



Urban Greening Plans

Guidance for cities to help prepare an Urban Greening Plan

[Written by]
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Introduction

Background

The [EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030](#) is a comprehensive, ambitious and long-term plan to protect nature and reverse the degradation of ecosystems. The strategy aims to put Europe's biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030, and contains specific actions and commitments, including in relation to urban ecosystems to achieve its objectives.

In order to bring nature back into our cities, the strategy calls on all cities above 20,000 inhabitants to develop ambitious Urban Greening Plans that should

‘...include measures to create biodiverse and accessible urban forests, parks and gardens; urban farms; green roofs and walls; tree-lined streets; urban meadows; and urban hedges.’

And that should:

“...help improve connections between green spaces, eliminate the use of pesticides, limit excessive mowing of urban green spaces and other biodiversity harmful practices.”

This guidance document sets out the background, rationale, and key elements needed to produce and successfully implement such an Urban Greening Plan. It is accompanied by a toolkit that goes into more detail on each step, and gives links to relevant tools, initiatives and good practice examples.

What are the benefits of Urban Greening Plans?

Urban Greening Plans serve as an overarching framework articulating, formalising, and showcasing a city's commitment to promoting and protecting biodiversity and urban greening.

Green urban spaces, from parks and gardens to green roofs and urban farms provide a wide range of crucial benefits for people for physical and mental well-being. They also provide opportunities for businesses and a habitat for nature. They increase quality of life, reduce air, water, soil and noise pollution, provide protection from flooding, droughts and heat waves, and provide access to nature for city dwellers enabling them to reconnect with nature.

While protection and development of urban green spaces has increased, green spaces too often still lose out in the competition for land as the share of the population living in urban areas continues to rise.

An Urban Greening Plan, properly integrated as part of the urban planning process, can help to reverse these trends.

Urbanisation impacts biodiversity by converting forest and other semi-natural and natural lands into urban and other artificial land development. This has significant impact on biodiversity through, for example: habitat loss and fragmentation, soil sealing, changes in species composition, as well as water, light and noise pollution.

Improving the quality and quantity of urban green space in cities can have substantial benefits, not only through reversing biodiversity loss, but also by enhancing the crucial services that urban ecosystems provide:

- Urban green spaces play a key role for climate change adaptation helping to address the Urban Heat Island effect and protect against flooding, while also contributing to reducing emissions and capturing carbon.
- Urban green areas have an aesthetic value and provide space for recreation, social exchange, educational purposes and reconnecting people with nature.

- Urban green space helps reduce and remove different types of pollution by filtering air particles, purifying water and reducing noise. This can improve human and environmental health and well-being.
- A well planned local/regional/national green infrastructure network can strengthen the connectivity between artificial, natural and semi-natural areas – linking for example, forests, agricultural landscapes, wetlands – supporting wider biodiversity targets.

What makes an Urban Greening Plan successful?

An Urban Greening Plan is not a stand-alone, one-off document. It should be an integral part of urban planning and of a long-term strategy for the future development of the urban area – in line with other strategic plans, such as, inter alia, those for urban development, mobility, building, water, energy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, air and soil quality, waste and noise. Green infrastructure and built infrastructure need to be planned together. Therefore, while certain aspects of an Urban Greening Plan might be presented in one document, urban greening should also be an integral part of the entire urban planning process.

An Urban Greening Plan needs to have the support / commitment from the Mayor and/or the City Council or an equivalent decision-making body.

The development and implementation of an Urban Greening Plan should be made in close cooperation, coordination and consultation between the different levels of government, relevant authorities, citizens, and local stakeholders. The Local Planning Authority should put in place appropriate structures and procedures. Integrated planning and implementation should include:

- Interdepartmental consultation and cooperation at the local level to ensure consistency and complementarity of the Urban Greening Plan with local policies, strategies and measures in related policy areas (such as water; transport; land-use and spatial planning; green infrastructure, energy; health; air and soil quality; waste; etc.).
- Close collaboration with the relevant authorities (i) at the different levels of administration and government (e.g. district, municipality, agglomeration, region, and Member States) and (ii) in neighbouring urban areas, in particular to improve ecological connectivity. This exchange should involve in particular those bodies and authorities with responsibility for relevant green infrastructure for the nature and biodiversity of the urban area, such as those responsible for neighbouring/connected ecosystems.
- A transparent and participatory co-creation approach. The Local Planning Authority should involve the relevant actors – citizens, academics, as well as representatives of civil society and economic actors – in developing and implementing the plan from the outset and throughout the process to ensure a high level of acceptance and support.

