

## Greening Central Europe: Highlights from the GreenScape CE Partner Meeting in Ptuj, Slovenia



**November 21-22, 2024**

The GreenScape CE partners convened in the historic city of Ptuj for two dynamic days dedicated to advancing climate-resilient urban landscapes. This milestone meeting brought together representatives from partner cities, along with experts in urban planning and citizen engagement, to develop strategies for transforming urban areas in Central Europe into greener, more sustainable spaces.

### Day 1: Laying the Foundations 🌱

The opening day set the tone for collaboration and innovation.

- **Kickoff Discussions:** Management and communication strategies, spearheaded by REGEA and ALDA+, provided updates on project progress and clarified next steps.
- **Workshops on Nature-based Solutions Implementation:** Partners explored best practices in implementing nature-based solutions (NBS) and green infrastructure (GI) under the theme "Sowing the Seeds".
- **Study Visit:** A guided tour through Ptuj's successful green initiatives showcased real-world applications of GI, inspiring partners with tangible examples of sustainable urban development.

### Day 2: Driving Momentum 💡

The second and final day emphasized actionable strategies and forward planning.

- **Collaborative Workshops:** Under several thought-provoking themes, namely "Bring About Change", partners, led by ETIFOR and others, honed pilot actions, feasibility studies, and technical documentation.

- **In-depth Strategy Sessions:** Insights from UIRS- Urbanistični Inštitut Republike Slovenije, AMBIT, Energiaklub, ZRS Bistra, City of Zagreb and ALDA+ focused on mapping opportunities to link GI/NBS initiatives, raising awareness, and engaging local communities.
- **Next Steps:** Partners strategized on expanding the GreenScape CE network to enhance regional collaboration and ensure the sustainability of project outcomes.

These efforts culminated in a shared vision for integrating green solutions to tackle urban climate challenges, providing a roadmap to turn grey cities green.

### **A Commitment to Greener Futures** 🌍

The Ptuj meeting solidified the GreenScape CE consortium's dedication to creating inclusive, climate-resilient urban environments. It underscored the transformative potential of NBS and GI in mitigating the urban heat island effect while promoting sustainable growth.

The collaborative energy, innovative solutions, and shared passion of all partners exemplified the spirit of the GreenScape CE project.

### **Looking Ahead** 🚀

As the project moves forward, the GreenScape CE partnership will continue to expand its network, foster local engagement, and implement groundbreaking solutions that contribute to reshaping Central Europe's urban landscapes.

Stay tuned for updates on our next steps as we advance the mission to #MakeGreyCitiesGreener! 🌳