

Re-greening cities with Nature-Based Solutions in Europe and China

Bridging science, policy and practice



28-29 November 2023
Brussels

AGENDA

28-29 November 2023

Le Bouche à Oreille, Brussels

(Felix Hapstraat 11, 1040 Etterbeek)

Day I (Tuesday 28 November)

8:45 Registration and Check-In

9:30 **Opening Remarks and Introduction**

9:35 **Nature-Based Solutions: Innovations for Climate Action and EU-China Collaboration**

Moderator

- Vasileios Latinos (ICLEI)

Speakers

- Marco Fritz (Adaptation Mission Secretariat)
- Vojko Bratina (Delegation of the European Union to China)
- Karin Zaunberger (European Commission)
- Benjamin Caspar (European Commission)

10:30 Coffee Break

11:00 **Re-greening Cities with Nature-Based Solutions in Europe and China**

Moderator

- Elena Petsani, REGREEN (ICLEI)

Speakers

- Alberto Pozza (REA, European Commission)
- Dr. Marianne Zandersen, REGREEN (Aarhus University)
- Dr. Rik De Vreese, CLEARING HOUSE (European Forest Institute)
- Prof. Bin Zhao, REGREEN (Fudan University)

12:00 Lunch Break

13:00 **Enabling Transformation in Urban Areas with Nature-Based Solutions**



Moderator

- Elena Petsani, REGREEN (ICLEI)

Speakers

- Paola Lepori (European Commission)
- Dr. Tom Wild (University of Sheffield)
- McKenna Davis (Ecologic)
- Bettina Wilk (ICLEI)
- Ivelina Ivanova (European Schoolnet)

13:45 **Market Place**: Explore various exhibits and projects related to nature-based solutions

14:45 Market Place & Coffee Break

15:00 Parallel Sessions on the following themes

- **Policy, Governance and Institutional Issues: Barriers and Enablers in Nature-based Solutions Governance** (Main room)
- **Environmental Aspects of Nature-based Solutions and Restoration** (White room)
- **Ecological Quality of Nature-based Solutions and Restoration Activities** (Red room)

16:30 **Day in Review: Unpacking the Key Highlights from Today's Sessions**

Moderator

- Prof. Wendy Yan Chen (Hong Kong University)

17:00 Reception [+ Continued Market Place]

Day II (Wednesday 29 November)



8:30 Registration and Check-In

9:00 Urban Living Labs: Navigating the NBS Journey through Co-Design in Cities

Moderators

- Dr. Marianne Zandersen, REGREEN (Aarhus University)
- Dr. Rik De Vreese, CLEARING HOUSE, (European Forest Institute)

Speakers

- Dr. Eugènia Vidal Casanovas, CLEARING HOUSE (Metropolitan Area of Barcelona)
- Prof. Tomasz Bergier, CLEARING HOUSE (Sendzimir Foundation)
- Gordana Mikulčić-Krnjaja, REGREEN (Velika Gorica Municipality)
- Gwendoline Grandin, REGREEN (Paris Region Institute)
- Signe Marie Iversen, REGREEN (Aarhus Municipality)

10:00 Coffee Break

10:30 Parallel Sessions on the following themes

- **The Social and Economic Values of Nature-based Solutions and Restoration** (Main room)
- **Nature-based Education: Opportunities, Pedagogies and Challenges** (White room)
- **Practitioners' Perspective on Working with Nature-based Solutions** (Red room)

12:00 Conference Conclusions and Inspiring Pathways Forward

13:00 Lunch Break (Brown Bag)

13:30 **Study Tours:** Woluwe Park, Forest Bathing/Forest Mind (Parc du Cinquanteenaire/Jubelpark), Tervuren (Sonian Forest)

17:00 Pick up of luggage at Bouche à Oreille

Find practical information to help you make accommodation and travel arrangements in the city of Brussels [here](#).



PARALLEL SESSIONS



Day I

Policy, Governance and Institutional Issues: Barriers and Enablers in Nature-based Solutions Governance

During the last decade, the concept of NBS has increasingly found its way into government agendas and decision-making, notably through local planning processes. Governments are becoming more conscious of sustainable development, Agenda 2030, climate adaptation and other potential solutions to pressing challenges. However, NBS often require more integrated approaches to local policymaking than other solutions, ensuring that nature renewal and preservation align to maximise benefits for other sectors and associated priorities. Compartmentalisation and the fragmentation of local government into silos have been identified as a major factor in both REGREEN and CLEARINGHOUSE limiting and challenging the uptake and implementation of urban NBS. Fragmentation is also recognized as an issue in broader environmental protection efforts related to sustainable transitions. Local government institutions face challenges integrating policy issues and aims across a range of urban sectors. There is a need for more integrated governance approaches to facilitate the creation and implementation of well-designed NBS initiatives that can foster multi-functional policy solutions. The integration of top-down and bottom-up approaches proves essential in crafting policies that seamlessly mesh at different levels. Equally crucial is the deployment of innovative financial and other incentives, strategically tapping into sources like government grants and non-traditional funds to stimulate proactive engagement in NBS.

Moderator

- Prof. Duncan Russel, REGREEN (University of Exeter)

Speakers

- Dr. Clive Davies, CLEARING HOUSE (European Forest Institute)
- Dr. Jiali Jin, CLEARING HOUSE (Chinese Academy of Forestry, Research Institute of Forestry)
- Dr. Anne Jensen, REGREEN (Aarhus University)
- Dr. Richard Hardiman, REGREEN (RICHARD HARDIMAN)
- Benjamin Caspar (European Commission)

Environmental Aspects of Nature-based Solutions and Restoration

This session explores ways to evaluate the benefits provided by NBS and illustrates it with examples from showcase cities. We present key outputs from Clearing House and REGREEN. These most important results comprise the identification of NBS typologies, the analysis of different ecosystem services, the discussion on equity targets to face environmental pressures, and also Geo-surveying of public interest and perception on different aspects of NBS. The gained knowledge reflects scenarios to inform NBS, illustrates an application on how to develop, model and assess various scenarios as well as benchmarking tools. Hence, the session also shows synergies and trade-offs regarding multiple benefits of NBS through an integrated analysis, and explains the guidelines on how to manage NBS and discusses further development. All in all, the session describes the benefits of NBS, as well as the ways to measure or understand those benefits. It also illustrates how close working with city authorities in a collaborative partnership is important to get useful data, models and information which can help cities make effective and evidence-based decisions on NBS types and locations tailored to their respective needs.

