



## Green City Committee Report

October 2021 – January 2022

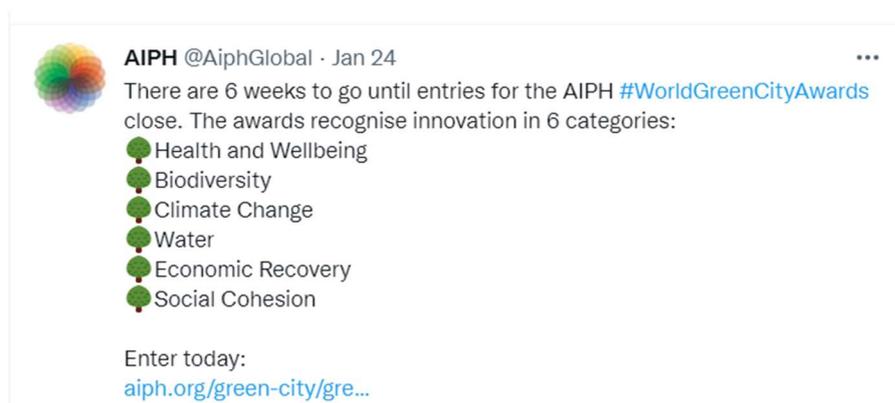
Prepared by Dr Audrey Timm, Technical Advisor, AIPH

### Green City Guidelines

Case studies: The sites for the horticulture-focus case studies are under discussion, with a view to presenting 5 different scenarios of plant production and procurement in city greening projects. These new case studies highlight the essential role that the ornamental horticulture industry plays in successful delivery of Green City projects. The topics are:

1. Contract production.
2. On-site production/meanwhile use.
3. Approaches to tree conditioning and/or tree sourcing to better prepare for survival, drought tolerance and resilience to climate change.
4. Specialist growers supporting a widening of the plant palette for ornamental design.
5. Native and near-native plants on green roofs

Elements of the AIPH Green City Guidelines were used in the social media countdown campaign to encourage entries to the AIPH World Green City Awards, an example of which is demonstrated below.



### Green City Awards/Standards

Encouraging entries for the AIPH World Green City Awards 2022 has been a priority. In total more than 300 cities have been directly contacted by email. Presentations have been made to our global partners, now totalling 16, either within their meetings or in newsletters and through social media. In November 2021 we started the countdown to the deadline for submissions, starting with 3 months to go, then 2 months to go, and then each week has a specific focus. We have also, since October 2021, embarked on an extensive set of social media campaigns to promote the Awards and encourage entries. In response to queries that we received from potential entrants, we developed a step-by-step guide to creating a profile and an entry. An extended report is provided separately.



Invitations have gone out to the first group of experts to request their participation on the Technical Panel. As the deadline for entries draws closer and we have a more definite idea of how many cities will enter, we may need to increase the number of people on the Technical Panel.

### Green City Conferences

The AIPH International Green City conference is scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 in Dubai as part of the AIPH Spring Meeting 2022. Greening Cities for Sustainable Development: Green cities deliver local action for global agendas. The theme is the activities and programmes that cities and countries are making to achieve the UN SDGs and other global initiatives (such as the Paris Agreement), with a specific focus on the contribution that 'living green' makes to meeting the stated objectives.



Cities and local governments have the capacity to generate innovative ideas and locally implement approaches that contribute to reaching global goals. These contributions can be under-estimated, perhaps by a question of scale, perhaps by limited promotion, yet these have an immense potential to influence change. Local governments and city leaders demonstrate just how impactful local innovation can be and how important it is to engage cities as partners to reach global sustainability and climate agendas. Speakers will present the perspective from Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Canada.



AIPH is gathering Green City Country Reports to present at the Spring meeting in Dubai in March 2022. These will be posted on the AIPH Community platform, and excerpts will be published in FCI Magazine in the Green City Post. Some of the items in these reports will be suitable to develop as case studies for the AIPH Green City Case Study Library, and AIPH will be in contact with country representatives to invite case studies to be submitted. <https://aiph.org/green-city-case-study-library/> . Country Green City reports from 2020 can be viewed on the AIPH Community platform.

