

THE REGREEN FACT SHEETS - FROM START TO FINISH



REGREEN
NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

SDGs are incorporated in the cases depicted in all the fact sheets.



> CONTEXTUALISATION OF THE REGREEN FACT SHEETS

This fact sheet gives an overview of REGREEN's journey in terms of processes, outputs and milestones to showcase 13 inspiring nature-based solutions applied case studies, covering the following topics: Biodiversity; Governance; Health and Wellbeing; Education; Water Quality Improvement; Flood Mitigation; Noise Mitigation; Heat Mitigation; Air Quality Improvement; Business Activation; and Urban Design Elements. Each fact sheet is linked below:

- [Pollinator-Friendly Food Forest in Dortmund](#) (Biodiversity)
- [Living Landscapes in Edinburgh](#) (Biodiversity)
- [Green Roof Strategy of Hamburg](#) (Governance)
- [Thamesmead Nature Forum of London](#) (Governance)
- [Farfalle in Tour Project of Turin](#) (Health and Well-Being)
- ["Let's make our school a growing place"](#) Project of Santhiá (Education)
- [Gorla Maggiore Water Park](#) (Water Quality Improvement)
- [The Reduna Project in Almada](#) (Coastal Flood Mitigation)
- [Green Noise Barrier of Sachsenheim](#) (Noise Mitigation)
- [Biotope City Vienna](#) (Heat Mitigation)
- [Green Corridors in Stuttgart](#) (Air Quality Improvement)
- [RICHWATER®, Reclaimed water for irrigation in Malaga](#) (Business)
- [Green Living Room Ludwigsburg](#) (Urban Design Elements)

The context in which these fact sheets were conceptualised was a task of the REGREEN project, which entailed showcasing inspiring examples of NBS from cities around Europe to serve as a reference on NBS planning and implementation across REGREEN's activities. The fact sheets aimed to emphasise good practices, barriers and lessons learned. This process was carried out through a series of discrete steps:

- Agreeing among experts what constitutes 'inspiring practice'
- Agreeing scope and process for the assessment of NBS cases
- Questionnaires and interviews to describe NBS good practices
- Design of fact sheets

> AGREEING AMONG EXPERTS WHAT CONSTITUTES INSPIRING PRACTICE

The following main topics were identified as subjects for the fact sheets, which aligned to the focal areas of interest for REGREEN:

- a) Social, economic, technical, managerial and financial good practices, enabling factors and barriers for design, construction, deployment and monitoring of NBS for restored and newly created ecosystems;

- b) Successful factors leading to capitalisation of multiple benefits / co-benefits of NBS;
- c) Cost-effectiveness factors of NBS;
- d) Approaches to enhance human health and well-being through NBS;
- e) Approaches of combining urban NBS with educational outreach;
- f) Methodological approaches of NBS co-creation (co-planning, co-design, co-implementation and co-monitoring);
- g) Relevant knowledge platforms on NBS and their potential to support ULLs to enable ecosystems to deliver their services for more liveable, healthier and resilient cities;
- h) Enabling and hindering factors for making a business and investment case for NBS.

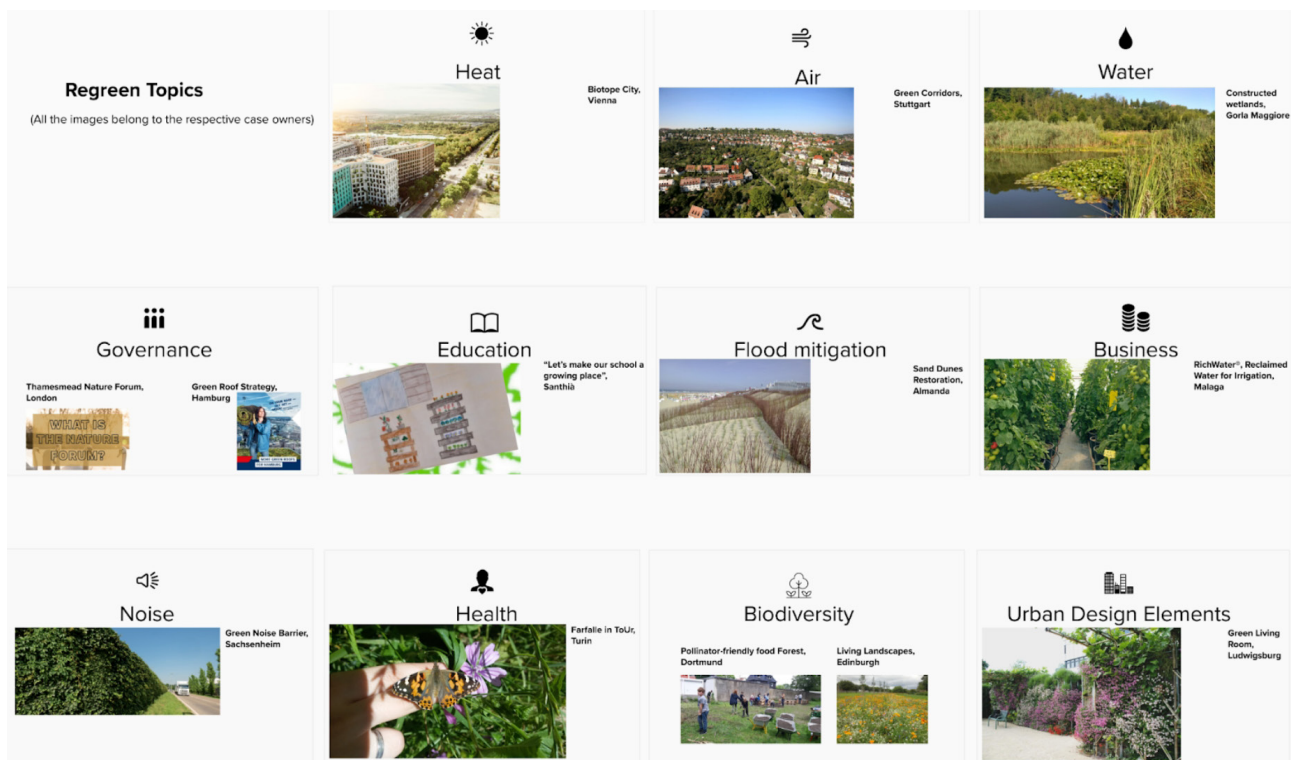
For each of these topic areas, a key initial task, led by ICLEI, was to work with experts across the REGREEN project to co-define what constitutes ‘inspiring practice’ in terms of nature-based solutions. Through this co-creation process, involving several project meetings and email exchanges, partners defined the set of NBS-related topics that were relevant for the project, and which subsequently make up the fact sheets.

