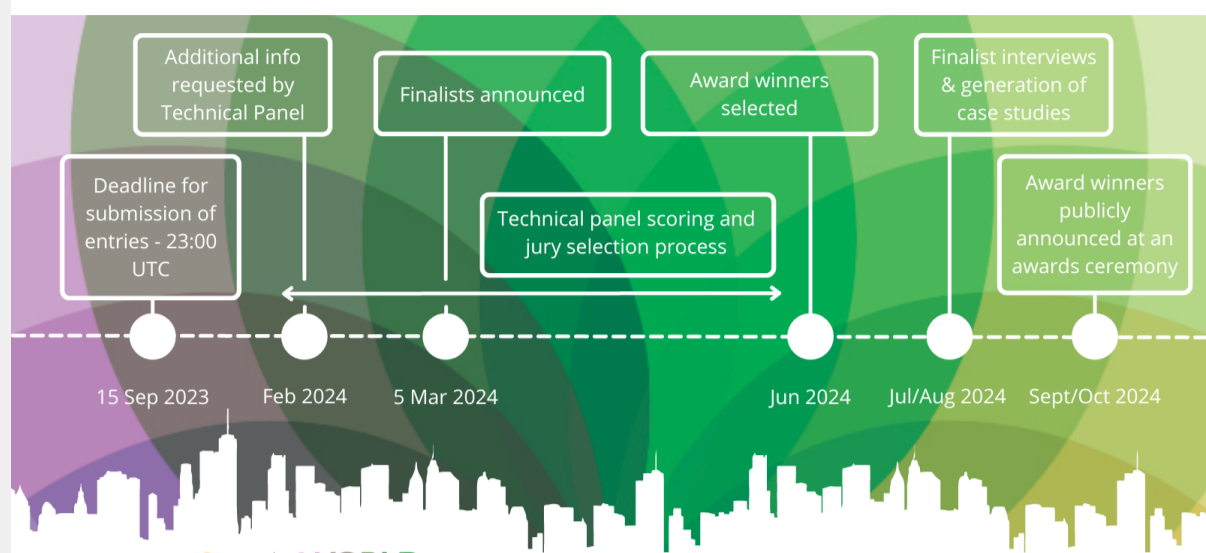


# Global Green City Update

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

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## What's Next for the AIPH World Green City Awards 2024?



**WORLD GREEN CITY AWARDS 2024**

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

The AIPH World Green City Awards 2024 is closed for entries. AIPH and partners are proud of the impressive interest from cities around the world. Following the 15th September 2023 deadline, cities who are registered on the online submission portal have until 30th September 2023 to finalise their pending entries. Looking ahead, all eligible entries are judged in a two-stage process. A Technical Panel scores each entry on its technical merit and delivers the list of 21 finalists, comprising the top 3 scoring entries in each of the 7 categories, to a world-renowned Jury who selects the 7 category winners and the Grand Winner. The finalists will be announced in March 2024, and the winners at a dedicated gala dinner awards ceremony in September/October 2024.

## AIPH Youth Award 2024

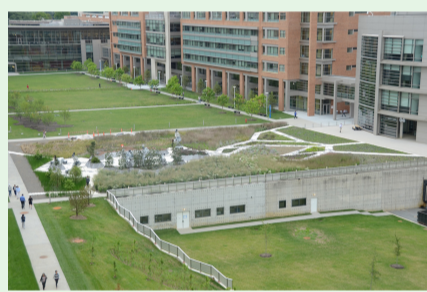
Inspiring a lasting legacy for green cities of the future



New to the 2024 edition is the AIPH Youth Award, brought to life in partnership with the Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN). Applications for the Youth Jury close on 29th September 2023. This Youth Jury will select from the 21 finalists the entry most likely to inspire the youth and fulfil their needs for a greener, healthier, and more resilient future.

