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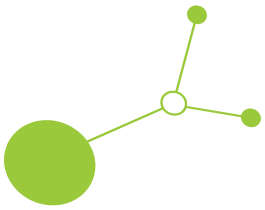
URBIO BAUHAUS

D3.1.1
CE Strategy for NEB-based Urban Biodiverse Transition



Review 2-February 2026

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A. Introduction

Cities are a focal point for both the challenges and opportunities of sustainable development. Characterised by high density of population, infrastructure, economic and industrial activities, urban areas are vulnerable to climate change and other environmental stresses – e.g. loss of biodiversity, pollution of natural resources, flash floods) – as well as social challenges like inequalities or segregation. At the same time, cities hold a unique potential to lead the transition toward more resilient and regenerative models of living, acting as hubs of creativity and opportunities.

In this context, the New European Bauhaus (NEB) initiative offers an integrated vision for shaping sustainable and inclusive living environments that are also beautiful and meaningful. By linking the European Green Deal to living spaces, the NEB calls for innovation that combines functionality, creativity, and ecological responsibility. The lack of quantity and quality of urban green spaces – which ultimately implies higher vulnerability, lack of biodiversity and ecosystem services – is a central challenge to be addressed with the initiative. NEB principles offer an opportunity for transformative urban planning, which encourages cities to move beyond technical solutions, fostering environments where nature, culture, and community coexist harmoniously.

This strategy focuses on mainstreaming the NEB approach as a catalyst for urban biodiversity enhancement and conservation. It seeks to guide local administrations and stakeholders in developing planning, governance, and investment frameworks that embed the NEB paradigms and biodiversity considerations into the heart of urban transitions. Through this lens, biodiversity becomes not only a subject of protection but a driver of innovation, identity, and collective well-being in European cities.

Environmental challenges in Central Europe and beyond

Central Europe (CE) is an area particularly vulnerable to the threats of environmental degradation and climate change. Historical economic and industrial developments have significantly altered its landscapes, fragmented natural habitats and increased exposure to climate risks such as heat islands, flash floods, droughts, and air pollution. Among these pressures, the accelerating loss of biodiversity emerges as a pivotal challenge: both the natural ecosystems' extent and their species diversity are in strong decline (IPBES 2018).

Mainly production and consumption systems – most notably the agro-food system - are still strictly coupled with environmental degradation and unsustainable practices (IPBES 2018; EEA 2025). The European Environment Agency (EEA) (2025) categorised the major drivers of ecological degradation as follows:

- Changes in land and sea use
- Overexploitation of natural resources
- Climate change
- Pollution

- Invasive alien species.

Despite numerous research and practical efforts to implement new sustainable solutions, many important resilience goals have not yet been achieved. While some progress has been reported in climate change mitigation, greenhouse gas emissions reduction and reliance on fossil fuels, major challenges persist in the mobility and food systems along with the accelerating rate of climate change in Europe (EEA 2025).

Forecasts indicate that built-up land will cover around 7 % of EU territory by 2030 (European Commission 2020), compounding land take pressures and reducing available natural habitats in metropolitan and peri-urban zones, raising risks of habitat loss, reduced ecosystem connectivity, increased exposure and vulnerability to extreme events. The loss of natural habitats and biodiversity threatens not only nature itself but also the many ecosystem services provided by functioning ecosystems —e.g. cooling, flood protection, soil fertility, and cultural value — that communities and businesses depend upon (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment 2005). For example, in European cities, the urban heat island effect has been estimated to increase mortality risk by around 45% during heat extremes compared with rural surroundings (Huang et al. 2023). Extreme floods have resulted in 2024 in a 16% loss in GDP in Slovenia and in over 230 deaths in Valencia (EEA 2025).

With about 75 % of the EU population living in urban and peri-urban areas (Eurostat 2024), cities and peri-urban regions host a large majority of residents, increasing both the demand on ecosystem services and the stakes of environmental degradation. By safeguarding and enhancing urban green spaces and biodiversity, cities can decrease their ecological pressure and ensure resilience and good quality of life, as several studies have reported. Models show that if cities increased tree canopy or green spaces to about 30% cover, many premature deaths related to heat could be avoided (Iungman et al. 2023). Urban greening also has a cooling effect of about 1-7 °C in local air temperature in summer, improving thermal comfort and reducing exposure to heat stress (Soltanifard & Amani-beni 2025). Urban ecosystems are indeed able to provide regulating, cultural and provisioning ecosystem services, thus contributing to the ecological, social and economic stability of urban areas (Natural Capital Germany – TEEB DE (2017). In densely populated spaces, access to green areas, clean air, shade, and ecological amenities are not just desirable but essential for physical health, mental well-being, social cohesion, and equitable quality of life.

Frameworks for urban planning with nature

In recent years, various concepts and frameworks have been developed in order to effectively integrate nature in the planning practice of urban and peri-urban landscapes. For instance, green and blue infrastructure (GBI) generally refers to the network of natural or semi-natural areas including green spaces and/or aquatic ecosystems which are strategically planned to deliver multiple ecosystem services (European Commission, 2013). GBI offers a holistic perspective on the contributions of connected natural and semi-natural structures to human well-being and can help to communicate the importance of safeguarding ecosystems and their services (Albert & van Haaren, 2017; Figure 1).

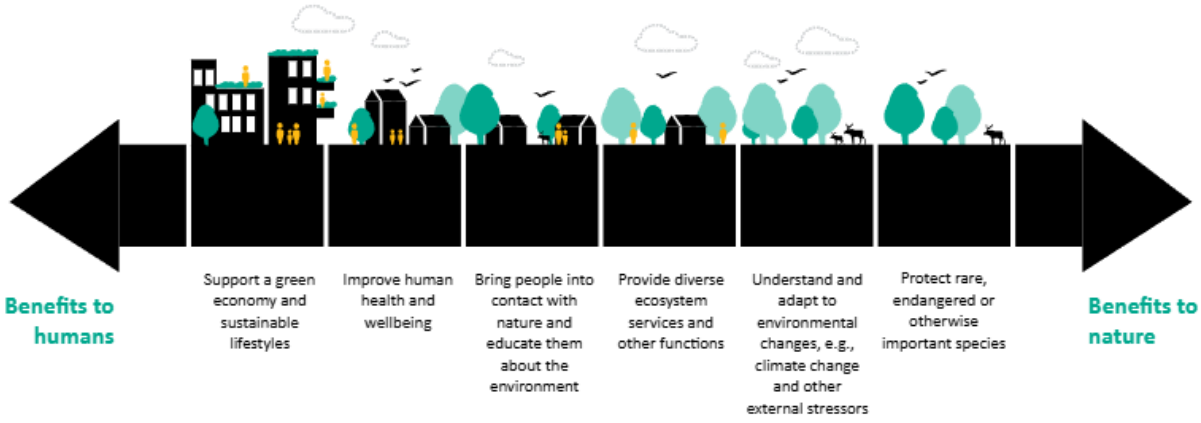

Figure 1. Advantages of GBI implementation in urban areas. Source: Hansen et al. 2017.

Therefore, GBI becomes an interesting spatial approach to be alternated and combined to traditional technical or grey infrastructure.

A further key concept for sustainable landscape planning is nature-based solutions (NbS). NbS are defined by the European Commission (2016) as "actions inspired by, supported by or copied from nature that aim to help societies address a variety of environmental, social and economic challenges in sustainable ways". NbS are therefore systemic, integrative solutions with a multifunctional character and which are ecologically designed and driven.

Frameworks such as GBI or NbS – which can clearly be integrated with one another - are promising for resilient planning and for the mitigation of socio-economic and environmental issues.

