

# Strengthening urban ecosystem restoration in Europe and Latin America

## About the INTERLACE project

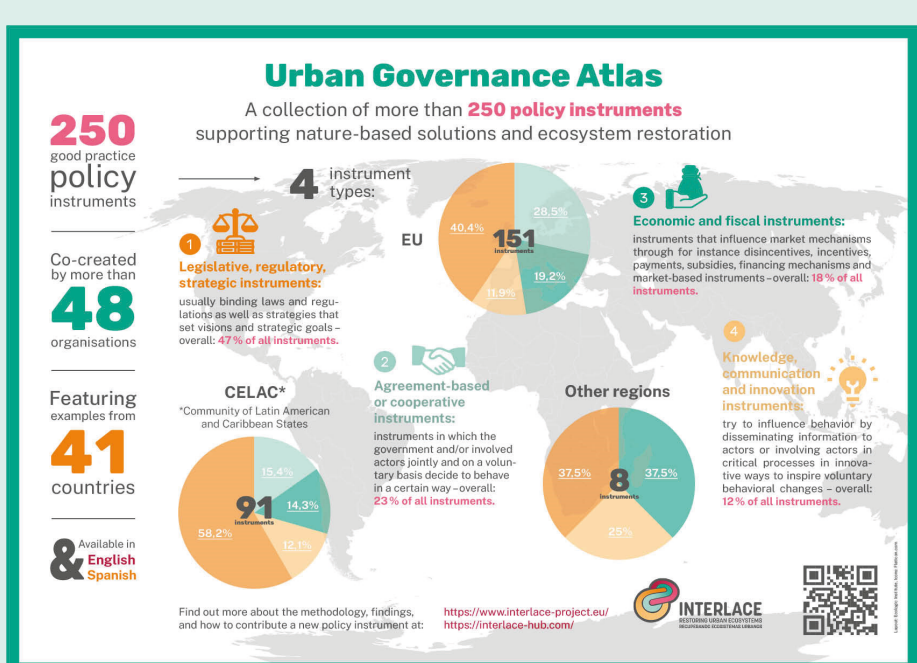
The INTERLACE project aims to support European and Latin American cities in restoring their (peri)urban ecosystems through nature-based solutions to become more livable, resilient and inclusive. The project develops its activities in cooperation with six small and medium-sized cities in Europe and Latin America: Granollers, Spain; Envigado, Colombia; Portoviejo, Ecuador; Chemnitz, Germany; Metropolia Krakowska, Poland; and the Corredor Biológico Interurbano Río María Aguilar-San José, Costa Rica.

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[@INTERLACE\\_NBS](https://twitter.com/INTERLACE_NBS)

<https://youtube.com/interlaceproject4937>

## KEY PRODUCTS...

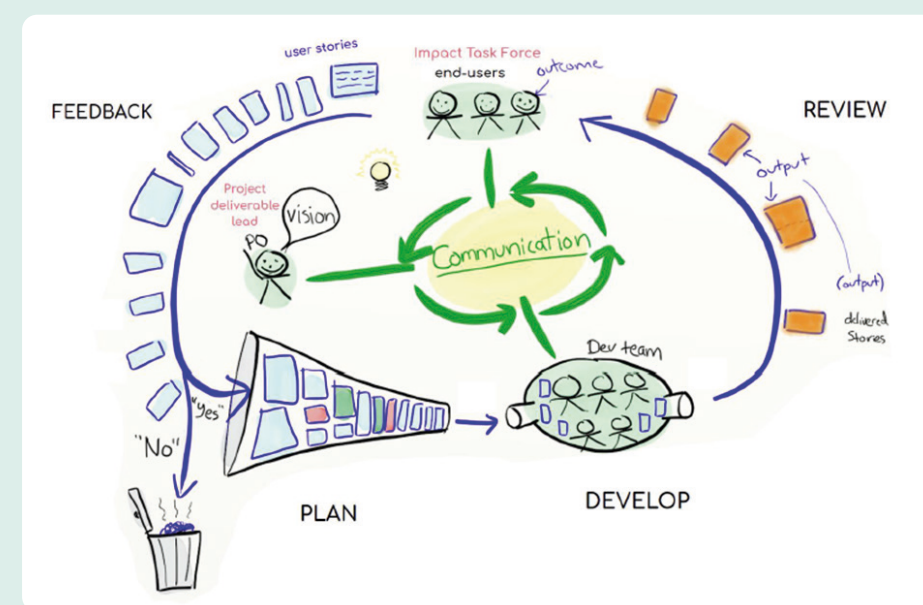


### Urban Governance Atlas

The Urban Governance Atlas (UGA) is an interactive online database featuring 250 good practice policy instruments supporting nature-based solutions and ecosystem restoration. The first of its kind, the Atlas allows users to explore instruments from around the world and what has made them successful, lessons learned in their design and implementation, and their approaches to governance. Whether you're a policymaker, urban planner, or citizen – we invite you to visit the UGA and be inspired by the amazing work being done in over 41 countries!