[Apply now](#)

## Green City Principles



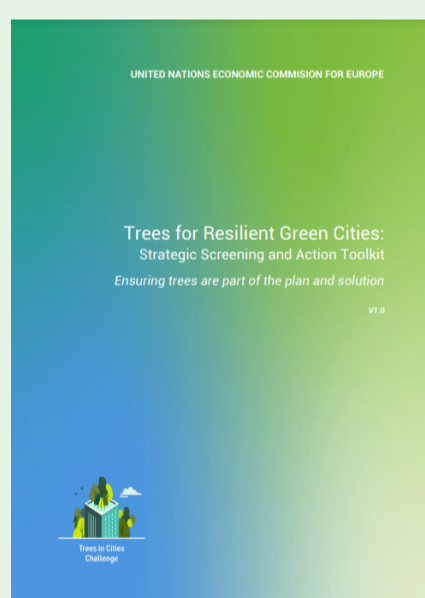
### The Critical Role of Ornamental Horticulture in Urban Greening

AIPH's new case study collection features examples from around the world that demonstrate the critical role the ornamental horticulture industry is playing in creating and maintaining green cities. 5 new case studies showcase the various ways in which the ornamental horticulture industry makes a significant contribution to city greening initiatives.

[Read more](#)

### Trees for Resilient Green Cities: Strategic Screening and Action Toolkit

As urban greening gains momentum, ensuring that trees are effectively integrated across relevant plans, regulations, management and governance approaches will be key to cities receiving their return on investment. UNECE's Trees in Cities Challenge has developed this toolkit to ensure trees are part of the plan and solution.

[Read more](#)

### Future of Landscape Architecture Series

In a world facing multiple crises, landscape architects are vital in designing resilient, sustainable, and equitable landscapes that can withstand and recover from environmental, social, and economic stresses. AIPH partner, IFLA's new book sets the framework for discussions on the future of the profession at the 2023 IFLA World Council in Nairobi.

[Read more](#)

## News & Events

Call for Submissions: Cities&Health Special Issue & Research Symposium

# LIVING GREEN LIVEABLE CITIES



AIPH, Cities&Health, and [Expo 2023 Doha](#) are calling for submissions for a special Cities & Health journal issue, titled 'Living Green, Liveable Cities.' This special issue was instigated by AIPH and Expo 2023 Doha, Qatar to investigate the science and practice supporting the concept showcased at the Expo of creating liveable and healthy urban environments through city greening. This special issue is accompanied by the 'Living Green, Liveable Cities' Research Symposium, which is set to take place from 4-5th February 2024 in Doha, Qatar, alongside the Expo.

[Submit an Article](#)[Register your Interest in the Symposium](#)

Green Cities in Urban October

Join us this Urban October



Urban October is an opportunity to raise awareness, promote participation, generate knowledge and engage the international community in creating a better urban future. The month-long campaign launches with World Habitat Day on 2nd October with the theme 'Resilient urban economies: Cities as drivers of growth and recovery' and ends with World Cities Day on 31st October with the theme 'Financing a sustainable urban future for all.' World Metropolitan Day, on 7th October focuses on the theme "The Power of Nature in our Metropolises" and aims to highlight the transformative impact of nature-based solutions in improving the resilience, inclusiveness and liveability of urban spaces. You are invited to get involved throughout the month.

[Find out more](#)

## UrbanShift Launches Online City Academy

# URBAN SH/FT

The UrbanShift City Academy, officially launched on 25th September during the UrbanShift Asia Forum in New Delhi, offers city officials and urban practitioners open access to eight self-paced online courses, focused on urban planning themes that are critical to shaping greener, climate-resilient and inclusive cities.

[Find out more](#)

## AIPH Becomes a Supporting Partner of the First Circular Cities Summit



The inaugural Circular Cities Summit themed "Game-Changing Innovations for Future Cities" will explore innovative solutions and strategies for achieving sustainability and circularity in the built environment. The Summit aims to facilitate a global conversation amongst leaders and practitioners, with a focus on innovative approaches and best practices.

