metropolitan Public Transport Association, District 2 vice mayor	High	High
NGOs	Asociația Metroul Usor, Fundația Comunitară București, BAZA, NOD MAKERSPACE, APUR, MATCA	Medium	Medium
Researchers, experts, consultants	Aura Răducu, Mihaela Negulescu, Order of Architects, Matei Smădu	Medium	Medium

The foreseen ULG members are:

- Public authorities
  - Nițușor Dan, Mayor of Bucharest
  - Mădălina Râmnicianu, Urban Projects Bucharest City Hall
  - Alexandru Nistor, Transportation Department Bucharest City Hall
  - Mihai Iacovici, ADIZMB- Mobility departments
  - STB - Public Transport company
  - Regional Development Agency
  - TPBI (Metropolitan Public Transport Association)
  - Andrei Panaitescu- District 2 vice mayor
- NGOs
  - Asociația Metroul Usor
  - Fundația Comunitară București
  - BAZA
  - NOD MAKERSPACE
  - APUR
  - MATCA
- Researchers, experts, consultants
  - Aura Răducu, Consultant
  - Mihaela Negulescu, University of Bucharest, transportation expert
  - Order of Architects
  - Matei Smădu

The stakeholders have been invited to invite other peers.

The Municipality has little experience of public participation but could work closely with some specific stakeholders on public participation, ATU (Association for Urban Transition), and place-making activities, e.g. BAZA, o Fundația Comunitară București, NOD MAKERSPACE.

## 2.4 Cehegín

### Context

Cehegín is a 14,710-inhabitants Spanish city in the Region of Murcia, declared a Historic-Artistic Site in 1982 by the Spanish Ministry of Culture, a Rural Wonder 2019 by the tourism portal HomeAway. The Municipality is currently focusing on diversified and sustainable tourism.

The local economy is mostly focused on the service sectors (hotel, catering, care) and agriculture. The overall structure of the commercial sector is evolving, yet, the Municipality focuses on promoting and strengthening small, local and friendly commerce, while trying to combat the emptying of the city centre.

The municipality of Cehegín joined the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Sustainable Energy in 2011 and has since produced a SEAP). In this regard, it is highly concerned with energy production and wishes to promote photovoltaic and thermal solar energy, in addition to other energy saving measures such as renovating lighting, rehabilitating housing, promoting sustainable transport and other measures. It also seeks to increase the greenery available to residents, bearing in mind the strong heatwaves it can face.

The population is characterised by an ageing (and related dependency), increasing foreign population and high unemployment rate (especially amongst women) and risks of poverty or social exclusion. These are mostly concentrated in the derelict areas of the city centre.

The City Council has the firm conviction to create a municipality that walks towards sustainability without leaving anyone behind, for which the reinforcement and commitment to social services and social care for the most vulnerable groups is especially important. As such it has started some participatory processes for the Urban Agenda 2030, but clearly includes a strong social component in the co-creation with disadvantaged groups.

### Regeneration for increased green and blue infrastructure

The City of Cehegín has focused on regenerating its city centre while ensuring that the SDGs are met, and especially to provide green and recreational areas for its residents. With El Coso, it created an accessible and inclusive part which replace former building ruins.

#### A green park for all replacing ruins in the city centre



In 2015, "El Coso" garden project was created to recover a degraded area of the old town while at the same time contributing to mitigating climate change, using natural resources and providing green spaces. While the site was slowly abandoned in the 1950s and became totally derelict in the 1980s, the project sought to reconnect this area with the city centre, while providing a compact solution in an area with strong height differences.

The solution was the creation of a green space around a central square, with a series of platforms and ramps to connect the lower and upper areas, improving accessibility to the site, as well as the creation of parking spaces and a municipal office building. The garden has a series of ponds, which are used to purify waste water from the adjoining dwellings. This water, together with rainwater, is used to irrigate the green areas, which in turn attract fauna, forming an ecosystem of its own within the urban fabric.

More information [here](#).

In Puntarrón, it also renovated another area with the planning of native species.

#### From derelict houses to a recreative panorama

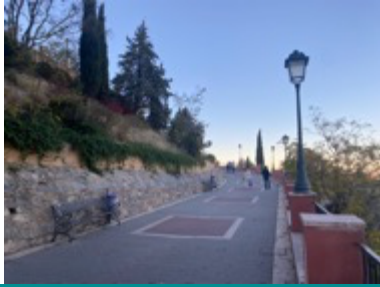


Puntarrón was slowly abandoned by its population which moved away for economic reasons starting in the 60s. In 2017, the site was totally renovated: the derelict houses, on a steep land, were demolished and removed, pedestrian paths were created, native species were planted. This is now one of the most scenic viewpoints of the city.

More information [here](#).

Some former ejidos were also transformed to benefit from their steepness to host a unique view to the city and beyond.

#### From ejidos to a recreative path



Paseo de la Concepcion is an example of the regeneration of ejidos in Cehegín: while the site was full of derelict buildings, these were removed, native species planted and a recreational and touristic path created. With welcoming benches and lights, it gives a unique view to the city and beyond.  
More information [here](#).

Part of the work of the Municipality is also to ensure that the blue infrastructure is made prominent, and as such, Cehegín is working on removing invasive species in one of the two local rivers, to make it more visible, more accessible.

#### Removing invasive species for improved blue infrastructure



The Argos River is one of the two rivers of Cehegín. Yet, it has been invaded by common reed, which is extremely difficult to remove and prevent from spreading. In order to combine environmental, well-being, touristic and urban planning needs, the municipality has started a project in 3 phases to remove the invasive species: through a series of cuts, cover with plastic over 8 months, planting indigenous species, repeated in several parts of the river, it wishes to uncover the river an emphasis the city blue infrastructure.  
More information [here](#).

#### A central focus on art

Cehegín places art at its heart, while supporting and/or promoting a series of different initiatives. It is for example supporting an art exhibition in Coto de las Maravillas, which embeds (and combines) art in nature.

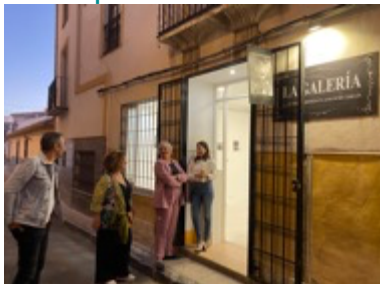
#### Combining art and nature through an exhibition in a park



In 2023, the Municipality of Cehegín launched a call for artistic projects to embellish the Coto de las Maravillas: 50 projects were submitted by local and international artists. 10 of them will be showcased every two years, starting in 2023, adding to one another, with the hope to reach 100 in 10 years. Private sponsors support the project.  
More information [here](#).

It is also supporting local artists (and NGOs and associations), by providing them access to unused spaces in the city centre.

#### Unused places transformed into artists' and NGOs' opportunities



As part of an initiative called "Descubre tu interior" ("Discover your inside") to dynamise the city centre, the Municipality of Cehegín has been granting access to empty buildings to local projects. Owners of these unused buildings give the lease to the Municipality who take care of the renovation and either lets for free the space to local NGOs or against a fee for commercial activities. The rent runs for 4 years, when the NGOs might be asked to move out if they cannot compete against a rent proposed by an external party. There are currently 9 available locals providing a range of artistic, educational and promotion activities.  
More information [here](#).

Some ad hoc initiatives also happen in the city centre, with, for example former medieval toilets transformed into a pocket art gallery.

### From toilets to a pocket art gallery



An innovative way of reusing former medieval public bathrooms has been to transform them into a pocket art gallery, Espacio Interior. More information [here](#).

### Circularity of materials in heritage and art

Related to the above practices, Cehegín has a strong focus on the circularity of materials. It is doing so by supporting circular art in Coto de las Maravillas.

#### Circular art



In Coto de las Maravillas, the pieces of art are made out of recycled materials and are linked to the natural environment of the ecological park, thereby answering the need to illustrate nature, as well as to find a place for artistic exhibitions. More information [here](#).

As a token of heritage, Cehegín also remembers of the ancient usage of recycling stones.

#### Recycling ancient time materials



The old city centre of Cehegín is inspiring for ancient techniques to be used as new ones: some roman stones were reused to build medieval walls.

### An unsatisfying practice not to be repeated

In Cehegín, a failed practice has been that invested in making the most out of nature, while not communicating well enough to potential users.

#### Not communicating on a rare local opportunity



The Coto de las Maravillas was opened in the late 1990s as a new ecological park for the residents of Cehegín. It has increased its offer for the general public in the 2000s with infrastructure such as paths, picnic tables, a wooden booth. Unfortunately, the site is little known, and except for a few events taking place there every year, there is no communication nor signposting prompting locals (or tourists) to make use of this unique place. More information [here](#).

### Local challenge: giving the ejidos back to the local communities

The Ejidos of Cehegín are spaces that in the past were at the service of the community and were used mainly for agricultural purposes and located outside walls, outside the medieval city: they hosted both agricultural fields and buildings. In the middle of the 20th century, they were abandoned and the existing buildings collapsed. Some of the ejidos were regenerated (see box above), whereas others are in despair, abandonment, with no ownership or ownership ceded to the City Council.

The two ejidos concerned in GreenPlace are located in the old quarter which is depopulating quickly and concentrates vulnerable people, in low quality houses and neighbourhoods, urban heat, with no services nor infrastructure nor green space. Then orography is also a challenge for residents and visitors.

One private house is located on one of the ejidos, with its private garden in the public area, but with no activity performed there.

They are located in a protected area, and therefore, each intervention is subject to revision by regional authorities. Yet, as part of its Urban Agenda 2030, Cehegín wishes to embrace these areas to make greener the city centre based on the needs of the neighbours and the local actors, in order to define the social uses for the unused soils. The revitalization of the city centre is a need that can be achieved through a better use of abandoned spaces, making it attractive to residents and tourists. This will support the recovery of the identity of the old town. A new Urban Mobility Plan is also proposed for the city centre and a touristic car park is planned at the entrance of the city by the ejidos.

First site



Second site



Derelict houses



**IAP Focus**

Cehegín would like to improve the natural connection that the historic centre has with its surrounding environment, so improving the connection of the urban space with peri urban areas, especially with other green areas - creating a green infrastructure, as well as providing space for the generation of renewable energy.

The city also wishes to investigate several future uses: public gardens, a sport area, an open space in nature for the artisans and craftsmen/women, a place to install/share photovoltaic panels, a shared orchard, etc...

Building remains



Stairs



Nearby green area



As such, the IAP will focus providing a space for the local community while improvement the environment and addressing climate change and creating local links.

Generic objectives	Potential actions
Providing a space for the local community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Space for communities</li> <li>• Space for exhibitions</li> <li>• Space for sport</li> </ul>
Improving the environment and tackling climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy production</li> <li>• Space for biodiversity</li> <li>• Water recuperation</li> <li>• Solutions to fight erosion</li> </ul>
Creating links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Between different neighbourhoods</li> <li>• Between green and blue infrastructures</li> <li>• Between small and big (hi)stories</li> </ul>

**SWOT analysis**

The green revitalisation of the ejidos is embedded in the current state of the ejidos and the specificities of their surrounding neighbourhoods.

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural space</li> <li>• Integrated in the Old Town</li> <li>• The Old Town can be accessed by pedestrians</li> <li>• Amazing panoramic views</li> <li>• Surrounded by tradition</li> <li>• Space for family open spaces</li> <li>• Space with cultural and historical interest</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of accessibility</li> <li>• Lack of facilities</li> <li>• Dirtiness, Ugly place</li> <li>• Expensive to build (materials, costs, etc)</li> <li>• Limitations to build in the Old Town as protected area (problems related to energy - cable)</li> <li>• Lack of social/public spaces</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of a green area</li> <li>• Reuse of natural stones when rehabilitating the areas (circularity in rehabilitation)</li> <li>• Possible to use as sport area (steps to go up)</li> <li>• New (smart) technologies</li> <li>• Intercultural exchanges</li> <li>• Visibility at international level due to natural value</li> <li>• Better branding/idea of the city</li> <li>• Creation of new homes for young families</li> <li>• Potential external investment (private initiatives)</li> <li>• Positive impact in local economy</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing degradation and unhealthy conditions</li> <li>• Risk of pests</li> <li>• Buildings can fall down due to climate events</li> <li>• Possible personal accidents</li> <li>• Illegal squatters</li> <li>• Ghetto formation</li> <li>• Change of local government - no support</li> <li>• People buying and abandonment (speculation)</li> <li>• Decrease in tourism affluence</li> <li>• Depopulation and less people living in the centre</li> </ul>

**IAP resourcing**

At this, stage, it is anticipated that the implementation of the actions will be funded under the ERDF. The use of a public-private partnership will be investigated.

**Potential testing action**

The proposed testing actions will test different activities which could take place in a permanent, iterative or punctual way.

**Testing Action 1**

<p><b>Artistic intervention</b></p> <p>Cehegin could organise an exhibition with local artistic, getting inspiration from the ejidos as well as embellishing them, using them both as a means and as an end.</p> <p>At the same time, it could also work with the housewives associations on theatre plays, to be played on site.</p>	
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**Testing Action 2**

<p><b>Activities for the oldest and youngest</b></p> <p>Elderly people from the care centre located in the city centre could be taken for a day out to the ejidos. In additions, some activities (walks, sports, drawing,...) could be organised for children.</p>	
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**Testing Action 3**

<p><b>Sports activities</b></p> <p>The specificity of the orography makes it creative to carry out sports activities, standing or moving: these could be featured over a few iterations.</p>	
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**Contributions and takeaways in the network**

	Bringing	Wishing to get
Circular cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A green park for all replacing ruins in the city centre</li> <li>From derelict houses to a recreative panorama</li> <li>From ejidos to a recreative path</li> <li>Recycling ancient time materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
NBS and green infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removing invasive species for improved blue infrastructure</li> <li>FAILED: Not communicating on a rare local opportunity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples of usage of photovoltaics and sustainable energy solutions</li> <li>Examples of aesthetics integrated landscapes</li> </ul>
Cultural heritage as a resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Combining art and nature through an exhibition in a park</li> <li>Unused places transformed into artists' and NGOs' opportunities</li> <li>From toilets to a pocket art gallery</li> <li>Circular art</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
Community engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Innovative solutions to involve population and neighbours</li> </ul>
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>

**Green Place in the working practices of the City**

The project benefits from the support from the Mayoress who launched the visit of the Lead Expert, was present at several occasions, as well as by two councillors who took part in all the visits and activities of the partner visit. The project will be implemented by the promotion and development department.

The entire municipality works in an integrated way by necessity: it is as small team and requires transversal colleagues to work together. It is easy, practical, and part of usual practices.

**Stakeholder engagement**

The ULG group is totally new for this project. It will be coordinated by the Association Torre del Pozo, with the support of the City of Cehegín. Meetings will be organised depending on the needs of the project, and based on the IAP process, as well as at the outskirts of the transnational meetings.

Stakeholder ecosystem map



Stakeholder influence/importance matrix



Stakeholder analysis table

Stakeholder interest analysis (to understand stakeholder interest)			
Theme: Regeneration of the Eje de Cehegín within the historic centre of the municipality for its transformation into a community green zone.			
Stakeholders	What is the interest? How does the issue affect you?	Capacity? Motivation?	Possible actions to respond to stakeholder interest
<b>Actores principales (personas con más interés según la matriz)</b> CARLA TROMP, VERGÉS AND ALCHERY ASSOCIATION	Cultural interest (arts, humanities and sciences). It affects us directly as all our activities take place in the old town.	Multiple intercultural progress (conferences, book presentations...). Great motivation because it is an association that carries out activities every month.	Resume the international poetry meeting. Ethnological exhibition (we have a large capacity of material to create it).
CARLA TROMP	We have a lot of problems in the square with people who don't have many resources and with their children, there is no room for them. There are many houses with a lot of dirt.		We want the rehabilitation of the Plaza de la Soledad and its neighbourhoods.
FRANCISCO ANGELO, SIOUANA FRANCO, TORRE DEL POZO ASSOCIATION	That the Old Town is regenerated to become a pleasant, livable place, respectful of its artistic, historical and heritage values.		As an association we are involved in the conservation and rehabilitation of the Old Town in all its areas. To conserve and use

The foreseen ULG members are:

- Mayoress of Cehegín- Maravillas Alicia del Amor Galo
- Ángel Ramón Rodríguez Alemán - Councillor for Culture and Education, Health, Economic Promotion, Employment and Industry, Old Town and Heritage
- José Antonio Zafra Corbalán - Councillor for Works and Services, Parks and Gardens, Tourism,



Commerce, Catering and Consumer Affairs, Pedanías (Small villages), Environment and Forestry, Animal Protection, Sports and Public Safety. Francisco Ángel Molina Franco (Association Torre del Pozo).

- Manuel Fernando Guerrero- Project Coordinator (Municipality of Cehegín)
- Catalina de la Ossa - Communication Officer (Municipality of Cehegín)
- Antonio Martínez - Project Technician (Municipality of Cehegín)
- Elvira Fernández- Administrative/Financial manager (Municipality of Cehegín)
- Francisco Manuel Peñalver (Arqueologist)
- Santos P. Guillamón Marcos (Architect)
- Santiago Leo Salazar & Francisca Abril Morales (Tourist Technicians)
- Paco Peñalver Aroca (Archaeological museum Technician)
- Ambrosio Morales (Municipal environmental department)
- María Josefa García Abellán & Paqui Sánchez (Housewives Association)
- José Antonio Zafra & Andrés Aznar Guirao (Sports Club Quipar)
- Magdalena Zamora Sánchez (Cehegín Tierra Adento Association & Artisans´ Association)
- Ana Belén Pérez Fernández (Sebastian Perez Pottery Company)
- Maruja Jiménez (Association Vidas)
- Juana Mari González & Ana F. Sánchez (Association Versos y Alquimia)
- Salvador Ruiz de Maya (University of Murcia)
- Maravillas Espín (Espacio Colibrí)
- Arturo Martínez de Maya (Citizen)
- El Jardinico association of artists
- Trade and hospitality association
- Social associations: Betany, Afemnor, Caritas
- Foreign womens´ association
- María Huertas, Victoria Martínez Artés & Raquel Galarza Ruiz (EuroVértice Consultores S.L.)

Other members identified to be engaged in the project activities are: The Polytechnic University of Cartagena, the Technological Centre for the Marble, the Region of Murcia (General Direction responsible for Relations with the EU, for relations with municipalities and EU funds), the Federation of Municipalities in Murcia Region.

The project has not been consulted not co-created with residents yet, but they will be involved potentially during the Testing Action, and via representatives in the ULG.

## 2.5 Limerick

### Context

#### Atlantic Edge - European Embrace

Limerick, with its 210 000 inhabitants, is the third largest city in the Republic of Ireland, located 200 km from Dublin. It is situated approximately 60km inland from the Atlantic Ocean at the head of the longest river of Ireland, the Shannon river - estuary. Limerick's climate is classified as temperate - being a mild climate with an annual average rainfall of 927mm, and an average temperature of 10°C. The urban green space per capita with 73 m<sup>2</sup> is above the ideal WHO value (50 m<sup>2</sup>) and exceeds by far the European average (18.2 m<sup>2</sup>). The three largest economic sectors in Limerick are wholesale and retail trade, construction, and professional, scientific and technical activities. It is host to major worldwide companies. In terms of employment, the key sectors are human health and social work. The city is also host to three universities. It is widely accessible by road and air.

Limerick county possesses a strong off-shore renewable energy potential, that is being investigated by the Shannon estuary eco taskforce. Limerick City's main areas of natural habitats containing significant biodiversity are based around a large network of rivers, including the River Shannon, the Abbey River and the Ballynaclough River with associated wetlands, grasslands and established woodlands as well as the 1.5km Park Canal.

#### A medieval city with a strong green focus

The city of Limerick dates back to the first Viking settlement in 922, utilising its location on the Shannon River. As a medieval city, Limerick was fortified - with a wall, towers, gates and ditches - dominated by its castle and associated fortifications on Kings Island and the 15th century walls and later fortifications enclosing the southern suburb of Irishtown. During the Georgian period, in the 18th century, Limerick was extended to the south in the style of a formally 'planned' town as it prospered through trade.

At the same time, in its Limerick City and County Development Plan, it stressed transversally the objective of making Limerick a green city, and to:

- Protect existing open space, by not permitting development which encroaches on open space and would result in reducing the recreational value to the public.
- Protect semi-natural open space areas in the interest of recreational enjoyment, community health and well-being, flood protection and biodiversity.
- Develop and protect an open space network of community spaces, to extend close to where people live, and which can accommodate a variety of recreational amenities and facilities for the community at large.
- Incorporate specific facilities and amenities that would promote exercise and movement as well as rest and relaxation in a natural way and in a variety of settings.
- Protect areas which are considered to be quiet or which offer a sense of tranquility, through a process of identification and validation followed by formal designation of 'Quiet Areas'
- Identify suitable sites for the provision of new parks and playgrounds in areas of need.
- Support the implementation of Limerick Sports Partnership Strategic Plan 2018-2021 and any subsequent updates.
- Facilitate opportunities for play and support the implementation of the Limerick City and County Council Play Policy.

A first push to ensure putting green issues on the agenda was the competition and win for the Green Leaf award in 2020.

#### Green leaf award



Limerick got awarded the Green Leaf in 2020: it pushed for the acceleration of green policies for biodiversity protection and greenspace. It helped branding the green work of the city and creating awareness for both inside the administration and the general priority. Since then, green issues have become a priority of the City. More information [here](#)

Throughout its Green and Blue Infrastructure strategy, it took another step to ensure that specific objectives and actions enable creating a green and blue ring in the city.

### Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy



Following the Limerick Development Plan and the Green Leaf Award, in 2021 the City of Limerick published its Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy seeking to inform and guide the planning and management of green and blue spaces in Limerick City and Environs, including rivers, natural and semi-natural spaces and corridors, including parks, open green spaces, woodlands, allotments, fields, hedges, playgrounds, lakes, coastal habitats, cycle routes and water courses, helping drive the transition to a low carbon and climate resilient society. The strategy assists in developing a network, to ensure the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and ecosystems. It stressed the essential component of resilient and healthy communities, cornerstone of sustainable development. State of the art, priorities, indicators, actions and monitoring framework composed this Strategy.

More information [here](#)

The greening of the city is in particular visible throughout the activities undertaken as part of its Biodiversity Plan, as parts of the All Ireland Pollinator Plan and National Biodiversity Plan.

The (medieval) heritage of the city being at its heart, it has also developed specific activities to ensure it is made visible, even when hidden, such as the obligation to use a specific colour on surfaces where the city walls used to be and to create buffers protecting the line of the walls in accordance with the [Limerick City Walls Conservation & Management Plan](#).

### Remembering the wall by a colour



The City of Limerick just validated the use of a specific colour to mark the previous existence of a medieval wall in parts of the city where it is not visible anymore and where new projects are planned to be developed. In this way, it ensures making the heritage visible in a uniform way through public & private developments.

### Place-making as key to green the city

The City of Limerick has developed a central approach to place-making over the years, in order to make the city lively, welcoming and safe, while at the same time increasing its green coverage. The creation of the Place-making department has been key in this process.

### Place-Making department



In 2021, the City of Limerick created the department of PlaceMaking. It is strongly linked to the parks and recreations department, and focuses heavily on tourism

Such an approach has been tested by temporary activities in the city centre to increase its safety and attractiveness, while using green solutions.

### Meanwhile use



On the site of the future University Campus, the University bought out a former department store and used placemaking to increase the safety and attractiveness of the site: it repainted the walls of the buildings and created community areas (closed a street to cars, installed ping pong tables, installed mobile tree nurseries), before a total renovation of the site.

The city is also experimenting with new usages of public space and the addition of green in the city via the development of a mobile tree nursery.

### Mobile tree nursery



In June 2022, the City of Limerick installed 70 mobile trees in its centre: trees of native species are planted in boxes surrounded by benches, combining nature and leisure, impact on the environment and on comfort in public space. They can easily be moved around where there is need, e.g. in transition areas. After 2 years, the tree will be planted around the city.

More information [here](#)

## Health and green space, with a strong focus on recreation spaces and activities

The importance of green spaces for mental and physical health has been particularly stressed during the covid-19 pandemic, and more generally for their role in improving social health and air quality and reducing heat stress in cities. These objectives can all be found in a series of crucial policy documents for the city: the National Physical Activity Plan, Healthy Ireland, Get Ireland Walking, National Outdoor Recreation Strategy under preparation, and, National Sports Policy 2018- 2027.

Parks and green open spaces are key to provide for playgrounds, multi-use games areas, skateparks and adult exercise equipment in the City and County: they account for approx. 300 hectares on the territory, and takes the form of a Tree Planting Programme, Roundabout Sponsorship, “Bridges in Bloom” and floral arrangements for the City, and provision of sports facilities in Parks, basketball, volleyball, table tennis. The link between green spaces and for health and well-being was consolidated in the Integrated Action Plan developed as the output of the Health and Green Space network.

### URBACT Health and green space legacy



Increase the potential of greenspace for health and well-being:

- Provide spaces for recreation, education, and connection with the natural environment for local residents and the general public
- Animate existing greenspaces through activities such as community interest walks, pop up food markets stalls and music, inclusive programmes and events, and culture-related or place-based workshops
- Raise awareness among residents, sport/physical activity coaches/facilitators, and local community interest groups as to the benefits of quality greenspaces for health prevention, overall wellbeing, and promoting active lifestyles

More information [here](#)

This approach was also developed to a large extent in the H2020 GoGreenRoutes network which sought to implement “nature-based solutions” such as green corridors, linear parks, pocket parks and shared walkways to enhance the physical and mental health of their urban residents.

### H2020 GoGreenRoutes Legacy



As part of its GoGreenRoutes intervention, Limerick updated the Castletroy Greenway, a popular cycling path in the city, providing connectivity between secondary and primary schools in the area. Apart from using the greenway daily for leisure, residents were also interested in growing native species along the path as a way to both promote ecological biodiversity as well as increase the enjoyment and wellbeing for users.

More information [here](#)

The Sports and Recreation Facilities Strategy determines provision of recreation and play facilities, identifies gaps in existing provision and devises a strategy for future provision and identifies the best model for management of facilities into the future and anticipated projects. It is implemented, amongst others, by the circular approach of the Natural play sites: Natural materials such as local wood were used to create seating, a rain garden and an insect hotel.

### Natural play sites



The City of Limerick created a new types of recreation sites with the reuse of on-site material. Fallen trees and other resources which would have been otherwise sent to waste/composting were used to create natural recreational infrastructure such as seating, stairs, walking paths, tables, play equipments...

More information [here](#).

As part of the health and well-being of the city, children, teenagers and young people are key: as active users of public space and in need for recreation and sport. The City of Limerick sought to be in particular pioneering in this respect in launching the first fully inclusive playground.

### First fully inclusive playground



On 4 September, the City of Limerick opened a revitalized playground showcasing features designed to ensure an all-encompassing play experience. Wheelchair accessible equipment, a sensory garden, and an emphasis on imaginative play are at the forefront of this innovative project.  
More information [here](#)

The design of nature-based solutions which are healthy has also been submitted to residents' scrutiny through an online consultative platform, MyPoint.

### MyPoint Platform



In 2021, the City of Limerick used the MyPoint to survey its residents on the frequency of grass cutting (to ensure biodiversity protection). The responses clarified for the municipality the local position on this issue.  
More information [here](#).

Residents themselves, the community as a whole, seek to improve the quality of their city by enrolling in the Tidy Towns movement.

### Limerick Tidy Town



Limerick Tidy Towns groups are made up of committed and civic minded volunteers who take on a range of sustainable and environmental planning and actions with and on behalf of their area. It wants to create a cleaner, brighter city centre for all to live, work and visit.  
More information [here](#).

### An unsatisfying practice not to be repeated

In Limerick, the installation of street trees has been identified as a failed practice belonging to another time.

