



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
Cooperation for innovation and exchanges of good practices



Professional Exchanges on Urban Green Spaces Management

Education and training for professionals and stakeholders of the development and maintenance of green spaces to alternative management techniques

2017 – 2018



www.progress-project.eu



This project has been founded by the EU Commission under the Erasmus+ program



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THE CONTEXT

→ In Europe, 72% of the population is concentrated in cities. The urban environment consumes nearly 75% of energy resources and generates nearly 80% of greenhouse gas emissions.

Air and soil pollution, heat islands, floods ... Nature-based development solutions offer a relevant response to the environmental challenges facing cities.

By building on ecosystems, these solutions can significantly improve climate resilience and quality of life while contributing to a functional economy.

These solutions offer many advantages:

- + Environmental: increase of biodiversity, beautification of the living environment, limitation of soil waterproofing and restoration of the water cycle, better air quality and better thermal regulation.
- + Economic: reduction of infrastructure, reduction of energy costs, creation of jobs, expansion of businesses and services, increase in state value.
- + Social: promote direct human contact with the environment, social appropriation of public space, mixing and social interaction, improve well-being and have positive effects on health.

They are nevertheless confronted with several problems:

- + They require regular maintenance
- + Fear of additional operating and management costs for communities.
- + The traditional belief in the fact that "it does not work".
- + The limited experience feedback of contracting authorities and local authorities (overall costs, management, maintenance and maintenance methods, sustainability of the ecological interest) constitutes a brake on the choice of good practice adopt.
- + The legacy of hygiene has led to a preference and an addiction to the concreted and virgin spaces of all vegetation.

→ **How can we contribute to development and promote the sustainable management of green spaces in urban areas?**

One of the levers considered is to engage professionals and stakeholders in the urban environment by giving them the knowledge and methods to implement alternative and sustainable management solutions.

THE PROJECT

→ The **PROGRESS** project (Professional Education for Green Spaces) is a European partnership project within the framework of ERASMUS + "Strategic Partnerships for Cooperation and Exchange of Good Practices".

The project aims to bring together environmental professionals and actors of urban green spaces around the maintenance and perpetuation of these spaces.

The program consists in sharing and transmitting experiences, methodologies and know-how on the management of urban green spaces in different problems and contexts (population, climate, cultures ...).

How?

→ Each of the four European partners involved in the project brings its specificity by organizing a training program in its city. The project takes place over two years and provides for 5 activities in 4 European cities:

O Montpellier, Barcelona, Brussels, Copenhagen

For who ?

→ Entrepreneurs of green spaces, managers, water and plant engineers, educators, trainers, professionals educators, sociologists, architects, urban planners, environmental associations, academics, experts in urban ecology ...

What are the objectives ?

- + **Contribute** at a European level to the transfer of knowledge, methods and experiences on sustainable management practices of urban green spaces;
- + **Strengthen** the technical knowledge and alternative management methods of green spaces for professionals and actors of the environment in urban areas;
- + **Control** the modalities and costs of managing and operating these spaces;
- + **Encourage** citizen re-appropriation of urban green spaces, especially through participatory management;
- + **Bringing together** the professional structures and the actors of social integration to promote the employment of people in difficulty;
- + **Create** a platform for the sharing of knowledge, methods, feedback, technical and human resources.

More information
www.progress-project.eu



THE PARTNERS



Orchis Ingénierie, Montpellier, France

Orchis Ingénierie is a consulting firm specializing in consulting engineering in the fields of water, environment and renewable energies. The company is a cooperative (SCIC) created in 2014. Orchis Ingénierie combines engineering with the social by implementing concrete solutions (rainwater harvesting, phyto-purification, urban valleys, plant roofs ...), associated To a sociological approach that integrates conflicts of interest and the needs of the populations, while developing methods of participatory management.



Eco-Union, Barcelona, Spain.

Eco-Union is an independent, not-for-profit association created in 2005 that works to create and connect change agents across different sectors of society to catalyze the transition to sustainability. The task of the eco-union focuses on promoting a new culture of the environment among individuals and organizations through capacity building, advocacy and advocacy. Eco-Union aims to be a reference institution in the transformation of society towards environmental sustainability. Its ultimate goal is to ensure the well-being of present and future generations through sustainable development.

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Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

The Forests and Landscape section is part of the Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management. It offers educational programs aimed at companies and managers of forests and green spaces: courses, advice and support for development in the field of forests and natural areas. The University works in the development and advice for the management of natural resources, including forest management, landscape management, adaptation to climate change, planning, outdoor recreation, environmental counseling, Conflict management, and wildlife management.



GREEN - GoodPlanet, Brussels, Belgium.

GREEN and GoodPlanet are Belgian non-profit organizations. Their goal is to help young people and adults learn how to live in a sustainable way. Since 1997, GoodPlanet develops and accompanies groups and individuals. To this end, GREEN designs projects, training and learning tools on several subjects such as energy, water, transport, sustainable consumption, nature, etc. GREEN encourages and supports groups and individuals in their participation in policy-making and is also active in the field of development cooperation.

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