Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE

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URBIO BAUHAUS

DELIVERABLE 1.2.1: TRANSNATIONAL PILOT TESTING REPORT

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1. Introduction

Purpose of Deliverable 1.2.1 -Transnational Pilot Testing Report.

Transnational Pilot testing Report, originally conceived as a guide for establishing and operating local **BIOCENTUM nodes**, has now undergone transnational participative testing across the partner municipalities in Kranj, Pulia Erd and Wrocław.

The purpose of the deliverable—validated through real-world application—has been confirmed as both practical and impactful in supporting cities to initiate and manage Biodiversity-Centered Urban Mindset nodes in collaboration with **Quintuple Helix actors**.

Through the testing phase, the guide proved effective in enabling municipalities to co-create BIOCENTUM nodes with local authorities, economic stakeholders, scientific partners, citizens, and NGOs. The multi-actor framework outlined in the deliverable has shown strong potential in fostering inclusive governance and creating shared ownership of biodiversity-related objectives across sectors.

Across participating cities, the BIOCENTUM nodes produced preliminary biodiversity design plans that now serve as inputs for future urban investment considerations. These outputs confirm that the guide offers a robust and transferable framework capable of steering green urban transformation processes.

The testing phase validated Transnational Pilot testing Report as a functional and adaptable instrument for establishing participatory BIOCENTUM nodes. Its methodologies, tools, and conceptual foundations proved effective across diverse regional contexts, confirming its relevance for supporting urban biodiversity actions within the broader New European Bauhaus vision.

The guide's integration of **New European Bauhaus (NEB)** concepts was also validated during testing. The principles of sustainability, aesthetics, and inclusion were consistently reflected in the co-created outputs, enhancing the quality and relevance of the resulting biodiversity design ideas. Municipalities found that the NEB framing helped participants articulate visions for greener, more beautiful, and more socially connected urban spaces.

2. Methodology

The structure, activities and objectives of the BIOCENTUM nodes are modelled on the initiatives of the New European Bauhaus, the European Green Deal, the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Urban Nature and Biodiversity for Cities policy. The European Union plans to prioritise the modernisation of existing buildings and spaces in the future, which is in line with the European Commission's Renovation Wave initiative under the EGD.

Recent scholarship by Andersson[1] and colleagues on urban biodiversity governance reveals the complexity of implementing biodiversity-centered urban design within existing planning frameworks. Their work highlights the need for innovative governance models that can accommodate the multi-scalar and multi-actor nature of urban biodiversity challenges. This research directly influenced the URBIOBauhaus project and approach to establish BIOCENTUM nodes as collaborative platforms for biodiversity integration.
The participatory urban planning methodology literature, particularly the work of Healey (1997)[2] on collaborative planning theory, provides essential theoretical grounding for the Urbiobauhaus emphasis on multi-stakeholder engagement. Healey's framework for communicative planning aligns closely with the Quintuple Helix model employed in Urbiobauhaus, which involves government, industry, academia, civil society, and cultural sectors in collaborative urban transformation processes. Participatory design methodologies, particularly the work of Sanders and Stappers (2008)[3] on co-creation, provide important insights into how diverse stakeholders can collaborate effectively in urban planning processes. Their research on design thinking approaches aligns closely with the "Empathize, Define, Ideate, Prototype, Test" methodology employed in Urbiobauhaus workshops and co-creation sessions.

[1] Andersson, E., Barthel, S., Borgström, S. et al. (2014) Reconnecting Cities to the Biosphere: Stewardship of Green Infrastructure and Urban Ecosystem Services. *AMBIO*, 43, 445–453. https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-014-0506-y

[2] Healey, P. (1997). *Collaborative planning: Shaping places in fragmented societies*. UBS Vancouver.

[3] Sanders, E. B. N., & Stappers, P. J. (2008). Co-creation and the new landscapes of design. *CoDesign*, 4(1), 5–18.

The literature on community-based natural resource management, particularly the work of Ostrom (2009)[4] on common pool resource governance, provides important theoretical insights for understanding how communities can effectively manage urban biodiversity resources. Ostrom's design principles for stable resource management institutions inform the Urbiobauhaus project approach to creating sustainable governance structures for biodiversity conservation.

A participatory process was crucial as it ensured that decision-making includes different perspectives and promotes social cohesion. By involving representatives from science, politics, business and civil society in the process, this approach fostered a sense of ownership of the outcomes and ensures that the results reflect the needs and wishes of the wider community. Living Labs provide an environment that facilitates interactive schemas and encourages collaboration across different fields of knowledge to test and co-create solutions to real-world problems and complex challenges in a holistic way, creating societal value. In this way, stakeholders were immersed in a creative social space where they can shape and experience their own future. The Living Lab approach included the following methods that enable stakeholders to jointly develop knowledge-based tools and activities:

- Informing stakeholders through a 'design thinking' approach
- Supporting civic engagement and capacity building
- Development of an impact-by-design research platform involving local stakeholders:
  - Collective ideation
  - Co-creation of solutions
  - Collective implementation.

Testing results confirmed the suitability of the **Living Lab approach** described in the deliverable. In practice, the methodology successfully attracted diverse groups of citizens and stakeholders, generating high levels of engagement in discussions, workshops, and co-design sessions. Partner cities reported that the Living Lab-based activities not only raised awareness of urban biodiversity challenges but also generated context-specific solutions rooted in local priorities and lived experiences.

3. Overview of Participating Cities

Across Central Europe, cities are confronting a shared reality: biodiversity in urban and peri-urban landscapes is declining, while climate risks and development pressures intensify. Four Central European cities—Kranj (Slovenia), Pula (Croatia),

[4] Ostrom, E. (2009). A general framework for analyzing sustainability of social-ecological systems. *Science*, 325(5939), 419–422.

Wrocław (Poland), and Érd (Hungary)—joined forces under the URBIO Bauhaus initiative to address the urgent challenge of biodiversity decline in urban and peri-urban areas. Each city established a BIOCENTUM node, a collaborative platform bringing together local authorities, businesses, academia, civil society, and aesthetic stakeholders. These nodes aim to co-create interventions aligned with the New European Bauhaus (NEB) principles of sustainability, inclusion, and aesthetics, fostering resilient and biodiverse urban environments. BIOCENTUM nodes are to co-design and implement nature-based, community-anchored solutions. The following narrative consolidates each city's starting point, the stakeholders mobilized, and the challenges and engagement pathways identified to enable an urban biodiverse transition.

City of Kranj (Slovenia): Kranj positions itself as a climate-neutral and smart city, integrating biodiversity into its spatial planning and green infrastructure strategies. Its mission focuses on creating **biodiverse islands** within the historic city center to preserve endangered species and enhance public awareness. Kranj is advancing an integrated "green city" vision connected to its climate-neutral and smart-city ambitions. The city's leadership places biodiversity as a structural element of spatial planning, urban regeneration, and public education. Kranj's BIOCENTUM node is designed to bridge decision-making, technical planning, cultural heritage, and citizen inclusion—turning the historic center into a living lab for biodiversity and climate resilience.

Kranj: Biodiverse Islands in a Historic Old City
Kranj's node articulates a tangible mission: create "biodiverse islands"—new urban habitats that conserve depopulated plant and animal species and provide experimential learning spaces for residents. These islands are envisioned for built-up, heritage-sensitive areas of the old city, where green and grey infrastructure must co-exist. The approach weaves biodiversity into spatial planning, conservation planning for the Old Town, and a strategic green system standards —backed by climate adaptation work at regional scale. The BIOCENTUM node's kick off workshop (20 March 2025) convened a broad alliance from municipal departments to academia and business, signaling a whole-city mobilization.

Loss of native species in urbanized areas; fragmentation of green spaces; need for interventions in the historic city center to balance heritage conservation with biodiversity goals. Key activities: City of Kranj should create a biodiverse islands as interventions to save the depopulated species by providing new urban living spaces in the built-up

city centre, and as a platform for increasing awareness, education and inclusion of inhabitants into education and conservation.

Pula (Croatia), a coastal city with rich natural and cultural assets, is mobilizing its node around ecological connectivity, heat mitigation, and coastal protection and climate resilience. The municipality's multi-sector coalition aims to restore degraded grasslands and knit together fragmented green spaces and coastal habitats, while shaping public behavior through education and hands-on projects. Its strategy includes restoring degraded grasslands, mitigating urban heat islands, and protecting sensitive coastal habitats from overdevelopment.

Pula: Connecting Habitats and Cooling the City
Pula's profile centers on ecological connectivity, nature-based cooling, and coastal ecosystem care. The city is mapping biodiversity value in parks and grasslands, restoring degraded urban grasslands and wetlands, and designing green corridors to link fragmented habitats. Urban heat island mitigation features prominently—expanding canopy cover, promoting green roofs and vertical gardens, and co-designing shaded public spaces. Coastal management aims to balance tourism with ecosystem health—prioritizing restoration (e.g., dune stabilization), monitoring impacts, and setting responsible access and development standards.

Pula: Urban heat islands reducing habitat viability; degradation of coastal ecosystems due to tourism and construction; lack of ecological corridors connecting fragmented habitats.

Érd (Hungary) envisions becoming a livable, sustainable green city where built and natural environments coexist harmoniously. The city prioritizes expanding biologically active green spaces, fostering community engagement, and implementing climate-friendly parks to counter biodiversity loss. Complements this cohort as a dynamic Central European city known for progressive urban greening and river corridor stewardship. It frames its mission around livability and the harmonious coexistence of built and natural environments. Building on a 2022 Climate Strategy, Érd's BIOCENTUM prioritizes expanding biologically active green areas, initiating climate-friendly parks, and nurturing a civic culture that actively protects and enhances habitats—linking policy, practice, and participation.

Érd: Climate-Friendly Parks and Citizen Activation
Érd's mission is explicitly civic and practical: grow biologically active green spaces in public and private domains, equip residents with knowledge and incentives, and deliver climate-friendly park sites via "project in a day" co-creation workshops. The city's BIOCENTUM draws on a mix of public authorities, schools, national park expertise, designers, local businesses, and highly engaged civil society organizations. Early actions include identifying three local biodiversity challenges (April 2025), a design workshop for a climate-friendly park (May 2025), and launching a call for projects to scale citizen-led greenspace improvements—paired with baseline and follow-up behavioral surveys.

Érd:
Insufficient greenery in densely built areas; declining pollinator populations; limited public awareness and engagement in biodiversity-friendly practices.
Key goals:

- Creating and implementing innovative green regulators;
- Increasing biologically active green spaces in public and private gardens;
- An active, conscious society living in harmony with nature;
- Preservation, maintenance, restoration, and establishment of flora, fauna and habitats that are adapted to local conditions and climate change

Wrocław (Poland).

City is known for its progressive urban greening policies and citizen-driven biodiversity initiatives, likely focusing on river corridors and pollinator-friendly spaces.

Wrocław: Blue-Green Networks and Community Stewardship

The BIOCENTUM local node was established by the Municipality of Wroclaw in partnership with the Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences and the Society of Polish Town Planners in October 2024. It was built on existing structures and leveraging the city's position as a Polish NBS Hub in Wroclaw,

whose activities focus on promoting the potential of nature-based solutions. The BIOCENTUM will be expanded to include further stakeholders.

The mission of the BIOCENTUM node is to be an advisory body to the city decision-makers and to support the city of Wroclaw in all key decisions regarding green urban transformation.

The node acts as a green urban "mindset changer" engaging citizens in changing their perception of green transition from something that “must be” done, to something citizens would “love to” do.

Specific Biodiversity Challenges Identified

Each city identified their specific biodiveristy challenges. Some challenges are shared by all citities. In this chapter they are listed and descibe:

Habitat Fragmentation and Species Decline

Kranj targets the loss of native species and the fragmentation of green spaces within a dense, heritage-rich urban core. Biodiverse islands are conceived as micro-habitats and stepping stones that re-connect ecological functions and increase visibility of nature in everyday city life. Decline of plant and animal species in the historic city core; need for new “biodiverse islands” and better symbiosis between grey and green infrastructure in dense,

Pula highlights fragmented urban habitats, degraded grasslands, and coastal sensitivities. Ensuring connectivity across parks, school grounds, and peri-urban zones is crucial to restore ecological networks and enable species movement. Fragmented green areas; need to improve ecological connectivity across parks, grasslands and to surrounding natural habitats.

Érd: Insufficient biologically active green spaces; pressure on local habitats from climate change and urban development.
Wrocław: Ecological impacts of existing lighting systems on nocturnal species and natural cycles in urban parks/demonstrator areas.

Climate Pressures—Urban Heat and Microclimate Stress/ **Climate stressors (heat islands & drought) affecting biodiversity**

Pula explicitly frames urban heat islands as a biodiversity and public health challenge. Nature-based cooling—trees, shade structures, green roofs—serves both ecological and social resilience goals. Urban heat islands reducing habitat quality; need for climate-resilient, biodiversity-friendly cooling through green infrastructure.
Érd likewise seeks to counter heat and drought impacts through climate-friendly park design and locally adapted planting, enhancing biologically active surfaces citywide.

Wrocław: Light pollution linked with excess heat in urban green spaces and impacts on wildlife and human well-being.

Coastal Ecosystem Vulnerability (Pula)

Coastal habitat degradation risks (e.g., inappropriate beach interventions); necessity to balance tourism, development, and conservation. Pula's coast faces development and tourism pressures that can erode biodiversity. The node proposes low-intervention approaches, habitat restoration, and sustainable tourism pathways, balancing use and protection through zoning and standards informed by ecological data.

Awareness and Behavior Change

Érd pinpoints a behavioral gap—the need to build an active, conscious society that adopts biodiversity-friendly practices in gardens and public spaces. Targeted education, incentives, and recognition (e.g., garden certifications) are key to scaling private-land contributions to citywide biodiversity.

Inference for **Wrocław** - Wrocław sees the need for active involvement of residents and local stakeholders in the co-creation of a sustainable city through joint educational workshops on light pollution and its impact on biodiversity, as well as through a survey to gather residents' views on biodiversity and needs for the planned lighting modernisation on the demonstrator selected as part of the project, that will increase biodiversity. Co-creation of an urban biodiversity design plan, which will allow the creation of a targeted implementation plan to test the planned intervention on the selected demonstrator

Érd & Kranj: Climate adaptation priorities integrated into regional/city strategies; practical needs to expand canopy and green system.

Social perception & stewardship gaps

Wrocław: Need to shift citizen perception from “must do” to “love to do” for green transition, specifically around smart lighting. The biggest challenge is educating residents so that they understand why these actions are important. Finding a balance between lighting that still provides a sense of security and is biodiversity-friendly is the biggest challenge.

Érd: Requirement to build an active, conscious society to co-maintain habitats and adopt biodiversity-friendly practices.

Kranj: Awareness and inclusion of inhabitants into conservation and education around new urban living spaces for species.

4. Stakeholder Composition & Engagement Process

The BIOCENTUM nodes in **Wroclaw, Kranj, Érd, and Pula** share a common structure: they bring together the practitioners who drive the experiments and people who make their valuable contributions as end-users, users - **civil society**, public administrators, company representatives - **business actors** or academic researchers and **aesthetic stakeholders** to co-create and test NEB-based urban biodiversity solutions. People from different backgrounds come together to address common concerns and innovate through interactive and engaging activities.

Who Is Involved?

Decision Makers and City Services

- Kranj: Municipal departments (spatial planning, green-system management, heritage protection, climate-neutral city office) forge policy alignment for biodiversity-friendly planning standards and implementation.
- Pula: City administration leads strategy, regulation, and public engagement—coordinating with utility operators and park managers to deliver on-the-ground interventions.
- Érd: Municipality and city-owned service companies integrate goals into urban gardening tasks, maintenance, and public-space delivery; the node works alongside national park expertise (Duna–Ipoly National Park).
- Wrtocław: Municipality departments (Making key decisions regarding green urban transformation in the city. Developing NEB-based Urban Biodiverse Transition Roadmap)

Business Stakeholders

- Kranj engages local utilities and green space contractors to build and maintain biodiverse interventions, and commercial property actors (e.g., shopping centers) to embed green design.
- Pula includes hospitality groups and public companies (e.g., Herculanea) as implementation partners—advancing sustainable tourism, urban greening, and education outreach.
- Érd involves landscape firms and local enterprises to co-design and construct climate-friendly parks and to reach broader audiences with practical know-how.

Academia and Research

- Kranj collaborates with universities, high schools and institutes across civil engineering, forestry, and biotechnical sciences—linking biodiversity interventions with spatial design and environmental monitoring.
- Pula connects with schools and research NGOs for habitat design (e.g., insect hotels, birdhouses) and biodiversity data.
- Érd involves local high schools and independent experts to develop educational materials and guide environmental protection actions.
- Wrocław - University Conducting an inventory, studying the impact of the introduced lighting modernisation on biodiversity, public survey.

Civil Society and Aesthetic Stakeholders

- Érd features active associations (Environmental Protection Association, Garden Friends Circle) and individual experts who catalyze citizen participation, garden biodiversity, and local habitat monitoring.
- Pula mobilizes NGOs and cultural/technical associations for hands-on workshops and species-focused programs (pollinators, birds, bats).
- Kranj integrates aesthetic stakeholders—landscape planners, arts, local creative industry—to ensure NEB's beauty dimension shapes interventions that people cherish.
- Wrocław - aesthetic supporter - Supporting the city's of Wroclaw decisions on the design, connecting to local inhabitants of the project area.

Side-by-Side Comparison Table

City	Stakeholder Categories	Key Stakeholders	Engagement Methods	Notes
Wroclaw	Decision makers; Academia; Aesthetic	Municipality of Wroclaw; Polish NBS Hub; Wroclaw University;	Workshops; Survey; Co-creation plan; Open	Focus on lighting & mindset change.

	stakeholders; Civil society	Society of Town Planners; Gajowice District Council; Citizens	competition; Meetings	
Kranj	Decision makers; Business; Academia; Aesthetic; Civil society	City of Kranj; BSC; LEAG - local energetics agency; Nature Conservation and Cultural heritage Institutes; Supernova; Flora Sport; Komunala; Universities; Citizens	NEB participative testing; Advisory boards; Strategic council meetings of City of Kranj, Field workshops; Questionnaires	Broad ecosystem; climate-neutrality integration.
Érd	Decision makers; Business; Academia; Civil society	Municipality of Érd; City Manager; National Park; High School; Pilis Park; Garden Studio; Associations; Experts	Challenge workshops; Project in a Day; Open calls; Surveys	Strong citizen activation.
Pula	Decision makers; Business; Academia; Civil society; Aesthetic	City of Pula; Natura Histrica; NP Brijuni; Arena Hospitality; Herculanea; Beekeepers; Schools; NGOs	Working group; Public consultations; Citizen science; Workshops	Coastal biodiversity & education focus.

Source: own compilation based on Annexes 1 provided by the cities

How Engagement Happens Across the Four BIOCENTUM Cities

Engagement within the BIOCENTUM nodes is built on a shared transnational methodology grounded in NEB principles of **sustainability, inclusion, and aesthetics**. While each city adapts the shared model to its own ecological and social

context. The engagement process consistently follows a participatory, multi-stakeholder, and iterative structure. The narratives below describe **how engagement actually takes place** in each city, based on their documented practices.

Wrocław – Engagement Through Co-Creation and Citizen Dialogue

In Wrocław, engagement is centered on **participative learning and co-design**, placing residents at the heart of decision-making about light-pollution mitigation and biodiversity enhancement. Engagement begins with **collaborative workshops**, where municipal officials, environmental scientists, local planners, and citizens meet to explore how lighting affects urban biodiversity. These workshops offer residents the opportunity not only to understand ecological impacts but also to **negotiate acceptable and desirable lighting scenarios** for their local park.

Residents' perceptions are captured through **targeted surveys**, which inform design revisions and provide a baseline for evaluating acceptance of planned interventions. Engagement continues through **co-creation sessions**, during which stakeholders collectively draft the urban biodiversity design plan for the demonstrator site.

Further, Wrocław broadens participation by launching an **open competition** that invites individuals and organisations to submit innovative green solutions.

The competition creates an accessible entry point for actors outside the project's structured stakeholder groups. The city maintains engagement across multiple communication channels—**in-person meetings, virtual meetings, phone calls, and online information platforms**—ensuring that diverse stakeholders can participate according to their capacities and preferences.

Kranj – Engagement Through BIOCENTUM NODE and Multi-Sector Platforms

Kranj's engagement model is rooted in a **living-lab approach**, integrating stakeholders from governance, business, academia, spatial planning, and civil groups into a shared experimental environment. Engagement begins with the Biodiversity-Centered Urban Mindset node - group, which functions as a **participative advisory platform**, enabling multiple actors to shape the city's biodiversity interventions.

Stakeholders participate in **field workshops**, where they collectively identify biodiversity challenges and explore potential solutions on-site. This hands-on, spatially grounded engagement encourages dialogue between technical experts

and local residents. The city also deploys **NEB-based participative testing**, where stakeholders explore interventions "live" in urban space—such as testing green-blue solutions or participating in collaborative design sessions.

A key feature of Kranj's approach is its emphasis on **behaviour-change assessment**, implemented through questionnaires administered at project initiation and repeated after 15–18 months. This creates a measurable link between engagement activities and shifts in public understanding or attitudes. Regular public-facing communication through **municipal websites, newspapers, local radio, and social media** reinforces transparency and maintains broad involvement beyond the core node membership.

Érd – Engagement Through Community Activation and Collaborative Task-Making

Érd's engagement strategy places strong emphasis on **community activation**, reflecting a grassroots-driven model shaped by local environmental associations and citizen experts. The process begins with collective identification of the city's three key biodiversity challenges during stakeholder workshops. These sessions encourage participants—from high school educators to NGO representatives—to articulate the problems most visible to them in daily life.

The city's signature method, the **"Project in a Day"** workshop, invites all BIOCENTUM stakeholders to collaboratively develop the pilot site concept for the climate-friendly park. This highly interactive format compresses ideation, design, and planning into a single intensive engagement day, reinforcing stakeholder ownership over project outcomes.

Érd also engages the community through **open calls** for project ideas, evaluated jointly by the BIOCENTUM node. This mechanism intentionally widens participation to younger residents, hobbyists, and new environmental actors. A baseline **behaviour-change questionnaire** distributed city-wide further supports inclusive participation by giving non-attending residents a voice in shaping future activities. Communication through direct channels—**joint email list, phone calls, social media, and the local newspaper**—ensures steady mobilisation of the community.

Pula – Engagement Through Education, Citizen Science, and Cross-Sector Coordination

In Pula, engagement unfolds through a model that blends **education, citizen science, and inter-institutional collaboration**. The establishment of the working group brings together experts from protected-area management, businesses, creative sectors, civic associations, and schools. Their first meeting sets the tone: a

collaborative discussion on biodiversity challenges and the potential activities required to address them.

Pula's strongest engagement mechanisms lie in **education-driven participation**. Schools, NGOs, and municipal departments collaborate to design biodiversity structures such as insect hotels and bird habitats—activities that engage children, teachers, volunteers, and local organisations. The city fosters citizen science through monitoring activities, workshops, guided nature events, and thematic days celebrating pollinators and biodiversity.

Public participation is also expanded through **open calls**, community planting events, and participatory design sessions for green corridors and cooling interventions. Communication relies heavily on **local media, social networks, and municipal websites**, enabling ongoing public visibility and participation in coastal conservation, climate-resilient planning, and private-land biodiversity actions.

Across the four cities, engagement happens through:

1. Deep participatory workshops

All cities use workshops as foundational spaces for shared learning, collective problem-identification, and design of solutions. Nodes launch with kick-off workshops to set mission, nominate key challenges, and define roles across sectors. (Wrocław workshops on lighting; Kranj field workshops; Érd "Project in a Day"; Pula educational biodiversity workshops.)

2. Co-creation of design plans and interventions

Stakeholders co-design implementation plans for pilot sites, ensuring decisions reflect local knowledge and priorities. Cities run on-site sessions and "project in a day" design charrettes—targeting pilot locations where ideas can be quickly prototyped, tested, and refined with residents.

3. Open calls and competitions

These broaden participation beyond formal actors, inviting creativity from residents, businesses, and youth.

4. Behavioural and perceptual research

Cities use surveys or questionnaires to understand citizen attitudes, track impact, and ground decisions in evidence. Érd deploys questionnaires to establish baseline attitudes and will repeat measurements at 15–18 months—supporting adaptive management and behavior-change evaluation.

Pula and Kranj align monitoring with mapping and institutional capacity-building, building evidence over time.

Wrocław - extended survey on citizen perspective and perception of implemented changes in the park

5. Multi-channel communication ecosystems

Each city maintains transparency and engagement through in-person sessions, social media, municipal platforms, and press communication. Multi-channel communication (websites, social media, local radio/newspapers, school programs) informs, invites, and equips citizens. Interpretive signage and hands-on workshops translate ecological concepts into accessible, local action.

6. Integration of aesthetic and educational partners

NEB's aesthetic dimension is operationalised through schools, arts institutions, and planners, adding creativity to ecological transformation.

5. Early Action Pathways and Project Examples

Across the four BIOCENTUM cities—Wrocław, Kranj, Érd, and Pula—early actions represent the practical starting points through which the urban biodiversity transition begins to materialise. These pathways anchor the participative process, signal the project's intentions to the public, and allow stakeholders to test interventions before scaling them into full NEB-aligned solutions. Despite differences in local context, each city demonstrates a shared commitment to early, visible, co-created steps that align ecological goals with community engagement.

Wrocław – Early Actions Rooted in Light-Pollution Mitigation and Citizen Co-Design

In Wrocław, the first actions focused on understanding and addressing **light pollution in green urban spaces**, a challenge directly affecting both biodiversity and residents' experience of public areas. The early pathway began with **collaborative workshops**, where citizens, planners, ecologists, and municipal departments explored the ecological consequences of artificial lighting and discussed emerging design scenarios.

A foundational early action was the **resident survey** that captured how people perceive lighting, safety, and biodiversity within the chosen demonstration park.

These insights guided the co-creation of the **urban biodiversity design plan**, serving as both a scientific baseline and a public engagement tool.

Another early step was launching an **open competition** for ecological ideas. The competition was organized by Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences in cooperation with the city and was dedicated to university students. The competition focused on proposals for the development of ecological land use. This set the tone for a culture of open innovation within the node. These early actions demonstrate a pathway where science, design, and community input shape the direction of future interventions.

Collaborative and educational workshops on light pollution and its impact on biodiversity. Discussing with the residents the scenarios for the introduction of the new lighting system in order to hear feedback from them on perceptions of lighting and biodiversity of the demonstrator area and on the planned modernisation.

Kranj – Early actions through BIOCENTUM NODE Fieldwork and Biodiverse Island Planning

Kranj's early actions grew from the city's commitment to establishing **biodiverse islands**—micro-ecosystems designed to support endangered species within the urban fabric. The first step involved bringing together an unusually broad coalition of stakeholders, from regional development agencies to forestry institutes, environmental advocates, private companies, and municipal departments.

Initial engagement took place through **on-site field workshops**, where stakeholders examined the ecological conditions of candidate locations and identified challenges related to climate adaptation, habitat fragmentation, and outdated green-space maintenance practices. These sessions laid the groundwork for defining key biodiversity priorities and exploring design options for biodiverse islands in the historic city centre.

Early testing also included **participative NEB-driven exploration** of green-blue solutions-also during **"Project in a Day"-**, where stakeholders evaluated urban micro-interventions live in public space. Through these early steps, Kranj's pathway matured into collaborative planning for **four NEB-aligned interventions**, setting the stage for long-term implementation and behavioural monitoring through repeated questionnaires.

Design and implementation of four urban biodiversity interventions that integrate into the old town's conservation plan and future spatial decrees.
Advisory boards and field workshops nurture a shared language between heritage protection, engineering, and ecology—ensuring interventions are both fit-for-problem and culturally resonant.

Synergies with the Kokra Canyon development strategy, green system standards, and climate adaptation mission deepen capacity and political backing.

Érd – Early Actions Focused on Climate-Friendly Park Transformation and Community-Led Problem Identification

In Érd, early action pathways were shaped by strong civil-society leadership and a focus on transforming the **Climate Park** into a biodiverse and educational green space. The first BIOCENTUM workshops centred on **identifying the three key biodiversity challenges** affecting the city—an exercise that involved diverse stakeholders ranging from educators and environmental NGOs to local gardeners and civic volunteers.

A hallmark early action was the **"Project in a Day"** co-creation workshop. This intensive participatory session produced the initial concept for the pilot implementation plan, emerging from stakeholder discussions on habitat creation, edible plantings, and ecosystem education. This one-day design sprint served both as an engagement accelerator and as a rapid prototyping tool for the city's biodiversity vision.

The next early action pathway was the preparation and launch of an **open call** for community-driven biodiversity project ideas, followed by a stakeholder-led evaluation workshop. This ensured continuity between community visioning, technical decision-making, and future implementation. Surveys distributed simultaneously provided behavioural and perceptual baselines, tying public involvement to measurable future outcomes.

Challenge identification workshop (April 2025), followed by the climate-friendly park design session (May 2025).
Project call and evaluation (launch June 2025) to scale neighborhood-level actions—garden biodiversity, pollinator habitats, and micro-parks.

Medium/long-term action plan and behavior-change survey program to embed learning and adjust strategies.

Pula – Early Actions Built on Education, Habitat Creation, and Coastal Biodiversity Stewardship

In Pula, the earliest project activities centred on building a strong, interdisciplinary BIOCENTUM working group. This group brought together representatives from protected-area institutions, schools, creative industries, public utilities, and civic organisations. Their first meeting served as an **early pathway for collaborative agenda-setting**, where discussions focused on the city's biodiversity challenges across green spaces, coastal habitats, and pollinator networks.

This was followed by early project examples tied to **educational and citizen-science interventions**, such as developing concepts for insect hotels, bird feeders, educational trails, and pollinator-friendly flower strips. These small but visible early actions were intended to activate children, schools, and local communities while visibly signalling the city's biodiversity ambitions in public space.

Early planning also involved aligning biodiversity actions with coastal ecosystem protection—particularly addressing concerns around **beach nourishment, invasive species pressures, and cave habitat degradation**. Through public consultation and cross-sector expertise, Pula used early actions to introduce responsible tourism practices, ecological restoration concepts, and awareness tools such as interactive signage and community events.

Biodiversity mapping to prioritize hotspots and connectivity gaps, followed by pilot native plantings and restored grasslands. Heat mitigation projects—tree canopies, shaded public spaces, green roofs—paired with policy tools (incentives, code updates). Coastal care—nature-based restoration, eco-certification for tourism operators, and education campaigns for visitors and residents.

Cross City Synthesis of Early Action Pathways

Shared Characteristic	Description	Examples Across Cities

Highly participatory	Early actions rely on inclusive engagement methods to ensure that decisions reflect community needs rather than top-down planning.	Workshops, co-creation sessions, surveys, open calls, field inspections.
Small, visible, and symbolic	Actions are designed to demonstrate quick, tangible results that build trust and visibility before large-scale interventions.	Lighting adjustments (Wrocław), micro-habitat design (Pula), rapid prototyping (Érd).
Grounded in local ecological challenges	Each city focuses on ecological pressures specific to its environment.	Light pollution, endangered species protection, heat vulnerability, private-land biodiversity, coastal pressures.
Build momentum for larger NEB-aligned interventions	Early actions act as stepping stones toward comprehensive implementation, behaviour change, and policy integration.	Support future NEB plans, shape long-term strategies, engage citizens for policy reform.

Resource: own compilation based on Annex 1 provided by cities

6. Cross-Cutting Insights and Operating Principles

Across the four BIOCENTUM cities, a set of shared operating principles emerges that reflects the New European Bauhaus ethos—uniting sustainability, inclusion, and aesthetics in the pursuit of biodiverse, climate-resilient urban transformation. Although each city works within its unique environmental, cultural, and institutional context, the early experiences of Wrocław, Kranj, Érd, and Pula reveal **consistent cross-cutting insights** about what it takes to build a Biodiversity-Centered Urban Mindset and engage communities in meaningful transformation.

Multi-Stakeholder Governance as a Cornerstone of Urban Biodiversity Work

One of the strongest cross-cutting insights is the essential role of **multi-stakeholder governance**. All four cities rely on a quintuple-helix structure—bringing together municipal decision-makers, academia, civil society, business actors, and aesthetic/creative partners.

Wrocław formalises this through a node built jointly by the municipality, the NBS Hub, and the University of Environmental and Life Sciences, supported by planners, district representatives, and residents.

Kranj's BIOCENTUM node similarly brings together regional development agencies, green-system managers, nature-conservation authorities, private landscape companies, and academic experts.

Érd extends this further by integrating schools, national park experts, citizen naturalists, gardening groups, and business partners.

Pula's model includes protected-area institutions, tourism groups, artists, educators, and civic associations.

Across all cities, this broad governance ecosystem ensures that **biodiversity planning benefits from scientific grounding, community legitimacy, and operational feasibility**, while reflecting NEB's value of participation across disciplines.

Participation as an Operating Principle, Not a Single Activity.
A second shared insight is that engagement is **embedded as a continuous operating principle**, not a one-off consultation. Each city operationalises participation in multiple formats—educational workshops, surveys, co-creation sessions, thematic events, open calls, school-based activities, and field work.

Wrocław integrates participation through workshops on light pollution, citizen surveys, and open innovation competitions.

Kranj uses field-based living labs, participative testing, co-design "Project in a Day" session and repeated behavioural surveys to involve residents and experts in shaping interventions.

Érd employs community identification of challenges, rapid co-design "Project in a Day" sessions, and open calls that bring citizens directly into project ideation.

Pula engages communities through biodiversity education, citizen science, artistic co-creation, and public consultations across coastal and urban habitats.

Together, these approaches demonstrate that participation is **iterative, layered, and integral** to creating urban biodiversity solutions that are socially embraced and resilient.

Data-Informed Engagement and Evidence-Based Action. A third operating principle is the use of **data as a foundation** for both engagement and planning. The cities

collect and use ecological and social data to guide early action and long-term implementation.

In Wrocław, environmental inventories and surveys shape lighting redesign and biodiversity planning.

Kranj uses climate-adaptation analysis, biodiversity studies, and behavioural surveys to inform the design of biodiverse islands and green-blue.

Érd anchors its Climate Park transformation in species-rich planting strategies, spatial assessments, and community behaviour baselines.

Pula draws on Natura 2000 habitat assessments, coastal ecosystem monitoring, and urban green-space evaluations to design interventions..

This evidence-driven approach ensures that the co-created plans are **ecologically relevant, socially acceptable, and aligned with long-term environmental change**.

Early Actions as Catalysts for Momentum and Ownership. All cities employ **early, visible interventions** to build trust and demonstrate progress while more complex planning unfolds. This shared principle helps maintain civic engagement and political support.

Wrocław's early co-design of light-pollution mitigation and the launch of an open call signal seriousness and transparency.