Aim and scope of the strategy

The URBIO BAUHAUS project tackles the challenges of implementing urban sustainable transitions by leveraging the NEB initiative. Particularly, the URBIO BAUHAUS project aims to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and improve urban and peri-urban natural ecosystems by implementing various NbS – urban biodiversity solutions – according to the NEB principles. By explicitly adding biodiversity as a fourth, cross-cutting dimension to the NEB values, the project promotes a NEB+ vision—a strengthened interpretation of the NEB that places ecological integrity and nature restoration at the core of urban transformation.

Within this institutional and societal landscape, the present strategy aims to provide cities with a strategic orientation for the development of investment priorities in order to create beautiful, sustainable and inclusive spaces, products and ways of living with the ultimate goal of supporting biodiversity. Within WP3, activity A3.1 aims to develop a Central Europe (CE) strategy for New European Bauhaus (NEB)-based urban biodiverse transition.

The present document has the following objectives:

- ➔ To find synergies between policies on urban biodiversity and NEB and guide the NEB-based urban transition;

- ➔ To provide strategic priorities for the integration of the NEB+ approach into urban sustainable development;
- ➔ To showcase existing examples and success stories of urban transitions.

This strategy was created through a collaborative process between the URBIO BAUHAUS project partners, who engaged in discussions during face-to-face meetings or through information-gathering exercises focused on the strategy (see Annex I and Annex II). By outlining strategic priorities and exemplary pilot actions, the strategy aims at enabling the replication and scaling of NEB-based urban biodiversity approaches across diverse administrative and urban contexts in Central Europe.

The first part of the strategy frames the international and European policy frameworks that support the realisation of a NEB-based urban biodiverse transition, complemented by selected examples of how these policies are translated into local and national contexts. The section then describes the specific objectives of a NEB-based urban biodiverse transition. The second section recommends strategic priorities for cross-sectoral planning towards a NEB-based Urban Biodiverse Transition, each aligned to the 4 overarching objectives of the NEB+ vision. The third section focuses on investment strategies and specific instruments to enable and scale the transition. Finally, the strategy concludes with a series of best practice examples from the Central European countries involved in the project, illustrating how NEB-aligned biodiversity interventions can be implemented in practice.

B. NEB-based Urban Biodiverse Transition: policy background and objectives

The European Green Deal

In Europe, the fundamental overarching policy framework for sustainable transitions is the European Green Deal. The EU Green Deal was introduced in 2019 with the aim to achieve a sustainable transformation of Europe's economy, energy, transport and industries.

The EU Green Deal sets out various objectives (see Figure 2) to achieve climate neutrality, foster innovation, promote clean technology and ensure social fairness. Within the scope of the present strategy, the following goals of the EU Green Deal are particularly relevant:

- Nature restoration and zero pollution;
- Transition towards circular economy models;
- Energy efficient renovation and construction.

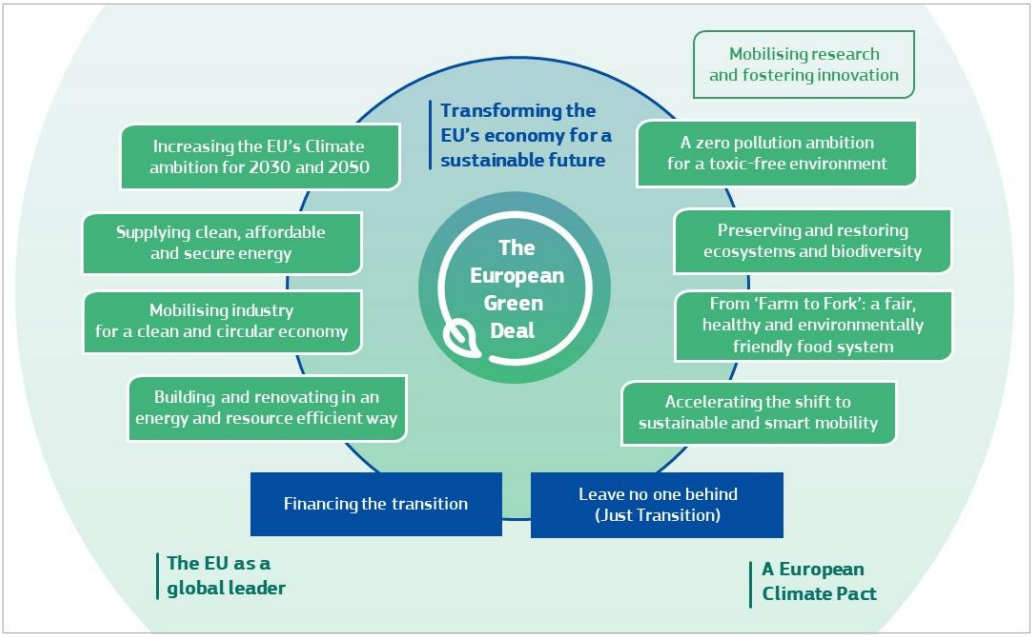

Figure 2. The EU Green Deal's objectives. Source: European Commission, 2019.

The EU Green Deal breaks down into several policy areas – including climate neutrality, transport, nature and biodiversity – and is implemented through a set of legislative initiatives.

Climate Protection Strategy of Érd 2021

The strategy's medium-term goal is to establish Érd as a role model for a liveable, sustainable, green city that coexists harmoniously with the Danube and its surroundings and offers a wide range of amenities. To achieve this goal, it is necessary to raise environmental awareness among the local population and increase the proportion of green spaces in public areas, ensuring a pleasant and liveable environment. The strategy's main mission in the long-term is to make Érd a climate-friendly city by achieving zero GHG emissions and recycling all waste generated, and to ultimately renovate Érd into a city where the built environment harmoniously fits into the surrounding natural environment.

With the strategy's implementation, the adaptability of the city's climate-sensitive assets should be improved and, at the very least, further deterioration prevented. To this end, the strategy intends to foster strong collaboration between the city's climate stakeholders. This will encourage economic actors to engage in mitigation and adaptation, while raising the population's climate awareness and building a strong community.

The Wroclaw 2050 Strategy

The Wroclaw 2050 Strategy is a document setting out a vision of the city's development over the next 25 years, describing the actions leading to the achievement of the set long-term goals and adopting indicators that will determine whether and to what extent they have been achieved.

It aims to transform Wroclaw into a "strong, green and smart" city, with a competitive and innovative economy, focusing on a high quality of life, strengthening its position in the country and the world, ensuring safety of citizens and access to health and education, as well as climate neutrality.

Achieving the city's vision in 25 years is based in the Strategy on 5 strategic objectives:

- high quality of life in a good space by placing emphasis on the development of urban space, creating attractive places to live, work and spend leisure time;

- strengthening the national and international position of Wroclaw by striving to reinforce the city's position as an important economic, cultural and scientific centre;

- ensuring security, crisis resilience and climate neutrality by taking measures to adapt to climate change and increase the safety of citizens;

- ensuring health and building a community based on mutual trust and support by supporting the development of healthy lifestyles;

- quality education, science and culture by developing the education system, supporting research and promoting culture.

New European Bauhaus

The New European Bauhaus (NEB) is a strategic policy initiative promoted within the EU Green Deal. The aim of NEB is to promote and invest in sustainable solutions that combine environmental, aesthetic and social justice principles. Therefore, the NEB initiative acts as a bridge across science, technology, art and culture, thus helping the achievement of the EU Green Deal's objectives.

The NEB initiative relies on three core values: sustainability, aesthetics and inclusiveness. The three core NEB principles are further articulated in a series of ambitions and relative suggestions, which should guide interventions inspired by NEB. They are summarised in Table 1. Sustainability is regarded in a broad scope, comprising actions focused on climate neutrality, zero pollution, circularity, biodiversity conservation.

Table 1. New European Bauhaus (NEB) principles and ambitions.

