

Global Green City Update

AIPH presents the power of plants for city resilience | October 2022

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Announcement of 2022 Winners and Launch of the 2024 Edition of the AIPH World Green City Awards



AIPH has proudly announced the 6 Category Winners and the Grand Winner of the 2022 edition of the AIPH World Green City Awards 2022. AIPH hosted a hugely successful 2022 Awards ceremony, which was held as a gala dinner at the IUCN Leaders Forum in the Special Self-Governing Province of Jeju, Republic of Korea on 14th October 2022. This momentous occasion, at which all Certificate of Merit recipients, Finalists, and winners were presented with their awards, brings our inaugural edition of the Awards to a close. AIPH and partners are proud to have celebrated the inspiring action taken by cities to showcase to the world the power of plants and urban nature-based solutions on this global stage. The success of the 2022 edition leaves a powerful legacy that will shine through in future editions and lays the foundation for a more ambitious, prestigious, and scaled-up 2024 edition of the AIPH World Green City Awards, which was launched at the Awards ceremony in Jeju alongside an exciting announcement of a global partnership between AIPH and IUCN to bring the 2024 edition to life. Entries will open in early 2023, and all cities are already invited to register their interest and be the first to find out when entries are open.

[View the winners](#)[Watch the Awards Ceremony](#)[Read the case studies](#)

WORLD GREEN CITY AWARDS 2024

[Register your interest](#)

In case you missed it, the winners and their inspiring initiatives were profiled in a dedicated special edition of the AIPH Global Green City Update, which was disseminated on 15th October 2022.

[View the special edition](#)

Best Practice



Following the announcement of the [Finalists for the AIPH World Green City Awards 2022](#), we are proud to demonstrate best practice by profiling the shortlisted entries in each category. This month we proudly present case studies from the three finalists in the “Living Green for Water” category. These cities demonstrate how they are ensuring that water resources are safeguarded and wisely used, with clean water available to all, while also protecting residents from flooding risks

[View the case study library](#)

The Phytotechnology Stations at the Montréal Botanical Garden / Space for Life Montréal, Canada



With its collection of 20,000 plant species and cultivars and 30 topical gardens spread out over 75 hectares, the Montréal Botanical Garden is recognised as one of the world's greatest botanical gardens where the wonder of plants can be enjoyed. It is also distinguished by its numerous initiatives in the field of phytotechnology, demonstrating how plants can provide solutions which purify air, water and soil, control erosion and run-off, and help to remediate degraded sites. In recent years, the Montréal Botanical Garden has set up a series of phytotechnology stations to address various environmental issues that exist on its site. The first station, inaugurated in 2019, includes two different types of sub-surface constructed wetlands, one with horizontal flow and one with vertical flow, while the second, inaugurated in 2021, addresses invasion by undesirable plants by establishing a riparian strip of native plants as a buffer. Currently, the Montréal Botanical Garden is preparing a third station using phytoremediation technology where various plant species will be used to extract or

uMhlathuze Water Stewardship Partnership uMhlathuze, South Africa



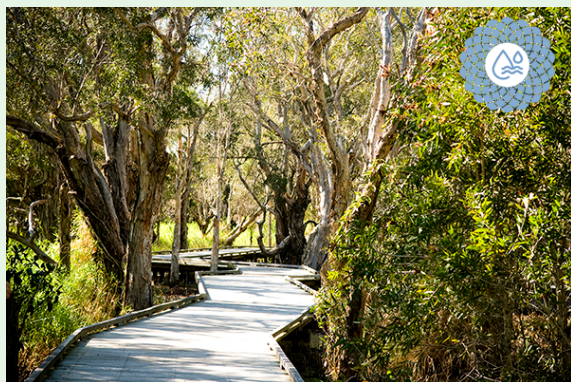
The city of uMhlathuze is inundated with a rich and diverse system of wetlands and natural water features. The uMhlathuze Water Stewardship Partnership (uWASP) was catalysed by a major drought that was experienced in the uMhlathuze region in 2016. Water scarcity is halting development of the city and could result in large industries moving out of the area. Agriculture is a significant employer of the poorer communities in the catchment, and loss of financial viability due to water issues would result in job loss and poverty. The uWASP, which brings together a diverse range of stakeholders, was formalised to ensure water availability for residential and industrial use, with the aim of securing sustainable livelihoods alongside the environmental integrity of the ecosystems in the city. The uWASP has developed a series of exciting and innovative projects to tackle water security and quality challenges.