Moderators

- Prof. Laurence Jones, REGREEN (UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology)
- Dr. Ellen Banzhaf, REGREEN (Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research)
- Prof. Tomasz Bergier, CLEARING HOUSE (Sendzimir Foundation)

Speakers

- Dr. Andrea Armstrong, CLEARING HOUSE (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)
- Dr. Corina Basnou, CLEARING HOUSE (CREAF)
- Dr. Sebastian Scheuer, CLEARING HOUSE (Humboldt University Berlin)
- Dr. Janice Scheffler, REGREEN (UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology)
- Dr. Gregor Levin, REGREEN (Aarhus University)
- Dr. Wanben Wu, REGREEN (Aarhus University)
- Dr. David Fletcher, REGREEN (UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology)

Panellists

- Dr. Łukasz Mielczarek, CLEARING HOUSE (Kraków Municipal Greenspace Authority)
- Dr. Eugènia Vidal Casanovas, CLEARING HOUSE (Metropolitan Area of Barcelona)
- Lene Vinther/Signe Iversen, REGREEN (Aarhus Municipality)
- Gordana Mikulčić-Krnjaja, REGREEN (Velika Gorica Municipality)

Ecological Quality of Nature-based Solutions and Restoration Activities

The panel will discuss the conceptual, functional and technological requirements to design and manage nature-based solutions in cities. They will also address challenges regarding the move from a traditional landscaping approach to ecological engineering and restoration strategies.

- Common reflection on design and management but also opportunities and limitations of Nature-based solutions and restoration in cities.
- The session will discuss the impact of climate change on the functionality and practice of and with NBS.
- The session will be based on case studies and examples throughout Europe.
- Researchers and practitioners will talk together.

Moderators

- Marc Barra, REGREEN (Paris Region Institute)
- Gwendoline Grandin, REGREEN (Paris Region Institute)

Speakers

- Marc Barra, REGREEN (Paris Region Institute)
- Gwendoline Grandin, REGREEN (Paris Region Institute)
- Dr. Tom Wild (University of Sheffield)
- Prof. Dagmar Haase, CLEARING HOUSE (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

Day II

The Social and Economic Values of Nature-based Solutions and Restoration

This panel discussion will first present a selection of headline findings from REGREEN and CLEARINGHOUSE that relate to the broad social and economic values of Nature-based Solutions. It will then open up a panel discussion, to consider the merit of these different forms of valuation (including non-monetary valuation), what they can tell us, and how they can be used to inform relevant policy and practice.

Moderators

- Prof. Liisa Tyrväinen, CLEARING HOUSE (Natural Resources Institute Finland)
- Prof. Benedict Wheeler, REGREEN (University of Exeter)

Speakers

- Dr. Joanne Garrett, REGREEN (University of Exeter)
- Dr. James Fullam, REGREEN (University of Exeter)
- Dennis Roitsch, CLEARING HOUSE (Wageningen University)
- Dr. Jiali Jin, CLEARING HOUSE (Chinese Academy of Forestry, Research Institute of Forestry)
- Dr. Sebastian Scheuer, CLEARING HOUSE (Humboldt University Berlin)

Nature-based Education: Opportunities, Pedagogies and Challenges

The panel will discuss efforts to advance nature-based education from different organizational perspectives. Panelists represent EU-based educational organizations, EU research projects (Clearing House/REGREEN), and primary schooling.

We will engage specifically with the opportunities and challenges of advancing nature-based education as seen from the perspectives of:

- Organizers involved with the European Schoolnet, NBS EDuWorld and Scientix ambassadors.
- NGO consultants and researchers working in Clearing House/REGREEN to develop and facilitate nature-based education.
- Primary school teachers with long experience in appropriating and adapting educational tools to school practices and embellishing common scientific approaches to nature education with artistic and performative pedagogies.

For educators, policymaker, researchers and concerned citizens alike, this panel discussion opens space for common reflection on nature-based education and common discussion across educational efforts to develop and advance eco-literacy and promote human relationships with nature that may make a difference for understanding the importance of nature-based solutions to address societal and environmental challenges.

Moderators

- Dr. Sally Anderson, REGREEN (Aarhus University)
- Prof. Francesc Baró, CLEARING HOUSE (Vrije Universiteit Brussel)

Speakers/Panelists

- Ivelina Ivanova (European Schoolnet)
- Katriina Kilpi, CLEARING HOUSE (BOS+)
- Prof. Jeppe Læssøe (Jeplae Consulting)
- Juliette Mollet, REGREEN (École primaire Pierre Brossolette)
- Marie Quiviger, REGREEN (École primaire Pierre Brossolette)

Practitioners' Perspective on Working with Nature-based Solutions

We will invite all three REGREEN cities and three of the Clearinghouse cities (Consortium + Knowledge Exchange Program) and ask them to elaborate around 3-4 questions and then open up to everyone. The focus will be on the work with NBS that is taking place within the cities, the challenges they are experiencing and what influence taking part in RG/CH has had on their work with NBS.

Moderators

- Prof. Åsa Ode Sang, REGREEN (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences)
- Dr. Eugènia Vidal Casanovas, CLEARING HOUSE (Metropolitan Area of Barcelona)

Speakers

- Valder Pliego del Ángel, CLEARING HOUSE (Secretariat of Environment of Mexico City)
- Marc Barra, REGREEN (Paris Region Institute)
- Signe Marie Iversen, REGREEN (Aarhus Municipality)
- Gordana Mikulčić-Krnjaja, REGREEN (Velika Gorica Municipality)
- Dr. Roselyne de Lestrage, CLEARING HOUSE (Bruxelles Environnement)

THE SPEAKERS



Sally Anderson

Sally, Associate Professor at Aarhus University, is a social anthropologist with a strong research interest in children, cultural learning, forms of childhood education, diverse learning cultures and learning environments. With over 25 years of fieldwork in Scandinavian settings, Sally's research has focused on everyday processes of cultururation, school organisation and sociality, children's participation in civil society through recreation and sport, the place of religion in childhood education, and the education of indigenous and immigrant children. She has recently returned to earlier field sites in Sápmi to study relations between children, adults, animals and landscapes and the environmental/social learning such relations afford. Sally leads the REGREEN Work Package on Education, participation and awareness.



Ellen Banzhaf

Ellen leads Work package 3 Mapping and Modelling of Ecosystem Services in REGREEN - fostering nature-based solutions for equitable, green and healthy urban transitions in Europe and China (2019-2024). She holds a tenure with Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ, Leipzig, Germany, where she is with the Department of Urban and Environmental Sociology and heads the Geomatics working group. In addition, she is spokesperson for the Helmholtz project Transformations towards Resilient Cities (2021-2027) where she just co-edited the book *Die Resiliente Stadt* (2024; in German). In her scientific work, she links urban remote sensing with urban ecology towards sustainable urban development, including the adaptation of cities to climate change through nature-based solutions. She undertakes combined evaluation of fieldwork and remote sensing techniques to measure environmental pressures and map human exposure. Her research interests include monitoring urban land cover and land use at different scales to gain a deeper understanding of green and blue infrastructure and identify related socio-spatial equity.