		Ambitions		
NEB principles	SUSTAINABLE	**To repurpose** ▪ *Preservation* ▪ *Repair, re-use, reduce upgrade, renew*	**To close the loop** ▪ *(Industrial) system circularity* ▪ *Waste transformation*	**To regenerate** ▪ *Carbon storing* ▪ *Enhancing biodiversity* ▪ *Restoration and expansion of natural landscapes* ▪ *Paradigm shift, behavioural change*
	BEAUTIFUL	**To activate** ▪ *Context re-activation* ▪ *Sensory experience* ▪ *Aesthetics*	**To connect** ▪ *Connection across contexts* ▪ *Collective experience* ▪ *Sense of belonging*	**To integrate** ▪ *Enabling creation* ▪ *Restructuring of values* ▪ *Long-lasting movement*
	TOGETHER	**To include** ▪ *Equity* ▪ *Accessibility* ▪ *Prioritising disadvantaged people*	**To consolidate** ▪ *Overcoming segregation* ▪ *Representation and social stability* ▪ *Sharing resources and opportunities*	**To transform** ▪ *Fostering shared social values* ▪ *Societal development and collective growth* ▪ *New ways of living together*

The NEB initiative thus promotes innovative planning approaches and the implementation of NbS. Moreover, by including the creative sector in the process, it aims to create a platform for experimentation and connection.

In addition to the three NEB core values, the initiative introduces three working principles: participatory process, multi-level engagement and a transdisciplinary approach. These principles outline how a project should function and guide it toward reaching the highest level of ambition across the three NEB values.

Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

The EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 is a comprehensive, long-term plan that serves as response to the alarming status of biodiversity and natural ecosystems. Therefore, the strategy's primary goals are to protect nature and to reverse the degradation of ecosystems.

By restoring and improving the status of natural ecosystems, the strategy aims to strengthen the resilience of European society towards pressing challenges like climate change, natural hazards, disease outbreaks. The biodiversity strategy for 2030 includes specific actions and targets for member states. First, the network of protected areas must be strengthened and expanded, so that at least 30% of the land and 30% of the sea are protected in Europe. Second, restoration objectives are promoted in order to restore and improve the status of habitats and ecosystems – e.g. addressing unsustainable and damaging agricultural practices, halting land take, protecting and restoring soils. The strategy further addresses explicitly the need to improve and enlarge green spaces in urban and peri-urban areas, given the many benefits they provide to humans and nature. For this reason, the strategy calls for a systematic integration of GBI, NbS and healthy ecosystems into urban development plans. Particularly, the Commission calls on European cities of at least 20,000 inhabitants to develop Urban Greening Plans that aim at

Operational Programme for Environmental Protection of the Municipality of Kranj 2023/35/50/ (OPVO)

The OPVO addresses the issue of sustainable development from the point of view of the environment and its protection. As a rule, it does not address individual sectoral policies directly, but draws attention to their shortcomings, ignored environmental impacts, and possible synergies. This is especially true when individual environmental challenges in the municipality are already actively addressed within the framework of other strategies, e.g. the Climate change adaptation strategy for the Gorenjska region. In such a case, the OPVO recognizes the environmental challenge, but only provides a link to the specific strategy that already addresses it. In this way, the OPVO takes on the role of a connecting or supplementary element in the strategic framework of the municipality.

The OPVO Strategic Framework consists of 4 strategic objectives that are interrelated and mutually supportive:

OBJECTIVE 1 – Municipality with a small ecological footprint

OBJECTIVE 2 – Biodiverse municipality adapted to climate change

OBJECTIVE 3 – Vital Municipality with high quality living environment

OBJECTIVE 4 – Informed and Responsible Citizens

During the formulation of the presented objectives, several support mechanisms were identified, which in fact represent the prerequisites for the effective implementation of the OPVO. The following key support mechanisms have been identified:

- environmental monitoring,
- support for the operational implementation of the strategy, and
- strategic projects and strengthening the international visibility of the municipality.

supporting biodiversity, ecological networks, reduce pollution.

A key element of the EU Biodiversity Strategy is the **Nature Restoration Law**, which was approved in July, 2024. The Nature Restoration Law aims to restore ecosystems and habitats and to protect species across European terrestrial and water landscapes. The regulation sets binding targets for member states, including:

- An overarching restoration objective for specific habitats and species, with a particular attention for areas with high potential to store carbon and protect from natural hazards;
- Recognition of urban ecosystems and respective specific targets - no net loss of green urban space and tree cover by 2030, and an increase in the total area covered by green urban space by 2040 and 2050.

Overall, the law's binding targets provide an important contribution not only to the protection of European ecosystems and biodiversity, but also to the achievement of the EU's climate adaptation objectives as well as international commitments.

Green Infrastructure Strategy

The collection of green (land) and blue (water) areas that make up the GBI network is important not only for its ecological value, but also for its various other benefits. Unlike conventional grey infrastructure, natural green spaces can simultaneously benefit people (e.g. with recreation opportunities, stress reduction, thermal comfort), nature (e.g. with water purification or habitat provision), the economy (GBI measures are generally low cost and long-term). The backbone of European GBI is the Natura 2000 network of biodiversity-rich and protected areas. To the Natura 2000 sites, further natural and semi-natural elements – i.e. parks, private gardens, vegetated buffer strips, biodiverse agricultural landscape – but also artificial elements – i.e. green roofs, eco-bridges – complete the GBI network.

The EU Green Infrastructure Strategy aims at supporting the development of GBI in European urban and rural areas. The strategy focuses on four priorities: promoting GBI in main policy areas; Improving information, knowledge base and innovation; Improving financial streams;

Strategy of the Green Urban Renewal of the City of Pula until 2030

The main scope of the Green Urban Restoration Strategy is to achieve the development of green infrastructure, integration of NbS, the improvement of circular management of space and buildings, thus realizing the goals of energy efficiency, adaptation to climate change and enhancing risk resilience.

The Strategy maps current green infrastructure, analyses urban heat islands and spatial documents with city features and green spaces databases. It includes 3 specific objectives and lists measures and activities related to them. It recognizes the importance of conservation of biodiversity and natural areas, preventing further fragmentation and improving connectivity.

The Strategy also supports "green" activities of citizens - such as planting, maintenance of gardens, urban beehives - and different awareness raising activities.

Support EU-level GBI projects. The strategy has ensured visibility and recognition of the benefits of GBI, while also integrating it into EU financing mechanisms. However, systematic and large-scale planning of GBI is still lacking.

EU Zero Pollution Action Plan

The EU Zero Pollution Action Plan (2021) is a core component of the European Green Deal and provides a comprehensive framework to eliminate harmful pollution from human activities by 2050. It directly targets the anthropogenic drivers of degradation—emissions from transport and industry, agricultural runoff, waste generation, chemical pollution, and noise—through a series of binding and supportive measures. By 2030, the Plan aims to:

- reduce premature deaths caused by air pollution by at least 55% (compared to 2005);
- cut plastic litter at sea by 50% and microplastic releases by 30%;
- reduce nutrient losses and pesticide use by 50%;
- decrease waste generation by 15% per capita;
- improve water quality;
- and significantly reduce noise pollution affecting urban residents.

To achieve these goals, the plan strengthens air and water quality legislation, promotes cleaner mobility systems, supports circular production and consumption models, and advances the transition to sustainable chemicals and materials.

Objectives of a NEB-based urban biodiverse transition

The New European Bauhaus provides a holistic framework for rethinking the future of European cities by combining sustainability, inclusivity, aesthetics, and innovation. When combining the NEB thematic pillars and a particular focus on biodiversity protection and enhancement, an urban biodiverse transition highlights not only ecological restoration but also the creation of spaces that enhance social cohesion and cultural value. A NEB-based urban biodiverse transition aspires to transform cities into spaces where ecological balance, human well-being, and cultural vitality reinforce each other.

