



**REGIONS
& CITIES**

**European Week
Brussels 8-11 October 2018**

UIA 4th Call: Sustainable Land Use and Nature Based Solutions

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What is at stake ?

- [1,000 km² 'land take' every year](#), partly through urban sprawl
- other are irreversibly eroded or **degraded**: heavily polluted urban brownfield
- other are **underused**: especially in shrinking cities

Loss of ecosystem services:

- water provision and regulation
- climate regulation, mitigation of natural disaster risks, etc.
- clean air



⇒ Threats in terms of :

- Security (Disasters, Food security, social cohesion)
- Health, Quality of life and wellbeing
- Economy

⇒ Unsustainable travel patterns

More on [Urban Sprawl in Europe \(EEA 2016\)](#)



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Sustainable land use and Nature Based Solutions: the winning combination for liveable and compact cities

Major challenge

Right balance between compactness, high standards of quality of life and inclusiveness.

Mainstream and promote nature-based solutions as a tool to build sustainable and liveable urban spaces.

Green (and Blue) Infrastructure & Nature Based Solutions have multi-benefits for urban areas :

- health benefits (i.e. decreased air pollution, reduction of urban heat island)
- social benefits (i.e. crime reduction, inclusion)
- Environmental and cultural benefits (i.e. recreation opportunities, ecological connectivity)
- Economic benefits (i.e. prevention of climate adaptation and reduction of climate related risk, creation of jobs, diversification of local economies)





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Sustainable land use and Nature Based Solutions: the winning combination for liveable and compact cities

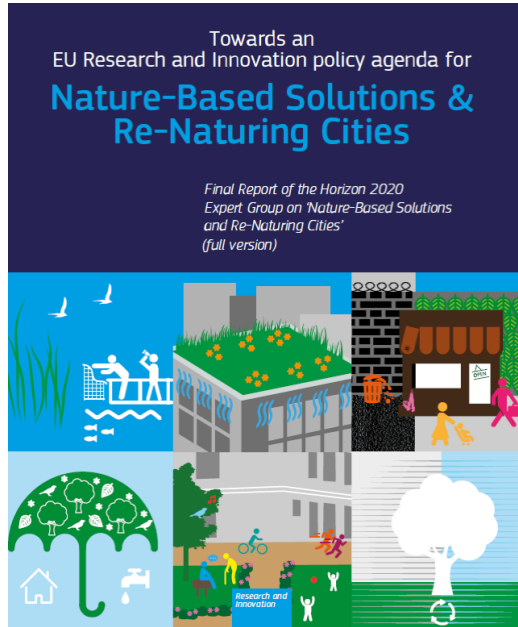
- **No overarching policy framework on sustainable land use but:**
 - [EU soil Thematic Strategy](#): Zero Net land take by 2020
 - [Urban Agenda for the EU Partnership for sustainable land use and NBS](#)*
- **Mainstream and promote sustainable land use, tackling urban sprawl: need of**
 - > **Integrated urban planning** including strategy at the Functional Urban Area scale
 - > Innovative **Finance, business and governance models** for brownfield and underutilised land re-use
 - > **Raising awareness** on the impacts of urban sprawl and benefits of re-naturing cities
 - > A **city friendly EU common assessment framework for land take/use and NBS benefits**
- **For dynamic centers and for shrinking cities – taking into account market and fiscal drivers**

* Partnership lead by PL and Bologna with: Antwerp, Cork , Lille Metropole, Stavanger, Verband Region Stuttgart, Zagreb; MS Cyprus, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Portugal, Slovenia & NGOs (Eurocities, Iclei, URBACT), DG RTD , JRC, EEA and EIB.



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Green Infrastructure and NBS, an opportunity for cities and urban areas

European policy frameworks on Green Infrastructure and Nature Based Solutions:

[Green Infrastructure Strategy](#)

[Action Plan for People, Nature and the Economy](#)

[Nature Based Solution Research and Innovation initiative](#)

Nature Based Solution Research and Innovation initiative is funding through Horizon 2020 innovative projects: on [business, governance and finance models](#) (2016 call) + urban pilot projects for demonstrating NBS multibenefits with a focus on:

- [water and climate resilience](#) (2016 call)
- urban regeneration (same call but in 2017)
- [health and well-being](#) (2019 call)
- mitigation and air quality (2020 call)

More info on the calls on: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/> and on the projects on <https://www.think-nature.eu/about/#partnerprojects>



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Sustainable land use and Nature Based Solutions: What type of innovative approaches (ToR)

a) incorporation of blue and green infra and promotion of systemic NBS for inclusive urban regeneration and sustainable urban development

b) Innovative approaches to sustainable land use and land use planning

- **Remediation, restoration and prevention of the formation of brownfield**
- **Adaptive reuse of vacant and underutilized land**
- **Renaturing urban spaces for climate change mitigation and adaptation**
- **Tackling the existing urban sprawl and preventing further urban sprawl**
- **Promotion of sustainable urban farming**



Good Practices



NRW, Germany: Land take 10 ha of open area in 2011 per day
a goal of increasing the reuse of brownfields:

- reduce the daily land uptake to 5 ha/day by 2020
- zero land uptake in the long term

Some municipalities in NRW have already achieved a recycling ratio of 75 % in the last 20 years

Lisbon: Nature Based Solutions for sustainable urban regeneration

- "One square in each neighbourhood" programme for bioclimatic confort and biodiversity targets in 30 city spots
- Urban farming
- 9 green corridors, incl. 30000 street trees and biodiverse meadows

Lisbon 42 247 street trees provide services estimated at about euros 7,5 millions annually, for 1,7 million spent managing them



Edinburgh - NBS enhancing health, wealth and sustainability



Genk - NBS bridging green and industrial heritage



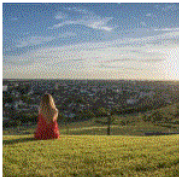
Linz - NBS as a motor for urban growth



London - NBS for a leading sustainable city



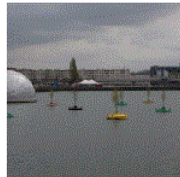
Milan - NBS for urban regeneration



Oradea - Improving quality of life with NBS



Poznań - NBS for a friendly, mobile city



Rotterdam - NBS for building a waterproof city

Nature Based Solutions are:

- Living solutions: no biomimicry
- Resource-efficient (including money)
- Multi-benefits: several ecosystem services are fostered at the same time
- Adapted and integrated in local context
- Co-created with the citizen

Other good practices and tools on: oppla.eu