Kranj's initial field workshops and NEB live-testing create experiential learning and collective problem-solving.

Érd's "Project in a Day" and citizen-submitted project ideas transform residents from observers into co-authors of biodiversity solutions.

Pula's early educational trails, pollinator structures, and school-based activities invite families, children, and local NGOs into the early, visible phases of implementation.

Early action across all nodes functions as a **practical operating principle**, helping to shift community mindsets from abstraction to active participation.

Aesthetic and Educational Dimensions Elevate Biodiversity Work. Another cross-cutting insight is the consistent integration of **aesthetic, cultural, and educational actors**—a signature NEB requirement that the cities actively interpret.

In Kranj, landscape architects, spatial planners, and local creatives contribute to shaping biodiverse islands within historical and contemporary public spaces.

Pula emphasises educational trails, art–nature collaborations, and school-driven biodiversity design to cultivate awareness at an early age.

Wrocław incorporates urban-design considerations and aesthetic planning into its lighting intervention and co-design processes

By blending ecological function with beauty, meaning, and accessible education, these cities embed biodiversity within people's lived experience—not only within planning documents.

Clear and Diverse Communication Channels Support Transparency. Finally, a unifying operating principle across the nodes is a commitment to **clear, multi-channel communication**, which maintains momentum, accessibility, and trust.

Wrocław employs in-person meetings, virtual meetings, phone calls, emails, documents, surveys, and web updates.

Kranj communicates through municipal websites, social media, local news, radio programmes, and printed bulletins.

Érd uses joint mailing lists, phone engagement, social media, and local newspapers to sustain collective action.

Pula leverages local media, social networks, the city website, and stakeholder presentations for broad outreach.

This communications ecosystem ensures that engagement is **inclusive, transparent, and continuous**, helping diverse groups feel like genuine partners in the mission of biodiversity restoration.

Next Steps and Recommendations

The BIOCENTUM nodes established by Kranj, Pula, Wrocław, and Érd demonstrate how Central European cities can operationalize biodiversity as a fabric of urban life planning, building, and stewarding spaces where nature and people thrive together. From Kranj's biodiverse islands to Pula's cooling corridors and coastal care, from Érd's climate-friendly parks and citizen activation to Wrocław's blue-green networks, the cohort is building a practical, beautiful pathway for the urban biodiverse transition. With shared metrics, community participation, and policy integration, these cities can turn pilots into durable systems -embodying the best of the New European Bauhaus and making biodiversity an everyday, citywide reality.

Consolidate City-Specific Biodiversity Action Plans: Each node should finalize a plan with clear targets (e.g., canopy cover, habitat connectivity, pollinator indices), timelines, and responsibilities—aligned to urban planning instruments.

Standardize Monitoring Protocols: Develop a shared set of indicators across cities (e.g., native species richness, thermal reduction metrics, citizen participation rates) to compare progress and exchange methods.

Scale Citizen Programs: Introduce citywide garden certification schemes ("Pollinator-Friendly," "Habitat Hero"), micro-grant programs, and neighborhood challenges to grow private-land contributions.

Secure Co-Funding and Policy Levers: Combine local budgets with EU/national programs (as Érd plans with TOP+) and update codes and standards to incentivize green roofs, tree planting, and permeable surfaces.

Deepen Cross-City Learning: Facilitate technical exchanges among Kranj, Pula, Érd, and Wrocław—on heritage-sensitive greening (Kranj), coastal stewardship and heat mitigation (Pula), civic activation and park design (Érd), and river corridor integration (Wrocław).

7. World Café Workshops - Testing Activities and Results

World Café-style workshop designed to surface local biodiversity challenges, explore "how nature does it," define long-term city targets, and brainstorm **biomimicry-inspired** early actions.

The World Café workshops were conducted across three cities—**Pula**, **Kranj**, and **Érd**—to identify urban biodiversity challenges and explore nature-based solutions. The participatory format enabled stakeholders to collaboratively define problems, set targets, and propose biomimicry-inspired interventions. Common issues included fragmented green spaces, urban heat islands, low biodiversity, and lack of public awareness. Recommendations emphasize education, regulatory updates, and pilot projects to foster sustainable urban ecosystems.

Methodology

Approach: World Café format with small group discussions (4–5 participants).

Core Question: *"What would it mean for our city to thrive in the field of biodiversity?"*

Steps:

- Identify key biodiversity challenges.
- Describe current state and impacts.
- Explore natural analogies and biomimicry solutions.
- Define long-term city targets.

Outputs: Structured working sheets capturing challenges, solutions, and opportunities.

Detailed Findings by City

Pula – Four Interlinked Urban Biodiversity Challenges

Pula's workshop, held **24 April 2025** at the Coworking Center Pula, convened municipal departments, county representatives, schools, NGOs, the national park authority, utilities, and business actors. Participants identified **four challenges** spanning public green spaces, **urban heat islands**, **low private-land biodiversity**, and **coastal habitat pressures**.

Public green spaces & connectivity: The group highlighted outdated maintenance (e.g., frequent mowing), non-native planting, depleted soils, and weak ecological connectivity across parks and grasslands. It called for **native species**, **less frequent mowing**, **green corridors**, **vertical/roof greening**, **soil recovery**, and **citizen science** (e.g., iNaturalist, Biologger) to guide planning and monitoring.

- *Issues:* Poor planning, frequent mowing, non-native species, low awareness.
- *Targets:* Native planting, reduced mowing, citizen science.
- *Solutions:* Ecological corridors, biomimicry—allow natural cycles.

Urban heat islands & water stress: With mapped hot spots (old centre richer in greens but under parking pressure; new districts maximized to plot ratio), participants proposed **tree canopy expansion**, **root-directing systems**, **green roofs**, **micromobility**, and **storm-water features** (ponds/retention) while tightening local rules on **illegal wells** and pool construction.

- *Issues:* Dense construction, water scarcity, illegal wells.
- *Targets:* Climate-resilient trees, green roofs, microclimate improvement.
- *Solutions:* Retention systems, artificial lakes.

Private plots & gardens: The group stressed **education** (curriculum integration), **composting**, **native/regionally adapted varieties**, and **incentives** (e.g., an Action Plan with subsidies; sharing seedlings; anti bird-window-collision measures). They noted Herculanea's **50% discount** period for green-waste collection as a practical, behaviour-shaping example.

- *Issues:* Inappropriate species, lack of education, excessive concreting.
- *Targets:* Promote composting, green roofs, native species.
- *Solutions:* Incentives for sustainable gardening.

Coastal change & unsustainable use: Participants urged a **nature-first paradigm**: keep coasts natural, avoid beach **nourishment/construction** in ecologically sensitive areas, sustain the closure of **Golubova špilja** to reduce pressure, manage illegal camping, and adopt **autochthonous coastal plants** resilient to salt/wind. They flagged tourism planning (waterfront extension, cruise-related dredging) as a critical governance frontier.

- *Issues:* Beach construction, tourism pressure.
- *Targets:* Preserve natural coastlines, regulate activities.
- *Solutions:* Use native coastal plants, avoid artificial beach nourishment.

Kranj – Three Challenges Integrating Climate Adaptation, Water, and Green Networks

Kranj's workshop (March 2025) surfaces **three main challenges—urban heat islands**, **storm-water retention/use**, and **biodiversity connectivity**—and translates them into design, planning, and legislative levers.

Urban heat: Groups flagged large impermeable surfaces (parking lots, historic centre constraints) and proposed **ventilation corridors**, **green walls**, **mist/sprinkler systems**, **greening of parking**, and urban design compromises that balance heritage with comfort.

- *Issues:* Large paved areas, lack of ventilation.
- *Targets:* Green roofs, fountains, ventilation corridors.
- *Solutions:* Greening parking lots, misting systems.

Storm-water systems: With mixed sewer infrastructure and extreme downpours, participants recommended **retention basins**, **water reuse**, **updated standards** (including retention requirements for new builds), and a financing toolbox (e.g.,

"rain tax" to fund solutions). They emphasized regulatory modernization and multi-benefit links (irrigation, cooling).

- *Issues:* Mixed sewage systems, outdated infrastructure.
- *Targets:* Retention ponds, rainwater reuse, updated regulations.
- *Solutions:* Rainwater harvesting, irrigation systems.

Biodiversity networks: The city aims to move from compact settlements with degraded forests to **layered green masses** (from ground to canopy), **diverse tree avenues**, **adapted mowing**, **secondary biotopes** (e.g., storm-water tanks repurposed), **traffic restrictions**, and **legal protection** of existing green areas — aligned with a **"3-30-300"** health-green rule as an ideal benchmark.

- *Issues:* Poor forest quality, fragmented green spaces.
- *Targets:* Plant diverse species, restore degraded areas.
- *Solutions:* Urban beekeeping, green walls, renaturation laws.

Érd – Three Systemic Challenges Linking Ecology and Social Activation

Érd's working sheet frames **three core challenges**: **illegal dumping**, **lack of model NBS projects**, and being a **"sleepy/dormitory" city** with low citizen demand and stewardship. The narrative connects environmental outcomes to **governance**, **awareness**, and **local identity**..

Illegal dumping: The group described cross-jurisdictional regulatory gaps and weak enforcement; it called for **new frameworks**, expanded landfill acceptance regimes (MOHU), and **circular-economy solutions** beyond municipal competencies. The ecological angle is explicit: without systemic fixes, "nature suffers."

- *Issues:* Industrial and residential waste, lack of enforcement.
- *Targets:* Stop uncontrolled dumping, harmonize regulations.
- *Solutions:* Circular economy, improved waste management.

Model projects & habitat diversity: Participants want visible, **site-specific NBS pilots** that showcase diverse habitats, ecological corridors, and resilience. They propose **plant borders**, peri-urban associations, and curated examples that can **spread into private gardens**.

- *Issues:* Few examples of nature-based solutions.
- *Targets:* Develop pilot projects, promote ecological corridors.
- *Solutions:* Showcase best practices, create microclimates.

Dormitory dynamics & mindset change: The team connects biodiversity to **local services**, **community spirit**, and an "**open gardens/Neighbourhood Day**" culture. The communications insight is sharp: the city's **green narrative** will attract residents who value stewardship; a "sleeping" narrative reproduces disengagement.

- *Issues:* Low community engagement, lack of green demand.
- *Targets:* Build local identity, promote green urban marketing.
- *Solutions:* Open garden schemes, neighborhood events.

Cross-City Comparison: Themes, Differences, and Shared Operating Logics

Shared Themes

From maintenance to ecology: All three cities call for **native species**, **less frequent mowing**, and **soil health**—a shift from cosmetic green maintenance to functional habitat management. (Pula: outdated mowing; Kranj: adapted mowing; Érd: need for model NBS and corridors).

Green connectivity & multi-benefit design: Each city seeks **connected green systems** and **multi-use blue-green features** (corridors, retention basins, ponds) that serve biodiversity while cooling microclimates and managing water.

Governance & regulation as enablers: Workshop groups frequently point to **by-laws**, **standards**, and **enforcement** (illegal wells/camping in Pula; rain-tax and retention requirements in Kranj; anti-dumping frameworks in Érd) as necessary complements to design.

Citizen activation & education: All three invoke **education**, **citizen science**, and **public narratives** (Érd's dormitory-city mindset; Pula's curriculum and awareness; Kranj's public communication around green standards) to sustain behavioural change.

Key Differences

Ecological focus:

Pula uniquely tackles **coastal ecosystems** (Natura 2000 cave, beach nourishment debates) alongside urban greens — foregrounding tourism/resource pressures at the land–sea interface.

Kranj centres on **climate adaptation** (heat islands, water systems, adaptation of green planning) in a heritage-constrained urban core — balancing ventilation, adapted greening, and regulation.

Érd prioritizes **governance and social mobilisation** (illegal dumping, model projects, identity/narrative) — framing biodiversity as a civic project that requires regulatory reform and place-making.

Policy instruments:

Kranj advances concrete **planning/finance tools** (retention standards, rain tax). **Pula** highlights **local decisions** to regulate **wells/pools** and manage **illegal camping**, plus district-level outreach and subsidies for private greening. **Érd** calls for **regional/sectoral frameworks** (waste acceptance, circular economy) and **replicable model projects** to build capacity.

Spatial levers:

Pula: **green roofs/vertical gardens**, **corridors along roads**, **soil recovery**, and **fortress-wall habitat protection** (pale/white corydalis).

Kranj: **ventilation corridors**, **greened parking and grey areas**, **secondary biotopes** via storm-water tanks, and **layered green masses**.

Érd: **peri-urban associations**, **garden-to-garden diffusion** via **model pilots**, and **neighbourhood days** as social infrastructure for ecological action.

What This Means for Transnational Practice? **A common playbook with local chapters:** The workshops show a shared **systems logic**—interventions at **maintenance**, **planning**, **regulation**, and **education** levels—implemented through local priorities (coasts in Pula; heat/water in Kranj; governance/identity in Érd).

Biomimicry as a practical lens: Each city uses **"how nature does it"** to justify changes (e.g., **postponed mowing**, **native species**, **self-regenerating habitats**) and to translate ecological patterns into human systems (corridors, layered greenery, water retention).

Bridging pilots and policy: The path from **pilot examples** (citizen science plots, retention basins, green walls) to **policy instruments** (by-laws, standards, enforcement) is visible across all three contexts and should be formalised in the transnational roadmap.

Recommendations for the future work:

As the partner cities look ahead, a shared direction for future work begins to take shape - one that moves from isolated experiments toward a coherent transnational

approach to urban biodiversity. Across Kranj, Pula, Érd, and Wrocław, it has become clear that the next phase should focus not only on implementing interventions but on creating the framework that will allow such interventions to thrive, adapt, and replicate in very different contexts.

A central priority is the articulation of a **transnational "maintenance-to-habitat" standard.** New way of understanding urban green space management that shifts from cosmetic maintenance to ecological stewardship. Instead of frequent mowing, imported ornamentals, and soil-depleting practices, the cities envision a shared standard that sets out how native species, adaptive mowing regimes, and soil restoration can collectively create living habitats. While the principles would be shared across the four cities, each municipality would retain the flexibility to expand these guidelines with annexes adapted to its local landscapes, climate pressures, and cultural expectations.

In parallel, the cities recognize the need for a **joint storm-water and heat-mitigation toolkit** - a practical, adaptable resource to help municipalities redesign their hot, paved, or flood-prone areas using nature-based approaches. Such a toolkit would gather solutions that are already emerging in pilots: retention requirements for new developments, rain-tax options to support local budgets, strategies for shaded public spaces, and techniques for integrating blue-green systems even in heritage-sensitive areas. By codifying these elements, the network could ensure that climate resilience becomes a consistent, accessible element of planning across the region.

To bridge the gap between strategic planning and community-level action, the partners also propose creating a **transnational library of model projects**. This would be a practical collection of nature-based solutions that are small enough to be replicated by neighbourhoods, schools, citizen groups, or private landowners - such as biodiverse gardens, micro-habitats, pollinator pockets, or simple green retrofits. The library would include clear visuals, easy-to-follow explanations, and materials in local languages, making it possible for residents to adapt proven solutions to their own spaces.

Alongside technical tools, the cities agree on the long-term need to **embed citizen science and education** at the core of biodiversity governance. Apps, local curricula, school activities, and neighbourhood events such as "Open Garden Days" or thematic biodiversity walks can help anchor behaviour change and sustain citizen engagement over time. Rather than treating participation as a project add-on, the cities aim to weave it permanently into monitoring practices and community culture, ensuring that local knowledge continues to inform biodiversity management long after pilot projects conclude.

For cities facing coastal pressures - particularly Pula, but also partners with similar challenges - the next phase should also involve **formalising coastal-ecosystem governance**. Tourism pressure, illegal construction, and vulnerability of marine habitats call for a structured, shared approach that balances economic activity with ecological protection.

Across all four cities, the same obstacles surface repeatedly: **heat islands intensifying climate stress**, **fragmented green spaces**, **declining biodiversity**, and **persistent gaps in public awareness**. Yet these challenges are mirrored by equally strong opportunities. Education programs, citizen science initiatives, and visible pilot projects have already begun to change mindsets and open pathways for green infrastructure at every scale—from private gardens to major public squares. The most significant barriers remain structural: regulatory gaps, insufficient or inflexible funding, and the difficulty of sustaining public engagement beyond initial enthusiasm. Addressing these barriers will be essential for turning pilots into long-term systems.

Together, these recommendations point toward a future where the cities move beyond isolated pilots and instead build a shared, adaptive, and participatory model for the urban biodiverse transition - one that other Central European cities will be able to implement.

8. Co-Creation Workshops – "Project in a Day" Methodology

Methodology Overview

The **"Project in a Day"** approach applies **Design Thinking** to co-create solutions for small-scale urban biodiversity investments. It is a **human-centric, non-linear process** designed to tackle complex, ill-defined problems by reframing them around user needs.

Key Features:

- **Stages:** Empathize → Define → Ideate → Prototype → Test
- **Objective:** Unlock hidden value, encourage new ideas, and scale impactful solutions.
- **Benefits:** Participatory, solution-focused, and action-oriented; integrates diverse stakeholders (researchers, NGOs, citizens, industry).
- **Alignment:** Incorporates **New European Bauhaus** principles—**Sustainability**, **Inclusion**, and **Aesthetics**.

City-Level Outcomes

Pula – Co-Creating Small-Scale Biodiversity Investments Across Urban, Private, and Coastal Systems

Pula provides a comprehensive and ambitious framework for co-designing small-scale investments using the *Project in a Day* design-thinking methodology. The process begins with a clear identification of challenges across **public green spaces**, **private gardens**, and **coastal ecosystems**, each approached through participatory, human-centred methods. These challenges inform the development of targeted ecological actions that integrate nature-based solutions, behaviour change, and multi-stakeholder cooperation.

In **public green spaces**, the city emphasises a holistic ecological shift: the use of native and traditional plant varieties, less frequent mowing, low vegetation, and the creation of infrastructure for biodiversity—such as insect hotels, nest boxes, hedgehog shelters, green roofs, vertical gardens, and green corridors. Additional actions include establishing watering wells, ponds, and small artificial lakes to support wildlife. These measures work together to restore ecological function in degraded urban areas.

For **private land and gardens**, Pula introduces a set of interventions aimed at motivating residents and institutions (schools, health facilities, apartment buildings) to participate in biodiversity enhancement. These include education, co-financing models, pilot demonstration sites, seasonal discounts for native plants, rainwater collection systems, and simplified bureaucracy for local green improvements. Stakeholders such as nurseries, influencers, local councils, and citizen initiatives are expected to contribute by spreading best practices and supporting widespread adoption.

Pula's most distinct dimension is its focus on **coastal and marine biodiversity**, where the city highlights the pressures of tourism, beach nourishment, habitat loss, and recreational overuse. Key actions include regulating visitation in sensitive areas like **Golubova Špilja**, strengthening marine spatial planning, implementing eco-friendly anchoring systems, improving wastewater and port infrastructure, reducing the number of concessions, and developing awareness campaigns for both tourists and residents. Pula incorporates strong CSR (corporate social responsibility) elements—such as eliminating single-use plastics and promoting reusable materials in tourist operations.

Across all themes, Pula integrates the **New European Bauhaus values** through:

- **Inclusion:** engaging citizens, local councils, tourists, and communities in decision-making.

- **Sustainability:** prioritising native species, natural materials, NBS, and efficient water/energy use.
- **Aesthetics:** elevating the visual quality of spaces by blending local architectural identity, natural materials, and seasonal planting diversity.

Érd – Climate Park Co-Creation and Community-Led Biodiversity Transformation

Érd's Annex 3 focuses on transforming an underutilised area into a **Climate Park**, merging ecological restoration with community education and recreation. Using the same design-thinking approach, Érd's stakeholders—including families, schools, pensioners, gardeners, university researchers, NGOs, and municipal authorities—collaboratively plan every stage, from preliminary surveys to hands-on construction and long-term maintenance.

A defining feature of Érd's plan is its commitment to **intergenerational education**: outdoor classrooms, guided ecological activities, biodiversity monitoring by amateur naturalists, and partnerships with garden clubs and ecological associations. The park becomes both an ecological intervention and an urban learning laboratory. Aesthetically, Érd promotes **naturalistic beauty**—teaching residents to value unmown areas, natural plant cycles, and ecological landscape forms. Sustainability is pursued through eco-friendly maintenance practices, slow observation, compost use, and resilient climate-adapted design. Inclusion is achieved through widespread involvement in planning, decision-making, and use of the park.

Érd - Climate Park Pilot

Challenges Identified:
- Dormitory town syndrome: low community engagement, lack of green spaces.
- Neglected land used for parking and waste dumping.
- Poor ecological awareness among residents.

Proposed Solution:
- Transform unused land into a **Climate Park** serving as an ecological and educational hub.
- Features: forest garden design, biodiversity-friendly landscaping, outdoor classrooms.

Key Activities:
- Preliminary surveys, stakeholder coordination, procurement, soil preparation.
- Creation of pilot garden by professionals and volunteers.
- Monitoring and maintenance, plus educational programs.

Stakeholders & End Users:

- Families, schools, elderly, NGOs, gardening clubs, local government, ecologists.

Design Principles:

- **Sustainability:** Eco-friendly solutions, Greencity principles.
- **Inclusion:** Accessible space for all age groups.
- **Aesthetics:** Promote naturalistic beauty, QR codes for education, debates on park aesthetics.

Kranj – Heat-Resilient, People-Centred Redesign of Public Squares

Kranj's Annex 3 describes the co-creation of small-scale investments targeting heat-exposed public spaces such as **Glavni Trg**, **Poštna ulica**, and **Slovenski Trg**. The central problems identified include excessive concrete, low biodiversity, insufficient shade, uninviting seating, and reliance on motor traffic. Through *Project in a Day*, stakeholders propose interventions grounded in **green and blue infrastructure**, such as diverse tree plantings, water features, shaded spaces, permeable surfaces, and rainwater-harvesting systems.

Kranj's design logic strongly emphasizes **user-centeredness**—public squares must serve families, the elderly, students, and visitors, providing comfort, opportunities for interaction, and inclusive access. NEB values shape the approach:

- **Sustainability:** solar benches, recycled materials, green walls.
- **Inclusion:** multifunctional seating, better lighting, accessible paths.
- **Aesthetics:** green corridors, seasonal visual interest, misting stations, drinking fountains.

  The process fosters open dialogue with businesses, residents, environmental service providers, and municipal departments, embedding co-creation into governance practices.

Kranj – Urban Squares Redesign

Challenges Identified:

- Urban heat islands, lack of green/blue infrastructure, excessive concrete.
- Limited seating and social spaces; low biodiversity.

Proposed Solution:

- Redesign **Glavni Trg**, **Poštna ulica**, and **Slovenski Trg** into vibrant, green, inclusive spaces.

- Add **trees, shaded seating, water features**, and permeable surfaces.
- Incorporate **solar-powered benches**, recycled planters, and green walls.

Key Activities:

- Stakeholder engagement, design workshops, integration of multifunctional seating and biodiversity corridors.

Stakeholders & End Users:

- City departments, environmental NGOs, business hubs, universities, residents, tourists.

Design Principles:

- **Sustainability:** Rainwater harvesting, permanent green spaces.
- **Inclusion:** Seating for diverse groups, improved lighting, community involvement.
- **Aesthetics:** Tree-lined corridors, seasonal plant diversity, misting stations.

Cross-City Comparison: Pula, Érd, and Kranj (Annex 3)

1. Shared Methodology: Human-Centred, Participatory Co-Creation

All three cities use **Design Thinking** through *Project in a Day*, grounding biodiversity actions in empathy, prototyping, and testing with real users.

- **Kranj:** Retrofitting urban squares for climate resilience and social life.
- **Érd:** Transforming a park into an ecological learning landscape.
- **Pula:** Addressing urban, private, and coastal ecosystems through iterative, participatory planning.

Shared insight: participation is a continuous practice, not a single event.

2. Ecological Focus: Overlapping Themes, Distinct Contexts

All three cities address key biodiversity stressors—heat, habitat fragmentation, and low vegetation diversity—but each in a unique spatial/ecological context:

- **Pula:** The only city with a **marine and coastal** dimension, addressing beach management, marine habitats, and tourism pressures.
- **Kranj:** Focuses on **urban heat islands**, sealed surfaces, and lack of green-blue infrastructure in historic squares.

- **Érd:** Concentrates on **urban ecological education**, soil preparation, and creating biodiverse gardens within a climate park.

Shared theme: all three prioritise native plants, ecological maintenance, and habitat structures (nest boxes, insect hotels, pollinator features).

3. Stakeholder Ecosystems: Different Emphases, Same Diversity

Each city engages a wide diversity of stakeholders—but with distinct accents:

- **Pula:** Very broad institutional landscape—ministries, protected-area authorities, concessionaires, marinas, tourism actors, municipal companies, NGOs, and influencers.
- **Érd:** Community-heavy ecosystem—schools, families, gardeners, ecological hobbyists, NGOs, university students, and local volunteers.
- **Kranj:** Strong orientation toward **urban planning and eco-technical services**—municipal departments, business hubs, landscape and environmental professionals.

Shared theme: all cities see end-users (residents, visitors) as active contributors, not passive recipients.

4. Application of NEB Values: Distinct Interpretations, Shared Principles

All three cities integrate **sustainability, inclusion, and aesthetics**, but in different ways:

- **Pula:** Aesthetics = reconciliation between manicured and natural look; Inclusion = residents + tourists + councils; Sustainability = native species, NBS, water management, reduced coastal pressures.
- **Érd:** Aesthetics = naturalistic beauty, teaching new visual norms; Inclusion = intergenerational involvement; Sustainability = eco-friendly practices, compost, climate-adapted plants.
- **Kranj:** Aesthetics = designed green corridors and water features; Inclusion = multifunctional seating and accessible public spaces; Sustainability = recycled materials, permeable surfaces, solar-powered amenities.
  Shared theme: NEB values become operational design guidelines, not abstract principles

5. Implementation Pathways: Three Distinct Models of Early Action

- **Kranj:** Focus on **urban retrofitting**—turning hot, paved squares into climate-resilient public spaces.

- **Érd:** Focus on **ecological creation**—building a Climate Park from the ground up as a model for citywide biodiversity literacy.
- **Pula:** Focus on **multi-system transformation**—urban green spaces + private gardens + coastal/marine habitats, giving it the broadest action spectrum. **Shared insight:** early actions must be visible, replicable, and co-owned.

Integrated Conclusion

Across Pula, Érd, and Kranj, Annex 3 documents show how cities operationalise the *Biodiversity-Centered Urban Mindset* through participatory, design-thinking processes that translate stakeholder insights into concrete small-scale investments. While Kranj focuses on cooling and greening public squares, Érd builds an educational park to shift mindsets city-wide, and Pula addresses biodiversity across urban, private, and coastal systems.

Together, they build a **rich transnational model** of how NEB values can guide nature-based, people-centred urban transformation.

The Annex 4 documents from Wrocław, Kranj, and Érd collectively illustrate how the three cities activated their local communities through **open calls**, **creative competitions**, and **pitch events** aimed at generating New European Bauhaus (NEB)-aligned biodiversity ideas. Each city tailored the process to its specific ecological challenges, local culture, and stakeholder ecosystem, yet all shared the core NEB values of **sustainability**, **inclusion**, and **aesthetics**.

<u>Wrocław – Biodiversity Innovation for the Oporów Forest</u>

Wrocław's open call centred on **Oporów Forest**, an 8-hectare mature green space forming part of the larger Ślęza River green corridor. The competition invited citizens, experts, and organisations to analyse the forest's habitats and propose ecological and educational interventions to enhance biodiversity.

Four proposals were evaluated according to NEB criteria, with the highest-ranking ideas focusing on habitat mapping, native plantings, ecological education, and citizen science. The winning concepts included:

“Biodiversity First” – enriching the forest with carefully selected groundcover species, supported by educational signage and visual identification systems.

A QR-based citizen science platform – enabling residents to report plant sightings and mapping data to support invasive-species management.

“Wild Bees” – strengthening bee habitats using early-flowering plants, beehouses, and educational boards.

Across all three winning projects, Wrocław emphasized **data-driven ecology**, **community participation**, and **visual communication tools**. Development needs—such as additional funding, human resources, and technical expertise—were explicitly identified, ensuring that the ideas can progress toward implementation.

Kranj – Crowdsourcing “Biodiverse Green Corners” and Selecting Regreening Prototypes

Kranj’s competition took the form of a **public call for the most biodiverse green corners of the city**. Residents were invited to submit photos of gardens, courtyards, atriums, and water features that exemplified nature-friendly design, sustainability, and aesthetic quality. The call was broadly disseminated through social media, the municipal website, and local communication networks.

The city framed the competition as a way to celebrate and map existing biodiversity assets in Kranj, with special recognition for youth and for historical photographs of green areas. Submitted locations were evaluated by a multidisciplinary expert committee composed of environmental, planning, cultural heritage, and public space authorities.

During the pitch event, three urban micro-intervention ideas were selected:

Kovačnica Hub Lobby – a proposal to improve planting diversity, add shaded seating, and install sustainable urban features such as solar benches, recycled planters, and green walls.

Park La Ciotat – replanting large, climate-resilient trees to regenerate an existing park damaged by storms and drought.

Urban Lot Stara Pošta – redesigning a concrete-dominated urban square into an inclusive, green, socially vibrant public space. Proposed improvements included multifunctional seating, diverse plantings, and stronger community participation.

Kranj's Annex 4 reveals a strong focus on **urban heat mitigation**, **adaptation to climate change**, and **community stewardship**—with an emphasis on bottom-up contributions that complement city-led green infrastructure plans.

Érd – Youth-Driven Green Innovations for Community Spaces

Érd's open call specifically targeted **young people aged 18–29**, encouraging them to propose creative, climate-sensitive, and biodiversity-enhancing interventions for neighbourhood public spaces. The call, titled **"Make Érd Green Again!"**, was widely promoted through Facebook, e-mail campaigns, and direct outreach. Although only four complete applications were ultimately submitted, the proposals were evaluated rigorously by BIOCENTUM members and city experts.

The four project ideas addressed urban heat, degraded public spaces, biodiversity loss, and community involvement:

Revitalization of Community Green Spaces – improving biodiversity, shade, and community use of neglected micro-spaces.

"Green Up Érd!" – increasing tree and shrub cover to reduce heat-island effects and improve air quality.

Community Herb Garden & Composting Program – a closed-loop, educational, community-gardening initiative focused on permaculture, composting, and intergenerational involvement.

"Make Érd Green Again!" – addressing hazardous sidewalks and insufficient vegetation through greenery integrated with pedestrian-friendly design.

The selected projects championed NEB-based values: **aesthetic coherence** (e.g., circular meeting spaces, layered plant palettes), **sustainability** (water-efficient plantings, permeable surfaces, rainwater harvesting), and **inclusion** (public voting, collaborative planting events, school participation). Érd's approach places strong emphasis on **youth empowerment**, **community learning**, and **participatory stewardship**.

Integrated Narrative Across the Three Cities

Together, the Annex 4 documents portray a vibrant ecosystem of **community-led, biodiversity-focused innovation** across Central Europe.

Wrocław leans toward scientific analysis, habitat enhancement, and citizen science. **Kranj** adopts a celebratory and community-mapping approach, spotlighting existing

green corners while advancing urban micro-interventions. **Érd** mobilizes young innovators to reimagine public spaces through creativity, climate awareness, and collaborative engagement.

Across all cities, common themes emerge:

- **Participatory governance** that involves citizens, NGOs, experts, youth, and local institutions.
- **NEB-aligned design thinking**, linking beauty, sustainability, and inclusion.
- **Biodiversity enhancement** woven into urban micro-spaces, forests, parks, squares, and residential areas.
- **Strong educational components**, including public events, QR-based systems, workshops, and community planting weekends.
- **A shift from top-down to co-created urban nature**, where the city becomes a shared experimental ground for ecological restoration and civic imagination.

These Annex 4 initiatives together form a compelling narrative of how cities can use open competitions and public calls to stimulate innovation, deepen community ownership, and catalyse urban biodiversity transitions.

9. Communication Events on Biodiversity Challenges

The Annex 6 communication events held in **Pula (24 April 2025)** and **Kranj (20 March 2025)** represent two significant milestones within the URBIO BAUHAUS project's participatory engagement strategy. Each event, aligned with the project's overarching goals of halting biodiversity loss and enhancing climate resilience, served to activate local stakeholders, deepen shared understanding, and create structured spaces for co-creation using NEB-aligned methodologies such as **World Café**, design thinking, and multi-stakeholder dialogue.

1. Pula – "Challenges of Biodiversity" Workshop (24 April 2025)

Held at the Coworking Center Pula, the Pula communication event was dedicated to examining how rapid urbanization shapes biodiversity loss in the city. The workshop applied **World Café** participatory techniques, complemented by design-thinking tools, to facilitate reflective, interactive, and multi-perspective discussion among stakeholders. Through these methods, participants were encouraged to articulate challenges and envision pathways for preserving and enhancing urban biodiversity in

ways that respect New European Bauhaus (NEB) principles of **sustainability**, **aesthetics**, and **inclusion**.

Focus and Objectives

The event sought to jointly identify the most pressing biodiversity challenges impacting Pula's urban and peri-urban areas, with the intention of feeding these insights into upcoming pilot actions and the development of the city's biodiversity action plans. The workshop also aimed to raise awareness among both institutional actors and the public regarding the importance of biodiversity within urban systems.

Stakeholder Participation

The workshop attracted a diverse range of actors from the **quintuple helix** spectrum, enhancing the relevance and richness of the discussions. Participants included:

- **Local public authorities** – City of Pula, Istria County, Municipality of Medulin
- **Public service providers** – Usluga d.o.o. Pazin, Arena Hospitality Group, Pula Herculanea
- **Interest groups & NGOs** – Beekeepers Association, Tourist Board Pula, Natura Histrica, Brijuni National Park
- **Higher education institutions** – School of Applied Arts and Design

The event's multi-sectoral attendance enabled not only knowledge sharing but also the formation of cross-institutional relationships essential for long-term biodiversity governance.

Outcomes and Added Value

Participants jointly identified key biodiversity challenges specific to Pula—such as habitat fragmentation, outdated green-space maintenance, pressures on coastal ecosystems, and low connectivity of urban habitats. These conclusions now directly inform the URBIO BAUHAUS pilot design process. The workshop also significantly raised stakeholder awareness and built support networks for future project actions. Visual documentation—including group work, brainstorming sheets, and workshop photos—captured the dynamic and collaborative spirit of the event and forms part of the city's communication outputs.

2. Kranj – Kick-off Event & Workshop on Climate Adaptation and Urban Biodiversity (20 March 2025)

In Kranj, the communication event marked both a **project kick-off** and the **formal establishment of the city's BIOCENTUM node**. Designed for a highly professional audience, the workshop convened 21 participants from across municipal government, regional agencies, research institutions, NGOs, and citizens. The gathering set the stage for structured cooperation that would guide the identification of biodiversity challenges and climate-change adaptation priorities over the project's next 18 months.