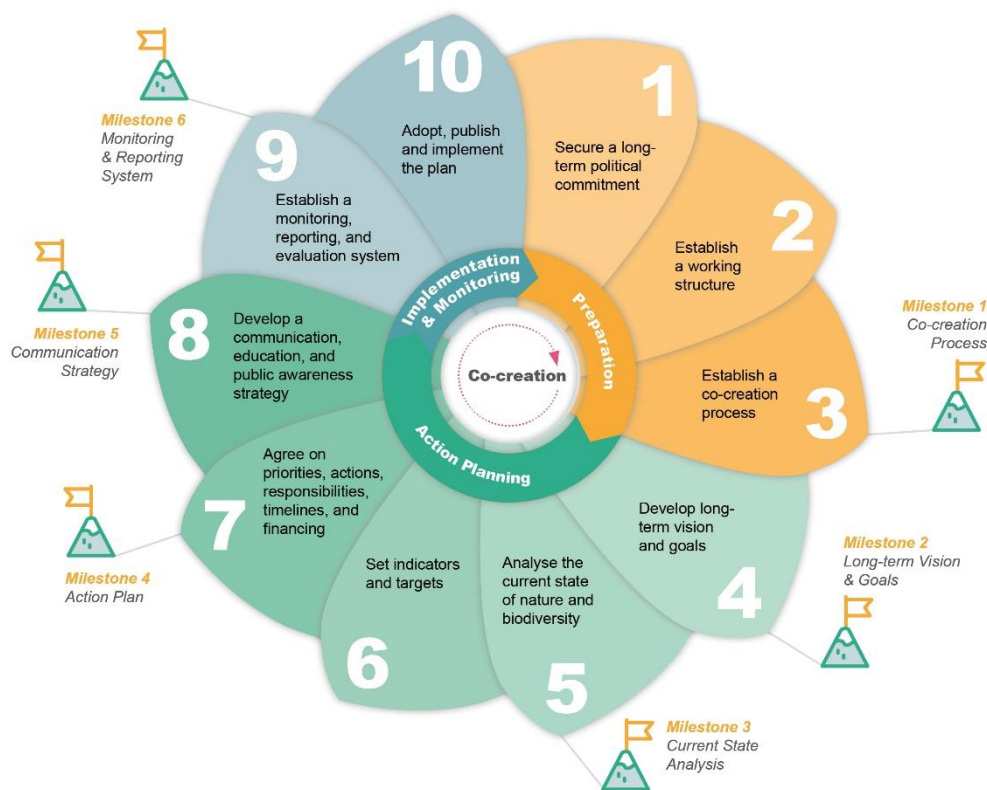
An Urban Greening Plan should include concrete details for its delivery of its key objectives, including:

- A timetable for implementation, as well as a clear and specific budget with sources for the requisite funding identified. The delivery plan ideally should cover a period of 3-10 years.
- Responsibilities and resources: providing a clear allocation of the responsibilities for the implementation of the policies and measures set out in the plan and identify the required resources for each actor.

1. Steps for establishing an Urban Greening Plan

This section sets out the steps needed to prepare and implement a successful Urban Greening Plan. In some cases, these steps may be familiar, or completed, with suitable structures in place – especially if other planning processes have already been undertaken, for example: [adaptation to climate change plans](#), [sustainable urban mobility plans](#), or [sustainable climate and energy plans](#). As such these steps should be seen as a guide which can be adapted and integrated according to the local context.

The process steps are set out in summary below:



(See the toolkit associated with this guidance for more information, examples, and links to resources for each step of the process.)