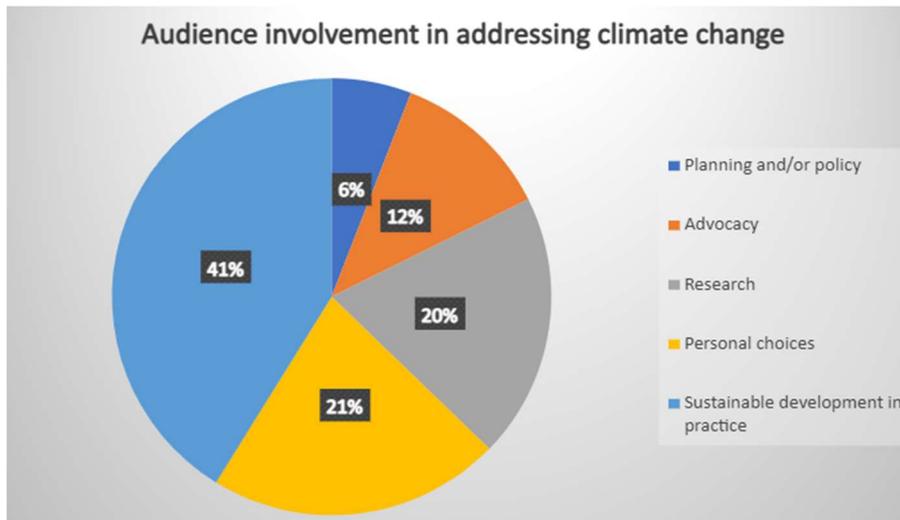
The next Green City conference is in planning for Doha, with funding from Expo 2023 Doha Qatar, and will be held during the Expo which runs from October 2023 to March 2024. The theme will be decided in collaboration with representatives of the Expo and will align with the Expo theme of 'Green Desert, Better Environment' and its sub-themes of Modern Agriculture, Technology and Innovation, Environmental Awareness, and Sustainability.

### Green City Briefings

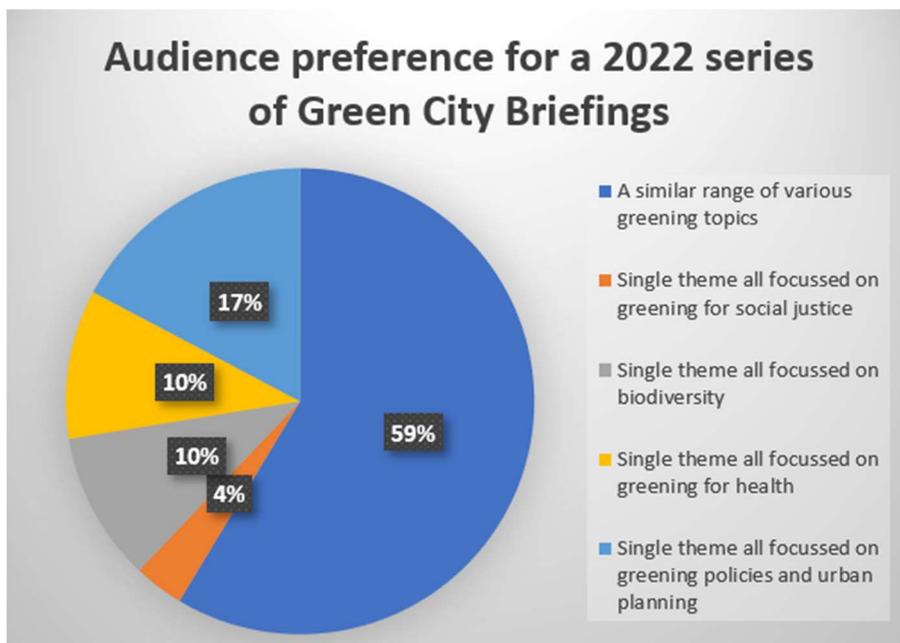
The City of London Green City Briefings finished in December 2021 with an update from the City of London on progress against their Climate Action Strategy. The Briefings were very well received, with registrations from more than 500 people from 54 countries. All of the 2021 briefings are available for on-demand viewing on the AIPH website <https://aiph.org/green-city/green-city-briefings-2021/> .