### Street trees



On O'Connell Street, trees were planted in boxes, preventing them from growing and from being of benefit to the environment and the local residents. This is seen as a missed opportunity during a renovation which should not be repeated.

### Local challenge : If walls could speak - greens to highlight the potential of a medieval wall

There are fifty-six confirmed walled towns in Ireland with another 28 being potentially walled. Limerick's walled town consisted of what is now known as Englishtown and Irishtown (see map in Annex). They are key to Ireland and Irish cities' [history](#).

In particular, in the former area covered by Irishtown, there are several upstanding sections around the circuit of the walls which are still visible. The walls in Irishtown comprised 5 gates from the 15<sup>th</sup> century and 1 from the 17<sup>th</sup> and 7 towers.

Within the scope of GreenPlace, the City of Limerick will focus on a piece of the wall located between the Old Clare Street and the New Road (see map in Annex). At the moment, the wall itself is undergoing consolidation funded by The Irish Walled Towns Network & Limerick City & County Council. The area is prone to anti-social behaviour and not well maintained by local residents. While there is green growth it is not necessarily beneficial to the wall nor for good usage for the local inhabitants.

The wall



Areas of anti-social behaviours



Outdoor potential



IAP Focus

Limerick will focus on this section of wall and its environs, making the area more usable for residents which encouraging footfall along the wall both inside and out creating links between the different areas, making it part of the local tourism strategy and a possibility to increase green coverage in the city, via green corridors (on and about the wall).

Other visible parts of the wall



Other green areas



Other walls in the city



As such, the green revitalisation will be both a means and an end to the firstly identified objectives and actions for the City of Limerick:

Generic objectives	Potential actions
Increasing the green potential of the wall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increase of biodiversity</li> <li>● Green corridor throughout the visible and not visible parts of the wall</li> <li>● Rainwater solutions</li> </ul>
Getting rid of unsafe perception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increased activity</li> <li>● Creating a central meeting, safe space</li> <li>● Getting movement through the wall</li> </ul>
Developing community-led recreation activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Creating an inclusive accessibility path</li> <li>● Developing the potential for outdoor sport such as dance on the city wall itself</li> <li>● Recreation solutions for teenagers</li> </ul>
Augmenting the tourist potential of the wall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Developing the wall as part of a tourist path</li> <li>● Developing tourist signs</li> <li>● Creating a loop around the wall</li> <li>● Developing augmented reality to be scanned through with QR code (e.g. on tiles): for heritage (how the site was in the past) and on biodiversity (importance of bats)</li> <li>● Using green solutions to make the wall visible where it does not exist anymore.</li> </ul>

SWOT analysis

The green revitalization of the wall is embedded in Limerick’s ecosystem as presented in the SWOT below.

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy</li> <li>● Internal collaboration amongst departments</li> <li>● Available resources and interest for this project</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Land ownership, not mapped yet</li> <li>● Lack of visibility</li> <li>● Lack of attractiveness</li> <li>● Dependent upon tenants</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior collaboration with Public Participation Network</li> <li>• Good Collaboration with Guardi</li> <li>• URBACT Health and Green space heritage</li> <li>• Numerous green revitalisation experience (including with errors)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased activity for the neighbourhood</li> <li>• Green space and recreational space for residents</li> <li>• Biodiversity awareness which comes with green revitalisation</li> <li>• New families of tenants for co-creating the area</li> <li>• Tourism promotion</li> <li>• Health and well-being of residents</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hierarchy of needs in the city (municipal time and resources)</li> <li>• Anti-social behaviour</li> <li>• Physical barriers of the site: railings, gates (present to prevent anti-social behaviour) leading to lack of permeability</li> <li>• Public engagement of design not convincing</li> <li>• Community-buying over two years</li> <li>• Regulations of a protected area</li> <li>• No support of some residents for climate change actions</li> </ul>

### IAP resourcing

At this stage, Limerick expects to use internal budget and national funds such as that of the the Irish Walled Towns Network fund, corporate CSR, Slainte Care Healthy Communities Programme to fund its IAP activities. The Innovation Fund dedicated to festivals could also be mobilised.

### Potential testing actions

The City of Limerick envisages to test two types of actions around the medieval wall:

#### Testing Action 1

##### Greening the tarmac

On the front of the wall, on Grattan court, it would seek to move away from the current tarmac and lack of recreation space to revitalise it as a green space and provide a walkway along the outside of the city wall.



#### Testing Action 2

##### Community activities

On the back of the wall, on Johnsgate site it would carry out soft activities to reduce anti-social behaviours via the organisation of social events and provide a walk-way along the inside of the wall.



### Contributions and takeaways in the network

	Bringing	Wishing to get
Circular cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meanwhile use</li> <li>• Natural Play sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>
NBS and green infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobile tree nursery</li> <li>• URBACT Health and Greenspace</li> <li>• Green Leaf award</li> <li>• H2020 Go Green Routes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examples of vertical gardens in heritage conservation</li> <li>• Managing weeds on heritage sites</li> </ul>
Cultural heritage as a resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remembering the wall by a colour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examples of making a forgotten piece of heritage visible</li> </ul>
Community engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My Point platform</li> <li>• First fully inclusive playground</li> <li>• Limerick Tidy town</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examples of passive surveillance</li> <li>• Small actions to fight anti social behaviours</li> </ul>
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Placemaking department</li> <li>• Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy</li> <li>• GreenLeaf award</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>

## GreenPlace in the working practices of the City

The project benefits from great support from elected representatives and the Mayor was present at the partner visit of the Lead Expert.

The team is used to working in an integrated way - be it in terms of sectoral integration or horizontal integration -, as it has been part of their practices for decades now.

## Stakeholder engagement

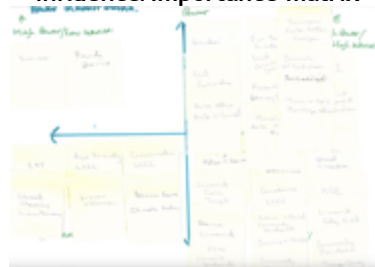
The ULG is strongly based on the legacy from the Health and Green Space network and will be further readjusted. It will be coordinated by the ULG coordinator who is working half-time on it and will organise regular meetings with the ULG members, originally planned as every 3 months - what will be readjusted to be aligned with the roadmap.

The local team has started to identify the relevant stakeholders with the use of the stakeholder ecosystem map, stakeholder influence/importance matrix and the stakeholder analysis table.

Stakeholder ecosystem map



Stakeholder influence/importance matrix



Stakeholder analysis table

Stakeholder	Interest	Influence	Importance
City Council	High	High	High
Local Businesses	Medium	Medium	Medium
Community Groups	Low	Low	Low
Academics	Medium	Low	Medium
Local Residents	Low	Medium	Medium
Local Schools	Low	Low	Low
Local Churches	Low	Low	Low
Local Health Services	Medium	Medium	Medium
Local Education Services	Medium	Medium	Medium
Local Development Companies	Medium	Medium	Medium
Local Voluntary Organisations	Low	Low	Low
Local Civil Society	Low	Low	Low
Local Business Interests	Medium	Medium	Medium
Local Environmental Groups	Low	Low	Low
Local Sports Clubs	Low	Low	Low
Local Cultural Groups	Low	Low	Low
Local Historical Societies	Low	Low	Low
Local Gardening Clubs	Low	Low	Low
Local Dog Owners	Low	Low	Low
Local Teenagers	Low	Low	Low
Local Elderly People	Low	Low	Low
Local Families	Low	Low	Low
Local Stay-at-home Moms	Low	Low	Low
Local History Fans	Low	Low	Low
Local Sports Fans	Low	Low	Low

The foreseen ULG members are:

- the Planning, Environment and Place-making Directorate (responsible for policy and strategy related to the environment, parks, greenspaces and green infrastructure and archaeology)
- Social Directorate (responsible for policy related to Healthy Limerick, sports and recreation)
- Economic Development Directorate (responsible for development policy in the city and county)
- The Parks and Greenspace management staff
- Elected Representatives from the Metropolitan District.
- Limerick LCDC - Membership includes local authority elected members and officials; State health and education services; local development companies; community and voluntary organisations; and other representatives of civil society, including business interests
- Public Participation Network - a local formal structure that has representation from voluntary groups, local organisations formed to protect the environment and groups representing people who are socially excluded
- Department of Public Health
- Local third level institutions (including University of Limerick)
- Limerick Local Sports Partnership
- Limerick Civic Trust (responsible for maintenance of many of the city's greenspaces) o Limerick Chamber of Commerce, city traders
- Local guardis
- Schools
- Community groups: Resident Associations, Schools, Families, Stay-at-home moms, Elderly people, Dog lovers, History fans, Teenagers, sports fans



## 2.6 Löbau

### Context

Löbau is a small, 14 334 inhabitant, city at the border triangle of Germany - Czech Republic (15km away) - Poland (25 km away). It is located in Upper Lusatia and as such benefits from a unique historical and industrial heritage together with rich nature and biodiversity.

Löbau did face the struggle of German reunification in the 1990s with a declining population, while at the same time as ageing. It has also faced an unemployment rate higher than the state and national average, and long waiting times for counselling and care services as well as services oriented towards needs. Its economic and industrial activities declined, focusing on special vehicle construction, the food industry, lighting construction, environmental and air technology, pellet production, stamp production as well as grand and piano construction. Being close to Dresden (80 km) and larger towns of Bautzen, Görlitz and Zittau (25km each), nowadays Löbau functions mostly as a sleeping district for commuters. The town is composed of 75% of agricultural land.

8% of the territory is forest coverage, below the district average of 35%, and transport area has increased largely in the last decades. Yet, overall, nature and environmental quality (together with beautiful and recreational landscapes) is good in Löbau, as well as air quality.

Several projects of renewable energy production are already in place and contribute to 10-11 GWh of electricity per year: 4 biomass plants, 7 turbines as well as 4 large-scale photovoltaic and solar systems. Geothermic energy is also increasing.

### Building on the industrial past to greening the city

The once prosperous and industrial Löbau was seriously hit by German reunification and new economic powers at stake: several industrial sites were closed down turning them into wastelands. Seeing this as an opportunity, the City chose to transform one these sites at the Löbau Wasser into a recreational area with green and halls, the Neuer Stadt Park.

#### From factories to a big park for all



The organisation of the 6th Saxon State Horticultural Exhibition 2012 offered Löbau a unique opportunity to use the painful departure of industry as a new chance for urban development. Places formerly used for industrial purposes were to be transformed into landscapes and take on tasks of urban design, district linking and recreation. The park created at the Löbauer Wasser was awarded the German Landschaftsarchitekturpreis (Deutscher Landschaftsarchitekturpreis) in 2013. The horticultural exhibition area in Löbau was recognised as an exemplary project in socially and ecologically oriented settlement and landscape development and contemporary open space planning. A 20-hectare park area, the Neuer Stadt Park, with various thematic zones was created as a permanently usable green recreation and adventure area, with two event buildings adapted to the needs of people with disabilities - the Exhibition Hall and the Flower Hall. More information [here](#)

In addition, such a transformation also enabled using green solutions to ensure that the past is an added value of the landscape and green and blue infrastructure.

#### Remembering the past with green solutions



In the Neuer Stadt Park, solutions were implemented to remember the industrial heritage. For example the former beetroot soaking water pools, were turned into environment-friendly, fishponds with a new function.

Link between the past and green cities also goes via the promotion of natural products available on these sites, as the production of Schminke House apple juice demonstrates.

### A branded local and heritage apple juice



An old apple tree orchard was remaining on the site of the Haus Schminke next to the former Noodle Factory. The Schminke House Foundation decided to make apple juice from these old trees, without any chemical additions or fertilizers, branded with their visual identity: making local products visible to be enjoyed in a very short food supply chain

### Valorising modernist and industrial heritage

Löbau also developed rich and creative ways to secure that its memory does not get lost, making it visible and explained very didactically, for example with information boards.

### Making the past visible with integrated information boards



In the Neuer Stadt Park, the story of the sugar and textile factories which used to be on the site are exemplified by didactic boards explaining the industrial processes. These in turn refer to the actual state of the landscape, as much as possible keeping the same layout (if not function) as in the past.

It also used the visualisation of the past to engage with visitors and make them enjoy the place.

### Making references to the heritage with visual artefacts



In the Neuer Stadt Park, some installations, notably playgrounds, refer to the industrial past by using similar forms: piles of sugar, cubes of sugar... By linking recreation and highly strong visual effect, together with explanation boards, these areas ensure the memory of the local industrial past remains.

In relation to its strong modernist heritage, thanks to Hans Scharoun's work on the Schminke House and the Noodle Factory, Löbau initialized two projects over the years called TOPOMOMO presenting a topography of similar buildings in Germany and the Czech Republic to share about them, raise awareness and put them on a knowledge and conscious map.

### Creating a topography of similar buildings



As part of the Topomomo project, the Stiftung Haus Schminke in Löbau worked on a topography of modernist architecture, while emphasizing their potential for small German and Czech cities. By supporting owners and connecting ideas and people, a map, a website and an exhibition as well as two books were created. More information [here](#).

In 2023 for its 90<sup>th</sup> birthday The Schminke House offered the opportunity to visit the house and a special exhibition with paintings of artist Alina Grasmann and sounds by sound designer Daniel Neumann. In the paintings and with the help of the immersive audio installation visitors could experience the idea of somebody living inside the house.

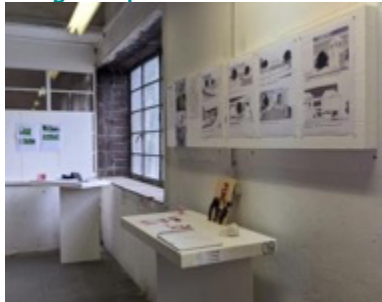
### Artists to put life into sleeping buildings



Alina Grasmann, an artist, visited the Schminke House for the first time two years ago. She took pictures of the interior of the house and painted it, while bringing it to life with everyday objects and activities.. The first series was sold completely during its exhibition in New York in 2022. The second series was exhibited at the Schminke House for its 90s birthday and travelled to art fair “artcologne” in November 2023  
More information [here](#).

Taking advantage of the space, the Noodle factory has been used to combine its potential both as an end and a means, in reflective terms and practical aspects.

### Using the space as both an end and a means



In July 2023, the Stiftung Haus Schminke coorganised a summer academy for German and Czech students. It was held by the JKON (Jugendkunstschule Oberlausitz-Niederschlesien) and the SUŠ art school from Vratislavice nad Nisou in Czechia. During the summer holidays 20 teenagers from both countries enjoyed a week filled with four artistic workshops on screen printing, architecture, animation and 3D-printing.

### Engaging residents to ensure a meaningful and sustainable project

Persevering local memory in Löbau is crucial not to lose the richness of its past but also to feed into the future. The past has therefore been collected via an exhibition of collected personal stories.

### Collecting personal stories



Starting in 2020 the Stiftung Haus Schminke has collected numerous memories and stories of the house from the time of the Kreispionierhaus from the early 1960s to 1990. These stories were first presented in a special exhibition on the usage of the house over time. They will however, also be visible in the future without the special exhibition.  
For the noodle factory the Stiftung Haus Schminke is also planning an opportunity for the people of Löbau to leave their memories and stories of the factory. This will probably take place in 2024.

The future is currently being co-created as part of a wide consultation of residents on the future of the Noodle Factory within a nationally funded project called “Fabrik reanimiert”.

### Collecting needs and ideas from the public for future uses



As part of a nationally funded project called “Fabrik reanimiert”, the Stiftung Haus Schminke in cooperation with the city of Löbau has started to work with residents on the future of the Noodle Factory with different approaches:

- 4 so called “Spotlight-events” in front of the factory, to pull the people of Löbau back on the property and bring the factory back into everybody’s minds
- A 3 month phase of testing out different uses of some of the rooms inside the factory
- A public planning workshop

More information [here](#).

Residents have been directly engaged and made aware of the possibilities of the Noodle Factory by the organisation of an open-air movie night.

#### An open-air cinema for residents



In June 2023, an open-air movie night was organised on the courtyard of the Noodle factory, celebrating the end of an exhibition on the former Anker pasta factory with a picnic, and camping chairs. The event was successful and called for a repetition.

#### Local challenge: A unique architectural heritage to be made available widely

The “Anker-Teigwarenfabrik” (Anker pasta factory) was built at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to produce groceries, especially noodles. Until 1945 the factory kept growing and over time numerous buildings were added, rearranged and changed to the actual needs of production. Production continued during the German Democratic Republic as a nationally owned company (VEB Anker-Teigwaren) but failed to persist after German reunification. The buildings were then sold to a private investor and stripped from of all machines before hosting the “Lehrbauhof”, a place for young people to learn trades such as masonry, wood building and others. Then buildings fell empty after 2010 and in 2018 the City of Löbau was able to acquire it.

In 1933, the Schminke House was built for the that day’s factory owner. It was commissioned to the world-famous architect Hans Scharoun, who also did some modifications to the factory at the same time.

The two areas - the factory and the house - used to be connected: with direct pedestrian and car access. The factory’s owner children playground was also on the factory grounds. both buildings are protected by German heritage conservation and cover a total of 1 ha.

In the last 12 months the municipality, the Stiftung Haus Schminke and other stakeholders have started to host small events to raise awareness on the factory, changing the perception of residents from “vacancy” to “opportunity”. Within the scope of GreenPlace, the City of Löbau would like to revive the place with new multifunctional usages (culture, education, businesses, ..), while leveraging on the international attention and a touristic value of the Schminke House and the still existing local memory of the place.

The Noodle Factory Outdoors



The Noodle Factory Indoors



The Schminke House



#### IAP Focus

Löbau will focus on recreating the physical link between the two areas, shedding light on Scharoun’s heritage and emphasizing the greens and make them available to the general public.

Current connection



Scharoun’s heritage



The Noodle Factory greens



As such, the green revitalisation will be concerned mostly with the circular use of the Noodle factory for different purposes for the community, together with the leverage on existing green spaces, and the rebuilding of the connection with the Schminke House:

Generic objectives	Potential actions
Developing the circular potential of the Noodle Factory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activating temporary usages</li> <li>• Renovating rather than destroying</li> <li>• Developing renewable energy production</li> </ul>
Developing a multifunctional area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Café and souvenir shop</li> <li>• Conference hall</li> <li>• Workshop facilities</li> <li>• Artist's residents and exhibitions</li> <li>• Physical and digital actions</li> <li>• Link with the green areas</li> </ul>
Leveraging on green spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating an accessible path</li> <li>• Communicating on them</li> <li>• Creating a community group to make them alive and maintain them</li> </ul>
Rebuilding the connection with the Schminke House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating an accessible path</li> <li>• Working on a common narrative</li> <li>• Highlighting the materials used</li> </ul>

### SWOT analysis

The green revitalisation of the noodle factory is subject to tension between the size of the city, heritage and needs for a new multifunctional place, as presented in the SWOT below.

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vicinity to the world known Schminke house</li> <li>• House Schminke and Factory very important for the city's history</li> <li>• Many connections to the house concerning materials and details - history already collected</li> <li>• Great road connection with the city -close to the city centre</li> <li>• Very flexible room disposition with big halls that are usable for a lot of different ideas</li> <li>• Sturdy ceilings that allow different uses with bigger loads</li> <li>• "Green" location between the dense old part of the town and the outskirts with single houses, small industry and pastures</li> <li>• Municipality owns the place</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very rural area without big investors or a big city</li> <li>• Region that was struck quite hard by structural changes, especially in the 1990s and 2000s</li> <li>• Need for bigger repairs and reconstruction of parts of the buildings</li> <li>• Peripheral location in Saxony- isolation</li> <li>• Lack of attraction because of lack of cultural offer</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saving the good image of the place - emotional connection</li> <li>• New energies and photovoltaic collectors on the big areas on the roofs (connected to the community's energy plan, such as Fernwärmenetz etc.)</li> <li>• Reviving and grading up the original green places as well as pastures of the factory planned by Hans Scharoun for the public ("Gefolgschaftsgarten") -</li> <li>• Marketing the factory and the Schminke house as "Scharoun's legacy" in Löbau - unique on a worldwide scale</li> <li>• On-going Fabrik Reanimiert! project</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs for the energy-efficient building renovation</li> <li>• Difficult renovation for buildings under heritage protection</li> <li>• Building "too big" for a small city, too much room (6830 m<sup>2</sup> usable area)</li> <li>• If no suitable use can be found, there is no money for area maintenance and operating costs</li> </ul>

### IAP resourcing

At this stage, the city of Löbau does not have a clear visibility as to where to look for funding for implementing its IAP.

**Potential testing actions**

The City of Löbau would envisages to test an action on community engagement.

**Testing Action**

**Competition for test use**

In a small competition people will be able to apply to use one rooms of the factory as a “test-use”. The uses will have to be accessible for the public and could be anything from pop-up-store to dancing classes or a skateboard park.



**Contributions and takeaways in the network**

	<b>Bringing</b>	<b>Wishing to get</b>
<b>Circular cities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A branded local and heritage apple juice</li> <li>• Using the space as both an end and a means</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewable energy production</li> <li>• Temporary use and activities frameworks (legal, financial etc)</li> <li>• Restoring an industrial building rather than tearing apart</li> </ul>
<b>NBS and green infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From factories to a big park for all</li> <li>• Remembering the past with green solutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural heritage as a resource</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making the past visible with integrated information boards</li> <li>• Making references to the heritage with visual artefacts</li> <li>• Creating a topography of similar buildings</li> <li>• Artists to put life into sleeping buildings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviving an industrial place with new multifunctional usages (culture, education, businesses, ..)</li> <li>• Creating a visible narrative making the site attractive to tourists and professionals</li> </ul>
<b>Community engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collecting personal stories</li> <li>• Collecting needs and ideas from the public for future uses</li> <li>• An open-air cinema for residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making it a place for “everyone” or at least a very broad audience</li> <li>• Next to private uses also finding public uses for the factory</li> </ul>
<b>Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>

**Green Place in the working practices of the City**

The project benefits from great support from the Mayor who is part of the ULG. It will be implemented by the Lord Mayor’s Office.

The team is used to working in an integrated way, in an organic manger: the municipality being small (40 employees), by default all the units collaborate closely. The URBACT Methodology will be a strong add-on to the theoretical skills needed for the civil servants.

**Stakeholder engagement**

Löbau is designing a ULG for the first time in this project. Yet, it is strongly linked to the project “Fabrik reanimiert”, the ULG will be coordinated by the director of the Schminke House Foundation in close collaboration with the Municipality. At this stage, it is planned that the ULG members will be kept regularly informed of the progress of the project.

The local team has started to identify the relevant stakeholders with the use of the stakeholder ecosystem map, stakeholder influence/importance matrix and the stakeholder analysis table.



## 2.7 Nitra

### Context

Nitra is a Slovakian medium-size city of 76 223 inhabitants, the 5th city of the country. The city of Nitra is the oldest seat in Slovakia, with initial settlement dating back to the 9th century. It is based around the river which gave the name to the city. As such, it bears local historical and archaeological significance not only in the country but in the entire region.

The city of Nitra as a crossroads of two important routes: firstly it is a city lying on a strong route to the focal structure of the state (connecting the Banská Bystrica - Zvolenský and partly also the Košice - Prešov center of gravity with Bratislava - Trnava) and secondly it is a city tangential to its regional area of activity, all these contributing to the economic growth of the city. The key industrial sectors of the region are the engineering, chemical and food industries. Electronic and car parts are also important concentrated in the new business park, as well as. Last but not least, tourism is also a key economic asset.

The city of Nitra is overall very green, even if there is a discrepancy between the centre and the outskirts of the city. There is a strong political will to increase the greenery, including in order to improve the air quality. Water is a key element, which create a strong blue infrastructure and is emphasised in many green infrastructures. At the same time, water is also a factor to potential threats to the city such as floodings and insufficient rainwater absorption and groundwater level drops. The city is also quite concerned with increased heat waves and heat islands in the city, with health-related effects and the overall effect of climate change on vulnerable population.

The population is overall decreasing with an ageing process. Participatory processes do not have a positive reputation because of the national political heritage, yet, increasing attempts to co-create local policies have taken place.

### Reusing and connecting

Nitra has been creative in reusing what already existing in the city, to make its heritage visible as well as to connect between different domains and usages. It brought attention to the site of its former military barracks by organizing a Halloween happening there.

#### Halloween in the military barracks



In order to bring life to the military barracks, the City of Nitra organised a Halloween party on the site on 31 October 2018. Two activities were organised: a guided tour for pedestrians and a ride on the touristic train. The event was a success with 2000 people coming, mostly dressed up and bringing life (!) to the military barracks in the city. More information [here](#).

Nitra also possesses several military buildings which it has reused by renovating, starting by a military barrack by transforming it into a marketplace.

#### Former military barracks transformed into a marketplace



The City Market in the City Centre used to be military barracks: they were renovated in 1993/1994 and became national cultural heritage in 2012. The building now provides for an outdoor market, shops, as well as offices.



Another transformation is currently on-going for the creation of the Creative Centre on Martins' hill, bringing together heritage, creativity and sustainability.

#### Martin's hill's creative centre for heritage, creativity and sustainability



As part of the regeneration of the Martin's Hill's military barracks, a creative centre is being created: while renovating 4 buildings, this Centre will be the first hub for creativity in the city. It does so by reminding of the local heritage in its renovation (e.g. making the old bricks visible), together by renovating up to the most recent green standards (in terms of isolation, energy, etc.). More information [here](#)

Reuse of material is also made visible in the playgrounds of the city.

#### Green colour for recycled material for inclusive playgrounds



Playgrounds are created by partially using recycled material. These are indicated by the usage of the green colour.

By reusing material, it also combined art and environment projects.

#### Combining art and environment



The INCLUSIVE Health And wellBeing In small and medium size ciTies (IN-HABIT) is an EU Horizon 2020 project that aims to identify visionary and integrated solutions to promote inclusive health and wellbeing in small and medium-sized cities. In Nitra, the project researches the way art and environment, might contribute to boosting health and wellbeing, with a focus on gender, diversity, equity and inclusion. Through a participatory approach and artists residences, inhabitants were involved in co-creating solutions for improving their well-being. More information [here](#).

Last but not least, the connection of material and concepts has taken the form of tributes in the New City Park: tributes to insects, to trees, to bird.

#### Tribute to biodiversity

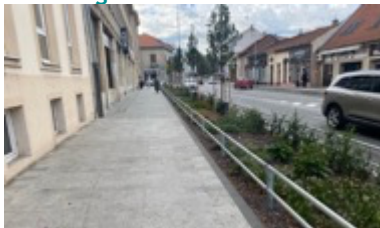


During the renovation of the New City Park, specific artistic artefacts were contracted to enlighten the park, at the same time as showcasing local material (wood) and biodiversity. These were called "tributes": to insects, trees, bird, putting humans as a member of wider biological ecosystem.

#### A green city with a variety of nature-based solutions

The city of Nitra has developed a series of nature-based solutions and green infrastructure approaches to address climate change, improve air quality, as well as liveability. It is for example developed solutions to reduced heatwaves in streets with greenlanes.

#### Reducing heat waves in streets



As part of its heat stress reduction the City of Nitra has started the renovation of the Mostna street by not only improving the concrete pedestrian path but also adding a greenlane to it. More information [here](#)

Alt is also adopting universal approaches to renovation of public spaces with the use of compacted gravel path.

#### A gravel for all pedestrian paths in municipal parks



In the Old City Park, as for any other recent renovation of public spaces, the City has removed the concrete from the paths to replace it by compacted gravel : this enables water absorption, contributing to rainwater management as well a heat wave reduction.

Other solutions are being implemented, specifically targeting erosion.

#### Coconut nests and geocells on the Castle Hill



The Nitra Castle Hill has been closed to the public for 40 years. As part of its renovation and accessibility to all, erosion solutions are being implemented. [Geomacell](#) structure the earth, making it more stable. Coconut nests are put on the surface, which will overgrown by plants overtime. With the growing vegetation, these will become invisible while not distributing nature but preventing overflow of water.

