



The topics of Croatia presidency in the context of TA post-2020

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN URBAN AREAS

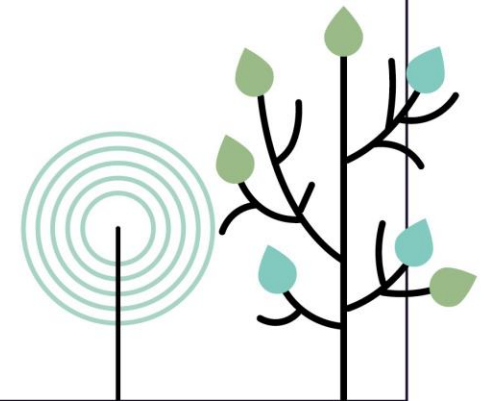
RE-USE OF SPACES AND BUILDINGS IN TERMS OF A TRANSITION TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Ivana KaturiĆ
Webinar on Territorial Agenda 2030
27.11.2020.

Achieving sustainable and Green Europe

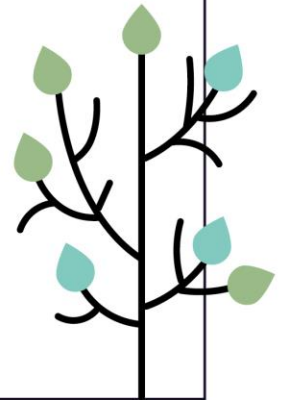
Through implementation of GI and Circular Economy Principles

- **Urban Agenda for the EU**
 - Circular Economy
 - Sustainable Use of Land and Nature-based Solutions
 - Air Quality
 - Energy Transition
 - Climate Adaptation
 - And other activities from the relevant partnerships...
- **EU Strategy on Green Infrastructure**
- **Circular Economy Action Plan**
- **EU Green Deal**
- **Clean energy for all Europeans package**
- **ESPON Policy Briefs on GI and CE**



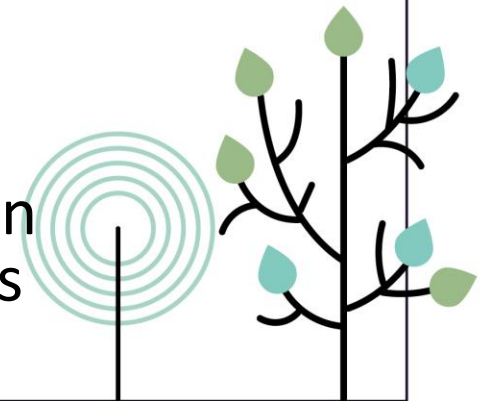
OBJECTIVES

- **CREATION, CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN URBAN AREAS & REUSING SPACES AND BUILDINGS**
 - **Effective way to reduce urban sprawl and its environmental impacts, to keep neighbourhoods occupied and vital, and to combat climate change and an alarming increase of natural disaster risks**
- **RESPONSE TO THE GROWING NEED FOR BETTER URBAN MANAGEMENT, IN THE CONTEXT OF SCARCE LAND RESOURCES AND THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF USING NATURE TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES OF CITIES.**



Sustainable Land Use

- inefficient or poor data on spatial development and its use for urban governance
- nature-based solutions, including green infrastructure, are not high on agenda of urban authorities due to low awareness of its social and economic benefits
- insufficient capacity of urban municipalities and their planning services to deal with complexity of socio-economic and spatial development and its interconnections
- lack of knowledge/capacity of staff & human resources in municipalities dedicated to implementation mechanisms for unlocking development on brownfield land



GREEN infrastructure

- **Many European cities are relatively green, however cities are experiencing decrease in green spaces (ESPON GRETA)**
 - Cities in general have more green spaces in their surroundings than inside of them
- **GI benefits include:**
 - Mitigation of urban heat island effects, flood risk reduction, absorption of CO₂, improved mental health and well-being etc.
- **Policy recommendations on three scales:**
 - Local
 - Regional
 - National



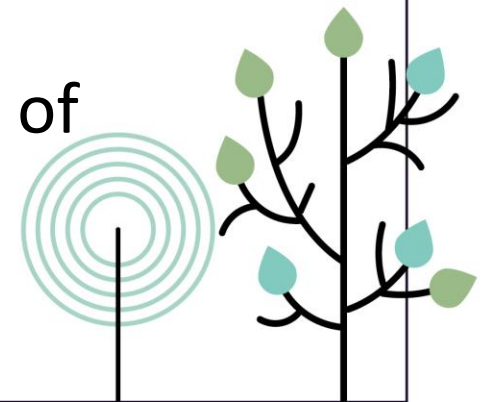
Re-use of spaces and buildings in terms of a transition to a circular economy

- Cities grow in size and consume more and more natural and agricultural land
- Land is not infinite – we must learn how to use this resource in a more responsible and sustainable way
- **UAEU Circular Economy Partnership**
 - Handbook on sustainable & circular re-use of spaces and buildings
 - At the urban level, society and built areas undergo a constant process of change
 - The urban regeneration process must effectively keep up with this process of change