For each topic, experts helped define several criteria for the following question: “What would ‘inspiring practice’ look like?” The criteria were then used as a basis to assess the NBS cases being reviewed, to provide an overall assessment, and to select the best examples for developing case study fact sheets. In addition to these criteria, other aspects such as identifying key enablers of success, and identifying potential barriers to implementation or reasons for lack of success, were also considered.

> AGREEING SCOPE AND PROCESS FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF NBS CASES

Before starting, the scope of the work to screen NBS cases was defined. [Oppla](#), also regarded as the EU repository for NBS cases, was chosen as the platform for assessing case studies. The [Urban Nature Atlas](#) was also considered, but due to the importance of the Oppla platform within the NBS European landscape, the limited time frame of the task and a high number of cases to screen through Oppla (approximately 300), the team focused on the latter, engaging in early communications with the Oppla team. Where the project team found out about other important case studies, or where there were gaps in coverage

REGREEN TOPICS



against the REGREEN topics, other sources were drawn upon to supplement the information held in Oppla. For instance, considering previous work with the City of Turin in the ProGReg project, it was evident that the city had an interesting case on health & wellbeing, which had a great potential to be highlighted in the fact sheets and added to the Oppla platform. Therefore, more than ten “new” cases were added to the Oppla platform as a result of REGREEN’s work. In this way, the gaps in terms of availability of inspiring practices on specific NBS-related topics were filled.

To conduct the meta-review, a detailed spreadsheet with various filters was set up, taking into account the importance of each topic to REGREEN’s Urban Living Labs and the data needs for those topics. In order to check whether the spreadsheet’s cells and filters would cover all relevant information, a test drive with 15 cases was done to check its suitability. After iteration with REGREEN topic experts, adjustments were made accordingly to create clearer assessment criteria, and ways of scoring cases against these assessment criteria (available on the REGREEN website).

Throughout the meta-review of the Oppla platform, it was clear that not all selected NBS-related topics were covered by the existing Oppla cases. Therefore, there was a need to look for additional cases that presented inspiring practices. ICLEI contacted specific case owners which were

known from previous engagements, ongoing projects, and existing knowledge about the topic(s).

The evaluation conducted during the review phase, and recorded in the spreadsheet allowed the selection of one or more case studies for each topic which best illustrated ‘inspiring practice’.