Key Themes and Discussion Areas

Using a World Café format adapted to local needs, participants explored three interlinked thematic areas:

Heat and Urban Heat Islands

The city faces pronounced heat stress due to extensive paved surfaces, large parking lots, and the constraints posed by historic urban forms. Proposed solutions included small-scale greening, renewed blue infrastructure, underground parking alternatives, ventilation corridors, green walls, and shifts in transport policy. Cultural heritage restrictions emerged as a major challenge when implementing adaptive measures.

Capturing, Retaining, and Using Stormwater

Infrastructure limitations and extreme rainfall events prompted discussions on reviving traditional water motifs, regulating stormwater retention in new developments, and using excess water for cooling, irrigation, and energy. Participants emphasized modernized planning tools, updated urban regulations, and the need for a unified approach to water resilience.

Biodiversity, Green Systems, and Ecological Connectivity

Stakeholders noted that although Kranj enjoys extensive green surroundings, networks are fragmented. Revitalizing degraded forests, diversifying tree species, protecting green corridors, implementing adapted mowing regimes, and integrating retention-based biodiversity hubs (e.g., ponds) were seen as essential actions. The participants articulated a vision of a connected city-wide green network aligned with the 3-30-300 principle, linking health, accessibility, and ecological quality.

Audience and Engagement

Participants included representatives from:
Local authorities (five municipal departments, the deputy mayor, climate-neutral cities unit)

National bodies (nature protection service, cultural heritage institute)
Infrastructure & service providers (Komunala Kranj, Local Energy Agency - LEAG)
NGOs and private sector actors (Supernova Centres, ISD)
Research organisations (Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering, Slovenian Forestry Institute)
General public (citizen participants)
This constellation of stakeholders made the event a foundational dialogue platform for the newly founded BIOCENTUM node.
Outcomes and Emerging Insights
The event produced a shared diagnostic of the city's key environmental challenges and the preparatory baseline for future pilot activities. Participants highlighted the need for consolidated good-practice examples, integrated solutions that cut across sectors, and updated regulatory tools. The behavioural-change questionnaires completed by 20 participants added an additional social-scientific layer to the workshop outputs, helping assess current perceptions and knowledge. Additional insights surfaced during group discussions, strengthening the collaborative commitment for future work under URBIO BAUHAUS.

Overall Synthesis Across Both Events

Together, the Pula and Kranj Annex 6 events illustrate the **core operating principles** of the URBIO BAUHAUS approach:
1. Cross-disciplinary, multi-actor participation
Both events involved diverse stakeholder types, consistently reflecting the quintuple helix model.
2. Participatory and design-led methodologies
World Café, design thinking, group mapping, and visual ideation supported the emergence of shared viewpoints rooted in lived experience.
3. Focus on tangible, place-based challenges
Each city foregrounded context-specific pressures—urban heat in Kranj, coastal and urban biodiversity in Pula—while linking them to broader European environmental concerns.
4. Outcomes that directly inform next-stage pilots
Both reports emphasize that identified challenges will shape action plans, pilot testing, and strategic decision-making in subsequent project phases.
5. Enhanced awareness and community alignment
Both events significantly strengthened local readiness for transformative biodiversity planning.
The communication event held in March 2025 in Kranj served as a cornerstone for fostering awareness and initiating mindset change around climate change adaptation and urban biodiversity. Organized by the City of Kranj in collaboration with the Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD), the event combined a kick-off

presentation with an interactive World Café workshop to engage stakeholders in dialogue and co-learning.
The primary aim was to present the project's objectives and achievements, establish BIOCENTUM nodes as hubs for knowledge exchange, and create a collaborative space for discussing pressing urban challenges. By involving 21 participants from diverse sectors—local and national authorities, infrastructure providers, NGOs, academia, SMEs, and citizens—the event embodied the quintuple helix model, ensuring that multiple perspectives shaped the conversation.

Communication Activities and Events
The event featured:
Project Status Presentation: Highlighting achievements and upcoming tasks, including links to other Interreg projects.
Interactive Workshop: Using the World Café method to address three critical themes:

Urban Heat Islands: Strategies for cooling, green infrastructure, and ventilation corridors.

Stormwater Management: Solutions for retention, reuse, and integration into urban planning.

Urban Biodiversity: Enhancing connectivity, tree diversity, and ecological corridors.

Draft Strategy Documents: Introduced as discussion triggers, including regional climate adaptation strategies and green visions for shopping malls.
The workshop created an open dialogue platform, enabling participants to share insights, identify gaps, and propose integrated solutions. Media coverage and visual documentation supported outreach beyond the event.

Behavioural Change Mechanisms
To embed behavioural change, 20 pre-workshop questionnaires assessed participants' attitudes toward climate adaptation and biodiversity. This diagnostic step informed the discussion and highlighted areas for mindset transformation. The event emphasized:

Practical examples: Showcasing nature-based solutions and good practices.

Shared responsibility: Encouraging cooperation between public authorities, businesses, and citizens.

Vision-building: Framing sustainability as a collective goal rather than a technical challenge.

Participants recognized the need for regulatory updates, financial incentives, and community engagement as drivers of behavioural change. The dialogue also revealed gaps in knowledge-sharing, particularly the absence of a consolidated repository of best practices.

Feedback and Reflection Tools
Feedback was gathered through:
Behavioural Assessment Questionnaires: Capturing baseline attitudes and readiness for change.

Group Reflection: At the end of the workshop, participants synthesized insights and raised new questions, such as the need for a catalogue of solutions and practical implementation guidelines.

Follow-up Actions: The event laid the foundation for ongoing cooperation, with participants committing to further dialogue and joint planning.

Key Outcomes
Strengthened awareness of interconnected challenges: heat mitigation, stormwater management, and biodiversity conservation.
Initiated mindset change by linking technical solutions to everyday urban life and community well-being.

Established BIOCENTUM node as a collaborative platform for future activities.

Identified next steps, including creating a knowledge base of good practices and integrating sustainability principles into urban planning.

10. Conclusions and Recommendations

The transnational participative testing has demonstrated that the BIOCENTUM model is more than a methodological framework: it is a practical, adaptable, and culturally resonant approach for embedding biodiversity into urban governance. Across the four partner cities - Kranj, Pula, Érd, and Wrocław - the process proved that when municipalities work through the Quintuple Helix model, they are capable not only of generating innovative solutions but also of transforming mindsets and institutional routines.

Lessons Learned Across the Four Cities

A number of **clear lessons emerged** from the testing phase.

First, cities benefit most when biodiversity is framed not as an isolated environmental objective, but as a **shared civic mission** that connects climate resilience, social well-being, cultural identity, and everyday urban life. When stakeholders understand biodiversity in this broader sense, participation ceases to be a formal requirement and becomes instead a source of local energy, creativity, and ownership.

Second, the process revealed that **participatory methods are indispensable**—not only for collecting ideas but for building the trust, visibility, and legitimacy needed to sustain long-term change. World Café workshops, co-creation events, and open calls consistently attracted diverse groups and produced solutions that were deeply rooted in each city's context. In all four municipalities, these activities triggered behavioural shifts, strengthened public awareness, and elevated biodiversity from an abstract concept to a tangible urban value.

A third lesson lies in the importance of **coherent, city-specific design plans**. While each locality faces different ecological pressures- coastal vulnerabilities in Pula, urban heat and heritage constraints in Kranj, community stewardship challenges in Érd, and light pollution and river corridor dynamics in Wrocław—the testing phase confirmed that the BIOCENTUM model can flexibly absorb such diversity. The NEB principles of sustainability, inclusion, and aesthetics provided a unifying compass that allowed each city to shape interventions that were both context-appropriate and visually, socially, and ecologically meaningful.

Finally, the project showed that cities advance faster when they create **visible, early actions** that demonstrate change in real space. Pilot interventions served as catalytic examples. They helped residents and local institutions not only imagine what is possible but begin to normalize nature-based thinking in planning and maintenance routines.

Transnational Added Value and Transferability Potential

Perhaps the most significant outcome of the testing phase is the insight that the BIOCENTUM model possesses **strong transferability across diverse urban realities**. Despite differences in administrative capacity, ecological conditions, and cultural expectations, each city was able to adapt the methodology and generate comparable results: functioning BIOCENTUM nodes, co-created design plans, pilot interventions, and heightened community engagement.

This points to the emergence of a **shared operational vocabulary**—a set of concepts, practices, and governance habits that can travel beyond the four pilot cities. The potential for transnational uptake lies not only in the methodological tools themselves but in the way they structure collaboration. By strengthening cross-city learning, documenting replicable pilot models, and aligning monitoring standards, the partner cities have laid the foundation for a broader Central European movement toward biodiversity-centred urban transformation.

Strategic Recommendations for the Next Phase

Building on this solid foundation, the next phase should focus on scaling and institutionalising the achievements of the testing period.

Cities should begin by **consolidating their biodiversity action plans**, ensuring that targets such as canopy cover, ecological connectivity, pollinator abundance, or soil regeneration are measurable, time-bound, and integrated into planning instruments and development regulations. Doing so will transition biodiversity from project-based activity to a permanent planning priority.

To enable comparison and continuous learning, the partner cities should jointly **standardize their monitoring frameworks**. Shared indicators for species richness, thermal performance, water retention, or citizen participation will allow municipalities not only to benchmark progress but to exchange methods and adapt successful approaches across contexts.

Expanding engagement is another crucial step. Citywide programmes such as garden certification schemes, micro-grants for community greening, and neighbourhood-level biodiversity challenges can unlock the enormous potential of private gardens and small parcels - spaces that collectively shape the ecological fabric of cities.

Municipalities must also secure **robust policy and funding mechanisms**. Aligning local budgets with EU and national instruments, updating building codes to mandate or incentivize nature-based solutions, and integrating biodiversity considerations into permitting systems will create long-term stability for implementation.

Cross-city exchanges should continue and deepen.

Finally, cities should institutionalise the **New European Bauhaus principles** as guiding criteria for all future biodiversity interventions. Ensuring that sustainability, inclusion, and aesthetics remain central will strengthen the cultural and social legitimacy of green transformation and help embed it into the fabric of everyday urban life.

Link to the Urban Biodiverse Transition Roadmap

These conclusions and recommendations directly inform the *Procedures for Creating Biodiversity Centered Urban Mindset* under Output O1.2. The procedures will guide cities on how to achieve citizen's perception change from being ambivalent to being active urban biodiversity fans. It will translate the tested methodologies into clear, scalable guidelines that any Central European city can use when establishing its own BIOCENTUM node. It will outline step-by-step pathways from initial mobilisation to systemic change, provide templates for cross-sector governance, and formalise mechanisms for monitoring, community engagement, and policy integration.

By aligning local action plans with this Roadmap, partner cities will be positioned to move from isolated pilot achievements to **connected ecological networks**—supported by coherent communication, long-term community involvement, and adaptive policy frameworks. Through this collective effort, the cities will help

realize the vision of the New European Bauhaus, making biodiversity not an occasional urban feature but a structural element of urban life and identity.

9. Annexes

- Annex 1: Report on Establishment of BIOCENTUM Node
- Annex 2: World Café Workshop Sheet
- Annex 3: Co-Creation Workshop Sheet
- Annex 4: Open Call and Pitch Event Report
- Annex 6: Communication Event Report

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE

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URBIO BAUHAUS

1: REPORT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF BIOCENTUM NODE

Final Version

1. MISSION AND GOALS OF THE CITY NODE

1.1 MISSON:

Our main mission is to make Érd a liveable, sustainable green city where the built environment harmoniously fits into the surrounding natural environment. In order to fulfil our mission we must involve the city's residents in the implementation steps, only with their active participation is it possible to achieve long-term sustainability.
As the first step in our mission we have to create an active society willing to cooperate in preserving and developing habitats and biodiversity to ensure a sustainable, ecological environment for future generations.

1.1. KEY GOALS:

Érd is committed to mitigate the effects of climate change, therefore we prepared and approved the city's Climate Strategy in 2022. The main goal of our strategy is to increase the size of greenery and to combat biodiversity decline.

In order to realize our goals we started looking for experts who could help us determine the main steps and actions necessary to achieve our goals. These experts were selected to participate in BIOCENTUM as stakeholders in this project.

All of the stakeholders have connections to Érd so they are well aware of the city's main challenges and therefore they are able to set appropriate and achievable goals for the city.

The collected goals can be classified into the following categories:

- Creating and implementing innovative green regulators;
- Increasing biologically active green spaces in public and private gardens;
- An active, conscious society living in harmony with nature;
- Preservation, maintenance, restoration, and establishment of flora, fauna and habitats that are adapted to local conditions and climate change.

2. KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Name of organization	Stakeholder's field[1]	Potential role	Motivation / Benefits
Municipality of Érd	Decision maker	To integrate the professional goals into the office framework	To help Érd become a greener and more liveable city
City Manager of Érd Ltd.	Decision maker	Carrying out urban gardening tasks	To improve urban environment
Vörösmarty High School of Érd	Academia	Consulting on issues of environmental protection and nature conservation Developing study material for environmental education	Protection and promotion of the natural and cultural values of Érd and its surroundings
Duna Ipoly National Park	Decision maker	Developing study material for environmental education Consulting on issues of environmental protection and nature conservation	To improve our environment To create aesthetic and biodiverse, mosaic-like green spaces
Pilis Park Co. Ltd.	Business stakeholder	Mainly in field construction	To reach wide audience To share their practical experience
Igor Dukay expert	Academia	Helping in the field of environmental protection	To improve our environment
Garden Studio Ltd. - Domokos Balázs	Business stakeholder / Aesthetic stakeholder	As a green space designer and coordinator Help in greenspace design	Interest in making Érd a thoughtful, lovable green city

[1] Stakeholder's field: Decision maker/ Business stakeholder/Academia/ Civil society/ Aesthetic stakeholder

			To raise local awareness
Environmental Protection Association of Érd	Civil society	Being a collaborative partner who can work with a local “operator” team	Local patriotism To develop and preserve green urban environments To promote community activation
Garden Friends Circle of Érd	Civil society	Searching for landscape plants Motivating citizens to participate	To revive environmental awareness; Local patriotism
Pál Attila	Civil society	Advisory role, management of civil initiatives Investigation and monitoring of local habitat (moths and butterflies) in the Klímapark	To make his knowledge available to the city
Hegedűs Gábor	Civil society	Ensuring access to sustainability research data	Local patriotism To develop and preserve green urban environments
Rusznyák András	Civil society	Motivating citizens to participate	To raise local awareness The positive shaping of the environment is a motivating factor, as is the dissemination of local knowledge.
Hamar József	Civil society	Professional experience in architecture and urban planning	To see the green (and other) environment of our town improved or at least to stop the deterioration

3. ACTION PLAN

Identification of key activities, which will contribute to mission and goals.

Title & Description of Activity	Participating Stakeholders	Next steps (next tasks to do)
Give the title and/or short description of the activity (identification process, focus group meeting, survey, testing… etc.).	According to the Stakeholder table above. You can write "All" if all of the stakeholders participate in activity or name specific ones	What will be the next steps?
Identifying local biodiversity challenges	All	Finding the 3 key challenges in Érd on the 2nd BIOCENTUM WS on 2nd of April 2025.
Planning the climate friendly park site ("project in a day" methodology)	All	Organizing the 3rd BIOCENTUM WS on the 21th May 2025 - this will give the base for the pilot implementation plan for D.2.1.2
Project call and evaluation	All	Preparation of the call, by involving the BIOCENTUM and launch in June 2025. Evaluation WS with BIOCENTUM members will be held likely in 2025 Q3.
Creation of a medium and long-term urban biodiversity action plan	All	
Changing population behaviour and attitudes	All	A questionnaire will be send out to the BIOCENTUM and to the City of Érd to measure the baseline.

4. SYNERGIES WITH OTHER LOCAL/REGIONAL INITIATIVES

Name of the initiative	Potential contribution (to activities, events, capacity, network,…)
RESTORIVER project	Regular stakeholder meetings are held in the city where some of the participants are overlapping with the BIOCENTUM. The Restoriver project scope on sustainable water management can support local biodiversity challenges as well. These two projects can work together quite well.
TOP+ (local operative Program as potential subsidy)	The City of Érd submitted a TOP+ (local operational program) application, which supports the development of the city's green spaces. This project, if approved, can be a great financial ally for the BIOCENTUM and to address some of the local biodiversity challenges.
PARKREVITAL project	The City of Érd redesigns the Hungarian Geographical Museum's garden in the city center, which can support local biodiversity challenges as well. These two projects can work together quite well.

5. MOST RELEVANT COMMUNICATION CHANNELS FOR OPERATION AND COMMUNICATION

Communication channel	Purpose
Joint E-mail list	Main communication channel for the BIOCENTUM between the participants. Regular e-mails will be send about the status and upcoming tasks of the BIOCENTUM. Also participants can ask questions in this forum, initiate relevant topics.
Telephone	For a more active engagement, bilateral phone calls are effective. In this case, specific tasks, roles can be discussed with the participants. For decision makers phone calls are necessary, for political buy in and engagement.
Social Media	The City of Érd's FB channel is a good platform to initiate open calls (in A1.2) and to launch questionnaires to the public.
City newspaper	The City of Érd's local newspaper is a good platform to initiate open calls (in A1.2), and to raise awareness on relevant NbS and NEB topics connected to the project.

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URBIO BAUHAUS

ANNEX 1: REPORT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF BIOCENTUM NODE

10 2024

REPORT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF BIOCENTUM NODE

1. MISSION AND GOALS OF THE CITY NODE

Prepare a short overview description of main mission and identified goals.

(Up to 2.000 characters)

1.1 MISSON:

The mission of the Biocentum node is to enhance, protect, and restore urban biodiversity across both public and private spaces in our city, with a strong focus on ecological connectivity, climate resilience, and sustainable coexistence between nature and urban development. Recognizing the urgent need to address declining biodiversity and increasing environmental pressures, the Biocentum node brings together experts, stakeholders, and citizens to develop strategic, inclusive, and science-based actions.
Our goals are to improve the ecological quality and connectivity of public green spaces and grasslands; to mitigate the negative effects of urban heat islands on biodiversity and human wellbeing; to encourage biodiversity-friendly practices on private land, especially in gardens and residential areas; and to protect and sustainably manage our coastal zones and habitats.
Through collaborative planning, community engagement, and evidence-driven policy recommendations, we aim to create a city where nature thrives alongside people — supporting healthier ecosystems, a better quality of life, and a more climate-resilient urban environment.

1.1. KEY GOALS:

1. Enhance Biodiversity in Public Green Spaces

Improve the ecological quality of parks, grasslands, and urban green areas by increasing plant and habitat diversity. Strengthen connectivity between green spaces and with surrounding natural habitats to support wildlife movement and ecological networks.

2. Combat Urban Heat Islands through Nature-Based Solutions

Implement green infrastructure (e.g. urban forests, green roofs, and shaded corridors) to mitigate urban heat, improve microclimates, and increase resilience for both biodiversity and local communities.

3. Promote Biodiversity on Private Land

Encourage biodiversity-friendly practices among residents, property owners, and developers through awareness campaigns, incentives, and practical guidance on how to create wildlife-friendly gardens and green spaces.

4. Protect and Sustainably Manage Coastal Areas

Safeguard coastal ecosystems from degradation and overuse by avoiding or minimizing intervention in coastal area (example concreting and replenishment of beaches), promoting sustainable land use, restoring natural coastal habitats, and balancing development with ecological conservation.

5. Foster Community Engagement and Habitat Protection

Mobilize citizens, schools, and local organizations to actively participate in biodiversity initiatives, monitoring, and education—ensuring broad support and long-term impact.

6. Support Data-Driven Planning and Policy

Utilize research, mapping, and biodiversity data to guide decision-making, prioritize actions, and track progress over time, ensuring effective and adaptive management.

2. KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Please describe your stakeholders and their roles in the city node. Insert rows according to your needs.

Name of organization	Stakeholder's field[1]	Potential role	Motivation / Benefits
Grad Pula - Pola	Decison maker	Leader, coordinator, enabler, and model for action (develop a vision and strategy, set policies and regulations, coordinate stakeholder, engage residents, resource provider)	Strengthening cooperation with stakeholders, joint educational activities for children and the local population, networking of experts
JU Natura Histrica	Decison maker	Consultation services and sharing of good practice examples, cooperation in educational programs	Strengthening cooperation with stakeholders, joint educational activities for children and the local population, networking of experts
NP Brijuni	Business stakeholder	Consultation services and sharing of good practice examples from the Brijuni Mediterranean Garden, cooperation in educational programs	Strengthening cooperation with stakeholders, joint educational activities for children and the local population, networking of experts

[1] Stakeholder's field: Decison maker/ Business stakeholder/Academia/ Civil society/ Aesthetic stakeholder

Arena Hospitality Group	Business stakeholder	A transformational role in a biodiversity initiative by aligning its operations, outreach, and partnerships with conservation goals - sustainable tourism promoter, awareness and education platform, partner in conservation projects, community and business enabler	Strengthening cooperation with stakeholders, joint educational activities for children and the local population, networking of experts
Pula Hercualnea d.o.o.	Business stakeholder	Consultation services and sharing of good practice examples, cooperation in educational programs	Strengthening cooperation with stakeholders, joint educational activities for children and the local population, networking of experts
Udruga pčelara Pula	Civil society	Design and construction of urban biodiversity space (hotels for insects), educational programs	Strengthening cooperation with stakeholders, joint educational activities for children and the local population, networking of experts
Osnovna škola Monte Zaro	Academia	Design and construction of urban biodiversity space (hotels for insects and birds), educational programs	Educational activities for children and the local population
Srednja umjetnička škola Pula	Aesthetic stakeholder	Design and construction of urban biodiversity space (hotels for insects and birds), educational programs	Educational activities for children and the local population

3. ACTION PLAN

Identification of key activities, which will contribute to mission and goals.

Title & Description of Activity	Participating Stakeholders	Next steps (next tasks to do)
Give the title and/or short description of the activity (identification process, focus group meeting, survey, testing… etc.).	According to the Stakeholder table above. You can write "All" if all of the stakeholders participate in activity or name specific ones	What will be the next steps?
Enhancing Public Green Spaces and Ecological Connectivity ▫ Mapping and assessing biodiversity value of existing green spaces and grasslands. ▫ Developing and implementing biodiversity-friendly landscaping plans (e.g. native planting, diverse habitats). ▫ Creating green corridors to connect fragmented habitats across the city. ▫ Restoring degraded urban grasslands and wetlands.	Grad Pula – Pola Pula Herculanea d.o.o. Arena Hospitality group NP Brijuni	- Convene a cross-sector working group to align vision, roles, and responsibilities. - Conduct public consultations to gather input and build community support. - Use GIS and field surveys to inventory current biodiversity and green spaces. - Identify ecological hotspots, degraded areas, and connectivity gaps. - Prioritize areas for intervention based on ecological value and connectivity potential. - Launch pilot sites for native planting and green corridors. - Embed biodiversity goals into local planning codes and park management policies.
Mitigating Urban Heat Island Effects ▫ Expanding tree canopy cover in heat-vulnerable urban areas. ▫ Promoting installation of green roofs and vertical gardens on buildings. ▫ Designing shaded public spaces with native vegetation.	Grad Pula – Pola Arena Hospitality group NP Brijuni	- Conduct detailed thermal mapping and identify urban heat “hotspots., overlay data with demographics to prioritize vulnerable communities. - Mandate or incentivize green roofs/vertical gardens on new and existing buildings. - Implement model projects in high-priority areas (e.g. schools, bus stops, rooftops).

▫ Integrating biodiversity-focused cooling strategies into urban planning.		- Evaluate temperature reduction, biodiversity gains, and social benefits. - Update building codes to require or encourage green infrastructure. - Offer grants, tax rebates, or density bonuses for developers using cooling strategies. - Launch “Adopt-a-Tree” or “Cool Your Block” programs. - Co-design shaded public spaces with community input, focusing on inclusivity and resilience. - Establish heat and vegetation metrics using sensors and satellite data. - Track impacts on local temperatures, energy use, health outcomes, and biodiversity. - Create toolkits for homeowners and businesses on cooling strategies. - Train local contractors and planners in climate-adaptive design.
Supporting Biodiversity on Private Land ▫ Launching awareness campaigns and workshops on wildlife-friendly gardening. ▫ Providing incentives or recognition programs for biodiversity-friendly practices on private land (e.g. garden certifications, tax benefits). ▫ Developing guides for residents and businesses on how to enhance biodiversity in yards, rooftops, and courtyards.	Grad Pula – Pola Pula Herculanea d.o.o.	- Launch multimedia campaigns on the benefits of wildlife gardening. - Host workshops, garden tours, and demo days (e.g., "Bee-Friendly Yard" events). - Introduce voluntary garden certification schemes (e.g., "Pollinator-Friendly Garden" or "Habitat Hero"). - Offer financial incentives, such as small grants, tax breaks, or discounts on native plants. - Publicize successful participants with yard signs, maps, or annual awards. - Facilitate local biodiversity ambassador groups or garden mentor networks. - Encourage peer-to-peer learning and neighborhood challenges. - Develop a voluntary registry of certified gardens or participants. - Align with citywide biodiversity action plans or green infrastructure strategies. -Encourage linkages between private and public green spaces for ecological corridors.
Protecting Coastal Areas and Habitats	Grad Pula – Pola	- Use participatory methods to include local and Indigenous knowledge.

▫ Conducting assessments of coastal biodiversity and ecosystem health. ▫ Promoting sustainable tourism and recreation in coastal zones. ▫ Supporting coastal restoration projects (e.g. dune stabilization, salt marsh restoration). ▫ Working with stakeholders to regulate and monitor coastal development impacts.	Arena Hospitality group NP Brijuni	- Identify climate vulnerability zones and critical habitats - Prioritize nature-based solutions (e.g., dune stabilization, oyster reef restoration, native planting). - Develop eco-certification programs for tourism operators. - Create zoning or access guidelines to protect sensitive habitats. - Educate tourists on environmental impacts and responsible recreation. - Update land use plans and building codes to reflect ecological constraints. - Provide training for local officials, developers, and business owners on sustainable coastal practices. - Adjust strategies as needed based on ecological feedback and climate projections.
Engaging Communities and Building Stewardship ▫ Organizing community planting events, citizen science projects, and clean-up days. ▫ Partnering with schools, NGOs, and local groups for educational activities. ▫ Creating biodiversity ambassadors or local champions to promote participation. ▫ Installing interpretive signage in parks to raise public awareness of local species and habitats.	All	- Host citizen science projects (e.g., bird counts, pollinator surveys) to involve all ages. - Work with schools to integrate outdoor learning into the curriculum. - Offer field trip programs and classroom kits on local ecosystems. collaborate with NGOs to deliver biodiversity-themed workshops and activities. - Train residents, students, and retirees to become ambassadors or champions. - Place educational signs in parks and along trails highlighting native species, ecological functions, and cultural significance. - Incorporate QR codes, audio guides, or interactive elements. Involve artists and schools to co-design signage or murals. -Host annual festivals or stewardship awards to build pride and momentum.
Supporting Evidence-Based Planning and Policy ▫ Developing a citywide urban biodiversity strategy or action plan.	Grad Pula – Pola	- Develop a Citywide Urban Biodiversity Strategy or Action Plan - Integrate Biodiversity into Urban Planning Processes - Promote Data Sharing and Research Collaboration; Encourage interdisciplinary research linking ecology, urban design, and public health.

▫ Establishing biodiversity monitoring and evaluation systems. ▫ Integrating biodiversity indicators into urban development and zoning processes. ▫ Collaborating with researchers, universities, and environmental agencies for data collection and knowledge-sharing.		- provide training on biodiversity planning tools, indicators, and legal frameworks. - Host policy dialogues and roundtables to align priorities across sectors.

4. SYNERGIES WITH OTHER LOCAL/REGIONAL INITIATIVES

Can you identify local/regional/national/ EU initiatives which can contribute to operation of the NODE.

Name of the initiative	Potential contribution (to activities, events, capacity, network,…)
Croatia naturaly Yours	The HTZ campaign that AHG in cooperation with TZ Pula is implementing through the planting of local species of trees (Verudela)
Grad Rovinj – Rovigno (Administrative department for Spatial Planning, Environmental Protection and Issuance of Acts)	Network/ Activities/
Istria County (Administartive Department for Sustainable Development)	Capacity/ events
Eco Kindergarden Maslačak	Activities
Eco schools	Activities/ events
Udruga Hyla – Toni Koren	Activities/ Capacity (research on wild pollinators (wasps, bees, butterflies, moths and hoverflies)
Udruga BIOM	Activities/ Capacity (bird research, bird feeders, birdhouses, hedgehog houses, pest control actions and projects to increase the number of bird nesting sites)
JU Kamenjak	Activities/ Capacity/ event (plant Education, pollinator education, celebrating Bee Day)
Zajednica tehničke kulture Pula - ZTK	Activities (bee hotel making workshops)

Udruga TRAGUS	Activities/ Capacity/ event (bat research, bat hotel construction, bat education)
NaravaNarave d.o.o.	Activities/ Capacity (bird research, bird habitat revitalization)
Udruga za zaštitu i očuvanje divljih pčela Istarske županije	Activities/ Capacity (education and raising awareness about the importance of wild bees)

5. MOST RELEVANT COMMUNICATION CHANNELS FOR OPERATION AND COMMUNICATION

List the existing communication channels, which you will use to support operation of the NODE.

Communication channel	Purpose
Official web site	Serves as the main information hub, providing detailed updates, project objectives, and resources to inform the public and stakeholders about activities supporting urban biodiversity
Social media - Facebook	Engages the local community through accessible and interactive content, raising awareness and encouraging citizen participation in biodiversity-friendly initiatives.
Local Media	Reaches a broad public audience by sharing news, announcements, and educational messages that highlight the importance of biodiversity in urban areas.
Linkedin project page	Targets professionals and institutions, promoting knowledge exchange, partnerships, and best practices in sustainable urban development and nature conservation.
Facebook project profile	Provides real-time updates and event promotion, helping build a community around the project and fostering dialogue on biodiversity-related topics.

ANNEX 1: REPORT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF BIOCENTUM NODE

31 March 2025

REPORT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF BIOCENTUM NODE

1. MISSION AND GOALS OF THE CITY NODE

Prepare a short overview description of main mission and identified goals.

(Up to 2.000 characters)

1.1 MISSON:

The BIOCENTUM local node was established by the Municipality of Wroclaw in partnership with the Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences and the Society of Polish Town Planners in October 2024. It was built on existing structures and leveraging the city's position as a Polish NBS Hub in Wroclaw, whose activities focus on promoting the potential of nature-based solutions. The BIOCENTUM will be expanded to include further stakeholders.

The mission of the BIOCENTUM node is to be an advisory body to the city decision-makers and to support the city of Wroclaw in all key decisions regarding green urban transformation.

In addition, the node acts as a green urban "mindset changer" engaging citizens in changing their perception of green transition from something that "must be" done, to something citizens would "love to" do.

1.2 KEY GOALS:

- active involvement of residents and local stakeholders in the co-creation of a sustainable city through joint educational workshops on light pollution and its impact on biodiversity, as well as through a survey to gather residents' views on biodiversity and needs for the planned lighting modernisation on the demonstrator selected as part of the project, that will increase biodiversity

- co-creation of an urban biodiversity design plan, which will allow the creation of a targeted implementation plan to test the planned intervention on the selected demonstrator

- organisation of an open competition for individuals and legal entities to gather the best ideas for green solutions to the identified challenges that could solve the decline in biodiversity by implementing smart lighting on the selected demonstrator. The proposed ideas will be evaluated by the node in a workshop organised by the BIOCENTUM and high-level urban decision-makers.

2. KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Please describe your stakeholders and their roles in the city node. Insert rows according to your needs.

Name of organization	Stakeholder's field[1]	Potential role	Motivation / Benefits
Municipality of Wroclaw	Decision maker	Making key decisions regarding green urban transformation in the city. Taking action to mitigate light pollution in urban green spaces to maintain natural cycles of human and animal functioning (preserving natural wildlife patterns and human well-being) contributing to biodiversity. Developing NEB-based Urban Biodiverse Transition Roadmap to alleviate lighting pollution in green urban spaces to decrease excess heat, to maintain natural cycles of humans and animals contributing to biodiversity increase by preserving natural patterns of wildlife and well-being in humans. It will serve as the cornerstone document for cities addressing the reversal of urban biodiversity loss.	Implementation of urban biodiversity solution on the demonstrator chosen within the project, that will enhance biodiversity and then serve as an example for the introduction of such solutions within the city and beyond, contributing to the development of climate-resilient cities.
Polish NBS Hub in	Decision maker	Internal and external collaboration with other	Fostering multi-level, vertical

[1]Stakeholder's field: Decision maker/ Business stakeholder/Academia/ Civil society/ Aestheticstakeholder

Wroclaw		cities and organisations across the country and beyond to gather, promote and transfer knowledge on the potential of nature-based solutions.	cooperation in the field of NBS activities between cities, regions and governments at the national and international level.
Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences	Academia	Conducting an inventory of park flora and fauna, and studying the impact of the introduced lighting modernisation on biodiversity. Conducting of public survey on perceptions of lighting and biodiversity of the demonstrator area. Supporting the city's of Wroclaw decisions on the project regarding green urban transformation.	Supporting the Municipality of Wroclaw in halting and reversing biodiversity loss of the demonstrator area.
Society of Town Planners	Aesthetic stakeholder	Supporting the city's of Wroclaw decisions on the project.	
Gajowice district council	Civil society's representative	Connecting with local inhabitants of the project area.	Facilitating the engagement of the residents in the development of the solutions that could be taken into account during the implementation of the solutions on the chosen demonstrator.
Citizens	Civil society	Involvement in the co-creation of a sustainable park, giving feedback on the planned modernisation.	Fostering acceptance and uptake among residents of solutions through inclusive co-design.

3. ACTION PLAN

Identification of key activities, which will contribute to mission and goals.

