

## Our Methodology

Our curriculum reflects a co-creative approach, in which not only principles and methods are shared, but participants work together to actively engage in making cities and towns more resilient and in transforming their neighbourhoods.

During approximately one year in each stream (meaning, a set of region and context-specific webinars), you are guided through our programme in seven steps, listening into thematic modules that cover a range of aspects relevant for planning and realising green and blue cities. Face-to-face events in each region are planned to take place once or twice each stream.



### Step 1. Join

**Join a community of active subnational and local government, planners and policy-makers, businesses, researchers, practitioners and interested citizens.**

Engage in shaping and participating in a facilitated process to share your own expertise and learn with and from committed peers with the ambition to create a greener, more sustainable and resilient future in your city. Join hands with others who are equally eager to use the potential urban nature has to offer and take a step closer to your city's urban development aspirations.

#### How?

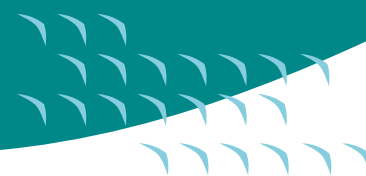
Fill in our [registration form](#), explore the programme and participate in the online events. [You can find here](#) the kick-off webinar introducing UrbanByNature's vision, its seven steps and modules for the year.



### Step 2. Explore

**Explore how far your city has already come in strengthening urban nature and identify how to lift the barriers to integrating more nature into your city.**

Consider your local urban fabric, its particularities and challenges. Explore and identify existing strategic objectives within your city, relevant urban policies and plans in place to see where your city or town is starting from and understand what might be possible in terms of space, decision-making and engagement. We support you in understanding current roles and responsibilities of local urban actors. Learn how to better identify opportunities to make your city more resilient and spot opportunities for creative investment!



### How?

Take part in our series of webinars! Each module targets a different topic along an integrated planning process with the aim of assessing the relevant context, barriers and enablers. The webinars in Step 2 help navigate how to map existing policies, plans and regulations, identify gaps in approaches and instruments used and understand cities' and towns' needs. The webinars also assist you in getting an overview of the actors shaping urban nature in your context, tapping into the existing potential of co-creating green and blue spaces with citizens, analysing urban spatial conditions and locating financing schemes and business model opportunities.



## Step 3. Prioritise

**Prioritise urban challenges that nature-based interventions should help address in your city and elaborate indicators to help track the performance of selected interventions.**

Prioritise the themes or urban challenges on which you want to focus on while participating. Learn how to also do this together with citizens as users and supporters of urban nature. In this step, other cities share how they selected their approach and engaged with citizens. Cities and partners from the project support you in identifying indicators to help you track the impact of your efforts.

### How?

Join the Step 3 webinars to equip yourself for setting goals together with the citizens. This step enables participants to translate nature-based intervention options for their local context based on identified challenges and opportunities. Here, participants also learn how to set basic and, if possible, also specific indicators, related to your city's specific needs and resources.



## Step 4. Commit and Plan

**Learn how to foster commitment to common goals for urban nature and develop an action plan for your intervention, helping to get closer to the long-term vision of bringing nature back into your city.**

Get support in convincing local decision and policy-makers to commit to common goals. This step facilitates outlining an action plan, in which priority topics and intervention areas are developed together with citizens, responsibilities are assigned, and feasibility is accounted for as far as possible.

### How?

The modules of this step programme are dedicated to gaining commitment and setting out the planning process. The programme lends support to the development of a more concrete action plan and experts share how to develop financing, business and governance models for your planned nature-based interventions.



## Step 5. Implement

**Implement your plan by setting clear implementation phases within a realistic time span, making good use of the available resources.**

Use the potential of nature-based solutions to address urban development challenges. This step invites public and private authorities and companies offering nature-based products and services to navigate the interests and offers of both and facilitate the implementation of the planned interventions. Participating companies get to learn from companies already in the nature-based solutions market on how to extend their portfolio.

### How?

The modules in this step supports you in preparing to implement your nature-based interventions. Businesses are addressed specifically to build their capacity in providing local governments with nature-based products and services, which fit their needs and help realise local planned interventions.



## Step 6. Monitor

**Monitor your implementation progress according to your identified indicators and evaluate the results.**

Track and evaluate how your planning and implementation process is progressing and use your assessment to adjust and improve your approach where necessary. Learn how the project's European cities approached evaluation beyond the use of indicators, and particularly evaluation of the soft process of co-creation.

Monitoring and evaluating a process is not about measuring everything that changes, but measuring what you want to change and understanding the dynamics driving it.

### How?

Through the webinars of this step you can track and revisit steps taken up to this point and reflect on the process with your partners and stakeholders using methods provided by the programme. As a result, you are able to identify where adjustments to the process are needed and decide on the way forward.



## Step 7. Upscale

**Develop a strategy to promote nature-based solutions in your city and region and replicate good practices by sharing them with other local governments.**

Prepare the grounds to replicate and adapt nature-based solutions across your city and share your experience with other cities and towns in your region. Learn to check the transferability of your solution to another place or planning process, so it fits the new local context in terms of its spatial features and needs as well as the types of partners that could be involved. You hear from other local governments how they went about applying their interventions elsewhere in their city. And you can share your experience with upscaling as well.

### How?

In webinars, cities from the project and participants share how they developed a strategy to transfer their co-creative planning processes, financing, business and governance models for nature-based solutions. Physical interventions can also be adapted for new urban contexts. Join us in using implementation experience to help scale up interventions to district and city level, helping to avoid duplicating work and increasing the evidence base of promising nature-based solutions cases.

### Join the programme!

Become part of our vibrant network of urban greening pioneers by joining the UrbanByNature community: <https://tinyurl.com/UbNRegistration>