Corina Basnou

Corina is a researcher in CREAM, Barcelona. Corina has a special interest in nature-based solutions, green infrastructure planning, education and citizen science. She coordinates in CREAM two H2020 projects on urban restoration: CLEARING HOUSE and CONEXUS. Her main responsibilities in these projects are tools testing and piloting, NBS indicators assessment and mapping, co-designing and engaging local stakeholders. At local level, she has been involved in various urban green planning projects, with particular interest for setting up the basis for the biomonitoring of environmental health using plants, as part of the global One Health research framework. She also coordinated the local Green4children project, a science-policy initiative to enhance NBS and education.



Marc Barra

Marc, from the Agency for Biodiversity in Paris Region, is an urban ecologist specializing in nature-based solutions. He leads research and applied projects in relation with urban planning and architecture. He is currently involved in H2020 project REGREEN on urban nature-based solutions and in the French Capital of Biodiversity award.



Francesc Baró

Francesc is an Asst. Professor at the Geography and Sociology Departments of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Belgium, where he leads an interdisciplinary research line on urban ecology. He is also an associate senior researcher with BCNUEJ, where he co-leads the research line “Urban Climate Risk, Infrastructure, and Justice”. He obtained a PhD in Environmental Science and Technology (2016) awarded the Special Prize for Doctoral Studies from UAB (Autonomous University of Barcelona). His

PhD thesis examined the concepts of ecosystem services and green infrastructure in the urban context, developing a pioneering framework to assess mismatches between (urban) ecosystem service provision and demand. Since then, his research has been motivated to understand the role of urban ecosystems towards more just, (climate) resilient, healthy and sustainable cities, combining geospatial and advanced quantitative and qualitative data analyses, including participatory methods. He has participated in several EU-funded ground-breaking research projects (e.g., URBES, OpenNESS, Naturvation, GreenLULUs, Clearing House) with multiple leading roles and responsibilities. Since 2022, he is the co-PI of the European project “Coolschools”, a partnership of 16 organizations including universities, local governments, SMEs and international NGOs examining the role of climate nature-based solutions in school environments.



Tomasz Bergier

Tomasz, as a researcher and knowledge broker, represents the Sendzimir Foundation in CLEARING HOUSE: Collaborative Learning in Research, Information-sharing and Governance on how urban forests as nature-based solutions support Sino-European urban futures (2019–2024). Plays a similar role in INTERLACE: International Cooperation to Restore and Connect Urban Environments in Latin America and Europe (2020–2024). Professor at the AGH University of Krakow. His areas of scientific interest are nature-

based solutions (NBS) and blue-green infrastructure (BGI), and especially their application in sustainable water management and climate change adaptation and mitigation. Experienced lecturer and trainer, both for university students and professionals. Expert and member of several advisory boards, supporting Polish cities in green transformation. Scientific editor of the book “Challenges of Sustainable Development” and “Sustainable Development – Applications” publication series. Author of numerous publications and guidelines on sustainable development, water management, NBS and BGI.



Anders Branth Pedersen

Anders is Senior Researcher (Political Science) and Head of Section of Environmental Social Science & Geography at Department of Environmental Science, Aarhus University, Denmark. His core research interests are environmental policy analyses and environmental governance at EU/national/regional/local level. E.g. through analyses of the effectiveness of environmental policies and policy instruments, target group behavior, analyses of implementation barriers/possibilities and analyses of multi-level environmental governance. In REGREEN, Anders leads WP6 – the governance and planning of urban nature-based solutions.



Vojko Bratina

Vojko obtained a master degree in Physics in 1995 with a major in Astrophysics and Space Physics, and a PHD in Optics in 2000. His background education includes also a Master in Space Engineering and in Science Communication. From 2001 to 2008 he worked as researcher in the field of space technologies with the National Institute of Applied Optics in Florence, Italy, part of the Italian CNR. In 2008 he joined the EC as policy maker, working in the domain of Earth Observation and Climate Change. He then moved to EC Executive Agencies INEA and REA as Project Officer in 2015. In October 2019 he was assigned to his current post of Science Attaché in the S&T Section of the Delegation of the EU to China in Beijing caring about S&T cooperation between EU and China.



Ben Caspar

Ben is managing urban biodiversity policy in the European Commission. Having studied biology, he joined the commission in 2002 and has since worked on marine conservation, adaptation to climate change, sustainable food policy and more recently urban environment policy. He is now part of the team implementing the Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, including the Nature Restoration Law.



Wendy Chen

Dr. Wendy Chen is a professor of Department of Geography, and serves as the Director of the International Centre for China Development Studies, at the University of Hong Kong. She currently also serves as the Editor-in-Chief for Urban Forestry & Urban Greening, a top international journal in the field of urban greening design and management. She is the coordinator for the Urban Forestry Unit under the International Union of Forest Research Organisation, and the Executive Board Member of Urban Forest Division, Chinese Society of Forestry. Dr. Chen's research focuses on urban forestry, urban river restoration, environmental externality of urban landscape planning and design, urban environmental governance and environmental policies, as well as urban sustainability.



Wang Cheng

Prof. Dr. Wang Cheng is Chief Specialist at the Research Institute of Forestry of the Chinese Academy of Forestry and Executive Deputy Director of the Urban Forest Research Centre of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration (China). Prof Dr WANG has launched creative research and practice with guiding value in areas including theories of construction of forest cities in China, development planning for forest cities, prevention of plant-caused pollution in urban area, and biodiversity of urban forest. Prof

Dr Wang is coordinator of the CLEARING HOUSE project in China (“Research on Urban Forest Key Technologies in Response to Green Urbanisation in China and Europe”).



Clive Davies

Clive is a researcher, educator, and consultant with broad interests. These span urban forestry, landscape planning, green infrastructure, and nature-based solutions. He is acting as an in-house consultant for the European Forest Institute working on the CLEARING HOUSE project and combines this role with others at Newcastle University in the UK, as chair of the European Forum on Urban Forestry, Director of MD2 Consulting Ltd and expert for the European Union’s Research Executive Agency.



McKenna Davis

McKenna Davis works as a Senior Fellow at Ecologic Institute in Berlin and coordinates the Institute’s activities on Nature-based Solutions (NbS). Her work focuses on the science-policy-society interface, supported by transdisciplinary research on NbS policy and governance, co-creation and stakeholder engagement, capacity building, and urban transformation. McKenna’s expertise extends to European biodiversity and nature protection policies and the links to climate change adaptation and human health and

well-being. She coordinates the Horizon Europe-funded INTERLACE project and oversaw the development of its Urban Governance Atlas, showcasing 250 good practice examples of global policy instruments supporting NbS.



