

Global Green City Update

AIPH presents the power of plants for city resilience | April 2023

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All You Need to Know about the AIPH World Green City Awards 2024



WORLD GREEN CITY AWARDS 2024

The AIPH World Green City Awards are open for entries for the 2024 edition. All cities, large and small, are invited to showcase their urban greening initiatives by entering the only global awards where plants and nature are the core focus. Don't miss this opportunity to demonstrate how your city is a champion for the power of plants and nature. Here's everything you need to know:



**Awards
Categories**



Judging Criteria



**Rules and
Procedures**



FAQs



**Step-by-step
Guide**



How to Enter

AIPH Green City Forum

Did you know you can connect and exchange resources with other members of the AIPH Global Green City Forum? This unique virtual community is a place for you to share your urban greening work, projects, case studies, news, and events. It is also a place where you can learn from and be inspired by the work of other members.

AIPH invites you to join the AIPH Global Green City Forum, connect with other members, share your contributions, and benefit today.

[Join the Forum](#)

News & Events



AIPH Green City Briefings 2022/2023

If you missed the live event, the April webinar in the AIPH Green City Briefings 2022/2023 series, featuring the winner of the Living Green for Biodiversity category of the AIPH World Green City Awards 2022: Bogotá, Colombia, is now available for on-demand viewing.

[Watch the Briefing](#)

Register for the next Briefing

The May briefing, taking place on 9th May 2023, features the winner of the Living Green for Health and Wellbeing category of the AIPH World Green City Awards 2022: Fortaleza, Brazil. This webinar explores how nature and plants in cities result in improved health and wellbeing. In the context of Fortaleza, where access to public leisure areas is restricted and unequal, Urban Micro Parks have become a low-cost and fast implementation solutions.

[Register Now](#)

AIPH Partners with CDP for Greener, more Climate Resilient Cities



AIPH is proud to announce a global partnership with CDP. This partnership positions the AIPH World Green City Awards as a global platform for cities in the CDP network to showcase how they are harnessing the power of plants and nature as an extension of their leading commitments to climate change action disclosure and reporting on the CDP platform. Leveraging each partner's individual strengths, AIPH and CDP are jointly committed to meaningful collaboration in pursuit of their common goal of celebrating city-led action for both nature and climate. CDP-ICLEI Track is the world's leading climate reporting platform and progress accountability mechanism for cities. CDP uses city data to produce [city case studies](#) and reports such as the report '[Protecting People and the Planet](#)' to highlight the hazards cities face from climate change. Through this reporting CDP demonstrates the urgent need for cities to put people at the heart of their climate action.

The CDP-ICLEI Track is now open for 2023! Cities have a fundamental role to play in tackling climate change. Home to more than half the world's population, and responsible for 70% of global emissions, they are critical to making the Paris Agreement a reality. Your city can start its climate action journey today, and report to CDP-ICLEI Track.

[Read More](#)[Start Reporting](#)

You might be interested in these events...

14th Metropolis World Congress & Brussels Urban Summit 2023



The Brussels Urban Summit (BUS)

International Day of Plant Health 2023



Plants are critical for safeguarding our

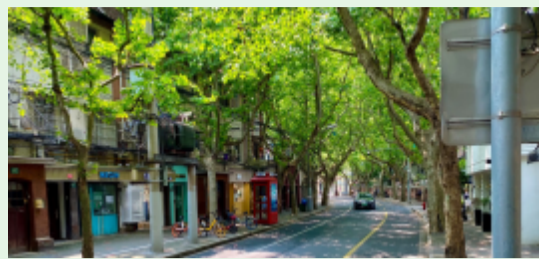
will bring together three international city conferences: the 14th Metropolis World Congress, the Eurocities Annual Conference and the sixth OECD Champion Mayors Summit for Inclusive Growth Initiative. It will gather over 300 cities worldwide and more than 1000 politicians, experts and representatives of civil society from 12-15 June 2023 to exchange ideas and set the priorities for sustainable, affordable, and liveable cities going forward.

[Find Out More](#)

increasingly urban future. The International Day of Plant Health (IDPH) on 12th May 2023, a key legacy of the [International Year of Plant Health 2020](#), seeks to raise global awareness on how protecting plant health can help end hunger, reduce poverty, protect biodiversity and the environment, and boost economic development. As the world's champion for the power of plants, AIPH invites all cities to get involved.

[Find Out More](#)

Cities Talk Nature Conference



The City of Chemnitz, the upcoming cultural capital of Europe, in cooperation with the Climate Alliance and Ecologic Institute invites you to a two-day conference on how to achieve a green transition in cities. The conference, themed “Unlocking the Potential of Underutilised Urban Areas,” targets municipal actors and practitioners interested in tapping into the potential of underutilised areas to expand urban nature.

[Find out more](#)

No Mow May



Plantlife's annual #NoMowMay campaign invites all cities, garden owners, and green space managers to lock up their mowers over the month of May. This seemingly simple action has immense benefits in providing space, food and habitat for nature, giving a much-needed boost for wildlife. Free the flowers so they can grow wild and provide a feast for pollinators, tackle pollution, reduce urban heat extremes, and lock away atmospheric carbon below ground.

[Join the movement](#)

AIPH Member's Green City Reports

AIPH requests its members from around the world to provide an annual Green City Report that presents an update on developments in the green city sector in their region. The reports describe industry-led initiatives, major green city projects, policy developments, community activities, and research publications. In this section, AIPH proudly features projects and initiatives from our members.



