

Global Green City Update

AIPH presents the power of plants for city resilience | June 2024

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AIPH Green City Briefings Showcase Application and Benefits of Urban Greening



The AIPH Green City Briefings 2024/25 series, which launched on 16th May, demonstrates how successful, integrated urban greening provides benefits for the city, its residents, and nature. Bringing together experts in the principles with those experienced in putting these principles into practice, the AIPH Green City Briefing series provides an engaging opportunity to learn and discuss the latest ways to integrate nature into the city environment.

[Press release](#)

The previous webinar, titled “Seeding a Sense of Place in Urban Parks” took place on 13th June 2024. You’re invited to watch the recording to discover how plants and planting can create a sense of place in urban parks.

[Watch previous Briefing](#)



The next webinar, titled “Creating Successful Urban Greening: Planning and Policy,” is set to take place on 11th July 2024. This session will explore how integrating green infrastructure across a city requires strategic planning and policy.

[Find out more](#)

[Register now](#)

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Best Practice



Nature Positive: Guidelines for the Transition in Cities

The World Economic Forum’s new report, published in collaboration with Oliver Wyman, highlights the pivotal role of cities in leading the global fight against climate change and biodiversity loss. With guidelines local leaders can follow to develop a nature strategy, the report showcases how cities can advance their nature-positive transition and expedite restorative actions to reap the rewards of a sustainable and resilient urban environment.

[Read more](#)

Green Paths to Future Dubai Expo 2020 - Dubai, UAE

The Green Paths to Future initiative, spanning 16 km and 200 ha, has planted over 20,000 trees and more than 4 million seedlings to create a network of green pathways that offer residents and visitors an enhanced quality of life while combating the urban heat island effect, boosting air quality, and fostering a more vibrant urban environment. The initiative addresses immediate challenges while leaving a lasting legacy for the city.

[Read more](#)

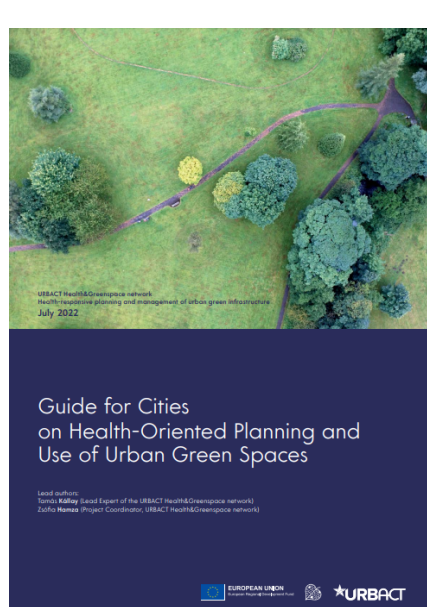


Biodiversity Footprint of the City of Tampere

Is your city aware of its impacts on biodiversity? The City of Tampere, together with the University of Jyväskylä, has calculated its own biodiversity footprint, making it the first city in Finland, if not worldwide, to do so. The calculation methodology provides a blueprint for use by other cities, too, and can thus inspire the development of more strategic targets and measures to halt negative biodiversity impacts.

[Read more](#)

Policy



Guide for Cities on Health-Oriented Planning and Use of Urban Green Spaces

This Guide, developed under the URBACT Health&Greenspace Network, presents potential pathways linking green space to health and wellbeing. With a focus on action, it includes a Matrix of Policy Interventions, potential actions, specific considerations for implementation, and an overview of specific measures that can be adopted by cities to improve health and wellbeing outcomes with the use of urban green spaces.

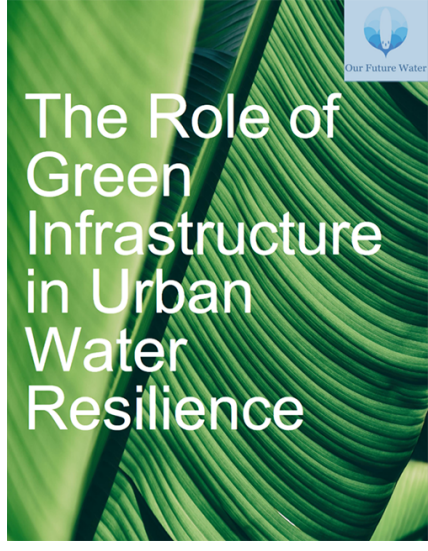
[Read more](#)

