



# NatureScape - Enhancing Urban Sustainability for Environmental Quality and Human Well-being through Nature-Based Solutions Transformation Labs

## Context

**NatureScape** is designed to enhance urban sustainability by integrating urban Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) in seven diverse cities (Oslo, St. Gallen, Riga, Dublin, Lisbon, Lublin, Milan). It addresses the critical post-implementation phase of NBS, focusing on long-term stewardship and governance to sustain their benefits. The project aligns with the European Green Deal and aspires to enhance urban resilience, biodiversity, climate neutrality, and social well-being through community-led NBS Transformation Labs (T-Labs).

## Main objectives

- Develop comprehensive indicators for post-implementation evaluation of NBS.
- Establish NBS T-Labs as innovation hubs for stakeholder collaboration.
- Uncover and maximize synergies while minimizing trade-offs related to urban NBS.
- Distil lessons and best practices for future NBS stewardship and governance.
- Shape urban planning tools and policies to support NBS in the post-implementation phase.
- Disseminate findings to enhance awareness and inform policy.

## Main activities

- **NatureScape** combines urban planning with community engagement to enhance the governance and sustainability of NBS. Through citizen science and participatory methods, it actively engages in stewardship and fosters a collaborative and inclusive approach to urban sustainability:
- **Scientific Approach:** Employ a transdisciplinary methodology combining scientific research, community engagement, and innovative governance models to enhance NBS functionality and integration into urban ecosystems.
- **Dissemination and Stakeholder Engagement:** Utilize workshops, seminars, digital platforms and implement citizen science to engage stakeholders and disseminate research findings.
- **Create actionable tools and guidelines:** Integrate NBS into urban planning and governance, aiming for their mainstreaming, co-evolution, and scaling.
- **Expected Impact:** Project activities are expected to lead to enhanced urban resilience, increased biodiversity, better climate action, and improved community health and well-being. The project's innovative governance models and community-based approaches aim to ensure the sustainable success of urban NBS.

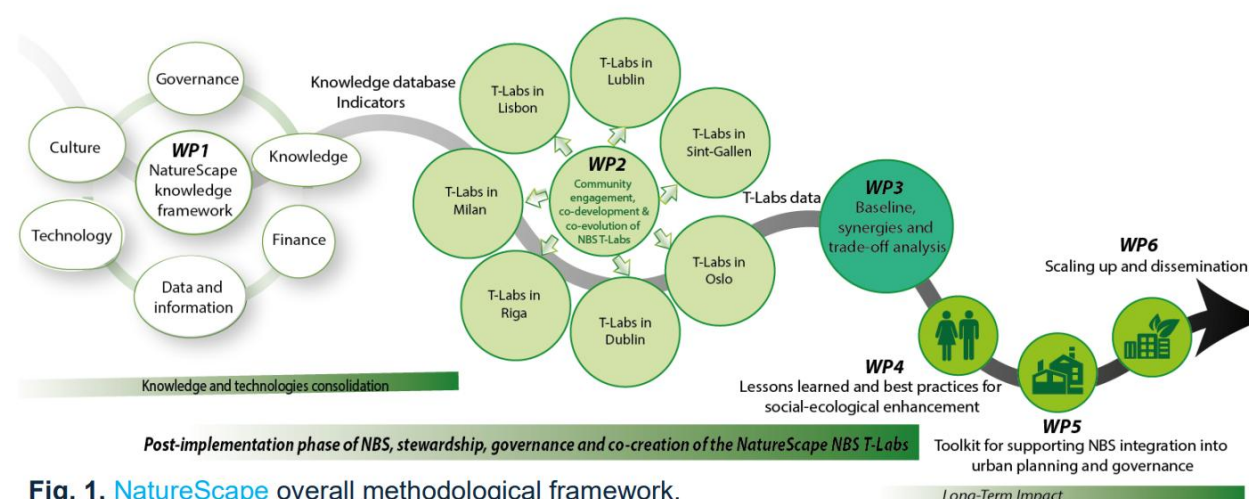
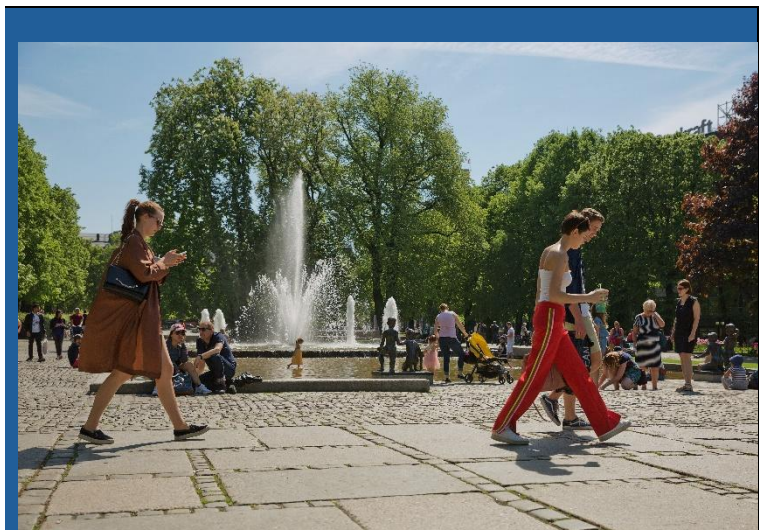


Fig. 1. NatureScape overall methodological framework.



**A park from Oslo, Norway** (Credits: by Jiri Vondrous, Colourbox.com; Licence: Editorial). In the heart of Oslo, this vibrant park exemplifies our commitment to integrating nature-based solutions within urban spaces. By fostering lush green environments, we promote biodiversity and enhance community well-being, creating a sustainable and inviting urban retreat for all to enjoy.

### Partners of the project

- Department of Environmental Impact and Sustainability, Stiftelsen NILU – The Climate and Environmental Research Institute (NILU), Kjeller, Norway
- Department of Social Work/IFSAR Institute of Social Work and Social Spaces, Eastern Switzerland University of Applied Sciences (OST), St. Gallen, Switzerland
- School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy, University College Dublin, National University of Ireland (NUID UCD), Dublin, Ireland
- Department of Hydrobiology and Ecosystems Protections, The University of Life Sciences in Lublin (ULSL), Lublin, Poland
- Lisbon Energy and Environment Agency (Lisboa E-Nova), Lisbon, Portugal
- Baltic Studies Centre (BSC), Riga, Latvia
- Department of Architecture and Urban Studies, The Polytechnic University of Milan (Polimi), Milan, Italy

**Duration** 01/04/2025-31/03/2028

**Total grant** Approx. 1,67mil €

### More information

Dr. Hai-Ying Liu

hyl@nilu.no

Website: <https://naturescape.nilu.no>

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/naturescape-project>



Fig. 2. NatureScape NBS T-Labs