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degrade certain contaminants from soil excavated during construction works.

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Creating a Green City Logan City Council, Australia



To achieve their vision of being a green city, the City of Logan is creating a climate resilient organisation and community. The city contains an amazing range of natural areas including waterways and wetlands which are home to an incredible diversity of native animals and plants – some so unique and iconic, they are world renown.

Natural areas in the city are highly valued by the community and form an integral and important part of the identity, cultural history and fabric of the city. The key underlying strategy is the City of Logan Natural Environment Strategy which outlines how the City Council will balance growth and development with the natural environment while meeting the challenges of a changing climate. Among many other highlights, it provides a roadmap, developed through extensive stakeholder and community consultation and joint visioning, for the successful implementation of the city's River Visions, catchment recovery plans, river recovery projects and waterway and waterbody recovery plan.

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Events & Activities



AIPH Green City Briefings 2022/23 Watch the October Webinar: Doha, Qatar

Techniques that enable the sustainable cultivation of trees and crops in arid lands play an important role in reversing desertification problems evident around the world. In case you missed it, the 18th October webinar in the AIPH Green City Briefings 2022/23 series focused on design and plant selection for challenging climates, featuring the City of Doha in Qatar and the upcoming Expo 2023 Doha landscape. The theme of Expo 2023 Doha is 'Green Desert, Better Environment'. The Expo aims to draw attention to the threats of desertification and the potential solutions that can be employed. The webinar, which features an exciting line-up of speakers, is now available for on-demand viewing.

[Watch the webinar](#)



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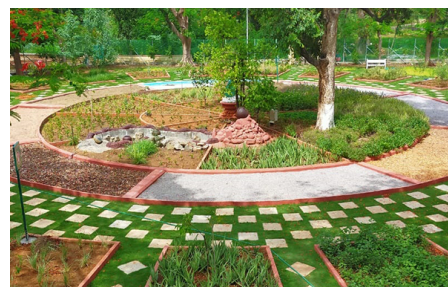


Next Up in November: Hyderabad, India

The next webinar in the series is set to take place on 8th November 2022 and proudly features the Grand Winner of the inaugural AIPH World Green City Awards: The City of Hyderabad, India. Their winning initiative, titled 'Green Garland to the State of Telangana', also won the 'Living Green for Economic Recovery and Inclusive Growth' category. This flagship program has inspired large-scale tree-planting by the Government of Telangana. The program was established with the aim of increasing the tree cover of the State from the current 24% to 33% of its total geographical area. They far surpassed this goal with an ultimate increase of 147% through the initiative. Register for the webinar on 8th November to learn how these impressive figures were achieved.

[Register for the webinar](#)

[Read the case study](#)



Subnational Governments & Cities at COP 15

ICLEI, together with its partners, is pleased to invite subnational and local governments to Montréal, Québec, Canada for the 7th Summit for Subnational Governments and Cities and its associated Pavilion. The Summit, an official parallel event to the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the CBD, will be co-hosted with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) and Regions4, along with the host Government of Québec and the City of Montréal on 11th and 12th December 2022 and will centre around three elements: Engage, Influence and Act. For the first time at a CBD COP, there will be a dedicated Pavilion focusing entirely on subnational and local government actions and opportunities. The Pavilion program will include multiple events, from 8th to 18th December. The Summit and Pavilion constitute an unprecedented global milestone to welcome significantly strengthened contributions from subnational governments and cities to the new post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