The Role of Green Infrastructure in Urban Water Resilience

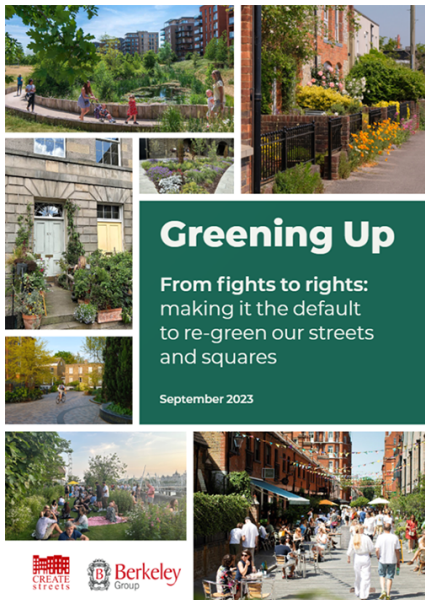
Traditional water management approaches, relying heavily on grey infrastructure, are insufficient to address urban water flooding, pollution, and scarcity challenges sustainably. Green Infrastructure (GI) emerges as a transformative solution. [Our Future Water’s](#) white paper delves into the multifaceted role of GI in urban water management, exploring its

benefits, implementation strategies, challenges, and the potential for scalability across different urban contexts.

[Read more](#)



The Role of Green Infrastructure in Urban Water Resilience



Greening Up

From fights to rights: making it the default to re-green our streets and squares

September 2023

From Fights to Rights: Making it the Default to Re-green our Streets and Squares

The Greening Up report, authored by the [Create Streets](#) team with insight from greening and development experts, provides valuable insights on how to make it the default to re-green our streets and squares. The report highlights the importance of 'Greening Up' our urban areas and provides practical and policy recommendations for making it easier to do so.

[Read more](#)

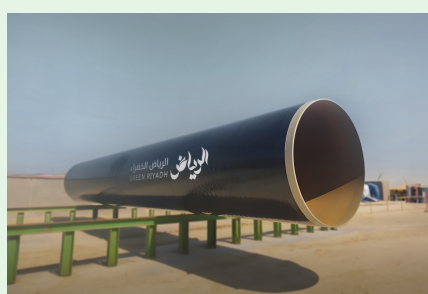
Case Studies



Between March and September 2024, AIPH will proudly showcase the Finalists in the AIPH World Green City Awards 2024, with a focus on one category per month. This month we highlight the three Finalist entries in the "Living Green for Water" category.

Treated Irrigation Water Network *Riyadh, Saudi Arabia*

The Green Riyadh Programme, which aims to plant 7.5 million trees all over Riyadh City, as well as raise the per capita green area by 16 times what it is now, implements a treated water irrigation network with a total length of 1,350 km to meet the full extent of its water needs for urban vegetation projects. The network stands as an innovative example of how cities in water-scarce, dry regions can still implement inspiring urban greening initiatives.



[Read more](#)



Climate Change Strategy *City of Joondalup, Australia*

By implementing their Climate Change Strategy, the City is committed to enhancing public open spaces and improving water efficiency, ecological health, and visual amenity, all while creating places for the community to enjoy. A Waterwise Verge Program has supported 101 residents to create waterwise verges while the use of eco-zoning and hydro-zoning and a smart irrigation system in all City parks and sporting fields generates significant water savings.



[Read more](#)

The Green Miracle *Unaizah, Saudi Arabia*

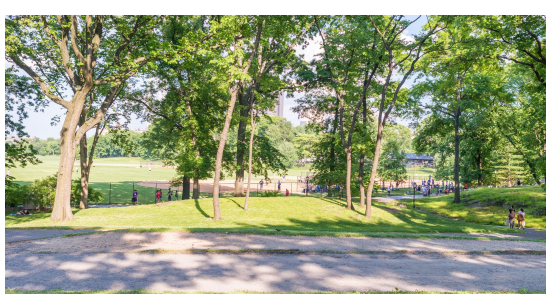
For over a decade, the City of Unaizah has been on an ambitious mission to become a green and environmentally-friendly city. This vision manifested in a series of projects and initiatives that have had a significantly positive impact on the liveability of the city. Most notably, the city has supported an extensive home tree planting project and has transformed underutilised farms into parks which preserve cultural heritage and enhance biodiversity.