Phase 1: Preparation

Step 1: Secure a long-term political commitment

The **starting point** for developing an Urban Greening Plan is the political **decision** to improve the current status of urban nature and biodiversity within the city. By committing to an Urban Greening

Plan, a local government sets a strategic direction to bring nature back into the city. Ensuring senior political buy-in from the beginning is essential to the process. It shows a high prioritisation of urban nature, provides for a concerted effort to work across municipal entities and departments (breaking down silos by providing a multi-level planning approach) and begins the process of mainstreaming nature, biodiversity and nature-based solutions¹ into all aspects of the municipal administration.

The Mayor and/or Council should give the official green light to legitimise action by municipal staff. Exactly who and from which departments are involved is heavily dependent on the local context. However, a variety of municipal staff from multiple departments (e.g. environment, transportation, land-use, finance etc.) as well as regional stakeholders from surrounding districts need to be informed and engaged early on in the process, as they will institutionalise and implement the process and monitor developments.

Checklist:

- ✓ Official approval from city council\mayor secured
- ✓ Integrated, cross-departmental involvement secured

Step 2: Establish a working structure

Developing and implementing an Urban Greening Plan is a complex process that requires **working across boundaries and sectors** and coordinating between related policies and organisations (i.e. the political, educational, economic, cultural, mobility, health and environmental sectors). Cross-departmental collaboration on urban greening is essential to ensure **coherence** with existing policies and foster the mainstreaming of nature-related urban planning across.

To coordinate and manage the Urban Greening Plan process, a clear **project coordinator** with sufficient capacities and resources, as well as authority within the organisation is needed to drive the process forward. They will need the support of a diverse **team** and a functional **governance structure** which ensures buy-in, effective decision-making, and coordinated planning and implementation throughout the whole process. Ideally, the working structure established (e.g. steering committee or task force) includes a wide number of municipal departments and participation of essential actors representing the various environmental and socio-economic dimensions of the city.

The Urban Greening Plan team's coordination tasks and mandates, communication mechanisms and relations to other groups within the local government should all be **clearly defined**, and the team should be given **appropriate authority** and ability to drive forward the development of the Urban Greening Plan process.

The successful implementation of an urban greening plan is not only about undertaking specific greening actions, it is about aiming to ensure that all aspects of a city's urban planning process have a net positive impact on local nature and biodiversity. Establishing a strong working structure ensures that the urban greening plan is properly **integrated** throughout the planning processes of the administration and can be an important step towards mainstreaming nature as an administrative priority. Mainstreaming urban greening, biodiversity, and nature-based solutions

¹ The Commission defines nature-based solutions as: "Solutions that are inspired and supported by nature, which are cost-effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience. Such solutions bring more, and more diverse, nature and natural features and processes into cities, landscapes and seascapes, through locally adapted, resource-efficient and systemic interventions." Nature-based solutions must therefore benefit biodiversity and support the delivery of a range of ecosystem services.

https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/research-area/environment/nature-based-solutions_en

can address multiple strategic objectives at the same time and can be achieved, for example by including nature-positive requirements in tender and procurement policies, regulation and contractual agreements.

Checklist:

- ✓ Urban Greening Plan team is established and includes cross-departmental staff.
- ✓ Roles and responsibilities are assigned to team members.
- ✓ Urban greening and nature is on the agenda in other policy/planning/financing decisions, for example: transport, water, energy, air quality, health, and of course part of the overall housing/development planning process.

Step 3: Establish a co-creation process

Tapping into the diverse perspectives, knowledge, and experience of local stakeholders is vital to ensure the Urban Greening Plan is relevant, supported locally and has a real impact. A co-creation process is designed to fully engage key stakeholders in the process of developing and implementing the Urban Greening Plan including: key civil society groups, academia, the business community of the city, as well as relevant municipal departments.

Co-creation should be approached with equity and justice in mind and respect the different knowledge, skills, time availability, and resource constraints of the participants when setting meetings and designing activities. The resulting Urban Greening Plan will then reflect the values of participants and create a sense of shared ownership. The aim is that participants continue to be involved and become champions of the concepts created beyond the time horizon of the planning process.

Giving special consideration to directly involving vulnerable groups (children, elderly people, people with physical disabilities, mental health issues, socially disadvantaged people, and migrants) broadens the impact of the Urban Greening Plan and aligns with the European Green Deal objective of a 'just transition,' and 'leaving no one behind'.

