



Bridging Urban Development with Nature-Based Solutions. The Role of Traditional Knowledge

In the modern quest for sustainability and resilience, the fusion of nature-based solutions (NBS) with traditional knowledge presents a compelling pathway towards harmonizing the built environment with the natural world. Projects like [URBiNAT](#) embody this integration, pioneering initiatives that not only enhance urban landscapes but also draw from centuries-old wisdom rooted in the interconnectedness of nature and human settlements.

URBiNAT stands as a beacon for urban planners and communities seeking innovative approaches to address pressing urban challenges while fostering environmental resilience. At the heart of URBiNAT lies the recognition that cities are not separate entities from nature; instead, they are intricately woven into the ecological fabric. This ethos is reflected in its deployment of nature-based solutions, which leverage the inherent benefits of ecosystems to enhance urban spaces, mitigate climate risks, and promote social cohesion. The success of URBiNAT also depends on its commitment to integrating traditional knowledge into contemporary urban planning practices. Throughout history, communities worldwide have developed profound insights into coexisting with nature and shaping their built environments in ways that promote sustainability and well-being. By embracing and incorporating traditional wisdom, we not only acknowledge the resilience of indigenous cultures but also enrich projects with time-tested approaches to sustainable living. Inspiration from traditional knowledge ranges from agroforestry to permaculture, from water management to heat-highlands reduction, from wind channel creation to wild gardening and sustainable farming, as well as from social practices and rituals to the *OIKOS* as house management. Bridging nature-based solutions with traditional knowledge may offer an additional demonstration that the path to sustainable urban development lies not in conquering nature but in embracing its potential, as done by our previous generations.

In this line, the [University of Nova Gorica, Cultural Heritage Studies](#) within URBiNAT and within the framework of the European Culture Capital, aims at offering a set of hybrid webinars that merge Nature-Based Solutions and traditional knowledge to show both how some modern Nature Based Solutions are actually and technically implemented, by means of examples and case studies, and how much history can help us in understanding suitable nature adaptation approaches in line with the *genius loci*, namely the local socio-economic and territorial specificities.

Special support to the initiative has been given by the [Go!2025](#) Culture Capital Nova Gorica-Gorizia through the project “Mapping Green Spots and Mobility”, the URBiNAT Living Lab [X-Center](#), the [SEEDS](#) Network by UNIFE and [UNISCAPE](#) Network and the [CGT-CZT, Centre of Green Technologies](#). Scientific support from other networks is welcome to contribute to the nourishment of the community of practice.

Hereafter is a preliminary schedule of the webinars, mainly hosted at X-Center.



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Topics and dates	Contents and schedule
Introduction to the initiative Retention Basins Wednesday <u>28.2.2024</u> 5.00 – 6.30 p.m.	Introduction to the Initiative by UNG, Marco Acri About partners network, GO!2025, URBiNAT, SEEDS, UNISCAPE, CTZ Webinars on NBS and Traditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Retention Basins today, Jose' Miguel Llmairas, BIOPOLIS • The Retention basins in the tradition. Some Examples Questions and debate
Green Roofs Wednesday <u>13.3.2024</u> 5.00 – 6.30 p.m.	Little reminder about the initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Green Roof today. Technique and examples, Maurizio Crasso, HAPO Verdenspile • The Green Roof in the past. Examples • Examples from cities of the network Questions and debate
Permeable pavers and water channels Wednesday <u>03.04.2024</u> 5.00 – 6.30 p.m.	Little reminder about the initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How permeable pavements work • What are underground water channels • Permeable pavements and water channels in the “past” • Examples from cities of the network Questions and debate
Wild gardening and urban biodiversity Wednesday <u>24.04.2022</u> 5.00 – 6.30 p.m.	Little reminder about the initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is wild gardening? • Pollination and pollinators. • Green maintenance in the past • Examples from cities of the network Questions and debate
Solidarity economy and Alternative currencies for sustainability Wednesday <u>08.05.2024</u> 5.00 – 6.30 p.m. Organised at UNIFE-SEEDS	Little reminder about the initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What about solidarity economy and alternative currency? • What alternative currency means. • Examples from Europe • Examples from the past • Examples from cities of the network Questions and debate
Animals in cities and Urban Farming Wednesday <u>22.05.2024</u> 5.00 – 6.30 p.m.	Little reminder about the initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • URBAN farming in the past • URBAN Farming today • Examples from network cities (Nantes, Nova Gorica) Questions and debate
Wildlife parks and Tiny Forest Wednesday <u>05.06.2024</u> 5.00 – 6.30 p.m.	Little reminder about the initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are wildlife parks • What are Tiny, Pocket, Miyawaki Forests? • Examples from the past • Examples from network cities (Nantes, Brussels, Netherlands) Questions and debate



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<p>Rainwater management, Bioswales and Phytodepuration</p> <p>Wednesday <u>19.06.2024</u> 5.00 – 6.30 p.m.</p>	<p>Little reminder about the initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is rainwater management• What is water phytodepuration and natural swimming pools• Examples from the past• Examples from network cities (Sofia) <p>Questions and debate</p>
<p>Autumn Calendar to be defined</p>	<p>GROASIS, Multi Use Wood structure, Aquaonics Serra, Food production and leisure Pavillion, Ceramic Tiles and Green walls, Urban Mushroom Farm, Vegetable garden and mobile vegetable garden, Permaculture, etc.</p>