Audience polls that were conducted in some of the sessions gave insights into the sectors attending and the topics of interest.

In response to a poll asking what the involvement of the audience was in addressing climate change, 41% stated that they were involved in sustainable development in practice.



In response to a poll asking which topics a future series of Green City Briefings would be preferred, the majority of the audience chose a similar programme for the 2021 City of London Green City Briefings in preference over a single theme.



Topics covered during 2021 were: air quality, urban forests, biodiversity, green roofs and walls, climate action, water management, and well being.

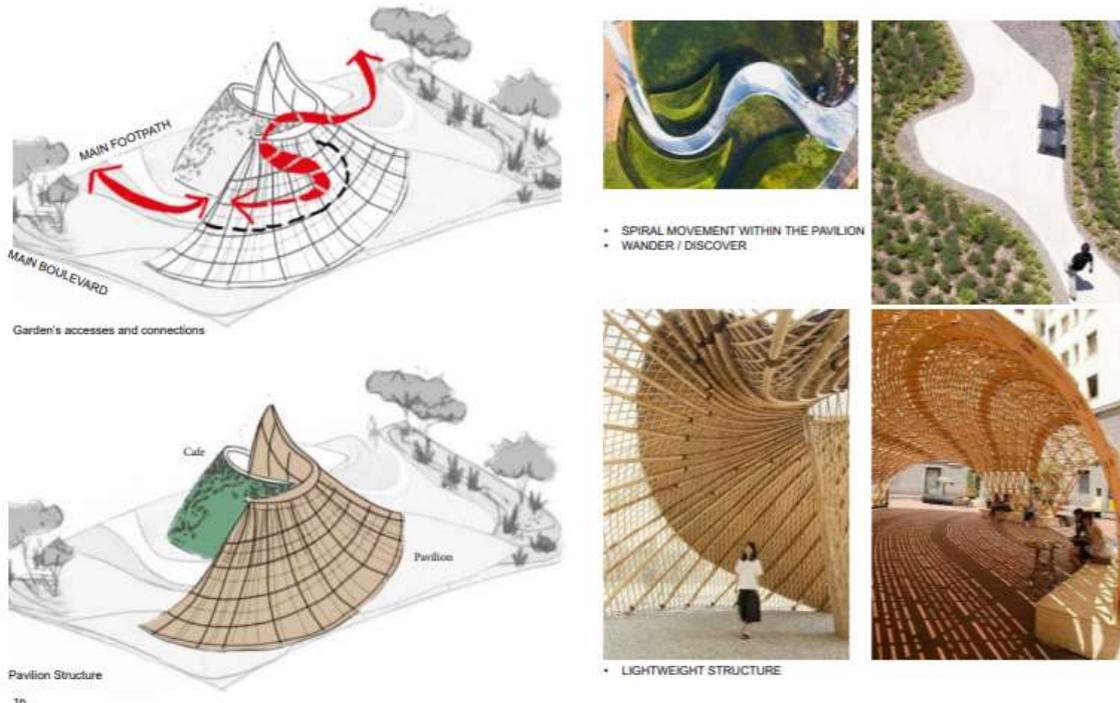
Support from Expo 2023 Doha Qatar enables AIPH to organise and present a second series of Green City Briefings. This series of 12 Briefings will be held every 2 months from April 2022 to March 2024, covering the lead up to Expo Doha 2023 and during the Expo itself. The topics will align with the theme of Expo Doha 2023 which is that greener places are better. The series will include speakers and sessions which explore different climates, thereby aligning closely with the specific challenges that Doha faces in greening the city.

The format of the 2022/23 Green City Briefings will be similar to the 2021 series in that it will include presentations from 2 speakers in a one hour online webinar session. A difference from the 2021 series is that the 2022/23 series will request 15 minute presentations from each speaker, and this allows more time for a curated Q&A session. A further advancement is that the webinars will be hosted on an online platform that supports networking and discussion across a global Green City community.