Checklist:

- ✓ Urban Greening Plan team with key stakeholders established
- ✓ Who, when, where, and how citizen groups and individuals will be included has been decided
- ✓ Broad participation in meetings and events and final decisions include the opinions of a wide range of stakeholder groups

Phase 2: Action Planning

Step 4: Develop long-term vision and goals

- *What do we want our urban green spaces to look and feel like?*
- *What type of urban greening do we want?*
- *What kind of ecosystem services we want our urban green spaces to supply? Or which ones we want to prioritise?*

- Which type of environmental pressures we should tackle or mitigate to enhance ecosystem condition and biodiversity?
- What is the difference between where we want to be in terms of urban greening, and its derived benefits and where we are?

These are the types of questions that should guide a visioning process. A vision provides an aspirational description of the future in 20-30, even up to 50 years and guides planning and implementation activities. It places urban greening and nature in the context of the urban and social environments and is supported by mid-term goals that have a 10-15 year time horizon. (The vision should be created and agreed with all relevant actors from steps 2 and 3)

Checklist:

- ✓ Co-creation process used to develop and agree upon vision and goals
- ✓ Long-term vision (20-30 year time horizon) for urban greening is formally adopted.
- ✓ Included long-term goals (10-15 years) that are specific, measurable, achievable, result based and time bound (SMART) and assigned to a responsible individual or organisation.

Step 5: Analyse the current state of nature and biodiversity

Any Urban Greening Plan will need to be based on an understanding of not only all the different types of vegetation / green space in the municipality, but also how this relates to a wider understanding of other land use in the city. This means an understanding of, for example, residential / retail / transport land, agricultural land, waterways, and industrial land. For green planning, an understanding of future plans and past developments is also essential. In addition other aspects of the urban area/municipality are also needed to help with implementing a successful plan, including for example, an understanding of the socio-demographic make-up of the area, the accessibility and equitable distribution of public green spaces.

An Urban Greening Plan should also include a an understanding of some the key components of the urban ecosystems, such as the variety and extent of plant and animal species.

Many towns and cities already have a number of the basic elements required for this assessment, of the current state of nature and biodiversity, but some additional mapping and measuring may be required.

This assessment should also include a comprehensive overview of the actions and policies already in place that relate to urban greening.

Key components:

1. Maps of **land-use types in the municipality**, starting from the basis of the official [‘Corine land cover’ classification system](#).

Many municipalities already have this available, but if this is not, the information may be found using data available from publicly accessible satellite data. (see toolkit for more details).

The mapping should at least include

- Overall public and private green space (all vegetation), then subdivided:
 - Parks

- Gardens
 - Community allotments
 - Tree canopy cover / different types of woodland/forest
 - Grasslands/meadows
 - Moors and heathlands
 - Shrubs
 - Sparsely vegetated areas
- Urban Fabric
 - Industrial / commercial / transport areas (including any previously developed land that is not currently in use, i.e. brownfield sites)
 - Agricultural land (including agro-forestry, pastures and natural grasslands)
2. Status and mapping of **species in the municipality** – including key/selected bird and pollinator species, such as butterflies.
 3. Inventory of relevant **existing policies, strategies and plans** at local, regional, and national levels.
 4. Additional mapping/understanding that will ensure a higher quality of urban greening planning include:
 - Socio-economic factors: age, health and income.
 - Flood risk
 - Heat mapping
 - Noise mapping
 - Air pollution

This spatial mapping should be undertaken at the level of the whole municipality, not just the built-up area. If possible the evolution of the city over time should also be part of this assessment (to help understand the trends)

Access to quality green spaces is often unevenly distributed throughout cities. Consider who would benefit most from improved green spaces when prioritising actions. Note that green gentrification can occur as an unintended consequence of investment in nature-based solutions or sustainable infrastructure resulting in poorer residents being priced-out of an area. Be aware and consider measures to counter green gentrification.