Title & Description of Activity	Participating Stakeholders	Next steps (next tasks to do)
Give the title and/or short description of the activity (identification process, focus group meeting, survey, testing… etc.).	According to the Stakeholder table above. You can write "All" if all of the stakeholders participate in activity or name specific ones	What will be the next steps?
Collaborative and educational workshops on light pollution and its impact on biodiversity. Discussing with the residents the scenarios for the introduction of the new lighting system in order to hear feedback from them on perceptions of lighting and biodiversity of the demontrator area and on the planned modernisation.	All	Carrying out a comprehensive co-creation process and incorporating citizens' visions into design plans.
Co-creation of urban biodiversity design plan.	All	Making an attempt towards the introduction of a design plan as part of a plan to implement an urban biodiversity solution in the city.
Creation of targeted implementation plan to test the planned intervention	Municipality of Wroclaw	Implementation of urban biodiversity solution on the demonstrator chosen within the project, which, by reducing light pollution, will

on the chosen demonstrator.		enhance biodiversity and then will serve as an example for the introduction of such solutions within the city and beyond, contributing to the development of climate-resilient cities. Presenting the plan to local stakeholders through standard communication channels.
Identification of urban biodiversity challenges.	Municipality of Wroclaw, Polish NBS Hub in Wroclaw, Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences, Society of Town Planners and other stakeholders (included at later stages of the project)	The identification of green transition challenges will be based on advanced research by the Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences and the results will be further discussed within the BIOCENTUM structures. Organising an open competition (open to natural or legal persons) to collect the best green solution concepts for the identified challenges.
Organising an open competition to collect the best green solution concepts for the identified challenges.	Municipality of Wroclaw, Polish NBS Hub in Wroclaw, Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences, Society of Town Planners and other stakeholders (included at later stages of the project)	Collecting the ideas and future solutions collected during the Open Call, analysing them and evaluating them according to their specific objectives. The selected ideas will also be evaluated by a transnational panel of this project. The most promising transnational project will be supported in the application for the BAUHAUS Rising Stars Award 2026 of the European Commission.
Workshop dedicated to the future implementation of innovative ideas.	Municipality of Wroclaw	The proposed solutions collected during the Open Call will be widely discussed within the structures of the Municipality of Wroclaw in order to work out how to incorporate ideas so that they can be realised in accordance with the rules of implementation of the municipal participative budget.

4. SYNERGIES WITH OTHER LOCAL/REGIONAL INITIATIVES

Can you identify local/regional/national/ EU initiatives which can contribute to operation of the NODE.

Name of the initiative	Potential contribution (to activities, events, capacity, network,…)
Polish NBS Hub in Wroclaw	The Polish Nature-Based Solutions Hub's in Wroclaw activities, established as part of the NetworkNature initiative, focus on promoting the potential of nature-based solutions to reduce heat stress and flooding and deliver other benefits. The NBS Hub enables collaboration between other actors, leads to increased awareness among stakeholders from different disciplines and backgrounds, the exchange of knowledge and experience, and the creation of new partnerships. The Hub shares insights with NetworkNature' community on the national development of NBS during webinars, network meetings of national business representatives, dialogue events organised by NetworkNature, or dedicated sessions at NetworkNature's annual event as an important science-policy-practice interface. Within the framework of these meetings and exchange among different stakeholders, the Hub could promote the BIOCENTUM's activities.
NetworkNaturePLUS project funded by the EU under the Horizon Europe programme (former NetworkNature project funded by the EU under the H2020 programme).	It aims to support and expand the nature-based solutions (NBS) community to maximise the impact and mainstreaming of NBS. Through a variety of meetings and initiatives, it is possible to promote the BIOCENTUM's activities and the sustainable practices undertaken by the node to the community, which enhance biodiversity in Wroclaw.
LifeCoolCity project	The LifeCoolCity project, in which Wroclaw participates as the test city, aims at better management of greenery and adapting urban spaces to climate change. In Wroclaw, the identification of needs and the blue-green infrastructure redevelopment concept will be

	carried out, together with an evaluation of its effectiveness. The project will develop a programme to analyse environmental data and support decisions on the maintenance and creation of new green spaces that will improve the quality of life in the city and will counteract the phenomenon of urban heat island and drought. The LifeCoolCity project could support the functioning of the BIOCENTUM by attempting to implement solutions developed during the operation of the node for interdisciplinary urban biodiversity planning and management of green and blue spaces.

5. MOST RELEVANT COMMUNICATION CHANNELS FOR OPERATION AND COMMUNICATION

List the existing communication channels, which you will use to support operation of the NODE.

Communication channel	Purpose
In-person meetings	During the in-person meeting, comments and insights on the project are effectively exchanged, next steps are discussed and key decisions are made regarding the green urban transformation. They provide an opportunity to discuss specific topics and reach concrete agreements. These include the implementation of smart lighting on a demonstrator selected as part of the project and the involvement of residents in a biodiversity node. One of the examples of personal meetings is a workshop organised for residents to discuss with them scenarios for the introduction of a new lighting system in the demonstrator area and to get their feedback on perceptions of lighting and biodiversity. The in-person meetings within the node facilitate more effective communication allowing multiple people to take part in a conversations, encourage group discussion and feedback, help build strong relationships, and

	increase engagement.
Virtual meetings	Virtual meetings, like in-person meetings, allow for more personal interaction. They are organised when the situation demands it and are sometimes more convenient, especially when the BIOCENTUM participants have other meetings and tasks scheduled.
Phone calls	Discussions help in the effective and efficient flow of information on the various tasks carried out within the BIOCENTUM.
Emails	Emails allow information to be delivered in an immediate and timely manner to a wider audience, as well as allowing people to stay in close contact.
Documents	The documents refer to the tasks carried out in the BIOCENTUM and concern, among other things, the implementation of a biodiversity-enhancing urban solution on the project's chosen demonstrator and the organisation of workshops for residents.
Survey	The survey is designed to gather residents' views on their perceptions of the lighting and biodiversity of the demonstration area and their needs regarding the planned intervention.
Websites	Communication of the BIOCENTUM node activities and promotion of information about the URBIO BAUHAUS project activities, launch of an open competition for individuals and legal entities to collect the best ecological concepts for the identified challenges that could solve the decline in biodiversity through the implementation of smart lighting.


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• Zmiana temperatury barwowej opraw
• Nocne „wyciszenie" oświetlenia
• Zmniejszenie zużycia energii

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ANNEX 1: REPORT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF BIOCENTUM NODE

March 2025, Kranj

REPORT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF BIOCENTUM NODE

CITY OF KRANJ

1. MISSION AND GOALS OF THE CITY NODE

A short overview description of main mission and identified goals:

1.1 MISSON

The main objective of the project URBIO BAUHAUS is to combat biodiversity decline in urban and peri-urban areas in Central Europe by leveraging the New European Bauhaus (NEB) core values of sustainability, inclusion and aesthetics into urban biodiversity solutions (UBS) as part of the wider urban transformation enabling sustainable, inclusive and resilient society.

The sustainability objective will be tested and realized in all 4 CE cities by implementing several sets of co-created intervention to demonstrate a NEB-based pathway for EU cities in their transition into more biodiverse and resilient places. City of Kranj will incorporate **preserving depopulated plant and animal species by providing new urban living areas (biodiverse islands) for endangered species in Kranj,**

City of Kranj established BIOCENTUM node including representatives of: local and regional government, local business stakeholders, academia and research, aesthetic stakeholders (spatial planners, arts, creative industry...), environmental advocators and citizens on 20 March 2025.

1.2. KEY GOALS

Objective of WP2 is to develop a joint NEB-based Urban Biodiverse Transition Roadmap elaborated as key methodology incorporating several approaches and interventions that would significantly halt or/and reverse biodiversity loss particularly in urban areas by implementing fit-for problem interventions and measures.

City of Kranj should create a **biodiverse islands** as interventions to save the depopulated species by providing **new urban living spaces in the built-up city centre**, and as a platform for **increasing awareness, education and inclusion** of inhabitants into education and conservation.

2. KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Name of organization	Stakeholder's field[1]	Potential role	Motivation / Benefits
City of Kranj and its departments	Decision makers, spatial planners, green system/ecosystem managers, planners of climate neutral city.	Enhanced spatial planning, symbiosis between grey and green infrastructure.	enhanced green system of the city, greener Planning Procedures Acording to the Spatial Planning Act
Development company for regional development for the Gorenjska region - BSC	Decision makers in integrated and balanced spatial development of the Gorenjska region with emphasis on environmental preservation.	Local stakeholder and local knowledge on site.	enhanced green system of the region
Local Energy Agency of Gorenjska -LEAG	Business stakeholder.	Professional organization in the field of energetics (circular economy, CO_2 emissions…).	new insights on green infrastructure
Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation,	Decision makers.	Professional organization in the field of nature conservation.	education and raised awareness about the importance of nature conservation and the sustainable coexistence of man and nature
Heritage protection Institute of the Republic of Slovenia	Decision makers.	Registration of heritage and monuments, cultural protection conditions and consents or opinions for interventions.	new insights on green intervention in the old city centre

[1] Stakeholder's field: Decison maker/ Business stakeholder/Academia/ Civil society/ Aesthetic stakeholder

Name of organization	Stakeholder's field[2]	Potential role	Motivation / Benefits
Supernova_shopping mall	Business stakeholder.	New local investments.	Beautiful and green buildings of shopping malls.
Flora Sport	Business stakeholder.	professional organization for establishing public green areas	good / sustainable reputation, enhanced green system
Komunala Kranj d.d.	Business stakeholder.	professional organization for establishing public green areas	good / sustainable reputation, enhanced green system
Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering	Academia, Aestetic stakeholder.	professional organization for establishing new build up areas	education on CC and green interventions, connected to biodiversity
Slovenian Forestry Institute	Academia, Aestetic stakeholder.	professional organization for establishing green system	education on CC and green interventions, connected to biodiversity
Biotecnical faculty	Academia, Aestetic stakeholder.	professional organization for establishing green system	new insights on green interventions in the old city centre
ISD - Institute of sustainable development	Business stakeholder, Academia.	professional organization for establishing green system	new insights on green interventions in the old city centre

[2] Stakeholder's field: Decison maker/ Business stakeholder/Academia/ Civil society/ Aesthetic stakeholder

3. ACTION PLAN

Title & Description of Activity	Participating Stakeholders	Next steps (next tasks to do)
Give the title and/or short description of the activity (identification process, focus group meeting, survey, testing… etc.).	*According to the Stakeholder table above. You can write "All" if all of the stakeholders participate in activity or name specific ones*	*What will be the next steps?*
Setting up and operation of Biodiversity Centered Urban Mindset local nodes	All	Communication, invitations to next field workshops & events. Advisory board for decision makers.
Participative testing of urban biodiversity challenges using New Bauhaus approach	All	Identification of green transformation challenges. Finding new solutions and stimulation of local bodies to collaborate “in live” green-blue solutions.
Design of Biodiversity-centred urban mindset approach	All	Collaboration in Roadmap for citizen perception change in urban biodiversity.
Designing Implementation Plans for 4 Urban Biodiversity Interventions	All	Collection of new solutions of green-blue solutions. Preparing Implementation Plan.
Implementing 4 CE Interventions for NEB-based Urban Biodiverse Transition	All	Collection of new solutions of green-blue solutions. Preparing Implementation Plan.

Building Biodiversity Friendly Institutional Capacities	All	
Behaviour change assesment – questionnaire.	20 participants of kick off event	Repetition of the same questionnaire in 15-18 months.

4. SYNERGIES WITH OTHER LOCAL/REGIONAL INITIATIVES

Name of the initiative	Potential contribution (to activities, events, capacity, network,…)
Climate change adaptation strategies for the Gorenjska region (in progress, last steps)	Gorenjska region is a case study of the implementation of transformative innovations in the Climate Change Adaptation Mission. The region was the first among Slovenians to join the mission in November 2022. + Strong networking power and political capacity. #MissionClimateAdaptation
KOKRA CANYON development strategy - Green infrastructure and measures of comprehensive development in the lower part of Kokra canyon (2025)	The document was designed in accordance with the green orientation of Kranj as a climate-neutral and smart city, and in accordance with the principles of the New European Bauhaus, climate change resilience and the "principle of doing no significant harm". This means that the potential development options for the canyon primarily take into account its natural processes and biotic characteristics, while at the same time, with a sustainable approach to planning, they enable residents to spend quality time in the unique environment of the canyon for relaxation, learning, recreation and socializing.
Conservation plan for renovation - Old Town Kranj (in progress)	The document was designed in sight of preserving the recognized content characteristics of the Old Town Kranj and showing options for planning additional or new contents. Also possibilities for planning supplementary or new developments (detailed spatial planning), including planning the reuse of degraded areas, green infrastructure and new green items are included.
Spatial planning decrees (future)	Green orientation of Kranj as a climate-neutral and smart city.

Report on “new green system of City of Kranj” and “green standards for spatial planning” (in progress)	Green orientation of Kranj as a climate-neutral and smart city.
Municipal environmental protection operational program (OPVO), 2023	OPVO consists of a strategic part, which refers to the period until 2050, and an implementation part, which refers to the period until 2035. It has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Protection Programme (NPPO), applicable legislation and other strategic documents of the IOC.
City of Kranj in a part of EU mission for Climate neutral& smart cities by 2030, 2024	City of Kranj has set up working groups to design and implement strategic projects with the aim of making Kranj an innovative, connected, clean, vibrant, young, healthy, safe and active city. This roughly means that all projects in all these areas will have to have green, sustainable, digital, environmentally friendly components.

5. MOST RELEVANT COMMUNICATION CHANNELS FOR OPERATION AND COMMUNICATION

Communication channel	Purpose
OFFICIAL WEB SITE - CITY OF KRANJ https://www.kranj.si/	Information exchange in written documents
OFFICIAL WEB SITE - INTERREG URBIO BAUHAUS PROJECT https://www.interreg-central.eu/projects/urbio-bauhaus/?tab=home	Information exchange in written documents
OFFICIAL FB PAGE - CITY OF KRANJ https://www.facebook.com/MOKranj	Information exchange in written documents
OFFICIAL FB PAGE URBIO BAUHAUS PROJECT https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61566009333499	Information exchange in written documents

WEB SITE – KRANJSKE NOVICE, also printed version for locals https://www.kranj.si/za-medije/kranjske-novice	Information exchange in written documents
RADIO NEWS (weekly talk with the Mayor) https://www.kranj.si/za-medije/radijske-oddaje	Verbal information exchange in local radio
NEWSPAPER Gorenjski Glas https://www.gorenjskiglas.si/	Information exchange in written documents
E-MAIL INVITATIONS internal/external	Information exchange in written documents
IN PERSON MEETINGS of City of Kranj employees	Verbal and nonverbal cues as well as written documents
IN PERSON MEETINGS on the pilot locations /external	Verbal and nonverbal cues as well as written documents

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ANNEX 2: WORKING SHEET FOR WORLD CAFFE WORKSHOP

Task: to identify city biodiversity challenges

Final Version

WORLD CAFFE WORKSHOP: WORKING SHEET FOR WORKING IN GROUPS

Main topic of the World Caffe workshop: IDENTIFYING URBAN BIODIVERSITY CHALLENGES IN OUR CITY

2. Main discussion questions for work in groups: "WHAT WOULD IT MEAN FOR OUR CITY TO THRIVE IN THE FIELD OF BIODIVERSITY?"

Working in groups, 4-5 persons. Each working group Identifies 1 key challenge in the field of biodiversity and specifies them:

KEY CHALLENGE 1:

Illegal dumping of waste in the open countryside

CITY SNAPSHOT (Current state of challenge) Description: Illegal dumping isn't entirely related to the biodiversity issue, but the challenge is so pressing that it needs to be discussed. Most of it is industrial waste, but there is also residential waste in many places. Unfortunately, there are no legal consequences, proper regulations, or promising practices to deal with it. The lack of cooperation between cities exacerbates the problem, and good practices should be harmonised.	**HOW NATURE DOES IT?** (Which solutions in nature already exist) Description: Nature suffers; it cannot react. At most, the plants surround it.
CITY TARGET (What we would like to change in long-term) Description: "Stop the city and its surroundings from becoming a landfill."	**TO WORK LIKE NATURE** (Can we do the biomimicry[1] - innovation inspired by nature?) Description: A new regulatory framework and an expansion of the types and quantities of waste accepted by landfills (MOHU) are needed. A circular economy should be developed, but this is not a municipal or local competence.

[1] Benyus, J. (1997), Biomimicry: innovation inspired by nature, London: Harper Collins

KEY CHALLENGE 2:

Lack of sample projects

CITY SNAPSHOT (Current state of challenge) Description: There is a lack of model projects where nature-based, site-specific solutions are used. Focusing on conservation issues and creating diverse habitats in model projects is essential.	**HOW NATURE DOES IT?** (Which solutions in nature already exist) Description: It plays an ecological niche role. Biodiversity and resilience will make communities viable.
CITY TARGET (What we would like to change in long-term) Description: Biodiversity must be increased, and the spread of invasive species avoided. The pilot projects aim to reach as many people as possible and to spread the ideas to private gardens. Good examples exist; they just need to be collected and made visible.	**TO WORK LIKE NATURE** (Can we do the biomimicry[2] - innovation inspired by nature?) Description: It creates a microclimate for the following plants. Willow and oak trees grow up this way. Plant borders and peri-urban associations to see what works well. We need to create ecological corridors.

[2] Benyus, J. (1997), Biomimicry: innovation inspired by nature, London: Harper Collins

KEY CHALLENGE 3:

Being a sleepy town

CITY SNAPSHOT (Current state of challenge) Description: Being a dormitory city means lacking public demand for a sustainable, quality green environment. There is a lack of knowledge and awareness, a lack of interest, a lack of ownership, and community spirit.	**HOW NATURE DOES IT?** (Which solutions in nature already exist) Description: Nature holds up a mirror - the natural environment is much better for us. Nature also answers unspoken needs, such as shade, no mosquitoes, and no spread of allergenic plants.
CITY TARGET (What we would like to change in long-term) Description: A living city in the woods can be in harmony with nature, and an active city/a 10-minute city, can be created. More local services/jobs are needed so residents do not have to commute to Budapest.	**TO WORK LIKE NATURE** (Can we do the biomimicry[3] - innovation inspired by nature?) Description: Learning about good practices and models is essential - the open gardens scheme (Neighbourhood Day) is already working on a small scale, and green urban marketing is necessary. "If we show a green city, people who want a green city will come here. If we show a sleeping city, those who want to sleep will come here."

[3] Benyus, J. (1997), Biomimicry: innovation inspired by nature, London: Harper Collins

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ANNEX 2: WORKING SHEET FOR WORLD CAFFE WORKSHOP

Task: to identify city biodiversity challenges

10 2024

WORLD CAFFE WORKSHOP: WORKING SHEET FOR WORKING IN GROUPS

Main topic of the World Caffe workshop: IDENTIFYING URBAN BIODIVERSITY CHALLENGES IN OUR CITY

2. Main discussion questions for work in groups: "WHAT WOULD IT MEAN FOR OUR CITY TO THRIVE IN THE FIELD OF BIODIVERSITY?"

Working in groups, 4-5 persons. Each working group Identifies 1 key challenge in the field of biodiversity and specifies them:

KEY CHALLENGE 1: Public green spaces and grasslands with low biodiversity and poor connectivity among urban green spaces and with valuable habitats in the surroundings

CITY SNAPSHOT (Current state of challenge) Description: Poor spatial planning and illegal construction. More green spaces in the old urban area than new. Urban areas on the city outskirts have less public green spaces. Natural sciences experts do not participate in planning. Maintenance of public green spaces is outdated – regular mowing. In 2025 mowing is postponed on 20 locations. Removal of low vegetation from green public spaces affects biodiversity and pollinators. Plant species that are used in public green spaces are not native and not attractive to pollinators. New trees are regularly being planted in city park-forests, last activity was in 2025. Soil is depleted. Treatment of green public spaces with chemicals. Low awareness on the value of biodiversity – all green areas are perceived in the same way, as if they are all good for biodiversity.	**HOW NATURE DOES IT?** (Which solutions in nature already exist) Description: Pollinators and birds are connected. Nature does not mow. Nature regenerates itself.

Parking is a big issue in the city, including on green public spaces. Collision of birds with glass. Streetlights are not adapted for birds and bats. Rain gardens exist in the city. City of Pula regularly applies for funding of awareness raising and education to the Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund. City works with children a lot (kindergartens and primary schools). Walls of the fortresses (e.g. Franciscan monastery) are a habitat of the strictly protected species pale/white corydalis (*Pseudofumaria alba*). Walls are in poor condition. Citizens are not aware that the species is protected, and they pick it.	
CITY TARGET (What we would like to change in long-term) Description: Public greens spaces that enrich biodiversity – planning and conserving of low vegetation, planting of domestic/autochthonous species, less frequent mowing (with planning what should go into vegetation success and what should remain a grassland). Investment in human capital that maintains public green spaces, including their professional education. Promote citizen science – usage of apps such as iNautralist, Biologger, etc. Data can be used for spatial planning. Education on the needs and ways how to use space, on less frequent mowing, how to choose appropriate plants and when to plant them (much better to plant them in autumn than spring). Education of children, it gives results. Appropriate timing of informing citizens is crucial; they more readily accept changes.	**TO WORK LIKE NATURE** (Can we do the biomimicry[1] - innovation inspired by nature?) Description: Postpone mowing / mow less frequently and this way protect the pollinators. Let plants finish their natural cycle. Plant species from surroundings / nature, such as Spartium (brnistra) – it can be shaped and used as hedgerow. Plan for leaving, conserving and maintaining of (particular species of) low vegetation, which is useful for the presence of insect-eating birds.

[1] Benyus, J. (1997), Biomimicry: innovation inspired by nature, London: Harper Collins

Return trust towards the experts, find appropriate ways of communicating. Awareness raising, promoting understanding and change of mentality. More underground parking. Strengthening of public transport. Creation of green corridors along roads. Creation of urban gardens, even on rooftops. Creation of green rooftops and vertical gardens. Creation of ponds and wells (sterna) for rainwater collection in parks. Expert long-term planning. Recovery of soil – reduction of construction, intensification of the usage of natural chemicals, creation of new and improvement of existing public spaces. Use domestic/autochthonous plants but consider climate change (plants adapted to new climate conditions). Use methods to prevent bird-window collisions. Placement of nest boxes for birds, using standards that exist. Placement of watering wells. Streetlights that are adapted for birds and bats. Restore walls of the fortresses (e.g. Franciscan monastery) to provide conditions for pale/white corydalis (*Pseudofumaria alba*), strictly protected species. Raise awareness about the protected species (information boards).	

KEY CHALLENGE 2: Impact of urban heat islands on biodiversity and human wellbeing

CITY SNAPSHOT (Current state of challenge) Description: City of Pula has maps of the urban heat islands impacts. Old part of the city (that was built until 1960s) is richer in green spaces, but all green spaces are under pressure from cars. Newer city areas have maximum plot ratio and are urbanistically devastated. New parking lots are created. All these areas are heat islands. More frequent droughts and shortage of potable water are a big challenge for trees. Uncontrolled extraction of groundwater from wells, many of which are illegal. There is already salination of agricultural land that is closer to the sea. Water supply is already an issue. There is very high number of pools in Croatia, and chemicals are used for them. Shopping centres and agriculture land are big heat islands. Former shipyard Uljanik as well. Illegal construction. Deforestation and devastation of forests leads to heat islands. Higher consumption of (primarily electric) energy (air conditioning) due to heat islands.	**HOW NATURE DOES IT?** (Which solutions in nature already exist) Description: Domestic/autochthonous plants will regenerate themselves. Wetland area Pragrande improves microclimatic conditions. Trees are the biggest contributor for shading and prevent creation of heat islands.
CITY TARGET (What we would like to change in long-term) Description: Plant domestic/autochthonous species that are resistant to our climate conditions. Plant trees that are the biggest contributor for shading and prevent creation of heat islands. Use systems that direct roots so there is no lifting of soil and roads. Ensure good conditions for growing of trees.	**TO WORK LIKE NATURE** (Can we do the biomimicry[2] - innovation inspired by nature?) Description: Plant domestic/autochthonous trees. Artificial lakes and retentions to improve microclimatic conditions.

[2] Benyus, J. (1997), Biomimicry: innovation inspired by nature, London: Harper Collins

Protect existing green spaces around buildings against parking and devastation. Plant trees around shopping centres. Engage experts for maintenance of trees. Green roofs should be promoted as they reduce the effects of heat islands. Reconstruction of two main streets in the city centre (Prvomajska and Kandlerova) - create green corridors to connect them with Giardini. Former shipyard Uljanik could be transferred to parking with green spaces. Plant trees along the edges of agriculture land. Reduce the pressure from cars: more bike lanes, promote and ensure micromobility, higher quality of public transport, inter-city public transport. City of Pula can regulate the construction of pools and the issue of illegal wells by adopting appropriate regulation/decisions at the local level. A lot of issues can be resolved by municipal wardens.	

KEY CHALLENGE 3: Low biodiversity on private land and in private gardens

CITY SNAPSHOT (Current state of challenge) Description: Too high plot ratio, even though the ratio of land (and its control) has increased. Better regulation/by-law should be adopted. There is no systematic approach to education – curricula that accompanies the school programmes. Low level of awareness of citizens and ignorance. We unknowingly do some things that reduce biodiversity. Practical solutions vs ecological solutions. No link between construction sector and landscape architects, as well as companies that provide ecological solutions. Planting of inappropriate species (such as palm trees). Poor condition of some trees (due to aging). Inadequate preparation of substrate for planting seedlings. Poor selection of autochthonous and traditional plant varieties native to the area. Too much focus on broad range of species that are native to different areas and conditions. Utility company (Herculanea) introduced a 50% discount on collection of green waste during a certain period in 2025 – it has been very successful. Different generations maintain their gardens differently, which is relevant for approaches to awareness raising.	**HOW NATURE DOES IT?** (Which solutions in nature already exist) Description: Nature is self-sustainable, it spreads by itself, it regenerates withing the allowable limits. Self-regeneration. Survival of durable species and specimens – natural selection. Survival of adapted / native species. Substrate (soil) in nature is adequate.
CITY TARGET (What we would like to change in long-term) Description: Promoted composting. Reduce "concreting" - squeezing as many houses and parking lots as possible on a	**TO WORK LIKE NATURE** (Can we do the biomimicry[3] - innovation inspired by nature?) Description: Select autochthonous and domestic plant species as they are adapted to climate and conditions.

[3] Benyus, J. (1997), Biomimicry: innovation inspired by nature, London: Harper Collins

tract of land, without any parks, playgrounds, and communal spaces. Promote green roofs and vertical gardens. Placement of nest boxes for birds, using standards that exist. Placement of watering wells. Promote methods to prevent bird-window collisions. Education is key – solution is systematic education – introducing urban biodiversity into curricula through subjects such as nature and biology. Planting of domestic/autochthonous species. Selection of autochthonous and traditional varieties should be bigger and more affordable. Focus should be on regional varieties and products. Design and adopt Action plan for promoting biodiversity of the City of Pula. Plan should include measures for subsidising citizens towards the more holistic maintenance of their gardens and plots / yards. Investing in education and sharing of best practices within the local community – distribution of seedlings that are relevant for biodiversity. Promote best-practices instead of restrictions. Use city council districts to share information with citizens.	Allow for plants to keep and maintain the natural habitus and biological cycle, it is not necessary to prune everything. Existing project "DolceVita" for reconstruction of façade, a new project is proposed for promoting designing of yards / plots – "Pull Over".

KEY CHALLENGE 4: Changing of the coast and coastal habitats and unsustainable usage of coastal area

CITY SNAPSHOT (Current state of challenge) Description: Coast in the city of Pula is natural, there is not a lot of beach nourishment and construction, it is localized (Hidrobaza). Pebble beaches are natural and are not being "nourished" or "constructed". There is enough beaches that are made from concrete in the city of Pula. Pula waterfront (in the city centre) is constructed and there are plans to extend this. There are plans for "new" waterfront in the areas of Sv. Katarina - Valelunga, which is currently natural green area. Pula's peer will be reconstructed. Area or Hidrobaza is the only constructed beach in Pula. It raised controversy. On one hand there is access for disabled and locals visit the beach; on the other hand the beach is part of Natura 2000 ecological network. There is a lawn that needs to be watered every day. Inappropriate species have been planted. We lose the intrinsic value of nature with beach nourishment and construction. It is reported that there are less marine species present that use and need the coastal area. Cave Golubova špilja is a protected speleological feature, it is a submerged or partially submerged sea caves (Natura 2000 code 8330). Visitation of cave, especially by kayaks represents a big pressure - the environment has changed, algae grow inside the cave because of artificial lights, speleothem are being damages, etc. The cave is now (in 2025) closed for visitation to reduce the pressure. Blue infrastructure such as wetlands is extremely important. There are few wetlands, such as Pragrande, so they should be prioritized for conservation.	**HOW NATURE DOES IT?** (Which solutions in nature already exist) Description: Nature shapes the appearance of the coast. Nature is telling us that where there are no natural beaches, there should not be pebble/sand beaches either. Our marine species thrive on rocky bottoms and shores, not on the sand. Nourishment and construction of beaches lasts for only one season. Every year beaches should be nourished and/or constructed again. It does not make sense. Construction should be done with pebbles from rivers, but it is cheaper to do with stones from quarries. Plants along the coast that survive the conditions are autochthonous plants, which can survive the highly demanding conditions with regards to salt, wind, sun, and water shortage.

Breeding areas for turtles have been expanding in the Mediterranean but are we preparing for it? Common tern breed in Pula harbour - information board has been put in place with the notice not to disturb the birds. Illegal camping is a problem (waste, faeces) but it can be dealt with by municipal wardens. Illegal construction along the coast is an issue, although primarily in the city surroundings, not in the city of Pula itself. Groundwater - there is proteus / olm (endemic aquatic salamander) in the city centre, where the permanent water source is (Nimfej on Karolina). Pula has significant reserves of groundwater, but illegal wells are an issue. At the location of the camping site BiVillage coastal habitats were destructed. That area has always been inaccessible, but it has been modified to serve the purpose of tourism. Pollution of the sea and coast - presence of mucous algae in the coastal area. Tourist Board is developing Destination Management Plan whose aim is to protect the resources.	
CITY TARGET (What we would like to change in long-term) Description: Think about what nature needs, change the thinking paradigm. It is crucial to prescribe the code of conduct, regulate human activities. That coast/beaches are not nourished and/or constructed, that coast remains natural. Visiting of the cave Golubova špilja should remain forbidden. Touristic capacities should be limited in the long term.	**TO WORK LIKE NATURE** (Can we do the biomimicry[4] - innovation inspired by nature?) Description: Repeat what is already present in nature - natural species and materials, such as spartium, phillyrea, mastic tree, tamarix, etc. Do not nourish and/or construct beaches / coast in locations that are important spawning, feeding and nursery areas.

[4] Benyus, J. (1997), Biomimicry: innovation inspired by nature, London: Harper Collins

Dealing with illegal construction (mostly small houses) - introducing the administrative procedure lead by the City of Pula through the municipal wardens. Dealing with illegal camping - more frequent rounds of municipal wardens, issuing fines, if necessary, together with the police. Hidrobaza beach should in the long term be more natural than it is now - lawn should not be watered; plants should be adjusted to the climate (local/domestic). Revitalisation of the Czech Camp (Češki kamp) in the area of Galebove stijene - entrance into Valovine. Pula waterfront in the city centre - former shipyard Uljanik could be converted so that it is integrated into the city - parking, business premises, retirement home, etc. Pula as a cruising destination has been discussed in the public, which entails deepening of the bay - this is not the right direction.	

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ANNEX 2: WORKING SHEET FOR WORLD CAFFE WORKSHOP

Task: to identify city biodiversity challenges

Kranj, March 2025

WORLD CAFFE WORKSHOP: WORKING SHEET FOR WORKING IN GROUPS

Main topic of the World Caffe workshop: **IDENTIFYING URBAN BIODIVERSITY CHALLENGES IN OUR CITY**

2. Main discussion questions for work in groups: **"WHAT WOULD IT MEAN FOR OUR CITY TO THRIVE IN THE FIELD OF BIODIVERSITY?"**

Working in groups, 4-5 persons. Each working group Identifies 1 key challenge in the field of biodiversity and specifies them:

KEY CHALLENGE 1:

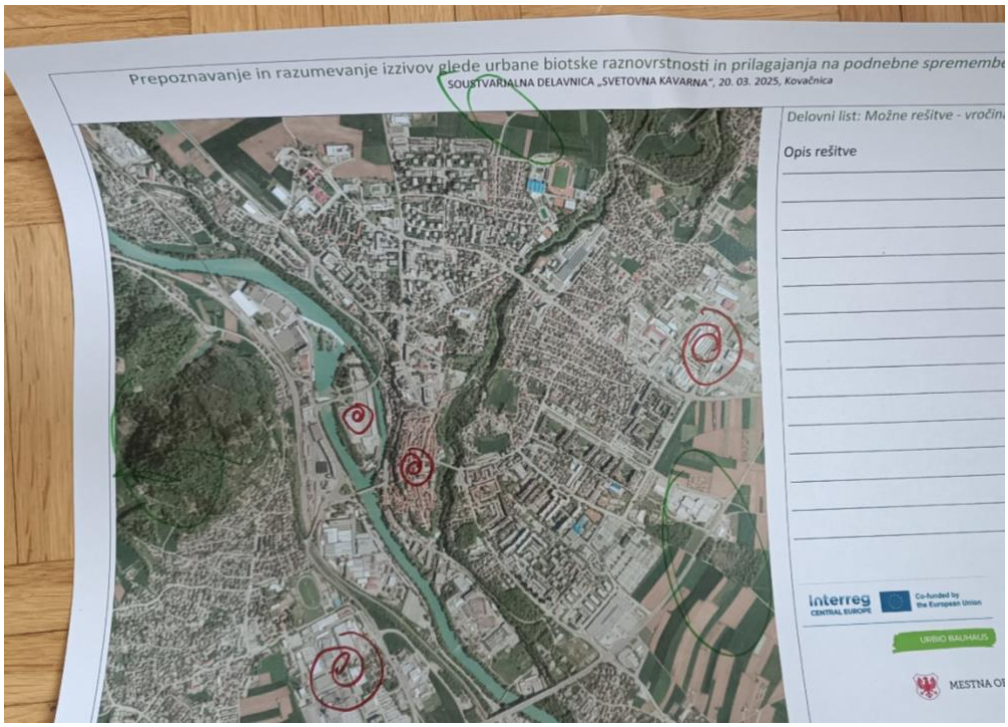
Heat and urban heat islands

A snapshot of the city at this moment:

Heat islands → Problem

• Large parking lots (see map), also Savski otok (expressed in workshops)

• Old city center (built-up and paved, inability to ventilate and use air conditioning due to cultural heritage status)



Existing and new solutions:

• Conservation plan for renovation (introduction of smaller green systems, historical recordings for greening, subsidies for building renovations in accordance with guidelines (windows, facades, roofs), fountains (blue infrastructure), green roofs).

