

Nature-based solutions for climate resilient cities: practical examples and how they can be mainstreamed and financed

Tuesday, 14th November 2017

13:30 – 15:00 pm

Bonn Zone, EIB Pavilion A.08

Cities across the world are exposed to a wide range of socio-demographic, economic and environmental pressures. Some of these pressures, such as water scarcity and increasing frequency of extreme weather events are exacerbated by the impacts of climate change, while others stem from the continuing growth of cities, such as urban sprawl and inefficient use of built space, lack of affordable housing solutions, waste management and circular economy and air pollution.

Nature-based solutions (NBS) are actions which are inspired by, supported by or copied from nature. The benefits from integrating NBS into urban areas reach from climate change adaptation effects, for example, by reducing surface water flooding or urban heat island effects, to positive health impacts, such as improved air quality or physically more active city dwellers. Integrating NBS in the urban planning and design has also shown to reduce social tensions and contribute to a socially inclusive development of a city.

In this session we will discuss with representatives from cities, a city network, research and the financial sector how NBS can be made an integral part of urban planning and development. We will seek to get an overview on how well NBS are integrated in urban development across the EU today, identify obstacles hindering the mainstreaming of NBS in sustainable urban development projects and identify the enabling factors. Finally, we will discuss the potential role to be played by [International Financial Institutions such as the EIB](#), in fostering the integration of NBS into urban development projects so as to increase their resilience.

PROGRAMME

Opening: *Monica Scatasta*, Head of Climate, Environment and Social Policy, EIB

Moderator: *Shirin Wheeler*, International Media and Communications, EIB

Panellists: *Deputy Mayor*, Climate, City of Paris (tbc)

Jeroen Schenkels, Green Programme Manager, City of Utrecht

Holger Robrecht, Deputy Director Europe, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability

Dóra Almássy, Researcher, Naturevation, Central European University

Gerry Muscat, Head of Urban Development, EIB