An analysis of ‘opportunities and gaps’ may also help at this stage to define appropriate policies and actions. (see toolkit for more details)

Note: Changing climate should also be considered. Climatic baselines *are already* moving, and will continue to do so in the next decades. Not only will average climatic conditions will change rapidly, but also weather extremes in cities (episodes of extreme heat, drought, downpours and flash floods, storms etc.) will occur more frequently and severely. Considering this ‘moving baseline’ will allow matching urban greening and biodiversity to these projected conditions, and to better help minimise the risks which they imply. The [Urban Adaptation Support Tool](#) on the Climate-ADAPT portal provides a method to better understand this - see in particular the sections [Recognizing past and present climate impacts](#) and [Understanding climate projections and future impacts](#).

Checklist:

- ✓ Current status of green and blue infrastructure, biodiversity, and other significant categories related to urban greening are documented and mapped.
- ✓ Analysis made of policies, strategies, plans, and programs relevant for this urban greening plan.
- ✓ Preliminary results are shared with the City Council and the general public for comment.

Step 6: Set indicators and targets

Based on the agreed vision of the municipality, and the assessment of the current state of nature and biodiversity, indicators can be chosen and targets set.

Targets may be quantitative or qualitative, and are expressions of desired value, quantity, and/or quality of specific indicators. Setting ‘final’ as well as intermediary targets will allow you to track progress as you move towards the end of the plan’s operational cycle. Targets can also include socio-economic aspects and can relate to “avoidance”, “reduction” or “improvements”.

Core targets

As a minimum, targets should be set in line with national and European environmental policies and regulations relating to nature and biodiversity. This means aligning the Urban Greening Plan with the upcoming [Nature Restoration Law](#) targets on ‘urban ecosystems’ and measuring and monitoring the core criteria set out for nature and biodiversity in the [Green City Accord](#).

Your set of indicators should therefore include at least the following:

1. Percentage of urban green space (publica and private) in the city and it’s municipality.
2. Percentage of tree canopy cover in the municipality and numbers of newly planted trees.
3. Percentage of protected natural areas on public land in the municipality.

Additional / sub-targets

Alongside the set of core indicators and targets that will be established, as part of the co-creation process and in line with the vision of the Urban Greening Plan, a number of other targets and/or actions can be selected and included in the plan. Which are chosen will obviously depend on the specific needs and state of the city itself. Some of these actions or targets might themselves contribute to the core targets.

Below are some good examples of targets and actions that can contribute to boosting urban ecosystems and making towns and cities both sustainable, resilient to climate change, biodiversity rich and, make them better places to live and work.

- a. Targets in relation to the balance of **land use** types within the urban administrative zone (i.e. balance of green, brown, blue, grey infrastructure) aiming to increase the green/natural areas AND reduce levels of soil sealing / urban sprawl, e.g.:
 - *Area allocated to urban farms/urban meadows/urban hedges/ urban forests;*
 - *Area of green roofs and walls;*

- *Limit the extension of artificial surfaces and promote the regeneration of brownfield areas² to green urban spaces, that would otherwise lie vacant / compensation measures where artificial surfaces are being extended.*
 - *limit excessive mowing of urban green spaces and other biodiversity harmful practices*
 - *Unseal and restore soil whenever possible, to restore its lost ecosystem services*
- b. Actions/targets to increase the abundance and richness of selected indicator **species** (eg. rare and endangered species, or common species that are a good indicator of ecosystem condition) / increase the **quality and quantity of habitats that support biodiversity** and/or reduce pressure on them, such as:
- *Establishing / increasing area of protected areas/habitats*
 - *Quantity / quality of biodiversity-rich parks/gardens*
 - *Length of tree-lined streets / Number of trees in streets, Parks, Open Spaces, on Private Property and Greening Buildings.*
 - *Change in number of species of:*
 - *Birds;*
 - *Pollinators;*
 - *Native vascular plant species;*
 - *Native arthropod species;**in urban area/built-up areas in the municipality, and actions to increase / provide additional space for them*
 - *Inclusion of the concept of 'corridors' or connected spaces for wildlife across the city*
- c. Actions/targets to increase accessibility to public Urban green spaces, such as:
- *Establishing threshold (and monitor) for the share of people that have access to public urban green spaces:*
 - *Pocket parks*
 - *District parks*
 - *Urban Parks*
 - *Urban Forest*
 - *Share of population that is with easy access to green areas (also private)*
- d. Actions/targets to reduce the numbers and spread of existing and/or new **invasive alien species**, considering that cities are key points of entry for many alien (and potentially invasive alien) species and are also sources for secondary spread, release or escape of these species into surrounding landscapes, natural or semi-natural habitats, such as:
- *Identification of regulated invasive alien species (plants and animals) under Union, national and local legislation that are present in the urban / peri-urban area.*