More information [here](#).

#### Bringing in the community with the help of specialists

The City of Nitra has developed expertise in working with intermediaries who can support them in reaching out to the entire population, understanding their needs, and developing solutions which are meaningful to all groups. For example, it has developed the working concepts of Co-design, co-development and co-management.

#### Co-design, co-development, and co-management



As part of the elsewhere mentioned IN-HABIT project, the team developed the concepts of co-design, co-development and co-management, with an emphasis on participation, inclusion and joint formulation of innovative solutions up to their implementation. It has been observed so far that co-management is the trickiest part.

It has also carried out specific indirect activities, such as pumpkin carving, for reaching out to the Roma community on urban design.

#### Pumpkin carving to reach out to marginalised communities



As part of the elsewhere mentioned IN-HABIT project, the team wanted to collect the vision of residents of a neighbourhood, with a majority of Roma people, on urban design and green spaces. Knowing that a questionnaire or vocabulary such as “co-creation” or “participatory” would not be appealing nor successful, the team organised a pumpkin carving activity with drinks and music, in order to use this as an excuse to gather people and to then ask the needed questions, orally.

It works with specialists, such as architects and sociologists, to understand the needs of the population, with skills that they do not possess internally.

#### Co-creation with architects and sociologists



In order to better address the needs of the population on the site of the military barracks, the City of Nitra used the expertise of SPOLKA, a female collective of architects and sociologists. With their specifically tailored methodology, they have provided tools and approaches unknown to and unmastered by the Municipality, while describing analytical insights which can be turned into practical solutions. The success has been such that the team is working on the co-creation of another site in the city.

More information [here](#)

The city went further in the creativity of its locals by organising a hackathon for the co-design of a public square.

#### Hackathon for co-design of public square



In 2019, the City of Nitra organised a hackathon to transform the Svätoplukovosquare. Over three days, the possibilities of effective modifications of the pedestrian zone and the square were discussed by groups of experts at the Hackathon before residents could decide how to turn the pedestrian zone and square into a pleasant place pulsating with life.

The Hackathon was organised by the city of Nitra in cooperation with the Department of Garden and Landscape Architecture of SPU in Nitra. The participation was open to: authorized architects, students of garden and landscape architecture, designers, landscape designers and other professionals. 18 participants took part in it. More information [here](#) and [here](#).

In some parts of the city, residents did not wait for being included but launched their own initiatives, such as in the case the multifunctional HidePark.

#### A bottom-up multifunctional place addressing locals' needs



HidePark an independent summer cultural-community centre in Nitra. Built on by volunteers on a Former illegal landfill, it became an important place for sport, culture, art, and ecology while creating a specific local partnership. As part of a wider movement of citizens embracing their cities and become proactive in designing urban solutions that fit them, their regulation has been only recent. The park has proven to address some temporary and long-terms needs, e.g. in being used by locals unable to enjoy the City parks under renovation, as well as those searching for an alternative. More information [here](#).

It uses transitional activities, such as a parklet, to change bring in everybody into the new urban planning developments.

#### A transitional parklet towards pedestrianisation



Part of the Štefánikova street in the city centre is pedestrian. In order to gradually move towards the pedestrianisation of another part of the street, the City took over some parking areas to create a parklet: designed by coloured stripes on the floor, it provides space for the bars and restaurant to rent terraces. It changes gradually the perception and usage of the street, reducing car usage and increasing pedestrian one. Future plans to make the entire street pedestrian are under reflexion. More information [here](#) and [here](#).

Last but not least, in order to ensure that everybody is actually considered in urban designs, the Municipality has designed a regulation for inclusive green spaces.

#### Regulation for inclusive green spaces



The City of Nitra strongly supports the inclusivity of its green areas with the development of two major tools. Its public procurement rules necessitate to fulfil 5 criteria of sustainability, inclusivity, aesthetic, resilience and safety. In addition, a Design manual for public spaces makes compulsory the inclusivity of its playgrounds for at least 20%, according to the aims of the administration. More information [here](#)

#### An unsatisfying practice not to be repeated

Even if Nitra is highly advanced in terms of Nature-based solutions, it is still learning about their best possible implementation.

### Failed Nature-Based Solutions



In the New City Park, a plan was set to plant flower beds which would be both aesthetic and practical, while providing an adequate ground for rainwater soaking and melliferous functions. Unfortunately, the ground was not correctly prepared, the flowers not adequately planted: the flower beds currently hosts few flowers, many weeds and has difficulties retaining water.

### Local challenge: A Green unused area too wild to be true?

The military barracks on Martin Hills were built in 1882. It consisted of 10 brick buildings and 24 wooden barracks with all the necessary accessories for the accommodation of 300 permanent and 1200 temporary military residents. At the beginning of the 1890s, a military hospital with two other smaller pavilions were additionally built (early 1890s), the site expanded with two buildings and a training area (in the interwar period of the 20th century), reconstructions and interventions carried out in the course of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The site witnesses political and historical changes, and also appeared to be hiding archaeological treasures. Many of the buildings are under heritage protection status.

Nowadays, the entire site is divided between three owners and parallel activities:

- The Archaeological Institute of the Slovak Academy of Sciences: with its offices, warehouses and an archaeological park (incl. a 9<sup>th</sup> century church remains);
- The Bishop's Office in Nitra: planning to renovate a former hospital and a former inn;
- The City of Nitra: which has already renovated 2 buildings for the needs of a kindergarten, and by the end of 2023 - 4 buildings for the needs of a creative center.

Offices of the Academy of Sciences



The former hospital



The kindergarten and creative centre



### IAP Focus

On the occasion of an official visit of Emperor Francis Joseph I in 19887, ornamental trees and trusses, were planted, which now bear heritage protection status. Although the quality of greenery degrades without maintenance, its area is still intact without major negative impacts. Due to its size, the vegetation of the park is a biocenter in the city system.

A staircase was also built to liaise the park to the most active part of the military barracks, which forms a key part of the park and a central piece of the entire site.

The park is currently fenced with a visual blockage from residents' access. In any case, the current state of degradation of the entire site makes it unsafe, notwithstanding the beauty of wildness. In addition, the area concerned by the IAP is owned both by the Bishop's Office in Nitra and by the City of Nitra.

The IAP will focus on making this park visible and accessible as well as useful for people and for the environment.

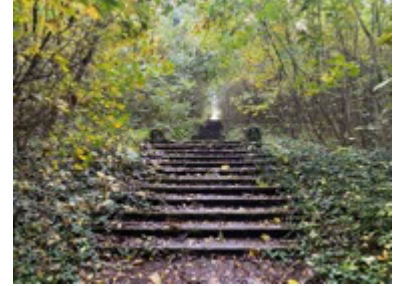
Entrance to the site and the park



The current green area



The historical staircase



As such, the green revitalisation of the park will seek to make it accessible to all, connecting it to the remainder of the former military barracks site and connecting it with other areas of greenery in the city so that together they create a functional skeleton of the city's greenery.

Generic objectives	Potential actions
Regeneration of the park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserving the area of the historical park in its entirety and its composition</li> <li>• Adding green areas and water retention measures on areas outside the monument zone</li> <li>• Preserving and increasing the quality of vegetation in the area - biocentre</li> <li>• Co-creation the green solutions</li> <li>• Co-creation with different user groups (children, youth, adults) and</li> <li>• Connexion with renovated areas of the park (kindergarten, creative centre, future art school)</li> <li>• New functions (playground, café, art, ...)</li> </ul>
Increasing awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing visibility of the park</li> <li>• Raising awareness about environmental issues, climate, rainwater management</li> </ul>
Connexion to the city centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing the safety of the park</li> <li>• Putting the park on the local and touristic map</li> </ul>
Network of green infrastructures in the city	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linking the park to the neighbouring green areas</li> <li>• Integrating the solutions of the park to the solutions of the other areas</li> <li>• Creating a narrative about the green infrastructure</li> </ul>

### SWOT analysis

The green revitalisation of Martin Hill's park is bound to the regeneration of the entire former military barracks and in particular to the former hospital into an art school.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The area as an oasis of peace and relaxation</li> <li>• Largest contiguous area of green space in the city of Nitra, Lots of greenery and its environmental significance within the city</li> <li>• Existing communication between the city and the owners as a good start</li> <li>• Existing or emerging amenities (kindergarten, creative centre, archeopark)</li> <li>• Genius loci of the place - its identity and history, cultural value</li> <li>• Convenient location within the city - proximity to the centre but also to the Zobor Municipal District</li> <li>• Recreation zone</li> <li>• Monumental value of buildings</li> <li>• Valuable greenery - but at the same time not in good condition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of the green areas of the area: greenery is wild, trees are in dangerous condition, lack of regular mowing, clearing of paths, dangerous trees</li> <li>• Traffic access to the site - There is only 1 entrance to the site, no side gate, the exit to Dobšinského Street and connection to the surrounding area is complicated</li> <li>• Pedestrian movement within and into the site - Poor access via junction which is dangerous, poorly designed pedestrian walkways within the site, inappropriately designed entrance to the site</li> <li>• Area safety - technically (buildings in poor condition), homeless people</li> <li>• Parking - lacking and at the same time it is not advisable to "concretise" everything</li> <li>• Ownership structure - land and buildings are of different owners, but the advantage is that not private</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exposed military bunkers and underground entrances - danger to people</li> <li>Lack of technical infrastructure</li> <li>Space around the kindergarten - needs to be adapted</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A new public park (and recreation area) for the city of Nitra</li> <li>Connection with other green areas in the city, creation of one of the largest parks in Slovakia, or creation of an interconnected ecosystem network of green areas in Nitra (Brezový háj, Nábřežie, Starý park)</li> <li>Terrain break as potential</li> <li>Creation of a pedestrian zone</li> <li>Students from nearby schools using the area for leisure</li> <li>Community space for the residents of Zobor</li> <li>Opening the site to the public, but considering the balance between closing and opening the park for safety and care</li> <li>Restore the original functions of building (bowling)</li> <li>Multifunctional urban environment</li> <li>Incorporation of new functions, e.g. creation of an NSK museum</li> <li>Creation of a shared care system</li> <li>Architectural competition and the creativity it offers</li> <li>Cooperation: linking the intentions of the individual owners</li> <li>A creative centre that creates opportunities</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of funding to implement plans</li> <li>Traffic solution for the site and its connections, creating access from several sides of the site - congested traffic in the area and inability to connect to Dobšinského Street</li> <li>Creation of suitable pedestrian access</li> <li>Different owners with different intentions and their coordination</li> <li>Creation of conditions for the development of technical infrastructure</li> <li>Underdeveloped technical infrastructure that was not coordinated</li> <li>The day-to-day management of the park, fencing - or the opening of the area, development and the complex design of the site are perceived as both threats and opportunities</li> </ul>

**IAP resourcing**

At this, stage, it is anticipated that the competition for the design of the park will be funded by the municipality. The implementation of the actions will be funded under the ERDF for green and blue infrastructure.

**Potential testing action**

The proposed testing action will continue the engagement of the public in the co-design of the park.

**Testing Action**

**Reactive and co-creative guided tours**

Nitra organised in June and July 2023 a series of informative and co-creative tours of the park in order to collect initial feedback from residents and all interested public. The Testing Action would reiterate the experience several times, while also collaborating with the technical university to present some initial designs for the park and get further feedback.



**Contributions and takeaways in the network**

	Bringing	Wishing to get
Circular cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green colour for recycled material for inclusive playgrounds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
NBS and green infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tribute to biodiversity</li> <li>Reducing heat waves in streets</li> <li>A gravel for all pedestrian paths in municipal parks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing solutions for in an open or close area to reduce anti-social behaviours</li> </ul>

	Bringing	Wishing to get
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coconut nests and geocell on the Castle Hill</li> <li>Failed Nature-Based Solutions</li> </ul>	
<b>Cultural heritage as a resource</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Halloween in the military barracks</li> <li>Former military barracks transformed into a marketplace</li> <li>Martin's hill's creative centre for heritage, creativity and sustainability</li> <li>Combining art and environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
<b>Community engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-design, co-development, and co-management</li> <li>Pumpkin carving to reach out to marginalised communities</li> <li>A transitional parklet towards pedestrianisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bringing in marginalised perspectives (youth, women, disabled, animals, plants)</li> <li>Developing a common public space from a private intention</li> </ul>
<b>Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A bottom-up multifunctional place addressing locals' needs</li> <li>Co-creation with architects and sociologists</li> <li>Hackathon for co-design of public square</li> <li>Regulation for inclusive green spaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>information sharing between project partners (with different interests, timelines, priorities...)</li> <li>Developing a working mechanism for the maintenance of the park between the different owners and users of the site</li> </ul>

### Green Place in the working practices of the City

The project benefits from the support from the Mayor and the vice mayor for urban planning, which was present during the Lead Expert partner visit. The project will be implemented by the Environment department.

The team has prior experience of integration, including from a past URBACT experience (partner of the USEACT network), yet it does reckon the challenge of ensuring everyday integration in its work.

### Stakeholder engagement

Nitra has created its ULG based on stakeholders involved in the reflexions around the former military barracks. Initial bilateral and multilateral discussions have taken place with the interested parties and will be part of the ULG dynamics, coordinated by Denisa Halajová from the Environment Department: meetings on an ad hoc basis depending on the needs of the project, as well as at the outskirts of the transnational meetings.

Stakeholder ecosystem map



Stakeholder influence/importance matrix



Stakeholder analysis table

The foreseen ULG members are:

- The core team : Štefan Lančarič, Denisa Halajová, Monika Reiskupová, Vladimír Ballay, Miroslava Hanáková, Juliana Janíková
- Other civil servants: Milan Csada (chief architekt od City), Lenka Lazorová (Department of the Chief architect), Alexandra Buči (Department of the Chief architect), Katarína Živanovič (Director of the Creative Center), Lenka Mareková (PR), Beáta Nirianska (Department of Culture)
- Other users of the space:
  - The Institute of Archaeology of the Slovak Academy of Science in Nitra (director)
  - Roman Catholic Bishopric in Nitra (director of office)
- Other stakeholders

- Hidepark - independent cultural and community centre in Nitra and IN-HUB
- COMIN- contact point for foreigners and Blue Dot -UNHCR and UNICEF
- ZAN Association of Nitra architects (Tibor Zelenický, Lenka Kompasová)
- Nitra Creative Center (Katarína Živanovič)
- SPOLKA

The municipality has acquired previous expertise in co-design/co-development/co-maintenance throughout the H2020 IN-HABIT project and has also started the co-creation of the renovation of the military base with citizens: these experiences have already been full of learnings! For the Martin Hill green park, the municipality started in June 2023 its co-creative process with an NGO, SPOLKA, who is an expert in these types of projects. As first impressive results, 1700 people responded to the first questionnaire on the site (beyond any standard average for such questionnaires), and 24 took part in a workshop and 200 in guided tours.



## 2.8 Onda

### Context

Onda is a nearly 25000-inabitant city in the East of Spain, at a strategic position in terms of road communications and its proximity to port, airport and railway connections. The industry of Onda specialises in the production of ceramics and forms, together with the neighbouring municipalities of Alcora and Vila-Real, the so-called “ceramic triangle”. Agriculture, mostly the production of citrus, is also crucial to the local economy. As such, the “industrial” area classified as industrial is twice the size of “residential” area.

The relocation of the industry sector due to the growth of the activity meant that the first industries located in the residential urban environment generated a degraded landscape at the interface of the historic centre.

In terms of landscape resources, the location of Onda in the transition zone between the inland mountains and the Mediterranean coast gives it unique characteristics. Its relief is made up of a group of mountains, highlighting the Sierra de Espadan Natural Park, the most important natural area. The territory counts on the presence of many wooded areas. In addition to the Mediterranean mixed forest (holm oak, cork oak), there are large areas of pine forest too. Regarding the fauna, the municipality is characterized by an abundance of birds, along with some mammals, such as wild boar or squirrels, and reptiles.

The city faces enormous inequality, unemployment, social emergency and poverty. It therefore seeks to develop social policies and services for all. It also has some experience of participation and co-creation, notably through the process of the Urban Agenda 2030.

### Reusing and recycling

The City of Onda is strongly committed to the fight against climate change and has developed a SECAP (together with related topics in its SUMP and Agenda 2030). One of its main areas of work in this regard is circular economy, efficient use of resources and thereby reusing and recycling what is already existing. Amongst the basic municipal services provided to the population it is developing a circular use of water for its city fountains.

#### Circular use of water in city fountains



On the Spain Square, the fountains use water in a closed and circular way. In addition, the water and the lights stop at midnight before resuming at 6 in the morning.

At strategic level, it is as a Smart City that Onda has developed a series of innovation to better monitor and use its resources.

#### A Smart City for a Smart use of resources



Within its Smart City Strategy, Onda has developed a series of solutions for a better use of resources: sensors for temperature, water, waste management, environmental monitoring of green zones, traffic monitoring, mobility solutions, digital information for all in public space, visible signalization, light sensors, smart meters, ... More information [here](#)

In clear reach to the citizens, making them conscious as well as providing useful services, the municipality installed recycling hearts to produce urban furniture.

#### Recycling hearts for urban furniture



The Municipality of Onda installed several collecting points in the shape of hearts, for bottle caps. They are in turn recycled into urban furniture, such as benches or chairs. At the moment, the success is such that the Municipality does not have where to install new urban furniture produced out of the collected caps. More information [here](#)

Land resources are also being reused, made the most out of, by the transformation of brownfields into intergenerational gardens.

#### From brownfield to intergenerational gardens



At the outskirts of the Municipality laid a brownfield. While the site had been abandoned for years, the municipality rented it out in 2022). It is now let to residents wishing to grow their own fruits and vegetables, with a focus on intergenerational activities.

In addition, the urban garden improves the quality of life of the population, promotes biodiversity and the ecological connectivity of habitats, which benefits the balance of ecosystems. The garden will be a participatory space for the youngest to learn the techniques of working the land with the elders.

More information [here](#)

At another level, the Municipality is also working with the private, industrial sector to streamline its use of resources and materials.

#### Industrial symbiosis for streamlined use of resources and materials



Since 2022, the Poligono industrial El Colomer uses the concept of industrial symbiosis to streamline the use of local resources, under the municipality's coordination. Business group themselves to share weights, truck, other material they need, which enables them to reduce the space they need, the financial investment, while together decreasing overall production (and consumption) of material.

More information [here](#)

Last but not least, at a more macro level, the circularity of impact is sought to be mitigated by the planting of a forest to compensate the Olympic games.

#### A forest to compensate the Olympic games



In 2023, an old public area has been transformed into a green space, creating an Olympic Forest in collaboration with the Spanish Olympic Committee. By planting native trees, this project aims at leaving a legacy of sustainability, marks an important step in the fight against climate change and the promotion of biodiversity. It will absorb approximately CO2 which will be used in part to offset the carbon footprint generated by the Spanish delegation at the Tokyo Olympic Games.

A third of the site is dedicated to activities for schools.

More information [here](#)

#### Stories and heritage

The Municipality of Onda also has at heart to share personal and collective stories via the preservation and exemplification of heritage. It has done so by renovating its central market while embellishing it with local stories told with ceramics.

#### Embellishing while telling local stories



The walls of the local market were renovated with ceramics - a typical local artefact - telling the story of the products which can be found inside the market: from the field to the table.

It is also renovating while making the ancient artefacts, materials, and objects visible.

### Renovating keeping the ancient visible



La Campaneta is a former ceramic factory located on the site of the future Green Lung. It was renovated in 2022 to transform it into a cultural centre. The place kept visible from the outdoor heritage from its industrial past such as a chimney and ovens, but also kept other elements of the production inside (molding, coloring,...) as well as illustrated the place with pictures of the ceramics' workers.  
More information [here](#).

Making it visually attractive is also the approach undertaken in the renovating of the synagogue Square in the city centre.

### Excavating and playing with visuals



In 2016, during the renovation of the Synagogue Square, used as a parking lot, some archeological works uncovered an enclosure of medieval rammed earth walls reinforced with stones and the rests of a stair and pilasters of arches 5 meters deep in the ground. The renovation sought to recover the interest and urban life of the neighborhood with an evident depopulation, from the reintegration of the archaeological site to the rest of the square and restoring the connections to the streets that were lost during years in the archaeological works.

Amongst others, the architects played with visual aspects, for example connecting the ancient staircase to a new one, making it both beautiful and useful.

More information [here](#).

### Onda for all and all for Onda

Onda has developed several governance structures and activities to ensure that everybody is on board its local policies, but especially, that nobody is left behind. It has, in particular, worked on its Urban Agenda 2030 while strongly using a participatory approach (as per the universal methodology).

### Co-creation of the Urban Agenda 2030



The Spanish Urban Agenda (AUE) is a strategic document, without normative character, and therefore of voluntary adhesion, which, in accordance with the criteria established by the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda of the United Nations and the Urban Agenda for the European Union, pursues the achievement of sustainability in urban development policies. The methodology for the Urban Agenda is participatory, ranging from a pre-diagnosis to the identification of actions, via survey of residents, SWOT analysis, challenges identification, action identification, with residents, internal and external stakeholders.

The Urban Agenda of Onda has been elaborated in 2021 in using for the first time this working method and a process for all public and private actors involved in cities that seek equitable, fair and sustainable development in their different fields of action.

More information [here](#)

Onda is also engaging with Children's' needs and interests in the city through a special Children's' Committee.

### Ensuring children are taken into account



Since 2022, the Municipality of Onda works with a special committee to ensure that children's interests, as well as challenges, are taken into account in local policies. The Committee is composed of parents, teachers, elected representatives, local associations and representatives of students of all schools. The issues raised are totally bottom-up.

An example addressed by this Committee is the lack of shade in parks.

More information [here](#)

Another example is that of having engaged with residents and visitors via a totally unrelated activity (city walk) to question about the future of its Green Lung (GreenPlace focus).

#### Taking advantage of an activity to co-create with residents



In September 2023, the Municipality of Onda took advantage of a walking tour to ask residents about their wishes for the future Green Lung. The residents could indicate one idea per paper, all of which were hung together, before a thorough analysis by the municipality to start co-creating a vision and solutions for the future Green Lung. More information [here](#)

#### An unsatisfying practice not to be repeated

Onda has proceeded to several regeneration processes, some not always well thought through from the beginning.

#### Wrongly planned building



On San José square, during the renovation in 2013, a building was constructed to host local activities. Even if it is now used as a central meeting point for major events, it can only be used partially and most outdoors: the building is composed of a main room with no toilets nor facilities, preventing it for any social use.

#### Local challenge: Healing a lung - making it green

Ceramic activities came to their peak in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in Onda, up to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. At the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Onda hosted 49 tile factories. These activities were located at the outskirts of the city, nowadays they form part of the city. With the decline of the industry, most of the area behind the castle has been abandoned or become derelict: some buildings are not in use anymore and have become ruins, some are partially in use but with a bad shape. Many of the older buildings have asbestos-cement coverings making them unhealthy as well as polluting the land around them. There are currently 16 Moorish ovens, 1 passage oven, 1 chamber oven, 1 inverted flame oven, 1 enamel oven, enamels deposits and 8 high industrials chimneys. Three former factories are of particular interest: La Campana (already renovated see box above), La Fabriqueta and El Bóldo.

Some buildings were constructed in the last couple of years, with a temporary permit, making use of the available space, but with the obligation to be removed when requested. In addition, a black spot exists on one of the main roads of this territory, leading to regular fatalities.

The degraded area makes difficult to connect the peripheral neighbourhoods and distances them from leisure, sports, education, health facilities, etc., thus creating more disadvantaged groups compared to the rest of the city.

As such, the municipality has launched a process to revitalise the entire place, between the Monteblanco and Tossalet neighbourhoods. An urban design has already been drafted, with several options for residents. It is open to consultation during the entire month of November 2023 online.

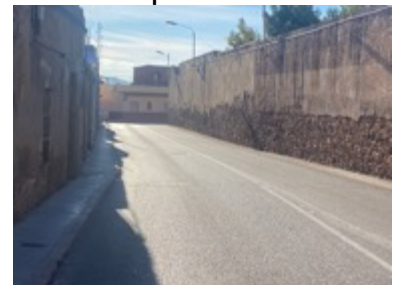
The entire site



Buildings to be removed



Black spot on the road



## IAP Focus

As part of its urban design, the Municipality will purchase the lands which are not his yet and wishes to investigate concrete solutions to make the most out of its potential. In particular, the area is also composed of a central church and adjacent social centre which will remain and could form the centre of this process and new project. The heritage elements (such as the 6 chimneys) will also be the visual highlights of the place. Other heritage elements can be reused in the redevelopment of the area. For example, stones from the enclosures can be used to build walls. Some green areas already exist which will be further maintained, connected and emphasised. New mobility plan, including new roads, pedestrian paths and cycling lane will be designed. Last but not least, some houses on the outskirts of the site will remain.

Existing green areas



The Social Centre and the church



Heritage elements



Taking into the consideration the very early stages of the redevelopment process, the IAP will focus on the roadmap to design and identifying solutions, as well as communicating and engaging local communities and tourists.

Generic objectives	Potential actions
Roadmap for the Green Lung	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• phases for development</li> <li>• Integrative and inclusive solutions</li> <li>• Innovative solutions</li> <li>• Nature-base solutions</li> <li>• Mobility</li> <li>• Social policy</li> <li>• Touristic strategy</li> </ul>
Communicating (to attract interest)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linking the park to the rest of the community</li> <li>• Attracting tourists</li> </ul>
Participatory process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-creating solutions (beyond legally binding participation)</li> </ul>

## SWOT analysis

The green revitalisation of the green lung is embedded in its specific location between industrial site and the (historical) city centre, as well as related health and environment issues.

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human team (technical, political, administrative)</li> <li>• Political and social will</li> <li>• Conviction of the need to act</li> <li>• Neighbourhood awareness</li> <li>• Social support</li> <li>• Overall plan for regenerating the area</li> <li>• Be part of a European network</li> <li>• Excellent area location</li> <li>• Width of the area</li> <li>• Requirement by law</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asbestos management</li> <li>• Current crisis in the ceramics sector (can negatively affect the development of the project)</li> <li>• Interadministrative bureaucracy + Dependence on other administrations</li> <li>• Maturity of the project</li> <li>• Economic crisis</li> <li>• Soil swelling</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding</li> <li>• Serving as a model for future urban projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Enhancement of connectivity</li> <li>◦ Revaluation of the area</li> <li>◦ Generation of new land</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Social cohesion</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Citizen opposition/owners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Difficulty in getting the message across to citizens</li> <li>◦ Lack of trust in the project</li> </ul> </li> <li>• High economic costs + lack of funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Financial sustainability</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Length of process</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Creation of new green and recreational areas</li> <li>• Environmental awareness</li> <li>• Environmental improvement/Resilience             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Implementation of native species</li> <li>○ Co2 absorption</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Healthy life             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Health improvement</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Touristic promotion             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Municipal advertising</li> <li>○ Better access to the castle</li> <li>○ Visual impact improvement</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Improving local economy             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Generate new business opportunities</li> <li>○ Structuring of different urban centres</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managing complexity</li> <li>• Dismantling of operating             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Urban management difficulties</li> <li>○ Intervention of different administrations</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Lack of political consensus</li> <li>• Maintenance (costs and processes)</li> <li>• Insecurity/Vandalism</li> <li>• Illegal occupations</li> <li>• Pests</li> </ul>
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**IAP resourcing**

At this stage, it is anticipated that the implementation of the actions will be funded with European funds. A public-private collaboration will be considered.

**Potential testing action**

The proposed testing actions will take into the consideration the fact that the regeneration of the site will be a long-lasting process, both in terms of design and implementation. They will seek to involved children in the co-design process.

