



Dear Reader,

The outbreak of the **COVID19 pandemic** has impacted everyone's life and caused dramatic changes in our society. URBAN GreenUP too has been affected, with many activities being stopped or rescheduled to comply with safety measures. But rewinding the tape of the past months to prepare this editorial, I am pleased to note how much the project has achieved despite the difficult conditions.

More and more of the planned **Nature-Based Solutions (NBS)** are being installed in our Frontrunner cities, with some of the latest additions being **green walls**, drainage systems and floating islands in **Liverpool**; parklets and **green pavements** in **İzmir** and green roofs and **green façades** in **Valladolid**. Now these places enjoy cleaner air and water and increased biodiversity. And if you are also convinced of the effectiveness of NBS and wonder which ones should be installed in your city, you are welcome to find inspiration with our [NBS selection tool](#).

We are also very happy to see the quick growth of our recently established [network of cities](#). Eighteen cities from Europe and beyond have already joined our Frontrunners and Followers on their mission to boost the **worldwide adoption of renaturing urban plans**, the only way to welcome nature back into our cities. Remember, our network is open to all interested cities, so do not hesitate to **contact us!**

Of course, being confined at home means that **social media** are pivotal in allowing us to stay in contact with our community and supporting it throughout this difficult time. That is why we joined forces with the network of [EU Smart City Projects](#) and together launched the [#SmartCitiesHelp](#) and [#CityFromMyWindow](#) campaigns. These campaigns have **helped citizens to access the best solutions** offered by cities to cope with the COVID19 emergency and to feel less isolated during the lockdown, respectively.

And these were not our only campaigns, as we also launched **#Flowers4Bees** in collaboration with the EU [EFFECT project](#). #Flowers4Bees was inspired by the **2020 World Bee Day on May 20** and aimed to raise awareness of the importance of bees and pollinators in our environment. Help us protect bees by sharing pictures of flowers on Twitter or on our dedicated [Facebook group!](#)

So, as you can see there is a lot to read about the recent developments of URBAN GreenUP. I hope you will enjoy our collection of stories and that you and your loved ones stay healthy and safe!

Best wishes,

*Raúl Sánchez*

**URBAN GreenUP coordinator**

CARTIF Technology Center



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT



[Need a hand with finding the right green solutions for your city?](#)

We have developed a tool for you!

[.. read more](#)

## OUR NBS STORIES



**Wildfires in Izmir: a green plan for the city, an urban plan for the forests**

After last summer's massive forest fires in Izmir, Turkey, villagers were afraid their environment might be further threatened by urban development. The Municipality launched a reforestation campaign engaging the population.

[.. read more](#)

## NEWS FROM THE PROJECT

### Liverpool

#### A NATURE-BASED LIVERPOOL IS ON THE WAY

The city is renaturing itself, becoming more resilient to climate change and improving citizens' quality of life. A decisive contribution comes from a series of NBS recently installed.



### Valladolid

#### NATURE WILL WELCOME YOU WHEN BUYING FRUITS AND VEGETABLES IN VALLADOLID

An innovative installation based on nature is now covering the canopy of Plaza España in Valladolid.



### Valladolid

#### VALLADOLID SHOWS THE WAY

A paper on the work carried out by the URBAN GreenUP team in Valladolid (Spain) has been published in Renaturing Cities, a publication focused on green urban planning



### **In the first line for more sustainable cities**

How the URBAN GreenUP project played an active role at COP25

[.. read more](#)

## EVENTS

EU  
**GREEN**  
WEEK

An initiative  
of the  European  
Commission



URBAN  
FUTURE  
global  
conference

NbS   
CONFERENCE 2021

## EXTRA



URBAN GreenUP on Euronews



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