## Green City Gardens

AIPH continues discussions with Expo 2023 Doha to design an AIPH Green City Garden at their Expo. The driving theme of Expo 2023 Doha is ‘Green Desert, Better Environment’, with four sub elements focusing on Modern Agriculture, Technology & Innovation, Environmental

AIPH PAVILION CONCEPT



Awareness, and Sustainability. Looking at the principles of green cities, and sustainable building design, the pavilion’s design will consider these elements to facilitate an engaging journey through the AIPH pavilion, where the structure and surrounding gardens work in parallel to provide an interactive visitor experience and create a dynamic environment that develops and transforms over time. The design addresses indoor and outdoor space, and embraces interaction and movement, with attention given to suitable plant selection for climate and micro-climate.

## Communications

AIPH continues to provide content for the ‘Green City Post’ section in FCI, and all of the Green City Post articles are now held on a dedicated webpage on the AIPH website. <https://aiph.org/green-city/green-city-post/>. Each issue of FCI magazine also now includes a Plant Profile. These are short notes written by industry designers and practitioners that profile a particular plant or species, describing the benefits that they provide beyond the ornamental. These can be viewed either on FCI website or on the same AIPH website page as the Green City Post.



The AIPH Green City e-newsletter will be distributed monthly, and reports on global activities, ideas, and developments in the following topics:

Title: *Global Green City Updates: AIPH presents the power of plants for city resilience.*

Content: Each newsletter aims to have an item within the topics, though this is flexible:

- Policy
- Best practice
- Theme from AIPH Green City Guidelines with a summary of a news item
- AIPH activities and events
- Revealing new case studies (from template)
- Research findings

Social media activity for AIPH Green City activities has been high, and basic monitoring shows continuing growth in the size and diversity of our audience. More detail about this is presented in the report on the AIPH World Green City Awards.

### Other activities

**Expo regulations to align expos with Green City principles.** An annex has been created to include in the regulations that Expo organisers follow. The annex lays out the ways in which the Expo organiser will be required to align design, maintenance and management, and transition to legacy with the green city principles. This draft document is being discussed internally.

**Chelsea flower show garden 2021:** AIPH was invited to the opening of the Guangzhou Garden at RHS Chelsea Flower Show in September 2021. Audrey Timm attended on behalf of AIPH. The garden, designed by Grant Associates, cleverly demonstrated the Green City principles of plants providing more than aesthetic benefits. The garden won a Gold Medal and Best Show Garden. AIPH received good media coverage, particularly in China, and a report on the garden was published in FCI Green City Post



<https://aiph.org/floraculture/news/green-city-garden-wins-best-in-show-at-rhs-chelsea-flower-show-2021/>

**AIPH Green City Research Symposium:** Within the AIPH strategy there is an objective to facilitate the sharing and adoption of the latest scientific research and development. AIPH will organise a research symposium with a dedicated journal issue of *Cities&Health*, a Taylor and Francis journal. The theme of the special issue will focus on the many contributions that 'living green' makes to the health of cities, considering human health, community health, and planetary health. AIPH is liaising with *Cities&Health* editorial staff to establish an editorial committee and a timeline for organising a symposium and compilation of journal articles. This is made possible with funding from Expo 2023 Doha Qatar and the symposium will be held in Doha.



**TNOC Festival 2022.** AIPH is a collaborative partner for The Nature of Cities (TNOC) Festival 2022 to be held as an online event from 29-31 March 2022. AIPH is hosting 2 sessions in the

festival, both introducing and testing recognition of the contribution that the horticulture industry makes to successful urban greening.

In preparation for a session, AIPH initiated an online Global Roundtable forum to the question: *“The success of nature-based green cities is only possible with a better knowledge of plants. Where does such knowledge come from? Can the horticultural industry be more useful? If we accept the hypothesis that plants are the critical foundations of urban nature, then how do we go about ensuring we procure, prepare, and plant the right plants in the right places when implementing nature-based solutions? How can we enable better decision-making when it comes to plant selection and preparation? Is a closer engagement with the ornamental horticulture industry what is missing?”*

The responses received will lead to the development of a seed session at the TNOC Festival, where we will seek to showcase the potential for strengthening the links between cities and growers in enabling urban nature-based solutions. Building on this, we are also leading a skills session at the festival which will aim to equip urban change-makers and practitioners with the knowledge and/or networks they need to practically implement nature-based solution, focussing on harnessing the power of plants, careful plant selection, and the role of growers in implementation.