[Read more](#)

Research Findings

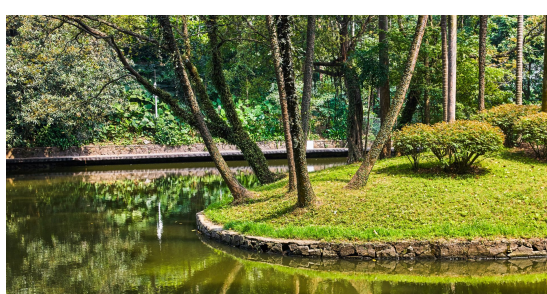
Cooling Cities with Nature



Urban cooling through the use of nature-based solutions requires an approach which includes community dialogue, cross-sector working, and diverse expertise. This paper challenges the Western focus, and illustrates the importance of an evidence-driven approach to heat adaptation through urban greening across the globe.

[Read more](#)

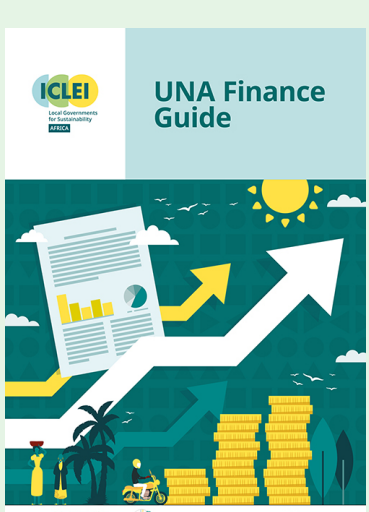
Comparison of Urban Green Space Uses: China and UK



The use of urban green spaces can vary between communities, individuals, and locations. This research presents the findings from a comparison of park preferences and usage between Guangzhou, China and London, UK. It highlights that those who travelled further to visit the park were more likely to spend a longer period of time there.

[Read more](#)

Green City Principles



UNA Finance Guide for Local Governments

This Guide, a resource emerging from the renowned [Urban Natural Assets project](#) (UNA), serves as a valuable aid to local government officials in their efforts to attract and harness biodiversity finances from potential investors, donors, and funders. It provides cities, and particularly those in Africa, with a step-by-step tool and associated guidance in developing concept notes for specific biodiversity project/s.

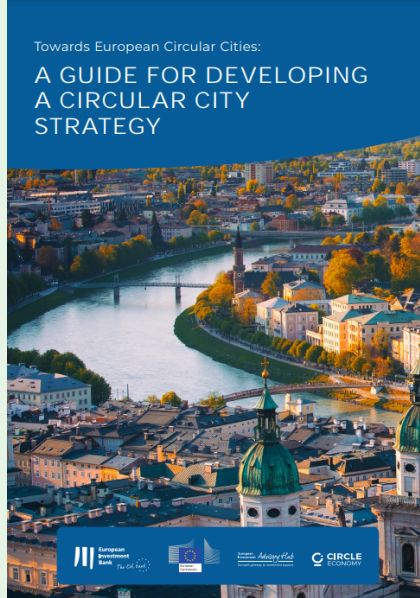
[Read more](#)

A Guide for Developing a Circular City Strategy

Building on previous guidance documents which include ['The 15 circular steps for cities'](#) and ['A catalogue of circular city actions and](#)

solutions,' this Guide by the European Investment Bank (EIB) provides an easy step-by-step guide for developing a Circular City Strategy, whilst also looking at relevant best practice in Europe. The document also considers common barriers and key factors for success in this process.

[Read more](#)



Categorised Database of Tools for Restorative Nature-based Solutions

With the aim of empowering medium-sized cities to tackle their environmental challenges through Nature-based Solutions (NbS), the [INTERLACE](#) project has compiled and categorised 130 tools relevant for the different stages of ecosystem restoration and rehabilitation. The database of tools intends to build on existing online resources to provide targeted solutions for common city challenges in the development and implementation of urban NbS.