Rik De Vreese

Rik is Senior Researcher Urban Forestry Team Leader at the Resilience Programme of the European Forest Institute (EFI) office in Bonn (Germany). He is the coordinator of the Sino-European Research and Innovation Project “CLEARING HOUSE” funded by the European Horizon2020 programme and the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology. The CLEARING HOUSE project facilitates the implementation of urban forests and urban trees as sustainable solutions leading to more sustainable cities in Europe and China.

His research focuses on the relations between humans and trees, in the urban and peri-urban sphere. More specifically, Dr De Vreese has been involved in research on integrating ecosystem services in decision-making and urban planning, mainly with a transdisciplinary lens. Rik is a member of the Board of Directors of the European Forum on Urban Forestry.



David Fletcher

David works on Work package 3, Mapping and Modelling of Ecosystem Services, in REGREEN - fostering nature-based solutions for equitable, green and healthy urban transitions in Europe and China (2019-2024). He is a Research Associate at the UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, where he works as a spatial modeller. His work focuses on quantifying and mapping the provision and benefits of Ecosystem Services (ES), particularly those associated with green and blue spaces in an urban setting.



James Fullam

European Centre for Environment and Human Health (ECEHH), University of Exeter. Prior to his present position at the ECEHH, James worked across a range of health services research positions, focussing on the development of complex interventions. James has merged this experience with a passion for nature-based interventions for mental health. Dr Fullam currently leads a project on the sustainability of nature-based interventions for mental health in the UK. He is also responsible for a work package focused on qualitative exploration of the links between mental health and Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) in REGREEN.



Joanne Garrett

European Centre for Environment and Human Health (ECEHH), University of Exeter. Joanne is a Research Fellow focused on the interactions between human health, well-being, and the environment. Jo is predominantly a human geographer, utilising quantitative and GIS approaches. Jo is a researcher with the REGREEN project, focused on valuing the health benefits from nature based solutions.



Gwendoline Grandin

Gwendoline is an ecologist specialising in urban ecology. She works at the Paris Region Biodiversity Agency (part of the Paris Region Institute). Her work focuses on nature-based solutions, urban depaving and renaturing, and the links between urban wasteland and biodiversity. Gwendoline recently worked on the European REGREEN project and wrote the guide “Renaturing cities”.



Dagmar Haase

Dagmar’s research career grounds on studies on urbanization linked to the concepts of urban ecosystem services (UES), green infrastructure and nature-based solutions. She is the first author of one of the first and highly cited research papers on UES from 2014. Urban densification processes and patterns but also urban shrinkage and their role for and in social-ecological systems, the integrated study of physical, institutional, and perceptual filters for the realisation of UES is another core research field. Dagmar is co-author of the introductory paper on Social-Ecological-Technological Systems (SETs) and in recent projects she is going for an application of this concept together with an international team. Dagmar’s work bases on large European data samples and data sets but she is also actively working in case studies. Her focus is on quantitative and qualitative studies supported by remote sensing and the development of Apps to involve a broader public and link science and citizens. Dagmar has an h-index of 77 and over 250 scientific publications (journal papers and book chapters). Several awards based on and given for the above listed research activities, i.e., the AXA Science Award in 2014, the Wallenberg Honorary Professorship in 2016 and the Honorary Professorship of the University of Bucharest in 2022.



Richard Hardiman

Richard has been working and living in China for over 30 years since 1986. He gained a PhD in Water and Environmental Chemistry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Since then, he has been a consultant for a wide range of environmental projects in China for various international agencies and most recently was advisor to the Chinese Ministry of Environment on Environmental Governance. His current focus is on China’s resource management, its environmental policy and implementation, and China’s impact on global resources and environment. Richard contributes as a SME to the REGREEN Work Package on governance including planning systems.



Marcus Hedblom

Marcus is an urban landscape ecologist at Swedish University of Agriculture (SLU) and contributing to REGREEN Workpackage on Education, Participation and Awareness. Marcus is involved in many different transdisciplinary projects involving valuation of ecosystem services in urban greenery, lawns as ecological and cultural phenomenon, ecosystem services in the Swedish mountains and how the present trend of densifying cities affects ecosystem services within cities and their rural hinterlands. His

focus is also on studying how respondents act physically on multisensory exposure from urban greenery using sound, smell and virtual real environments.



Ivelina Ivanova

Ivelina (Public Sector and International Relations / Project Management) is a Project Manager in the Science Education Department of European Schoolnet (EUN). Ivelina coordinates the Horizon Europe project NBS EduWORLD and EUN's participation in the COOLSCHOOLS project and the NBS Academy project. She has also coordinated the conclusion of the Nature-Based Solutions Pilot (Phase 2), as well as the Scientix Ambassadors, the Scientix National Contact Points, and the Scientix STEM School Label

at EUN.



Signe Iversen

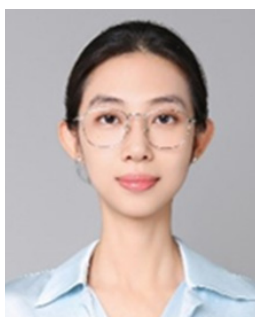
Signe is a geographer and landscape manager at the Technical and Environmental Department of the Municipality of Aarhus, Denmark. Signe works with city planning and watercourse protection and administration of the legislation on watercourses. She also focuses on the integration of blue and green structures and Climate Adaptation in planning processes. She has previously worked 8 years with the EU Programme of Development in Rural Districts in the Danish Ministry of Environment and Food. Signe is part

of the Urban Living Lab Aarhus in the REGREEN project.



Anne Jensen

Anne is an environmental sociologist and senior researcher at the Department of Environmental Science, Aarhus University contributing to the REGREEN Work Package Governance including planning systems. Anne centers her research on policy analysis of environmental challenges, urban studies, sustainable mobility, in particular cycle mobility, policy science and climate change in local and national governance. Her research is aimed at investigating the encounter between policy making, governing and policies, daily lives and social interactions, including in cities and their transition to sustainable cities. Running parallel to this, she holds a strong interest in working with methods for qualitative policy analysis, mixed methods, and methods that capture mobility and power in their social, spatial and historical context, including methodologies that focus on the nonrepresentational parts of self, identity, space and policy.



Jiali Jin

Dr. Jiali Jin is a research assistant at the Research Institute of Forestry, Chinese Academy of Forestry, Beijing China. Her research interests include GIS, spatial analysis, urban landscape ecology, and urban forest ecosystem services assessment such as the cooling effect of urban trees and forest. Dr Jiali Jin is working as the principle key researcher in a Sino-Europe collaboration research project "CLEARING HOUSE. Her work focuses on identifying and mapping Urban forests as nature based solutions in China and contrasting the outcomes with European cities, exploring social perceptions on urban forests through China and Europe, analyzing and managing urban and peri-urban forests that contributes to the resilience of socio-ecological urban system.