Registration for TNOC Festival 2022 will open soon, and AIPH members are invited to consider attending <https://tnoc-festival.com/wp/>

**International Horticultural Congress**, Angers, France. Dr Audrey Timm is invited to present a keynote address in Symposium 7, Greener Cities at IHC in August 2022.

**ICLEI World Congress:** AIPH is exploring the potential to attend the ICLEI World Congress in Malmo from 11th-13th May 2022. This contains many interactive sessions, and presents an excellent opportunity for AIPH to engage in dialogue with the local government sector.

**IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions:** IUCN is running their second cohort for a professional certificate in the IUCN Global Standard for NbS. Audrey Timm is enrolled in this course and is progressing the agenda of a standard for NbS in the urban context, and positioning the ornamental horticulture industry in these discussions.

**Student interns:** AIPH is working with 2 student interns in China, supported by the organisation, Global Cultural Adventures. Global Cultural Adventurers (GCA) is an international education group, which aims to build a global platform of cultural exchange and international internship for youth. AIPH has signed an MOU to outline the mutual expectations of this collaboration. The project topics are: *Feasibility study of the development of a set of International Living Green City standards to facilitate an Urban Landscape certification scheme.*; and *Review*



*and critical analysis of urban greening policies around the world.* Audrey Timm is supervising the work of the students, Qijan Lu (Lucia) and Ran Yue (Yvonne). Reports from these projects will be prepared for distribution to AIPH members and will inform future AIPH Green City work.

**EU Workshop on Communication Strategies for research programmes.** Dr Audrey Timm was invited to present the AIPH World Green City Awards 2022 communications strategy in a workshop for EU research programme leaders - the Virtual Horizon 2020 Nature-Based Solutions Taskforce Meeting; Workshop on Communicating Effectively. David Maddox (TNOC) lead the session, providing an overview of communication principles, followed by 2 presentations on the practical aspects of communication: Audrey Timm on the AIPH World

Green City Awards communications and Claudia Mistelli talking about the Latin American Landscape Initiative's communications.

**Global Lessons on Greening School Grounds and Outdoor Learning.** Dr Audrey Timm has been invited to participate in the Salzburg Global Seminar programme where experts from around the world come together to share best practices around holistic approaches to education and climate change awareness. The project aims for a collaborative approach project to identify and disseminate successful approaches to school ground greening and outdoor learning from around the world.

The program follows a schedule of six virtual sessions during 2022, which focus on why there is a need for green school grounds, approaches and innovations, global barriers, geographic and climate considerations, research insight and gaps, and partners and advocacy needed for global implementation.

As well as contributing to the AIPH green city programme, this is also an excellent opportunity for AIPH to discover ways and develop networks to engage people with using and appreciating plants at a young age.

## **Report from AIPH Green City Consultant, Timothy Blatch**

### **Partnerships and Networking**

Since the Autumn meeting, our network of partners has continued to grow and expand. This has seen the co-development of several Statements of Collaboration, which have become the primary means through which we officially demonstrate alignment and identify mutually beneficial activities and opportunities for collaboration with partnering organisations. These statements are usually accompanied by a Press Release which announces the partnership and is disseminated through our media channels and those of the partner. These can be viewed [here](#). In some instances, our partnership discussions do not necessarily result in the signing of a formal agreement. We have had support from several organisations, networks, and initiatives who have provided this support without the need for formal documentation.

We continue to work through both the formal network of partners (seen in the image below), as well as the informal network of affiliates who have taken a keen interest in supporting the AIPH World Green City Awards. For instance, formal partners such as World Urban Parks, NatureForAll, Greener Spaces Better Places, and others have all continuously featured the AIPH World Green City Awards on their websites, in their newsletters, and through appropriate channels and networks. More informally, an example of support we have received can be demonstrated through AIPH's representation on the Global Communications Flotilla, which is made up of a number of leading organisations, networks, and agencies in the conservation, nature, and green city spaces. Through this prestigious group, we have secured support from the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, WWF, the IPBES, the European Commission and many others, all of whom have provided significant promotional opportunities which have increased the visibility of the Awards and AIPH more generally.