² brownfield land is any previously developed land that is not currently in use that may be potentially contaminated. The term is also used to describe land previously used for industrial or commercial purposes with known or suspected pollution including soil contamination due to hazardous waste.

Monitoring of their distribution linked with specific actions to prevent their further spread and/or eradication, control or containment of their populations, as appropriate to the specific local conditions.

- *Actions should include:*
 - *Preference should be given to native species in all cases (tree planting, green walls, green roofs, urban hedges etc). Union, national and local legislation regulating invasive alien species must be respected when selecting species to use. Use of non-regulated alien species should be subject to a thorough assessment demonstrating that they have a negligible risk of becoming invasive.*
 - *Management of green urban areas (e.g. composting or other disposal of the resulting plant material, soil movements etc.) should be done in ways that ensure that the unintentional spread of species is avoided (pathways management).*
 - *Cooperation with the supply chain both in terms of city authorities procurement of plants and of offer at garden centres, pet shops etc. for use in private gardens, with a view to promote compliance with IAS legislation and more broadly to avoid alien species with a risk to become invasive and to raise awareness on pathways management.*

e. Actions/targets on **pollution** in city, such as:

- *Percentage of nature-based waste water treatment solutions vs technical*
- *Eliminating the use of pesticides within the urban environment*
- *Air pollution reduction measures linked to areas adjacent to green spaces*
- *Noise pollution reduction measures in particular near protected areas / near to biodiversity rich areas or near residential areas.*
- *Light pollution reduction measures in particular near protected areas / near to biodiversity rich areas.*
- *Remediation and redevelopment of contaminated sites and brownfields (preferably into green infrastructure)*

f. Actions addressing **climate change mitigation and adaptation**, such as:

- *Green walls and green roofs that contribute to increase energy efficiency*
- *Tree planting program, ensuring that trees planted have a high environmental added value. (offering co-benefits for climate change and nature and biodiversity)*
- *Organic waste recycling program / composting / biogas generation from biowaste (e.g. leaf litter, deadwood) generated in urban green spaces.*
- *Use of Sustainable Drainage Systems*
- *Natural flood protection measures in place (vs grey protection measures)*

Checklist:

- ✓ Core targets, actions and indicators agreed and set in line with the Urban Greening Plan vision and goals
- ✓ Additional targets, actions and indicators selected and incorporated into the Urban Greening Plan
- ✓ Indicators and targets for urban greening, biodiversity, and nature-based solutions are as ambitious as, or more ambitious than, the long-term goals of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2030

Step 7: Agree on priorities, actions, responsibilities, timelines, and financing

A clear description of the prioritised **actions, time frames, roles and responsibilities** for implementation and support, as well as available **resources** is the cornerstone of a successful Urban Greening Plan. Specifying these components will make it clear and transparent how the objectives and targets will be reached.

Break the goals and objectives down into specific actions and describe them in as much **detail** as possible. This process should answer the following question: Where should this take place? When should it take place? What are the positive and what are the negative impacts of each action? Who will be responsible for the action? How much will it cost and how is it paid for?

Financing needs should be assessed, as well as any financing sources associated with the actions in the short, medium, and long term. Implementation, operation, and maintenance costs should be included in the assessment.

Individuals and organisations who could take leading and supporting **roles** in the implementation of the actions should be identified. Consider abilities, competencies, and capacities. In some cases, it might be one individual taking responsibility for an action, in other cases it might be a collaborative\interdisciplinary undertaking.