AIPH Members in Europe



Many of the AIPH members in the European regions are members of the European Nurserystock Association, ENA. For the third year running, ENA is supporting the Green Cities Europe Award. This project-based Award is an initiative of the European Nurserystock Association (ENA) together with nursery organisations in 13 European countries united in the international program Green Cities Europe.

In this program, 13 European countries work together to highlight the added value of green space in the urban environment. Each European country in this program can delegate a national project. The projects will be judged by a jury that consists of a delegated jury member from each participating country in this Award. Participating projects must be located in the participating countries: Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, The Netherlands and Sweden.

[Read More](#)

Horticulture Trades Association (HTA), UK

HTA released a white paper promoting the role that the horticulture industry can play in a greener future for cities. Horticulture has enormous potential to benefit the UK economically, environmentally and socially. There is an opportunity for government and industry to collaborate on achieving this potential.

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Case Studies

Grey to Green *Chengdu, China*



The Grey to Green initiative emerged as one of the leading solutions to advance the city's new ambition of building the first Park City in China, calling for more detail-oriented management of the urban spaces, recycling of the unused space in Chengdu downtown, and recovering the leftover space generated by unreasonable planning. The primary objectives of this initiative were to tap the potential of leftover space under flyovers by introducing greenery, sports and culture facilities. The Fuqing Flyover project, divided into 9 thematic areas and covering about 18,000 square metres and a length of about 1,000 metres, delivered a vibrant public space with all-year-round services for the local community.

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Interact-Bio *Belo Horizonte, Brazil*



The “INTERACT-Bio” project provides nature-based solutions to expanding populations and shows their long-term benefits, thereby improving the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems in Belo Horizonte, the third largest metropolis in Brazil. Through the project, the municipality, with support from key partners, created a rain garden to capture rainwater, facilitate its infiltration into the ground, and help recharge the water table. The project has enabled governments at different levels to join forces to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into key sub-national government functions such as spatial planning, land use management, local economic development and infrastructure projects.

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Green City Principles



What is an ecocity?

An ecocity is “a human settlement modelled on the self-sustaining resilient structure and function of natural ecosystems.” [Ecocity Builders](#) facilitates a framework that enables participating cities to assess their overall ecological health and performance. Designed for a wide range of stakeholders, the Ecocity Framework & Standards charts a city's steps forward along eighteen conditions organised through four fundamental urban arenas: urban design, bio-geo-physical conditions, ecological imperatives, and socio-cultural conditions.

[Read More](#)

Integrated Guidelines for Sustainable Neighbourhood

Design

“Sustainable cities and communities” start with sustainable neighbourhoods. UNEP’s neighbourhood guidelines aim to inspire all stakeholders involved in urban planning and service provision to think differently and provide them with the necessary tools to take action. Organised around three key messages and six strategies, the Guidelines provide a framework for designing integrated and sustainable neighbourhoods.

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Research Findings

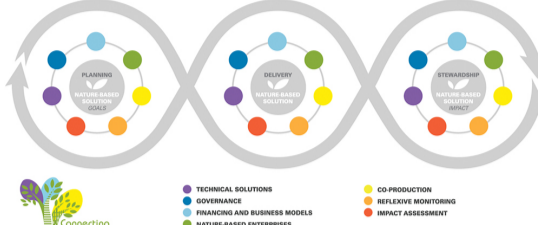
Urban green spaces for urban resilience post-pandemic



This research examines how the public’s response to Covid may have altered their expectations and requirements of urban green spaces. Respondents’ expectations depended on their approach to outdoor socialising post-Covid. It demonstrates a need for urban green space diversity.

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Integrating urban nature-based solutions



Encompassing multiple aspects, the Connecting Nature Framework supports urban planners and practitioners in taking a holistic approach to planning, delivery, and stewardship of nature-based solutions with transformative impact.

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Policy

Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI): A transport Sector Perspective



Despite there being a wide range of general policy and guidance relating to GBI, the UK’s Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation found that there is comparatively little resources given to street and roads specific GBI. A recently-published white paper provides recommendations for policy makers and local governments and covers 3 main tasks that are necessary to help improve and encourage GBI on urban roadways.

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The Value of Incorporating Nature in Urban Infrastructure Planning



Nature-Based Infrastructure (NBI) in cities is, on average, 42% cheaper and creates 36% more value than relying only on grey infrastructure if avoided costs and co-benefits are taken into account. For each dollar invested, NBI in cities can generate up to 30 times that amount in returns for society, making investments in urban nature economically viable. This report argues that sustainable cities require strategic, cross-sectoral urban infrastructure planning with nature at its core.

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Best Practice



Biophilic Cities and Health: A Dedicated Journal

The Cities & Health Special Issue: Biophilic Cities and Health is now published! The articles in this special issue arose from a conference on ‘Activating Biophilic Cities’ held in 2018 which aimed to share best practice in biophilic design, and to kick-start the pace of change towards providing places and spaces that improve the quality of life in our cities. The articles address different scales of the biophilic city using approaches and methodologies that can be translated to cities around the world.

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Ecocity Morocco

Ecocity Morocco is a project led by the state company AI Omrane in partnership with Ecocity Builders and UNEP. The goal is to design and build new eco-cities and eco-districts across Morocco. Each of the 7 settlements has an Ecocity Standards-aligned SmartCode, action plan and corresponding digital twin. Next phases will link the digital twins to open data protocols and open APIs.

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AIPH



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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