Awards Partners



Media Partners



Through our ongoing approach to partnerships and networking, we have developed an extensive database of city contacts, partners, and affiliates, all of whom are supporting our efforts to grow and expand the reach of the AIPH Green City programme and the AIPH World Green City Awards and increasing the overall visibility of AIPH globally.

### Promotion of the AIPH World Green City Awards

The period from October to December 2021 saw us step up our efforts significantly to promote the AIPH World Green City Awards. In #UrbanOctober, beginning with #WorldHabitatDay and culminating in #WorldCitiesDay, we embarked on a significant global Awards promotion campaign, with support from our growing network of partners. During this month we recorded a record number of social media impressions and engagements, as well as impressive numbers in terms of visits to the Green City webpages. The AIPH World Green City Awards webpages were predominantly driving these numbers, indicating that our efforts were successfully translating into genuine interest.

The reach of our partner networks is currently measured at over 650,000 people on social media and over 125,000 people through other channels. We plan to extend this reach even more in 2022, both through our media campaigns and by growing our network of partners. As mentioned above, our network of partners has been key to promoting the Awards through their available networks and channels. We have worked with each partner organisation, as well as other organisations to feature the Awards in newsletters, social media campaigns and other media channels. For example, we activated our commercial partnership with Cities Today in November 2021. This partnership is predominantly a media one, with support from Cities Today in highlighting the Awards through their primary media channels. This has given us widespread exposure, so much so that we have had some key partners contact us to congratulate us on the visibility we are receiving.

We have been thrilled with the level of support we have received from our partners and interested organisations and individuals. Our efforts have not gone unnoticed. We have had positive and encouraging feedback from a number of people who have commented on the quality of our campaigns and visual assets, our growing reach and influence, and the way in which we have set up the AIPH World Green City Awards.

### Engagement with Cities

Our primary means of engaging cities to date has been through direct invitations to enter the AIPH World Green City Awards. We have also engaged cities indirectly through the various networks and channels that have been leveraged through our consortium of partners and the broader AIPH membership network. The promotional and partnering efforts described above, as well as our direct and indirect engagement with cities, are seeing a growing number of cities register to submit entries. We have an impressive list of cities who have done so and are in

ongoing conversations with many others. The list of cities who have registered to submit an entry or have started work on their entry reflect a wide geographical spread, with each of the 9 AIPH regions well-represented.

### **Events and Conferences**

Virtual engagements have provided opportunities to connect with cities and potential partners. Since the last report, we have continued to profile AIPH, and specifically the Green City programme and AIPH World Green City Awards through a number of webinars which we have been invited to present at, take part in, or lead. For instance, the City of London Green City Briefings which ran throughout 2021 provided a means through which we were able to regularly promote our Green City activities and the AIPH World Green City Awards. Furthermore, by attending webinars which are geared at cities or have cities presenting in them, we have been able to reach out to cities and make them aware of our work. There are also a number of events, albeit virtual, where we were able to profile AIPH and promote the Awards at. A couple of examples include the World Urban Parks Congress (5<sup>th</sup>- 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021), where we were able to reach to a large number of cities through the online Whova platform on which the event was run. Similarly, by attending and participating in the WRLDCTY Global Forum for Urban Innovation from 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> October 2021, we were able to reach a number of cities, too. Finally, we were represented in the Salzburg Global Seminar's Parks for the Planet Forum, which was a seven-week virtual programme run towards the end of 2021. The forum brought together a diverse range of fellows to discuss the role of urban parks in our cities. Through this we were able to build a number of strategic relationships which have proved fruitful in reaching cities and developing partnerships.

### **Looking Ahead: 2022 in Focus**

The first half of 2022 will be a very exciting time for the AIPH Green City programme, especially with the implementation of the inaugural edition of the AIPH World Green City Awards being well underway. It is in 2022 that the first edition will be fully completed. Our overall aim is thus to run a successful first round which will demonstrate the success of this flagship initiative and bring significant visibility and credibility to AIPH in the global green city space. This will set the stage for future editions and the growth of the Green City programme more broadly.