• Solar power plants are difficult to place in the old city center (proposal for a nearby shopping center – community power plant)

• Underground parking lots

• Slovenski trg has underground space

• Transport policy (JPP)

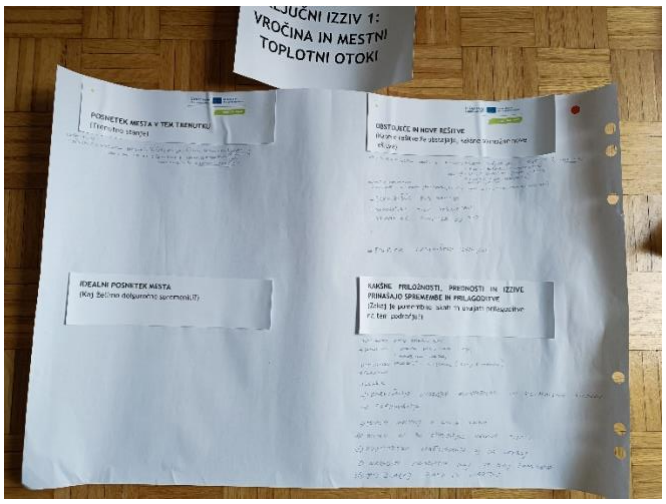
• The problem of land ownership

What opportunities, advantages and challenges do changes and adjustments bring ?

- Greening the old city center
- Ventilation – construction of large buildings and fences – we need ventilation corridors
- Greening parking lots – a necessary compromise (conditions + safety)
- Sprinklers/Misting systems
- Climbing plants (green walls)
- Reducing the use of cars and air conditioners
- Paving
- The problem of investing in green matters
- A system that will encourage green systems
- Spatial planning with a forward-thinking mind
- Prioritizing what is more important

Ideal snapshot of the city

-



KEY CHALLENGE 2:

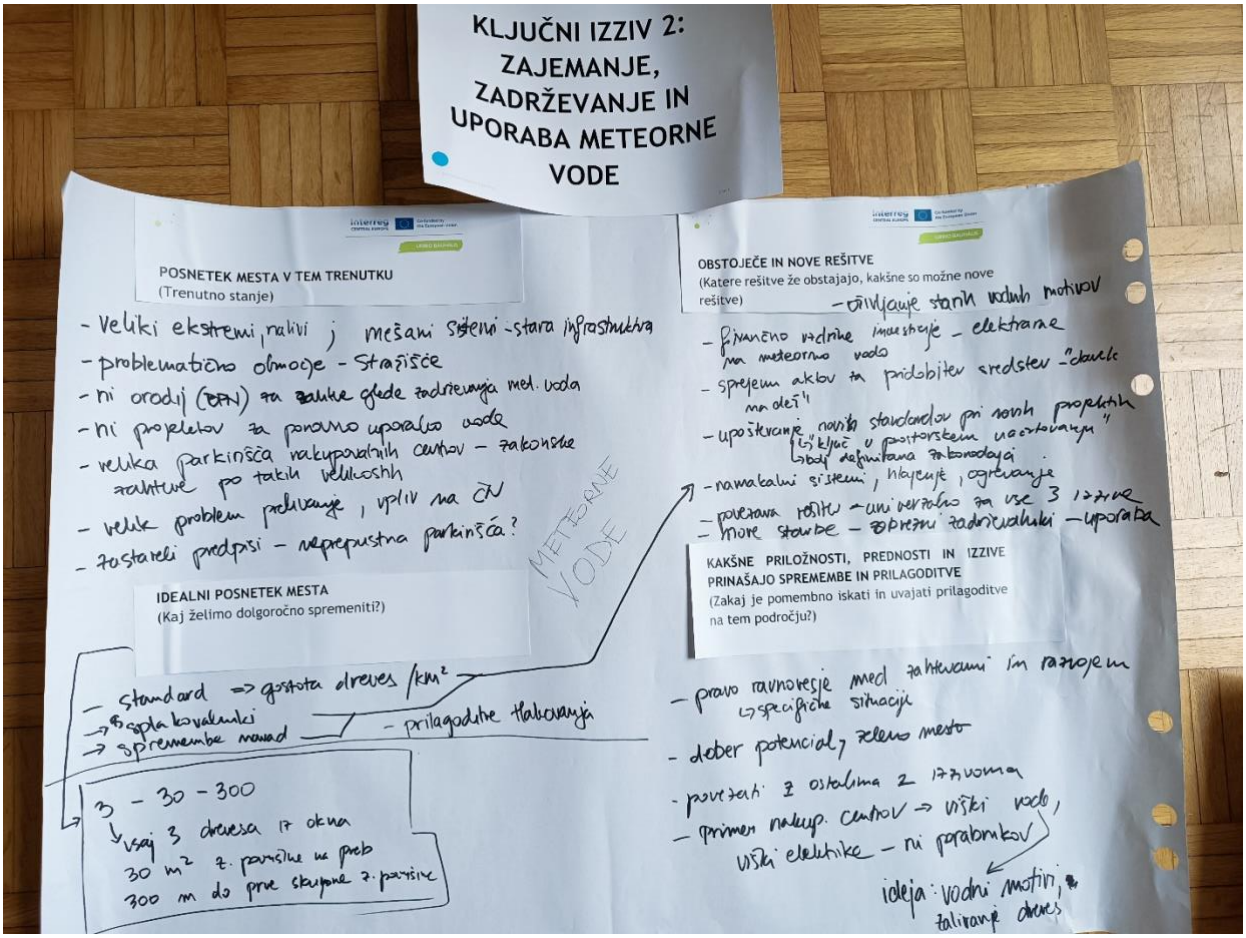
Capturing, retaining and using stormwater

A snapshot of the city at this moment

- Extreme weather conditions, downpours
- Mixed sewage systems, old infrastructure
- Problematic area – Stražišće
- No tools (DPN) for stormwater retention requirements
- No water reuse projects
- Large shopping mall parking lots – legal requirements for such sizes
- Big problem overflow, impact on sewage system
- Outdated regulations – impermeable parking lots?

Existing and new solutions

- Revival of old water motifs
- Financially sustainable investments – rainwater power plants
- Adoption of acts to obtain 'rain tax' funds
- Consideration of new standards in new projects
    - o The key in spatial planning
    - o Better defined legislation
- Irrigation systems, cooling, heating
- Connection of solutions – universal for all three challenges
- New buildings – mandatory retention ponds – water use
- Standard → density of trees per km2
- Flushing toilets
- Changes in habits
- Paving adjustments



What opportunities, advantages and challenges do changes and adaptations bring

- The right balance between requirements and development - specific situations
- Good potential, green city
- Link to other challenges discussed
- Example of shopping malls ▫ excess water, excess electricity – no consumers, idea: water motifs, watering trees

Ideal snapshot of the city

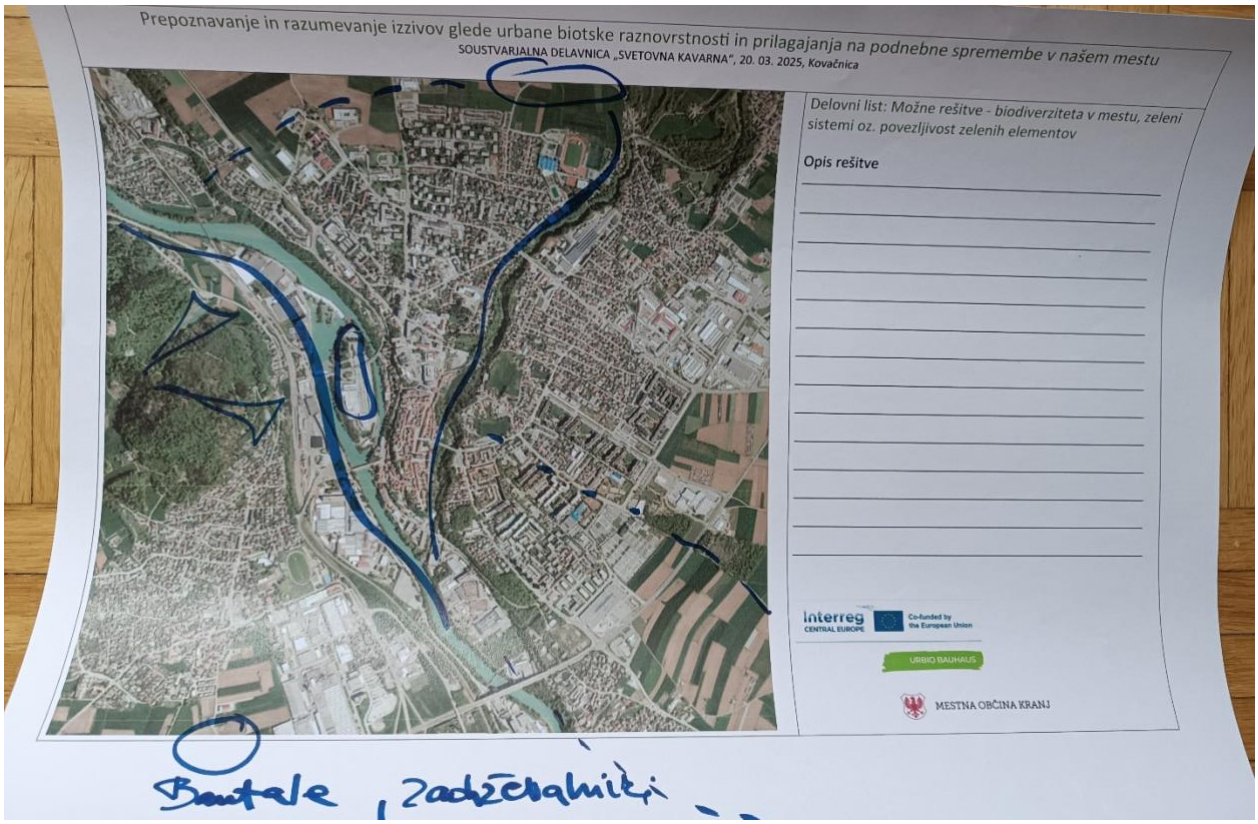
3-30-300 Rule for Healthier and Greener Cities: At least 3 trees visible from the window, 30 m2 of green space per capita, 300 m to the first common larger green space

KEY CHALLENGE 3:

Biodiversity in the city, green systems and connectivity of green elements

A snapshot of the city at this moment:

- Poor quality forest, causing emissions
- Compact settlements – Planina
- Still quite a lot of green areas
- Sava, Kokra – green axis – connect them transversely



Existing and new solutions:

- Planting new, diverse trees (e.g. in the same avenue of trees, different species, attractive at different times of the year (some bloom beautifully, some are beautifully colored in autumn, etc.). → planting diversity strategy
- First of all, the analysis of degraded areas is necessary, then the restoration, adaptation of such areas that can become good secondary biotopes, the existing structure can be used.
- New construction needs to be adapted
- Change municipal acts on spatial planning to have more greenery and more green areas, correct the building factors of green areas
- Use of more suitable, natural materials

- Adapted mowing of lawns
- Urban beekeeping
- Potted trees (temporary solution)
- Traffic restrictions
- Stormwater retention tanks – secondary biotopes
- Protection forests, caves and other natural values
- Raise public awareness (e.g. what the city used to be like and what habitats it had)

What opportunities, advantages and challenges do changes and adaptations bring:

- We can have a greener city
- Provide space for green areas
- It is necessary to provide sufficient mass of greenery (layering from the ground to the crown, not only individual trees, but also stands or connected areas).
- Green walls in public areas

The ideal snapshot of the city:

- Green network (+ cyclists) - an incentive for sustainable mobility
- Sora-Kokra - a space used for recreation, protection, education
- Renaturation Law
- Municipality of own land along rivers - for protection and preservation
- Urgently protecting existing green areas

CITY SNAPSHOT (Current state of challenge) Description:	**HOW NATURE DOES IT?** (Which solutions in nature already exist) Description:
CITY TARGET (What we would like to change in long-term) Description:	**TO WORK LIKE NATURE** (Can we do the biomimicry[1] - innovation inspired by nature?) Description:

[1] Benyus, J. (1997), Biomimicry: innovation inspired by nature, London: Harper Collins

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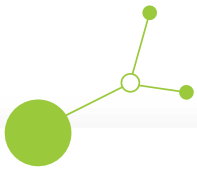
ANNEX 3: “PROJECT IN A DAY-DESIGN THINKING METHOD” WORKING SHEET FOR THE CO-CREATION WORKSHOP

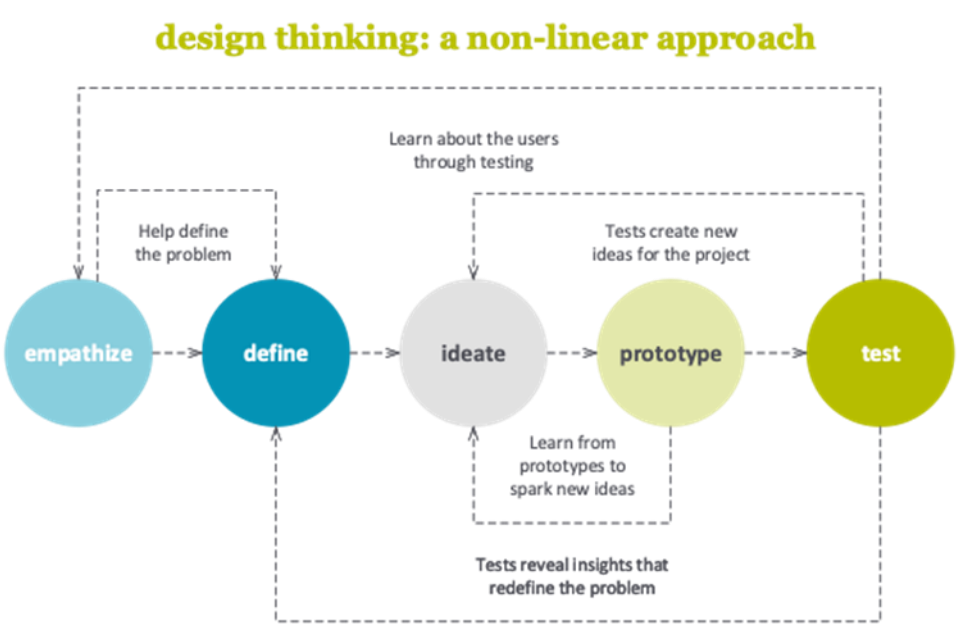
Designing potential solutions to help decision makers implement cities ‘small scale investments



Final Version

05 2025

Scope of the method "PROJECT IN A DAY"

Short description	In the method "Project in a day" design thinking is centred around comprehending people's requirements and creating solutions that satisfy those requirements in a significant manner. It is extremely useful in tackling complex problems that are ill-defined or unknown, by understanding the human needs involved, by re-framing the problem in human-centric ways.
It includes NON-LINEAR approach  	
Implementation	The five stages of Design Thinking are: 1.Empathising: Understand the problem of the user for whom you are designing. 2.Defining: Form a problem statement. 3.Ideating: Generate creative solutions to this problem. 4.Prototyping: Build a tangible representation of this solution. 5. Testing: Validate this solution with your target audience
Objective of the method	Objective is to stimulate the unlock forms of value, not available clearly at the beginning of the process and to help create a sort of "multiplier effects". Hence, we also need to design processes that allow us to spot new

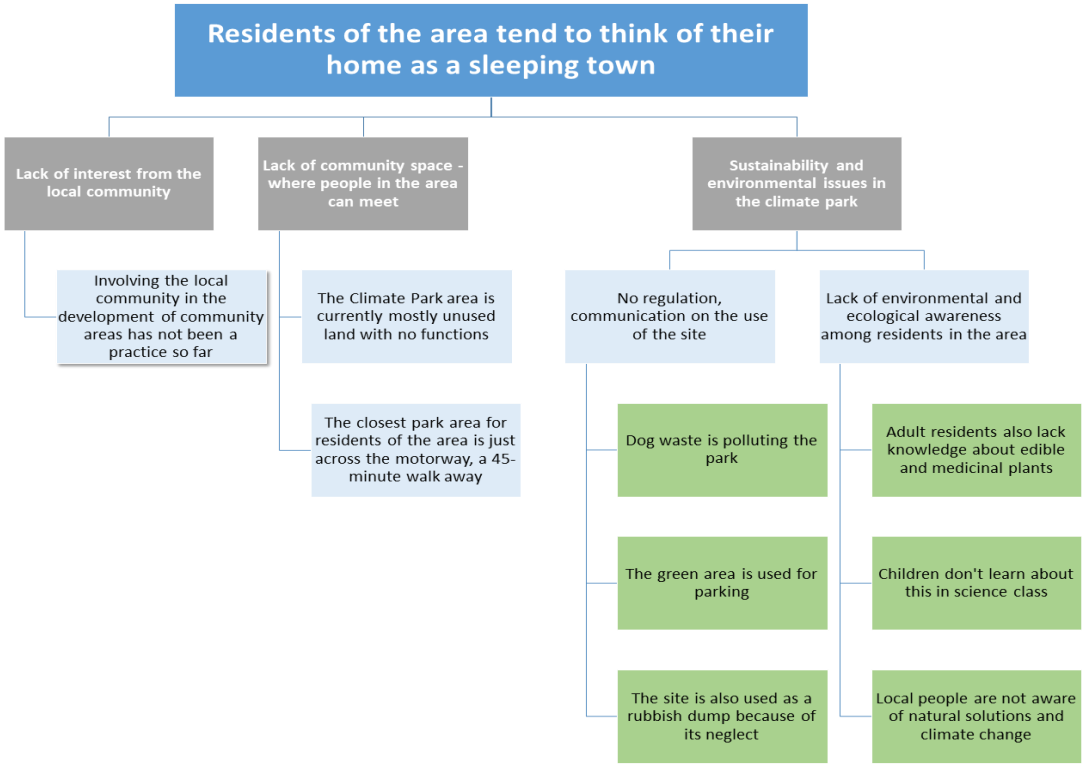
	patterns, encourage the evolution of new ideas, and help new ideas scale to the point where they have impact.
Benefits of the method	This method is very appropriate as a participatory method, because the complexity of the interactions cannot possibly be anticipated by even the smartest of plans, it is important to make plan and test them in participatory ways, letting others participate in the innovation activities. A design mindset is not problem-focused, it's solution-focused and action-oriented.
Target stakeholders that should be involved	Researchers, Academia, Industry, NGOs, Citizens
Geographical scope	Local/national/European
Online/offline	Offline
Impacts	Inform, Consult, Involve

WORKING SHEET FOR CO-CREATION WORKSHOP

PROJECT IN A DAY: CO-CREATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT

WHAT CHALLENGE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT ADRESSES AND HOW IT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVEMENT OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE CITY?

ANSWER:



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KEY TARGET GROUPS INVOLVED IN THE PREPARATION OF PLAN:
1. WHO ARE THEY ?
2. WHAT DO WE WANT FROM THEM ?

END-USERS OF INVESTMENT?

ANSWER:

Current users:

- **Families with young children;**
- **Dog owners;**
- **Local residents;**

Future users:

- **Guided groups who want to learn: adults, children (families) can be given a practical introduction to the city in nature (green waste management, waste dumping) – education;**
- **Schools/preschools nearby - outdoor classes. They attend the presentation and take the knowledge home to the parents;**
- **Elderly people and visitors of the pensioners' clubs, community centre;**
- **Gardening clubs, environmental NGOs.**

STAKEHOLDERS ?

ANSWER:

- **University students (fieldwork, research);**
- **Community service for secondary school students;**
- **Birdwatchers, butterfly watchers: they can be called upon to observe, count, or give demonstration classes later;**
- **Forest garden design professionals;**
- **Landscape architects;**
- **Biologist/ecologist - biodiversity survey;**
- **Yurt school - as a user;**
- **Residents of the area - participation in the construction;**
- **Local government - decision-making;**
- **Urban management - park maintenance;**
- **National Park - nature conservation.**

OTHER GROUPS ?

ANSWER:

- **BIOCENTUM experts and their network;**
- **When the garden is ready, we will need a key person to coordinate;**
- **Gardening clubs.**

KEY ACTIVITIES TO PREPARE QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT

- Conducting preliminary surveys before planting;
- Conducting a procurement procedure for planning;
- Planning of the climate park pilot investment;
- Coordinating the plan with potential stakeholders;
- Procurement of materials and tools necessary for the establishment of the Climate Park;
- Landscaping, soil preparation work is carried out before planting;
- The professionals and volunteers involved in the design will carry out the creation of the pilot garden in the dedicated areas;
- Monitoring of the pilot site with the experts involved;
- Maintenance of the pilot site and organization of educational programs with the involved stakeholders.

HOW CAN THE THREE CORE VALUES OF NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERTION IN THE PREPARATION & IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT ?

AESTHETICS

ANSWER:

- It is possible to open a debate about which park we consider beautiful;
- Both mowed and unmowed areas can be aesthetically pleasing—the beauty of a more natural state is worth helping people recognize. To achieve this, high-quality, professionally grounded materials are essential;
- What is the difference between a manicured green space in the city center and a naturalistic park?
- There should be a QR code on-site to replace the pamphlets;
- We can hold a conference, where the aesthetics of naturalness can be explained;
- Maintaining the current state of some

SUSTAINABILITY

ANSWER:

- It presents eco-friendly solutions and offers remedies to the problems;
- The climate park area would serve as an ecological, nature-oriented educational space, sending the message to slow down and observe;
- Based on the principles of Greencity, it would be suitable for shaping ecological awareness.

INCLUSION

ANSWER:

- The design and implementation of the park are carried out with widespread involvement;
- The goal is to create an accessible urban green space;
- During hot summer days, the elderly and families with young children can rest in the park.

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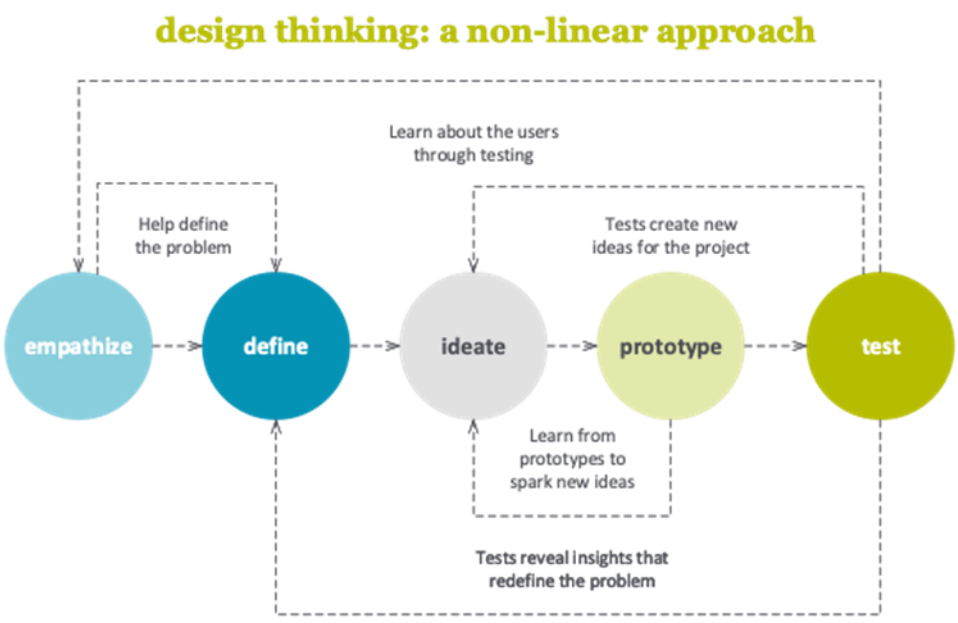
ANNEX 3: “PROJECT IN A DAY-DESIGN THINKING METHOD”

Municipality of Wroclaw

11/2025

Scope of the method "PROJECT IN A DAY"

Short description	In the method "Project in a day" design thinking is centred around comprehending people's requirements and creating solutions that satisfy those requirements in a significant manner. It is extremely useful in tackling complex problems that are ill-defined or unknown, by understanding the human needs involved, by re-framing the problem in human-centric ways.
It includes NON-LINEAR approach  	
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Objective of the method	Objective is to stimulate the unlock forms of value, not available clearly at the beginning of the process and to help create a sort of "multiplier effects". Hence, we also need to design processes that allow us to spot new

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Benefits of the method	This method is very appropriate as a participatory method, because the complexity of the interactions cannot possibly be anticipated by even the smartest of plans, it is important to make plan and test them in participatory ways, letting others participate in the innovation activities. A design mindset is not problem-focused, it's solution-focused and action-oriented.
Target stakeholders that should be involved	Researchers, Academia, Industry, NGOs, Citizens
Geographical scope	Local/national/European
Online/offline	Offline
Impacts	Inform, Consult, Involve

WORKING SHEET FOR "PROJECT IN A DAY" METHOD

PROJECT IN A DAY: IMPLEMENTATION PLANS OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT

WHAT CHALLENGE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT ADRESSES AND HOW IT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVEMENT OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE CITY ?

ANSWER:

Challenge:

- Artificial light pollution in green public spaces.

Contribution to biodiversity improvement on the demonstrator:

- Reduction of light emissions, change in color and distribution, adaptation to the part of a day (day, night)
- Limiting overexposure of low and high vegetation - improvement of conditions for biodiversity development.

KEY TARGET GROUPS INVOLVED IN THE PREPARATION OF PLAN:
1. WHO ARE THEY ?
2. WHAT DO WE WANT FROM THEM ?

END-USERS OF INVESTMENT ?

ANSWER:

1.Park users

2.Residents of the neighbourhood.

STAKEHOLDERS ?

ANSWER:

1.Municipality of Wroclaw

2. Municipal Greenery Management

3. Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences

4. Polish NBS Hub in Wroclaw

5.Residents.

OTHER GROUPS ?

ANSWER:

1. Elektrotim S.A. Company

2. Schreder Company

KEY ACTIVITIES TO PREPARE QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT

- **the possibility of replicating the implemented investment activities,**
- **conducting social research before and after the implementation of investment activities,**
- **conducting environmental research before and after the implementation of investment activities.**

HOW CAN THE THREE CORE VALUES OF NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERTION IN THE PREPARATION & IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT ?

AESTHETICS

ANSWER:

1. The aesthetic aspect should be socially acceptable.

2. The aesthetic aspect should fit in with the background and not cause controversy.

SUSTAINABILITY

ANSWER:

1.Reconciliation of the needs of residents with the needs of the environment.

2.Balancing social and environmental needs with possible investment costs.

3.Integrating recreation with the daily activities of residents.

INCLUSION

ANSWER:

1. Public and accessible place.

2.Cooperation with various stakeholder groups.

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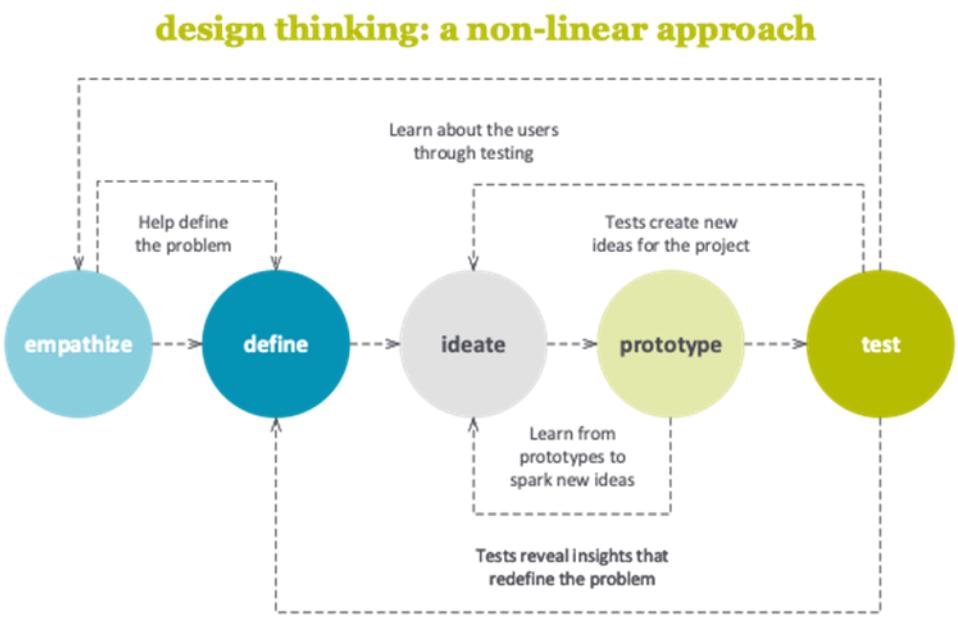
1. ANNEX 3: “PROJECT IN A DAY-DESIGN THINKING METHOD” WORKING SHEET FOR THE CO-CREATION WORKSHOP

Designing potential solutions to help decision makers implement cities ‘small scale investments

10 2024

Scope of the method "PROJECT IN A DAY"

Short description	In the method "Project in a day" design thinking is centred around comprehending people's requirements and creating solutions that satisfy those requirements in a significant manner. It is extremely useful in tackling complex problems that are ill-defined or unknown, by understanding the human needs involved, by re-framing the problem in human-centric ways.
It includes NON-LINEAR approach  	
Implementation	The five stages of Design Thinking are: 1.Empathising: Understand the problem of the user for whom you are designing. 2.Defining: Form a problem statement. 3.Ideating: Generate creative solutions to this problem. 4.Prototyping: Build a tangible representation of this solution. 5. Testing: Validate this solution with your target audience
Objective of the method	Objective is to stimulate the unlock forms of value, not available clearly at the beginning of the process and to help create a sort of "multiplier effects". Hence, we also need to design processes that allow us to spot new

	patterns, encourage the evolution of new ideas, and help new ideas scale to the point where they have impact.
Benefits of the method	This method is very appropriate as a participatory method, because the complexity of the interactions cannot possibly be anticipated by even the smartest of plans, it is important to make plan and test them in participatory ways, letting others participate in the innovation activities. A design mindset is not problem-focused, it's solution-focused and action-oriented.
Target stakeholders that should be involved	Researchers, Academia, Industry, NGOs, Citizens
Geographical scope	Local/national/European
Online/offline	Offline
Impacts	Inform, Consult, Involve

WORKING SHEET FOR CO-CREATION WORKSHOP

PROJECT IN A DAY: CO-CREATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT

WHAT CHALLENGE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT ADRESSES AND HOW IT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVEMENT OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE CITY ?

Public green spaces and grasslands with low biodiversity and poor connectivity

It will contribute to improvement of biodiversity in the city through:

- Holistic approach – native/local plants and traditional plant varieties, less frequent mowing, planting of low vegetation
- Infrastructure for biodiversity – nest boxes and feeders for birds, hotels for insects, hedgehog houses, passages in dry-stone walls
- Watering wells, small artificial lakes, ponds and wells (sterna)
- Flower strips for pollinators
- Green corridors for habitat connectivity
- Green roofs (buildings, bus stops), vertical gardens, prevention of bird-window collisions
- Urban gardens

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KEY TARGET GROUPS INVOLVED IN THE PREPARATION OF PLAN:
1. WHO ARE THEY ?
2. WHAT DO WE WANT FROM THEM ?

END-USERS OF INVESTMENT ?

Wo they are?
1. Citizens
2. Local councils
3. City of Pula-Pola
4. Pula Herculanea Municipal Company
5. Flora and fauna

What do we want from them?
Understand the rights and responsibilities of property
Assuming accountability and competence by institutions
Defining zones for maintenance and activities
Respecting legislation
Participation in education
Joint afforestation actions
Revision / adaptation of plans
For flora and fauna to survive and increase in abundance and number of species – enriching biodiversity

STAKEHOLDERS ?

Who are they?
1. Ministries
2. Regional and local self-governments
3. Croatian Forests Public Company
4. Public institutions for protected areas management
5. Tourist boards
6. Hunting associations
7. Beekeepers (association)
8. Civil society organisations

What do we want from them?

Cooperation

Providing information

Acting in accordance with competences

Surveillance and control

OTHER GROUPS ?

Who are they?
1. Tourists
2. Politicians
3. Media

What do we want from them?

Respecting legislation

Reducing pressure – trust and understanding of profession / expertise

Objectivity

KEY ACTIVITIES TO PREPARE QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT

- education
- surveillance and control, and penalties
- funding projects
- active involvement of citizens (small municipal actions)
- multiannual plan – defining zones for less frequent mowing; include sowing and planting of honey plants
- setting-up shelters/eaves for plant exchange (trees, bushes, seeds) – Croatian Forests and City of Pula-Pola pilot project (urban gardens)
- avoid selling of green areas around buildings (yards), both private and apartment buildings
- reduce areas under pavement (request parking under the buildings)
- setting-up barriers for parking in woods and usage/forming of paths through the woods
- planting of flowering shrubs/bushes (bees, insects, breeding birds)
- establishing pedestrian areas where pavement is removed and greenery is planted (perennial plants – native/local plants and traditional plant varieties), placement of paving-stones
- bridges (below or above roads) for hedgehogs and other animals
- maintenance and filling of watering wells, as well as forming new water wells (Park-forest Busoler)
- establishing new green areas (urban forests and parks) and urban gardens
- establishing botanical garden (Mornaricki park)
- establishing Mediterranean garden (Sijana)
- setting-up of climate shelters (eaves, public taps, green roofs, green walls/vertical gardens)
- marking of glass windows (glass buildings)
- Sijana Forest – central circular plaza (rotonda) where people spend the most time (recreation, café...) – infrastructure is green / sustainable

HOW CAN THE THREE CORE VALUES OF NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERTION IN THE PREPARATION & IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT ?

AESTHETICS

1. Reconciliation of visual aesthetics (mowed) and “natural” look (biodiversity conservation)
2. Greenery is aesthetical (nice to look at) and give more value to the area
3. Greenery is always more aesthetical than concrete

SUSTAINABILITY

1. Mulching with natural material preserves soil and enriches it with nutrients
2. Using swath and compost for cultivation and maintenance of greenery

INCLUSION

1. Education of citizens and local councils
2. Engaging citizens in decision-making and implementation

WHAT CHALLENGE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT ADRESSES AND HOW IT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVEMENT OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE CITY ?

Low biodiversity on private land and in private gardens

It will contribute to improvement of biodiversity in the city through:

- Holistic approach – native/local plants and traditional plant varieties, less frequent mowing, planting of low vegetation
- Infrastructure for biodiversity – nest boxes and feeders for birds, hotels for insects, hedgehog houses, passages in dry-stone walls
- Watering wells, small artificial lakes, ponds and wells (sterna)
- Flower strips for pollinators
- Green roofs, vertical gardens, prevention of bird-window collisions

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KEY TARGET GROUPS INVOLVED IN THE PREPARATION OF PLAN:
3. WHO ARE THEY ?
4. WHAT DO WE WANT FROM THEM ?

END-USERS OF INVESTMENT ?

Who are they?

1. Owners and users of objects
2. Representative of owners
3. Building management company
4. Different institutions with closed yards (schools, Public Health Institute of Istria County)
5. Flora and fauna at the location

What do we want from them?

Active engagement in urban biodiversity projects (maintenance, setting-up...)

Respecting decisions of the City of Pula-Pola (Decision on protected green areas, Decision on municipal order...)

Respecting spatial plans

Participation in education and application of what was learnt: reduction of the usage of pesticides, less frequent mowing, moderate pruning, planting of native plants

STAKEHOLDERS ?