The following objectives build on the NEB pillars with a targeted inclusion of biodiversity conservation. Within the framework of the URBIO BAUHAUS project, the consideration of all 4 objectives in planning and project implementation is regarded as a NEB+ approach, which means the NEB principles integrated with biodiversity.

1. Sustainable: Living in harmony with nature

A primary objective is to build a sustainable urban development, which is understood beyond mere respect for and protection of natural resources. This implies in the first place that the environmental impact of products, services and places is systematically reduced and, if possible, reset. Urban development should therefore align with ecological principles by minimizing resource consumption, pollution, mitigating natural hazards, avoiding further land take and habitat destruction. Sustainable urban transitions also seek to replace linear, resource-intensive urban models with circular systems that prioritize renewable energy, sustainable mobility, and closed-loop material cycles. A truly sustainable transition also implies a mentality shift towards lifestyles and economic models that are more aligned with natural processes. This type of systemic transition – or behavioural change - is essential to ensure long-term transformation, restoration of ecological balances and the well-being of present and future generations.

2. Inclusive: Engaging communities and ensuring equity

Sustainable cities can only thrive if their design and governance are participatory. Inclusivity implies involving the variety of urban actors - citizens, local communities, NGOs, researchers, artists, policymakers- in co-creating solutions. Inclusivity through participation means acknowledging diverse cultural relationships with and within the living environment but also fostering the creation of new relations and networks between individuals and communities. Inclusive urban development also aims at ensuring that sustainable transitions do not exacerbate or create social inequalities. Therefore, inclusive urban development should grant accessibility and affordability, i.e. equal opportunities to benefit from spaces and services to all age groups, backgrounds, abilities. Cross-disciplinary collaboration is essential: ecological expertise must be paired with architectural design, social sciences, and digital innovation to co-develop spaces that are functional, equitable, and reflective of community aspirations. By engaging various groups and empowering different voices, inclusive projects ultimately support solidarity and cooperation and might inspire new ways of living together.

3. Beautiful: Aesthetic and cultural integration

Within a NEB-based urban transition, beauty is a fundamental objective. Beauty and aesthetics are intended beyond visual appeal to encompass a holistic sense of well-being and belonging. Through the integration of art, design and cultural heritage, a beautiful urban sustainable transition aims at improving the qualities of living environments. Beautiful projects also aim at integrating various social and cultural values to create products and spaces for positive and meaningful experiences and also foster awareness of place and heritage. Thereby, aesthetic urban development may encourage emotional connections between people and place, thus fostering stewardship, care and ultimately more resilient communities and spaces.

4. Biodiverse: Conserving and regenerating urban nature

Biodiversity as explicit objective of a NEB-based urban biodiverse transition implies the clear goal of halting biodiversity loss and fostering ecological regeneration. This includes protecting existing habitats, restoring degraded ecosystems, and creating new opportunities for species to thrive in urban and peri-urban settings. The objective is not simply to add greenery but to design with ecological integrity—selecting native plant species, creating multifunctional habitats, enhancing ecological connectivity and ensuring that biodiverse ecosystems constantly underpin ecosystem services such as pollination, soil fertility, and water regulation. Urban development for biodiversity protection and enhancement requires a vision of settlements where humans and nature co-exist in harmony and equilibrium. Therefore, a biodiverse urban transition also aims at raising awareness about biodiversity as a cultural and social asset, a fundamental and intrinsic driver of identity and resilience.

C. Strategic Priorities for a NEB-based Urban Biodiverse Transition

Strategic priorities are key themes that should underpin measures and actions intended to achieve simultaneously all goals of the NEB+ vision, i.e. a sustainable, inclusive, aesthetic and biodiverse transformation. The priorities suggested in the following section have been developed through collaborative work within the URBIO Bauhaus project. Thereby they are based on reflections and ideas developed by the URBIO Bauhaus project partners' and their experiences in their respective CE countries (Poland, Italy, Germany, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia). The strategic priorities were formulated by considering 6 key areas of urban life – quality of life, governance, economy, environment, mobility, people – and the 4 objectives of a NEB-based urban biodiverse transition (see Annex I).

This strategy identifies the following four strategic priorities (Figure 3):

1. Integrated governance and investment for nature in the city;
2. Nature-positive and regenerative urban design;
3. Circular and regenerative economies for living cities;
4. Community-driven urban futures.

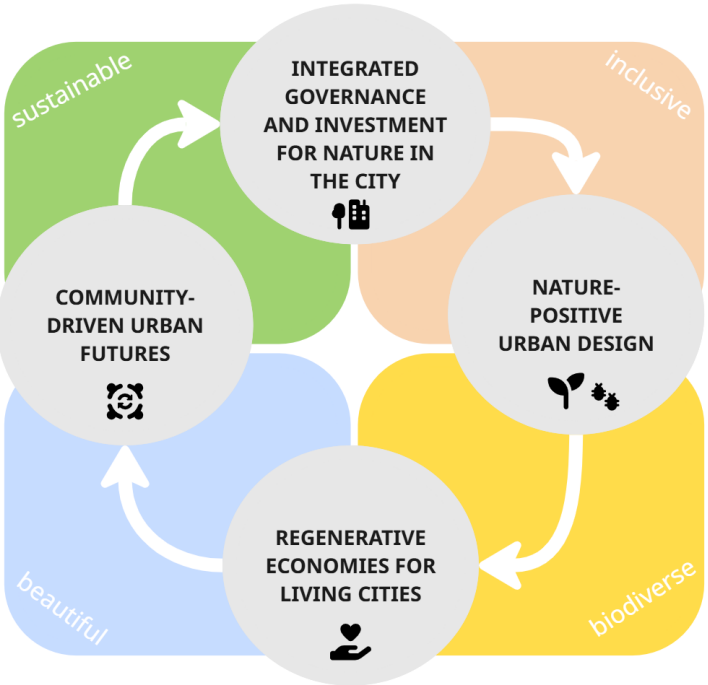

Figure 3. Strategic priorities for a NEB-based urban biodiverse transition.

The following section presents the strategic priorities and their articulations divided according to the NEB+ principles.

Integrated governance and investment for nature in the city

Transformative changes in governance frameworks are required to fully align urban development with a NEB+ vision, supported by strategic investment choices that enable implementation over time. Transforming cities sustainably into biodiverse, inclusive, and aesthetically inspiring places requires a shift from top-down regulation to collaborative frameworks that integrate biodiversity and sustainability into every stage of urban development. Within this approach, public and private investments act as key enablers, translating strategic objectives into concrete interventions on the ground. By establishing collaborative, transparent, and adaptive governance, cities can anchor the NEB+ principles in policy and practice. Various actions can be taken to bring about change in governance structures (Fig. 3).

Figure 4. Actions for collaborative governance for nature in the city.

A central action area is the development and establishment of regulatory frameworks that mainstream NbS and GBI while respecting heritage and aesthetic values. This includes the co-creation of climate adaptation plans, the integration of biodiversity measures and NbS in masterplans, zoning codes, and urban design guidelines. Targeted regulatory frameworks – such as GBI development and maintenance plans - can then reinforce this approach by supporting the implementation of NbS, GBI networks, climate resilient buildings and the use of recycled construction materials. To further promote this principles, existing nature and heritage protection frameworks may be revised to meet climate adaptation and ecological restoration goals.

Innovative financial schemes are essential to mobilise public and private investment. Targeted public funding calls can support biodiversity-positive and climate adaptation measures, such as the greening of courtyards, while incentive mechanisms—including tax exemptions for green roofs or vertical gardens—can encourage uptake by residents and property owners. Complementary tools such as payments for ecosystem services, crowdfunding, and green bonds further expand financing options.