### **AIPH World Green City Awards Overview**

We are close to reaching a critical milestone in the Awards timeline- the closing date for submission of entries by cities, which is on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Thereafter, the technical panel will score the entries and deliver a shortlist to the jury for final selection of category winners and the overall AIPH World Green City winner. In the lead up to this deadline, our focus is primarily on engagement with partners and cities to drive promotion of the Awards and generate entries. We will also be focussed on compiling the technical panel and jury that will judge the Awards.

We have had numerous queries, questions, and requests for more information from cities who we have been providing tailored support to. An impressive number of cities have registered profiles, which is the first step in compiling an entry. Of that number, many have begun working on their submissions. Our focus in the lead up to 14<sup>th</sup> March is to provide support directly to those cities who have registered profiles and assist them in progressing through the next steps as they work towards final submissions. We have thus been communicating more regularly with the cities in the database, making use of Zoho, our CRM platform. In supporting cities to progress with compiling their entries, we have been making use of our [Frequently Asked Questions AIPH World Green City Awards Rules and Procedures](#). However, based on the need identified through the many queries we have received and through individual

engagement with cities, we have also developed a [step-by-step guide to submitting an entry](#) which serves as an additional support tool for cities and which we are disseminating far and wide ahead of the looming 14<sup>th</sup> March deadline.

### **Partnerships and Networking**

Over the last six months, the team has been working to secure strategic partnerships with a wide range of key organisations. This experience, coupled with our ongoing work and strategic collaborations have been key informants to our proposed strategic partnering approach which we seek to deploy throughout 2022. Through our partnerships, we have demonstrated the power of collaboration, predominantly in relation to the AIPH World Green City Awards. Our network of partners has actively supported our efforts to attract the attention of city leaders, invite high-quality entries from cities for the Awards, and promote the Awards through social media and other appropriate channels and networks. In 2022, we aim to enhance our collaborative approach by continuing to expand the network of partners in a strategic and focussed way.

We have developed a comprehensive and strategic partnership framework which lays out a proposed strategic approach to partnerships for the AIPH Green City programme, and more specifically the AIPH World Green City Awards. This framework will be put forward to the AIPH Board for approval. The rationale for doing so lies in the intention to showcase the strategic approach deployed by the AIPH Green City team in terms of identifying potential partners, engaging these partners, and formalising partnerships which lead to mutually beneficial joint activities. The aim is to establish a framework that will guide our approach to undertaking partnering activities throughout 2022 and allow the Green City team to pursue strategic partnerships based on alignment with the key objectives therein. In doing so, the intention is to establish a rationale for justifying all strategic partnerships, with the aim of limiting the need for board approval and justification on an individual partnership basis. This will allow for partnering activities to proceed with maximum efficiency. The partnership framework also considers where a collaborative partnership could extend beyond the Green City programme to other AIPH activities, and AIPH as global organisation. In doing so, we have seen that the AIPH World Green City Awards is often an effective entry point for broadening collaboration with key organisations to maximise benefit and raise the profile of AIPH more broadly.

Looking beyond the entry submission deadline for the AIPH World Green City Awards, our network of partners will be instrumental in compiling the technical panel and jury for judging the Award entries. Similarly, they will support our efforts to disseminate news of shortlisted entries and winners of the Awards following the judging process. In the longer term, we will be working with this network of partners to co-develop the second edition of the AIPH World Green City Awards, based on feedback received during this inaugural round and key reflections, suggestions, and recommendations that we will invite. The design and development of the second edition will incorporate the learnings taken from the first round to improve the concept, categories, judging, and overall process going forward.

### **Promotion of the AIPH World Green City Awards**

The period in the lead up to the entry submission deadline is the final period to attract the attention of cities to register a profile and submit an entry. To this end, we have started to promote the looming deadline through various campaigns on social media, including a countdown to the deadline. As time goes on, our messaging has increased in urgency, calling on cities not to miss this opportunity and to “Enter now!” This messaging is reflected in a number of new visual and content assets (seen in the images below) which we have recently developed, both for use by us, as well as by our partners in 2022. This suite of new assets includes a web and newsletter banner, a visual timeline of the Awards process throughout 2022, as well as a visual guide with key steps to take for cities to enter the Awards, among other things.