Who are they?

1. City of Pula-Pola
2. Pula Herculanea Municipal Company
3. Experts (architects, landscape architects, agronomists...)
4. Conservation NGOs
5. Citizens
6. Users of buildings / areas
7. Volunteers
8. Local councils

What do we want from them?

City of Pula-Pola:

- Update of legislation
- Implementing education
- Implementing pilot projects
- Clear communication of the goal towards other stakeholders

Pula Herculanea Municipal Company:

- Following “state of the art” and state in the field
- Cooperation with the City of Pula-Pola in project implementation

Others:

- Sensibilisation with the actual needs
- Active engagement in concrete projects

OTHER GROUPS ?

Who are they?

1. Other local self-government
2. Citizen initiatives
3. Nurseries
4. Influencers
5. Well-known individuals
6. Media

What do we want from them?

Other local self-government:

- Best practice examples

Citizen initiatives:

- Solutions that can be implemented and adapted

Nurseries:

- Education of buyers on the spot and purchase / production of adequate planting material

Others:

- Support for projects and large-scale sensibilisation of public towards target area

KEY ACTIVITIES TO PREPARE QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT

1. **Mapping of the existing state**
   - Identification of existing areas that have the potential for greening (roofs, facades, gardens, yards)
   - Publishing a public call with the air of identifying number of interested users
   - Planning of co-financing of the pilot projects
   - Creating a database using the following model: 1 local council for a private house, 1 local council for an apartment building, 1 school with a yard, 1 institution
2. **Motivation, education and engagement of users**
   - Designing a pilot project
   - Defining co-financing models
   - Defining clear goals for the users
   - Engaging media and experts in education
   - Developing a sample / demo version on the building that is owned by the City of Pula-Pola
   - City of Pula-Pola – city of positive applications in practice
   - Rewarding of green solutions
   - Solutions with minimal need for maintenance and resource use
   - Encouraging solutions for collection of rainwater
   - Co-financing of revitalization/restoration of existing wells (sterna)
   - Engaging citizens in designing all solutions through participative methods
   - Ecological production and learning about sustainable practices (ongoing in urban gardens)
   - Discounts on native plant varieties during the season (City of Pula-Pola subsidies) – the City already subsidizes producers
3. **Revising legislation**
   - Spatial plan
   - - Decisions of the City of Pula-Pola
   - Enabling technical, legislative and financial framework for project implementation
   - Prescribe the necessity of green corridors for water and animals
   - Simplifying the bureaucracy

HOW CAN THE THREE CORE VALUES OF NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERTION IN THE PREPARATION & IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT ?

AESTHETICS

1. Using design that visually enriches the space, entices spending time outdoors, and stimulates the feeling of community.
2. Respecting local architecture and landscape (traditional).
3. Engage artists and designers in in design of the space and elements.

SUSTAINABILITY

1. Smart use of water and energy (rainfall, solar panels).
2. Preference towards local and natural materials.
3. Using native plant species that are more resistant towards climate change.
4. Nature-based solutions (NBS).
5. More green spaces in residential areas (General Urban Plan).

INCLUSION

1. Solutions designed for different target audience.
2. Participation of users in every step of the process – from idea to implementation.
3. Implementing activities in joint spaces.

WHAT CHALLENGE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT ADRESSES AND HOW IT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVEMENT OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE CITY ?

Changing of the coast and coastal habitats and unsustainable usage of coastal area

It will contribute to improvement of biodiversity in the city through:

- Conservation of marine species and habitats – breeding, feeding and nursery areas for marine species
- Regulation of beach nourishment and replenishment
- Regulation of visitation of valuable locations for birds, bats... (Golubova spilja, Galebove stijene)
- Landscaping of coastal area and beaches with native plants and traditional/local varieties

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KEY TARGET GROUPS INVOLVED IN THE PREPARATION OF PLAN:
5. WHO ARE THEY ?
6. WHAT DO WE WANT FROM THEM ?

END-USERS OF INVESTMENT ?

Who they are?

1. Citizens of the City of Pula-Pola and surrounding areas (swimmers, walkers...)

2. Tourists, visitors, guests

3. Biodiversity

What do we want from them?

Adhering to the rules and regulations (as soon as Golubova spilja was closed for visitors, the barrier to enter it was removed)

Ethical behaviour

Motivated individuals/citizens that are engaged in participatory processes and are willing to participate

STAKEHOLDERS ?

Who they are?

1. City of Pula-Pola
2. Ministry of Defence (Muzil)
3. Concessionaires – hotels, small concessionaires (beach bar, deck chairs, jet skis, kayaks...)
4. Port Authority and Pula Port
5. Marinas – Tehnomot, ACI, Pulezana (Katarina)
6. Companies – Shipyard Uljanik and Cement Factory Calucem
7. Public Institutions Natura Histrica and National Park Brijuni
8. Aquarium Pula
9. Surveillance and inspection – State Inspectorate, harbour master's office, rangers

What do we want from them?

1. Regulating spatial planning; Marine spatial planning (integral)
2. Better communication; cooperation related to official procedures on management of the area
3. Dialogue: recognizing profession/expertise and seeking advice; participation in projects and processes; sustainability and biodiversity are only now becoming more important
4. & 5. Better control and management – boaters, to enable management of black waters, investment in infrastructure and waste management; Marinas – education of users/boaters, charter companies

STAKEHOLDERS - continued

6. Continuing cooperation with the University of Pula; cooperation on reducing sulphur emissions; implementing corporate social responsibility (CSR)
7. Continuing expert work; implementing provisions on maritime domain (and securing funding); surveillance; expert support (awareness raising, education, promotion of values); building bridges with local communities (Blue Forum of the National Park Brijuni)
8. Continue sensibilisation of the public and continue with expert projects (e.g. national project on noble pen shell)
9. Doing their job – surveillance and control, compliance with legal obligations

OTHER GROUPS ?

Who they are?

1. Influencers (Galebove stijene – shortcoming, as the location was promoted and became too popular)

What do we want from them?

Informed reporting

Respecting code of conduct

KEY ACTIVITIES TO PREPARE QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT

To increase marine biodiversity, the activities/interventions are not like the ones on the land; they are focused on the reduction of threats.

1. Sensibilisation of public related to biodiversity – focus on the sea

- education material for public
- activities in the field on getting to know the topic of urban biodiversity (e.g. recognizing species on the coast – in groups, through play/competition)
- clarify to the public and target audiences the benefits from biodiversity conservation
- offer team buildings for companies where there is a need (SeaStar Hero – guests collect marine litter)
- working with children – school in nature (e.g. microplastics on Brijuni, Glamping Pomer, Arenahospitality Group)
- regional and local self-government – supporting visits to centre where children can learn about nature / knowledge hubs (e.g. Mali Brijun, Speleohouse Lanisce)

2. Analyse usage of the coastal area

- develop background study where usage of the coastal area will be mapped using a drone, including the pressure from visitation
- use the background study when developing spatial plans (for example for beach development)

3. Marine spatial planning (MSP)

- there are no by-laws now, but some counties/regions are working on MSP (Split-Dalmatia, Sibenik-Knin)
- details urban development plans for the coastal area are being developed separately now (they used to be part of the local spatial plans)
- environmentally friendly anchoring system on locations with seagrasses; regulation of free anchoring; - education of tourists with regards to proper anchoring
- on one hand beach development is not welcomed, on the other there is constant pressure from new beach bars and other tourist infrastructure

4. Supporting corporate social responsibility (CSR) in reducing ecological footprint

- waste reduction, no use of single-use plastic
- supporting branded products (e.g. reusable cups at festivals)
- additional regulation of conditions in contracts with concessionaires and penalisation of non-compliance

KEY ACTIVITIES TO PREPARE QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT - continued

5. Revising the number of concessions permits
- the aim of the Law on Maritime Domain and Seaports from 2023 is reducing the number of concessions and concession permits on maritime domain
- additional regulation of conditions in contracts with concessionaires and penalisation of non-compliance

6. Dealing with infrastructure
- solutions for wastewater management infrastructure
- surveillance and control in local ports regarding black tanks and development of infrastructure
- municipal companies – waste collection
- higher stages of wastewater/sewage treatment; appropriate distance and depth; functioning and maintenance of the treatment facility

7. Tourist destination management plan (Tourist Board)
- spatial pressure due to overuse of space will be assessed
- aim is to reduce the number of tourist arrivals through reducing available accommodation, i.e. restricting the capacities (Spain and Italy are already working on this)
- restricting the number of renting permis and restriction of accees are also planned
- the restrictions will be prescribed in regulations/by-laws

8. Certification of beaches
- to fulfil more strict conditions than Blue Flag

9. EU Natura 2000 network
- implementation of management plans by protected area management authorities

HOW CAN THE THREE CORE VALUES OF NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERTION IN THE PREPARATION & IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT ?

AESTHETICS

1. Standards related to tourist infrastructure, e.g. in line with City Guidelines (sunshades, pots...) and elements of green

2. It is important what happens after the season – that infrastructure fits with the environment (contracts state that the infrastructure needs to be removed during the winter, but that mostly does not happen)

3. Revitalisation of brownfield areas – aesthetically and functionally: Valelunga, Czech camp, Uljanik, Rojc, Muzil... (Pula Innovation Centre is already planned)

SUSTAINABILITY

1. Supporting activities through which the sustainable infrastructure will be ensured and creating enabling conditions that support sustainable activities

2. Supporting that sea/coast is used during the whole year (not only during the summer), and that is used for walking, picnics, etc.

INCLUSION

1. Workshops with citizens/public and target groups

2. Public consultations with citizens

3. Local councils – feedback information on the Action Plan for Enhancing Biodiversity

4. Online voting regarding beaches for example (after the screening) – which ones should be left intact and which ones should be “sacrificed” – it is important to be very careful about such initiatives!

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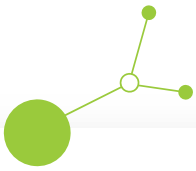
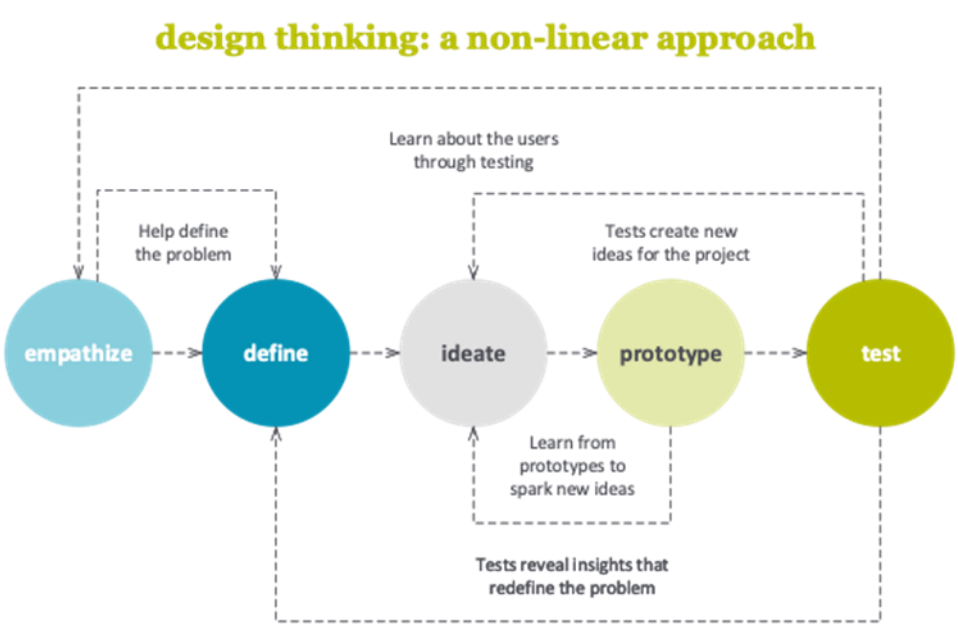
ANNEX 3: “PROJECT IN A DAY-DESIGN THINKING METHOD” WORKING SHEET FOR THE CO-CREATION WORKSHOP

Designing potential solutions to help decision makers implement cities ‘small scale investments



03 2025, CITY OF KRANJ

Scope of the method "PROJECT IN A DAY"

Short description	In the method "Project in a day" design thinking is centred around comprehending people's requirements and creating solutions that satisfy those requirements in a significant manner. It is extremely useful in tackling complex problems that are ill-defined or unknown, by understanding the human needs involved, by re-framing the problem in human-centric ways.
It includes NON-LINEAR approach  	
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Geographical scope	Local/national/European
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Impacts	Inform, Consult, Involve

WORKING SHEET FOR CO-CREATION WORKSHOP

PROJECT IN A DAY: CO-CREATION OF IMPLEMENTATION PLANS OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT

WHAT CHALLENGE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT ADRESSES AND HOW IT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVEMENT OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE CITY ?

Main topics covered was “Urban heat islands & biodiversity”:

Workshop Findings - Glavni Trg and Poštna ulica; Current Issues:

- Lack of green (trees, grass) and blue (water) infrastructure, causing excessive summer heat and insufficient shade.
- Inadequate seating and resting areas, making the space uninviting for socializing.
- High reliance on motor traffic, with limited pedestrian-friendly zones.

Workshop Findings - Slovenski Trg; Current Issues:

- Excessive concrete, limited green spaces, and low biodiversity.
- Lack of comfortable seating and shaded areas, discouraging people from staying.
- The space is primarily used for transit, with minimal social interaction opportunities.

Common Findings and Key Takeaways

- Need for Green and Blue Infrastructure: More trees, shaded seating, and water elements to mitigate urban heat.
- Sustainability and Biodiversity: Use of recycled materials, rainwater harvesting, and diverse plant species.
- User-Centered Design: Seating for different groups (families, elderly, students) and multifunctional spaces.
- Community Engagement: Encouraging local businesses and residents to contribute to urban greening.

KEY TARGET GROUPS INVOLVED IN THE PREPARATION OF PLAN:
1. WHO ARE THEY ?
2. WHAT DO WE WANT FROM THEM ?

END-USERS OF INVESTMENT ?

ANSWER: General public

1. Inhabitants of the city. turists

2. open and constructive dialogue;

some new perspectives

STAKEHOLDERS ?

ANSWER: City of Kranj (employees from 3 different departments), ZaVita - environmental solutions, Center for Sustainable Rural Development Kranj, Kovačnica bussines hub, Biotechnical Faculty, Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD)

1. Infrastructure and (public) service providers, tightly connected to this area

2. open and constructive dialogue

some new perspectives

OTHER GROUPS ?

ANSWER:

1.

2.

KEY ACTIVITIES TO PREPARE QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT

- Both squares require redesigning to become more attractive, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable spaces that enhance biodiversity and improve user experience.

- Discussion with all stakeholders, actively, all the time.

- Encouraging local businesses and residents to contribute to urban greening.

- Communication with infrastructure and (public) service providers, to enhance understanding of new approaches.

HOW CAN THE THREE CORE VALUES OF NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERTION IN THE PREPARATION & IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL SCALE INVESTMENT ?

AESTHETICS

ANSWER:

- A tree-lined green corridor with diverse plant species and seasonal variation.
- More shaded seating, misting stations, and drinking fountains.
- Replacing parking spaces with green areas and permeable surfaces.

SUSTAINABILITY

ANSWER:

- Permanent green spaces with diverse trees, shrubs, and potted plants.
- rainwater collection for sustainable water features, and expanded green spaces.

Sustainable design: solar-powered charging benches, recycled planters, and green walls.

INCLUSION

ANSWER:

1. More seating, deck chairs, and multifunctional benches.
2. Improved lighting and better access to greenery.
3. re-use of some plants/for inhabitants(tulips, seasonal plants)

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4: OPEN CALL FOR BAUHAUS IDEAS AND PITCH

EVENT REPORT

Final Version

1. OPEN CALL TEXT

We launched the open call for ideas in July; inviting young people to submit creative proposals aimed at greening and beautifying a location of their choice within the city. To reach as many potential applicants as possible, we promoted the call through multiple channels, including Facebook posts, direct outreach via phone calls, and targeted e-mails. In order to give interested participants additional time to prepare their concepts, we extended the submission deadline twice.

Despite these efforts, the response remained limited: only seven young people registered for the call, and ultimately four complete applications were submitted.

Here you can read the text of the open call:

URBIO BAUHAUS – YOUTH IDEA COMPETITION

"Make Érd Green Again!"

This is your opportunity to apply if you are 18-29 years old and love being creative for the environment!

▫ *Do you believe a city can be more than just a place to sleep?*

▫ *Do you have ideas on how to make Érd greener, more liveable, cooler, and more community-focused?*

▫ *Are you creative and eager to contribute your own green ideas to improve the city's green spaces?*

Then this call is for you! Join the URBIO BAUHAUS competition and help us shape a greener, more liveable face for our city!

What is this project about?

In 2024, Érd successfully joined the international URBIO BAUHAUS project, which aims to ensure that our cities not only survive, but become more liveable, greener, and more sustainable. The project is part of a broader European initiative, the New European Bauhaus (NEB), where nature, community, and creative ideas come together.

Érd is an active partner—join us and think together with us about how to improve the world around us. We have created the BIOCENTUM hub, a social idea-lab where we explore new solutions and test green ideas collectively. We believe that sustainability, community thinking, and beauty can go hand in hand—and that the ideas born here will shape the green and liveable future of Érd in the long run, where buildings, people, and nature can live in harmony.

This project is also about you—your idea could be the one that truly moves Érd toward a greener future!

What do we expect from you to apply?

- *You are 18-29 years old*
- *You have at least intermediate English skills (you understand and are confident using it)*
- *You may apply as a private individual or as a legal entity/company if:*
- *You are connected to Érd (you live, study, work here, or previously attended school or lived here)*
- *You are interested in the city's future, greening, community building, or nature*

- *You are a beginner or an experienced professional (e.g. urban planning, ecology/biology, environmental engineering, landscape architecture, architecture, or a landscape architecture student at MATE)*

What do we expect in your project proposal?

Develop a project that can positively influence Érd's urban climate and biodiversity, contributing to a more liveable urban environment! We welcome submissions that fit within a maximum gross budget of 20 million HUF, are cost-effective (may include voluntary activities), and address challenges related to local biodiversity. Strengthening community participation and representing NEB values (see support materials) are key aspects.

Your proposal should include:

Project title

Description of the location (why you chose it, a brief description of current conditions and planned changes)

Objectives and alignment (max. 3000 characters): How does your idea fit Érd's climate strategy, biodiversity development goals, and the values of the New European Bauhaus (NEB)?

Feasibility (max. 3000 characters): What steps, timeline, and resources are needed for implementation?

Sustainability and liveability (500-1000 characters): How does your project address climate change impacts and support environmental regeneration?

Target groups (max. 1000 characters): Who will benefit from your project?

Participation and cooperation (max. 5000 characters): Who would you involve in the implementation? Which sectors need to collaborate (urban planning, ecology, technology, etc.)?

Innovation (3000-5000 characters): What innovations, trendy technologies, or methods would you apply?

Impact (max. 2000 characters): What effects will your idea have on biodiversity, local ecosystems, urban climate, and society?

Aesthetic presentation (max. 1500 characters, including images, photos, and sources): visually present your idea.

Submission deadlines & important dates

- *Pre-registration deadline: 19 September 2025*
- *Proposal submission deadline: 15 October 2025 (Wednesday), 23:59 - Submit proposals electronically to: palyazat@erd.hu*
- *Results & award ceremony: First half of November 2025, at the Citizens' Hall of Érd*

Prizes

The best ideas will be rewarded with valuable material prizes:

- *1st place: 100,000 HUF*
- *2nd place: 50,000 HUF*
- *3rd place: 30,000 HUF*

You may also participate in the international hackathon held in Pula, Croatia (Nov 2025 – May 2026). More details will be provided later. We can offer places for the best 3-4 applicants. The organizers will cover travel costs, accommodation, travel insurance, and main meals—so you will only need pocket money.

Contact & further information

- *Municipality of Érd – Eszter Jagodic-Spilák, spilak.eszter@erd.hu*
- *BURST Nonprofit Ltd. – Ágnes Fodor, agnes.fodor@burstgroup.eu*

Supporting materials for developing your proposal

- *General information about the NEB: New European Bauhaus (NEB)*
- *NEB criteria and values relevant for the application: NEB Compass*
- *Érd's local environmental protection programme and climate strategy: Municipal Environmental Protection Programme, Climate Strategy*

Come and help build a greener future for Érd! ✨

2. EVALUATION AND RANKING OF APPLICATIONS

A scoring system was developed by us to guide the professional evaluation process. Four members of the BIOCENTUM node, our Environmental protection consultant and one colleague from Burst undertook the assessment of the submitted proposals.

We've received all evaluations, consolidated the scores and determined the final ranking.

Summary evaluation of applications from the PITCH EVENT.

Title of the project idea	Addressed city challenge	Score (taking into consideration NEB values)
Érd – Revitalization of Community Green Spaces	The initiative focuses on enhancing biodiversity, improving the urban microclimate, and creating liveable, shaded, and community-oriented spaces.	14,16
Green Up Érd! – Community Building in the Shade of Trees	The project would support the long-term greening objective by increasing the current stock of trees and shrubs. The project aims to reduce the urban heat-island effect, mitigate extreme temperatures, and improve air quality.	13,33

Érd Community Herb Garden and Composting Program	The project simultaneously supports climate protection, urban environmental regeneration, and community building, serving as a pilot initiative that aligns with Érd's sustainable development goals.	12,85
Make Érd Green Again!	The project idea aims to address the problems of damaged or incomplete sidewalk surfaces, hazardous pedestrian traffic, and the lack of vegetation.	7,18

3. PRESENTATION OF THE SELECTED PROJECTS

PROJECT IDEA 1:

PROJECT OWNER	Contact person (Name & Surname, email): Zoltán Perényi perenyi.zoltan.g@gmail.com
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description: Challenge/Issues Proposed solution, including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive) Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	Short description The project aims to revitalize the Beszterce Square in Érd by transforming an underused urban space into a vibrant, community-focused green area. The design enhances biodiversity, improves the microclimate, and creates inclusive recreational zones for all age groups through sustainable and aesthetically coherent landscape architecture. Challenge / Issues • The selected site is currently neglected, lacking shade, ecological value, and functional public space. • Local residents expressed a strong need for more green, accessible, and safe community areas. • The surrounding urban environment suffers from heat stress, limited vegetation, and low biodiversity. • Existing infrastructure and utilities require careful integration into the design to ensure feasibility.

	Proposed solution (including NEB principles) **Aesthetic:** • A harmonious, nature-centred design with a circular meeting space, shaded walkways, and visually coherent planting zones. • Use of diverse plant species—trees, shrubs, herbs, and ornamental grasses—to create a pleasant, layered landscape. **Sustainable:** • Selection of climate-resilient, low-maintenance, water-efficient plant species. • Design prioritizes long-term functioning, ecological value, and improved urban microclimate (shade, dust filtration, habitat for pollinators). • Permeable surfaces and appropriate soil preparation ensure drainage and healthy vegetation growth. **Inclusive:** • Community involvement through an initial public voting process to identify priority areas. • Balanced mix of functions (play, rest, socializing) suitable for all age groups. • Safe, accessible layout with clear visibility and comfortable public furniture. Project development needs **Information needs:** • Detailed site surveys on utilities, microclimate, and soil conditions. • Continuous community engagement to refine needs and priorities.

	• Further technical detailing for construction documentation and permits. **Financial needs:** • Estimated total material cost: approx. **11.3 million HUF**. • Additional funding may be required for labour, long-term maintenance, and potential supplementary features (e.g., lighting, expanded play equipment). **Human resources:** • Landscape architect(s) for final design development and supervision. • Construction team for implementation of pavements, structures, planting. • Municipal or community partners for ongoing maintenance and stewardship.

PROJECT IDEA 2:

PROJECT OWNER	Contact person (Name & Surname, email): Milán Nagy nagymilan425@gmail.com
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description: Challenge/Issues Proposed solution including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive) Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	Short description The project aims to revitalise Érd's central urban areas—including the Main Square, Museum Promenade, adjacent commercial zones, and sections of Budai Road—by enhancing existing green infrastructure and extending natural elements across highly frequented public spaces. The proposal focuses on creating a more coherent, attractive, climate-resilient, and community-driven urban environment through targeted planting, biodiversity improvements, and community engagement. Challenge / Issues • **High-traffic urban environment:** The selected areas experience intense vehicle and pedestrian flow, leading to

	heat stress, noise, and reduced comfort. • **Fragmented and insufficient vegetation:** Existing green patches are inconsistent in quality; many areas are sparse, degraded, or contain unhealthy trees. • **Limited biodiversity:** Lack of habitat diversity reduces bird and pollinator presence. • **Urban heat island effect:** Large paved surfaces and minimal shading make the area uncomfortable during warm seasons. • **Underutilised community potential:** While central locations offer great visibility, community connection to these spaces remains weak. Proposed solution (including NEB principles) **Aesthetic** • Creation of visually coherent green corridors linking key public spaces. • Layered planting design with flowering trees (e.g., *Fraxinus ornus*), shrubs (*Hibiscus syriacus*), perennials and groundcovers (*Salvia nemorosa*, *Juniperus* spp.). • Introduction of stepping-stone paths, mulch-covered surfaces and renewed lawn alternatives to create a more structured, harmonious appearance. • Transformation of degraded slopes and empty strips into attractive, unified vegetated areas. **Sustainable** • Replacement of water-demanding lawns with drought-tolerant shrubs, perennials and groundcovers. • Enhancing biodiversity through bird baths, feeders, and artificial swallow nests installed on public buildings and shaded areas. • Reduction of urban heat by increasing tree canopy cover and shade along promenades and busy roads.

	• Mulching for better soil moisture retention and reduced irrigation needs.
	• Promotion of natural pest control via bird habitat creation instead of chemical alternatives.
	
	Inclusive
	• Strong emphasis on involving residents, school groups and local organisations in planting and maintenance.
	• Community mobilisation through planting weekends, collaborative micro-projects and "pride plaques" acknowledging participating groups.
	• Cooperation with local producers, nurseries and businesses in sourcing plants and materials.
	• Accessible, diverse green spaces intended for all generations, improving liveability and fostering community ownership.
	
	Project development needs
	
	Information needs
	• Coordination with municipal bodies (Érdi Városgazda, City Hall) to ensure correct placement of plantings and compatibility with urban plans.
	• Clarification of exact planting zones, soil conditions, and irrigation possibilities.
	• Mapping of community groups, volunteer capacities and potential school involvement.
	
	Financial needs
	• While the proposal can be realised with minimal municipal funding, costs would involve:
	  ○ purchasing plants, soil, mulch, stepping stones and irrigation components,
	  ○ acquiring artificial bird nests and feeders,

	○ possible labour and transport costs if not fully volunteer-based. ● Local partnerships can reduce expenses through donated materials or community labour. **Human resources** ● Volunteers from the local community, school groups and neighbourhood organisations. ● Coordination and oversight by municipal staff and landscape professionals. ● Local businesses supplying tools, irrigation elements and plant material. ● Event organisers for launch and closing community activities (planting weekend, walk-through celebration).

PROJECT 3:

PROJECT OWNER	Contact person (Name & Surname, email): Tamara Házi hazitamara1@gmail.com
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description: Challenge/Issues Proposed solution including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive) Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	**Short Description: Challenge/Issues** The Béke Square park in Érd is currently underutilized, with neglected green areas and low biodiversity. Residents lack accessible opportunities for recreational gardening, sustainable waste management, and community-driven ecological initiatives. **Proposed Solution (Aligned with NEB Principles)** The project introduces a community herb garden and composting program that integrates: ● **Aesthetic:** visually harmonious raised beds and green spaces that enhance the urban environment. ● **Sustainable:** closed-loop composting system, rainwater harvesting, permaculture design, and biodiversity-friendly planting.

	Inclusive: active involvement of residents, schools, civil organizations, and intergenerational groups through workshops, forums, and shared decision-making. This creates a regenerative urban ecosystem while strengthening social cohesion and environmental awareness. Project Development Needs Information: ecological education, composting workshops, digital learning platforms, and research support from universities (MATE, BME). Finance: mixed funding from municipal resources (infrastructure, land), community contributions (volunteer work, tools, sponsorship), and EU/national grants (NEB, LIFE Program, Zöld Város). Human Resources: collaboration between the municipality, civil organizations (e.g., Zöld Érd, ÉrteD), local residents, schools, and academic partners to ensure long-term maintenance and knowledge-based development.

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE

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URBIO BAUHAUS

ANNEX 4: OPEN CALL FOR BAUHAUS IDEAS AND PITCH EVENT REPORT

10 2024

1. OPEN CALL TEXT

OPEN CALL FOR SMART SOLUTIONS FOR BIODIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF PULA – POLA

Part of the Interreg project Urbio BAUHAUS – aligned with the values of the New European Bauhaus

Organizer: City of Pula – Pola

Application period: 19/09/2025–18/10/2025

PURPOSE

To collect the most promising and innovative solutions for enhancing biodiversity in the green areas of the City of Pula – Pola through micro-interventions and small investments that support pollinators, birds, and local flora – while also encouraging community participation through beauty, sustainability, and inclusiveness.

WHY APPLY

Do you want to live in a city that is biodiversity-friendly and rich in biodiversity? A city where children can learn about pollinators, birds, and local flora in their surroundings? Where residents can enjoy green oases full of wildlife? Do you want the local community to be more involved in shaping urban solutions? Do you have ideas for small interventions that support urban biodiversity?

This open call allows you to contribute with your ideas to the ecological, health, and social well-being of our local community.

Participants will have the opportunity to submit selected solutions to an international Hackathon planned for spring 2026 in Pula. This means that during the Hackathon, intensive work may be carried out to further develop your solutions. Participants will also have the opportunity to apply for the NEB Rising Stars Award – a prize for innovative and creative ideas aligned with the values of the New European Bauhaus (NEB), focusing on reconnecting with nature in cities. This can provide visibility and promotion for your idea.

BACKGROUND

Increased urban biodiversity brings numerous ecological, social, health, and economic benefits. It means a healthier, more resilient, and more beautiful city where people and nature coexist harmoniously.

Ecological benefits include:

- support for pollinators – more food and habitats for bees, butterflies, and other pollinators
- habitats for birds and small animals – increasing the number of species that can live in the city
- ecosystem resilience – diverse plant communities withstand drought, heatwaves, and pests better
- natural climate regulation – more greenery reduces the urban heat island effect

Health and social benefits:

- better air quality – plants filter particles and pollutants
- mental health – spending time in nature reduces stress and anxiety and improves mood
- recreation and education – residents, especially children, have opportunities to learn about and enjoy nature in everyday settings

- strengthening community – joint planting or green-space stewardship fosters cooperation and a sense of belonging

Economic benefits:

- reduced maintenance costs – native and resilient species require less water and fewer interventions
- city attractiveness – greener cities attract tourists, investors, and new residents
- green jobs and innovation – opportunities for local entrepreneurs, designers, and sustainability experts

Aesthetic and cultural benefits:

- more beautiful, diverse, and inspiring public spaces
- connecting with local identity through native plants and natural elements
- opportunities for artistic interventions that link nature and culture

Challenges related to urban biodiversity in Pula concern the management of public green areas and lawns, private gardens and yards with low biodiversity, fragmented habitats, and heat islands.

Some solutions identified so far during participatory workshops in the City of Pula – Pola include:

- holistic approach – using native plants and old/domesticated varieties, delayed/late mowing (No Mow May), planting low vegetation (herbs and shrubs)
- establishing biodiversity infrastructure – birds nestboxes, insect hotels, hedgehog houses, passages in dry-stone walls, wildlife crossings on roads
- maintaining and replenishing water sources and creating new ones
- creating and maintaining artificial ponds and cisterns for rainwater collection (including revitalizing old cisterns and unused septic tanks)
- planting flower strips for pollinators
- creating green corridors to connect habitats
- marking glass surfaces to reduce bird collisions
- forming climate shelters (green canopies, public fountains, green roofs, green walls/hanging gardens)
- urban gardens – sustainable practices and organic production

PILOT AREA LOCATIONS

Locations must be within the administrative boundaries of the City of Pula – Pola.

They include:

- public green areas across the city
- protected park-forests: Šijana and Busoler
- urban gardens: Gregovica and Lošinjska
- interested private houses and multi-residential buildings (via local committees), schools, and other public institutions

KEY THEMATIC AREAS

We invite you to propose conceptual solutions or design proposals related to the following thematic areas (you may focus on one or more):

1. Biodiversity infrastructure:

- bird nestboxes and feeders

- insect hotels
- flower strips for pollinators
- small water sources for wildlife
- hedgehog houses
- passages in dry-stone walls and on roads
- artificial ponds and rainwater-collection cisterns

2. Sustainable landscaping:

- reduced mowing
- use of native and drought-resistant plants
- planting low vegetation and shrubs

3. Climate shelters:

- green roofs
- green walls / hanging gardens
- green canopies

Environmental education, interpretation, community involvement, and awareness-raising may be part of the proposal, but the emphasis is on concrete actions that directly enhance biodiversity.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

All applications will be evaluated based on the integration of the New European Bauhaus (NEB) values:

Aesthetics

- creative and aesthetic integration with the natural and urban character of Pula
- use of sensory, emotional, and cultural elements
- visual harmony and context-sensitive design

Sustainability

- use of local, recycled, or non-toxic materials
- support for local ecosystems and biodiversity (e.g., pollinator strips, nesting habitats)
- climate resilience and low-maintenance solutions

Inclusiveness

- inclusive and participatory approach
- accessibility and cooperation with local schools, residents, and vulnerable groups
- strengthening community belonging and co-ownership

MATERIALS AND TECHNICAL GUIDELINES

Material selection should respect professional standards and the local context, e.g.:

- structures (bird nestboxes, insect hotels): must follow professional design standards
- flower strips: native/Mediterranean plants, modular design, curved forms, mulching, educational signage
- water sources: made of natural stone, terracotta, or reinforced concrete with ecological materials

- climate shelters: must follow professional guidelines regarding design standards, load-bearing capacity, layers, waterproofing, root resistance, drainage, irrigation, etc.
- other solutions: consistent with professional best practices

WHO CAN APPLY?

- individuals
- civil society organizations, designers, architects, ecologists, educators
- educational institutions or informal groups

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Please apply by completing the application form.

The application form is an integral part of the open call.