### Agile workflow/guidance

The INTERLACE consortium is experimenting with an agile workflow, to develop more user-oriented deliverables. This is innovative in the sense that the focus is on end-user needs: the research design is adapted to the local needs and embraces changing requirements. The approach rests on a set of core values and principles, that favours an iterative workflow where feedback is collected regularly and integrated into the deliverable. Check out the "Agile Guidance" to learn more: it provides theoretical and practical guidance on how to get started, and first lessons learnt. This living document will be updated as more details on successes and challenges become clear via our monitoring and evaluation.



Source: Agile Product Ownership in a nutshell by Henrik Kniberg <http://tinyurl.com/ponutshell>

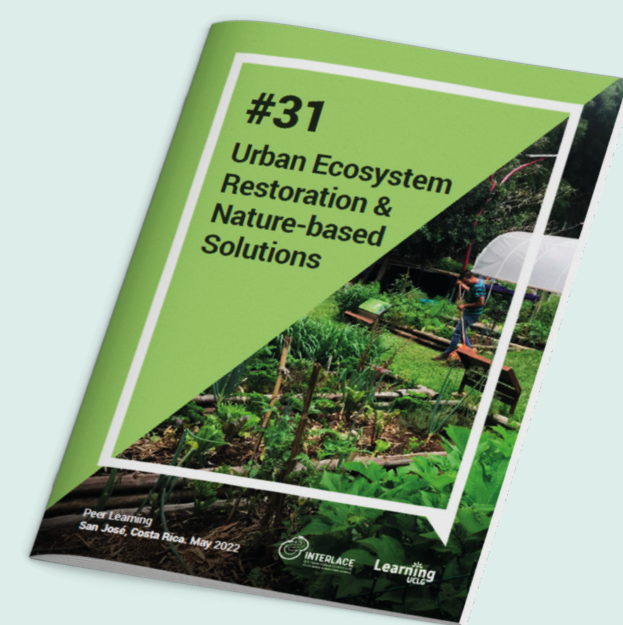
### NBS Assessment framework

The INTERLACE Assessment Framework is envisioned to help users evaluate nature-based urban solutions in a participatory way. It can be used to formulate and design solutions specific to the context of each place or city, and monitor and evaluate the impact of a given NBS. It consists of five modules and several sub-modules. The first set of modules are fixed: **Framing & Co-creation**, and the four following modules can be chosen according to users needs: **Spatial screening** to diagnose and prioritise NBS intervention areas, **Design Solutions & Comparison of Alternatives** to help users in the previous phases to implementation, and **Monitoring** to evaluate the effectiveness of a NBS.



### Peer Learning Note "Urban ecosystem restoration and NBS"

This Peer Learning Note highlights city practices and key lessons from INTERLACE's consortium meeting and first in-person "Cities Talk Nature" engagement event which took place from May 9–13, 2022 in Costa Rica. From the Maria Aguilar Interurban Biological Corridor (CBIMA) in San Jose metropolitan area, spanning over 39 km<sup>2</sup> across five municipalities, to the recovery of the Congost River in Granollers, it documents 4 cases by local governments in Latin America and Europe, providing key recommendations for cities and other stakeholders to foster the multiple benefits of nature-based solutions while restoring urban ecosystems.



English:



Spanish:



English:



Spanish:



### Gender and cultural guidance for participation processes

This guidance supports practitioners, from the INTERLACE project and beyond, who are implementing activities related to ecosystem restoration and need to ensure inclusive, transparent and fair stakeholder participation. Therewith, this document provides clear guidance to facilitate inclusive approaches and explains a set of key topics which allow to better understand and control the cultural, gender and ethical concerns. While there is a large body of research on this topic, this guidance will synthesize existing knowledge from research and practitioners and provide tailored guidance for both the EU and CELAC regions.