**Testing Action 1**

**Drawing competition for children**

The children from the 6 schools of Onda as well as from the Social Centre managed by the NGO Quisqueya (all represented in the ULG) would organise a competition for children to draw the way they see the future Green Lung.



**Testing Action 2**

**Co-design of a mural with children**

The children of the Social Centre would be invited to create the design of some elements (e.g. walls), that would form part of the Green Lung.



**Testing Action 3**

**1<sup>st</sup> Hackathon for secondary school students and professors**

The students at both secondary Schools and professors would be invited for two days to face challenges about sustainability and digitalization around of the Green Lung.



**Contributions and takeaways in the network**

	<b>Bringing</b>	<b>Wishing to get</b>
<b>Circular cities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circular use of water in city fountains</li> <li>• Recycling hearts for urban furniture</li> <li>• A Smart City for a Smart use of resources</li> <li>• Industrial symbiosis for streamlined use of resources and materials</li> <li>• FAILED: Wrongly planned building</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing old and new economic activities on such projects</li> <li>• Meaningful constructions and infrastructure</li> </ul>
<b>NBS and green infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A forest to compensate the Olympic games</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking advantage of existing native nature</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural heritage as a resource</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embellishing while telling local stories</li> <li>• Renovating keeping the ancient visible</li> <li>• Excavating and playing with visuals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrating heritage material in the project (e.g. with an outdoor museum)</li> </ul>

	Bringing	Wishing to get
Community engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-creation of the Urban Agenda 2030</li> <li>Ensuring children are taken into account</li> <li>Taking advantage of an activity to co-create with residents</li> <li>From brownfield to intergenerational gardens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-creating the Green Lung with citizens</li> <li>Ensuring the place is adequate for children</li> <li>Integrating social assistance and activities in the project (e.g. classrooms in nature)</li> </ul>
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Structuring and implementing a project like that of the Green Lung</li> <li>Identifying funding opportunities</li> </ul>

### Green Place in the working practices of the City

The project benefits from the support from the Mayoress who welcomed the Lead expert during the partner visit and took part in the ULG meeting. The project will be implemented by the European Projects and Funding Department.

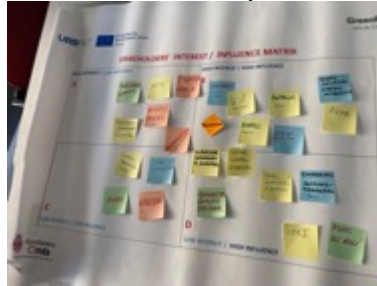
The team strives to work in an integrated way with other departments but struggles with it. It will be crucial for this project though bearing in mind that the project will be coordinated by the European Projects and Funding Department but will be implemented by department of urban planning.

The ULG group is totally new for this project. It will be coordinated by Antonio Lecha Sanguesa, who is part of the core team. Meetings will be organised on a monthly basis, with targeted stakeholders depending on the topics covered, as well as at the outskirts of the transnational meetings.

Stakeholder ecosystem map



Stakeholder influence/importance matrix



Stakeholder analysis table



The foreseen ULG members are:

- University Jaume I (UJI)
- College of architects
- APECC Association of construction businessmen
- Gain EGM Management and modernisation company of industries
- Chamber of Commerce
- Cooperativa d'Onda
- NGO Quisqueya
- Onda Centre Comercial
- Primary Schools
- Secondary Schools
- FACSA (Company for the management of public water installations)
- SIMETRIA Group
- FCC Medio Ambiente (Company for the management of cleaning of the municipality)
- RECIPLASA (Company for the waste treatment)
- Museum of ceramics
- Regional Government "Generalitat Valenciana"

The urban design of the project has been submitted for public consultation in November 2023 online, according to Spanish Law. In addition, the general public shared their ideas through a walk organised in September 2023 (see box above).

## 2.9 Quarto d'Altino

### Context

Quarto d'Altino, Italy, is one of the smallest cities of the URBACT GreenPlace network with 8.024 inhabitants and is part of the Metropolitan City of Venice. Quarto d'Altino was created early 19<sup>th</sup> century to serve as a train stop on the Treviso-Venice train road, While being located “four roman miles” away from Altino, by then almost abandoned.

The local economy is dominated by everyday life activities (such as a post office, pharmacy, retail shops, groceries stores, cafes and restaurants) and a few major factories such as a windows and doors factory and a printing factory. Its surroundings encompass major fields of conventional monoculture on lands mostly belonging to major ventures (such as Generali) and industrial sites.

Part of the municipality faces the Venice Lagoon. It benefits from the Regional Natural Park of the Sile River, with the Trepalade Oasis and hosts various lagoon sites which provide refuge for biodiversity, as well as recreational activities (such as walks, fishing, boating, ...). Several cycle paths also enable enjoying both the natural and cultural landscape. Indeed, the city is rich in archaeological roman treasures, many of which are still uncovered but being research. While Altino was a flourishing port and trading centre during the Roman period, according to the traditions and legend it was destroyed by Attila the Hun in 452. The town recovered, but was later abandoned when sea-borne sand began to cover it over. Its inhabitants moved to Torcello and other islands of the northern part of the lagoon. It bears a strong maritime legacy.

Overall, like in many other small municipality, local life and engagement is strong; yet, there is no culture of public participation.

### Tourism connecting archaeology and nature

Quarto d'Altino is at a crossroads of archaeology and nature and wishes to make the most out of each of individually and together to promote its local tourism. This is what it is doing by developing the approach of Slow tourism.

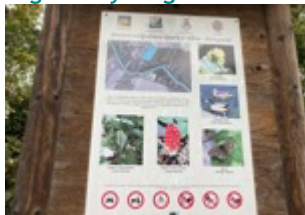
#### Slow tourism



Quarto d'Altino places slow tourism at the heart of its touristic and sports activities. The rationale being to support a new form of tourism enabling to take time, to enjoy and protect nature and the environment, as well as to focus on hidden treasures, here archaeology. This also goes hand in hand with promoting cyclability and walkability of the place.  
More information [here](#).

Slow tourism is taking the concrete form of some path created to walk and cycle while discovering both nature and heritage.

#### Walking and cycling while discovering nature and heritage



As part of its Slow tourism strategy, Quarto d'Altino designed paths which visitors can use to enjoy nature by bicycle or by foot. This stress the importance of local fauna and flora, at the same time as crossing heritage sites.  
More information [here](#).

Private initiatives have also been developed by motivated and cultivated individuals who wish to share their knowledge and beauty of the landscape, such as by building on maritime heritage to develop sustainable tourism on bragozzos.

#### From maritime heritage to sustainable tourism



In order to benefit from its maritime heritage and to make the link between environment and history, a local entrepreneur developed tours on flat boats (Bragozzo), which are quite and slow, not disturbing for the environment nor to the benefits of the visitors - takin the time to enjoy the landscapes.  
More information [here](#)



## Combining old and new for green regeneration

In order to regenerate, upgrade and make its city up to green standards, Quarto d'Altino has done a mapping and analysis of its abandoned and degraded buildings, by developing a thorough typology of degradation.

### Typology of degradation



17 buildings are abandoned or degraded. Quarto d'Altino designed a typology to explain these.

- BUILDING DEGRADATION, referring to the presence of an architectural heritage of poor quality, obsolete, unused, underused or improperly used, inadequate from an energetic, environmental or static-structural point of view
- URBAN DEGRADATION, referring to the presence of a heterogeneous, disorganized or unfinished system, the scarcity of equipment and services, the degradation of public spaces and the lack of free areas, the presence of equipment and infrastructures or those that are not compatible, from a morphological point of view, landscape, environmental or functional, with the reference context
- SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEGRADATION, referring to the presence of conditions of abandonment, underutilization or overcrowding of properties, improper or partial use of the same, phenomena of economic and social impoverishment or marginalization".

It has also sought to unveil some dormant heritage and archeological secrets present underneath fields with the use of remote sensing.

### Uncovering archaeological secrets with remote sensing



By using remote sensing (the science of obtaining information about objects or areas from a distance) researchers from the Padova University were able to uncover some secrets of the fields of Quarto d'Altino, recomposing the city which was once there, and which is still present under the fields. The images were used during an exhibition, "Altino prima di Venezia".

More information [here](#)

Combining old and modern elements has also gone through a traditional catholic church developing up-to-date renewable energy production.

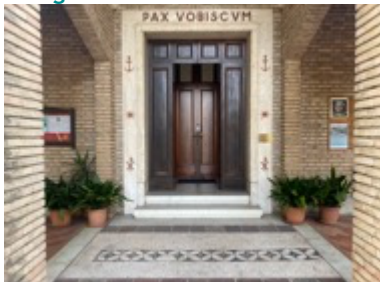
### Old and modern tradition: energy production on a church



Following the Laudato Si', Catholic Church has strongly expressed its concerns about the current ecological situation and needs to address it. In this regard, the church adjacent to the Civic Centre, energy is being produced through fotovoltaic panels.

At the same time, the same church also emphasizes its heritage by making visible some roman mosaics, composing its entrance.

### Using roman mosaics for a modern entrance



In order to make the most out of recent archaeological discoveries and make them visible to the general public, the church adjacent to the Civic Centre used roman mosaics to pave its entrance.

## Getting the community on board regeneration

Quarto d'Altino possesses experience of difference types of stakeholder and community engagement. It benefitted from soft co-creation with its residents in the co-design of elements of its church.

### Co-creating new religious symbols with the community



When the new church close to the Civic centre was created, the local community expressed its wishes to use corn straws to prepare the main cross. It also wishes for it become a symbol of life instead of death, with rising straws. The church was also ornamented with local boats and rising trees as the Bible holder.  
More information [here](#)

It has also tested the projection of a film with relevant topic to attract interest in the GreenPlace network's work on the Civic Centre.

### Showing a film to attract interest



In order to attract the local population to come and get interested by the Civic Centre, a film about such placed was projected. People were invited to become part of the ULG by sharing stories about "Places belong to those who "inhabit" them, that is, to those who care for them and feel they are essential to their identity", the topic of the film "Custodi".  
More information [here](#).

Another local example at Forte Marghera shows the possibility to institutionalize grassroots initiatives, without losing their initial dynamics and interest.

### Institutionalising the bottom-up transformation of the former Forte Marghera



Forte Marghera is a large fortress built from the early 19th century by the French and Austrian armies. After its abandonment, grassroots initiatives started to occupy the space and develop activities on this, belonging to the municipality. In order to ensure the safety and controlled management of the place, the Municipality of Venice created in 2015 a structure, Fondazione Forte Marghera. Previous residents could remain and continue carrying out their activities.

The fortress is now place for relaxation and enjoyment, with several NGOs and companies, restaurants and bars, present on sites, fairs, and festivals being organised regularly.

More information [here](#).

## An unsatisfying practice not to be repeated

Even if Quarto d'Altino is promoting tourism, it does not have control over all private enterprises and a project entitled "Darsena" in Portegrandi has proven the long way still to go.

### Darsena at Portegrandi



The hamlet of Portegrandi, part of Quarot d'Altino, decided to create a new marina for yachting boat. For that purpose, it created a deviation in the river, for the parking area, which disturbed the local ecosystem. In addition, it created some supporting buildings, which have remained unused for years, not private entrepreneurs wanting to make use of it. Last but not least, the boats parked there are fast board, yachts, which disturb the water and its ecosystem, by waves, noise and pollution. This approach goes against all principles of Slow tourism.

### Local challenge: A Civic Centre to bring together archaeology, environment and community

The nearby elementary school was built in the 1961, in Altino, part of Quarto d'Altino, as part of a complex encompassing the National Museum of archeology of Altino and a church. The school closed about in 1980, and its building became a public space for local meetings and activities, such as activities for children, exhibitions, film projections, etc. In parallel, the National Museum of archaeology of Altino also moved to a further location in 2013, and a cooperative restaurant opened. 6 years ago, the Civic Centre stopped its activities, and the building has become derelict since then.

Altino, where the Civic Centre is located, now a small hamlet, is an important place of historical and environmental interest. On the one hand, it has a thousand-year history and represents the ancestor of Venice, the first capital of the lagoon. The area is a vast archaeological surface and home to an important National Archaeological Museum. On the other hand, it is a countryside connected to the lagoon and surrounded by a network of rivers and canals, rich in biodiversity. In addition, the countryside is crossed by a network of cycle paths connecting to the Sile River Park.

The Municipality of Quarto d'Altino has already planned some initiatives and measures with the three-year public works plan 2023-2025 for the renovation of the building:

- enhancement and restoration of the Civic Center of the hamlet of Portegrandi (€1,265,000)
- requalification and energy efficiency of the Civic Center of Altino (€250,000)

The Civic Centre outside



The Civic Centre inside



The entire site



### IAP Focus

Quarto d'Altino would like to restore and relaunch the old Civic Center with a new function, to enhance its archaeological as well also from a naturalistic environmental point of views, moving in the perspective of integration between the two areas. It would like to have a multifunctional, innovative, green, smart hub open to citizens, capable of orienting people and providing services to facilitate the use of green spaces, cycle paths and waterways, for people to enjoy the landscape and environmental heritage, practicing outdoor activities. This will in turn regenerate people and their individual and community relationships.

Via the regeneration of the civic centre, Altino would become a pole for slow tourism, a crucial political challenge for the transition to green development, encouraging people to discover the natural and historical beauties of the place, while promoting a sustainable and environmentally friendly lifestyle.

The adjacent church



Outdoor archaeological architecture



The National Museum of Archaeology of Altino



As such, the green revitalisation will be concerned mostly with the regeneration of the Civic centre building itself, embedded in its wider territory, together with the promotion of the territory and development of new governance mechanisms.

Generic objectives	Potential actions
Regenerating the Civic Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basis renovation of the space: painting, toilets...</li> <li>• Reverting to active activities for the general public</li> <li>• Creating a natural hub</li> </ul>
Embedding the green regeneration of the Civic Centre in the wider local area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making the Civic centre the heart of new cultural and community activities</li> <li>• Creating a connexion with the city and the surrounding areas (as well as a project of national park)</li> <li>• Developing new transport modes to make the area more accessible: by boat, train, bus...</li> <li>• Creating a touristic map of Altino and Quarto d'Altino</li> <li>• Restoring some small areas of forest, since in ancient times the whole Po Valley was a large lowland forest</li> </ul>
Developing new governance mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a communication and working mechanisms with the national authorities in charge of the national archaeological museum and surrounding areas</li> <li>• Developing via individual informal contacts and formal ones,</li> <li>• Implementing collaborations on the use of the lands, for cultural events, ...</li> </ul>

### SWOT analysis

The green revitalisation of the Civic Center is bound to its specific location in the Venetian Lagoon and existing touristic activities.

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Centrality in connection with other attractors of interest (archaeological park and slow mobility);</li> <li>• Proximity to Venice and the coast;</li> <li>• Connection with the territory through cycle paths (cycle touring);</li> <li>• The beauty of the place;</li> <li>• The historical value of the center of Altino</li> <li>• The proximity to the Museum and the archaeological area;</li> <li>• Visibility and inclusion in the UNESCO site "Venice and its lagoon"</li> <li>• Non-urbanized areas that can be developed and designed;</li> <li>• Place of interest and meeting place for many associations;</li> <li>• Valuable environmental context.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of connections;</li> <li>• Isolation (the place is not well known and is not provided with correct road signs);</li> <li>• Little appeal for tourists due to the absence of public transport and communication tools and tourist products;</li> <li>• Difficulty in reaching the area by bus and naval line towards Venice;</li> <li>• Navigation facilities and car parks unsuitable and in need of improvement;</li> <li>• The place is too small;</li> <li>• Lack of collaboration between the institutions that operate there;</li> <li>• Archaeological and landscape resources not adequately valorized;</li> <li>• Weak communication</li> <li>• Little understanding on the part of local decision makers of the nature of the area and its historical importance;</li> <li>• Not advertised;</li> <li>• Focus: many ideas that must find a common path and bring different realities together.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possible accommodation/commercial facilities;</li> <li>• Place to host events, workshops, even with the Museum without using their spaces (even with schools);</li> <li>• Offer of tourist information services;</li> <li>• Educational workshop;</li> <li>• Integration of slow mobility-bike sharing services</li> <li>• Road/cycle mobility interchange;</li> <li>• Creation of meeting points for exhibitions, events and associations;</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning which, due to lack of funds and real interest, is "put back in the drawer" (which often happens);</li> <li>• Failure to control any development without a reference stakeholder and long-term projects;</li> <li>• Depopulation and abandonment of existing activities;</li> <li>• Ministerial archaeological resources management system;</li> <li>• Abandonment of the site and the civic center if it is not also used for events parallel to archaeology;</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of tours and single tickets with islands, Venice and neighbouring museums;</li> <li>• It can go from being a passing point to a starting point for visits, bike tours, cultural walks, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abandonment of projects due to lack of common division between stakeholders and institutions;</li> <li>• -Constraints (many legislative constraints affecting the area)</li> </ul>
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**IAP resourcing**

At this, stage, no funding for implementing the actions has been identified.

**Potential testing action**

The proposed testing action would give visibility to the place as well as activate the ULG and start co-creating new activities.

**Testing Action**

<p><b>Feria with local producers</b>                  Quarto d’Altino could organise a Feria with exhibitions and sale of local producers and working moments to design the activities and purpose desired in the civic centre. It would serve as an excuse to show the place.</p>	
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**Contributions and takeaways in the network**

	Bringing	Wishing to get
<b>Circular cities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Typology of degradation</li> <li>• Using roman mosaics for a modern entrance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>
<b>NBS and green infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slow tourism</li> <li>• From maritime heritage to sustainable tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing green revitalisation solutions</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural heritage as a resource</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking and cycling while discovering nature and heritage</li> <li>• Uncovering archaeological secrets with remote sensing</li> <li>• Old and modern tradition: energy production on a church</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link between a city centre and outer point of interest (making it visible, accessible, ...)</li> </ul>
<b>Community engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-creating new religious symbols with the community</li> <li>• Showing a film to attract interest</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creating some project ideas in collaboration with architects and urbanist and sharing them with the local community</li> <li>• Public presentation or conference and debate organized by ULG</li> <li>• Creating occasions of international activities with citizens</li> </ul>
<b>Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutionalising the bottom-up transformation of the former Forte Marghera</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration mechanisms between different levels of governance in relation to culture (museums)</li> </ul>

**Green Place in the working practices of the City**

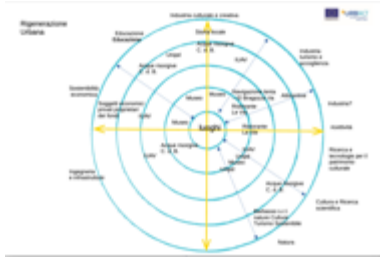
The project benefits from the support from the Mayor and several vice mayors (for education, culture, events, promotion of the territory, equal opportunities, social policies, health). Yet, the internal resources for this project are very much limited and the team is not used to working in an integrated way.

At this stage, it seems that the project will be mostly borne by the ULG coordinator and stakeholders. It will be crucial to ensure a link between this “external” and the “internal” work, via participation in transnational meetings and a strict feedback mechanism.

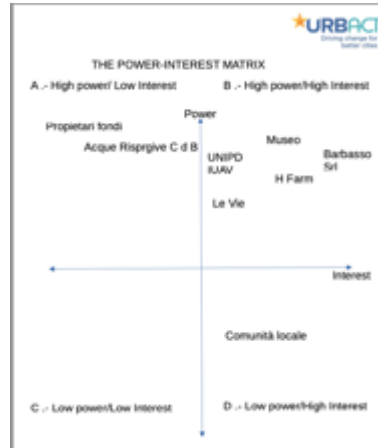
## Stakeholder engagement

The Municipality of Quarto d'Altino has created a new group of stakeholders for this project, the first of its kind. It has already organised a first public presentation on 10th October 2023 which gathered around 50 people, and the projection of a film related to the topic. Both have shown a high turn up and interest in the project and in being in the local life. The ULG will be coordinated by a stakeholder, Mario Defina, on a voluntary basis.

### Stakeholder ecosystem map



### Stakeholder influence/importance matrix



### Stakeholder analysis table

Stakeholder	What interests? How affected by the issue?	Capacity? Motivation?	Possible actions to address stakeholder interests
Museo Nazionale e aree archeologiche di Altino - Polo Museale del Veneto	Presence and enhance Altino's archaeological heritage	Organisational, presentation, dissemination and scientific skills, the motivation derives from the institutional mission of protection, safeguard and valorisation	Initiate memorandums of understanding for joint initiatives
Università degli Studi Ca' Foscari - Dipartimenti di Studi storico archeologici	Study and valorisation of the historical archaeological heritage, professional training activities, dissemination activities.	Scientific research, organisational, presentation, dissemination and training skills, the motivation derives from the institutional mission	Initiate memorandums of understanding for joint initiatives
Università degli studi di Padova - Dipartimenti di Scienze	Geographical scientific study of environments in relation to historical-archaeological stratification, professionalising training activities, dissemination activities	Scientific research, organisational, presentation, dissemination and training skills, the motivation derives from the institutional mission	Initiate memorandums of understanding for joint initiatives
IJUV di Venezia	Study of the urban planning, construction and environmental	Scientific research, organisational, presentation	Initiate memorandums of understanding for joint initiatives

The foreseen ULG members are:

- Associations: La Carta di Altino, partner of the project and available on a voluntary basis
- Museums and Superintendencies: National Museum and Archaeological Areas of Altino (Directorate of the Archaeological Museums of Veneto), Superintendence of Archaeology, fine arts and landscape for the Municipality of Venice and the Lagoon, Superintendence of Archaeology, Fine Arts and Landscape for the Metropolitan Area of Venice and the Provinces of Belluno, Padua and Treviso
- University: Iuav Venice, Ca' Foscari Venice (prof. Sperti), University of Padua
- Metropolitan City of Venice: Councilor Simone Venturini
- Campaign owners and managers: General Insurance, F.lli Pesce agricultural company, The courageous bread (Mirko Visentin and Damiano Visentin)
- Restaurateurs: Le Vie restaurant, Vecchia Altino restaurant, Ca' delle amphorae, At Odino
- Tour operators: El bragozzo va
- Merchants: Association of merchants of Quarto d'Altino, Quarto d'Altino trade consortium, Altinonline
- Medium-large companies: H Farm, Albertini windows and doors, Pixartprinting
- Banks: Intesa Sanpaolo, Cooperative Credit Bank, Unicredit
- Parish: Parish of Quarto d'Altino, Parish group of Altino, Parish group of Portegrandi

As for many smaller municipalities, local life and engagement is strong; yet, for the municipality, it is the first time to work with stakeholders in a structured group, and citizens as a participatory process.

## 2.10 Vila Nova de Poiares

### Context

Vila Nova de Poiares is the smallest city of the GreenPlace network, with 7000 inhabitants, many of which might be registered but not living there. It is one of the 19 counties of Coimbra Intermunicipality region, (the biggest in Portugal) and is composed of 4 parishes.

The Municipality of Vila Nova de Poiares is marked by socio-economic and demographic heterogeneity, identified in a territory whose population is predominantly young and in the active age group. Its main economic sectors are the industry (e.g. a major gloves factory) and agro-industry. Tourism is important as well. It is one of the national municipalities the most affected by unemployment, with a higher incidence of long-term unemployment.

The territory is vastly covered with forest, residential areas, agricultural, industrial areas and two rivers. The territory is particularly aesthetic and prompted to recreational activities. Yet, the forests are being invaded by invasive species such as eucalyptus, mimosa, acacia, gorse, Asian hornets, pampa grass; whereas native species such as cork oak have difficulties finding their place. This is problematic for two main reasons: the invasive species reproduce very quickly (speed of spread of seeds, resistance of seeds to fires, rapid growth) and they are extremely inflammable. The territory was prone to a devastator fire in 2017 which killed people, destroyed houses, and entire areas of forests. At the same time, the territory faces strong water retention problems leading to regular floodings.

Vila Nova de Poiares has a strong community activity and expertise in co-creating local plans. The various municipal departments, including those for environment, education, sports, social action, and civil protection, have specific local plans in place, each of which involves a local monitoring council and engages various stakeholders. Collaboration include: the Public Participation Network ( a local formal structure that has representation from voluntary groups, local organisations formed to protect the environment and groups representing people who are socially excluded), Vila Nova de Poiares Local Sports Partnership, Local guardis and various Community groups ( Resident Associations, Schools, Families, Stay-at-home moms, Elderly people, Dog lovers, Cat Lovers, Teenagers, Sports fans, Tree canopy adventure fans,).

### Combatting invasive species

One priority of the environmental policy of Vila Nova de Poiares is to combat invasive species which affect the biodiversity and present important vectors of fires. This is encompassed in the wider environmental policies of the city, which it has taken one step further by signing the Green City Accord.

#### Green City Accord



By signing the Accord, Vila Nova de Poiares has committed itself to addressing five areas of environmental management: air, water, nature and biodiversity, circular economy and waste, and noise. It is currently finalising its plan to launch its implementation in 2024. More information [here](#)

Many projects and activities are implemented to fight invasive species, for example, through “Our Forest” programme.

#### Combatting invasive species



The “Our Forest” Program, organised already over 4 yearly editions since 2020, implements actions to control invasive species, mimosas, gorse, and Asian hornets. These encompass the manual removal of smaller plants, with the support of machines for larger ones. At the same time, residents are sensitise to remove these plants in and near their homes.

More information [here](#)

The city is also innovative approaches, or rather, going back to ancestral knowledge, of using goats to clear the lands from undesired species.

### Clearing goats



Where machines cannot go to remove invasive species, and where humans would be inefficient, goats can help. The project aims at preventing forest fires in the municipality, in areas classified as high and very high risk of fire, totaling 51.47 hectares corresponding to the communal lands of São Miguel and Lavegadas. Fuel management through pastoralism allows the creation of areas with reduced vegetation cover, thereby reducing the amount of accumulated fuel. More information [here](#)

### Green sports and recreation

In Vila Nova de Poiares, sports and recreation benefits highly nature and vice versa. The first step is, in this very rural area, actually to implement, in a highly visual way, cycle lanes, going through green areas.

#### Cycle lanes



Vila Nova de Poiares promotes sustainable mobility, health and tourism by gradually creating cycle and pedestrian lanes, marked by highly visible colours: red for cyclists, yellow for pedestrians. These go through green areas of the city, providing enjoyable as well as healthy landscapes.

Nature also serves to make sport attractive at the same time as sport makes nature attractive. This has been possible through the development of an app to enjoy nature while practicing sport.

#### An app to enjoy nature while practicing sport



Within the Erasmus+ Sport Nature 3.0 Project Vila Nova de Poiares has sought to enable sports to be used as an educational tool through outdoor sports activities. It has developed a mobile application that has been developed featuring the Pedestrian Routes, allowing users to interact and access elements of environmental education, wildlife, flora, as well as historical information about the three pedestrian routes in the municipality. The application is accessible via QR codes on pedestrian and cycling trails. More information [here](#)

The municipality has also killed two birds with one stone but fighting invasive species while at the same time providing a new recreational area in the form of the Louredo Natural park.

#### From invasive greens to a central recreative park



The Louredo Natural Park used to be totally invaded by highly inflammable species. In 2018, the site was totally revamped to make it beneficial to both nature and residents: a recreational area was created, with places to picnic, barbeque and play, as well as a climbing wall and toilets. The site also hosts a departure point for canoeing, together with the possibility to rent the necessary material on site. It is flat and accessible to disabled people. More information [here](#).

### Altogether for a better city

In Vila Nova de Poiares, several projects bring in the community to benefit the environment, starting by volunteers supporting the improvement of the forest.

#### Volunteers to improve the forest



The "Active Forest" project, funded under the "European Solidarity Corps" has enabled benefit from the support of local volunteers as well as from Spain, Serbia, France, Poland to improve the forest over 20 days: preserve and protect native species, as well as improve the accessibility of existing pedestrian routes in Vila Nova de Poiares. More information [here](#)



Education to the environment is also key to make children - and their parents at the heart of the change for a better environment and fight against climate change. The municipality has organised a programme for environment awareness raising in schools.