Your submission should include:

- a description of the proposed project / smart solution
- selected location(s) and justification
- visual or schematic representation (if applicable)
- description of New European Bauhaus (NEB) value integration
- implementation plan, maintenance concept, and community engagement strategy

Submit applications to: urbiobauhaus@pula.hr

Application deadline: 18.10.2025

RISKS AND MITIGATION

Applicants should consider:

- time required to produce certain solutions (e.g., insect hotels)
- time required to procure biodiversity structures
- limitations of implementation capacity in the field (e.g., staff or equipment)
- complexity of works or public procurement
- prioritizing repeatable and scalable solutions

SCORING BASED ON EVALUATION CRITERIA

Max score: 100 + 5 bonus points

Minimum passing score: 50, with minimum thresholds for each criterion

1. **Integration of NEB values (30 points)** (minimum threshold: 15)
   - aesthetics (10): design aesthetics, landscape harmony, sensory appeal, cultural fit
   - sustainability (10): local/recycled/non-toxic materials, biodiversity-supporting practices, water-responsible design
   - inclusiveness (10): community participation, school involvement, accessible signage and access
2. **Technical feasibility and professional standards (20 points)** (minimum: 10)
   - appropriate materials/methods (10): compliance with professional standards
   - feasibility of implementation (10): clear and achievable steps for procurement, installation, and maintenance

3. **Relevance to the local context (20 points)** (minimum: 10)
   - location specificity (10): adaptation to pilot locations like Šijana, Busoler, Gregovica or others
   - ecological benefit (10): support for native biodiversity and pollinators through suitable plant species
4. **Educational and interpretative value (15 points)** (minimum: 5)
   - educational impact (5): inclusion of educational elements (panels, signs, interpretive features)
   - innovation in engagement (10): use of QR codes, storytelling, interactive content
5. **Long-term maintenance and monitoring strategy (15 points)** (minimum: 5)
   - maintenance plan (10): tasks and roles for regular maintenance (e.g., pruning, cleaning insect hotels)
   - monitoring and adaptation (5): seasonal adjustments, involvement of schools and community in monitoring

BONUS (5 points)
   - young and inclusive applicants: projects by young people (<30) or involving underrepresented / vulnerable groups

OTHER

The Mayor of the City of Pula – Pola reserves the right to cancel the published call for smart biodiversity solutions in whole or in part at any stage, without providing specific justification.

CITY OF PULA – POLA

ANNEXES TO THE PUBLIC CALL

- Annex 1 – Application Form

2. EVALUATION AND RANKING OF APPLICATIONS

Summary evaluation of applications from the PITCH EVENT.

Title of the project idea	**Addressed city challenge**	**Score (taking into consideration NEB values)**
Mediterranean Yard of the Pula High School and Pula Youth Centre with a Mediterranean Touch	Sustainable landscaping – landscaping the inner courtyard of the high school and the Youth Centre with local Mediterranean plants; focus is on establishing pleasant surroundings and promotion of biodiversity conservation	1st – 88 points
Contrary and Control	Sustainable landscaping – identifying and mapping invasive woody plants, drafting management plan; focus is on control of invasive species and citizen science	2nd – 82 points

Pragrande – The Wild Heart of Pula	Biodiversity infrastructure – conservation of the natural water ecosystem in the heart of the city; focus is on preventing degradation of the area and providing opportunity to enjoy nature (path within the wild area) and raise public awareness	3rd – 80 points
Educational Buzzing Path	Biodiversity infrastructure & Sustainable landscaping – setting up beehives and planting local melliferous (honey) plants to support pollinators; focus is on pollinators and awareness raising	4th – 77 points
Organizing Photo Exhibition "Pollinators Around Us"	Climate shelters –awareness raising of citizens; no focus on direct interventions	N/A (as it did not include direct intervention which contributes to enhancing biodiversity in accordance with the call criteria)
Children's Education on the Importance of Pollinators Today	Climate shelters – education of children; no focus on direct interventions	N/A (as it did not include direct intervention which contributes to enhancing biodiversity in accordance with the call criteria)

Detailed scoring with justifications exists in Croatian language.

3. PRESENTATION OF THE SELECTED PROJECTS

PROJECT IDEA 1: Mediterranean Yard of the Pula High School and Pula Youth Centre with a Mediterranean Touch

PROJECT OWNER (NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)	Name of the organization: Pula High School Contact person (Name & Surname, email): Karin Bolković, karindeanina@gmail.com, iva.suran@skole.hr
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description: Challenge/Issues	Inner courtyard of the high school and the Youth Centre, which is on another location, both in the city centre, lack greenery and are aesthetically not appealing. There is lack of awareness and information about local biodiversity.

Proposed solution, including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive) Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	Pula High School proposes landscape its inner courtyard and the nearby Youth Centre (distance 200 m) with local Mediterranean plants (citrus trees, aromatic plants like immortelle, lavender, sage…) to create microhabitat for pollinators. They plan to set up stone sink in the courtyard, for watering plants, as well as 5 tables and 20 chairs for students to create a green oasis for rest, relaxation and stress reduction. Natural materials would be used – terracotta pots, stone sink, and chairs and tables from teak or iron. Panel board with Information on plants would be set up in the Youth Centre. There will be QR codes between two locations to inform about Mediterranean lifestyle. Workshops and education will be organized to promote healthy Mediterranean lifestyle and plant products and recipes. Students will maintain the plants (watering, fertilizing, weeding, and pruning). Teachers will organize meetings of the Eco School and implement education and workshops. Students and users of the Youth Centre will design, plan, and plant. Teachers will procure necessary material (plants, sink, chairs and tables). School technical staff will set up the works – setting up of the sink, chairs and tables.

PROJECT IDEA 2: Contrary and Control

PROJECT OWNER (NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)	Name of the organization: Pula Herculanea (public company for the maintenance of public green spaces) Contact person (Name & Surname, email): Tatjana Mandić, tatjana.madicb@herculanea.hr
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description: Challenge/Issues Proposed solution including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive) Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	Invasive plants are one of the main drivers of the biodiversity loss. It is necessary to record the presence of the most relevant woody invasive species and control them to allow for local woody species to thrive. There is also lack of awareness of invasive plant species and how they impact local biodiversity. Project will focus on developing the digital catalogue, mapping presence of invasive species, developing management plan, monitoring of species and their numbers, as well control and removal of woody invasive species. Catalogue will include photograph, location, description, where the plant grows and guidance for eradication. Education of citizens will be implemented, with a special focus on some target groups (NGOs, eco activists, urban garden users, Eco Schools…). Digital solution will have to be developed, although it should be explored if existing solutions could be used. City of Pula and Pula Herculanea will be reviewing and publishing citizen science inputs,

	which might be resource intensive. Digital catalogue will be publicly available. Pula Herculanea will implement education of citizens. Engagement of citizens (in both public and private green areas) is envisaged for setting up of the catalogue and later, after education, for removal of invasive species.

PROJECT 3: Pragrande – The Wild Heart of Pula

PROJECT OWNER (NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)	Name of the organization: Citizens Initiative "Against Logging" Contact person (Name & Surname, email): Teodora Beletić, Tamara Brščić and Kruno Pekas, protivsjece@gmail.com
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description: Challenge/Issues Proposed solution including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive) Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	The area of Pragrande has not been adequately recognized as an area with important ecological value for the city. Pragrande has not been officially protected, and the citizens are not aware of the city of Pula initiative to conserve this area. There is a need to prevent degradation and ensure the protection of the area. Pragrande is a unique natural area within the urban area of the city of Pula. It is an urban wilderness that includes a stream, wetland terrain, rich thick vegetation and biodiversity. This wetland area with a source and a stream is important to conserve as it immensely enhances the urban biodiversity. The area offers a rare opportunity to conserve natural water ecosystem in the heart of the city, using the natural flooding as a nature-based solution. The project aims to protect the existing wilderness as an important habitat for many plant and animal species. It is planned to restore the walking path to enable public access to the wilderness and create educational and recreational plateau, while at the same time restricting access to the areas ouside the path. Minimal infrastructural intervention will be undertaken by fixing up the existing "Apple Path", i.e. creating a winding walking path from natural and long-lasting materials (wooden boards) that will be set up above the ground, and will fit into its environment. This will allow for awareness raising on the importance of wilderness for urban ecosystems and indirectly, removing prejudice about wilderness being something untidy, unimportant, and unmaintained. The idea is to use Pragrande as best practice example of urban development in line with nature. Societal participation will be ensured through conducting different activities together with citizen initiatives, environmental NGOs, eco schools, and local committees, such as putting insect hotels and bird feeders, creating meadow for bees and water source, planting of additional trees (cottonwood and alder) and bushes, as well as designing an educational paths on local plants and animals.

	Project will be managed by the newly formed NGO, which will base its existence on Pragrande as a permanent project. Setting up of the walking path is planned to be financed by the City of Pula budget or by EU funds. Support from Pula Herculanea (public company for the maintenance of public green spaces) is envisaged, as well as community clean-up actions of the local committee Gregovica. If financial resources are restricted, the path can remain as regularly mowed lawn that can be marked with wooden sticks connected by ropes. Then later, when financial resources are secured, the wooden path and the plateau can be created. And finally, gazebo and benches can be added, having in mind the aesthetic and ambiental value. Through other projects community can be even more included via exhibitions in the open, workshops, educational walks, etc.

PROJECT 4: Educational Buzzing Path

PROJECT OWNER (NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)	Name of the organization: Pula Herculanea (public company for the maintenance of public green spaces) Contact person (Name & Surname, email): Tatjana Mandić, tatjana.madicb@herculanea.hr
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description: Challenge/Issues Proposed solution including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive) Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	Pollinators are crucial for ecosystem stability, and they are facing numerous challenges, such as habitat loss, too frequent mowing, and climate change. It is necessary to protect pollinators and create space for them. City of Pula does not have urban beehives within its administrative boundaries, although there are good practice examples in Istria Region. Area at the edge of protected park-forest Busoler does not have any land allocation now. Public is not informed about urban beehives and benefits that they could provide. Enhancement of pollinators in an urban area is the basis for this solution. The project envisages urban landscaping, planting of local melliferous (honey) plants and less frequent mowing (supporting No Mow May). The edge of the protected park-forest Busoler, an educational trail alongside forages for bees will be set up, with signs/educational panels, minimally paved, using local and recycled material, and aesthetically integrated into the surroundings. Few beehives will be set up in the enclosed area, with controlled access. This way an area which has no land allocation, would be converted into a functional area. Pula Herculanea will implement continual educational activities (such as educational walks, workshops, etc.) with primary schools,

	kindergardens, NGOs and vulnerable societal groups to raise awareness on pollinators. Produced honey will be distributed to schools and vulnerable societal groups. Pula Herculanea will set up the educational path and implement educational activities. Beehives will be maintained by a licenced beekeeper.

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE

Co-funded by the European Union

URBIO BAUHAUS

ANNEX 4: OPEN CALL FOR BAUHAUS IDEAS AND PITCH EVENT REPORT

Version 1
11 2025

1. OPEN CALL TEXT

Include the text of the city Open call for BAUHAUS ideas in English version.

The project area was the Oporow Forest in Wroclaw—an 8-hectare green space that represents one of the few remaining patches of mature greenery in the post-agricultural landscape of the city's south-western part and an important component of the Ślęza River green corridor. The aim of the competition was to conduct a detailed habitat analysis and then propose educational activities and initiatives to enhance the biodiversity of this area.

2. EVALUATION AND RANKING OF APPLICATIONS

Summary evaluation of applications from the PITCH EVENT.

Title of the project idea	Addressed city challenge	Score (taking into consideration NEB values)
Biodiversity first – project no. 02872	identification of the habitat, new plantings to increase biodiversity, ecological education of residents	256
Citizen science – project no. 62262	ecological education, social involvement in the protection of the biodiversity	250,5
Wild Bees – project no. 99381	activities increasing the habitat for wild bees	214,5
Grove – project no. 30172	identification of the habitat	167,5

3. PRESENTATION OF THE WINNING PROJECTS

PROJECT IDEA 1:

PROJECT OWNER (NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)	Name of the organisation: Wroclaw University of Environmental Life and Sciences
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description: Challenge/Issues Proposed solution, including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive)	The most important element of the project was increasing biodiversity through carefully selected plant species, particularly groundcover plants, which would enrich the Oporow Forest ecosystem. Educational boards and a visual identification system were also developed. sustainable, inclusive, aesthetic

Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	finance, human resources

PROJECT IDEA 2:

PROJECT OWNER (NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)	Name of the organisation: Wroclaw University of Environmental Life and Sciences
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description: Challenge/Issues	The most important element of the project was to increase biodiversity and educate residents about the importance of engaging in conservation efforts. This included the introduction of a reporting system based on QR codes placed on information boards. Residents would be able to report any plants they spotted, and the system would automatically plot the data on an interactive map, facilitating planning of actions to remove alien species.
Proposed solution including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive)	inclusive, sustainable, aesthetic
Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	finance, human resources

PROJECT 3:

PROJECT OWNER (NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)	Name of the organisation: Wroclaw University of Environmental Life and Sciences
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description: Challenge/Issues	The most important element of the project was to strengthen the habitat for wild bees, which are an endangered species. To this end, plants were introduced in the meadow area that provide food for bees in early spring, when flowering plants are scarce. Beehouses were proposed in the forest area. The project proposes also the introduction of information and educational boards concerning wild bees, new landscaping elements (litter bins and benches).
Proposed solution including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive)	sustainable

Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	finance, human resources

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE

Co-funded by the European Union

URBIO BAUHAUS

ANNEX 4: OPEN CALL FOR BAUHAUS IDEAS AND PITCH EVENT REPORT

Version 1

10 2025

1. OPEN CALL TEXT

Include the text of the city Open call for BAUHAUS ideas in English version.

Version FB (launched 4.9.2025, reposted 25.9.2025):

We are looking for the most biodiverse green corners of Kranj 🌿🌸🐝

The Urbio Bauhaus project team of the City of Kranj, which is striving to expand the green and blue infrastructure of the city, invites you to participate in a public competition for the most biodiverse green corners of Kranj. 🌳🦋

📸 You can participate in the competition by sending photos showing existing green and/or blue elements (plantations, atriums, gardens, troughs, trees, water motifs, etc.) to the email address mok@kranj.si, which increase the quality of life for citizens, animals and plants. The photos should show locations that, with innovative and nature-friendly layouts, strive for sustainability, greater biodiversity of the environment, and also the beauty of the planting.

The three locations that the Urbio Bauhaus project expert committee will select as the most biodiverse, innovative and sustainable will receive beautiful green prizes. 🎁🌿

➞ Special prizes will be awarded to old photographs of green parts of the city.

➞ Young people under 30 years of age who will participate in the competition will be invited to the international project event in Pula, Croatia.

ℹ️ More information and competition conditions can be found on the website under the Urbio Bauhaus tab 👉 https://www.kranj.si/urbio-bauhaus#aktualno.

🗓️ The deadline for submission is September 30, 2025.

You are invited to participate!

#URBIOBAUHAUS #NewEuropeanBauhaus #SustainableCities #urbanbiodiversity #biodiversity #InterregCE #CityofKranj

Mestna občina Kranj
4. september ·

Iščemo najbolj biotsko pestre zelene kotičke Kranja 🌿🌸🦋

Ekipa projekta Urbio Bauhaus Mestne občine Kranj, ki si prizadeva za razširitev zelene in modre infrastrukture mesta, vabi na sodelovanje v javnem natečaju za najbolj biotsko pestre zelene kotičke Kranja. 🌳🦋

📷 Na natečaju lahko sodelujete tako, da na elektronski naslov mok@kranj.si pošljete fotografije, ki prikazujejo obstoječe zelene in/ali modre elemente (nasade, atrije, vrtove, korita, drevesa, vodne motive...), ki s svojo prisotnostjo dvigujejo kakovost bivanja občanom, živalim in rastlinam. Fotografije naj prikazujejo lokacije, ki z inovativnimi in naravi prijaznimi postavitvami stremijo k trajnosti, večji biotski pestrosti okolice in tudi lepoti zasadite.

Tri lokacije, ki jih bo strokovna komisija projekta Urbio Bauhaus izbrala kot najbolj biotsko pestre, inovativne in trajnostne, bodo dobile lepe zelene nagrade. 🎁🌿

➡️ Posebne nagrade pa prejmejo stare fotografije zelenih delov mesta.

➡️ Mladi do 30 let, ki bodo v natečaju sodelovali, pa bodo povabljeni na mednarodni dogodek projekta v Pulo, Hrvaška.

ℹ️ Več informacij in pogoje natečaja najdete na spletni strani pod zavihkom Urbio Bauhaus 👉 https://www.kranj.si/urbio-bauhaus#aktualno.

📅 Rok za oddajo je 30. september 2025.

Vabljeni k sodelovanju!

#URBIOBAUHAUS #NewEuropeanBauhaus #SustainableCities #urbanbiodiversity #biodiversity #InterregCE #CityofKranj

Barbara Planinšek, Be Ready Project in 30 drugih oseb 5 komentarjev Deljeno 7-krat

Version WEB (launched 4.9.2025, distributed via e-mail, telephone, personaly):

Aktualni projektni dogodki

Iščemo najbolj biotsko pestre zelene kotičke Kranja

Javni natečaj (3. september 2025)

Vsako poletje nas spomni na to, kako pomembni sta zelena (drevesa, vrtovi) in modra (reke, bajerji) infrastruktura mesta. Z veseljem sedemo pod krošnje dreves, namočimo noge v Kokro in se sprehodimo skozi gozdno krajino.

V ekipi projekta Urbio Bauhaus smo že danes prepričani v izjemno in neopisljivo pomembnost zelenega koridorja reke Kokre za ljudi, rastline in živali, zato je območje kanjona Kokre izvzeto iz tega natečaja.

Iščemo pa še druge lokacije zelenih kotičkov v mestu Kranj. Na natečaju lahko sodelujete tako, da na elektronski naslov mok@kranj.si pošljete fotografije, ki prikazujejo obstoječe zelene in/ali modre elemente (nasade, atrije, vrtove, korita, drevesa, vodne motive ...), ki s svojo prisotnostjo dvigujejo kakovost bivanja občanom, živalim in rastlinam. Fotografije naj prikazujejo lokacije, ki z inovativnimi in naravi prijaznimi postavitvami stremijo k trajnosti, večji biotski pestrosti okolice in tudi lepoti zasaditve.

Zakaj bi se trudili?

Zato, ker bodo 3 lokacije, ki jih bo strokovna komisija projekta Urbio Bauhaus izbrala kot najbolj biotsko pestre, inovativne in trajnostne, dobile lepe zelene nagrade, ki bodo biotsko pestrost še povečale in jo slikovito predstavile širši javnosti.

I POGLED NAZAJ: Ker pa vemo, da obstaja tudi veliko starih fotografij mesta Kranj (posnetih pred letom 1970), na katerih zasledimo tudi drevesa in zasaditve, ki jih danes ni več – bomo posebej veseli tudi teh. Vsaka bo prejela simbolično nagrado!

I EXTRA PONUDBA ZA MLADE (od 18. do 30. leta). Če bo vaš zeleni kotiček izkazal izjemno mero trajnosti, biotske pestrosti in lepote, vas bomo pomladi 2026 povabili na poseben dogodek v Pulo, kjer boste lahko svoj zeleni kotiček predstavili in ga z novimi znanji še nadgradili!

Rok oddaje: 30. september 2025.

Pogoji natečaja:

- Javni razpis je odprt za vse in nima tematskih, starostnih ali regijskih omejitev. K prijavi so še posebej povabljeni občani Mestne občine Kranj.
- Pošljete lahko do 3 fotografije iste lokacije, lokacijo pa morate tudi poimenovati s krajevnim ali ledinskim imenom in/ali naslovom.
- Posameznik lahko sodeluje z do 3 prijavami različnih lokacij.
- Fotografije in vaše kontaktne podatke (ime, priimek, e-naslov, tel. številka) zbiramo na elektronskem naslovu: mok@kranj.si , s pripisom »Javni natečaj URBIO BAUHAUS«.
- Fotografije bo pregledala in ocenila skupina strokovnjakov projekta URBIO BAUHAUS (člani BIOCENTUM NODE). Komisijo sestavljajo: strokovnjaki Mestne občine Kranj, Skupne službe varstva okolja Kranj, Skupne službe urejanja prostora Kranj, upravljavec javnih površin Flora Sport, predstavniki Zavoda za kulturno dediščino Kranj in Zavoda za varstvo narave Kranj – .
- Ekipa projekta URBIO BAUHAUS lahko uporabi vašo fotografijo za promocijo ciljev projekta v okviru javnega razpisa. Vaše delo bo lahko predstavljeno tudi v tiskanih in digitalnih publikacijah projekta, pri čemer bodo avtorji ustrezno obveščeni in navedeni.

Ostale lokacije pa bodo imele možnost sodelovanja v projektu Participativnega proračuna MOK 2027.

Več informacij o natečaju: mag. Špela Planinšek, Skupna služba varstva okolja, spela.planinsek@kranj.si

Pomembni datumi:

- Rok za oddajo fotografij: 30. september 2025
- Ocenjevanje fotografij: od 1. oktobra do 14. oktobra 2025
- Objava rezultatov: do 20. oktobra 2025 (obvestilo po e-pošti ter objava na spletni strani projekta)

Version WEB (launched 4.9.2025, translated version):

We are looking for the most biodiverse green corners of Kranj

Public competition (September 5, 2025)

Every summer reminds us of how important the green (trees, gardens) and blue (rivers, ponds) infrastructure of the city are. We happily sit under the treetops, dip our feet in the Kokra and walk through the forest landscape.

The Urbio Bauhaus project team is already convinced of the exceptional and indescribable importance of the green corridor of the Kokra River for people, plants and animals, which is why the Kokra Canyon area is excluded from this competition.

We are also looking for other locations of green corners in the city of Kranj. You can participate in the competition by sending photos showing existing green and/or blue elements (plantations, atriums, gardens, troughs, trees, water motifs, etc.) that, with their presence, improve the quality of life for citizens, animals and plants. The photos should show locations that, through innovative and nature-friendly layouts, strive for sustainability, greater biodiversity of the surroundings, and also the beauty of the plantings.

Why bother?

Because the 3 locations that the Urbio Bauhaus expert committee will select as the most biodiverse, innovative and sustainable will receive beautiful green awards that will further increase biodiversity and present it to the wider public.

! LOOK BACK: Since we know that there are also many old photographs of the city of Kranj (taken before 1970), in which we can also see trees and plantings that are no longer there today - we will be especially happy to see these too. Each one will receive a symbolic award!

! EXTRA OFFER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE (from 18 to 30 years old). If your green corner demonstrates an exceptional level of sustainability, biodiversity and beauty, we will invite you to a special event in Pula in the spring of 2026, where you can present your green corner and upgrade it with new knowledge!

Competition conditions:

-The public call is open to everyone and has no thematic, age or regional restrictions. Citizens of the City of Kranj are especially invited to apply.

-You can send up to 3 photos of the same location, and you must also name the location with a local or wilderness name and/or address.

-An individual can participate with up to 3 applications of different

-We collect photos and your contact information (name, surname, e-mail address, phone number) at the following e-mail address: mok@kranj.si , with the note "URBIO BAUHAUS Public Competition".

-The photos will be reviewed and evaluated by a group of experts from the URBIO BAUHAUS project (members of BIOCENTUM NODE). The commission consists of: experts from the City of Kranj, the Joint Environmental Protection Service Kranj, the Joint Spatial Planning Service Kranj, the public space manager Flora Sport, representatives from the Institute for Cultural Heritage Kranj and the Institute for Nature Conservation Kranj ...

The URBIO BAUHAUS project team may use your photo to promote the project's goals within the framework of the public call. Your work may also be presented in printed and digital publications of the project, with the authors being duly informed and listed.

Other locations will have the opportunity to participate in the City of Kranj 2027 Participatory Budget project.

More information about the competition: mag. Špela Planinšek, Joint Environmental Protection Service, spela.planinsek@kranj.si

2. EVALUATION AND RANKING OF APPLICATIONS

Summary evalution of applications from the PITCH EVENT.

Title of the project idea	Adressed city challenge	Score (taking into consideration NEB values)
Park La Ciotat	Enhance urban biodiversity in existing park, due to loss of some adult trees after summer drought and storm 2024/25	3.
Pocket park Stara Pošta	Enhance urban biodiversity in existing urban lot. Existing 3 trees in concrete area are not good case of public green area.	2.
Kovačnica hub - lobby	Enhance urban biodiversity in existing lobby of business hub. Greenery today is not qualitative enough to fight CC and need some improvement.	1.

More information on event titled: Green roof - Biodiverse Island as Key Urban Habitat for Depopulated Species & Public call - pitch event is available in ANNEX 6: COMMUNICATION EVENT REPORT.

3. PRESENTATION OF THE SELECTED PROJECTS

PROJECT IDEA 1: **Kovačnica hub - lobby**

PROJECT OWNER (NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)	Name of the organization: Kovačnica – podjetniški inkubator Kranj Contact person (Name & Surname, email): Andraž Šiler, andraz.siler@bsc-kranj.si
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description:	Public space, intended for mingling business hub users. Space with a lot of fluctuation and innovative ideas.

Challenge/Issues Proposed solution, including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive) Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	Greenery today is not qualitative enough to fight CC and need some improvement. - space was recognized as hot spot of the old town and the wish for more green common space was expressed on workshops. - decision for small green intervention on hot spot was made. - green extensive roof (small scale) was executed in October 2025 as pilot action, it will be maintained by people who work there. -existing plants in a pot – established by the people it the building, which need some fresh ideas.  <u>Proposed solutions:</u> - more shaded seating for users of hub, - diverse plant species in pots. - Sustainable design: solar-powered charging benches, recycled planters, and green walls.

	- Community engagement: involvement of local business and property owners in maintenance and greening efforts. <u>Project development needs:</u> -ownership is public, intervention possible. -traffic regime is not a problem. - existing trees should be chosen from Climate resilience list for urban areas in Slovenia (CC adaptable trees), and qualitatively planted. - planning was not yet made – no drawing on future square yet. -finances in green infrastructure possible from maintenance of public spaces and other EU projects (LIFE OrnamentalIAS)

PROJECT IDEA 2: **Park La Ciotat**

PROJECT OWNER (NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)	Name of the organization: general public Contact person (Name & Surname, email): Jure Bogataj (jurebog@gmail.com)
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description: Challenge/Issues Proposed solution including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive) Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	Enhance urban biodiversity in existing park La Ciotat, due to loss of some adult trees after summer drought and storms in 2024/25. - space was recognized as possible hot spot of the town and the wish for more green common space was expressed on workshops.  <u>Proposed solutions:</u>

	- Plant more big trees - Use diverse and domestic tree species <u>Project development needs:</u> -ownership is public, intervention possible -existing trees are under pressure of natural dissasters (winds, disseases), new trees should be chosen from Climate resilience list for urban areas in Slovenia (CC adaptable trees), and qualitatively planted. - City of Kranj needs to order planning. - finances in green infrastructure possible from maintenance of public spaces and other EU projects (LIFE OrnamentalIAS)

PROJECT 3: **Urban lot Stara Pošta**

PROJECT OWNER (NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION)	Name of the organization: general public Contact person (Name & Surname, email): Monika Čadež, monika.cadez@gmail.com
PRESENTATION OF IDEA: Short description: Challenge/Issues Proposed solution including NEB principles (aesthetic, sustainable, inclusive) Project development needs (information, finance, human resources)	Enhance urban biodiversity in existing urban lot Stara Pošta. Existing 3 trees in concrete area are not good case of public green area. - space was recognized as hot spot of the old town and the wish for more green common space/regreening was expressed on many workshops. - square/urban lot require redesigning to become more attractive, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable spaces that enhance biodiversity and improve user experience. - Lack of comfortable seating and shaded areas, discouraging people from staying. -The space is primarily used for transit, with minimal social interaction opportunities.

Proposed solutions:

- More seating, including an amphitheater-style area, deck chairs, and multifunctional benches. Seating for different groups (families, elderly, students - User-Centered Design).
- **Sustainability and Biodiversity:** Use of recycled materials – wood and stone for urban equipement, and diverse plant species.
- **Community Engagement:** Encouraging local businesses around square and residents od Old city to contribute to urban greening.

Project development needs:

-ownership is public, intervention possible

-traffic regime is not yet established in sense of green standards (less cars, more walk and bike)

- 3 existing trees were chosen from Climate resilience list for urban areas in Slovenia (CC adaptable trees), but poorly planted.

- City of Kranj needs approval from Cultural Heritage office to change the square.

- planning was not yet made – no drawing on future square yet.

Slika 1 Awards for the public call winners - 3 autochtonous trees rich in flowering and biodiversity ES

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URBIO BAUHAUS

ANNEX 6: COMMUNICATION EVENT REPORT

10 2024

COMMUNICATION EVENT REPORT

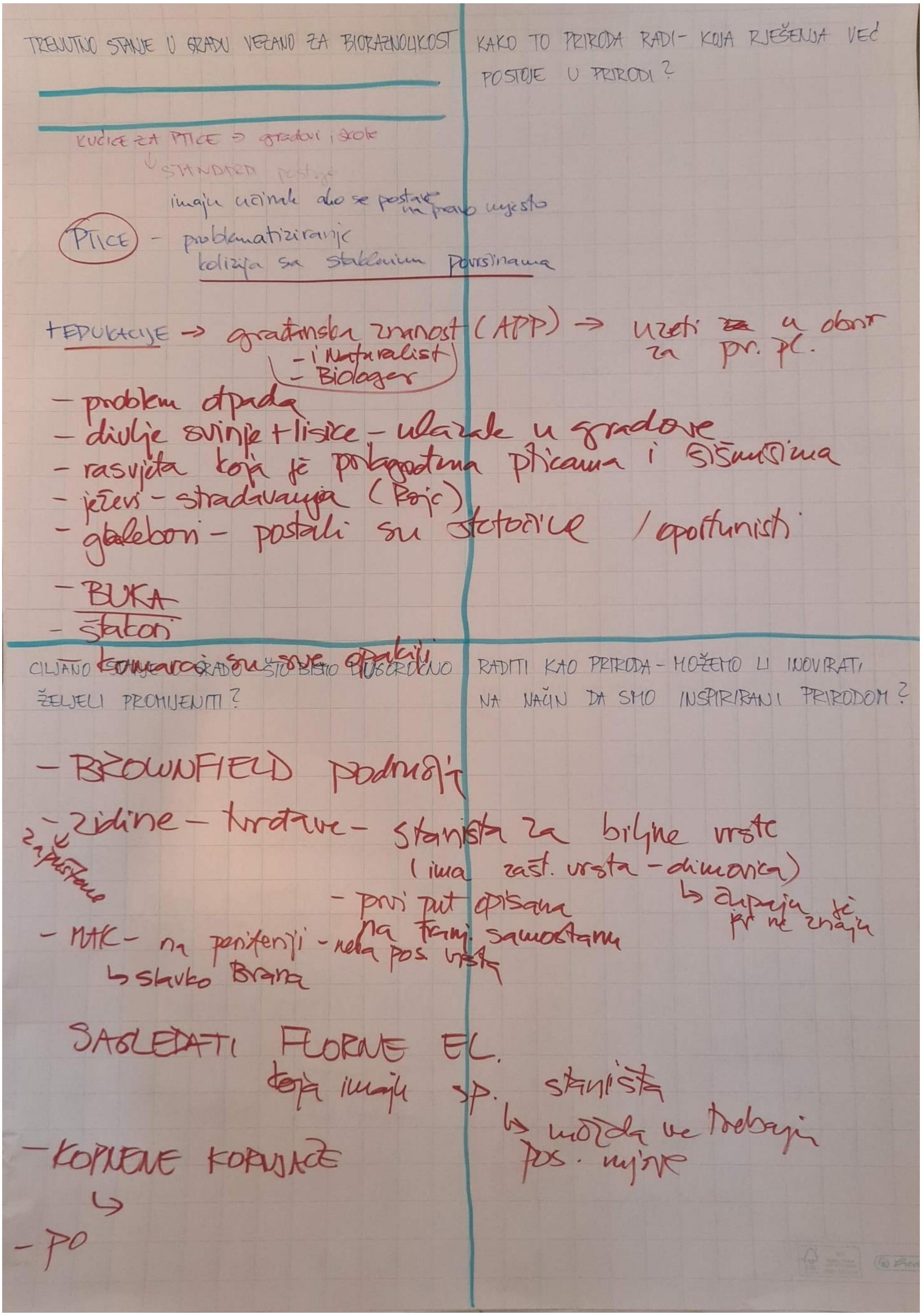
EVENT TITLE: Challenges of Biodiversity	
Date & place of event:	24.04.2025. Coworking Center Pula
Partner(s) involved:	City of Pula
Topics tackled and description of links to project activities	The "Challenges of Biodiversity" workshop was organized within the URBIO BAUHAUS project. The workshop focused on reflecting on the impact of urbanization on biodiversity in the City of Pula, using participatory methodologies such as World Café and design thinking. Discussions aimed to identify challenges related to preserving and promoting urban biodiversity, taking into account the core values of the New European Bauhaus: sustainability, aesthetics, and inclusion. This activity is aligned with the URBIO BAUHAUS project's goals of halting biodiversity loss in urban areas through innovative solutions.
Expected effects and follow-up, findings/conclusions that will contribute to achieving further project results	The workshop resulted in the joint identification of key challenges in dealing with biodiversity loss in Pula. The findings will contribute to the further development of pilot activities and action plans within the URBIO BAUHAUS project. Increased awareness among citizens and stakeholders about the importance of urban biodiversity is expected, along with the inclusion of diverse perspectives in future project activities.
Type of audience reached (project target groups)	Number of reached target groups in the framework of the event:

TARGET GROUP	NAME OF ORGANIZATION
Local public authority	City of Pula, Istria County, Municipality of Medulin
National public authority	-
Infrastructure and (public) service provider	Usluga d.o.o. Pazin, Arena Hospitality Group, Pula Herculanea
Interest groups, including NGOs	Tourist Board Pula, Beekeepers Association, Public Institution Natura Histrica, Public Institution Brijuni National Park
Higher education and research organisations	School of Applied Arts and Design
SMEs	-
General public	-

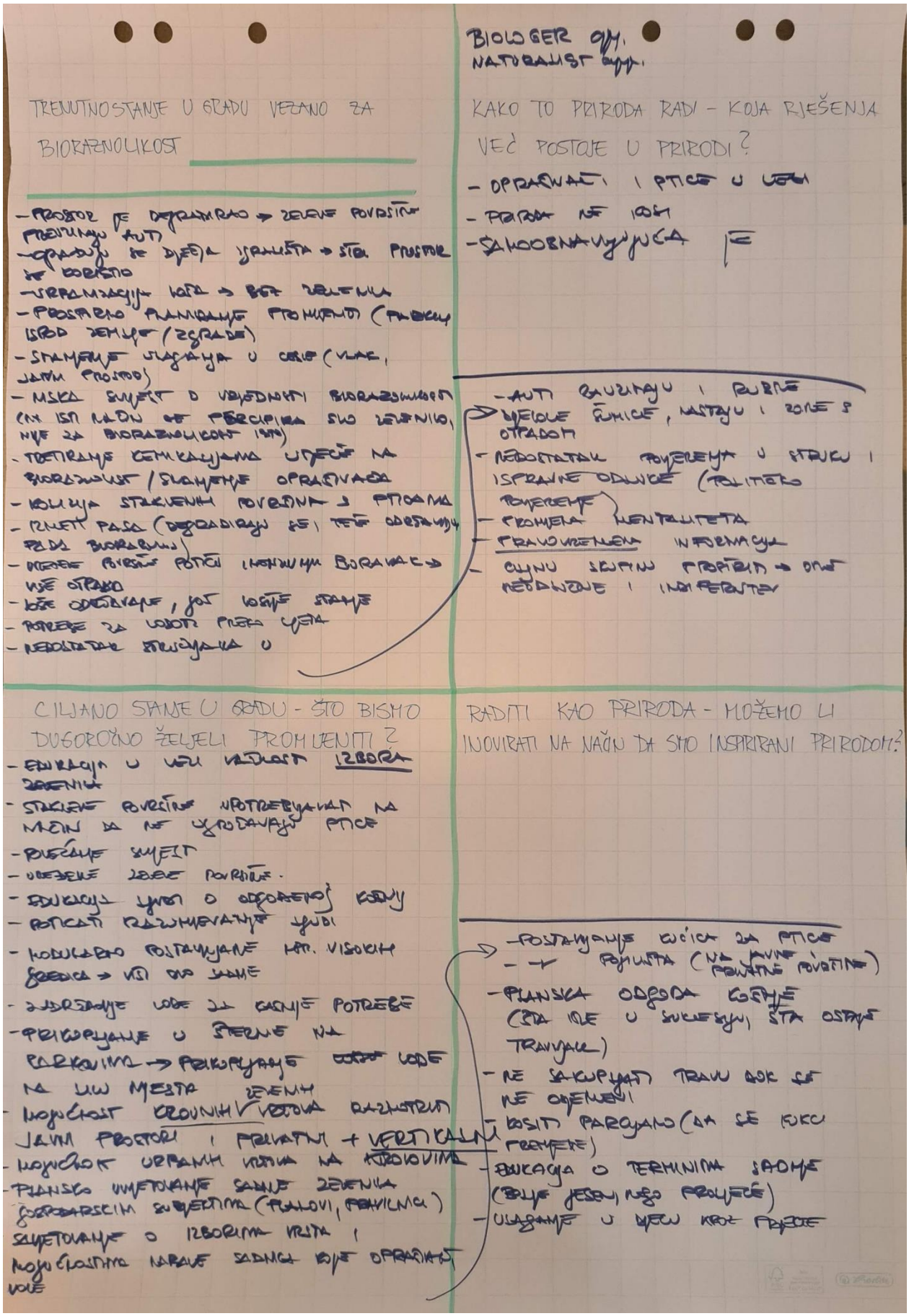
Annexes (participant list, photo, media	https://www.pula.hr/hr/novosti/detail/28863/u-sklopu-projekta-urbio-bauhaus-odrzana-radionica-pod-nazivom-izazovi-bioraznolikosti/

coverage, web-links, etc.)	