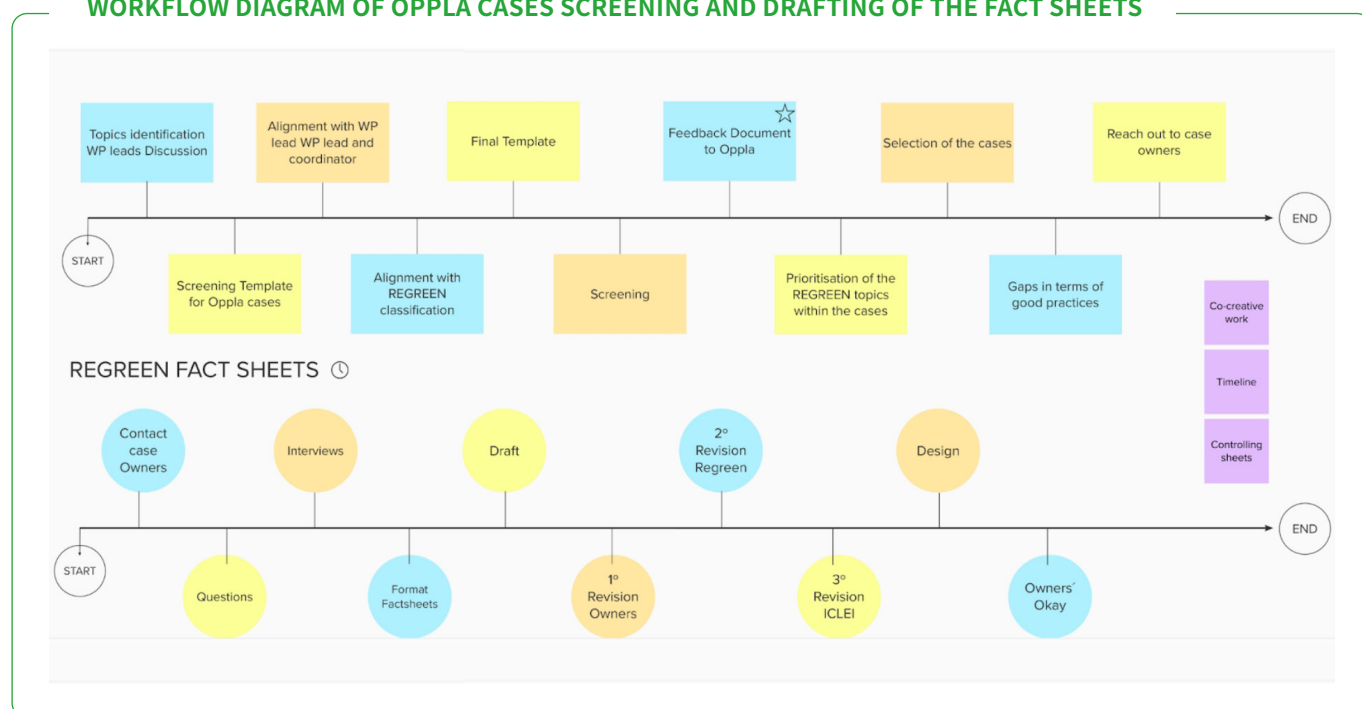
During the assessment review, a separate word document was maintained in which all limitations, challenges and shortcomings to finding essential information to make robust fact sheets were registered. This was discussed with project topic experts and with Oppla in virtual meetings.

From the beginning it was clear that feedback on the user-friendliness of the platform would be useful for the Oppla team and for the wider NBS community. The final spreadsheet with a detailed explanation was sent out to the Oppla team providing valuable feedback to the platform’s database of NBS cases, suggesting for example new filters to facilitate case searches and interlinking the SDGs to the work carried out within the NBS cases.

> QUESTIONNAIRES AND INTERVIEWS TO DESCRIBE NBS GOOD PRACTICES

The selected case studies were then explored in more detail through questionnaires and interviews. The

WORKFLOW DIAGRAM OF OPPLA CASES SCREENING AND DRAFTING OF THE FACT SHEETS



experts (topic leads) of the REGREEN project assisted in formulating guiding questions for each topic. Questionnaires specific to each topic were designed, building from these guiding questions (some common and some topic-specific) and sent again for feedback to the respective REGREEN topic leads.

The aim of the questionnaire was to enable appropriate data collection, both qualitative and quantitative, for populating the fact sheets. The questionnaire was sent to each case owner for responses, followed up by interviews to clarify any open questions, agree on the provision of images, and obtain permission for the use of the obtained information. The interviews were helpful to enable the collection of additional information missed out in the written form via the questionnaires and to answer any new questions which emerged from the analysis of the responses.

> DESIGN OF FACT SHEETS

Through discussion among REGREEN experts, a concrete structure was set up for the fact sheets to capture the most relevant, interesting and essential information from

the answered questionnaires and interview processes. The fact sheet content was structured around the following sections:

- Sustainable Development Goals
- Objectives
- Description
- Challenges
- Opportunities
- Lessons learned
- Inspiration for others
- Further Information

A draft for each topic was prepared and shared with the case owners for review and inclusion/deletion of any parts as found suitable by them. Following the integration of the feedback from case owners, a second draft was sent to REGREEN experts and ICLEI colleagues for review to ensure quality check in terms of content and language. After this, a final version of each fact sheet was sent out to the designer for creation of a visually appealing layout and format to ensure easy readability, completing the production process of 13 fact sheets on NBS-related relevant topics, and this one describing the methodology.

Authors:

Daniela Rizzi
(Senior Officer NBS and Biodiversity)
Shreya Utkarsh
(Officer NBS and Biodiversity)
Roger Roca Vallejo
(Junior Officer Sustainable Resources, Climate & Resilience)



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