#### Environment awareness-raising in schools



A special programme has been developed by the Municipality to raise the awareness of children around the environment, in schools. Activities focus around knowledge of local biodiversity, field trips, insect hotels, The Birds of My School. This is complementary to the Eco-School programme which all the 4 schools have now joined, and received a green flag as reward for their actions. More information [here](#).

Another project has been made possible in a renovated school, now a “school of the environment”.

#### School of the environment



An old primary school was renovated to host the environmental education activities for children of Planeta Aquarela. The main objective of this project is to raise awareness and bring children closer to Nature and the rural world. It gives the opportunity to observe and explore the animal and plant species found in the village. The activities promote, contact and the exchange of knowledge between, generations, around historical corners such as washing places and manual wheels. Olive picking and grape harvesting are key moments in the school. More information [here](#).

Last but not least, Vila Nova de Poaires also uses a participatory budget for a range of local projects, including green ones.

#### Participatory budget for green projects



The Municipality uses a participatory budgeting program with two branches: The Youth Participatory Budget and the General Participatory Budget. There is a specific budget allocation for these initiatives, demonstrating our commitment to citizen participation in the decision-making process. The Executive allocates an annual sum of 50,000 euros (to be divided equally), inviting all citizens to propose, discuss, and vote on projects they consider to be of municipal interest. More information [here](#).

#### An unsatisfying practice not to be repeated

Vila Nova de Poaires is constantly fighting against invasive species. As a trial and error methodology, some of its projects, have proven not to be successful.

#### Unbeatable invasive species



Vila Nova de Poaires initiated a project “One seed for the future” to combat invasive species by removing them and planting native species instead. Yet, it appears that the new trees have not grown and that the land is taken over by invasive species, once again. More information [here](#).

#### Local challenge: from a green zone to a green park

Vila Nova de Poaires will focus on a green zone, located between the centre of the city and the industrial part of the city, both uniting and delimitating the city. It currently is composed of: areas of mixed forest, areas with the occurrence of exotic/weed species, agricultural spaces with olive groves, as well as masses of riverside vegetation (or well adapted to areas with high water availability). Two water lines are identifiable, with an amount to the north of the intervention area and a northeast-southwest orientation. The meeting point of these water lines is not only aesthetic but prove also be useful for ecological, biological, and productive purposes.

The green zone was devastated by a fire in 2017 and is frequently affected by floodings as well. The vulnerabilities of this area are related to the inadequate occupation of the land, as well as the low forest management and unused space, giving it a feeling of being abandoned, even if no antisocial behaviour seem to have been noted.

The Green zone



Industrial area



City area



**IAP Focus**

Vila Nova de Poiares wishes to focus on reforesting the green zone, creating a buffer zone between the residential area and the industrial area, first removing spontaneous and disorganized vegetation and then planting native species. In the same framework, pedestrian and cycling lanes will be delimited, allowing to adopt soft mobility practices between the residential and industrial areas.

The green park would also contribute to protecting the residents from negative externalities of the productive activities of the industrial site, at the same time as making it available to the factory works.

The green zone is owned as majority by the municipality. Yet, some areas are in the hands of private owners, operating on the site (e.g. with olive fields). The IAP will support development collaboration mechanisms between the different parties.

Private usage of the zone



Water lanes



Invasive species



A Master Plan has already been designed with an overall approach to the reforestation of the green zone into a green park. The IAP will focus on identifying relevant solutions and practices to implement, gradually, the different proposals from the MasterPlan.

Generic objectives	Potential actions
Management and coordination of the site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>working with different ownerships</li> <li>collaboration with different services for design of the park</li> <li>collaboration for future daily activities of the park (civil protection, green maintenance, community activities, etc.)</li> <li>collaboration mechanisms with private owners</li> </ul>
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green technologies for a green park</li> <li>Infrastructures for recreation, culture, community, sports, biodiversity promotion and protection</li> </ul>

**SWOT analysis**

The green revitalisation of the green zone is embedded in its specific location between industrial and private areas, as well as the risks of natural disasters (floodings and fires).

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Localisation: buffer zone between industrial and private areas</li> <li>Existing biodiversity (fauna and flora)</li> <li>Water lines</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land ownership</li> <li>No flood control.</li> <li>Water quality</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dimension: several potential usages</li> <li>• Political will</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adaptation to climate change</li> <li>• Connections with schools</li> <li>• Connections with industrial areas (CRS + sponsorship)</li> <li>• Interface between urban and peri urban areas for: civil protection, recreation and productivity (biodiversity)</li> <li>• Space for locales</li> <li>• Space to promote physical and mental wellness.</li> <li>• Space to combat invasive species and promote biodiversity.</li> <li>• Possibility to develop new economic activities.</li> <li>• Requalification and revalorisation of the area</li> <li>• Potential for improving the quality of life.</li> <li>• Being part of an URBACT network might give access to EUF funds</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of existing funds</li> <li>• Duplication of offer (too many green areas)</li> <li>• Too large to manage.</li> <li>• Private owners might be reluctant to the project.</li> <li>• Vandalism</li> <li>• Two retention basins might not be enough to contain floodings.</li> <li>• There might not be enough resting areas.</li> <li>• There might not be areas designed adequacy for older and disabled people.</li> <li>• Lack of interest from the population</li> <li>• Environmental risks (natural disasters)</li> <li>• Speculation on land value</li> </ul>

**IAP resourcing**

At this, stage, it is anticipated that the implementation of the actions will be funded under the ERDF.

**Potential testing action**

The proposed testing action will test some urban design as well as attract attention to the site.

**Testing Action**

<p><b>Open Days and temporary furniture</b></p> <p>During a “Day of the Green Park”, Vila Nova de Poiares, which has high experience in big events and festivals, would like to install temporary urban furniture, organise festive moments as well workshops/feedback moments about the future infrastructure of the park.</p>	
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**Contributions and takeaways in the network**

	Bringing	Wishing to get
<b>Circular cities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycle lanes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park infrastructures</li> </ul>
<b>NBS and green infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Combatting invasive species</li> <li>• Clearing goats</li> <li>• From invasive greens to a central recreative park</li> <li>• FAILED: Unbeatable invasive species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water and flood management solutions</li> <li>• Vegetation (invasive species) management</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural heritage as a resource</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion and development of the green park</li> </ul>
<b>Community engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An app to enjoy nature while practicing sport</li> <li>• Volunteers to improve the forest</li> <li>• Environment awareness-raising in schools</li> <li>• School of the environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA</li> </ul>
<b>Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green City Accord</li> <li>• Participatory budget for green projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managing private and public properties</li> </ul>

**Green Place in the working practices of the City**

The project benefits from the support from the Mayor who as an integral part of the partner visit. The project will be implemented by the Economic, investment, and funds department.

The entire municipality works in an integrated way by necessity: it is as small team and requires transversal colleagues to work together. Especially in this case, the project is coordinated by the funds department, but will be implemented by the urban planning and environment departments.

### Stakeholder engagement

The ULG group is totally new for this project. It will be coordinated by Jani Ferreira who is also coordinating the project. Meetings will be organised depending on the needs of the project, as well as at the outskirts of the transnational meetings.

Stakeholder ecosystem map



Stakeholder influence/importance matrix



The foreseen ULG members are:

- The core team : Jani Ferreira, Project/ULG Coordinator (Municipality)
- Elected representative: Sr.Presidente João Henriques, Mayor of the City
- Other civil servants: Ângela Ferreira (Finance Manager), Ana Dias (Urban Planning Engineer), Elizabete Paulo (Environment Engineer), Luis Sousa (Civil Protection Engineer), Andreia Rodrigues (Forest Engineer), Ricardo Peneda (Sports Department)
- Architect of the space: Arquitecto Miguel Pinheiro, TUU Architect
- Other stakeholders:
  - Erica Castanheira (IPC Polytechnic of Coimbra - University)
  - Sónia Chelinho (IPC Polytechnic of Coimbra - University)
  - Eduardo Sequeira (AVENP Schools Headmaster)
  - João Feteira (Parish Council President S. Miguel)
  - Loide Liliana (Parish Council President Lavegadas)
  - Cláudio Carvalheira (IOTECH Digital Technology Company)
  - Filipe Portela (IOTECH Digital Technology Company)
  - Silvia Pelham (AEDP Director Association of Entrepreneur)

The project has not been consulted not co-created with citizens yet, but they will be involved during the Testing Action.

## 2.11 Wroclaw

### Context

Wroclaw is a large - 674 312 inhabitant - city, on the Western part of Poland: close to the German border. It is the third city in Poland with the highest global GDP (after Warsaw and Krakow), and the third in terms of GDP per capita (after Warsaw and Poznan). The structure of Wroclaw's economy is dominated by services and trade. Wroclaw is the third most important center in Poland (after Warsaw and Krakow) in the information and communication industry. Due to its heritage, the city has a comprehensive policy of monument protection and care.

The city is located in the valley of the Oder River and four smaller, local rivers, whose mouths are currently located within the city. Being situated on both sides of the river, the dominant development direction of the urban space running along the course of the river (approximately on the east-west line). In terms of land use structure, green, agricultural and enclosed areas occupy 2/3 of the city's area.

Wroclaw is strongly committed to fighting climate change. It is one of the 112 Climate-Neutral and Smart Mission Cities. It is a largely green area: accessibility to green areas (measured as the percentage of the population living within 300 m from green areas of any size) is 83.8% for the city and 95.63% for the downtown area, whereas forest coverage is 11%.

Social participation is one of the basic elements of Wroclaw public policies. It combines the potential of the non-governmental organisations (NGO) sector and civic activity of local leaders in cooperation with municipal units and housing estate councils. It is embedded in several strategic documents (Wroclaw Strategy 2023, Participatory Budget, Regulations for working with local NGOs...).

### A multicultural heritage

The history of Wroclaw dates back over 1,000 years: it has been part of the Kingdom of Poland, the Kingdom of Bohemia, the Kingdom of Hungary, the Habsburg monarchy of Austria, the Kingdom of Prussia and Germany. It became part of Poland again in 1945 as the result of extensive territorial changes of Poland immediately after World War II. As such the city is rich of different architectural heritages, that it seeks to keep up with modern and green revitalisation. An example of such activities is the green revitalization of public areas of the historic, modernist WuWA housing estate and the introduction of new public functions, including the reconstruction of one of its buildings - a former kindergarten, which burnt down in 2006.

#### Rebuilding notable buildings with new community services



In 1929, a kindergarten was created as part of the modernist WuWA - Living and Work Space Wroclaw Werkbund exhibition.

As part of the exhibition, many modernist buildings were built, including a kindergarten where education was based on the Montessori method. The building provided open, bright spaces with rooms with dedicated functions. From the central room it was possible to go to the external green areas. There were gardens in the kindergarten's courtyard where children could grow vegetables and then prepare meals together.

Unused and abandoned after 1945, the building gradually fell into ruin and burned down in 2006. The Municipality of Wroclaw regained the property and handed it over to the Lower Silesian District Chamber of Architects on the condition that the historic building be restored. The full reconstruction of the building was completed in 2013 and since then it has been the seat of this Chamber. The building is also open to the city's urban community. More information [here](#)

Wroclaw also used its industrial heritage, in a former tram and bus depot, to valorise the building itself, make use of its space and benefit from local history to actually create a place to remember, the Depot History Centre. Due to its importance in the socio-political changes in the 1980s, the building was revalorized as a historical monument.

### A former tram depot to remember the local history



After having been a tram depot, the depot at Grabiszyńska street became a bus depot until 2016, when the Depot History Centre was officially inaugurated.

The Depot witnessed the 1980 strike to support the workers of the Coast was initiated there, leading to the birth of the Independent Self-Governing Trade Union “Solidarność” (“Solidarity”). As such, the heart of the Depot is the main exhibition „Wrocław 1945-2016,” concerning the post-war history of Wrocław, Lower Silesia and other regions incorporated into Poland as a result of the Second World War.

The exhibition plays with colours, well-known images and artefacts and spaces, to make the souvenirs, documents and photographs donated by the citizens of Wrocław alive. The exhibition shows the historical elements of the city- there are roads, a railway station, a butcher shop, a library, a newsstand and a maze. This enables the visitors to travel back in time and live the adventure with history.

Due to its importance in the socio-political changes in the 1980s, the building was revalorized as a historical monument. Today, the Depot History Center is a cultural and museum facility, which bears references to its past both inside and outside.

### Referring to local history inside and outside a former tram depot



The Depot History Centre offers links to its history both inside - against a fee for participants, through the exhibition - and outside - with outdoor exhibition and a cross reminding of the masses organised on site during Solidarnosc' strikes- ensuring everybody can benefit from history in passive or active manner, notwithstanding their financial resources.

The richness of the possibilities offered by former tram depots has been embraced by circular approaches of reuse of the buildings and materials, as well as greening available space for the implementation of a cultural and local initiatives centre, at the Depot Dąbie.

### Changing old tram depot into a circular, cultural and local initiatives center



The Depot Dąbie is organised a series of complementary activities. On the weekends, it can gather up to 16,000 people who come to the site and enjoy concerts, exhibitions, fashion shows, workshops, board game festivals and more, while taking advantage of the presence of food trucks or relaxing in the permaculture garden. It also organizes a music club, a youth club and many other ad hoc activities.

Maintaining the multicultural heritage over time, while at the same time upgrading it with nowadays needs and technologies requires special skills, that Wrocław possesses.

### Skills for old tram maintenance and restoration



Wrocław NGOs possesses the skills to maintain and restore historic public transport vehicles. . These skills are slowly getting lost in most European countries. Thanks to the rebuilt vehicles, historic urban transport is promoted in Wrocław.

An important element of the green rail infrastructure will be the renovated tram - sprinkler, which will be used to water green tracks.

The heritage over cultural and social times is also exemplified by the design of a Wrocław Touristic Lines going through main sites of the city, promoting public transport as well, under a brand named WRO-TA.

#### Creating a brand around past public transport: WRO-TA

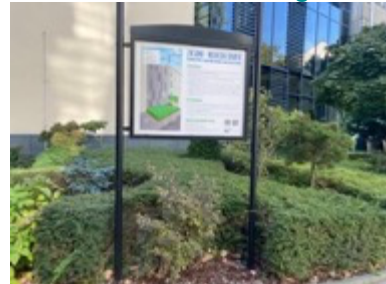


As an output of a previous URBACT III network, in which Wrocław took place, “Find your greatness”, the city created the brand of “WRO-TA” is promoting Wrocław Tourist Lines, i.e. trips with heritage vehicles that can be used by residents and tourists visiting the city. The rides operate in the summer period from June to August and are promoted each season with an information leaflet and through the website and videos posted there. More information [here](#).

#### Providing green solutions where people live

The City of Wrocław has been concerned by ensuring that all its residents get access to greenery: for their recreation, as well as climate benefit (better air quality, cooler air). This would in turn benefit the residents with effective rainwater management systems. This was the direct objective the project “Catch the rain”.

#### “Catch the rain” to manage rainwater



Through the “Złap deszcz” project (“Catch the rain”), the city organised different rainwater management and technical solutions in the city: it sought to integrate them into the urban landscape and make them pretty as well as functional for the residents. Funding is being available to both residents and organisations (institutions) to develop their own solutions. More information [here](#).

Young parents are also drawn to contribute to increasing the canopy of their neighbourhoods.

#### A tree for each newborn



The Wrośnij we WRO project involves parents by offering them to plant a tree in a selected part of Wrocław for their newborn children. Each such request contributes to increasing the number of trees in the city. More information [here](#).

Ensuring that everybody benefits from greenery also goes hand in hand with working directly and closely with them. For general urban planning project, but also in particular revaluation processes. This was the approach taken in the process of revitalising the Centrum na Przedmieściu.

#### Green revitalisation for and with inhabitants



During the revitalization works at the Centrum na Przedmieściu, a place for joint meetings of residents became an important element. The Municipality of Wrocław, together with a local NGO, organized social consultations, thanks to which some greenery (trees was planted) and a community garden was organized, which is cared for by local residents.

For areas identified with anti-social behaviours, greenery can also be helpful in regenerating areas to make them safer and more enjoyable for the neighbourhood in general.

#### Fighting anti-social behaviour through green revitalisation



The banks of the river Olawa were subject to anti-social behaviours. As part of a local programme of revitalisation, an analysis of the issues at stake was first carried out before designing some urban planning elements which would bring back area to the residents, make it more friendly and safe. These include a range of aesthetic and recreative solutions such as: rearranging nature and replanting nature, a playground, creating connection, including cycling path (at the same time as reducing car traffic).

Greenery is increasingly becoming a basic element of new urban infrastructure and services. The systematic greening of the tracks of tram lines, which contributes to, among other things, cooling the air, is an expression of the city's ecological concern for its citizens.



### Greening tram tracks to cool the air



As part of the construction of a new tram route, which is to increase the accessibility of Wrocław for people using public transport, the "Green Tracks" project was implemented. The space between the tracks, which had previously been a stone strip of land, was filled with appropriate greenery. Thanks to this, apart from the aesthetic aspect, the tracks became quieter, they stopped producing mineral dust, and the track vegetation additionally absorbs carbon dioxide, retains water, cools the air and enriches the urban greenery. The concrete or stone track strip usually turned into a heat island on a hot day. And with the green trail it's completely the opposite. More information [here](#).

The green rationale also goes hand in hand with increasing green urban and community space in cities together with reducing car space, as was the outcome of the GrowGreen project in the realisation of small-scale blue and green infrastructure for citizens throughout the city.

### Small-scale blue and green infrastructure for citizens throughout the city



Within the scope of the GrowGreen project, Wrocław a „Green system”: A green street, green tram stop, and six blue-green courtyards. The areas have trees, shrubs, swales and rain-gardens, each unique and tailored to the needs of the residents: "Garden of residents" has community gardens, "Rain garden" demonstrator is about rainwater management, "Green oasis" turned parking lot into green place. Recognising that engagement of the local community was vital with participatory planning a key element. The locations were determined by the residents through their participation alongside local climate parameters, air circulation, spatial constraints and ownership. More information [here](#)

Involving the local community in "green changes" is central in Wrocław urban planning, working with its community on developing what its needs are, is at the core of many of its processes. Using tools such as participatory budgeting, ensure to engage with the local community and to identify the best solutions to their green needs, together with building up on their innovative ideas, as was the case for the Swojczycki Park Czarna Woda.

### Participatory budget for Swojczycki Park Czarna Woda



The Swojczycki Park Czarna Woda area was overgrown with wild greenery, which required skillful ordering, in harmony with nature for those visiting the area. Through participatory budget, the park was renovated to include circular and local elements, while respecting what there was already and not necessarily transforming everything. New pedestrian paths were added but fallen trees were left on the ground, and pedestrian paths going on top of them were created for example.

Another way to engage with local communities is to have them taking an active part in the actions to make post-industrial areas greener as has been the objective of the permaculture project at the Depot Dąbie.

### Permaculture in a former tram depot



In the Depot Dąbie permaculture activities take place under the coordination of a local NGO, but under the implementation and management of local neighbours. Culture itself is organised in raised beds because of polluted soils. Compost and lombricompost are also in place.

Another type of engagement for green revitalisation, in a somehow more "structured" way and potentially more ad hoc basis, and therefore more flexible engagement is to rely on volunteers to make post-industrial sites alive.

### Relying on volunteers to make a place alive



The Depot Dąbie is relying heavily on volunteers to carry out its activities. It is also developing special partnerships with schools as volunteering can be included in school curricula and enable getting credits.

Local communities have been attracted through ad hoc events (though cyclical on their concept) which make the site visible to them, such as the Survival Art Festival at the Popowice Depot.

### Organising an art festival: Putting light on the tram depot



The Popowice Depot has been already used for multi purposes, included a festival which was visited by 11,000 people. The "Survival Art festival" takes place every year in a different location. As such, it seeks innovative and different spaces, which give artistic freedom, challenge and inspiration. The festival in turn brought in visibility and life to the Popowice Depot. More information [here](#)

Celebrating with the residents and beyond is also another to engage, not only physically but also with memory and situation of new interest, as with the Open Days of the Popowice Depot organise on a yearly basis.

### A day to celebrate and gather: Open Days of the Popowice depot



Every year, the Popowice Tram depot is open for the public: "Open Day of the Popowice Depot - history goes on", to show the renovated and not renovated trams, as well as the depot itself, and to organise activities around old public transport. This a big community event at the same time as promotion for the potential of the site considering local heritage: Visitors of all ages can see historic trams and buses, visit the depot with a guide and participate in the parade of historic buses and trams.

### An unsatisfying practice not to be repeated

In Wrocław, former approaches to revaluation have been identified as outdated, with the exclusion of consideration for greens, with attempts to catch it up.

### Renovating while forgetting about greens



The depot at Grabiszyńska Street was transformed into the Depot History Center in 2016, in line with the renovation practice of the time: focusing on the heritage aspect, it did not take into account the climatic and green aspects. Therefore, in its current state, there are no green accents - supporting cooling effects and biodiversity - or satisfactory solutions for stormwater management, in particular through the intensive use of concrete and other durable surfaces.

Ośrodek Pamięć i Przyszłość - a cultural institution that manages this facility and is a member of the ULG, is currently working on greening the area by unsealing the slab surfaces, creating retention reservoirs, adding lawns and trees to create a place for residents to recreate and reduce the effect of urban heat island.

### Local challenge: Transport and history to become green

Starting from 1901-1902, parking halls for electric trams were built in the village of Popowice near Wrocław, replacing the previous horse-drawn tram lines. From the interwar period and for decades to come, the entire complex served as an active tram depot with rolling stock repair halls (main workshops). The complex is nowadays one of the few buildings at ul. Legnicka in Wrocław that survived World War I and II.

At the moment, the Popowice depot no longer functions as an active part of the public transport network but has become a place where renovation works are carried out on historic tram and bus rolling stock. It parks historic public transport vehicles belonging to both the Wrocław Commune and Wrocław non-governmental organizations (Public Transport Supporters Club - Klub Sympatyków Transportu Miejskiego, Society of Wrocław Lovers - Towarzystwo Miłośników Wrocławia).

The buildings are also available to NGOs for various types of activities, including: Wrocław Center for Supporting Non-Governmental Organizations Sector 3 (run by the Umbrella Foundation) which brings together and supports NGOs, the production of Wrocław dwarfs and the renovation of vintage motorcycles. Some annual events are held at the Popowice depot, e.g. "Popowice Depot Open Day, history continues" or "Tram Night".

A land development concept has already been designed for the future of the Popowice Depot. It seeks to address contemporary needs of the city, and in particular:

- To maintain the historical heritage and post-industrial character of the place while creating an active place for the presentation and development of a collection of historic public transport vehicles.
- Long-term maintenance of mission functions (expansion and development of space for NGOs) with simultaneous comprehensive revitalization of the areas surrounding the depot through greenery

As such an initial concept (pre-concept) for the development of the entire area of the Popowice depot was commissioned to determine the directions of revitalisation of the former depot area, and to develop the "WROCeK"2, i.e. the Wrocław Center for Communication and Culture, as a concept for the new development of the area.

Popowice Depot yesterday



Popowice Depot today



Popowice Depot tomorrow



### IAP Focus

If there is already a concept for the development of the Popowice Depot, what can the IAP focus be on then? The city of Wrocław would like to focus on greening the area and rethinking some of its functions and/or how to make the best out of it: "green" should not be an added value but "green first", at the same time as conserving the heritage on the site. In particular, greenery in the depot to grow organically from among the walls and pavements. Plants growing in a seemingly random way among the existing infrastructure will carry a message about the recovery of the depot - both for people and nature.

Some pre-defined areas on the site are a: museum, a skatepark, a concert hall, a pocket park. As such the IAP will focus on ensure that these are developed in a green way at the same time as developing new green services and activities accessible to schools, business, and the local community ore widely, while borne by the local community itself.

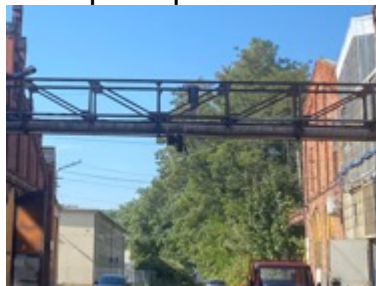
It will be a set of recommendations initiating the correction of existing provisions in the local development plan for the Popowice Depot area. This is one of the most important aspects for Wrocław, which complements the existing urban policies in this area. Unlike policies, provisions in the local plan constitute local law.

Last but not least, the IAP will seek to identify the most relevant external funds, e.g. EU funds for the implementation of ecological solutions.

Depot open days



Future pocket park



Future green areas



As such, the green revitalisation will be concerned mostly with the flexible parts of the future depot and in particular related to reinforcing local connections with NGOs and the community, providing greenery and underpinning the tram heritage:

Generic objectives	Potential actions
Connections with NGOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing new artistic activities</li> <li>• Implementing temporary activities to test new projects</li> <li>• Co-designing new functions with NGOs</li> </ul>
Connections with citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-designing new functions with citizens</li> <li>• Inviting temporary businesses such as food trucks to attract residents attention</li> <li>• Outdoor and freely accessible urban space (e.g. benches by trees)</li> </ul>
Greening the concrete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting up raised beds</li> <li>• Planting trees</li> <li>• Developing Nature-based solutions on the walls</li> </ul>
Underpinning tram heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping the industrial elements visible</li> <li>• Historical and industrial reminders visible from the outside (as well as the inside)</li> <li>• Energy production aligned with heritage protection</li> </ul>
Funding ecological solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of available EU and other funds (public, private, mixed, philanthropic, ...)</li> </ul>

### SWOT analysis

The green revitalisation of the Popowice Depot is bound by the already existing activities on the site, the future concept and the flexibility available in the existing concept plan, as presented in the SWOT below.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One manager for the entire site</li> <li>• The area and facilities are equipped with the necessary urban infrastructure (media)</li> <li>• Convenient location in relation to the nearby multi-family housing estates (neighborhoods)</li> <li>• Large space</li> <li>• Location close to an important park area of the city</li> <li>• Depot area is located is subject to the Local Spatial Development Plan (on the basis of local law), which defines the basic conditions and parameters for land and facility development</li> <li>• Depot facilities used by organizations that are members of ULG</li> <li>• The planned future operator of the area is a member of the ULG</li> <li>• For the area and facilities, a number of documents have already been prepared to inventory the building condition (buildings and their structural condition)</li> <li>• Conceptual and spatial studies were carried out together with functional and economic analyzes regarding the complete revitalization of the depot complex</li> <li>• Preliminary social consultations were carried out, which resulted in specifying social expectations related to the future development of the area</li> <li>• The facilities and the area are currently used in a variety of permanent ways (NGO + service and production companies) or occasionally as a place for alternative cultural events such as exhibitions, performances, film sets, skatepark etc.</li> <li>• Wild city animals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage assets and construction or construction-related activities (greenery, land development) require an extensive official procedure.</li> <li>• The area and buildings are used "spontaneously" according to the opportunities and possibilities that arise, and the few regular, general city events give sporadic access for residents.</li> <li>• Lack of financial resources in the municipal budget for both comprehensive development activities and smaller-scale works.</li> <li>• The area of the depot separates the neighbouring housing estates and there are no transit roads on it. For pedestrian or bicycle communication, it is useless, although accessible, it is a communication barrier.</li> <li>• Due to the type of land development, the depot area contributes to the formation of the so-called urban heat island + lack of air flow</li> <li>• Lack of coordinated management of rainwater, which in turn leads to local flooding of buildings during intense or torrential rainfall.</li> <li>• The vast majority of the area currently has no function (apart from parking or storage) and is more of a barrier to use.</li> <li>• Lack of functions for the inhabitants, need to change the Local development plan</li> <li>• Specific utilities (active electric traction, tram rails and turnouts, sidings, inspection channels, transport tracks, etc.) due to the type of facility and its intended use. This makes it difficult, and sometimes</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presence in social consciousness</li> </ul>	<p>impossible, to use the land to its full extent or use the land only under special precautions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation of historical heritage may hinder the implementation of some low carbon solutions</li> <li>• The site is not open (walls) and does not attract to spend time there.</li> <li>• Bad technical state of some buildings</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great opportunities when planning new functions.</li> <li>• Possibility to locate both general urban and local functions here.</li> <li>• The functionality of the area can be enhanced by carrying out green and blue revitalisation.</li> <li>• The area and partly the buildings enable the introduction of modern ecological solutions (energy-saving, environmentally and climate-neutral, enabling green-blue transformation)</li> <li>• Flat terrain allows for accessibility without architectural barriers (no specific technical means such as lifts or elevators, etc.)</li> <li>• The area can serve as a destination for local residents, it can also serve as transit routes, eliminating access barriers.</li> <li>• Due to the size, it is possible to zone the development due to the functional purpose of the area and the new utility functions of the buildings</li> <li>• Development zoning is conducive to taking action in the implementation of revitalization activities of the entire complex in the Public-Private Partnership mode</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possibility of intensification of unfavorable phenomena related to the heat island, which is the current area</li> <li>• Further degradation of the area and its pollution as a result of "wild" parking of motor vehicles</li> <li>• Disordered or supervised expansion of greenery, destructive to the area and buildings (growth of roots, damaging buildings, deadwood and other material hindering the operation of drainage devices - especially in the case of systematic lack of their maintenance)</li> <li>• Prospective lack of financial resources to undertake revitalization activities and consequently lead to further degradation of the complex</li> <li>• Lack of supervisory, orderly and corrective actions (even ad hoc) which accelerate the decapitalization of the team.</li> <li>• Loss of existing greens (due to parasites)</li> <li>• Conflict between old and new functions</li> <li>• Sale of site to investors</li> <li>• Possibility of Sale of part of the area to investors not interested in the planned development</li> </ul>

### IAP resourcing

At this, stage, the city of Wrocław envisages a public-private partnership to finance its actions, as well as an analysis to identify the most relevant funding resources.