[Read more](#)

## Registration is Open: World Forum on Urban Forests (WFUF)



The 2nd edition of WFUF will take place in Washington DC, from 16-20 October 2023. The overall theme, "Greener, Healthier and Happier Cities for All," highlights the importance of building inclusive and accessible cities where the benefits of urban trees are universally available. The Forum will showcase positive examples of approaches that cities have implemented to optimise the contribution that urban forests can provide.

[Read more](#)

## Call for Content: Inclusive Cities



Each semester, the Metropolis urban sustainability exchange (use) platform focuses on a priority topic relating to the Sustainable Development Goals. Following on from previous topics, which included Green Cities, the next priority topic is Inclusive Cities. Citymakers and local governments are invited to contribute news, recommendations, and case studies.

[Find out more](#)

## AIPH Green City Briefings

In case you missed it, the September webinar in the AIPH Green City Briefings 2022/23 series showcased the power of plants to be resilient in changing climate conditions, with a particular focus on climate-resilient planting in London and the latest research trialling the resilience of hedge and shrub plants in green infrastructure projects.

[Watch the Briefing](#)



## Register for the next Briefing

The final webinar in the 2022/23 series, set to take place on 10th October 2023, features the City of Doha. Expo 2023 Doha Qatar is the sponsor of the 2022/23 series. We invite you to join us as we bring this inspiring series to a close.

[Register here](#)

## In the Spotlight: the AIPH Global Green City Forum



The AIPH Global Green City Forum is a virtual space dedicated to driving transformational change in cities by harnessing the power of plants and nature. Did you know that it is on the Forum where you can join the discussion for each webinar in the AIPH Green City Briefings 2022/23 series? We invite you to join this online community today!

[Join the Forum](#)

## Apply to become a Tree City of the World



The Tree Cities of the World programme is committed to inspiring cities to care for and celebrate their urban tree canopy. The 2023 Tree Cities of the World application portal is open and accepting applications. The deadline to apply for 2023 recognition is January 31, 2024 at 23:59 CST. Join 170 cities who are recognised and apply today.

[Find out more](#)

## AIPH Members' Green City Reports

AIPH requests each of its members from around the world to provide an annual Green City Report. The reports describe industry-led initiatives, major green city projects, policy developments, community activities, and research publications, which are proudly featured in this section.



### Japan Landscape Contractors Association



JLCA actively participates in a variety of events relating to flowers and greenery. These include tree-planting campaigns held in cities during spring and the month of October, the "Protection of Greenery" conference, and a national convention to promote tree planting in urban areas. JLCA also encourages cities to develop more green areas by exhibiting flower beds and gardens in the Urban Green Fairs held nationwide.

[Learn more](#)

### Greenlife Industry Australia

Local governments, landscape architects and urban greening professionals can now determine which plants will survive where over the next 50 years using a first-of-its-kind plant-selector tool. The initiative, which promotes climate-ready urban greening, is delivered through Hort Innovation, and led by



Macquarie and Western Sydney Universities as part of a five year research project.

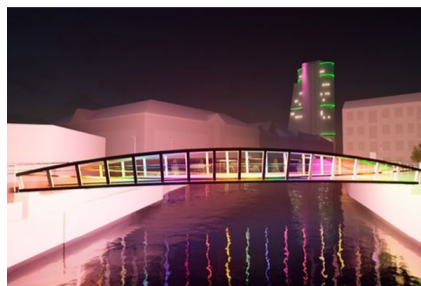
[Find out more](#)

## Case Studies

### Our Spaces Strategy *Leeds, UK*

The City of Leeds aims to create a vibrant, inclusive and world class public realm by reimagining the city centre, removing barriers to movement, and repurposing highway infrastructure into new, high-quality green spaces. The City's strategy enhances the quality and quantity of new and existing spaces to ensure a greener future for Leeds.