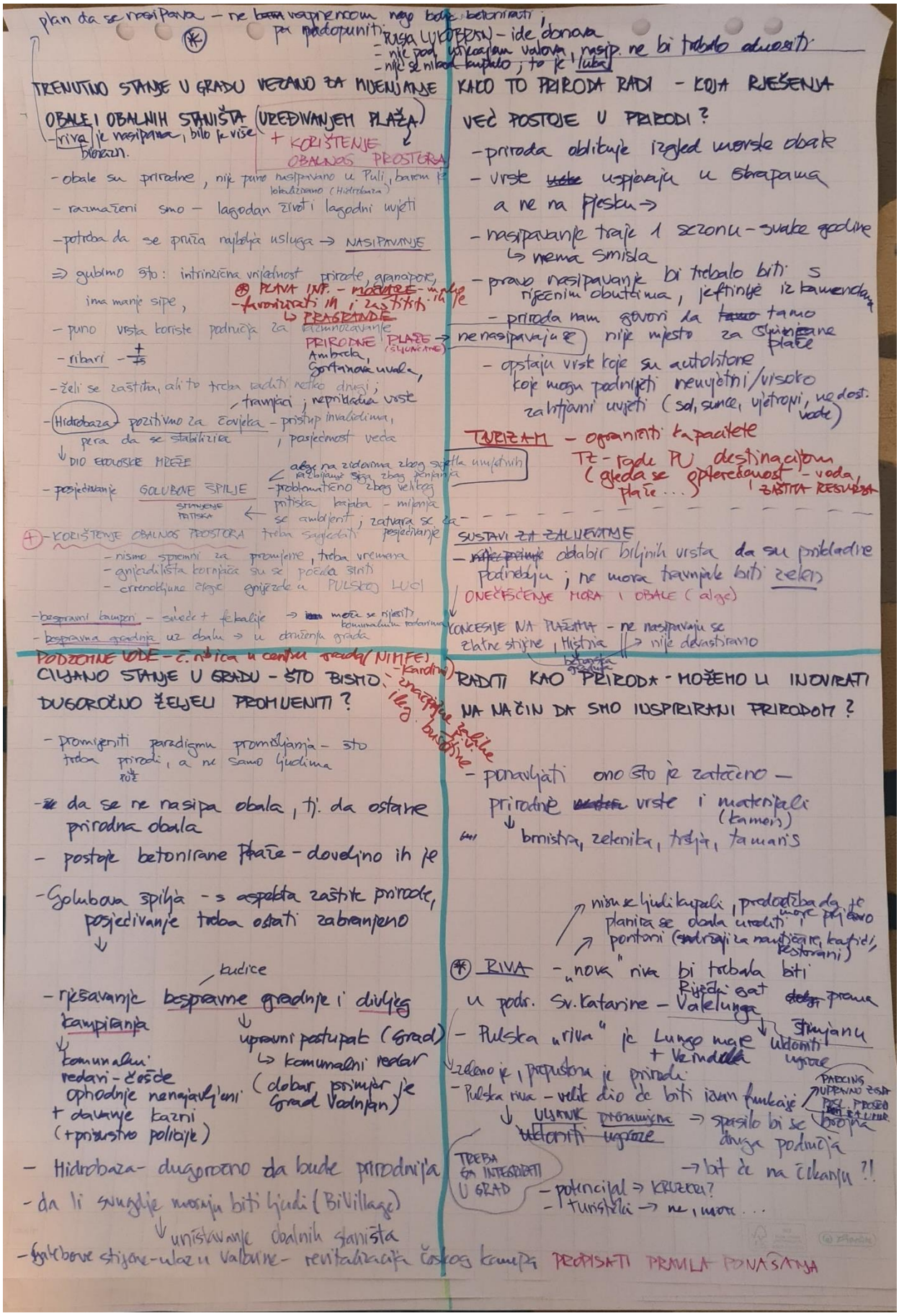
Picture 1: Workshop participants


TRENUTNO STANJE U GRADU VEZANO ZA BIORAZNOLIKOST
KAKO TO PRIRODA RADI – KOJA RJEŠENJA VEĆ POSTOJE U PRIRODI?
KUĆICE ZA PTICE ⇒ gradovi, škole
STANDARD
imaju učinak ako se postave na pravo mjesto
PTICE – problematiziranje
kolizija sa staklenim površinama
+EDUKACIJE → građanska znanost (APP) → uzeti u obzir za pr. pl.
– iNaturalist
– Biologer
– problem otpada
– divlje svinje + lisice – ulaze u gradove
– rasvjeta koja je pogubna pticama i šišmišima
– ježevi – stradavanja (Rojc)
– galebovi – postali su stanarice / oportunisti
– BUKA
– štakori
CILJANO STANJE U GRADU – ŠTO BISTE DUGOROČNO ŽELJELI PROMIJENITI?
RADITI KAO PRIRODA – MOŽEMO LI INOVIRATI NA NAČIN DA SMO INSPIRIRANI PRIRODOM?
– BROWNFIELD područja
– zidine – tvrđave – staništa za biljne vrste
zapuštene
(ima zašt. vrsta – dimnjača)
čupaju je jer ne znaju
– prvi put opisana na franj. samostanu
– MAK – na penitenciji – neka pos. vrsta
Slavko Brana
SAGLEDATI FLORNE EL. koja imaju sp. staništa
možda ne trebaju pos. mjere
– KOPNENE KORNJAČE
– PO

Picture 2: Working sheets with conducted group ideas


TRENUTNO STANJE U GRADU VEZANO ZA BIORAZNOLIKOST
BIOLOGER ILI NATURALIST
KAKO TO PRIRODA RADI - KOJA RJEŠENJA VEĆ POSTOJE U PRIRODI?
CILJANO STANJE U GRADU - ŠTO BISMO DUGOROČNO ŽELJELI PROMIJENITI?
RADITI KAO PRIRODA - MOŽEMO LI INOVIRATI NA NAČIN DA SMO INSPIRIRANI PRIRODOM?

Picture 3: Working sheets with conducted group ideas


TRENUTNO STANJE U GRADU VEZANO ZA MIJENJANJE OBALE I OBALNIH STANIŠTA (UREĐIVANJEM PLAŽA)
KAKO TO PRIRODA RADI - KOJA RJEŠENJA VEĆ POSTOJE U PRIRODI?
PODZEMNE VODE
TRENUTNO STANJE U GRADU - ŠTO BISMO DUGOROČNO ŽELJELI PROMIJENITI?
RADITI KAO PRIRODA - MOŽEMO LI INOVIRATI NA NAČIN DA SMO INSPIRIRANI PRIRODOM?

Picture 4: Working sheets with conducted group ideas

Picture 5: Group work and brainstorming with goal to identify challenges related to preserving and promoting urban biodiversity

Picture 6: Group work and brainstorming with goal to identify challenges related to preserving and promoting urban biodiversity

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URBIO BAUHAUS

ANNEX 6: COMMUNICATION EVENT REPORT

10 2024

COMMUNICATION EVENT REPORT

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">EVENT TITLE: “Saving Pollinators in Cities“</th></tr>
<tr><td>Date & place of event:</td><td>24.03.2025., Pula</td></tr>
<tr><td>Partner(s) involved:</td><td>City of Pula</td></tr>
<tr><td>Topics tackled and description of links to project activities</td><td>A professional lecture on the topic "Savnig Pollinator in Urban Cities" was held. The lecture addressed the importance of bees and other pollinators in the ecosystem, as well as the challenges of their survival in urban areas. Opportunities for improving green spaces and planting pollinator-friendly plants were presented. The activity is part of a broader project focused on sustainable urban development and biodiversity conservation (Activity 1.1.).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Expected effects and follow-up, findings/conclusions that will contribute to achieving further project results</td><td>The lecture raised public awareness and that of relevant stakeholders about the importance of pollinator conservation. Participants are expected to implement the acquired knowledge in urban planning and green space management. Additionally, further collaboration with local authorities and organizations is planned to take concrete steps toward improving conditions for pollinators.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Type of audience reached (project target groups)</td><td>Number of reached target groups in the framework of the event:
<table>
<tr><th>TARGET GROUP</th><th>NAME OF ORGANIZATION</th></tr>
<tr><td>Local public authority</td><td>City of Pula</td></tr>
<tr><td>National public authority</td><td>-</td></tr>
<tr><td>Infrastructure and (public) service provider</td><td>Pula Herculanea d.o.o</td></tr>
<tr><td>Interest groups, including NGOs</td><td>Beekeepers association</td></tr>
<tr><td>Higher education and research organisations</td><td>-</td></tr>
<tr><td>SMEs</td><td>Višnjan Observatory</td></tr>
<tr><td>General public</td><td>citizens</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>Annexes (participant list, photo, media coverage, web-links, etc.)</td><td>Web links:
https://istarski.hr/node/111884-pula-za-oprasivace-kako-cuvamo-bioraznolikost-u-nasem-gradu
https://www.pula.hr/hr/novosti/detail/28723/pula-za-oprasivace-kako-cuvamo-bioraznolikost-u-nasem-gradu/
https://www.istra24.hr/zivot/u-petak-u-puli-predavanje-pcelinja-pasa-i-spasavanje-oprasivaca-u-urbanim-sredinama
https://www.pula.hr/hr/novosti/detail/28702/pula-grad-prijatelj-oprasivaca-i-zelenije-buducnosti/</td></tr>
</table>


2023 CX1
IMO
Sky & Telescope
Wikipedia
PULA HERCULANEA d.o.o.
za obavljanje komunalnih djelatnosti
Pula Herculanea
GRAD PULA
CITTÀ DI POLA
NAVIKE OKRENI, PROMJENU POKRENI
CAMBIA TENDENZA, FAI LA DIFFERENZA

Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE

Co-funded by the European Union

URBIO BAUHAUS

ANNEX 6: COMMUNICATION EVENT REPORT

16/10 2025

COMMUNICATION EVENT REPORT

EVENT TITLE: Urban conference - Adaptation to Climate Change in the Light of Future Cohesion Policy	
Date & place of event:	**16.10.2025, City hall Kranj**
Partner(s) involved:	-National authority - Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning and the Association of Municipalities of Slovenia, -Regional authority -Many municipalities all over SLO -City of Kranj and its departments, -Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation, -Business support organization, Komunala Kranj, -Civil society -Press
Topics tackled and description of links to project activities	A3.4 CE-wide and EU-wide Dissemination of URBIO BAUHAUS Results
Expected effects and follow-up, findings/conclusions that will contribute to achieving further project results	Presentation of "3 Interreg projects – Urbio Bauhaus, CICADA4CE and Be Ready" which include technical and cabinet work and presentation of established green-blue pilot sites. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Spatial Planning, the Association of Municipalities of Slovenia and the City of Kranj co-organized the Urban Conference entitled: "Adaptation to Climate Change in the Light of Future Cohesion Policy". The Urban Conference offered a range of excellent lectures on the topic of adapting settlements to climate change, presentations of expert foundations, practical examples, needs for funding and support from the state and European cohesion policy in pursuing the common goal of sustainable, resilient and green cities.
Type of audience reached (project target groups)	Number of reached target groups in the framework of the event:

TARGET GROUP	NAME OF ORGANIZATION
Local public authority	*40*
National public authority	*15*
Infrastructure and (public) service provider	*16*

	Interest groups, including NGOs	*5*
	Higher education and research organisations	*10*
	SMEs	*1*
	General public	*1*

Annexes (participant list, photo, media coverage, web-links, etc.)


2025
URBANA KONFERENCA
Več informacij:
Skupna služba varstva okolja, MOK,
spletne strani projektov,
…in terenske izmenjave dobrih praks.
Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE
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URBIO BAUHAUS
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Skupna služba varstva okolja, Mestna občina Kranj
2

REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA NARAVNE VIRE IN PROSTOR

ZMOS Združenje mestnih občin Slovenije

MESTNA OBČINA

URBANA KONFERENCA – Prilagoditev naselij na podnebne spremembe

Mestna občina Kranj, 16. 0ktober 2025 od 9.00 – 14.30

URA	PROGRAM
8.30 - 9.00	Prihod in registracija
9.00 - 9.20	POZDRAVNI NAGOVORI IN UVODNE PREDSTAVITVE
	Jože Novak minister Ministrstva za naravne vire in prostor, MNVP
	dr. Aleksander Jevšek minister Ministrstva za kohezijo in regionalni razvoj, MKRR
	Matjaž Rakovec župan Mestne občine Kranj - gostitelj
	dr. Nataša Bratina generalna direktorica Direktorata za prostor in graditev, MNVP
9.20 - 9.55	PODNEBNE SPREMEMBE
	prof. dr. Lučka Kajfež Bogataj *Podnebne spremembe*
	mag. Mojca Dolinar, direktorica Urada za meteorologijo, hidrologi oceanografijo, MOPE- ARSO *Podnebni scenariji za Slovenijo*
9.55 - 10.05	Odmor
10.05 - 11.10	PRILAGAJANJE NASELIJ NA PODNEBNE SPREMEMBE
	Barbara Mušič, Urbanistični inštitut RS *Prilagajanje naselij na podnebne spremembe*
	Skupna služba varstva okolja - Mestna občina Kranj *Pilotni poskusi uvajanja zelene in modre infrastrukture v mesta (Interreg proj Be Ready, CICADA4CE in Urbio Bauhaus)*
	dr. Žiga Malek in dr. Mojca Golobič, UL, Biotehniška fakulteta *Ocena podnebne ranljivosti za mesta in druga urbana naselja*
	dr. Petra Vertelj Nared, LUZ in dr. Maja Simoneti, IPOP *Krepitev upravljanja in vzdrževanja zelenih površin in mestnih dreves*
11.10 - 11.40	Odmor
11.40 - 12.40	KOHEZIJSKA POLITIKA - SODELOVANJE IN PROJEKTI
	mag. Mojca Aljančič, direktorica Direktorata za kohezijo, MKRR *Programiranje EKP po 2027*
	Miran Košpenda, sekretar Združenje mestnih občin Slovenije ZMOS *Tematsko partnerstvo urbane agende EU za ozelenitev mest - financiranje z infrastrukture in potrebe mest po 2027*
	dr. Jernej Červek, MNVP *Projekti zelene infrastrukture v CTN in DRR in doseženi kazalniki*
	Martina Repnik, predstavnica Evropske komisije DG Regio
12.40 - 14.20	OKROGLA MIZA IN RAZPRAVA MESTA PRIHODNOSTI: ŽIVLJENJE V ČASU PODNEBNIH SPREMEMB
	dr. Nataša Bratina generalna direktorica Direktorata za prostor in graditev, M
	mag. Mojca Aljančič, direktorica Direktorata za kohezijo, MKRR

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ANNEX 6: COMMUNICATION EVENT REPORT

March 2025, Kranj

COMMUNICATION EVENT REPORT

EVENT TITLE: **Kick off event & workshop** **Identifying and understanding the challenges of climate change adaptation and urban biodiversity in our city** (Prepoznavanje in razumevanje izzivov prilagajanja na podnebne spremembe in urbane biotske raznovrstnosti v našem mestu)	
Date & place of event:	20. 3. 2025, City of Kranj, Slovenia
Partner(s) involved:	City of Kranj, Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD)
Topics tackled and description of links to project activities	Presentation of current project status and achievements, establishment of BIOCENTUM nodes, listing of main tasks of UB project in next 1,5 year, and its symbiosis with other Interreg projects. Main workshop topics covered: • Heat and urban heat islands • Capturing, retaining and using stormwater • Biodiversity in the city, green systems and connectivity of green elements Method: World Caffe Workshop (*see Annex 2*), materials adapted to selected topics. LINKS TO PROJECT ACTIVITIES: - kick off event -1.1.&1.2 Establishment of BIOCENTUM nodes -1.1.& 1.2 Identification of urban biodiversity challenges
Expected effects and follow-up, findings/conclusions that will contribute to achieving further project results	Event was prepared mostly for professional public on basis of quintuple helix model (decision makers, representatives of local energy agency, regional development agency, spatial planners, architects and other stakeholders…, 21 participants). The main purpose was presentation of project status, establishing a space for joint dialogue (**creating BIOCENTUM NODE**) and on-time discussion between various stakeholders on challenges of climate change adaptation and urban biodiversity in City of Kranj. A draft documents on "*climate change adaptation strategies for the Gorenjska region*" and "*shopping malls' adaptation to climate change and their »green« vision for the future*" were presented as locally important for the basis of the project activities. Also 20 Behaviour change assesment – questionnaires were exposed and solved by the group before the workshop.

Main findings for selected topics:

Heat and Urban Heat Islands

The city faces significant heat issues, with large parking lots and the historic center being major hotspots due to excessive paving and limited ventilation. Conservation plans propose small green systems, subsidies for eco-friendly renovations, and blue infrastructure, while underground parking and improved public transport aim to reduce urban heat.

Key challenges include: balancing cultural heritage constraints with climate adaptation and securing investments in green solutions.

Future priorities involve establishing ventilation corridors, promoting green walls, and integrating cooling strategies into urban planning. The ideal vision is a well-balanced city that integrates shading, sustainable energy, and reduced dependency on air conditioning.

Capturing, Retaining, and Using Stormwater

Extreme rainfall events and outdated infrastructure pose serious flooding risks. Solutions include reviving historical water features, introducing rainwater-powered energy systems, and enforcing stricter urban planning policies on stormwater retention.

New standards should mandate the integration of retention facilities in new buildings, while irrigation and cooling systems can repurpose excess water.

The challenge lies in balancing development needs with environmental resilience, ensuring stormwater is treated as a resource rather than a hazard. The goal is a city where tree density, green space availability, and accessibility align with the 3-30-300 principle, enhancing urban livability and climate resilience.

Biodiversity in the city, green systems and connectivity of green elements

While the city has green areas and a lot of forest around, they are often fragmented, and some forests contribute to emissions instead of absorbing them. Solutions include increasing tree diversity, reviving degraded areas, and adapting urban regulations to prioritize green spaces.

Strategies such as urban beekeeping, temporary potted trees, and retention ponds serving as biodiversity hubs can enhance ecological connectivity.

The main challenge is ensuring green areas that are not just scattered but function as interconnected networks supporting both people and wildlife. The vision is a city with continuous green and cycling networks, where natural assets are legally protected and rivers are utilized for conservation, recreation and education.

Synthesis of Key Themes (*more, see Annex 2)*

Urban heat mitigation, stormwater management, and biodiversity conservation are deeply interconnected and require integrated planning. Green infrastructure, such as retention ponds, tree planting, and green roofs and fasades, serves multiple purposes, including cooling, water management, and ecological preservation. Regulatory updates, financial incentives, and public-private cooperation are crucial for implementing these solutions effectively. Prioritizing sustainability in urban planning is essential for creating a climate-resilient city, with public engagement playing a key role in fostering long-term change. By integrating these strategies, the city can become greener, more livable, and better adapted to future environmental challenges.

Discussion with all participants at the end of the workshop brought some additional insights and opened some new questions. Participants pointed out that a collection and overview of possible solutions and good practices is missing.

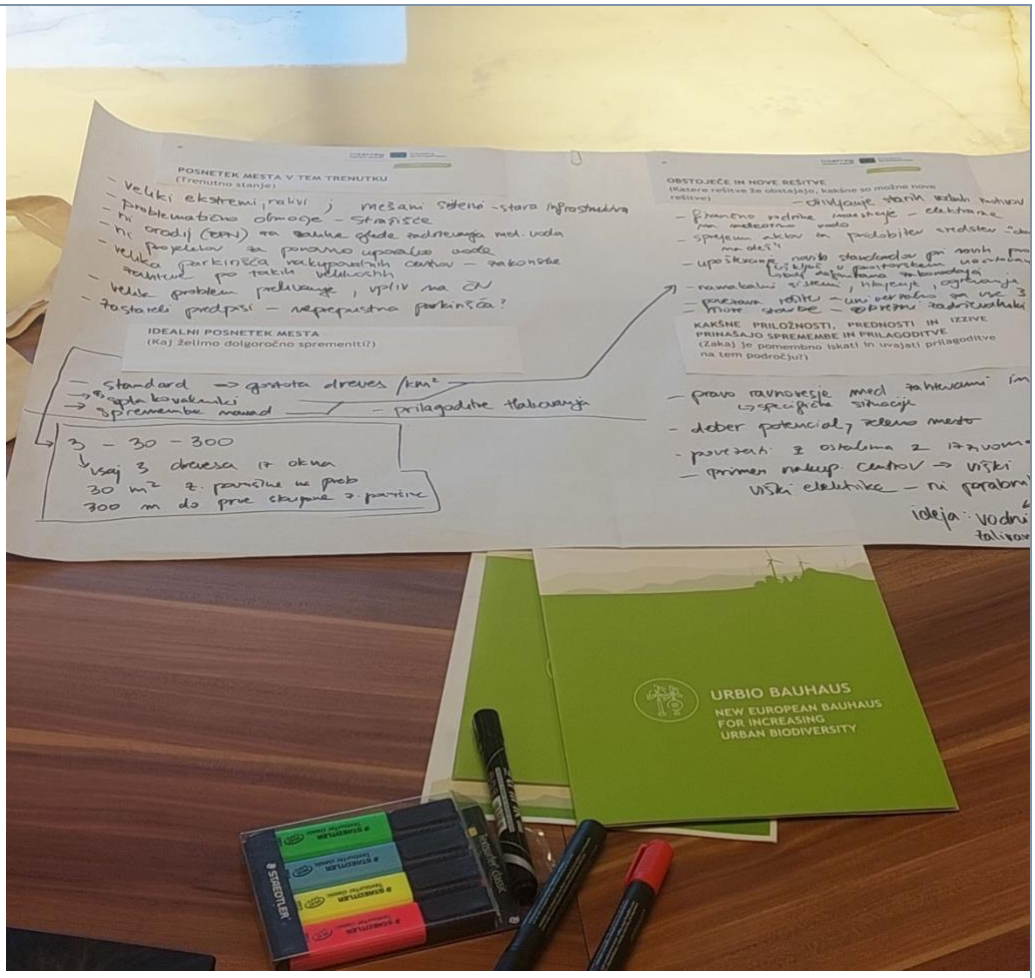
Event created space for open and constructive dialogue, with 21 participants from different organisations (and roles) contributing their perspective on the issues raised. Event laid good foundations for futher cooperation and work, and also uncovered some new perspectives.

Type of audience reached (*project target groups*)

Number of reached target groups in the framework of the event:

TARGET GROUP	NAME OF ORGANIZATION
Local public authority	*City of Kranj (employees from 5 different departments) - 7* *Climate Neutral and Smart Cities team, City of Kranj) - 1* *Deputy mayor of City of Kranj - 1*
National public authority	*Nature protection service - 1* *Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia - 1*
Infrastructure and (public) service provider	*Komunala Kranj d.d. (public areas maintenance and sewage) - 2* *Local Energy Agency of Gorenjska (LEAG) - 1*
Interest groups, including NGOs	*Supernova shopping mall centers - 3*
Higher education and research organisations	*Faculty of Civil and Geodetic Engineering - 1* *Slovenian Forest Institute -1*
SMEs	*Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD)- 1*
General public	*Citizens of Kranj - 2*

Annexes (participant list, photo, media coverage, web-links, etc.)	 


POSNETEK MESTA V TEM TRENUTKU
(Trenutno stanje)
IDEALNI POSNETEK MESTA
(Kaj želimo dolgoročno spremeniti?)
OBSTOJEČE IN NOVE REŠITVE
KAKŠNE PRILOŽNOSTI, PREDNOSTI IN IZZIVE PRINAŠAJO SPREMEMBE IN PRILAGODITVE
URBIO BAUHAUS
NEW EUROPEAN BAUHAUS FOR INCREASING URBAN BIODIVERSITY

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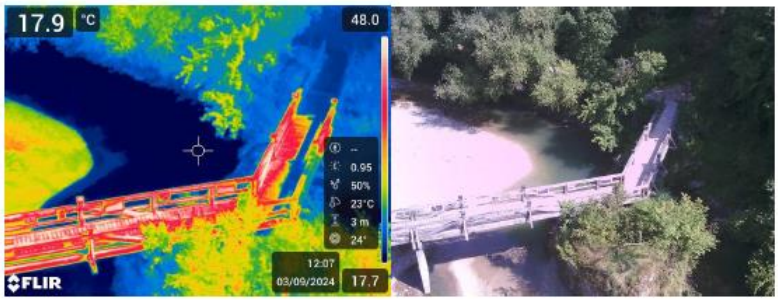
MESTNA OBČINA KRANJ

VABILO

na predavanji in projektno delavnico
v četrtek, 20.3.2025 ob 13h, na Mestni občini Kranj (sejna soba 9)

Skupni okoljski izziv , s katerim se spopada večina Evrope, so **podnebne spremembe**, nastajajoči **urbani toplotni otoki** (*UHI – urban heat islands*) in z njimi povezana **izguba kakovostnega življenjskega prostora** za ljudi, živali in rastline. **Izgubo biotske raznovrstnosti** zaradi podnebnih sprememb (vročine, suše, vetrov, poplav, ujm) zaznamo tudi v urbanih območjih, kot je npr. mesto Kranj.



NAMEN DOGODKA

- ✓ Zbrati lokalne deležnike, jim predstaviti namen BIOCENTUM NODEs in jim s pomočjo dveh strokovnih predavanj osvežiti znanje o lokalnih izzivih (predvsem izgubi biotske pestrosti) pri prilagajanjih na posledice podnebnih sprememb.
- ✓ Predstaviti projekt URBIO BAUHAUS in možnosti prilagoditvenih/blažitvenih ukrepov.
- ✓ Vključevalno določiti možne in lokalno sprejemljive rešitve za nekaj podnebnih izzivov v območju naselja Kranj.

Rezultati delavnice bodo konec marca 2025 dostopni na: https://www.kranj.si/

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MESTNA OBČINA KRANJ

MOTO DELAVNICE

Na uvodni delavnici boste zbrani predstavniki znanosti oz. razvoja, lokalne politike, industrije, kreatorjev prostora (arhitekti, krajinarji, prostorski načrtovalci) in civilne družbe ... vsak s svojimi načeli in rešitvami v prostoru, ki si ga delimo ...

Spremembe so stalnica – v naravi in tudi v mestu

Je »zeleno« sobivanje urbanih območij in narave mogoče – z dodatkom biotske raznovrstnosti, lepote in trajnosti?

PROGRAM DELAVNICE

12:30 – 13:00 Registracija ob kavi.

13:00 – 13:20 Predstavitev projektnih ciljev & sinergij (URBIO BAUHAUS, Be Ready in CICACA4CE).

Špela Planinšek, Aleksandra Ažman in Suzana Jamšek | Skupna služba varstva okolja, MOK

13:20 - 13:35 Predstavitev Strategije prilagajanja Gorenjske regije na podnebne spremembe.

Črtomir Kurnik | Lokalna energetska agencija Gorenjske

13:35 – 13:45 Prilagajanje nakupovalnih centrov Supernova na podnebne spremembe in njihov pogled naprej.

Igor Milanović in sod.| ABM Facility Management d.o.o.

13:45 – 13:50 Izpolnitev vprašalnika "spremembe okoljevarstvenega vedenja tekom projekta".

13:50 – 14:50 Delavniški del – Izzivi pri vzpostavljanju zelene in modre infrastrukture v urbanih okoljih

Skupna služba varstva okolja, MOK | izvajalec ZaVita d.o.o.

14:50 – 15:00 Zaključki delavnice in povabilo na Ekoteden 2025

Rezultati delavnice bodo konec marca 2025 dostopni na: https://www.kranj.si/

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ANNEX 6: COMMUNICATION EVENT REPORT

10 2025

COMMUNICATION EVENT REPORT

EVENT TITLE: Green roof - Biodiverse Island as Key Urban Habitat for Depopulated Species & Public call - pitch event	
Date & place of event:	**5.11.2025, Kovačnica hub**
Partner(s) involved:	City of Kranj and its departments, Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation, Business support organization, Komunala Kranj, NORIK bussines subject Civil society – Bussines hub General public
Topics tackled and description of links to project activities	a) D2.2.2 Testing report - Biodiverse Island as Key Urban Habitat for Depopulated Species – first pilot action – green roof at Kovačnica hub. b) A 1.2. NEB+ initiative using BIOCENTUM nodes - pitch event.
Expected effects and follow-up, findings/conclusions that will contribute to achieving further project results	a) Presentation of "green roof" which include technical work and presentation of layers like root barriers and drainage system to help the plants thrive without damaging the building. Green roof will offer environmental benefits, such as improving insulation, managing stormwater, increasing biodiversity, and reducing the urban heat island effect, and will also serve as functional outdoor area, due to location at business hub. The pilot site is marked with project logos and description of benefits of pilot action – small green acupuncture. b) Pitch event for Public competition **"We are looking for the most biodiverse green corners of Kranj",** launched on September 5, 2025. To the members of BIOCENTUM NODE was represented the process of public competition "for the most biodiverse green corners of Kranj". The group revised all received BAUHAUS ideas and selected 3 best ones, regarding NEB+ principles explained during task. More information's are gathered in Annex 4 - OPEN CALL FOR BAUHAUS IDEAS AND PITCH EVENT REPORT.
Type of audience reached (project target groups)	Number of reached target groups in the framework of the event:

TARGET GROUP	NAME OF ORGANIZATION
Local public authority	*1*
National public authority	*1*
Infrastructure and (public) service provider	*1*

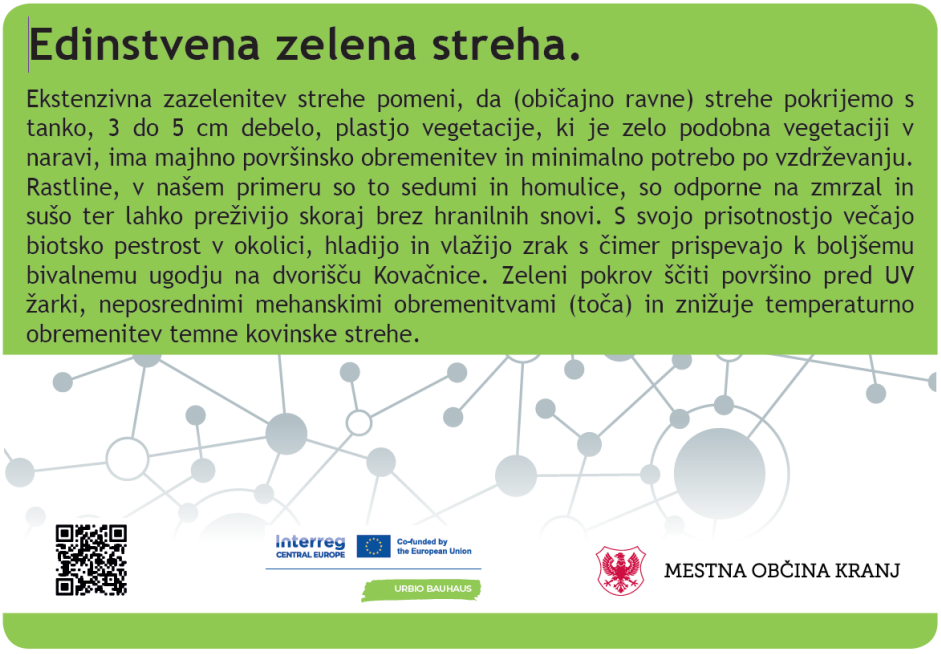
	Local municipality offices	*15*
	Higher education and research organisations	
	SMEs	*1*
	General public	*1*

Annexes (participant list, photo, media coverage, web-links, etc.)

Slika 1 Presentation of ongoing Urbio Bauhaus actions - with emphasis on on going pilot actions, pitch event after public call and selection of the best ideas.

Slika 2 Instalation of green roof, accompanied with explanation on benefits of green infrastructural actions in urban areas in Slovenia. Quite a few question arised and lively debate was made.

Slika 3 Unique green roof in Kovačnica lobby.



Slika 4 Info table on technical and practical benefits of green roofs in urban areas.