The action plan should map out the implementation phase and identify linkages between actions (1-3 year time horizon), objectives (3-7 year time horizon), as well as the order of implementation. In addition to available financial resources such as municipal budgets and national and EU subsidies, potential new sources of funding should also be taken into account.

Checklist:

- ✓ Priorities and objectives are defined and agreed upon.
- ✓ Priorities and objectives are written and are SMART - specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time bound.
- ✓ All linked actions defined and described
- ✓ Lead and supporting roles\responsibilities assigned
- ✓ Timeline for implementation agreed upon
- ✓ Potential Impacts anticipated and assessed
- ✓ Meaningful forecasts of expenses, revenues, and other financial items prepared
- ✓ Financial analysis and assessment of possible funding sources completed, along with which organisations will fund or have capacity to acquire more funding
- ✓ Agreed upon action plans published for the general public

Step 8: Develop a communication, education, and public awareness strategy

The process of creating a communication / education / public awareness strategy can significantly boost the acceptance, effectiveness and impact of the Urban Greening Plan. In addition to providing information through reports, memos, and publicity, a communication strategy should also include behavioural change campaigns related to, and awareness-raising of, the benefits of healthy ecosystems and the risks of nature and biodiversity loss.

Urban Greening Plans should be seen as being part of a larger effort towards transformational change, which creates the basis for successful work at the city level.

Checklist:

✓ The communication, education, and public awareness strategy is in place and includes milestones, targets, activities, a monitoring systems and allocates appropriate resources (human and financial) for the implementation of the plan.

Phase 3. Implementation and Monitoring

Step 9: Establish a monitoring, reporting, and evaluation system

Monitoring and evaluation of both the planning and implementation processes are crucial to ensure meaningful results from an Urban Greening Plan. Monitoring and evaluation allows the plan to be adjusted and improved over time a necessary. It may allow decision makers to justify where money was spent and upscale the most successful actions, or to cancel certain actions if they are not proving effective.

For the whole Urban Greening Planning process transparency is very important. Transparent reporting ensures that evaluation results are taken into consideration in public debate and that future decisions are based on lessons learned. Sharing qualitative and quantitative data is important to understand how the Urban Greening Plan has had an impact on citizens, such as equitable distribution of resources and gentrification. To build efficiency and avoid unnecessary redundancy, integrate the monitoring, reporting, and evaluation of your Urban Greening Plan into existing processes whenever possible.

The Urban Greening Plan's indicators and targets should be utilised to measure, monitor, and evaluate activities that were agreed upon to track progress towards the goals and objectives within the given timeframe.

Checklist:

- ✓ Monitoring and evaluation arrangements for all indicators developed.
- ✓ Responsibilities and budget for monitoring and evaluation agreed upon.
- ✓ Process for reporting and potential corrective measures defined.

Step 10: Adopt, publish and implement the plan

Developing and maintaining political commitment will remain a long-term activity involving major political groups, including the Mayor, other high-level decision-makers, different stakeholder groups and the general public at all steps of the Urban Greening Plan and management cycle.

In addition to any legal/formal adoption procedures that may be necessary, holding an official launch/adoption event, with those involved in its production, can help to increase its visibility and create consensus and ownership – and give legitimacy of the plan.

Regardless of the method of adopting the plan, as an absolute minimum it should be made readily available online for any interested parties to scrutinise. Unless an Urban Greening Plan is available to view, it cannot be considered to have been produced in an open and transparent process. Ideally the publication of the plan would go well beyond simply hosting the document online, but could form a web based platform, including explanations of the process, updated sections on tracking and monitoring progress, and some interactive aspects to allow citizens to give feedback, and or get involved in the different actions connected to the plan.

How do you know you accomplished this step?:

- ✓ Final draft of Urban Greening Plan compiled
 - ✓ Formal adoption by City Council or equivalent decision-making body
 - ✓ Status of implementation activities are consistently monitored
 - ✓ Progress evaluated at regular intervals
 - ✓ Necessary adjustments are identified, discussed with relevant stakeholders, and appropriate corrective actions are implemented
 - ✓ Plan is readily and publicly available online!
-

Good luck with setting up your Urban Greening Plan!

For more information / guidance, links and examples on any of the steps above, please see the associated Toolkit available with this guide.