

REGREEN 3rd Newsletter overview

By Marianne Zandersen/AU, Photo: Parc des Beaumont, Montreuil. Gwendoline Grandin. REGREEN 3rd Newsletter, December 2021



REGREEN is now slightly more than half-way. Despite Covid lock-downs, partial openings and different regulations across Europe and China, a multitude of activities, research and outreach is happening. Below you'll find an overview of what latest updates from REGREEN in this 3rd Newsletter.

The REGREEN partners met in Paris for three full days of interesting and inspiring [field trips in September](#) – for the first time since the inception of our project in 2019! You can read a report from the many inspiring NBS implementations in Paris region that we visited.

We also hope you will enjoy listening to the [REGREEN Podcast series](#) where you can dive into different aspects of NBS and hear from our ULLs. More Podcasts are coming, so watch this pace.

If you are interested in reading about inspiring examples of NBS from cities around Europe, you can read about 13 applied NBS cases in the [REGREEN Fact Sheets](#) covering a wide range of focus areas – from biodiversity, governance, business activation and urban design to environmental issues of flood, noise and heat mitigation and air quality improvements. You can also get detailed insights into a NBS implementation in Gonesse, Paris, that combines flood risk mitigation with biodiversity and recreation, through a 30 min video.

You can read a short update from the latest [European Urban Resilience Forum](#), a unique platform for city representatives, experts and stakeholders to discuss climate change adaptation and resilience.

REGREEN is working extensively with [mapping of ecosystem service features](#) over time and at three different scales in order to both understand the major urban drivers and to apply the mapping in ecosystem service modelling and NBS scenarios in our European and Chinese Urban Living Labs.

In our Urban Living Lab Velika Gorica, we have worked together with the municipality on [high resolution satellite imagery](#) in combination with recent published digital surface model as a way to reconcile remote sensing and spatial data. This gives us and stakeholders a far better understanding of the city when working with modelling of ecosystem services, scenarios, governance, education and valuation of NBS. You can read about the approach further down.

Combining mapping of land cover/land use with ecosystem service modelling, REGREEN aims to build evidence on the impacts and potentials of NBS to counter urban environmental and social challenges. Evidence on quantifying ecosystem services provided by NBS at city-scale is much needed. We describe in this Newsletter the work on one of the ecosystem services that we focus on - [noise mitigation from NBS](#) - applied to Paris region. You can read about why location matters and how NBS can help mitigate noise.

In our Urban Living Lab Paris Region, our partner IPR has [studied 36 green roofs over three years](#) in order to assess benefits in terms of biodiversity, rainwater retention, urban cooling, pollination and soil quality, and offers advice on how to improve green roofs and evolve management practices. You can find the link to the

synopsis in this newsletter. You can also read about a [successful NBS implementation for flood protection](#), biodiversity and recreation in Gonesse; you can also find a link to a 30 min video about the design and impacts.

In our Urban Living Lab Aarhus and Paris Region, we have worked on developing [Walkable Floor Maps](#) – an excellent tool for discussions among stakeholders and a means of disseminating NBS at scale. You can read about our first workshops on Walkable Floor Maps.

Also in relation to education, REGREEN will be launching the educational platform ‘[Greenopolis](#)’ in the beginning of 2022 an interactive educational material about sustainable urban development and nature-based solutions for 8-12 year olds. REGREEN has also worked with [children in kindergarten on co-developing playtopes](#) in the experimental woodland of Alnarp in Sweden. We have gathered an [overview](#) of the many different educational activities and resources that are under development in REGREEN in this Newsletter.

REGREEN has worked with a complexity-informed approach to consider the interconnections [between street trees and mental health](#) that can offer new insights for practitioners and researchers alike. The work has been in close collaboration with our European ULLs. You can read a brief on this work further down.

Also, in relation to how people relate to urban nature, REGREEN investigating how green and blue spaces have the capacity to improve mental health and wellbeing through self-reporting in an APP conducting an [Ecological Momentary Assessment](#). We hope to gain insights on the mental health benefits derived from different urban NBS and how people of diverse socioeconomic background interact with urban natural environments. You can read about the activity and access the APP in the news article further below.

Finally, if you are interested in [urban governance and policy mixes](#) in relation to NBS and integrated water policy, we have an Open Access journal article out now and an EEA report on [NBS policy and practice in Europe](#) is also out.

The REGREEN project wishes you happy reading and a safe and joyous holiday season.