

Enabling meaningful engagement of marginalised groups in management of urban Nature Based Solutions

NATURO acts at the nexus of research, practice and policy to create an empirically tested framework that local governments can use to support the wider use of Nature Based Solutions across different user groups.

In NATURO we study how quality of life can be increased for marginalised groups by using the potential of urban nature and integrating them in public management organisations daily work.

When managing urban Nature Based Solutions (NBS), it is crucial to consider the needs of different user groups, but this is sometimes challenging, especially for marginalised groups who might be excluded from meaningful use and related decision-making processes.

Hence, it is important to study and understand the interplay between NBS and their management and use. Our work will develop a strategic framework for capacity building and empowerment of both local government and civil society stakeholders to co-create NBS that enable the inclusion of marginalized groups in long-term management of public urban green spaces.

The NATURO framework will be used, evaluated and refined in real-life settings, in order to serve and strengthen both the social and ecological resilience of urban areas.

We will re-develop existing urban NBS in small-scale, local, co-development interventions – Micro Urban Living Labs (MULLs), which will be established in three European cities and implemented by local governments, followed and evaluated by researchers, social innovators and policymaking experts from three countries.

This will support replication and transferability, thus helping to mitigate inequality in access to NBS across Europe.

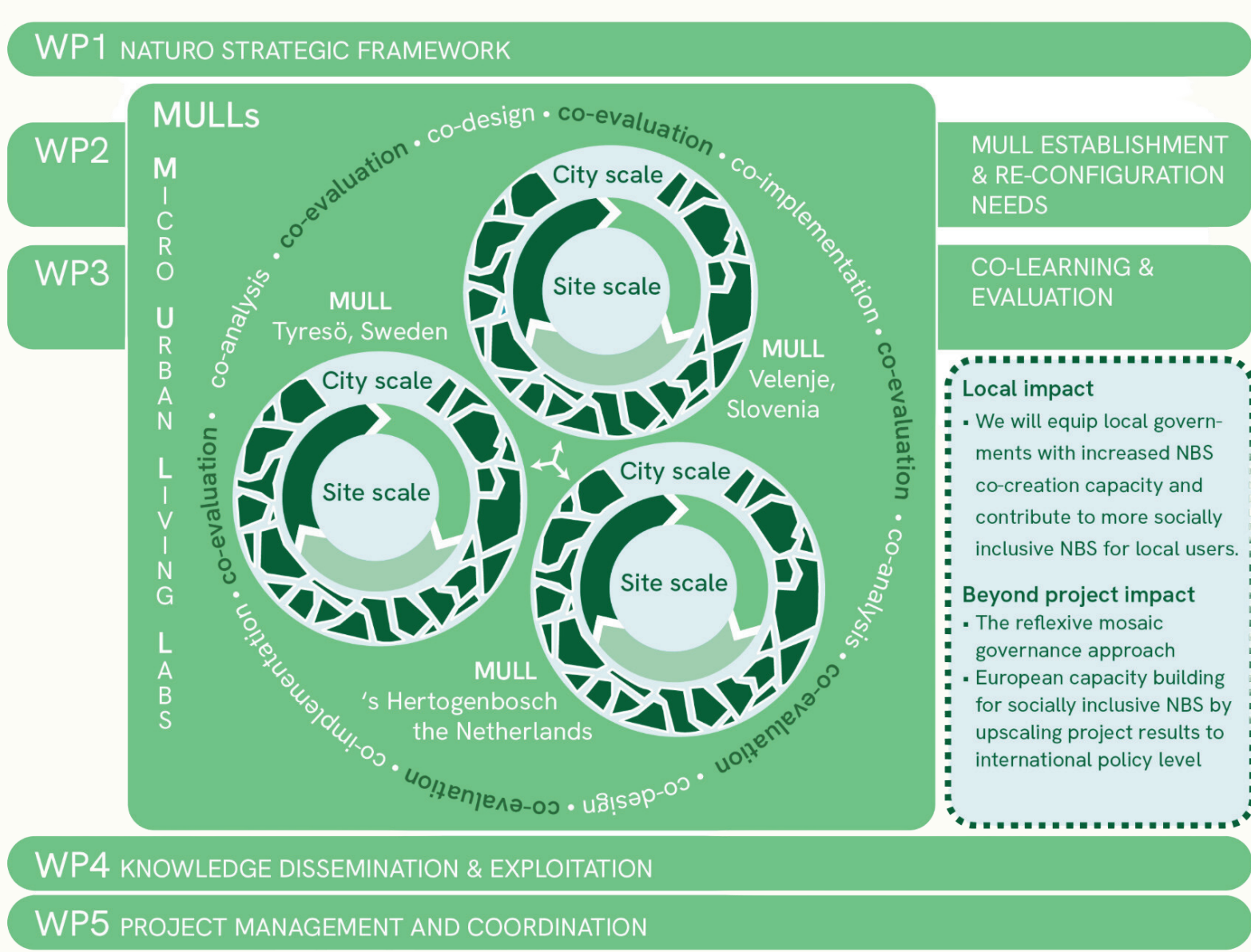
NATURO will establish Micro Urban Living Labs in three cities in Slovenia, the Netherlands and Sweden.

- **CITY OF VELENJE IN SLOVENIA** will focus on green transformations.
- **DEN BOSCH IN THE NETHERLANDS** will involve diverse user groups in the development of a green and climate-adapted city.
- **TYRESÖ IN SWEDEN** will focus on reflexive governance and co-creation of urban green spaces within the municipality.

The implementation of the Micro Urban Living Labs by NATURO aims to foster engagement and collaboration with various local stakeholders across three cities. At the transnational level, knowledge will be co-produced within the consortium through collaborative learning processes and tested through communication activities involving policy actors at different levels, including city, regional, national, and European levels.

The expected outcome is an empirically tested framework that local governments can use in NBS planning and management. This approach emphasizes practical usability and aims to enhance the effectiveness of NBS initiatives at the local level while facilitating cross-border learning and collaboration.

NATURO research partners are: Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (lead partner), Wageningen University (NL) and Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia.
NATURO cities are: City of Velenje in Slovenia, 'S Hertogenbosch in the Netherlands and Tyresö in Sweden. **NATURO knowledge dissemination partners:** Living Cities and Communities and European Urban Knowledge Network.



NATURO workpackages: **WP1** develops a strategic framework for analysis of co-creation processes at city and site levels, employing a reflexive governance approach. **WP2** evaluates current NBS co-creation capacity in each city and establishes MULLs. **WP3** facilitates local and cross-city evaluation and learning. **WP4** leads the dissemination of project results to stakeholders and **WP5** oversees project management and coordination.

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