

Global Green City Update

AIPH presents the power of plants for city resilience | Special Edition



The City of Hyderabad, India, named Grand Winner in the 2022 AIPH World Green City Awards



The city of Hyderabad, India, takes home the highest accolade and most highly coveted award for their winning initiative titled: Green Garland to the State of Telangana.

The Grand Winner was voted by the prestigious and world-renowned Jury on the basis of the City's impact and potential to inspire transformative change as demonstrated in their entry. The inaugural AIPH World Green City Awards ceremony took place today (14th October) at a dedicated gala dinner held at the IUCN Leaders Forum in the Self-Governing Province of Jeju, Republic of Korea. The Grand Winner was announced from the list of 6 winning cities who all took home the title of "Category Winner" in each of the six award categories.

The City of Hyderabad's entry stands as a world-class showcase of the power of plants and nature in the urban context. Hyderabad is Mega city (10 million inhabitants) and one of the fastest growing metropolises in India, which is expected to be home to about 19 million residents by 2041.

Telangana Ku Haritha Haram (TKHH), meaning 'Green Garland to the State of Telangana' is a flagship program which has inspired large-scale tree-planting by the Government of Telangana since 2015-16. 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 surpassed this goal with an ultimate increase of 147% through the initiative.

"AIPH celebrates this fantastic achievement for the City of Hyderabad. We are proud to showcase their inspiring urban greening work. With this global recognition, we can confidently say that Hyderabad is a world leader in nature-oriented approaches to city design, form, and function," says Mr. Tim Briercliffe, Secretary General of AIPH. "The innovation, ambition, and inspiring action demonstrated in the City's entry leaves a powerful legacy for other cities from around the world to aspire to."

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AIPH World Green City Awards 2022 Category Winners

Following the final vote by the world-renowned 2022 Jury, the six Category Winners are as follows:

Living Green for Biodiversity



Winner: Reverdecer Bogotá, *Bogotá D.C., Colombia*

"The greening of Bogotá" is a public policy included in the District Development Plan 2020-2024: "A New Social and Environmental Contract for the Bogotá of the 21st Century". Its purpose is to improve the quality of the natural, built and regional environment from the perspective of generating well-being conditions for the population and other living beings present in the territory. Agro-ecological urban and peri-urban agriculture takes on special importance as it involves more than 120 plant species in orchards, including fruit trees, shrubs, vines, and even small plants. In 2020, this Urban Agriculture Program gained strength and prominence, resulting in more than 5,000 fortified vegetable gardens.

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Living Green for Climate Change



Winner: Mexico City's Environmental and Climate Change Program, *Mexico City, Mexico*

Given the deterioration caused by the disconnection with nature, the growth of the urban sprawl and factors such as overexploitation, pollution, changes in land use, invasive species and the effects of climate change, a comprehensive policy was launched to regenerate the ecological conditions of Mexico City. This policy was based on a vision of sustainability, innovation and rights, derived from the Government Program of Mexico City 2019-2024 and established in the Environmental and Climate Change Program (ECCP) 2019-2024. Thanks to the 'Green Challenge' strategy, the increase in the annual production of plants went from less than 500 thousand in 2018 to more than 10 million in 2021, which has allowed the planting of 27,082,593 trees and plants.

[Read the full case study](#)

Living Green for Health and Wellbeing



Winner: Transforming degraded land into Urban Micro Parks, *City of Fortaleza, Brazil*

In the context of Fortaleza, where access to public leisure areas is restricted and unequal, the Urban Micro Parks have become a low-cost and fast implementation alternative to expand this offer in more vulnerable areas with high population density. Utilising the 'Naturalised Park' concept, these parks offer children a connection to natural materials such as tree trunks. The Urban Micro Parks can offer elements such as spaces to play, sit, gather, trails, climbing elements, community vegetable gardens, among others.

[Read the full case study](#)

Living Green for Water



Winner: The Phytotechnology Stations at the Montréal Botanical Garden / Space for Life, *City of Montréal, Canada*

With its collection of about 20,000 plant species and cultivars and 30 topical gardens spread out over 75 hectares, the Montréal Botanical Garden is recognized as one of the world's greatest botanical gardens. The Botanical Garden is part of Space for Life, a group of five institutions that together make up the largest museum complex in Canada. 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 idea is to design installations that simultaneously solve the problems, demonstrate the technology, and educate the public as to the role and functioning of the plants.