Laurence Jones

Laurence is a principal scientist at UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (UKCEH) and Visiting Professor at Liverpool Hope University. He is thematic lead of urban research in UKCEH. His interests cover the interactions of people and the environment and his work focuses on developing models and new approaches to better understand and quantify how the environment benefits people. In REGREEN he leads WP2 on Challenges and Nature-Based Solutions and leads Task 3.2 on Ecosystem Services Modelling.



Katriina Kilpi

Katriina works at the BOS+ as project manager, dealing with European and national projects around forest and health. Her project repertoire includes educational projects for all ages, encompassing such themes as nature connectedness, loneliness, and general wellbeing. In the CLEARING HOUSE project, Katriina and her colleague Tine de Kezel were responsible for the City of Trees Inspirational package for educators. The city of trees was also built on the 5 pathways of nature connection, to make sure that the children not only learn facts about the trees and forests but also connect their own lives and wellbeing to the presence of urban trees and forests.



Julius Knopp

Julius works in REGREEN in work package 3 Mapping and Modelling of Ecosystem Services (2020-2024). He is a researcher at the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ, Leipzig, Germany, where he is with the Department of Urban and Environmental Sociology and contributes to the Geomatics working group. In addition, he is working with the Helmholtz project Transformations towards Resilient Cities (2021-2027). His scientific work focuses on urban remote sensing and mapping of green infrastructure. Object based image analysis and the evaluation of socio economic data drive further research interests, particularly questions of equity in access to urban green spaces and transformation of existing data products to adapted information for further geospatial analysis.



Jeppe Læssøe

Jeppe, Professor Emeritus affiliated to Danish School of Education, Aarhus University where he has been professor with special responsibilities on education, society and sustainable development. He has his disciplinary background in Psychology with a Ph.D in Communication and Educational Studies. However, his research has been interdisciplinary. He has conducted a large number of local, national and international projects focusing on facilitation of citizen participation, social learning and change in relation to sustainability issues. Furthermore, he has contributed to the exploration of barriers, potentials, and ways forward for Education for Sustainable Development.



Vasileios Latinos

Head of Resilience and Climate Adaptation, ICLEI Europe

Vasileios is a climate adaptation and resilience expert, with 13+ years experience, working with local and regional governments throughout Europe. He is coordinating the resilience portfolio of ICLEI Local

Governments for Sustainability for Europe, responsible for development, management and coordination of projects and services in the topical areas of climate change adaptation, urban resilience and disaster risk reduction

and supporting the programmatic development of ICLEI in this field. Vasileios is also involved in standardisation activities and has managed the European Urban Resilience Forum since 2016.



Gregor Levin

Gregor, PhD in geography, is a senior advisor at the Department of Environmental Science at Aarhus University, Denmark. His main research focus is on spatial analysis of land-use and land-cover dynamics. He is involved in several research and advisory projects, such as assessment of land-use changes for national emission inventories, mapping and assessment of ecosystem services and biodiversity. Gregor Levin is co-leader of the EC-funded REGREEN project and contributes to work package 3 on

Mapping and Modelling of Ecosystem Services.



Paola Lepori

Paola Lepori is a Policy Officer for Nature-based Solutions at the European Commission, DG Research & Innovation. Her core professional objective is building alliances to trigger transformative change towards an inclusive nature-positive future. Before joining the Biodiversity and Nature-based Solutions team in 2022, she had been working in the field of environment for several years, including in DG Maritime Affairs & Fisheries, as a communication officer. In Italy, Paola worked as desk news and writer

for newspapers focusing on international affairs, writing in-depth analyses on current and environmental affairs. Her academic background is international relations, and international cooperation with a focus on the Middle East. Her academic research brought her from Italy to the UK, Jordan, Syria and Australia.



Hanne Lund Steffensen

Hanne is a Civil engineer in urban planning and management at Aarhus Municipality since 2013 with a background as a forest and landscape engineer. Combining these fields where nature and cities emerge is Hanne's specialty. Hanne is an expert in the management of urban trees and in the management, development and protection of green areas in Aarhus city. Since 2015, Hanne has worked specifically with increasing biodiversity in urban green areas by introducing Nature-based Solutions and actively making room for nature in a densifying city. Hanne is part of the Urban Living Lab Aarhus in the REGREEN project.



Łukasz Mielczarek

Łukasz (PhD, Krakow, Poland) is specialist in biodiversity conservation, pollinators, especially hoverflies and ecosystem services of urban trees and tree microhabitats, certified tree inspector. Since 2018 he has worked for Krakow Municipal Greenspace Authority (ZZM) in the Department of Forests and Nature. Also project manager of CLEARING HOUSE and Life Urbangreen projects in Krakow.



Gordana Mikulčić-Krnjaja

Gordana, a law graduate, serves in the Administrative Department for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection of Velika Gorica, Croatia. She plays a pivotal role in the city's climate initiatives, acting as a coordinator for renewable energy, energy efficiency, green mobility, education, and nature-based solutions. Gordana's mission is to transform Velika Gorica into a national model for mid-sized cities in smart and green solutions, and at the EU level, it stands out as a progressive small city. She is instrumental in the "Velika Gorica Solar City" project and manages the Regreen project, among various other initiatives. Her special focus is on bridging the rural areas with the city center, fostering a climate-neutral integration. As a key member of the Urban Living Lab Velika Gorica, Gordana contributes significantly to the REGREEN project, emphasizing sustainable urban development.



Juliette Mollet

School teacher from 2001 to 2023. Agricultural engineer by training (1994), Juliette chose to join the French education system in 2001. From 2012 she was allowed to settle down at Pierre Brossolette primary schools in Argenteuil (around 300 children, aged 6 to 11). There she met a group of committed teachers who were motivated by raising children's awareness of the issues involved in preserving their environment. From 2018, they worked with all the classes to obtain the "Eco-Ecole" label. They were awarded this label in June 2020. They have continued and diversified this work thanks to Regreen and artistic partnerships. She left teaching in September 2023 and is currently retraining (payroll management).



Elena Petsani

Elena is an Urban Resilience & Sustainability Planner (MSc & MEng.). She has professional background with over seven years of experience in inclusive and climate-resilient urban development, sustainability strategies, policy-making, and academic research at the national and local government level. She has supported strategic urban planning and territorial development, climate adaptation policies, and spatial tools for multi-stakeholder engagement in the decision-making process. Elena is involved in EU funded projects focused on adaptation to climate change, urban resilience and Nature based Solutions such as REGREEN, proGReg, UP2030, Pathways 2 Resilience, CARDIMED, and MULTISOURCE.