Citizen, community, and stakeholder participation can be strengthened with co-governance approaches, e.g. city councils, living labs, citizen science, public forums and hearings. Citizen participation can be

gradually structured into municipal activities, including the creation of dedicated offices and budgets to support and finance citizen engagement. At the same time, capacity-building within institutions—through cross-departmental working groups, urban and nature walks for municipal staff, and participation in co-creation and living lab activities—supports learning, coordination, and long-term institutional change.

Nature-positive and regenerative urban design

Urban design is an important lever for transposing the NEB+ vision into the daily lives of citizens. A nature-positive and regenerative approach reimagines the built environment as a living system—where buildings, streets, and public spaces not only minimize environmental degradation but actively restore ecological value. In order to fully capture the NEB+ approach, it is crucial to involve the aesthetic and arts sector into the urban development and construction process and embed creative processes in the local communities to produce context-sensitive regenerative solutions.

Figure 5. Nature-positive and regenerative urban design actions.

Urban green space development can be strengthened by creating self-sustaining, low-maintenance areas that rely on native, climate-resilient species. This includes the transformation of selected public green elements—such as flower pots, flower beds, roundabouts, and urban meadows—into perennial, habitat-rich areas that require limited irrigation and maintenance. Nature-based stormwater management solutions, such as rain gardens, can further reduce flood risk while enhancing urban biodiversity. In addition, the creation of urban forests using innovative approaches, such as Miyawaki forest planning, can accelerate vegetation growth, improve microclimates, and boost species diversity even in dense urban contexts. Such nature-like spaces provide opportunities to experience natural beauty within the urban fabric, fostering physical and mental well-being as well as social interaction.

Biodiversity-friendly mobility and infrastructure solutions – e.g. phytoremediation for wastewater treatment or nutrient retention - complement these efforts by strengthening ecological connectivity across the urban fabric. Systematically planned interventions – such as green roofs on parking areas, vegetated walls along streets, well-lit and green cycling and pedestrian pathways, community or edible

gardens - enable multifunctional use of space and reinforce continuous green networks at the municipal scale.

Finally, architectural expression aligned with local identity and natural ecosystems ensures that regenerative design contributes to both ecological and cultural value. The use of local, predominantly perennial plants, grasses, and trees in public space strengthens resilience and sense of place. In heavily built-up areas, carefully designed green spaces—developed by landscape architects—can integrate vegetation with local materials, forms, motifs, and endemic plants. Public art can further reinforce these values, raising awareness of ecological interdependence and sustainability in ways that resonate emotionally with citizens.

Regenerative economies for living cities

The regenerative economy paradigm implies a rethinking of the economic and urban systems with the aim of restoring rather than depleting natural resources. A regenerative economy for living cities goes beyond the concept of circularity, i.e. reducing waste: it reimagines the flow of resources, energy, and materials in ways that strengthen ecological systems while enhancing quality of life. Regenerative actions focus on fostering renewal, restoration, preservation and net positive impacts across all components of an urban system – environment, economic system, society. Therefore, they require multi-level and integrated efforts from all relevant actors to ensure proper outcomes.

Figure 6. Actions for regenerative economies for living cities.

Cities can lead the shift towards a regenerative economy by promoting circular material use and replacing the ‘end of life’ concept with reducing, alternatively reusing, recycling, and recovering materials throughout the supply chain. This process can be enabled by collective efforts and technological innovations from various stakeholders (industry, consumers, policymakers, academia) and also by promoting resource-conscious creativity, ensuring construction and design minimize waste and maximize reuse, e.g. through modular and adaptable design. Complementing these practices with bio-based and

regenerative materials further reduces the ecological footprint of the built environment, while supporting local industries and innovation. Organic waste streams can be transformed into compost or bioenergy, fueling local agriculture and community gardens that, in turn, enhance food security and ecological connectivity. Water-sensitive design and greywater reuse reduce pressure on natural ecosystems, while rainwater harvesting supports both climate adaptation and biodiversity.

Actions to support the shift towards regenerative economies also include legislative and financial frameworks for new green business models and jobs. Urban farming cooperatives, repair cafés, zero-waste retail, and biodiversity-focused enterprises create livelihoods while reducing resource dependency. Local craftmanship, upcycled art and regenerative design may also create further value by promoting cultural identity in synergy with ecological integrity, material consciousness, and shared stewardship. Public-private partnerships and innovative financing tools—such as green bonds or biodiversity credits—can further accelerate investment in such solutions. Developing green skills and jobs is also pivotal to equip local communities with adequate knowledge and capabilities. At the same time, incentives for biodiversity-positive enterprises can nurture SMEs, cooperatives, and start-ups that advance urban farming, repair services, or nature-based solutions. Such a transition not only reduces waste and emissions, but also creates healthier, more equitable, and biodiverse places.

Community-driven urban futures

At the heart of the NEB initiative is the community and its central role in shaping an urban fabric in line with the founding principles of the initiative. Through co-creation and co-governance approaches, communities can lead NEB-based urban biodiverse transitions and become active stewards and co-creators of their shared environments. Co-designing with citizens ensures that urban spaces reflect community values, integrating beauty, function, and ecology.

Figure 7. Actions for community-driven urban futures.

A cornerstone of this approach is the development of co-design processes with citizens that support long-term stakeholder engagement and participatory governance. Beyond traditional consultation, co-design ensures that residents actively collaborate with architects, planners, ecologists, and artists in decision-making processes. This not only increases public ownership and acceptance of projects but also enriches outcomes by incorporating local knowledge and cultural values into urban design. Particular emphasis is placed on increasing the involvement of children and young people through cooperation with strategic entry points like local activity centers. Biodiversity education and literacy programs, from schools to local initiatives, strengthen awareness and skills to care for urban ecosystems. Outdoor classrooms, urban biodiversity trails, and partnerships between schools and municipal authorities can bring the NEB+ principles to life, connecting sustainability, creativity, and inclusion in practical learning experiences.

Neighbourhood associations, cultural centres, NGOs, volunteer networks provide additional platforms for life-long engagement with biodiversity maintenance, ecological monitoring, and community events. Citizen-led initiatives—such as pollinator gardens, urban tree care, or citizen science—not only provide valuable data for biodiversity monitoring but also strengthen social ties and civic pride. Digital platforms can help coordinate these networks, making participation more accessible and visible.

Finally, recognition and reward schemes can celebrate local initiatives, encouraging broader participation and a culture of ecological care. Competitions recognising exemplary architectural or landscape projects, as well as the facilitation of community-based, biodiversity-enhancing initiatives developed through idea competitions, help translate civic creativity into tangible action while fostering a culture of collective ecological responsibility.

D. Investing in a NEB-based Urban Biodiverse Transition

The following section serves as a practical guide for mobilising resources and capital towards a NEB-based urban biodiverse transformations. An important reference document for this part of the strategy is represented by the NEB Investment Guidelines published by the European Commission in 2024. The NEB Investment Guidelines is a practical resource for applying New European Bauhaus values—sustainability, inclusiveness, and beauty—to built environment projects, including buildings, open spaces, and neighbourhoods. They help investors, developers, and project owners understand how NEB principles can enhance project quality, generate both financial and non-financial benefits, and create long-lasting value for society.

Adding value with the NEB+ vision

A fundamental strategy for mainstreaming and establishing the NEB+ vision is to highlight the multiple benefits of its practical applications. Investing in urban transitions aligned with NEB+ values indeed broadens the investors' perspective, as such investments can generate both direct and indirect benefits beyond traditional financial metrics. Direct effects usually translate into immediate financial gains, such as cost savings or increased efficiency, while indirect effects — including enhanced reputation, policy alignment, or social value creation — tend to deliver longer-term financial and strategic advantages.

Figure 7 illustrates how NEB-based urban biodiversity initiatives generate multi-dimensional value. These include direct and indirect financial advantages — cost savings, procedural efficiency, risk reduction, reputation gains, and policy alignment — but also wider benefits such as increased resilience, resource stability, and social innovation.