### Potential testing actions

During the design of the concept, public consultations conducted in 2021 - online during the covid pandemic - entitled "How to arrange a depot at ul. Legnicka 65?" showed that residents' expectations focus on the following demands:

- strengthening the role of greenery
- greater accessibility for residents
- creating a friendly space and neighbourhood
- sustainable city development / multitude of functions

Despite emphasizing the role of greenery in preconception, during public consultations, residents pointed out that it was insufficient. The City of Wrocław would envisage to test an action on community engagement and co-creation of the future place.

### Testing Action

#### A consultation and co-creation with local residents and beyond to work with their appropriation of the site.

It could take the form of walkshops, workshops, ideation, co-creation as well as more traditional online and paper surveys. Consultations would be enriched with practical activities testing the use of planting greenery in rail infrastructure, e.g. tram trailers. The basis for these activities would be the solutions used by the Depot Dąbie in the field of running a permaculture-based garden.



### Contributions and takeaways in the network

	Bringing	Wishing to get
<b>Circular cities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rebuilding notable buildings with new community services</li> <li>Changing old tram depot into a circular, cultural and local initiatives center</li> <li>Skills for old tram maintenance and restoration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reclaiming the area for residents, both actively in terms of their involvement in creating the space and passively in terms of their participation in events taking place at the Popowice Depot.</li> <li>Renewable energy production</li> </ul>
<b>NBS and green infrastructure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green revitalisation for and with inhabitants</li> <li>Greening tram tracks to cool the air</li> <li>Small-scale blue and green infrastructure for citizens throughout the city</li> <li>Permaculture in a former tram depot</li> <li>“Catch the rain” to manage rainwater</li> <li>FAILED: Renovating while forgetting about greens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introducing greenery in such a way that it organizes the space in the depot, in line with the “green first” idea.</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural heritage as a resource</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A former tram depot to remember the local history</li> <li>Referring to local history inside and outside a former tram depot</li> <li>Creating a brand around past public transport: WRO-TA</li> <li>Organising an art festival: Putting light on the tram depot</li> <li>A day to celebrate and gather: Open Days of the Popowice depot</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical skills on public transport heritage conservation</li> </ul>
<b>Community engagement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relying on volunteers to make a place alive</li> <li>A tree for each newborn</li> <li>Fighting anti-social behaviour through green revitalisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Methodology from other students of green revitalisation</li> <li>Incubators of NGOs and NGO initiatives</li> </ul>
<b>Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participatory budget for Swojczycki Park Czarna woda</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>

### Green Place in the working practices of the City

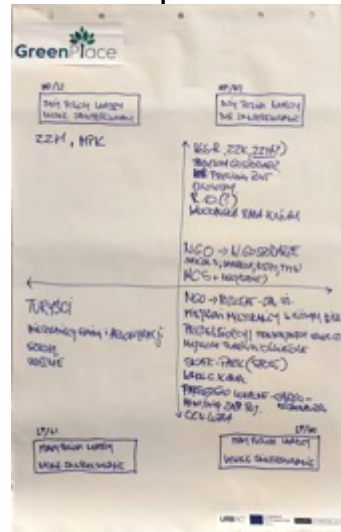
The project benefits from the support from the College of the Mayor and the relevant heads of departments and units are also supporting the project. It will be implemented by the Department of Social Affairs.

The team got used to working in an integrated way, following the URBACT methodology, after its URBACT III “Find Your Greatness” experience.

### Stakeholder engagement

Wroclaw is building upon the ULG it created during the URBACT III “Find Your Greatness, while expanding it. It is not clear yet whether the ULG will be coordinated internally and/or with some external support (for moderation), which could also take place with rotating moderation functions from ULG members (bearing in mind that of them are experts in facilitating). Meeting will be organised before and after the transnational meetings, completed e-mail exchanges information shared on the [Wroclaw Talks website](#) (for a wider audience).

## Stakeholder ecosystem map

Stakeholder  
influence/importance matrix

## Stakeholder analysis table

Stakeholder	Interests	Influence	Importance	Relationship
Municipal Units of Wrocław Municipality	...	...	...	...
Departments of Wrocław City Hall	...	...	...	...
Organisations	...	...	...	...

The foreseen ULG members are:

- Municipal units of the Wrocław Municipality:
  - The Municipal Greenery Board Municipality;
  - Municipal Resources Management
- Departments of the Wrocław City Hall:
  - Social Affairs Department
  - Funds Management Division
  - Division of Civic Participation
- Organisations
  - Foundation for European Studies
  - Wrocław University of Science and Technology
  - Municipal Transport Company (Miejskie Przedsiębiorstwo Komunikacyjne Sp. z o.o.)
  - Public Transport Supporters Club (Klub Sympatyków Transportu Miejskiego)
  - Society of Wrocław Lovers (Towarzystwo Miłośników Wrocławia)
  - TRATWA Association Czasoprzestrzeń
  - Convention Bureau Wrocław
  - Foundation Art Transparent
  - Ośrodek Pamięć i Przyszłość z "Depot" History Center
  - Lower Silesian Chamber of Architects
  - The Foundation Art Transparent
  - Sektor 3

The Municipality has long lasting experience of citizen participation and the leading team is part of Social Affairs Department. Preliminary consultations have already taken place in the frame of the redesign of the Popowice Depot, as mentioned above.

### 3 PLANNING THE WORK AHEAD





### 3.1 Summary

The present methodology was co-created with the 10 partners of the URBACT network: during the Ready for Action Meeting on 26-27 September 2023 in Wrocław, in particular through a series of tools: reflecting grids, co-creation grid, peer-review grid and a collective canvas. These were completed by in-depth reviews during the partner visits from 4 September 2023 to 24 November 2023.

#### Reflecting grids and collective canvas at the Ready for Action meeting



#### 3.1.1 An eclectic network of project partners

Amongst the 10 network partners, some are small cities (e.g. Vila Nova de Poaires with 7,281 inhabitants) other are very large (e.g. Bucharest-Ilfov with 2,298,000 inhabitants). Some are based in rural areas (e.g. Quarto d'Altino) some in very urban (ones e.g. Wrocław). Some are from developed areas (e.g. Limerick, Quarto d'Altino, Bucharest-Ilfov), others from less developed (Vila Nova de Poaires, Nitra), and some others from areas in transition (Boulogne-sur-mer, Cehegin, Löbau, Onda, Wrocław).

##### Population of the partners

Partner	Inhabitants
Vila Nova de Poaires	7,281
Quarto d'Altino	8,024
Cehegin	14,710
Löbau	14,334
Onda	24,859
Boulogne-sur-mer	42,366
Nitra	76 223
Limerick	209,536
Wrocław	674 312
Bucharest-Ilfov	2,297,816

##### Size of the partners

Partner	Size
Boulogne-sur-mer	8.42 km <sup>2</sup>
Quarto d'Altino	28.33 km <sup>2</sup>
Löbau	78.9 km <sup>2</sup>
Vila Nova de Poaires	84.45 km <sup>2</sup>
Nitra	100.48 km <sup>2</sup>
Onda	108.4 km <sup>2</sup>
Cehegin	292.7 km <sup>2</sup>
Wrocław	293 km <sup>2</sup>
Bucharest-Ilfov	1803 km <sup>2</sup>
Limerick	2,756 km <sup>2</sup>

##### Density of the partners

Partner	Density
Cehegin	49,1
Limerick	76
Vila Nova de Poaires	86
Löbau	182
Onda	229,8
Quarto d'Altino	282
Nitra	765,83
Bucharest-Ilfov	1274
Wrocław	2 303
Boulogne-sur-mer	5032

This variety of partner profiles stresses the richness and added value of such a diverse partnership: they are in different advancements of green revitalisation, of community engagement, or habit to work with stakeholders and as such have much to learn from each other! Annex 4 summarises the richness of what partners will bring to the exchanges and would like to take out of these. It will be in particular crucial as they will be focusing on 4 main categories of forgotten and unused urban spaces, as presented below.

#### 3.1.2 Coordination of the local projects

Different departments are in charge of the implementation of the project at the local level:

- Environment: Nitra, Limerick
- Promotion and economic development: Cehegin, Vila Nova de Poaires, Quarto d'Altino
- Social participation: Wrocław
- EU funds: Onda, Boulogne-sur-mer
- Mayor's office: Löbau
- Urban Planning and Mobility: Bucharest-Ilfov

As such, it appears that some departments will be directly in charge of implementing some aspects of the projects (e.g. environment, urban planning departments, whereas others will be coordinating their colleagues (e.g. funds).

The coordination is internalised in the hands of one single person in Löbau, Vila Nova de Poiares, and Boulogne-sur-mer, whereas several people are coordinating and working actively on the project in Limerick, Wrocław, Bucharest-Ilfov, Onda, and Nitra. Cehegin is supported by an external consultant, whereas Quarto d'Altino delegated the coordination to an external consultant.

It will be strongly supported that in light of those, partners represent the diversity of their situations during their participations at the Core Network meetings, ensuring that relevant colleagues are present, but also sharing about the realities of their daily management experience.

### 3.1.3 Greenplace forgotten and unused areas and IAP focus

The project partners will work on 4 types of forgotten and unused areas, while some will focus on buildings and others on green areas:

- Abandoned buildings: buildings which were used for different purposes (industry or school) which are not used anymore (or really sporadically for temporary activities) due to their degradation and loss of original purpose.
- Forgotten buildings: buildings which are partially unused, mostly forgotten from the general public, which have lost some or all of their original function, due to urban modernisation.
- Unused green areas: areas which are green, but are unused because nature has grown wild, they have grown unsafe or they have lost presence in the public's attention.
- Unused built areas: areas which are for now largely built but have become derelict and mostly abandoned due to industrial changes.

Bearing this classification in mind, each partner has designed its own objectives for the focus of its IAP in relation to its forgotten area, as presented below.

#### Description of partners' GreenPlace forgotten and unused areas

Partner	Forgotten area	Main focus of the IAP
<b>Abandoned buildings</b>		
Löbau	Noodle Factory	Developing the circular potential of the Noodle Factory Developing a multifunctional area Leveraging on green spaces Rebuilding the connection with the Schminke House
Quarto d'Altino	Civic Centre	Regenerating the Civic Centre Embedding the green regeneration of the Civic Centre in the wider local area Developing new governance mechanisms
<b>Forgotten buildings</b>		
Wrocław	Popowice Depot	Connections with NGOs; Connections with citizens Greening the concrete Underpinning tram heritage Funding ecological solutions
Bucharest	Victorei Tram Depot	Public participation Upscaling the learnings of brownfield regeneration
<b>Unused green areas</b>		
Limerick	Medieval wall	Increasing the green potential of the wall Getting rid of unsafe perception Developing community-led recreation activities Augmenting the touristic potential of the wall
Nitra	Martin's Hill park	Regeneration of the park Increasing awareness Connexion to the city centre Network of green infrastructures in the city
Vila Nova de Poiares	Green Zone	Management and coordination of the site Infrastructure
Cehegin	Ejidos	Providing a space for the local community Improving the environment and tackling climate change Creating links
<b>Unused built area</b>		
Onda	Green Lung	Roadmap for the Green Lung Communicating (to attract interest) Participatory process

Partner	Forgotten area	Main focus of the IAP
Boulogne-sur-mer	Station-Bréquerecque area	Design a pre-programme Transient usage of the site Connection with the urban design study Collaborating with stakeholders

The partners are also at different stages of the urban design of their forgotten areas:

- Some are already part of redevelopment plan: Vila Nova de Poiares, Wrocław
- Some have started working on a plan: Boulogne-sur-mer, Nitra, Onda
- For others, it is a new focus of work for the city: Bucharest, Cehegin, Limerick, Löbau, Quarto d'Altino

### 3.1.4 Overview of ULGs

The partners have different prior experience of working in a participatory or co-creative way with citizens and stakeholders. Some have prior ULG experience (e.g. Nitra, Boulogne-sur-Mer) or are advanced in working with local communities (e.g. Limerick) some are beginning with URBACT (e.g. Quarto d'Altino, Onda, Cehegin). The ULG groups are currently all set-up and running. Some are small (e.g. Löbau) others, pretty large (e.g. Bucharest-Ilfov). Only one partner has designed a charter for the participation of the ULG member, Cehegin. The coordination of the ULG is delegated to an NGO in Löbau and to a volunteer in - Quarto d'Altino, it is internalised for all the other partners.

### 3.1.5 Risks and mitigation strategies

#### Risks

The main risks identified by the partners in relation the implementation of the GreenPlace network relate to 5 main categories. In terms of **political** risks, change of municipal authorities (with upcoming local elections in 2024 or 2025) might change the course of action, the leadership to move the ULG and/or to finance the revitalisation project. Inside the **administration**, some partners are scared of the difficult to obtain and sustain cross-department collaboration. Some **technical or technological issues** might arise in relation to the solutions to be develop as well as structural problems.

Another type of risks relates to the **ULG participation**: partners are unsure about the long-term commitment of their ULG members, the possible resignation of key members, the difficulty to have some key players on board and the difficulty to combine different conflicting views.

And crucial **project coordination or management** issues might arise: some partners stress that, as a small municipality, employees have multiple responsibilities, so we will need some experimentation and adjustment to avoid overloading people with new tasks. The ULG coordinator could resign or take a leave. Change of staff overall is seen as a threat. Other financial project management issues were mentioned, due to the novelty of taking part in a large EU project, together with the fear of over expectations of project deliverables and delays in delving the project.

#### Mitigation strategies

In terms of **political** support, current mitigation strategies entail keeping elected members briefed on project progress to keep interest and support alive. As for the **administration**, and internal working procedures, partners seek to ensure an adequate division of tasks, and time management. This will be completed by the creation of specific channels and working groups for the project.

To ensure the quality of administration engagement, the partners seek to encourage the involvement of the different parts of the City Council that are part of the project, including politicians, together with constant personal contact and support for participation from the city management. Crisis communication of the city management will be crucial as well.

Through collaboration, project partners hope to get **technical and technological solutions** corresponding to their variety of situations.

With regard to **ULG** arrangements and engagements, project partner are conscient of the need to ensure that they are focused on stakeholder's areas of interest and that from the interest matrix that the high interest stakeholders are identified that will want to highly involved in the project. Cehegin has signed a charter with its ULG members. Dedicated meetings will be dedicated with specific target groups (not always with everybody).

Tailored and targeted communication and invitations will be key, highlighting how their involvement can contribute to their specific interests or goals: project partners will develop a clear and compelling communication strategy to inform stakeholders about the project's objectives, benefits, and their potential roles (including in decision-making processes), and to manage their expectations.

Project partner will ensure that stakeholders feel their input is genuinely considered and will create a welcoming environment for the ULG's activities. Some project partners also envisage taking participation as an experimentation each time, sometimes the process being more important than the result. Some also envisage agreeing with members of the ULG to replace/undertake coordination in the event of resignation/absence of the ULG coordinator.

In terms of **project coordination and management**, a strong project core team, consisting of the finance officer, communication officer, ULG coordinator, project coordinator, with monthly meeting take place with core team and all meeting are minuted and filed, will ensure proper project follow-up. This will be completed by supporting technical and administrative staff in the process of understanding and familiarizing European planning.

## 3.2 Methodology

The methodology for the URBACT GreenPlace network can be summarised as follows:

### Summary of the GreenPlace methodology

Objective	Approach	Meetings	Tools and outputs
Learning and exchange	5 thematic entry points	CNM Study visits Online meetings (MasterClasses)	Pre-CNM note CNM reports <b>Inspiring practice fiches</b> Learning grids Study visit guidelines Study Visit reports MasterClass material
	Other URBACT networks	TBD	
Peer review	Type of forgotten urban area	CNM Study visits	Peer review grids
URBACT methodology training	URBACT methodology	CNM Online meetings	Training material
		URBACT CB moments	Training material
Transfer of knowledge to local level	CNM material	ULG meetings	Post-CNM note
IAP production	URBACT methodology	CNM Online meetings	IAPs IAP Peer Review Testing Actions
Evaluating the network	Measuring the network progress Measuring the overall performance - Mid-Term Reflexion Process Measuring the carbon footprint of the network	TBD	6 quarterly reports MTR Report Carbon footprint evaluation report IAP report
Sharing with a wider audience	Communication Plan	CNM - Sharing event	3 articles 6 quarterly reports Final network results product

### 3.2.1 Approach by objective

#### Learning and exchange

The learning and exchange process of the GreenPlace network will focus on ensuring that all project partners can benefit from each other's experiences, be they advanced or not in issues related to green revitalisation. More precisely, the exchanges will be structured around the 5 thematic entry points analysed in the State of the Art and the City profiles: Circular cities, Nature-Based solutions and green infrastructure, Cultural heritage as a resource, Community, Governance. The compilation of what each project partner brings into the network and wishes to get out of it by thematic entry point can be found in Annex. This analysis will serve as the basis for organising the content of the

Core Network Meetings, Study Visits and MasterClasses, as well as related tools and outputs: Pre-CNM note, CNM reports, Inspiring practice fiches, Learning grids, Study Visit reports, and MasterClass material.

Learning and exchange will also be completed by collaboration with other URBACT networks, in a format to be yet decided along the URBACT journey: these could, for example, take the forms of online or offline exchanges, invitations of Lead Expert as an Ad Hoc to the GreenPlace network. So far, it seems that the following other URBACT networks could be of interest for GreenPlace:

- [BiodiverCity](#) - NBS
- [In4Green](#) - Regeneration of industrial cities
- [COPE](#) - Communities for climate action
- [Agents of co-existence](#) - staff training for participation
- [RE-GEN](#) : youth and urban regeneration
- [U.R.IMPACT](#): social impact in urban regeneration

### Peer Review

Peer Review will be crucial for project partners to support each other with their own experiences. These will focus on the GreenPlace forgotten urban areas and as such will be organised around their three types: abandoned buildings, forgotten buildings, and unused areas. They will take place during the CNMs - when visiting the areas and during the IAP Peer Review, and during study visits. They will be shared through peer review grids.

### URBACT methodology training

Training on the URBACT methodology will be the red thread for the entire network journey. Specific sessions will be organised during the CNMs (on the Integrated approach, design and feedback of testing actions, indicators and monitoring, resourcing, and IAP Peer Review) and potential additional online meetings could be organised. Regular ULG troubleshooting sessions will be organised as well. The Lead Expert will also share her own experience on the specific issues. Training material will be provided.

Training from the URBACT Secretariat will also be provided, especially regarding its 3 cross-cutting issues: green, gender and digital.

### Transfer of knowledge to local level

A key objective of the network will be to share the transnational learnings with the local level. ULG meetings based on CNM material will be key for this, with the support of the post-CNM note.

### IAP production

The overall objective of the network is the production of one IAP per Project partner. It will take place based on the URBACT methodology through the CNMs, online meetings, IAP Peer Review, and Testing Actions.

### Evaluating the network

The network will be regularly monitored: for its progress via the quarterly report and for its overall performance via the Mid-Term Reflection process. GreenPlace will also monitor its carbon footprint. Some of these evaluations might take place during meetings or online.

### Sharing with a wider audience

As part of its overall Communication Plan, the network will seek to share its learnings and processes via a wider audience. In particular, this will take the form of the network articles, quarterly reports and sharing event.

## 3.2.2 Meetings

### Core Network Meetings

The Core Network meetings will gather all the partners and if possible, up to 3 participant per partner, including the local coordinator, ULG coordinator and a ULG member. They will be

organised along the IPA process and will each time encompass: URBACT Method and tools ((incl. ULG troubleshooting), the Peer review of the local GreenPlace forgotten urban area, Learning and Exchange of local practices (Around the 5 themes of the network) and some open items on the agenda. They are planned to be organised as follows.

### Planned CNMs in GreenPlace

CNM	2024				2025	
	March/April	March/April	June	October	February/March	Autumn
	CNM2	CNM3	CNM4	CNM5	CNM6	CNM7
Location	Onda	Cehegin	Bucharest	Nitra	Vila Nova de Poiares	Wroclaw
Topic	Community and Governance	Culture as resource	Circular cities	NBS and Green Infrastructure	Political meeting	Final event
Peer support	Green lung	Ejidos	Victorei Tram Depot	Martin's Hill Park	Green zone	
URBACT Method	Integrated approach	ULG troubleshooting Design of testing actions	Indicators and monitoring Design of testing actions	Resourcing Testing actions feedback	IAP Peer Review Testing actions feedback	

### Study visits

Study visits will be a form of Independent bi/tri-lateral meetings that will be self-organised by the partners in order to review in depth relevant practices from other partners, based on the city profiles, and as suggested by the Lead Expert in Annex 5. Depending on the depth of information and practices to be exchanged, they will be organised in person or online. When in person, they will be organised at the outskirts of the CNMs, or with dedicated visits, depending on availabilities and budgets. They will be guided by study visit guidelines and reported through a study visit report. These study visits have started in November 2023 when Onda and Cehegin took the opportunity of the Lead Expert's partner visits to visit each other as well.

### Online meetings (incl. MasterClasses)

Online meetings will be organised especially in the second year, to follow on the work of the IAP and ULG but also, potentially, to organise Masterclasses (for example on Nature-Based solutions, Temporary use of vacant spaces, Renewable energies) potentially with Ad Hoc Experts. Other meetings might be organised in light of the URBACT Capacity-building, as well as for other identified needs. Monthly coordination meetings will also be organised by the Lead partner to monitor the project.

### ULG meetings

ULG meetings will be organised as a minimum, before and after each CNM, as well as according to local needs. The content of some meeting will be pre-defined according to the IAP process and URBACT methodology (i.e. vision, problem tree, testing action design and implementation, objectives and action design) and according to local needs. They will be supported by the CNM material and a post CNM note. The proposed approach enables to keep the momentum while organizing meetings of a reasonable length (2-3 hours). Partners will be able to modify according to their local realities, in particular with regards to whom to engage with each time.

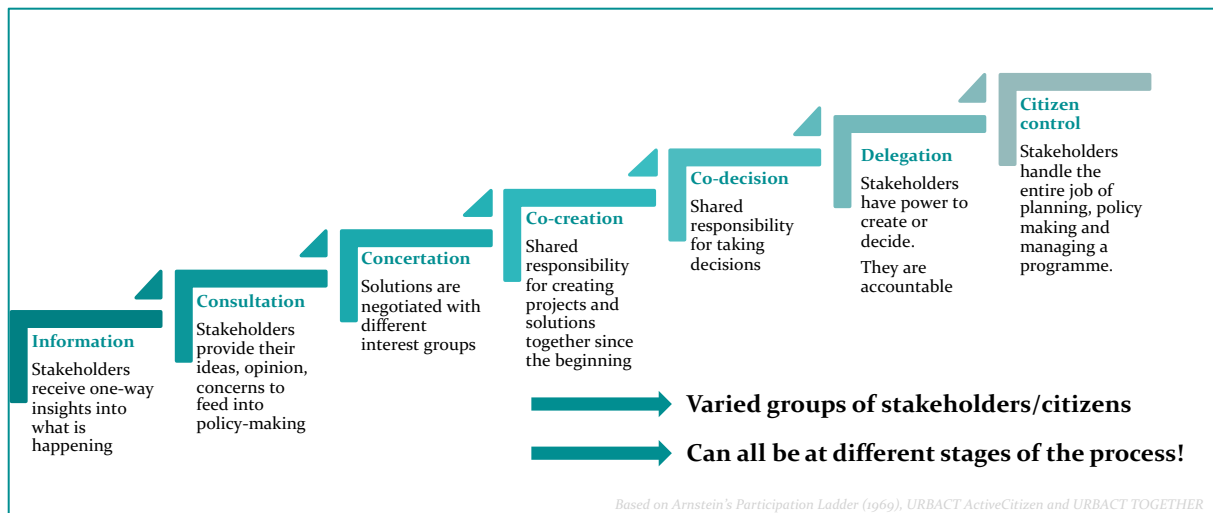
### Planned ULG meetings in GreenPlace

	Approx. date	Content
ULG1	Q2	ULG Set-up, introduction to URBACT and to GreenPlace, Vision and Problem-Tree Visiting the forgotten urban area
ULG2	Q3 - Jan- March - before CNM2&3	Preparing expectations for the CNM2 and 3 Finalising Vision and Problem Tree (Visiting the forgotten urban area)
ULG3	Q3 - March-April - after CNM2&3	Work based on post CNM2&3 Note Feedback from the learning and exchange

	Approx. date	Content
ULG4	Q4 - April -June - before CNM4	Preparing expectations for the CNM4 Work on Testing Actions
ULG5	Q4 -June-July - after CNM4	Work based on post CNM4 Note Feedback from the learning and exchange Work on objectives and indicators (Work on Testing Actions cont'd)
ULG6	Q5 -Sep -Oct before CNM5	Preparing expectations for the CNM5 Action design (Work on Testing Actions cont'd)
ULG7	Q6 - Oct-Nov post CNM5	Work based on post CNM5 Note Feedback from the learning and exchange Action design (cont'd) & resourcing (Work on Testing Actions cont'd)
ULG8	Q6/7 - Dec-Jan - pre CNM6	Short Christmas/new Year celebration Preparing for CNM6
ULG9	Q7/8 - Feb-April - post CNM6	Work based on post CNM5 Note Refining the Actions (Work on Testing Actions cont'd)
ULG10 & 11	Q8 & 10 - April - Sep	Refining the Actions (Work on Testing Actions cont'd)
ULG12	Q10	Celebrating! And launching the IAP

Partners were also introduced to the different of co-creating local policies with residents and stakeholders and they will adjust their ULG meetings accordingly.

### Different ways of co-creating local policies



### URBACT Capacity-Building moments

Activities will be organised by the URBACT Secretariat to increase the capacity of practitioners. These will at least cover the 3 URBACT cross-cutting themes: green, gender, digital. Their format will be clarified later by the Secretariat. At this stage, Annex 6 summarises the main on-going approaches of the partners in relation to these three themes as well as what they wish to develop in their IAP.