Valder Pliego del Ángel

Valder has a degree in Political Science and Public Administration from the National Autonomous University of Mexico. He has specialized in areas related to Environmental Law and environmental public policies. Within the public sector he has worked in the Deputy Attorney General's Office for Legal Affairs of the Environmental and Territorial Planning Attorney's Office of Mexico City and the Secretariat of Environment of Mexico City. He currently works as an Advisor to the Secretary of Environment of Mexico City, where he has coordinated and monitored various projects related to the Environmental Policy within the framework of the implementation of the "Mexico City Environmental and Climate Change Program". In particular, in processes to strengthen schemes for the expansion and socio-environmental improvement of natural spaces, under a vision of nature based solutions; as well as the development of the local circular economy strategy, which includes the construction of the Circular Economy Law of Mexico City published in February of this year, that it's beginning to be implemented with a sustainability and regeneration of natural systems approach.



Alberto Pozza

Project Adviser in Unit B3 “Biodiversity, Circular Economy and Environment” European Research Executive Agency (REA).

Alberto has been working as a Project Adviser since 2019. He started at the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) and then moved to the European Research Executive Agency in 2021, where he manages a portfolio of projects that are funded by the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe programmes, in the fields of Nature Based Solutions,

biodiversity and transformative change.

Prior to joining the Executive Agencies, Alberto worked in research and development in the field of renewable energies at the European Commission’s Joint Research Centre, as well as in private companies. Alberto holds a master’s degree in electronic engineering.



Marie Quiviger

Primary school teacher since 2015. Marie always worked in the education field, in one capacity or another, first in secondary and high schools as a history and geography teacher, then she trained in french signs language to assist deaf students, and finally, she became a primary school teacher in 2015. She settle down in Pierre Brossolette School in 2018, where she met a team whose energy and enthusiasm to commit into Eco Ecole project won her over. They were awarded this label in June 2020. They have continued

and diversified this work thanks to REGREEN and artistic partnerships.



Duncan Russel

Duncan is a Professor in environmental policy at University of Exeter.

Duncan’s research and teaching interests include UK and European environmental policy, climate policy, evidence and policy interactions, and budgetary politics. Current and recent projects include being Principle Investigator on the Defra, Scottish Government, NERC, ESRC and AHRC-funded National Ecosystem Follow-up Work Package “Institutional behaviours and cultures and the uptake of ecological knowledge”. Duncan is

co-leading the REGREEN Work Package Governance including planning systems.



Åsa Ode Sang

Professor of Urban Vegetation Design at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. Professor of Urban Vegetation Design at the Dept. of Landscape Architecture, Planning and Management at SLU and leader of the subject group in Urban Vegetation. Åsas research focuses on perception, use and values of urban vegetation. She is currently involved in the two EU-funded NBS projects namely REGREEN and CONEXUS where she is working in close collaboration with cities in Europe and Latin America. In REGREEN

Åsa leads the Work Package on Urban Living Labs.



Janice Scheffler

Janice is a meteorologist and atmospheric modeller focussing on Air Quality. She works as an Air Pollution modeller at the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Atmospheric Chemistry and Effects science area and contributes to REGREEN with her expertise in modelling air pollution as environmental pressure. She works on multiple projects modelling, amongst others, the UK and European Air Quality for the past and present, the impact of wild fires on air quality in South East Asia, and the effect of land cover

changes on air quality – especially on how nature-based solutions in urban areas can improve air quality.



Sebastian Scheuer

Sebastian is a postdoctoral researcher at the Landscape Ecology Lab at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. His research is centred on the study of urban human-environmental interactions, including broader themes such as natural hazard risk or benefits provided by urban green-blue infrastructures. His thematically overarching interest is in the (data-driven) analysis of relationships between people and their urban environment, applying, e.g., exploratory multivariate data analysis and geostatistics,

and in the formalisation of knowledge on these relationships to support their modelling and assessment.



Mara Sierra-Jimenez

Mara is a PhD in cultural geography. She works on the socio-cultural construction of the relationship with living things (Nature) and is particularly interested in understanding the processes of adaptation and appropriation of nature education tools. She is currently working as a post-doctoral researcher on the project “Tackling Global Changes” Societal decisions implementing Nature-Based Solutions: towards emancipatory approaches? in the ETTIS unit - “Environment, Territories in Transition, Infrastructures,

Societies” at INRAE (Bordeaux-France). She is particularly interested in the notion of beneficiaries in Nature-Based Solutions projects.



Marie Spanier

Marie is an ecologist specialising in urban ecology. She works at the Centre d’Ecologie et des Sciences de la Conservation at the Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle in Paris. She is currently focusing her work on urban ecosystem services. She recently joined the European REGREEN project to contribute by organizing an event to promote biodiversity in landscaping practices, as well as contributing to a report on Recommendations for potential targets values in Cities.



Francesca Tedeschini

Francesca is a research assistant at Joanneum Research with an academic background in both Economics and EU Law and Policies. Her main research focus is on energy and climate change policy and the green transition of the European Union. She is involved in various research projects, such as assessing market characteristics, financing approaches and incentive mechanisms for NBS and defining and integrating energy citizenship into decision-making processes. For the REGREEN project, she has mainly contributed to WP8 on communication and dissemination, the exploitation plan and the accelerator program.



Eugènia Vidal Casanovas

Eugènia is an architect and urban designer based in Barcelona with over 20 years of professional experience in both the public and private sector. She has practiced, taught and conducted research in Europe, the USA, and Asia. Eugènia is committed to the open spaces of the metropolis, protecting and restoring ecologies and creatively transforming everyday landscapes. She is the Head of the Open Space Planning Office at the Green Infrastructure Service of the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona [AMB]. Eugènia holds a PhD in Infrastructural Landscape Projects from Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya.BarcelonaTech and a MSC in Architecture and Urban Design from Columbia University. She is a registered architect in Spain.



Benedict Wheeler

Ben is an Associate Professor in Environment, Health and Inequalities, and is co-director of the European Centre for Environment and Human Health at the University of Exeter. He applies geographical and epidemiological methods to research the impacts, positive and negative, that the environment can have on human health.



Tom Wild

Tom is based in the Department of Landscape Architecture at University of Sheffield where he is the Principal Investigator for the Horizon 2020 project Conexus. Tom is an ecologist, specialising in aquatic and riparian ecosystems, and catchment management practices. His research interests centre around the conditions, policies and practices that enable or hinder the rehabilitation and regeneration of impacted (and semi-natural) ecosystems. Much of his work has been concerned with values and the economic valuation of blue-green infrastructure and nature-based solutions, such as sustainable urban drainage (SUDS), deculverting and river restoration.



Bettina Wilk

Bettina is a senior project officer for nature-based solutions and biodiversity at ICLEI Europe. She is involved in several pertinent H2020 projects and coordinating Network Nature+, the one-stop-resource and exchange platform for nature-based solutions across science, policy and practice. She was a researcher at the Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development, Utrecht University. Ms. Wilk holds a master's in environmental governance from Utrecht University and in Social and Cultural Anthropology from the

University of Vienna.