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Living Green for Social Cohesion



Winner: OASIS Schoolyard Project, *City of Paris, France*

The OASIS Schoolyard Project seeks to renew, dynamize and green the existing public schoolyards by improving their thermal conditions, responding simultaneously to multiple urban issues such as the lack of green areas within the city, the design of appropriate public spaces for children growing up in the city and in general the enhancement of citizens' quality of life. By December 2021, 72 schoolyards had been transformed, and the City's goal is to reach all 770 kindergarten, elementary and middle schools by 2050.

[Read the full case study](#)

Living Green for Economic Recovery and Inclusive Growth



Winner: Green Garland to the State of Telangana, *City of Hyderabad, India*

Telangana Ku Haritha Haram (TKHH), meaning 'Green Garland to the State of Telangana' is a flagship program which is a large-scale tree-planting program. The program envisages increasing the tree cover of the State from present 24% to 33% of the total geographical area of the State. They surpassed this goal with an ultimate increase of 147% through the initiative.

[Read the full case study](#)

Highly Commended Entries



The Category winners were selected by the Jury from a shortlist of 18 finalists, comprising the top three scoring entries by the Technical Panel in each of the six categories. Each of the finalists for the 2022 AIPH World Green City Awards received a 'Highly Commended' award at the gala dinner. In addition to the six category winners, the Highly Commended recipient cities were as follows:

Living Green for Biodiversity

- Act Local, Contribute Global to World Biodiversity Conservation, *Town of Victoria Park, Australia*
- Getting everyone involved in greening the city, *City of Paris, France*

Living Green for Climate Change

- Peynircioglu Stream Ecological Restoration Project, *City of İzmir, Türkiye*
- Grey to Green, *City of Melbourne, Australia*

Living Green for Health and Wellbeing

- Utrecht Green and Healthy City, *City of Utrecht, Netherlands*
- Sunvale Community Park, *City of Brimbank, Australia*

Living Green for Water

- Creating a Green City, *Logan City Council, Australia*
- uMhlathuze Water Stewardship Partnership, *City of uMhlathuze, South Africa*

Living Green for Social Cohesion

- Socio-urban integration in the midst of an ecological reserve: The case of Rodrigo Bueno, *City of Buenos Aires, Argentina*
- Sunchoenman Bay Wetland Conservation Project, *Suncheon City, South Korea*

Living Green for Economic Recovery and Inclusive Growth

- The 2020-2030 Master Plan for the Conservation, Improvement and Development of Parc Jean-Drapeau, *City of Montréal, Canada*
- Transformation of “Beltway to Green Belt”, *City of Mashhad, Iran*

[Read all finalists case studies](#)

Certificates of Merit



Six cities received Certificates of Merit for the innovative approaches to urban greening demonstrated in their entries. These Certificates of Merit were awarded to cities who were not selected as finalists, but whose entries demonstrated a particularly inspiring and innovative approach to city greening which has the potential for replicability by other cities around the world. Six entries were nominated by the Technical Panel, and later accepted by the Jury.

- Transforming Mown Turf Lawns to Urban Pollinator Meadows, *City of Vancouver, Canada*
- City of Logan Climate Change Resilience Strategy and Net Zero Commitment, *City of Logan, Australia*
- Cooling the City, *Penrith City Council, Australia*
- Application of recycled water in the irrigation of urban open spaces (Parks & Stadiums), *Bulawayo City Council, Zimbabwe*
- City of São Paulo's Rain Gardens, *City of São Paulo, Brazil*
- Urban Agriculture Strategy, *City of Montréal, Canada*

[Read the Certificate of Merit case studies](#)

AIPH Partners with IUCN to Launch 2024 Edition of the AIPH World Green City Awards



The resounding success of the 2022 edition has set the stage for the AIPH World Green City Awards 2024, which was proudly launched by AIPH at the Awards ceremony in Jeju. Together, AIPH and IUCN also announced their exciting partnership which will lead to enhanced collaboration to support the 2024 Awards and other key areas of work in the future.

The legacy of the 2022 edition of the AIPH World Green City Awards is set to shine brightly in the 2024 edition in pursuit of the shared vision of building greener, healthier, and more sustainable cities.

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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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