[Find out more](#)

Webinar: Transforming the Public Realm

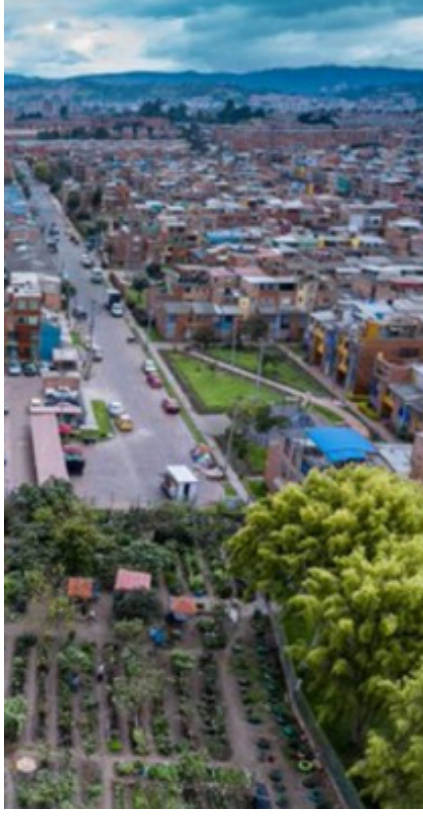
Join award-winning urban designer and community builder, Michael von Hausen, who was also a member of the Technical Panel for the AIPH World Green City Awards 2022, for a free webinar titled "25 Transformative Strategies for Public Realm" on 29th November 2022. This exciting webinar will explore practical methods to transform the Public Realm. Through his global practice, teaching, and research, he has discovered effective ways to rediscover and vitalize those outside and inside spaces and places that are accessible to the public. Register now to ensure you do not miss this lively presentation which is set to inspire new ideas and tools to transform your public realm.

[Register today](#)



C40 World Mayors Summit Unites Mayors and Youth Leaders

Mayors and youth leaders pledge to be united in action to deliver green jobs, following the announcement that C40 mayors will drive the creation of 50 million green jobs by 2030 at



the recent C40 World Mayors Summit held in Buenos Aires from 19-21 October 2022. At the event, Claudia Lopez, Mayor of Bogotá and C40 Vice Chair for Youth Engagement, announced plans for a new global network of city-youth climate councils to facilitate the political empowerment and engagement of young climate leaders in local decision-making to transform the world's cities into green and fair metropolises.

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Case Studies

City of São Paulo's Rain Gardens City of São Paulo, Brazil



The city of São Paulo has implemented an innovative approach to water resource management through the development of a series of Rain Gardens. These Rain Gardens are urban nature-based solutions to challenges faced by the city, including the urban heat island effect and risks of flooding. The Rain Gardens also filter pollutants and chemicals, increase air and soil humidity, increase the diversity of vegetation cover, control sediments from rainwater runoff, and make the city a more pleasant place to live.

The city has developed seven types of Rain Gardens which have been strategically located in areas where historic flooding patterns have been observed and mapped. Currently, São Paulo has more than 200 Rain Gardens and has set the goal of achieving more than 400 by 2024.

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“Parches Verdes – Lungs for Life” Metropolitan Area of the Aburrá Valley



Led by the Integral Planning Department of the Metropolitan Area of the Aburrá Valley, the main objective of the “Parches Verdes – Lungs for Life” program is the recovery, consolidation and strengthening of green spaces and urban forests in the 10 municipalities under their jurisdiction. The project seeks to increase the green areas and number of trees in areas identified as heat islands – areas with higher temperatures that affect the quality of life of citizens and the conservation of species of flora and fauna. The project incorporates procedures to create more green areas that will reduce the heat island effect and improve the quality of life of all citizens.

