

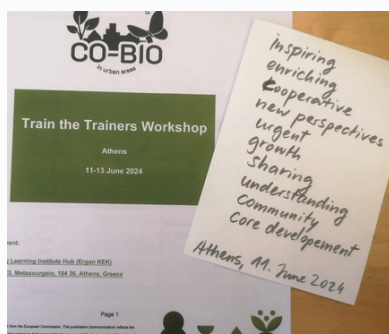


Newsletter 2



TTT in Athens

The workshop in Athens was designed to prepare participants for the upcoming case implementation phase. This Train-the-Trainer (TTT) session focused on equipping partners with the necessary methods, mindset, tools, and insights, all rooted in the prototype methodology. The goal was to prepare partners to act as effective facilitators in their respective roles.



Results of TTT

- Collaborative Input: Partners shared their WP inputs, experiences, dilemmas, and methods.
- Mutual Learning: The workshop enhanced collective reflection and learning.
- Practical Experience: Participants gained hands-on experience through study visits.



As more and more people move to cities, we must not overlook the potential for change within the heart of urban settings. It is crucial to note that biodiversity is not a phenomenon limited to rural areas. We may not notice biodiversity in cities because we have built over it, and impeded the natural habitats that have existed far longer than we have. Although biodiversity remains in these urban settings, humans have continuously damaged it over time and must help it flourish to restore healthy ecosystems. We have trespassed on the homes of animals and plants, and it is our responsibility to readapt their habitats to promote their health and wellness. In doing so, we would also be protecting our planet and ecosystems and, consequently, our own well-being. Urban settings can still be harmonious with nature, and we should not view them as two separate entities, but rather two environments that can co-exist and evolve to work towards a more sustainable world.



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State of the art and local mapping: Collecting research, best practices and methods relevant for designing trainings, guides and cases in the project.

CESIE was responsible for coordinating the WP2 activities. All partners contributed to collecting data that have been recorded in each partner country's national report.

The focus was on:

1. Desk Research: served to identify current national practices, challenges, and legislation for UB.

2. Focus Group: that involved ordinary citizens with civil society volunteers and specialists as potential local agents of change and stakeholders.

3. Interviews: the consortium found the best professionals in the urban biodiversity field who wanted to be part of the project in this phase.

4. Best Practices: the cases that have been considered by the partnership have been addressed to last after the project and allowed the development of a network/institution that was responsible for the case, ensuring its positive impacts in a systematic manner.



Teaching methodology on facilitation of co-creation: Method for facilitating local cases where stakeholders gain skills while cooperating to support urban biodiversity.

Center for Citizen Dialogue has developed a methodology, 'How to facilitate co-creation processes: Guiding principles and tools'.

The intention is to support the partners developing local biodiversity initiatives through co-creation in their role as facilitators of collaboration in a group of participants with different backgrounds, skills, perspectives and agendas.

Co-creation processes require a special type of leadership and may seem messy, unclear, complex and diverse, as participants belong to different organizations with different logics.

The methodology offers guidelines and tools for:

- Analysing the field of stakeholders relevant for the task at hand and mobilizing and linking 'the right people'
- Exploring and recognizing the different participants' motivation and interests
- Developing a common understanding of the task supported by the different sectors and stakeholders
- Building trust and handling conflicts and power differences among stakeholders
- Continuously supporting collaboration through facilitative leadership



The prototype methodology will be used by the partners in developing and facilitating their local cases.





Guide on co-creation of urban biodiversity:

Important knowledge, tools and methods for local stakeholders to co-create urban biodiversity.

“One of the project’s outputs, the guide on ‘Co-creating Urban Biodiversity,’ has been under development for the past few months, and the prototype will be ready to be tested during the implementation of each country’s case studies. This guide contains important knowledge on urban biodiversity, as well as tools and methods, helping each project partner to co-create their case studies. The document will guide the involved stakeholders on how to plan, implement, maintain, monitor, and evaluate a project.”



Casetesting and descriptions:

Best practice descriptions of the six local cases in the project and evaluation of the project results.

Components of WP5

- Local Case identification
 - o Stakeholder identification
 - o Contact and Recruitment
 - o Relationship maintenance - Key aspects
- Case identification
 - o Action plan
 - o Logistic support for the case development
 - o Conflict management

• Data collection on:

- o Local UB: quality, species present, foreseen ecosystem services
- o Is the plan within a local, national, regional or international programme?
- o Local committee composition and contribution
- o Feedback
- o Photos of the case - prior and after the intervention
- Local case evaluation and monitoring - 2 moments:
 - o interim evaluation - adopt the necessary changes to ensure the project impact.
 - o Final evaluation - quality and impact of the case



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