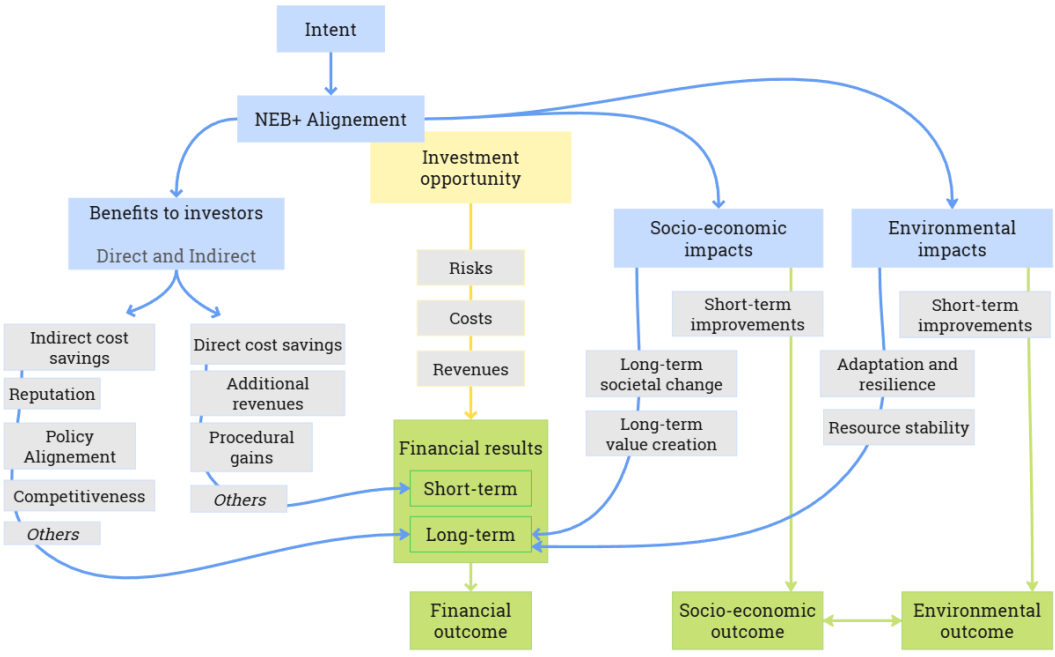

Figure 8. Value Creation in NEB-Based Urban Biodiverse Investments. Adapted from European Commission (2024).

Value creation in NEB-based urban biodiversity projects unfolds over time. In the short term, investments yield visible improvements in the quality of life, environmental performance, and community engagement. In the long term, they generate systemic transformation: ecological regeneration, social cohesion, and sustained cultural and economic vitality. Financial outcomes, socio-economic impacts, and environmental benefits reinforce one another in a continuous cycle, demonstrating that value in the NEB context is both integrated and regenerative.

Key Investment Mechanisms

A successful NEB-based urban biodiversity transition calls for financial ecosystems that mobilize public and private resources while fostering trust, transparency, and shared goals among all actors. Traditional funding and finance mechanisms often fail to capture the full social and ecological value of biodiversity-positive urban design. Therefore, new financing models must be tested to support projects that combine ecological restoration, social inclusion, cultural identity, and regenerative design. Tailored instruments—both debt-based (e.g., green loans, bonds) and equity-based (e.g., impact funds, biodiversity credits)—should be designed to stimulate long-term investment in GBI, NbS and regenerative development. These instruments can be further reinforced through EU funding streams and other transnational collaboration opportunities.

1. Green Financial Instruments

Green bonds, green loans, and green funds are key financial instruments driving the transition toward a more sustainable economy. Green bonds are issued by governments or corporations to raise capital specifically for environmentally beneficial projects such as renewable energy or clean transport. Green loans, typically provided by banks or financial institutions, serve a similar purpose but are usually smaller in scale and directly tied to individual borrowers or projects, like energy-efficient buildings or waste reduction initiatives. Green funds, on the other hand, pool investors' capital to invest in a diversified portfolio of companies, projects, or financial assets that meet environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria. Together, these instruments channel private and public finance into sustainable development, supporting climate action and the low-carbon transition.

2. Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)

PPPs, including social impact bonds, offer a powerful mechanism to scale up NEB-aligned projects by blending public purpose with private sector innovation. They are particularly effective for large-scale interventions such as climate-resilient public spaces, circular infrastructure, or heritage-sensitive regeneration. To ensure success, strong governance structures, transparent communication, and continuous community involvement are essential.

3. Community-Based Financing Models

Crowdfunding, cooperative ownership models, or community bonds empower citizens to directly invest in the transformation of their own neighbourhoods. These instruments not only mobilize local capital but

also strengthen civic participation and social cohesion. By linking finance to collective ownership, cities can stimulate bottom-up innovation and long-term stewardship of urban biodiversity.

4. Government Incentives and Seed Funding

Public authorities play a crucial role by providing grants, subsidies, and tax incentives that de-risk early-stage NEB+ projects. Seed and matching funds can catalyze experimental, small-scale initiatives that test new materials, co-design processes, or biodiversity interventions. Aligning these instruments with national green finance taxonomies and EU priorities ensures coherence and scalability.

5. Innovative Financial Schemes for Nature-Based Solutions

Mechanisms such as payments for ecosystem services, biodiversity credits, or resilience bonds can internalize the value of urban ecosystem services into financial decision-making. These models incentivize public and private stakeholders to invest in the maintenance and restoration of natural capital. For example, nature or biodiversity credits consist of standardized units of verified positive outcomes on nature and biodiversity, enabling companies to demonstrate progress toward nature-related targets and mitigate associated risks. They create investable opportunities in certified nature-positive actions, allowing investors to directly support and potentially benefit from ecological restoration and conservation efforts.

Enabling Frameworks and Funding Streams

The strategy aligns with several EU-level programs and instruments supporting NEB-based urban biodiverse transitions. Various funding programmes are reported in Table 2.

Table 2. International funding streams to finance NEB+ projects.

Funding Stream / Programme	Type of support	Eligible NEB-Aligned Projects	Key Features / Notes
LIFE Programme	Grants, co-financing. Typically €500,000 to €5 million per project; co-financing up to 60% of eligible costs	Biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration, urban NbS	Focuses on environmental and climate action; supports demonstration projects and governance innovation.
Horizon Europe	Research and innovation funding. Varies by call. Typically 100% funding for research projects, 60-70% for innovation projects	Smart and climate-neutral cities, NbS, sustainable urban mobility	Supports transnational collaboration, pilot testing, and innovative technologies; aligned with NEB principles.

European Urban Initiative – Innovative Actions (EUI-IA)	Grants (up to €5M ERDF), co-financing (up to 80%)	Urban biodiversity parks, nature-based solutions, inclusive green infrastructure	Supports cities in testing and transferring innovative solutions; aligns with NEB principles of sustainability, inclusiveness, and aesthetics; promotes peer learning and scalability across EU urban areas.
European Investment Bank (EIB)	Loans, guarantees, advisory. Investment loans: €1 million to €50 million; Framework loans: typically over €100 million	Green infrastructure, climate-resilient buildings, circular economy initiatives	Leverages private capital; provides blended finance for NEB-aligned urban projects.
Cohesion Policy Funds & Interreg Programmes	Co-financing, grants. Varies by programme; typically co-financing rates up to 85%	Regional and transnational urban projects, participatory urban regeneration	Supports infrastructure investment, knowledge exchange, and cross-border collaboration.
NEB Prizes and Recognition	Awards, visibility, small-scale funding. €30,000 per winner; €20,000 for runners-up	Innovative projects reflecting NEB principles	Stimulates pilot initiatives, co-creation, and citizen engagement; highlights exemplary practices.