Jerylee Wilkes-Allemann

Jerylee is a researcher and educator at the Bern University of Applied Sciences and a principal scientists at the European Forest Institute (Biocities Facility). Her research interests include forest policy and governance, urban forestry, ecosystem services with a focus on outdoor recreation and wellbeing, forest pedagogics and communication in the forest sector. She has been working as a consultant for the CLEARING HOUSE project and has developed guideline Nr. 3 concerning participation. Jerylee is board member

of the European Forum on Urban Forestry, managing director of ArboCityNet and a tree lover.



Wanben Wu

Wanben has been actively involved in work package 3 of the REGREEN project since 2020, which focuses on mapping and modelling ecosystem services. He is also a key member of the MOST-funded REGREEN project in China. He has conducted extensive land cover assessments at various scales in Urban Living Labs (ULLs) in Europe and China. His responsibilities also extend to evaluating the various benefits derived from ecosystem services through nature-based solutions within different urban development

scenarios. He is currently working as a postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for Ecological Dynamics in a Novel Biosphere (ECONOVO) at Aarhus University in Denmark. Here he is actively involved in another Horizon Europe project entitled Climate-smart Rewilding: Ecological Restoration for Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation, and Biodiversity Support in Europe. In this role, his main focus is on studying ecosystem responses to passive and trophic rewilding in Europe. His research interests include complex human-nature dynamics, urban form mapping, urban heat stress studies and forest function studies.



Marianne Zandersen

Marianne is the Coordinator of REGREEN – fostering nature-based solutions for equitable, green and healthy urban transitions in Europe and China (2019–2024). She works as an environmental economist and senior researcher at Aarhus University, Department of Environmental Science in Denmark with a focus on environmental and behavioral economics in the fields of urban and peri-urban systems, nature-based solutions, climate change and ecosystem management. She is also a Work Package lead on the economic and financial evidence of NBS in the related HEU project ‘Invest4Nature’ (2022–2026) and a Work Package lead in the upcoming HEU project ‘Go Nature Positive’ on developing evidence and a definition of Nature Positive Economy contributing to the development of an official EC definition (2024–2027). She is also part of the European Topic Center on Climate Change Adaptation and LULUCF (ETC/CA).



Karin Zaunberger

Karin is a biologist. After working in the European Parliament, she joined the Research Department of the European Commission and followed research projects in the field of biodiversity and climate change. Since 2007 she has been working in the Directorate General for Environment with a main focus on the biodiversity-climate change nexus. She has participated in negotiations on biodiversity and climate change in the frame of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) since 2010 and she accompanied several studies and reports in relation to nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches. She was part of the EU’s negotiation team for the Resolution on Nature-based Solutions adopted by the UN Environmental Assembly in 2022. She is EU focal point for CBD SBSTTA and co-focal point for IPBES.



Bin Zhao

Bin Zhao is a professor at the School of Life Sciences, Fudan University, serving as a doctoral supervisor and a dual Principal Investigator (PI) in both research and teaching capacities. He is also the project leader for the China–Europe collaboration project (REGREEN) under the Key Research and Development Program of the Ministry of Science and Technology. Additionally, he holds the position of associate editor of the journal *Wetlands* and has been recognized as a New Century Excellent Talent by the Ministry of Education in China. Over the past decade, Zhao Bin has been dedicated to integrating remote sensing monitoring with ground observations, extracting implicit information from time-series spectra of remote sensing data. He applies this knowledge to various aspects, including the development of tidal flat shorelines, ecological succession, monitoring of invasive plants, and determination of soil salinity. His current research focuses on the environmental impact and sustainability challenges of the transition to new energy, multidimensional and interdisciplinary studies based on natural solutions, and addressing significant scientific issues.



MARKETPLACE



[REGREEN](#)

[CLEARINGHOUSE](#)

[INVEST4NATURE](#)

[ICLEI/ Network Nature](#)

[Conexus](#)

[NBS EduWORLD / European Schoolnet](#)

[GoGreenRoutes](#)

[European Commission](#)

[EVE](#)



PRACTICAL INFORMATION



The practical information provided in this section is designed to help you make accommodation and travel arrangements in the city of Brussels.

Conference venue



Le Bouche à Oreille is a former convent converted into an event hall close to the Parc du Cinquantenaire, in the heart of Brussels.

For more information, visit [Le Bouche à Oreille](#).

Le Bouche à Oreille
Félix Hapstraat 11
1040 Etterbeek
Brussels, Belgium



How to reach the venue

Metro stations

Merode: Lines 1 and 5 (from Brussels Central station, Brussels city center, ...).

From Brussels-Midi, take metro line 2 or 6 to Kunst-Wet/Arts-Loi, where you can change on line 1 or 5 to Merode.

Bus stop

Gaulois: Lines 27 and 80

Tickets

MIVB/STIB is the main local transport company in Brussels. You can buy tickets in the metro stations or on the bus or tram, using credit or debit card, Google Pay, Apple Pay, Garmin Pay or Fitbit Pay. A single ticket costs 2,10 € (contactless with card or smart device) or 2,60 € (paper ticket bought in machine or shop). When you use a card or smart device, the maximum daily charge for the MIVB/STIB will be topped to 7,5 €/day. A ten-ride card (BruPass 10 journeys) costs 16,80 € at the vending machines or shops. A ticket for one day costs 7,50 € with contactless payment or 8,00 € in shops or at the vending machine.

More information on local transport tickets in Brussels can be found [here](#).

How to get from the nearest metro stations to the venue



How to reach Brussels



Train



There are five main stations serving the Brussels-Capital Region. Closest railway stations to the venue are Brussel Central station (connection metro 1 and 5 to the venue) and Brussels-Schuman station (connection to Brussels National Airport). [Eurostar](#) trains connect Brussels Midi station with London, Amsterdam, Paris, Cologne and Düsseldorf. [Deutsche Bahn](#) runs ICE trains from Cologne and Frankfurt airport and Frankfurt main station to Brussels North and Brussels Midi stations. Direct TGVs connect Brussels with Lille, Paris Charles-de-Gaulle airport, Lyon and other French cities. For all information concerning trains in and to Belgium SNCB/NMBS website [here](#).

Plane



[Brussels Airport](#) is the main international airport of the city. The airport has a railway station under the airport terminal, connected to Brussels-Central (6 trains/hour, 17 minutes, metro 1 or 5 to venue) and Brussels-Schuman station (2 trains/hour, 15 minutes, 12 min walking to venue). For train times, check the [journey planner](#) or via the SNCB app. A ticket costs 10,30 EUR and can be bought in the airport railway station, on <http://www.belgiantrain.be> or the SNCB app.