HR PRES topics

- Specific priorities of the HR PRES 2020 aim to promote sustainable land use and to contribute to the sustainable and balanced model of development
- Implementation of **green infrastructure**, along with the **circular economy of space and buildings** represent important means of climate action and improvement of quality of life

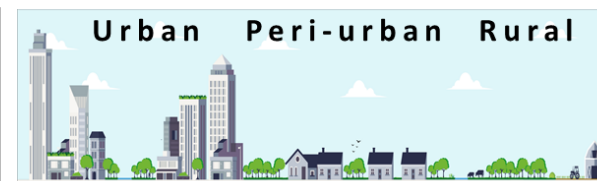
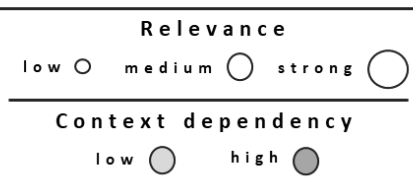
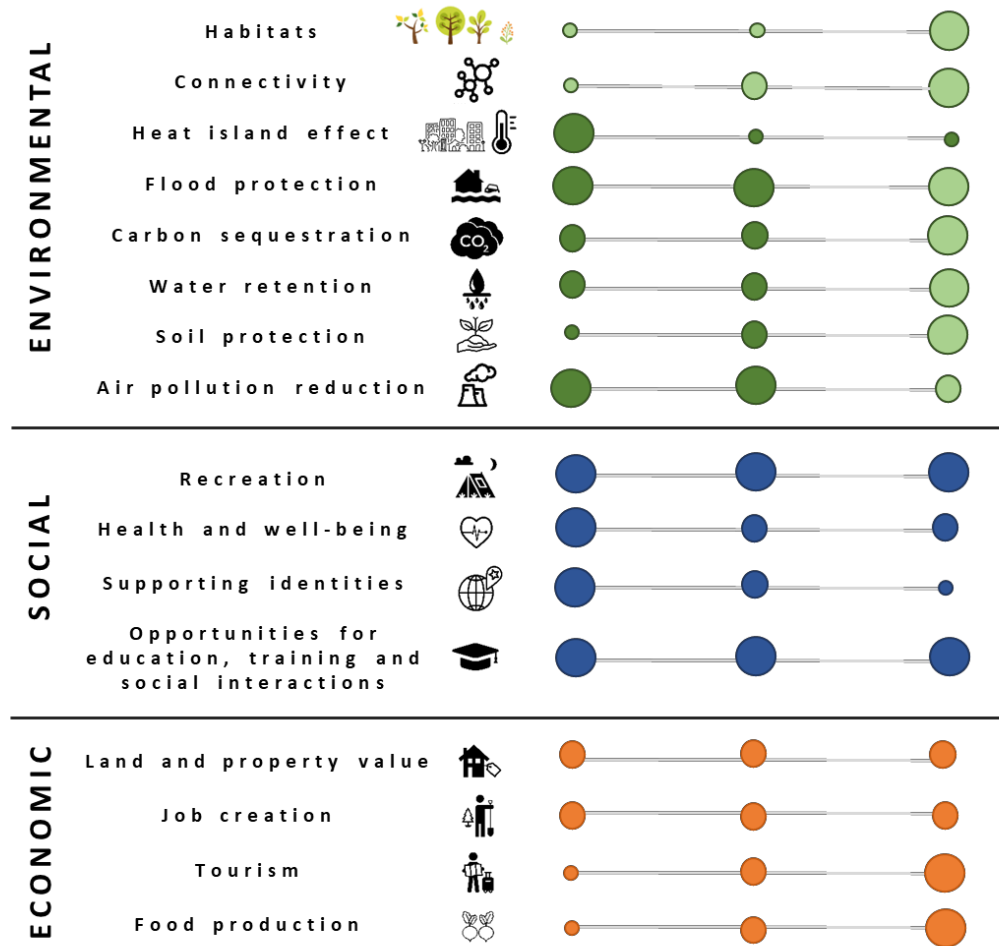


Green infrastructure in urban areas

ESPON Policy Brief

- Financing GI in urban areas – potential instruments:
 - Innovative use of public budgets
 - Grant funding and donations
 - Instruments generating revenue
 - ‘Green finance’
 - Market based instruments
 - ‘Business Improvement Districts’
 - Endowments
 - Public-Private Partnerships
 - Community asset transfers

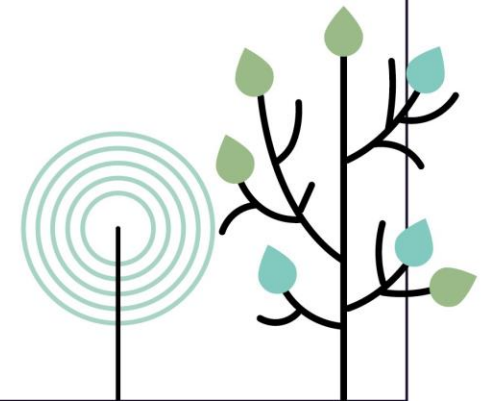
Main benefits provided by Green Infrastructure at different scales