E. Case studies & best practices

Across Central Europe, cities are already experimenting with innovative approaches that integrate biodiversity, aesthetics, and social inclusion — the core principles of the NEB. These initiatives demonstrate that a nature-positive urban transition is not only possible, but also desirable and replicable. By showcasing tangible examples from different urban contexts, this chapter illustrates how the NEB principles can be translated into real-world interventions that enhance biodiversity, improve urban resilience, and enrich citizens' quality of life.

Best Practice Card 1
Urban Forest Monvidal

City of Pula (HR)

Description:
Monvidal is a densely built residential area in Pula with limited green public space and noticeable urban heat island effects. A neglected stretch of public land along former infrastructure corridors offered potential for transformation as suggested by local residents. The corridor now serves as a green spine for the neighborhood, improving urban cooling, enhancing ecological connectivity, and becoming a living classroom for biodiversity awareness.

Financing:
Public - Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund

Type of intervention	Alignement with strategic priorities	Alignement with NEB+ values
Restoration of native vegetation	SP2.1	
Introduction of pollinator-friendly plants and micro-habitats	SP2.2	
Integration of permeable surfaces to reduce runoff and improve water retention	SP2.1	
Green resting zones designed with landscape architects	SP2.3; SP4.3	
Interaction with local residents proposed to transform the neglected area into a green oasis through small communal actions	SP1.4; SP4.1	

Best Practice Card 2
Revitalization of Ramparts of Zadar Rebellions

Zadar (HR)

Description:
The project transformed 785 meters of road with over 150 parking spaces located in the historical city core into an urban park set on UNESCO-protected ramparts. The new promenade now serves as a green, inclusive, educational, and cultural public space, fully accessible and freely available to citizens and visitors, reflecting local identity and heritage while contributing to sustainability, biodiversity and community well-being.

Financing:
Public - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

Type of intervention	Alignement with strategic priorities	Alignement with NEB+ values
Improvement of urban green space with citizens and stakeholder engagement	SP1.4; SP4.1; SP4.2	
Promenade design inspired by nature with custom elements for sensorial stimulation	SP2.3; SP4.3	
Botanic garden with over 50 Mediterranean plant species and more than 5,000 seedlings adapted to the local climate	SP2.1	
Use of locally-sourced, durable materials such as wood, stone and corten steel	SP3.1	
Improved management of tourism by dispersing tourist flows in the old city core, thus benefitting further the local community	SP1.3; SP4.3	

Best Practice Card 3
Complex tourism development of Zalakaros health resort

Zalakaros (HU)

Description:
The Municipality of Zalakaros City initiated a project to address stormwater drainage issues in the downtown event space and surrounding areas, where the existing sewage system could not handle heavy rainfall. Instead of costly reconstruction, a Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) was implemented to manage rainwater on-site.

Financing:
Public - Municipality of Zalakaros City and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

Type of intervention	Alignement with strategic priorities	Alignement with NEB+ values
Improvement of urban green space with NbS (permeable paving, landscaping for water infiltration, and strategic planting)	SP2.1; SP2.2	
Varied landscaping and biodiversity-friendly plating approaches	SP2.2; SP2.3; SP4.3	
Improved recreation opportunities	SP3.4; SP4.3	
Close cooperation between disciplines during design and construction	SP1.4; SP4.1	
Interaction with users to collect feedback	SP4.2	

Best Practice Card 4
San Pietro in Vincoli Cultural Hub

Torino (IT)

Description:
San Pietro in Vincoli Cultural Hub is a cultural regeneration initiative in Turin (Italy) that transformed an 18th-century former cemetery into a vibrant, accessible cultural hub combining contemporary theater, lifelong learning, social inclusion, and urban regeneration. By 2024 it hosted dozens of events, implemented sustainable infrastructure and served as a multifunctional public space to strengthen social cohesion and local identity.

Financing:
Public and private - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

Type of intervention	Alignement with strategic priorities	Alignement with NEB+ values
Energy efficiency improvements, e.g. replacement of window frames and of lighting system	SP2.2; SP3.1	
Inclusion of an urban cummunity garden -St'Orto Urbano- with fruit trees, aromatic plants, and vegetables, managed following the principles of permaculture and synergistic gardening	SP2.2; SP3.2; SP3.4; SP4.3	
Adoption of Universal Design principles for full accessibility in the public spaces	SP2.3	
Promotion of various events and initiatives - from environmental capacity building to upcycling and intercultural events	SP1.4; SP4.1; SP4.2	
Testing of inclusive models in employment and event management	SP3.2; SP4.2	

Best Practice Card 5
PoPo Park

Wroclaw (PL)

Description:
On the occasion of the construction of the Wroclaw's Port Popowice, the decision was taken to revitalise the city park closest to the housing estate. The revitalisation included part of the Western Park and aimed at achieving a balanced combination of aesthetics, support of natural process and barrier-free access to the spaces.

Financing:
Private funding

Type of intervention	Alignement with strategic priorities	Alignement with NEB+ values
Desing and landscaping by renowned team of landscape architects and designers	SP2.3	
Pedestrian promenade along the park with small architectural elements, details, and terrain leveling and gentle sloping for accessibility	SP2.1; SP2.3; SP 4.3	
Rain gardens	SP2.1	
Planting of species resistant to urban conditions and suitable to the local habitat	SP2.1	
Coordination efforts between multiple actors	SP1.4; SP3.3	

Best Practice Card 6
Development of Kokra Canyon

Kranj (SI)
Description:
The strategy for devoloping the Kokra Canyon area presents a plan on how to design a natural attraction in the immediate vicinity of the city center of Kranj in a sustainable and nature-protecting manner, which will also enable pedagogical and sports activities, provide a safe sanctuary for nature lovers and provide visitors and tourists with an unforgettable experience.

Financing:
Public and private - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Urban Initiative (EUI)

Type of intervention	Alignement with strategic priorities	Alignement with NEB+ values
Arrangement of infrastructure with NbS in access and movement to the canyon, and to enable safe contact with unspoiled nature for both citizens and tourists	SP2.1; SP2.2	
Natural material taken from the canyon is used in the canyon for other purpose, e.g. landscaping, infrastructure	SP2.2; SP2.3; SP3.1	
Selection of activities envisaged (non-invasive sports, recreational and educational activities)	SP3.3; SP4.2	
Preservation of the area of natural attraction and its biotic features in a pristine state	SP1.1; SP3.4	
Close collaboration with the local community	SP1.3; SP4.1	

F. Upscaling, dissemination and strategic uptake

This CE strategy for a NEB-based Urban Biodiverse Transition is conceived as a scalable and impact-oriented framework that extends beyond the URBIO BAUHAUS project's partner cities. Its purpose is not limited to internal guidance but includes contributing to systemic change in how Central European cities integrate biodiversity conservation, climate adaptation, and NEB values into governance, planning, and investment decisions. Hence, the strategy is designed to be adaptable to different administrative, spatial, and socio-economic contexts, enabling administrators to align their governance and investment priorities with objectives inspired by NEB+ principles.

The URBIO BAUHAUS project partners commit to promoting the strategy as a transferable reference framework for municipalities and regional authorities across Central Europe. Beyond dissemination, the partnership seeks to stimulate:

- voluntary uptake and contextual adaptation of the strategy by non-partner cities;
- integration of biodiversity-positive and NEB-aligned criteria into urban masterplans, sectoral strategies, and investment programmes;
- alignment of local development priorities with European policy frameworks on climate adaptation, restoration, and sustainable urban development.

Within the project framework, WP 3—and specifically Activity 3.4—serves as the operational instrument for implementing these strategic commitments. While the strategy defines the ambition, scope, and intended impact of upscaling, WP3 provides the structured activities and tools through which dissemination, peer exchange, and outreach are realised.

