Biodiversity & Nature-based Solutions at ICLEI Europe

Urban sprawl is rapidly depleting biodiversity and degrading natural ecosystems, while poor land-use planning is resulting in social and economic issues within and around cities.

In order to create a healthy environment to live and work, local governments must reconcile their development ambitions with nature by integrating multi-functional, biodiverse and interconnected green and blue spaces in their cities. These can act as Nature-based Solutions (NBS), tackling challenges such as poor air quality, vulnerability to climate change-related risks like flood or heat waves, deteriorating health of citizens, and bringing urban communities closer together. As a long-term advocate of the importance of urban biodiversity and green spaces, ICLEI Europe supports local governments in embedding NBS into policies and planning processes. By working with cities to implement NBS and promote biodiversity, ICLEI Europe also helps them to reduce the impacts of climate change, thus creating a cohesive urban society and nature-positive economy.

“Transition to a more sustainable world takes place in cities, and therefore, it is sometimes necessary for cities to speak with a strong, unified voice so that decision-makers listen. Växjö has been an ICLEI member for many years, a membership that has allowed us to raise our voice together with other cities in order to showcase our sustainable cities and thus work together for a more sustainable world.”

Anna Tenje, Mayor of Växjö (Sweden)
ICLEI EUROPE FACTSHEET ON BIODIVERSITY & NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

IMPACT

Involved in 20+ past and ongoing Nature-based Solutions projects

Supported 85+ cities in the planning and/or implementation of NBS, and gathered many more to learn from and with pioneering cities

Supporting 20+ cities in breaking the ground for Urban Greening Plans by pioneering NBS plans even before the EU called for such plans in the Biodiversity Strategy

RESOURCES

→ NBS handbook for practitioners
→ A guide for pollinator-friendly cities
→ www.citieswithnature.org

PROJECTS

NEWSLETTER

→ www.iclei-europe.org/newsletter

Connect with us:

✉️ biodiversity-europe@iclei.org
📍 www.iclei-europe.org/topics/biodiversity-nature-based-solutions
🐦 twitter.com/ICLEI_Europe

ICLEI Europe

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network of more than 1,750 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 100+ countries, we influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development.

ICLEI Europe provides its 160+ members in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and West Asia with a voice on the European and international stage, a platform to connect with peers and tools to drive positive environmental, economic and social change. ICLEI Europe works closely with an extended network of local and regional governments and national and international partners on a broad range of topics.