



NATURE 4 CITY LIFE - Nature in cities:
governance for climate change adaptation of
coastal metropolises in Provence-Alpes-Côte
d'Azur

LIFE16 GIC/FR/000099



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Project description:

Background

The Region Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur is recognised globally as a "hotspot" for biodiversity. However, it is also characterised by strong urbanisation pressures and increasing vulnerability to climate change, as shown by regular heat island effects and heatwaves.

These issues are particularly prevalent in the coastal cities of Aix-Marseille-Provence, Nice-Côte d'Azur and Toulon and their suburbs where there is high population density.

Reducing cities' vulnerability to climate change and increasing their adaptive capacity is a fundamental challenge of climate policy. The development, strengthening and promotion of green and blue infrastructure as well as the multifunctional services provided by green and blue infrastructure in urban areas are a response to this challenge. However, green and blue infrastructure is still not mainstreamed into urban planning and development and is often viewed as a constraint by planners, developers and elected officials. Implementation methodologies are missing and, as green and blue infrastructure objectives are mainly based on ecological functionalities, the other services they provide - especially for tackling climate change - are not well enough known by professionals in the sector, or the general public.

Better and more easily accessible data local and/or regional physical and socio-economic data could help address this problem and better highlight ecosystem services to citizens, decision-makers and users. This will help achieve the goal of the Aarhus Convention of taking citizens' needs and expectations

fully into account in urban planning projects.

Objectives

The NATURE 4 CITY LIFE project aims to develop and strengthen the integration of GBI in urban planning projects, based on integrated climate governance to develop urban resilience to climate change. It will do this in two ways:

- By raising awareness of multifunctional green and blue infrastructure through demonstration sites in three metropolitan areas; and
- By developing integrated climate governance tools to strengthen the integration of GBI in urban planning projects. These will include tools for monitoring air quality, heat island effect and humidity and an information system to outline the socio-economic and climate change benefits of green and blue infrastructure in urban areas.

The demonstration sites will be developed through collaboration between elected officials, architects, technicians, developers and citizens. This participatory approach will form the basis of a methodology on integrated climate governance to be developed by the project.

NATURE 4 CITY LIFE will also draw on the methodologies and results of three previous LIFE projects (Green4Grey, URBAN-ADAPT and BLUE AP).

Expected results:

- green and blue infrastructure successfully integrated in 15-30 urban planning projects;
- 18 demonstration sites created, with monitoring of air quality, climatic and socio-economic impacts, to show the ecosystem services that green and blue infrastructure provides;
- A 10-20% increase in green and blue infrastructure urban planning projects in the participating cities;
- A 10-30% increase in biodiversity-friendly buildings in the participating cities;
- capacity building on green and blue infrastructure for more than 300 technicians and 150 officials
- A transferable methodology for integrated climate governance and the implementation of green and blue infrastructure in urban areas; and
- Increased awareness of the climate change benefits of green and blue infrastructure in urban areas

Results

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Environmental issues addressed:

Natura 2000 sites

Not applicable

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Beneficiaries:

Coordinator	REGION PROVENCE-ALPES-COTE D'AZUR
Type of organisation	Regional authority
Description	The Region Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur is the regional authority with responsibility for climate, biodiversity protection, air quality and energy management policy. Almost five million people live in this region.
Partners	AGGLOMERATION TOULON-PROVENCE-MEDITERRANEE, France METROPOLE NICE COTE D'AZUR, France METROPOLE AIX-MARSEILLE-PROVENCE, France AIR PACA, France VILLE DE MARSEILLE, France AIX-MARSEILLE UNIVERSITE, France BUREAU DE GUIDES GR2013, France

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Administrative data:

Project reference	LIFE16 GIC/FR/000099
Duration	01-SEP-2017 to 31-AUG -2022
Total budget	3,715,626.00 €
EU contribution	1,990,000.00 €
Project location	Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur(France)

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