Target Groups and transfer mechanisms

Upscaling efforts will primarily address municipalities and metropolitan authorities across Central Europe, particularly those seeking to strengthen the integration of biodiversity conservation, climate adaptation, and NEB values into their governance and investment frameworks. Special attention will be given to cities participating in European initiatives—such as the EU Mission on Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities, biodiversity and NbS platforms, and other thematic networks—where the strategy can contribute to ongoing transformation processes.

In addition, the strategy will be promoted among transnational urban networks, regional development agencies, planning bodies, and decision-makers responsible for public investment and spatial development. By engaging actors who influence regulatory frameworks, funding priorities, and territorial planning instruments, the partnership aims to ensure that the strategy informs not only policy discourse but also concrete decision-making and resource allocation processes.

Dissemination and upscaling will be implemented through a structured mix of:

- peer-to-peer exchange formats and bilateral meetings with interested cities;
- presentations at conferences, thematic forums, and networking events;
- engagement through identified EU-level platforms and urban networks;
- targeted communication materials (policy-oriented summaries, visual content, strategy briefs) supporting accessibility and practical application.

Where feasible, the partnership will document outreach activities, expressions of interest, and references to the strategy in external planning or policy processes as qualitative evidence of transfer and impact.

G.Conclusion

The transition toward NEB-based urban biodiverse cities represents both a necessity and an opportunity for Central Europe. As cities face accelerating environmental, social, and climatic pressures, the integration of biodiversity into urban planning emerges as a crucial pathway toward long-term resilience, health, and equity. The NEB+ vision promoted by the Urbio Bauhaus project provides a unifying framework to guide this transformation — connecting sustainability, aesthetics, and inclusion into a shared cultural and ecological vision for urban life.

This strategy has reviewed the international policy landscape that shapes the sustainable transformation of cities. Within Central Europe, national and local administrations are guided by tailored policy instruments such as climate adaptation plans, green city programmes, and urban restoration strategies that translate European objectives into place-based action. Building on this policy background, the strategy articulates the vision of a NEB+ urban transition, which combines NEB's core values of sustainability, inclusion, and beauty with biodiversity. To make this transition tangible, the strategy identifies four strategic priorities:

- Integrated governance and investment for nature in the city;
- Nature-positive and regenerative urban design;
- Circular and regenerative economies for living cities;
- Community-driven urban futures.

Each priority is accompanied by recommended actions that may guide local administrations and stakeholders in aligning their planning, investment, and governance frameworks with NEB-based biodiversity objectives. The strategy also presents case studies and best practices from Central European cities that demonstrate how these principles can be implemented in practice. These examples illustrate diverse pathways for translating NEB principles into concrete nature-based interventions and governance approaches, offering transferable insights rather than prescriptive models.

Overall, this strategy is intended as an overarching framework to support cities in shaping investment priorities and implementation pathways for NEB-based urban biodiversity transitions. The practical path to implementing these transitions will require translating the strategic priorities suggested here into site-specific action plans. These plans will be able to take optimal account of the specific needs and conditions of local and national realities and thus lead to a more targeted and appropriate implementation of intervention measures. By fostering collaboration, mobilising investments, and empowering communities, the strategy contributes to positioning Central European cities as active agents in advancing a regenerative urban future where biodiversity, social inclusion, and aesthetic quality reinforce one another.

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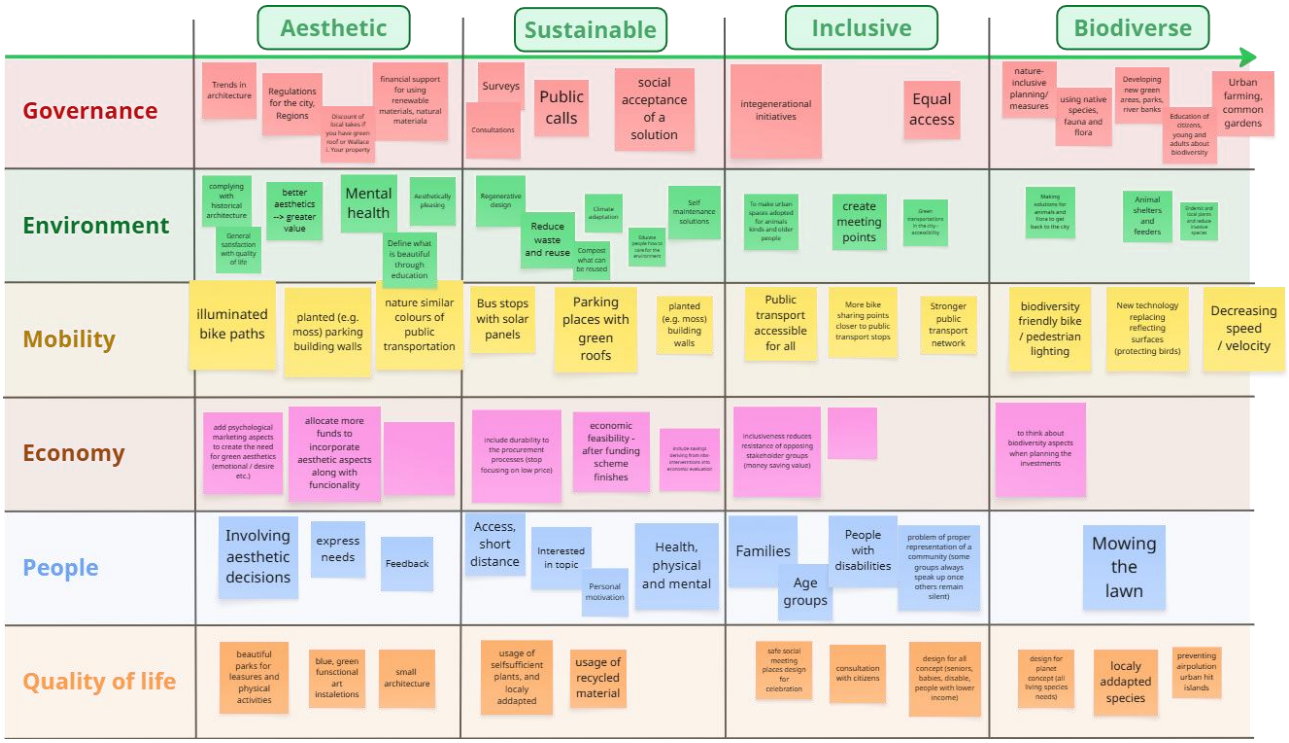
Annexes

Annex I

Results from the collaborative workshop on the definition of the strategy's priorities



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D3.1.1
Local partners input template

06 2025

NEB-Based Urban Biodiverse Transition Strategy – Local Partner Contribution

URBIO Partner : _____

Contact Person: _____

1. Relevant Policy Framework or Guidance Document

Please identify one key policy or strategy relevant to NEB and/or biodiversity that your city/region is using or referring to.

- Title of the policy/document:

- Level (Local / Regional / National):

- Main Objective/Scope:

- Connection to NEB Principles (Aesthetic, Participative, Sustainable):

- Is this policy actively influencing your BIOCENTUM activities? (Yes/No)

- Short comment on how it helps (1–2 sentences):

2. Best Practice Example

Share a practical example or case study from your city/region/country that reflects the application of NEB principles and promotes an urban biodiverse transition.

- Title of the Project/Practice:

- Location:

- Short description:

- NEB alignment (tick all that apply):

☐ Aesthetic
☐ Participative
☐ Sustainable
☐ Biodiversity-enhancing

- Implemented by:

- Results or impacts (if known):

- Key challenges or success factors (if known):

3. Optional: Reflections or suggestions for the CE Strategy for NEB-based Urban Biodiverse Transition

Do you have any recommendations for what should be included in the transnational strategy?

- _____

- _____