[Read More](#)



### Systematic Restoration and Protection of Qionghai Lake *Xichang, China*

Qionghai Lake is the second largest natural freshwater lake in Sichuan Province, covering an area of about 30 square kilometres. It not only regulates the climate of the Xichang region, but is also an important drinking water source in the city. With the aim of making urban development and ecological protection of Qionghai symbiotic, the results of the systematic restoration and protection initiatives are inspiring.

[Read More](#)

## Research Findings

### Plant Selection and Substrate for Green Walls



This research introduces the elements which affect the success of living walls by testing the impact of plant selection, substrate and irrigation regimes. Plant selection was found to be more critical than substrate or irrigation regime for the native plants used in these trials. There was also a difference identified in plant growth based on plant position on the wall.

[Read More](#)

### Climate-adapted Urban Green Infrastructure for Human Wellbeing and Biodiversity



This paper brings together global case studies that review approaches to urban green infrastructure planning, design and delivery. The findings support planners and managers of urban green areas to consider changes for biodiversity, human health and climate change. With examples from the UK, Brazil and Italy this report highlights the similarities and peculiarities across geography and culture.

[Find out more](#)

## Best Practice



### Blueprint for Innovation in Urban Forestry

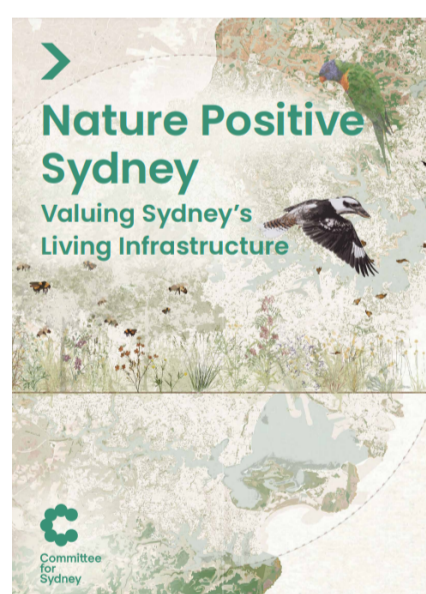
This report provides a first-of-its-kind framework for assessing innovation factors influencing urban forestry. Through the analysis of 20 case studies on urban forestry best practices in the EU, this report offers an overview of urban forestry innovation with the intention to spread the knowledge about the potential of urban forest as NBS for cities.

[Read more](#)

### Nature Positive Sydney

The Committee for Sydney presents a new paper that sets out 10 actionable ways to increase nature in urban areas. Sydney's plan is to grow living infrastructure in a manner that engages the community and supports the city's world-renowned natural assets. The 10 actions provide a replicable blueprint for nurturing nature back into the city.

[Find out more](#)



## Policy

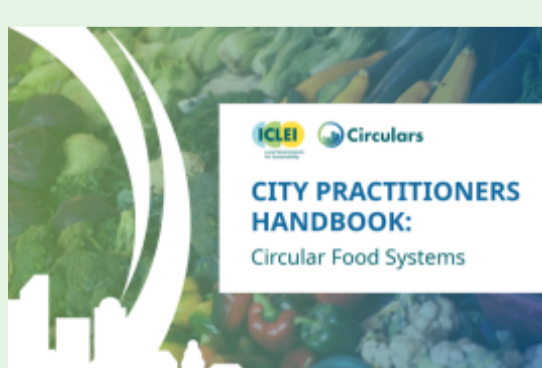
### Urban and Community Forest Sustainability Standard



The Sustainable Forestry Initiative is leading the way to greener, healthier cities with the release of the world's first Urban and Community Forest Sustainability Standard. The standard, accompanied by a useful factsheet, promotes sustainable urban and community forests, nature-based solutions, and resilience to climate change with 16 objectives to maintain and enhance the many values of urban trees.

[Read More](#)

### City Practitioners Handbook: Circular Food Systems



This handbook, designed for local and regional governments, features experiences from 50 local governments and provides concrete tools cities are using to facilitate the transition to circular food systems. The CityFood Program brings together urban food experts from across the globe to support cities in leveraging the power of food for resilient futures.

[Read More](#)



**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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