**ENTER NOW**  
Showcase your city's Living Green

**EVERYONE WINS**  
CITIES. PEOPLE. PLANET.

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES: 14TH MARCH 2022**  
Everyone Wins - Cities. People. Planet.

**ENTER TODAY!**  
Deadline 14th March 2022

**Timeline:**

- 14 March: Deadline for submission of entries - 23:00 UTC
- 31 May: Shortlist announced (Up to 3 entries per category)
- 15 August: Award winners selected and notified
- Sept/Oct: Award winners publicly announced at a gala award ceremony

**Process Steps:**

- Register a profile: Do this on the online portal. This does not mean you have to submit an entry at a later stage.
- Set your login details: You will use this to login to the platform each time you visit.
- Login to the portal: Here you can add award submissions you would like to work on over time.
- Compile your entry: Add information each time you login, save your work, and come back later to continue editing your entry.
- Submit your entry: Once you have completed each page of the online entry form, you are ready to submit!

**EVERYONE WINS**  
CITIES. PEOPLE. PLANET.

We have been working with our partners, and will continue to do so, to promote the deadline for entries and appeal for their promotional support in this critical time through the various channels and networks at their disposal. For instance, we are making use of online platforms such as those created by IISD and others, to profile the Awards and bring them to the attention of a larger global audience. As we progress towards other key milestones in the Awards timeline throughout 2022, we will continue to rely on our partners, both formal and informal, and their networks to disseminate key messages, particularly with regards to showcasing the shortlisted cities, the initiatives they have put forward, and in sharing news of the winners.

### Engagement with Cities

Since July 2021, we have engaged an impressive number of cities through our Green City activities, and especially with regards to the AIPH World Green City Awards. We have directly invited over 150 cities to enter the Awards and have engaged with over 300 in this regard. Indirectly, we have reached many more than those reflected on our databases through the networks of our partners and our various campaigns. This has resulted in an impressive number of leading cities from around the world who have registered profiles to compile entries. We continue to engage these cities even after they have registered profiles to offer ongoing support and assist cities in progressing towards submitting an entry. Through this process, we have built strong relationships with key cities and have developed a network of leading local governments who are aware and supportive of the activities of AIPH. These contacts are being captured in the CRM on Zoho. Throughout 2022 we aim to leverage this network as we continue to strengthen the connections between cities and the horticultural industry. As we continue to roll out our green city activities, we seek to focus on how urban greening initiatives

can bridge this divide, thereby leveraging direct benefits for AIPH members and increasing the visibility of growers in the green city space.

### **Events and Conferences**

Events and conferences have, in the past, provided significant opportunities for profiling and exposure. Due to travel restrictions and the subsequent virtual conference trend that became common during the pandemic, there have not been many opportunities for in-person engagement at such events. However, in 2022 there are a number of key events, organised by us and our partners where we foresee significant opportunities for profiling AIPH on the global stage. We are partnering with key organisations on many of these events. For instance, The Nature of Cities (TNOC) Festival will take place from 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. AIPH is a partner for this virtual festival and will take an active role in organising a number of sessions which profile and promote our work. In February 2022 we are hosting a global roundtable with TNOC to seek opinions from a wide range of practitioners and experts on the role of the horticultural industry in urban greening. The responses received will lead to the development of a seed session at the TNOC Festival, where we will seek to showcase the potential for strengthening the links between cities and growers in enabling urban nature-based solutions. Building on this, we are also leading a skills session at the festival which will aim to equip urban change-makers and practitioners with the knowledge and/or networks they need to practically implement nature-based solution, focussing on harnessing the power of plants, careful plant selection, and the role of growers in implementation. Another key event we are exploring the potential to attend is the ICLEI World Congress in Malmo from 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

We will continue to be available to present at and attend other webinars and virtual events, particularly those with a green city focus and those organised by our partners in order to maximise opportunities to profile AIPH in the coming months. We will also continue to follow key processes such as the UN CBD COP15, Biodivercities by 2030, and other key initiatives to identify opportunities to strengthen our position.