With regard to the topic of the GreenPlace network, it appears that all the partners have legal and policy frameworks to include the **green** aspects in all their local policies, especially in a transversal way (e.g. through SEAPs, SECPA, Covenant of Mayors, Climate Action Plans, etc). Most of them have already quite substantial experience, even though it is varied. Some are for example advanced in Nature-based Solutions (e.g. Nitra), whereas others currently test renewable energies (e.g. Boulogne-sur-mer, Onda). The project partners mostly wish to learn about Nature-Based Solutions and Green Solutions, usages of native species, improvement of green parks and squares, deepening the environment component of heritage conservation, developing renewable energy and smart solutions techniques - as well as permaculture and phytoremediation, creating green and blue infrastructures and corridors.

In terms of **gender** equality, the gender and inclusivity are embedded in all the cities. On paper, gender equality seems to work better than inclusivity in most cases. Yet, the practices vary greatly amongst the partners as to what is actually taking place beyond what is on the paper, for example in terms of designing adequate urban policies and projects. Some partners have very rich examples, for others, it seemed less meaningful. For GreenPlace, the project partners mostly wish to develop solutions related to informal co-creatin, ensuring physical and non-exclusive accessibility and inclusivity of the site, safety of all the places, proposing specific urban solutions (e.g. fitness for disabled).

As for the digital aspect, all the partners have a digital policy in place and are seeking to move their administration towards smart procedures (if it is not the case already). They have also developed some interactive digital tools (incl. for participation in some instances). What the partners wish to develop is concerned with the development of Third Places, digital public participation, digital touristic solutions (QR codes for disables, augmented virtual reality, digital maps ...), smart solutions (e.g. lights), apps about the GreenPlace forgotten areas, ...

**Facilitation techniques**

A series of facilitation techniques and methodologies will be used during the online and offline meetings, which will also be shared with the partners for them to transfer when working with their ULG. Below are some examples of these.

To encourage interaction:  
**Discussion cards**



To encourage interaction:  
**Moments of exchange between two or three people**



To encourage interaction:  
**Collecting everybody's ideas**



To encourage interaction  
**Musical chair**



To encourage interaction  
**Fishbowl**



To encourage interaction  
**World café**



To encourage interaction:  
**Peer Review**



To give responsibility  
**Being in the everyday life**



To give responsibility:  
**Toolkits**



Creating the adequate atmosphere :  
**Planning foods and drinks**



Creating the adequate atmosphere :  
**Confronting values**



To foster creativity :  
**Role games**





To foster creativity:  
Evil creativity



To co-create:  
Mapping



To co-create:  
Clusterise



To co-create:  
Facilitation cards



To co-create:  
OPERA



To co-create:  
Reaction exhibition



To encourage interaction  
Be in action



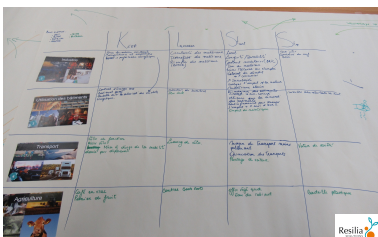
To encourage interaction:  
Using tangible tools



To foster creativity:  
Model



To co-create:  
KISS



To encourage interaction  
Anchor one's speech



To co-create:  
Reaction cards



To create:  
Visualise



To give responsibility:  
Self management



To get to know each other:  
Holistic mandala



### 3.2.3 Tools and outputs

#### (Training, Masterclass, CNM) Material

The activities' materials will be available for all Project partners for further training, to train colleagues and to share with ULG.

#### Learning grids:

The learning grids will enable capturing key learning points for each partner and actions to be carried out at local level and recording the history of learning and monitor actions throughout the IAP journey.

### Peer Review (grids)

The Peer Review and Peer Review grids will support the review of local practices and capture and record reflexions.

### Pre-CNM note

The Pre-CNM Note will help the Project partners prepare for each CNM and will contain: the objectives of the CNM, preparatory work for the CNM, the city profile of Host city.

### Post-CNM note

The Post CNM Note will document the learnings from the meeting for each session, list the tasks to be undertaken before the next meeting, support the transfer of knowledge from CNM to ULG.

### Testing actions

Testing actions will enable testing some solutions at a smaller scale before embarking on larger scale actions: 'Starting small but thinking big' as well as, for the first time, working with ULG members. These actions will check the relevance, feasibility and added value of implementation of actions. Project partners will learn from these tests, measure the results and either adapt, upscale or reject actions to be included in the Integrated Action Plan based on this experience.

#### Anticipated Testing Actions of the GreenPlace project partners

Partner	Testing Actions
Boulogne-sur-mer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Transient usage</li> <li>▪ Joint application for national funding and support</li> </ul>
Bucharest-Ilfov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Study visits of the depot</li> <li>▪ A Flash mob/pop up/temporary activity to open the site of the Tram Depot, to the public</li> </ul>
Cehegin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Artistic intervention</li> <li>▪ Activities for the oldest and youngest</li> <li>▪ Sports activities</li> </ul>
Limerick City & County Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Greening the tarmac</li> <li>▪ Community activities</li> </ul>
Löbau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Competition for test use</li> </ul>
Nitra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reactive and co-creative guided tours</li> </ul>
Onda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Drawing competition for children</li> <li>▪ Co-design of a mural with children</li> <li>▪ 1st Hackathon for secondary school students and professors</li> </ul>
Quarto d'Altino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Feria with local producers</li> </ul>
Vila Nova de Poiares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Open Days and temporary furniture</li> </ul>
Wroclaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A consultation and co-creation with local residents and beyond to work with their appropriation of the site.</li> </ul>

### CNM reports

The CNM reports will account for the exchanges and learnings during each of the CNMs, will capture and record key learnings from the CNM, and will share about the network process while feeding into the Quarterly Reports.

### Study visit guidelines

Guidelines will be provided to support the partners in organising the site visits, to learn on relevant practices and to ensure capture of their exchanges.

### Study visit reports

The study visits reports will capture and record key learnings from the study visits and share about the network process.

### Inspiring practice fiches

The Inspiring practice fiches will be based on City profiles « bringing » boxes and CNM presentations. They will be prepared by PP on the basis of template after each CNM. They will feed into the Final network product.

## Articles

3 articles at least will be drafted by the Lead Expert, as follows:

- Article 1: network challenges and ambitions.
- Article 2: summarising key network activities, insights from testing activities and key learning insights.
- Article 3: network results, impact at local level, as well as future prospects

## Quarterly reports

6 quarterly reports will be produced. They will highlight the core network meetings activities as well as other bespoke network exchange and learning activities and will share the partners' local activities and progress made in relation to the IAP co-production process. They will also share about the Tools developed and/ or used demonstrating integrated and participatory approaches. The information will be based on the thematic inputs of the network, the Inspiring practice fiches and will feed into the Final network product.

## Final network result product

The final network results product will introduce the challenges and objectives of the Integrated Action Plans as well as explain why partner cities chose to embark on this journey. It will demonstrate the added value of working in a transnational URBACT network and present the highlights of the journey and the main learning from partners while suggesting next steps for the network partners. It might take the form of a Manual or handbook and will present the Inspiring practice fiches in a shareable format.

## Mid-term Reflection report

The Mid-Term Reflection process will take place at the end of Planning actions stage. It will enable to pause and reflect on the progress being made at the mid-point of the network journey. It will also give the possibility to adjust and reprogram network activities.

## Carbon footprint evaluation report

The GreenPlace network is committed to being a green network and main principle have already been shared in the guidance to the partner visit and during the Ready for Action meeting. It will take place based on existing guidelines and checklists to assess how green GreenPlace win and stress the quick-wins and the most difficult aspects.

## Integrated Action Planning Report

The IAP report will be drafted at the end of the APN journey to provide the overview of the IAP production process in the network. It will include key insights with challenges, successes, outstanding achievements and barriers in the process as well as the overall shape, key features of respective IAPs produced in the network.

## 3.2.4 Support

The Project partners will benefit from a series of support during the entire URBACT journey.

### Lead Partner

Then Lead partner will support the IAP process at network level by coordinating the roadmap, monitoring and following-up the activities and acting as a contact point for all questions. It will be responsible for the Mid-Term Review Report and the Evaluation of the carbon footprint of the network, as well as communication and overall budget and network management.

### Lead Expert

The Lead expert will support the IAP process at local level in particular with regards to the stakeholder analysis, Vision and problem-tree, testing actions, working with the ULG and IAP drafting. It will be responsible for the network methodology: the technical deliverables (quarterly network reports, IAP Report) and the communication deliverables (core network article, inspiring practice fiches, CNM Reports, Study visit reports, network results product).

**Ad hoc experts**

Ad Hoc Experts will be solicited for specific needs in relation to specific themes (Tourism and culture, Temporary use of vacant spaces, Co-creation and participation, Inclusive design, Renewable energies), methodology, IAP support, Network result product support).

**Project partners**

Project partners will support each other through peer review on site (during CNM and Study visits) and in drafting IAPs.

**URBACT Secretariat**

URBACT training will support building the capacity of the project partners.

**3.3 Timeline and Roadmap**

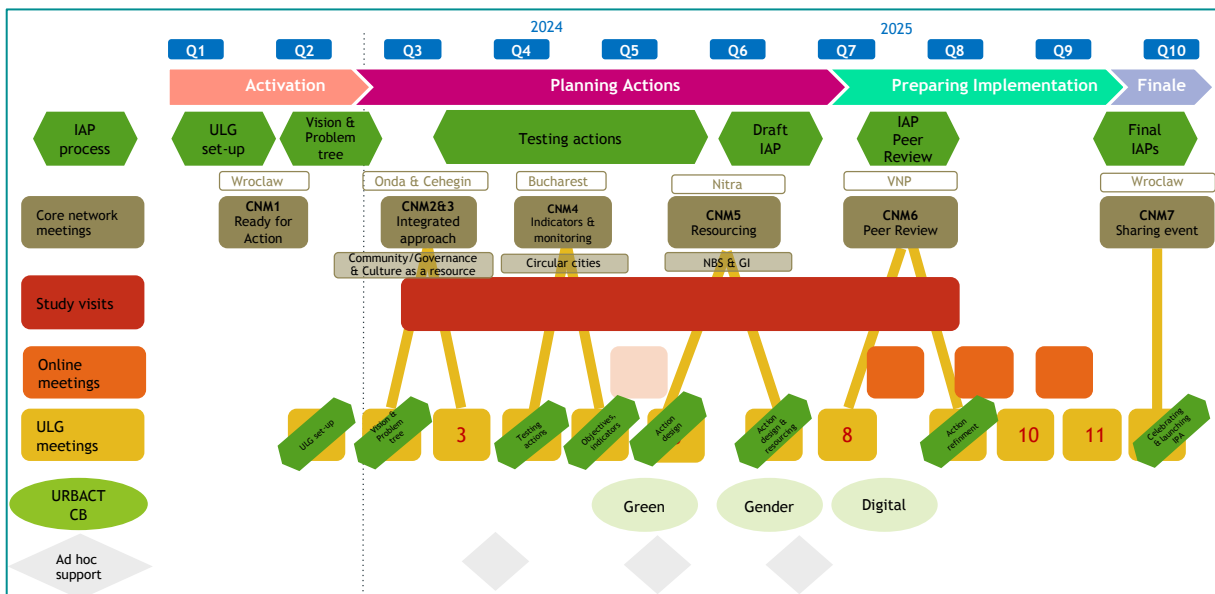
**2 years - 3 distinct but complementary phases**

2024, corresponding to the Planning phase will be dense for the GreenPlace partners. It will be composed of 4 CNMs, will encompass most of the study visits and will see the activation of the ULG.

2025, corresponding to preparing the implementation of the IAPs and the Finale will focus on local work and implementation of the IAP. It will draw lessons from testing activities for definition of actions and possible upscaling. It will also identify the necessary and possible resources for specific actions, define the responsibilities of key stakeholders for implementation of actions, incorporate the framework for monitoring of actions for ensuring the effectiveness of IAP, and analyse the risks or obstacles related to implementation.

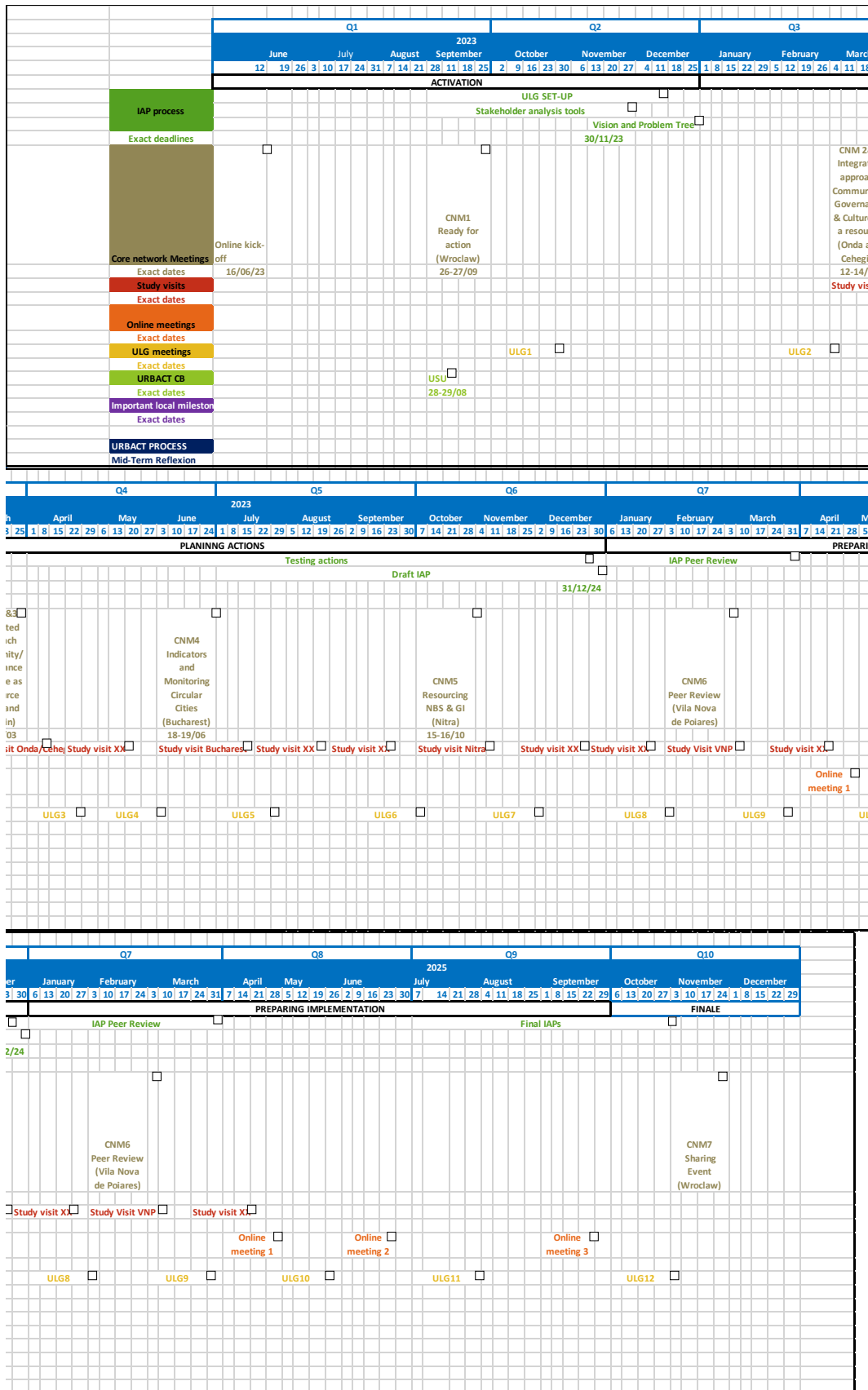
The overview of the work based on the previously described methodology if presented below.

*Timeline of the GreenPlace network*



In addition, the partners will be provided by an excel file summarizing the detailed steps of this timeline, as presented below:

Roadmap of the GreenPlace network



## 4 ANNEXES

### 4.1 Annex 1: References

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### 4.2 Annex 2: Relevant Urban Agenda Partnerships and Actions

Urban Agenda	Focus	Actions of relevance	Key deliverables
Circular Economy	Circular consumption Urban resource management Circular business enablers and drivers Governance	Action 4 - Prepare a Circular City Funding Guide to assist cities in accessing funding for circular economy projects Action 7 - Promote Urban Resource Centres for	<a href="#">Sustainable &amp; circular re-use of spaces &amp; buildings handbook</a> Urban Agenda for the EU on Circular Economy - <a href="#">Final Report</a>

Urban Agenda	Focus	Actions of relevance	Key deliverables
		waste prevention, re-use and recycling Action 10 - Manage the re-use of buildings and spaces in a circular economy	Urban Agenda for the EU on Circular Economy - <a href="#">Action Plan</a>
Sustainable Use of Land and Nature-Based Solutions	To ensure the efficient and sustainable use of land and other natural resources to help create compact, liveable and inclusive European cities for everyone”: 1) to promote the liveable compactness city model and 2) to mainstream and promote nature-based solutions as a tool to build sustainable, resilient and liveable urban spaces	Action 2 - Funding and financing guide for brownfield redevelopment Action 3 - Identifying and managing under-used land Action 7 - Better financing for NBS Action 8 - Awareness raising in the areas of NBS and the sustainable use of land Action 9 - Agreeing on common targets and indicators for NBS, urban green infrastructure, biodiversity and ecosystem services in cities	Sustainable Use of Land and Nature-Based Solutions Partnership - <a href="#">Action Plan</a>
Culture/Cultural Heritage	To enable municipalities, Member States, EU institutions and interest groups, NGOs and Partners from the industry to work together on an equal footing to find solutions that improve the management of the historic built environment of European cities, promote Culture, and preserve the quality of urban landscapes and heritage	Action 4 - Collaborative Management to adapt and reuse spaces and buildings for cultural and social innovative development Action 8 - Guiding Principles for Resilience and Integrated Approaches in Risk and Heritage Management in European Cities Action 9 - Observatory on Culture/Cultural Heritage and climate change in the urban framework Action 10 - Integrated approaches to Dissonant Heritage	Partnership on Culture/Cultural Heritage - <a href="#">Action Plan</a> <a href="#">Toolkit</a> for the re-use of dismissed or abandoned open spaces or buildings for socio-cultural purposes through active participation (collaborative management) <a href="#">Integrated Approaches to Dissonant Heritage</a> of the 20th Century with a focus on smaller towns and remote areas in Europe <a href="#">Participatory lab</a> - Integrated Approaches for Dissonant Heritage in Europe

### 4.3 Annex 3: People and organisations encountered during the partner visits

#### Boulogne-sur-mer Développement Cote d’Opale

Category	Name and function
The core team	Olivier Delbecq Director Nicolas Coppin , in charge of the planning department Emilie Dufeutrel, in charge of communication Isabelle Watier, in charge of european projects
Other civil servants	(as part of the ULG)
The ULG coordinator	Nicolas Coppin
ULG members	Hélène Evrard, in charge of grants city of Boulogne sur mer Frédéric Szwarc, in charge of projects at the CaB (Boulogne district) Anne Pecqueur, in charge of urban development at the CaB Michel Carrard, ULCO (University) Frédérique Bouko, Architect from a social housing organisation in Boulogne

## Bucharest Ilfov Metropolitan Area Intercommunity Development Association

Category	Name and function
The core team	Gianina Veronica Pănățău (ADIZMB), Iulian Canov (ADIZMB)
Other civil servants	Corina - Mădălina Râmnicianu, Genoveva Sandu (Urban Planning Department of the City Hall) Alexandru Nistor (Transportation Department of the City Hall) Victor Duicu (Public Transportation Company of Bucharest) Alina - Claudia Părduț, Ștefan Iulian Lența, Bogdan Gugiu, Eduard Cristache (Metropolitan Public Transportation Association)
The ULG coordinator	Cristina Pavelescu (ADIZMB)
Elected representatives	Andrei Badiu (General Counsel of Bucharest) Andrei Panaitescu (Vicemayor of Sector 2 City Hall)
ULG members	Maria Duda, Alexandru Belenyi (BAZA, NGO), Andrei Fenyo (OAR, Professional Association) Lea Razovsky (Malmaison Studios, NGO), Alina Kasprovski (Bucharest Community Foundation, NGO), Maria Neneciu, Andrei Borțun (The Institute & Creative Neighborhood, NGO) Florin Cobuz (Nod Makerspace) Iris Popescu (AMALS - Alternative Methods for Social Inclusion, Association) Nicoleta Marin (Văcărești Nature Park Association) Teodor „Doru” Frolu (architect and founder of The Ark) Alexandru Tufan, Bogdan - Mihai Păcurețu (Light Rail Association, NGO), Aura Răducu (Transportation & EU funding consultant) Vera Marin (Architecture University, ATU, NGO)

## Cehegin

Category	Name and function
The core team	Manuel Fernando Guerrero- Project Coordinator (Municipality of Cehegin) Catalina de la Ossa - Communication Officer (Municipality of Cehegin) Antonio Martínez - Project Technician (Municipality of Cehegin) Elvira Fernández- Administrative/Financial manager (Municipality of Cehegin)
Other civil servants	Francisco Manuel Peñalver (Archeologist) Santos P. Guillamón Marcos (Architect) Santiago Leo Salazar & Francisca Abril Morales (Tourist Technicians) Paco Peñalver Aroca (Archaeological museum Technician) Ambrosio Morales (Municipal environmental department)
The ULG coordinator	M <sup>a</sup> del Mar Durán - President Association Torre del Pozo
Elected representatives	Mayoress of Cehegin- Maravillas Alicia del Amor Galo Ángel Ramón Rodríguez Alemán - Councillor for Culture and Education, Health, Economic Promotion, Employment and Industry, Old Town and Heritage José Antonio Zafra Corbalán - Councillor for Works and Services, Parks and Gardens, Tourism, Commerce, Catering and Consumer Affairs, Pedanías (Small villages), Environment and Forestry, Animal Protection, Sports and Public Safety.
Potential funders	Spanish Ministries Regional Government of Murcia Region Private initiative (PPP)
ULG members	Francisco Ángel Molina Franco (Association Torre del Pozo). María Josefa García Abellán & Paqui Sanceh (Housewives Association) José Antonio Zafra & Andrés Aznar Guirao (Sports Club Quipar) Magdalena Zamora Sánchez (Cehegin Tierra Adento Association & Artisans' Association) Ana Belén Pérez Fernández (Sebastian Perez Pottery Company) Maruja Jiménez (Association Vidas) Juana Mari González & Ana F. Sánchez (association Versos y Alquimia) Salvador Ruiz de Maya (University of Murcia) Maravillas Espín (Espacio Colibrí) Arturo Martínez de maya (Citizen) María Huertas, Victoria Martínez Artés & Raquel Galarza Ruiz (EuroVértice Consultores S.L.)

## Limerick City &amp; County Council

Category	Name and function
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<b>The core team</b>	Carmel Lynch (Limerick City Council) Sharon Lynch (Limerick City Council)
<b>Other civil servants</b>	Cathal Brodie (Limerick City Council)
<b>The ULG coordinator</b>	Sarah O'Malley (Limerick City Council)
<b>Elected representatives</b>	Councillor Gerald Mitchell (Mayor of Limerick)
<b>ULG members</b>	Simon Jennings (Green Blue Infrastructure Strategy) Lorraine Broderick (Community - PPN) Thomas O'Neill (Cultural Heritage and Ecology) Pat Quigley (Limerick Sports Partnership)

### Löbau

Category	Name and function
<b>The core team</b>	Albrecht Gubsch (Mayor of Löbau) Alexander Graf (Head of Department, Finance and Construction Office) Anna Gumbert (Lord Mayor's Office)
<b>Other civil servants</b>	Eva Mentele (Head of Unit Lord Mayor's Office)
<b>The ULG coordinator</b>	Julia Bojaryn (Director of the Haus Schminke Foundation)
<b>Elected representatives</b>	Albrecht Gubsch (Mayor of Löbau)
<b>ULG members</b>	Merte Stork (The Haus Schminke Foundation) René Seidel, Claudia Lang (Löbaulebt e.V.) Peter Hesse, Stefan Möbus (Kultur - und Weiterbildungsgesellschaft mbH (KuWeit), Sarah Weiß (City Management) Tobias Berg (Messe & Veranstaltungspark)

### Nitra

Category	Name and function
<b>The core team</b>	Štefan Lančarič (City of Nitra) Monika Reiskupová (City of Nitra) Vladimír Ballay (City of Nitra) Miroslava Hanáková (City of Nitra) Juliana Janíková (City of Nitra)
<b>Other civil servants</b>	Milan Csada (chief architekt od City, City of Nitra) Lenka Lazorová (Department of the Chief architect, City of Nitra) Alexandra Buči (Department of the Chief architect, City of Nitra) Katarína Živanovič (Director of the Creative Center, City of Nitra) Lenka Mareková (PR, City of Nitra)) Beáta Nitrianska (Department of Culture, City of Nitra)
<b>The ULG coordinator</b>	Denisa Halajová, (City of Nitra)
<b>Elected representatives</b>	Marek Hattas (Mayor of Nitra) Peter Mezei (Vicemayor, architect)
<b>ULG members</b>	doc. PhDr. Matej Ruttkay, CSc. (Director of The Institute of Archaeology of the Slovak Academy of Science in Nitra) Mgr. Ing. Martin Štofko (Director of office of the Roman Catholic Bishopric in Nitra) Jana Popovicsová (Hidepark - independent cultural and community centre in Nitra and IN-HUB) Tibor Zelenická, Martin Dulík, Lenka Kompasová (ZAN Association of Nitra architects) Lýdia Grešáková (SPOLKA) Katerína Melichová (IN-HABIT)

### Onda

Category	Name and function
<b>The core team</b>	Claudia Muzzati (Project coordinator and head of European Funds office) Marina Sanchis Sorribes (Town hall Architec) Jaime Manero Viñeta (Secretary) Sara Huguet Peiró (Secretary) Carlos Castelló Grañana (Urbanism lawyer)
<b>Other civil servants</b>	Vicente Caruncho Ramos (Head of Innovation office) Inma Escrig Gisbert (Environmental lawyer) Andrés V. Garcia Garcia (Financial Controller) M. Isabel Marco Monfort (Treasurer)
<b>The ULG coordinator</b>	Antonio Lecha Sangüesa (Head of climate change office)

<b>Elected representatives</b>	Carmina Ballester Feliu (Mayoress) Vicente Bou Montoliu (Concilour) Maria Baila Gimeno (Concilour)
<b>ULG members</b>	University Jaume I (UJI) College of architects APECC Association of construction businessmen Gain EGM Management and modernisation company of industries Chamber of Commerce Cooperativa d'Onda NGO Quisqueya Onda Centre Comercial Primary Schools Secondary Schools FACSA (Company for the management of public water installations) SIMETRIA Group FCC Medio Ambiente (Company for the management of cleaning of the municipality) RECIPLASA (Company for the waste treatment) Museum of ceramics Regional Government "Generalitat Valenciana"

#### Quarto d'Altino

Category	Name and function
<b>The core team</b>	Daniele Terzariol (ext consultant) Nicola Spigariol (City of Quarto d'Altino in charge of Promotion and Tourism office) Gianmaria Barbieri (City of Quarto d'Altino in charge of Productive activities and construction)
<b>The ULG coordinator</b>	Mario Defina (independent)
<b>Elected representatives</b>	Claudio Grosso (Mayor), Stefania Borgia (Vice Mayor for urbanism and HR) Cristina Gasparini (Vice Mayor for Culture, Schools) Celestino Mazzon (Vice Mayor for Security) Giulia Moretto (Counciller)
<b>ULG members</b>	Matteo Mazzolato (Aps "La Carta di Altino" - cultural activities, promotion and defense of the territory) Marisa Furlan (Cooperativa Qualità - Manager of the restaurant "Le Vie" - Altino) Francesco Burlando manager of "El Bragozzo va" - traditional boat for lagoon navigation - tourist services Don Gianni Fazzini - Church of San Eliodoro - Altino Christian community committed to the themes of the encyclical "Laudato Si"