[Read more](#)

News & Events

The Circular Cities Network is Here

CIRCULAR CITIES NETWORK

CONNECTING CITIES | INSPIRING CHANGE



This initiative is dedicated to establishing partnerships among cities and professions globally to promote the adoption of circular economic and sustainable practices. Join AIPH and partners in shaping the future of urban development. Ahead of the [Circular Cities Summit 2.0](#), you're invited to [become a member today!](#)

[Read more](#)



IUCN Leaders Forum

You're invited to join the third edition of the IUCN Leaders Forum, which is set to take place in Geneva, Switzerland from 8th-10th October 2024. Under the theme "Harnessing innovation, enabling conservation," the event gathers leaders from around the world to discuss innovative solutions, make bold commitments, build partnerships and catalyse action for impactful change in nature conservation and sustainability.



[Find out more](#)

World Urban Forum

The Twelfth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF12), convened by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), will take place in Cairo, Egypt, from 4th-8th November 2024. The focus on localising the Sustainable Development Goals and shedding light on local actions required to curb current global challenges embody the theme of "It All Starts at Home: Local Actions for Sustainable Cities and Communities."



[Find out more](#)



Get involved with Science-based Targets for Nature for Cities

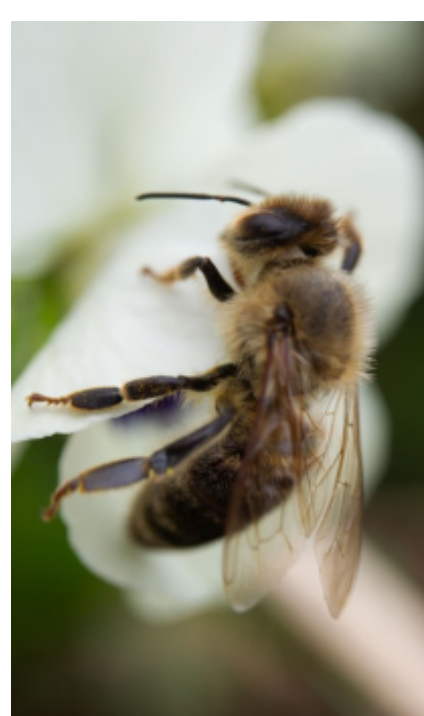
In 2023, the Science Based Targets Network announced the launch of a program to develop guidelines for setting science-based targets for nature and provide an accessible methodology for cities to implement and take action. On 16th May 2024 city practitioners and participants joined SBTN for a presentation of program objectives, approach and initial outcomes, and assessments of existing nature frameworks.

[Read more](#)

Nature for Life Hub

[Registration](#) and the [call for submissions](#) for the Nature for Life Hub 2024 are open! The annual event will convene world leaders, businesses, NGOs, Indigenous Peoples, youth leaders and activists to take ambitious action on nature. Under the theme "Reimagining Our Future," this year's campaign is set to take place virtually from 30th September-3rd October 2024. Check out the website to learn how you and your organisation can get involved. The deadline for submission of proposals is 30th June.

[Find out more](#)



Horticulture and Green Cities

AIPH is the world's champion for the power of plants. AIPH represents the global horticulture industry: a key roleplayer in the delivery of urban greening initiatives. This section highlights the contributions of the horticulture industry in building a greener, healthier, and more resilient urban future.

The Contributions of Urban Horticulture to Cities' Liveability and Resilience



The importance of urban horticulture, the practice of growing plants in an urban environment, is increasingly recognised as a critical contributor to liveable, sustainable, and resilient cities. Drawing on insights from Singapore, this opinion article highlights the importance of urban horticulture and its role in providing important benefits to urban dwellers, including health and well-being and social cohesion.

[Read more](#)

"Le Champ": A Forest Neighbourhood Producing its Own Soils and Trees



Can a new "forest neighbourhood" for creative industries be successfully established in a site that has no soils to speak of, and is subject to complex phasing as well as to strict low carbon footprint and biodiversity net gain requirements? This is the challenge undertaken at Le Champ, in the heart of Lyon, the third largest city in France. The solutions deployed are fascinating and full of learning opportunities for both protagonists and observers.

[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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