Green infrastructure in urban areas

ESPON Policy Brief

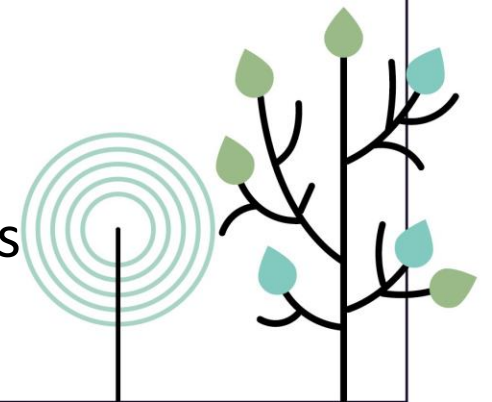
- Policy recommendations for enhancing GI in urban areas:
 - Adopt a GI approach in planning
 - Identify existing assets and opportunities for GI
 - Identify benefits and challenges of GI
 - Create a shared vision
 - Take the context into account
 - Identify GI “hotspots”
 - Combine private and public funding mechanisms for implementation
 - Monitor progress and adapt to change



Green infrastructure in urban areas

ESPON Policy Brief

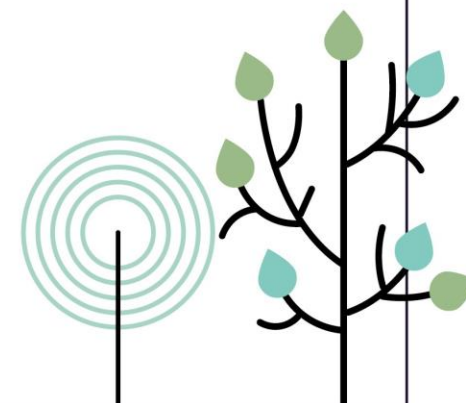
- Policy recommendations for regional GI management:
 - Plan for GI implementation in adaptive cycles
 - Take synergies and trade-offs between ecosystem services into account
- Policy recommendations for national GI management
 - Integrate GI across policy areas
 - Develop national GI policies and action plans
 - Increase awareness about GI
 - Ensure data availability
 - Provide training on economic valuation and spatial analysis methods



Re-use of Spaces and Buildings

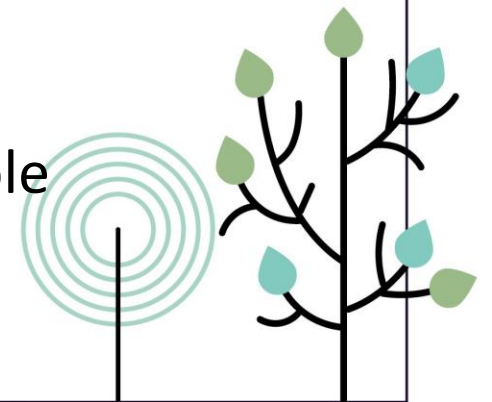
ESPON Policy Brief

- Policy recommendations to increase the re-use of spaces and buildings:
 - Involve citizens and relevant stakeholders at an early stage.
 - Define opportunities, risks and constraints and map the landowners.
 - Involve architects and planners and ask for alternative land use plans.
 - Prepare an outline time plan.
 - Make clear who is managing and coordinating the process.
 - Break down the overall plan and define the individual projects of the plan.
 - Make sure that the necessary land and financial budgets are available and consider potential public-private partnership models for the implementation.
 - Monitor and evaluate regularly the implementation and adjust the plan when needed for an improved outcome.



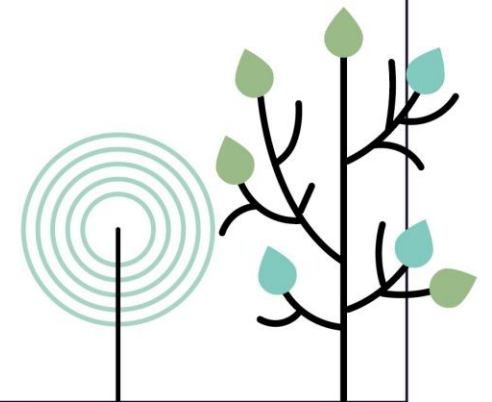
Urban Green Infrastructure

- **Urban Green Infrastructure Development Programme 2021.-2030.**
- Programme objectives:
 - Management of green infrastructure development
 - Improved, widespread and easily available urban green infrastructure
 - High level of knowledge and social awareness of sustainable development of urban areas through green infrastructure development



Re-use of buildings and spaces

- **Circular Management of Buildings and Spaces Development Programme 2021.-2030.**
- Programme objectives:
 - Circular renewal of empty buildings and under-used spaces
 - Circular economy in the design of buildings and spaces/spatial planning
 - Achievements of environmental objectives by re-use of buildings and spaces



Thank you