### Cities Talk Nature webinars and events

CITIES TALK NATURE is a community of practice dedicated to restoring degraded ecosystems in municipalities in Latin America, Europe and other parts of the world. Together we explore the multiple advantages of restorative nature-based solutions, thus building resilience in our towns and cities. Become part of the CITIES TALK NATURE community and join our regular free webinars and events!



### Cookbook for interactive online exchanges

The 'Cookbook for virtual interactive exchange formats for cities' gives guidance to public authorities, city networks and other organisations that want to build an inclusive online environment for sharing and learning between municipalities. Have a look at our tried and tested methods and cook up your own recipe for successful collaboration.



### INTERLACE Hub

We are transforming the INTERLACE Hub into a new web-platform that will tell the stories and share the outputs of our project in an engaging, 'magazine' style. You'll be able to read articles and interviews about what the project has achieved, the impact we are delivering and why it's important – all featuring links to various tools, resources and other outputs we have created across both Europe and Latin America.



### FURTHER PRODUCTS COMING SOON...

#### INTERLACE MOOC

The INTERLACE Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) is our instrument to spread knowledge about how nature-based solutions are planned, governed, financed, assessed and used in restoring ecosystems in cities together with its citizens. The MOOC will contain the following modules:

- 1 INTRODUCTION** about the importance of urban ecosystem protection and restoration.
- 2 GOVERNANCE INSTRUMENTS** for ecosystem restoration and NBS management.
- 3 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT** to foster ecological education regarding culture, ethics, and gender issues.
- 4 MEASURES** used to tackle NBS performance, climate change adaptation, and mitigation.
- 5 URBAN DESIGN AND PLANNING** for resilient cities, with the use of social and nature-based tools.

#### Minecraft® programme

INTERLACE has been using the world's most popular video game – **Minecraft®** – to engage schoolchildren in designing and building nature-based solutions. We've built virtual replicas of our cities using data from OpenStreetMap and NASA. And our young designers have used these 3D environments to create practical solutions for real-world places they are familiar with.



#### CELAC NBS Repository

Oppla and Humboldt Institute (Colombia) are collaborating to develop a new NBS-focused web-platform for Latin America. The platform aims to replicate Oppla's success in Europe by gathering and sharing case studies, tools and resources contributed by projects and practitioners from across the region.

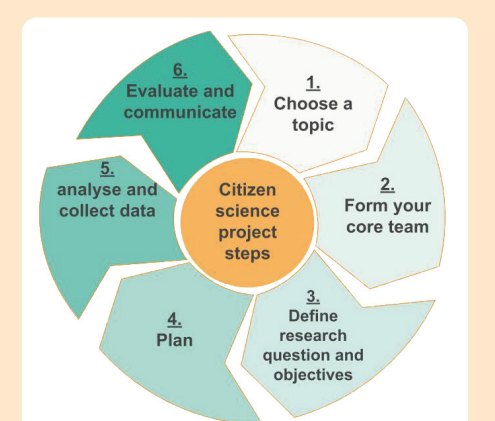


#### Arts Programme

INTERLACE seeks to implement art programs whose actions allow studying, strengthening, and promoting the relationships between people, their city, and nature; contributing to social transformation while taking care of nature. Art seeks to impact the way people understand and explain the world. Art is an engine of citizen mobilization that allows for strengthening the concept of community. Thanks to its multiple forms of expression, it allows any type of person with an interest to be linked through some artistic line that can be implemented in the city.

#### Citizen Science programme

Citizen science is one of the components of the **INTERLACE Outdoor Activities Programme**. It promotes participation and knowledge production by involving people in scientific activities. It fosters the empowerment of participants to act together in response to collective challenges. The Humboldt Institute will support INTERLACE cities to implement activities about biodiversity identification and monitoring of the areas where each city is establishing its nature-based solutions, by using platforms such as iNaturalist and or iBird.



### Active Learning Tour

One part of Interlace's community engagement programme is to develop Learning Tours for young people in the project cities. Their aim is to teach young people about Nature-based Solutions for urban ecosystem restoration. In Chemnitz we went with the concept of an app based treasure hunt about Nbs in the context of sustainable city planning. The tour in Chemnitz is designed for 13–17 year old pupils. During the tour the participants will visit 7 different stations with individual questions concerning Nbs and their possible use in a sustainable city planning.