#### Vila Nova de Poiars

Category	Name and function
<b>The core team</b>	Jani Ferreira, Project/ULG Coordinator (Municipality)
<b>Other civil servants</b>	Ângela Ferreira, Finance Manager (Municipality) Ana Dias, Urban Planning Engineer (Municipality) Elizabete Paulo, Environment Engineer (Municipality) Luis Sousa, Civil Protection Engineer (Municipality) Andreia Rodrigues, Forest Engineer (Municipality) Ricardo Peneda Sports Department (Municipality) Anselmo Craveiro, IT (Municipality)
<b>The ULG coordinator</b>	Jani Ferreira, Project/ULG Coordinator (Municipality)
<b>Elected representatives</b>	Sr. Presidente João Henriques Mayor (Municipality)
<b>ULG members</b>	Arquiteto Miguel Pinheiro (TUU Architect) Erica Castanheira (IPC Polytechnic of Coimbra - University) Sónia Chelinho (IPC Polytechnic of Coimbra - University) Eduardo Sequeira (AVENP Schools Headmaster) João Feteira (Parish Council President S. Miguel) Loide Lílina (Parish Council President Lavegadas) Cláudio Carvalheira (IOTECH Digital Technology Company) Filipe Portela (IOTECH Digital Technology Company) Sílvia Pelham (AEDP Director Association of Entrepreneurs)

#### Wroclaw

Category	Name and function
<b>The core team</b>	Sebastian Wolszczak (City of Wrocław) Joanna Gańcza-Pawełczyk (City of Wrocław) Iwona Krzysztoń (City of Wrocław) Paulina Olejniczak-Brzakala (City of Wrocław) Aleksandra Bystrzycka (City of Wrocław) Piotr Sereczynski (City of Wrocław)
<b>Other civil servants</b>	Magdalena Swiebocka (City of Wrocław)
<b>The ULG coordinator</b>	Michał Malickiewicz (City of Wrocław)
<b>Elected representatives</b>	Beata Bernacka (City of Wrocław) Anna Kieler (City of Wrocław) Bartłomiej Swierczewski (City of Wrocław) Zbigniew Maćków (vice przewodniczący Dolnośląskiej Okręgowej Izby Architektów) Andrzej Jerje (dyrektor CH Zajezdnia)
<b>ULG members</b>	Krzysztof Kolodziejczyk - Klub Sympatyków Transportu Miejskiego Grzegorz Makuch - Centrum Historii „Zajezdnia” Przemysław Nowicki - Miejskie Przedsiębiorstwo Komunikacyjne We Wrocławiu Wiktoria Król-Cieciorowska - Convention Bureau Dagmara Lukaszewska - Convention Bureau Adela Jakielaszek - „Tratwa” Centrum ds. Katastrof i Kłesk Żywiotowych Maciej Makos - „Tratwa” Centrum ds. Katastrof i Kłesk Żywiotowych; Centrum Kultury Akademickiej i Inicjatyw Lokalnych Magdalena Nawara - Zarząd Zasobu Komunalnego Barbara Mól - Zarząd Zasobu Komunalnego Barbara Pajor - Zarząd Zasobu Komunalnego Grzegorz Tymoszyk - Sektor 3 Tadeusz Mincer - FEPS Monika Pec-Swiecicka - Zarząd Zieleni Miejskiej Aleksandra Zienkiewicz - Zarząd Zieleni Miejskiej Karolina Bieniek - ART. TRANSPARENT Agnieszka Ossowicz - Dolnośląska Okręgowa Izba Architektów Angelika Czajczynska-Mieszala - Wydział Architektury Politechniki Wrocławskiej Maciej Szkrawan - Fundacja Umbella Krzysztof Piaskowski - Towarzystwo Miłośników Wrocławia

#### 4.4 Annex 4: Contributions and “wishing to get” per GreenPlace working themes

##### Circular cities

	Bringing	Wishing to get
Boulogne-sur-mer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scallop shells to support draining in car parks</li> <li>Connecting for greener cities</li> <li>Blue connexion for circular heat</li> <li>A seasonal temporary garden to rethink local mobility and attractivity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reusing construction material</li> </ul>
Bucharest-Ilfov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Researching temporary use</li> <li>Varied private activities in post-industrial buildings.</li> <li>The bottom-up regeneration of a former cotton factory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>circular economy in building renovation (reuse)</li> </ul>
Cehegín	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A green park for all replacing ruins in the city centre</li> <li>From derelict houses to a recreative panorama</li> <li>From ejidos to a recreative path</li> <li>Recycling ancient time materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples of usage of photovoltaics and sustainable energy solutions</li> </ul>
Limerick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meanwhile use</li> <li>Natural Play sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
Löbau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A branded local and heritage apple juice</li> <li>Using the space as both an end and a means</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renewable energy production</li> <li>Temporary use and activities frameworks (legal, financial etc)</li> <li>Restoring an industrial building rather than tearing apart</li> </ul>
Nitra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green colour for recycled material for inclusive playgrounds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
Onda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Circular use of water in city fountains</li> <li>Recycling hearts for urban furniture</li> <li>A Smart City for a Smart use of resources</li> <li>Industrial symbiosis for streamlined use of resources and materials</li> <li>FAILED: Wrongly planned building</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing old and new economic activities on such projects</li> <li>Meaningful constructions and infrastructure</li> </ul>
Quarto d'Altino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typology of degradation</li> <li>Using roman mosaics for a modern entrance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
Vila Nova de Poiares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cycle lanes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
Wroclaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rebuilding notable buildings with new community services</li> <li>Changing old tram depot into a circular, cultural and local initiatives center</li> <li>Skills for old tram maintenance and restoration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reclaiming the area for residents, both actively in terms of their involvement in creating the space and passively in terms of their participation in events taking place at the Popowice Depot.</li> <li>Renewable energy production</li> </ul>

##### NBS and green infrastructure

	Bringing	Wishing to get
Boulogne-sur-mer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rethinking blue infrastructure for better city connexion and place to live</li> <li>From bus stop to sea inspired playground and water solutions</li> <li>Revitalisation of a former flour mill for dense and green habitat</li> <li>Valorising nature and heritage with a new traffic plan</li> <li>Industrial site to become (nature) wild</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bringing green to a mineral place</li> <li>Removing pollution</li> <li>Managing runoff</li> </ul>
Bucharest-Ilfov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abandoning instead of revitalising for nature outburst - Văcărești Natural Park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>research and innovation in green renovation</li> </ul>
Cehegín	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removing invasive species for improved blue infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>

	Bringing	Wishing to get
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FAILED: Not communicating on a rare local opportunity</li> </ul>	
Limerick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mobile tree nursery</li> <li>URBACT Health and Greenspace</li> <li>Green Leaf award</li> <li>H2020 Go Green Routes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples of vertical gardens in heritage conservation</li> <li>Managing weeds on heritage sites</li> </ul>
Löbau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From factories to a big park for all</li> <li>Remembering the past with green solutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
Nitra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tribute to biodiversity</li> <li>Reducing heat waves in streets</li> <li>A gravel for all pedestrian paths in municipal parks</li> <li>Coconut nests and geocell on the Castle Hill</li> <li>Failed Nature-Based Solutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing solutions for in an open or close area to reduce anti-social behaviours</li> </ul>
Onda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A forest to compensate the Olympic games</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taking advantage of existing native nature</li> </ul>
Quarto d'Altino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slow tourism</li> <li>From maritime heritage to sustainable tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing green revitalisation solutions</li> </ul>
Vila Nova de Poiares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Combatting invasive species</li> <li>Clearing goats</li> <li>From invasive greens to a central recreative park</li> <li>FAILED: Unbeatable invasive species</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Park infrastructures</li> <li>Water and flood management solutions</li> <li>Vegetation (invasive species) management</li> </ul>
Wroclaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green revitalisation for and with inhabitants</li> <li>Greening tram tracks to cool the air</li> <li>Small-scale blue and green infrastructure for citizens throughout the city</li> <li>Permaculture in a former tram depot</li> <li>"Catch the rain" to manage rainwater</li> <li>FAILED: Renovating while forgetting about greens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introducing greenery in such a way that it organizes the space in the depot, in line with the "green first" idea.</li> </ul>

#### Cultural heritage as a resource

	Bringing	Wishing to get
Boulogne-sur-mer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
Bucharest-Ilfov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using coloured pavement stones to make ancient walls visible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>how do SDGs fit with heritage protection</li> </ul>
Cehegín	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Combining art and nature through an exhibition in a park</li> <li>Unused places transformed into artists' and NGOs' opportunities</li> <li>From toilets to a pocket art gallery</li> <li>Circular art</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples of aesthetics integrated landscapes</li> </ul>
Limerick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remembering the wall by a colour</li> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples of making a forgotten piece of heritage visible</li> </ul>
Löbau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Making the past visible with integrated information boards</li> <li>Making references to the heritage with visual artefacts</li> <li>Creating a topography of similar buildings</li> <li>Artists to put life into sleeping buildings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviving an industrial place with new multifunctional usages (culture, education, businesses, ..)</li> <li>Creating a visible narrative making the site attractive to tourists and professionals</li> </ul>
Nitra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Halloween in the military barracks</li> <li>Former military barracks transformed into a marketplace</li> <li>Martin's hill's creative centre for heritage, creativity and sustainability</li> <li>Combining art and environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
Onda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embellishing while telling local stories</li> <li>Renovating keeping the ancient visible</li> <li>Excavating and playing with visuals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrating heritage material in the project (e.g. with an outdoor museum)</li> </ul>
Quarto d'Altino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walking and cycling while discovering nature and heritage</li> <li>Uncovering archaeological secrets with remote sensing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link between a city centre and outer point of interest (making it visible, accessible, ...)</li> </ul>

	Bringing	Wishing to get
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Old and modern tradition: energy production on a church</li> </ul>	
Vila Nova de Poiares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotion and development of the green park</li> </ul>
Wroclaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A former tram depot to remember the local history</li> <li>Referring to local history inside and outside a former tram depot</li> <li>Creating a brand around past public transport: WRO-TA</li> <li>Organising an art festival: Putting light on the tram depot</li> <li>A day to celebrate and gather: Open Days of the Popowice depot</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technical skills on public transport heritage conservation</li> </ul>

### Community engagement

	Bringing	Wishing to get
Boulogne-sur-mer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaging with local residents on site</li> <li>Adaptation of Public space: workshops with seniors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaging economic stakeholders</li> <li>Engaging residents</li> <li>Communicating with partners and general public</li> <li>Bringing out new representations of a territory</li> </ul>
Bucharest-Ilfov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dâmbovița Delivery</li> <li>Changing the ways to design urban spaces through social mapping</li> <li>Renovating a Customs house to improve an abandoned area</li> <li>Making urban space accessible to all</li> <li>Making nature accessible to all with QR codes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>how to include people? (participation)</li> </ul>
Cehegín	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Innovative solutions to involve population and neighbours</li> </ul>
Limerick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My Point platform</li> <li>First fully inclusive playground</li> <li>Limerick Tidy town</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples of passive surveillance</li> <li>Small actions to fight anti social behaviours</li> </ul>
Löbau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collecting personal stories</li> <li>Collecting needs and ideas from the public for future uses</li> <li>An open-air cinema for residents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Making it a place for “everyone” or at least a very broad audience</li> <li>Next to private uses also finding public uses for the factory</li> </ul>
Nitra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-design, co-development, and co-management</li> <li>Pumpkin carving to reach out to marginalised communities</li> <li>A bottom-up multifunctional place addressing locals’ needs</li> <li>Co-creation with architects and sociologists</li> <li>Hackathon for co-design of public square</li> <li>A transitional parklet towards pedestrianisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bringing in marginalised perspectives (youth, women, disabled, animals, plants)</li> <li>Developing a common public space from a private intention</li> </ul>
Onda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-creation of the Urban Agenda 2030</li> <li>Ensuring children are taken into account</li> <li>Taking advantage of an activity to co-create with residents</li> <li>From brownfield to intergenerational gardens</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-creating the Green Lung with citizens</li> <li>Ensuring the place is adequate for children</li> <li>Integrating social assistance and activities in the project (e.g. classrooms in nature)</li> </ul>
Quarto d’Altino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-creating new religious symbols with the community</li> <li>Showing a film to attract interest</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating some project ideas in collaboration with architects and urbanist and sharing them with the local community</li> <li>Public presentation or conference and debate organized by ULG</li> <li>Creating occasions of international activities with citizens</li> </ul>
Vila Nova de Poiares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An app to enjoy nature while practicing sport</li> <li>Volunteers to improve the forest</li> <li>Environment awareness-raising in schools</li> <li>School of the environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
Wroclaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relying on volunteers to make a place alive</li> <li>A tree for each newborn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Methodology from other students of green revitalisation</li> </ul>

	Bringing	Wishing to get
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fighting anti-social behaviour through green revitalisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incubators of NGOs and NGO initiatives</li> </ul>

### Governance

	Bringing	Wishing to get
Boulogne-sur-mer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>European leverage for other European projects and funds</li> <li>Project management and innovative methodologies and governance models</li> <li>Approaches to diagnosis for these kinds of projects</li> </ul>
Bucharest-Ilfov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Private foundations giving new life to post-industrial buildings</li> <li>Bottom-up regulation of the Dâmbovița River</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Capacity-building for administration</li> <li>Rules to operate and funding principles: PPP, Public Procurement</li> <li>Urban data to take valuable decisions</li> </ul>
Cehegín	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
Limerick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Placemaking department</li> <li>Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy</li> <li>GreenLeaf award</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
Löbau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>
Nitra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulation for inclusive green spaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>information sharing between project partners (with different interests, timelines, priorities...)</li> <li>Developing a working mechanism for the maintenance of the park between the different owners and users of the site</li> </ul>
Onda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Structuring and implementing a project like that of the Green Lung</li> <li>Identifying funding opportunities</li> </ul>
Quarto d'Altino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institutionalising the bottom-up transformation of the former Forte Marghera</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaboration mechanisms between different levels of governance in relation to culture (museums)</li> </ul>
Vila Nova de Poiares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green City Accord</li> <li>Participatory budget for green projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managing private and public properties</li> </ul>
Wrocław	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participatory budget for Swojczycki Park Czarna woda</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NA</li> </ul>

## 4.5 Annex 5: Focus of the study visits

Host	Topic	Guests	Practices to visit (based on the City profiles)
Boulogne-sur-mer	Green revitalisation solutions with green and blue infrastructure, and slow mobility	Quarto d'Altino	Rethinking blue infrastructure for better city connexion and place to live Valorising nature and heritage with a new traffic plan Industrial site to become (nature) wild A seasonal temporary garden to rethink local mobility and attractivity
	Post-industrial revitalisation	Onda	From bus stop to sea inspired playground and water solutions Revitalisation of a former flour mill for dense and green habitat
	Renewable energy production	Cehegin, Löbau, Wrocław	Connecting for greener cities
Bucharest	Transformative usage of post-industrial buildings	Boulogne-sur-mer, Löbau, Onda, Wrocław	Researching temporary use Varied private activities in post-industrial buildings. The bottom-up regeneration of a former cotton factory
	Making forgotten heritage visible	Limerick	Using coloured pavement stones to make ancient walls visible
Cehegin	Restoring and reusing derelict buildings	Bucharest, Löbau, Onda, Wrocław	A green park for all replacing ruins in the city centre Unused places transformed into artists' and NGOs' opportunities
	Making forgotten heritage visible	Limerick	Recycling ancient time materials
	Park infrastructure	Onda, VNP	Combining art and nature through an exhibition in a park
Limerick	Temporary use activities	Löbau	Meanwhile use
	Park infrastructures	Onda, VNP	Natural Play sites First Fully inclusive playground URBACT Health and Greenspace H2020 Go Green Routes
	Greens for the people	Wrocław	Mobile tree nursery
	Developing slow tourism	Quarto d'Altino	H2020 Go Green Routes
	Bringing in marginalised perspectives	Nitra, Onda	My Point platform First Fully inclusive playground
Löbau	Green Transformation of a post-industrial area with visible heritage	Boulogne-sur-mer, Cehegin, Limerick, Onda, VNP	From factories to a big park for all Remembering the past with green solutions Making the past visible with integrated information boards Making references to the heritage with visual artefacts
	Focus on sleeping buildings	Boulogne-sur-mer, Bucharest, Wrocław	Creating a topography of similar buildings Artists to put life into sleeping buildings
	Engaging with the local community to make sense of the place in the present and future	Boulogne-sur-mer, Bucharest, Cehegin, Limerick, Nitra, Onda, Quarto d'Altino, VNP, Wrocław	Collecting personal stories Collecting needs and ideas from the public for future uses An open-air cinema for residents
Nitra	Art and environment	Cehegin	Combining art and environment
	Green solutions and public space	Boulogne-sur-mer, Limerick, VNP, Onda, Wrocław	Tribute to biodiversity Reducing heat waves in streets A gravel for all pedestrian paths in municipal parks Coconut nests and geocell on the Castle Hill
	Engaging with the local community	Boulogne-sur-mer, Bucharest, Cehegin, Limerick, Nitra, Onda, Quarto d'Altino, VNP, Wrocław	Halloween in the military barracks Co-design, co-development, and co-management Pumpkin carving to reach out to marginalised communities A bottom-up multifunctional place addressing locals' needs Co-creation with architects and sociologists Hackathon for co-design of public square



Host	Topic	Guests	Practices to visit (based on the City profiles)
	Focus on sleeping buildings	Boulogne-sur-mer, Bucharest, Löbau, Wrocław	A transitional parklet towards pedestrianisation Former military barracks transformed into a marketplace Martin's hill's creative centre for heritage, creativity and sustainability
Onda	Circularity of materials	Boulogne-sur-mer, Bucharest	Recycling hearts for urban furniture A Smart City for a Smart use of resources Industrial symbiosis for streamlined use of resources and materials
	Memory and storytelling	Cehegin, Limerick	Embellishing while telling local stories Renovating keeping the ancient visible Excavating and playing with visuals
	Engaging with the local community	Boulogne-sur-mer, Bucharest, Cehegin, Limerick, Nitra, Onda, Quarto d'Altino, VNP, Wrocław	Co-creation of the Urban Agenda 2030 Ensuring children are taken into account Taking advantage of an activity to co-create with residents
Quarto d'Altino	Degraded buildings and blue tourism	Boulogne-sur-mer	Typology of degradation From maritime heritage to sustainable tourism
	Slow tourism and cultural heritage	Cehegin, Limerick, Onda	Slow tourism Walking and cycling while discovering nature and heritage Uncovering archaeological secrets with remote sensing Old and modern tradition: energy production on a church
Vila Nova de Poiares	Fighting invasive species	Onda	Combating invasive species Clearing goats From invasive greens to a central recreative park
	Engaging with the local community	Boulogne-sur-mer, Bucharest, Cehegin, Limerick, Nitra, Onda, Quarto d'Altino, VNP, Wrocław	An app to enjoy nature while practicing sport Volunteers to improve the forest Environment awareness-raising in schools School of the environment
Wrocław	Regeneration of abandoned buildings	Bucharest, Löbau	Rebuilding notable buildings with new community services Changing old tram depot into a circular, cultural and local initiatives center A former tram depot to remember the local history Referring to local history inside and outside a former tram depot Creating a brand around past public transport: WRO-TA Organising an art festival: Putting light on the tram depot A day to celebrate and gather: Open Days of the Popowice depot
	Green solutions for regeneration	Bucharest, Limerick, Nitra	Green revitalisation for and with inhabitants Fighting anti-social behaviour through green revitalization Greening tram tracks to cool the air Small-scale blue and green infrastructure for citizens throughout the city Permaculture in a former tram depot
	Engaging with the local community	Boulogne-sur-mer, Bucharest, Cehegin, Limerick, Nitra, Onda, Quarto d'Altino, VNP, Wrocław	"Catch the rain" to manage rainwater Participatory budget for Swojczycki Park Czarna woda Relying on volunteers to make a place alive A tree for each newborn

## 4.6 Annex 6: URBACT Cross-cutting themes- present and future

Green		
	State of the art	Ambitions
Boulogne-sur-mer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obligatory and transversal</li> <li>Previous projects: Water Resilient Cities, Bike Friendly Cities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eco-neighbourhood: energy, mobility, water, buildings, green</li> <li>Ecolabel guide</li> </ul>
Bucharest-Ilfov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bucharest-Ilfov has diverse and attractive green areas Yet, few NBS solutions exist and not for revitalisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Testing green and NBS solutions for revitalisation, making it exemplary for other such projects</li> </ul>
Cehegín	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SEAP</li> <li>Municipal ordinance regulating the use of mycology in the mountains of Cehegín 2013.</li> <li>Tourism Sustainability Plan for Cehegín. Sustainability</li> <li>Urban Agenda 2030</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green solutions, native species</li> <li>Improvement of green parks and squares</li> <li>categories:</li> </ul>
Limerick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GBI Strategy</li> <li>Local Development Plan</li> <li>URBACT Health and GreenSpace experience</li> <li>Many experience of green revitalisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deepen the environment component of heritage conservation</li> <li>Crate links with URBACT BiodiverCity</li> </ul>
Löbau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Already existing green areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renewable energies</li> <li>Upgrading existing green spaces</li> <li>Connection to green spaces</li> </ul>
Nitra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A wide experience of Nature-based Solutions</li> <li>Supporting local policies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adding green areas and water retention measures on areas outside the monument zone</li> <li>preserving and increasing the quality of vegetation in the area - biocentre</li> <li>connecting the territory as a biocenter to the green network of the city</li> </ul>
Onda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Smart energy efficiency measures (e.g. sensors, waste heat, ...)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planting native species</li> <li>Environment sensors</li> <li>Smart irrigation</li> </ul>
Quarto d'Altino	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing environmental regulations, SUMP SECAP</li> <li>Regional Natural Park of the Sile River, the Trepalade Oasis and various lagoons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planting trees</li> <li>Permaculture</li> <li>Working with an NGO fauna and Flora</li> <li>Organising an exhibition</li> <li>Phytoremediation of the site</li> <li>PVs on the roof</li> <li>A Laboratory for the environment</li> </ul>
Vila Nova de Poiares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eco-schools + green flag</li> <li>Invasive species practices</li> <li>Foodwaste fight practices</li> <li>SECAP</li> <li>LEDs</li> <li>Environmental Education Strategic Plan</li> <li>Green City Accord</li> <li>Green mobility</li> <li>Projects combining sports and nature</li> <li>Clearing goats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green solutions to fight invasive species</li> <li>Protection of biodiversity</li> <li>Green urban infrastructure</li> </ul>
Wroclaw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rich experience of NBS</li> <li>Rich experience of green revitalisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing green coverage</li> <li>Designation of areas for maintaining wild expansion of greenery</li> <li>Rainwater management solutions</li> <li>Energy efficiency solutions</li> </ul>

## Gender

	State of the art	Ambitions
<b>Boulogne-sur-mer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “City for all”</li> <li>• Projects on ageing population</li> <li>• Accessibility projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Search to co-create with all, in less institutionalised way</li> </ul>
<b>Bucharest-Ilfov</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The city is poor in inclusivity and accessibility, but it is more inclusive than accessible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensuring physical accessibility and inclusivity of the site</li> <li>• using QR codes for audio and visual aids</li> </ul>
<b>Cehegin</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• political commitment to the goals of equity and justice (Plan for Equal Opportunities between Women and Men of the municipality of Cehegin 2022-2026)</li> <li>• protection of women against violence</li> <li>• mobile application to prevent cases of harassment or gender violence,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ramps for disabled people</li> <li>• Violent points to call the police in case of danger</li> </ul>
<b>Limerick</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender perspective in the Local Development Plan</li> <li>• Gender perspective on a project-by-project basis</li> <li>• First fully inclusive playground of the city</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety is a major issue, especially for women - not addressed yet</li> <li>• Overall of gender and anti-social behaviours issues</li> </ul>
<b>Löbau</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender perspective in the Local Development Plan</li> <li>• Work with local NGOs, notably on ageing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with refugees</li> <li>• Ensuring the physical accessibility of events (in the courtyard so far)</li> </ul>
<b>Nitra</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design manual of public spaces and public procurement rules with inclusive criteria</li> <li>• IN-HABIT co-design</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design manual of public spaces and public procurement rules Analysis with gender perspective</li> </ul>
<b>Onda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traffic lights for disabled people</li> <li>• Concerts with platforms for disabled</li> <li>• Theatre for hearing impaired</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fitness for disabled</li> <li>• Play and sport for all agers</li> <li>• Lights</li> <li>• Surveillance cameras</li> </ul>
<b>Quarto d’Altino</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not much at the moment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objectives which can be touched in museums</li> <li>• A place for young people/teenagers</li> <li>• Landart</li> </ul>
<b>Vila Nova de Poiares</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local policies</li> <li>• Braille on the local market</li> <li>• Videos translated in sign language and sounds</li> <li>• Sign language for festivals</li> <li>• Ramps in all parks + flat areas</li> <li>• Actions for elderly people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cameras</li> <li>• Wheelchair access</li> <li>• Audios</li> <li>• App to help going through the tracks</li> <li>• QR codes with sounds and audio</li> <li>• Flat areas</li> <li>• Fitness machines for special needs</li> </ul>
<b>Wroclaw</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By law, diversity management</li> <li>• Existing bodies in the municipality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equal access for everyone to participate in the work of ULG</li> <li>• Participation of all to consultations</li> <li>• Physical access to tram depot for all</li> </ul>

## Digital

	State of the art	Ambitions
<b>Boulogne-sur-mer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interactive maps</li> <li>• MasterPlan for digital usages</li> <li>• Digital projects in deprived neighbourhoods</li> <li>• Connected benches</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Third Place</li> <li>• Digital public participation</li> <li>• Digital viusalisation (before and after)</li> <li>• “digital city” label</li> </ul>
<b>Bucharest-Ilfov</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADIZMB works on updating digital data base and creating an urban observatory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• using QR codes for audio and visual aids</li> </ul>

	State of the art	Ambitions
<b>Cehegín</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ICT and social welfare: Cehegin Ciudad Digital, use of electronic media in municipal administrative activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replicating touristic QR codes</li> <li>App with touristic points</li> <li>Digital tools for participation</li> <li>Digital promotion of the ejidos</li> </ul>
<b>Limerick</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experience of MyPoint participation platform</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tourism with augmented reality</li> </ul>
<b>Löbau</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital 3D model of the Schminke House (work in progress)</li> <li>Digital 3d model of the factory exists</li> <li>Online feedback platform</li> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small exhibition on the noodle factory during the events on the courtyard - available online</li> <li>“printing out” memories that are recorded on the events at the factory using AI</li> </ul>
<b>Nitra</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tourism office’s app: “several hills” about then and now</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Smart solutions for lights</li> <li>Digital accessibility (e.g. for visually or hearing impaired people)</li> </ul>
<b>Onda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Smart City Strategy</li> <li>Smart sensors</li> <li>Braille QR codes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>App on heritage for tourists</li> </ul>
<b>Quarto d'Altino</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not much at the moment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to use the new technologies of digitalization to create innovative and sustainable services.</li> </ul>
<b>Vila Nova de Poiares</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>QR codes trails</li> <li>Eco counts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measuring air quality, water quality, floodings for visitors</li> <li>QR codes</li> </ul>
<b>Wroclaw</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Olympus exhibition on site</li> <li>Virtual museum of new technologies</li> <li>WSPÓLDZIELNIA (Cooperative) - Resource Sharing Center run by Sector 3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sektor 3 online portal with shared material</li> <li>Training for older people</li> </ul>