[Brussels South Charleroi Airport](#) (BSCA) is an international low-cost airport, located in Charleroi in Wallonia (southern Belgium). Frequent Flibco busses connect Brussels South airport with Brussels Midi station every 20 minutes (travel time 1 hour, tickets from 20 EUR in the bus station, through <http://flibco.com> or the Flibco app). From Brussels-Midi station, take metro line 2 or 6 to Kunst-Wet/Arts-Loi, where you can change on line 1 or 5 to Merode.

Alternatively, TEC busses connect the airport with Charleroi Central railway station (line A1), and Fleurus railway station (line A2), both well connected to Brussels-Central station. More info on the bus+train connection at <https://www.belgiantrain.be/en/tickets-and-railcards/airports/charleroi-airport>.

Bus

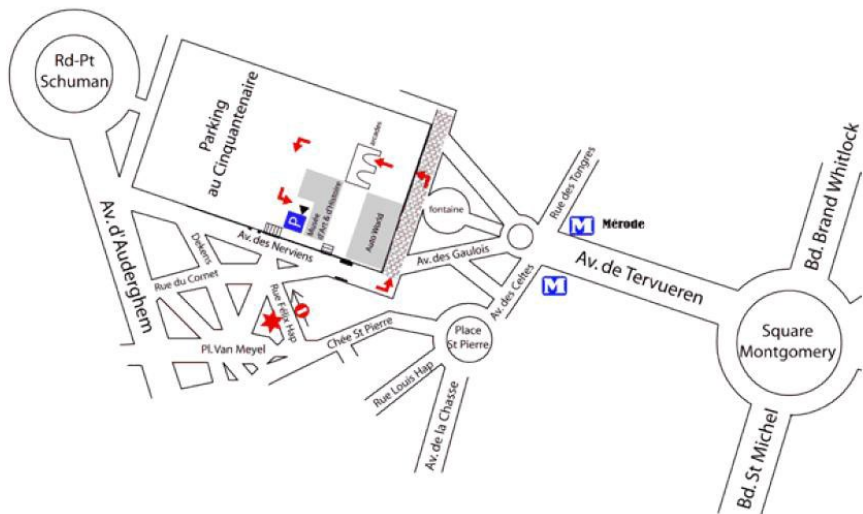


Several international bus companies that provide quick bus transit between major European cities also stop in Brussels on journeys to and from cities like Amsterdam, Berlin, London and Paris. For more information, visit the websites of [Flixbus](#).

Car



Since 2018, the Brussels-Capital Region has become a Low Emission Zone (LEZ). If you are entering the city in a car, check [here](#) to find out whether you are allowed to drive your vehicle within the LEZ. If you come by car, you can park at “Parking au Cinquanteinaire”, next to Merode Metro station.



Study tours



For all study tours, please bring appropriate clothing (it can be rainy, chilly and windy) and footwear. Participants will be able to return to Bouche à Oreille for picking up luggage until 18:00. Excursions start at Bouche à Oreille, and use walking and/or tram to reach the green areas to be visited.

For all tours, please register at <https://www.eventbrite.fi/e/study-visits-re-greening-cities-by-advancing-nature-based-solutions-tickets-761244541917?aff=oddtcreator>.

1. Resilience and adaptive management of urban forestry park – The case of Parc de Woluwe – Grégory Reinbold and Etienne Aulotte (Brussels Environment)

During this site visit, we will discuss – among other things:

- Natural regeneration versus horticultural management

- Which adaptive species for implementing urban forestry solutions in open public space
- Strategy for managing old trees
- Combining urban forestry management with a Natura 2000 protection status.

The attendees for this trip will leave by tram from the venue (Bouche à Oreille), and need to take their belongings with them. The guides will join the group from Bouche à Oreille. Attendees can also go directly to the tram stop “Musée du Tram/Trammuseum” (Trams 8, 39, 44) along Avenue de Tervueren/Tervurenlaan by 14:00. This is in front of Parc Woluwe.

Maximum number of participants: 30

End time: 17:00 (Musée du Tram/Trammuseum)

2. Tervuren – bringing the forest into the built area through renaturation – Jorge De Vriese and Ann De Cannière (Province of Vlaams-Brabant)

We will visit some sites where the Horizon+ strategic project has been extending the richness and forest feeling of the Sonian forest into the village centres and built areas around the Sonian Forest. We will travel by scenic Tram 44 to the village centre of Tervuren (tram stop Tervuren station, line 44) and the immediately adjacent Voervalley, where the natural value and water-buffering capacity of the valley has been restored. By softening and greening private plots, Horizon+ also extends the positive impact of the Sonian Forest into private gardens and streets.

The attendees for this trip will leave by tram from the venue (Bouche à Oreille), and need to take their belongings with them. The guides will join the group from Bouche à Oreille. Attendees can also go directly to the tram stop “Tervuren Station” (Tram 44) by 14:30. This tram stop is next to the African Museum.



Due to construction, a shuttle bus (T-bus 44) is replacing the tram between the Vierarmen/Quatre Bras stop and Tervuren Station. You leave the tram at the final stop, walk to the replacement bus and soon you will be off to Tervuren.

Maximum number of participants: 30

End time: 17:00 (Tervuren Station)

3. Introduction to Forest Bathing and Forest Mind (Katriina Kipli, NatureMinded)

Katriina will take you to the Parc du Cinquantenaire/Jubelpark, and will introduce us on how to connect with the tree, the weather, the others and ourselves.

The attendees for this trip will leave by foot from Bouche à Oreille (10 minutes walking).

Maximum number of participants: 40

End time: 16:00

Hotel Accommodation



Participants are expected to organise their own travel and accommodation. Book your hotel on time. Brussels is a very busy city at this period. Useful information on accommodation in Brussels can be found at one of the following websites:

[Visit Brussels](#)

[Bed and Brussels](#)

[Booking.com](#)

Frequently Asked Questions



Is interpretation available at the conference?

The plenary presentations and discussions will be translated in English and Mandarin. Translation devices will be provided at the registration desk.

Do I have to pay for my own hotel and travel expenses?

Yes, if not otherwise indicated to you by the organiser.

Will food and drinks be provided during the conference?

Yes, coffee breaks, lunch breaks as well as a reception cocktail on the first day are included.

When is the conference starting?

Registration for the conference starts at 8:30 am, with the conference scheduled to start at 9:15 am.

My question is not listed here. Whom do I contact?

For any further practical information about the conference, please contact: clotilde.mahe@iclei.org

Further useful links



For the Lonely Planet guide to Brussels, see [here](#).

For weather in Brussels, see [here](#).

For more information about Brussels, please visit <https://www.visit.brussels/en/visitors.html>.