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The project is part of the 2020-2023 Sustainable Future Management Plan, a tool for territorial development in the Aburrá Valley. You can find out more about this case study, and many others on Metropolis's [Urban Sustainability Exchange \(USE\) platform](#).

Research Findings

A Carbon Calculator enables local, informed choices for carbon sequestration



Research from Ontario, Canada, details the development of an accessible carbon calculator specifically for urban environments. This Carbon Calculator for Northern Temperate Climates is a tool to help educate homeowners, contractors and businesses in making informed decisions about their maintenance and species choices to positively influence the carbon sequestration potential of urban plant systems.

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Unexpected findings for increasing native plants in private gardens



Native plants in gardens provide distinct urban landscapes and resources for native wildlife. Yet they are often not a resident's first choice. In this research from Phoenix, Arizona, Wheeler et al., examine residents' attitudes and use of native plants. Key findings provide opportunities for the horticultural industry.

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Policy

IUCN Leaders Forum Puts Forward a Nature-Positive Roadmap for the Future

The IUCN Leaders Forum Jeju 2022 explored the theme 'Building nature-positive economies and societies'. It included leaders' dialogues (high-level plenaries), networking (formal and



informal), informal business meetings, pitch events, and other opportunities for leaders and changemakers from across sectors to connect and build partnerships to catalyse action and advance nature-positive solutions. At the Forum, IUCN proposed a [Nature-Positive Approach](#), among other key outcomes, in the form of a working paper, to provide a pathway for becoming nature-positive. Cities have a critical part to play in delivering a nature-positive future.

[Read More](#)[View the outcomes document](#)

UCLG Summit Puts Local and Regional Action at the Heart of the Ecological Transformation

As the world transforms its relationship with nature in unprecedented ways, local and regional governments (LRGs) must be at the forefront to promote a new view for our common future – one that goes beyond the ecological transition and towards an ecological transformation. At the [7th UCLG Congress](#) in Daejeon, South Korea, held from 10 to 14 October 2022, local and regional governments convened to share experiences and to renew a shared commitment towards creating a mindful and restorative relationship between people, planet and government. In this spirit, UCLG has published a Pact for the Future of Humanity that reflects this commitment, so that local and regional governments can better channel the power of the municipal movement which puts the people and the planet first. This pact takes the form of the “Daejeon Political Declaration.” The pact is complimented by a [series of policy papers](#), one of which is focussed on [Sustainable Urban Development](#), as well as the [UCLG Manifestos](#) which lay out policy priorities for the coming decade.

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Green City Principles

Global Lessons on Greening School Grounds and Outdoor Learning



There is growing momentum to transform urban school grounds into nature-filled spaces for learning and play, and as a way to enhance climate resilience and improve health and education outcomes. The Global Lessons on Greening School Grounds & Outdoor Learning project is engaging leaders and practitioners around the world to learn more about successful approaches and scalable strategies for greening school grounds. Since November 2021, the Children & Nature Network, in partnership with Salzburg Global Seminar and a network of partners, identified and disseminated successful approaches from around the world to influence and help us, as a society, make significant progress in addressing complex, interrelated problems. Salzburg Global Fellows participating in the online program developed an advocacy Statement to influence thinking, policy, and approaches to school grounds and outdoor learning opportunities and support a global action agenda to ensure that all children and communities have access to green school grounds and outdoor learning.

[Find out more](#)[Read the statement](#)

AIPH



**GREEN
CITY**

International Association of Horticultural Producers (AIPH)

Since 1948, AIPH has united horticultural producers in an international community that thrives to this day. Much has changed in that time. Technologies advanced, cities rose from the ground, and we have become more connected than ever. As a result, our essential bond with nature has been weakened. AIPH strives to reignite and uphold an appreciation of plants that we believe is a basic human instinct. We support the work of grower associations globally and together we champion a prosperous industry, growing plants that enhance lives, advance societies, and sustain our planet, for this generation and the next.

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