

Urban Greenery

Making Collaboration
Easier



Acknowledgement

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Table of Content

Cultivating Green Cities Together.....	1
The many types of urban greenery.....	2
Fostering Collaboration.....	3
Collaboration and Mitigation Strategies.....	4
Multi-dimensional Framework.....	7
Towards multi-stakeholder collaboration.....	9
Use examples.....	10

Cultivating Green Cities Together

In cities around the world, urban greenery is increasingly recognized as a vital foundation for sustainable cities. Urban greenery plays more than an aesthetic role, it also helps to create healthier and more resilient cities. Green spaces provide crucial ecosystem services, enhance public health, boost economic vitality, and build social cohesion and sense of belonging. From parks and gardens to green walls and roofs, urban greenery is an essential part of what makes cities healthier and more livable.

Achieving these benefits on a meaningful scale requires coordinated efforts across sectors and disciplines. This booklet aims to help create multi-stakeholder collaborations, showcasing roles and functionality of urban greenery through visual guides. By bringing together knowledge from diverse fields, we can better address complex urban challenges and outline pathways for effective partnerships for public entities, private sector, researchers, communities, and policymakers, fostering collaboration toward greener, healthier, and more connected urban spaces.

The many types of urban greenery

1. **Plazas and Squares:** Public areas with trees and plants.
2. **Parks and Gardens:** Large green spaces with trees, lawns, and recreational areas.
3. **Bioswales:** Landscaped areas that filter stormwater.
4. **Planter Boxes:** Portable plant containers
5. **Green Roofs and Gradens:** Vegetated rooftops that insulate buildings and reduce runoff.
6. **Greenways and Green Corridors:** Linear paths of vegetation.
7. **Pocket Parks:** Small parks in densely built area.
8. **Green Walls:** Vertical gardens on walls.
9. **Street Trees:** Trees planted along streets.
10. **Integrated Greenery:** A mix of green solutions in one location.



Fostering Collaboration

To successfully integrate greenery into the urban environment, it is essential to foster knowledge, align goals, engage communities, and enhance coordination. Enhancing public awareness and establishing regular communication can help stakeholders understand the value of green spaces. Clear, shared objectives and metrics ensure that everyone is working toward common outcomes. Community involvement brings local insight and ownership, while strong cross-departmental collaboration enables effective project implementation, helping to bridge between

several departments and different themes. Together, these strategies create a solid foundation for growing and sustaining vibrant urban greenery.

This visual can be a quick guide to check whether it is possible to implement more collaboration and mitigation strategies between the stakeholders. It can be used to add more partnerships or strengthen and enhance the current ones. These themes can be a jumping-off point that can open more conversation and find solutions faster, decreasing the time from idea to implementation.



Enhancing Knowledge: Building a shared understanding among stakeholders, allowing to make informed and collaborative decisions.



Enhancing Knowledge

1. **Awareness Campaigns:** Launch campaigns to educate the public, businesses, and stakeholders about the benefits of urban greenery.
2. **Demonstration Projects:** Implement pilot projects or demonstration sites to showcase the benefits and feasibility of urban greenery.
3. **Regular Communication Channels:** Establish consistent communication channels like newsletters, forums, and meetings to facilitate information sharing.

Alignment of Goals: Establish shared goals and objectives to ensure all stakeholders are working towards common outcomes.



Goal Alignment

1. **Clarify Benefits:** Conduct cost-benefit analyses to demonstrate the economic, environmental, and social value of urban greenery projects.
2. **Performance and Goal Metrics:** Develop metrics to measure the success of greenery projects and ensure they align with broader municipal objectives.
3. **Adaptability:** Integrate projects of various sizes: Implement smaller projects to raise awareness and demonstrate feasibility, which can lead to larger initiatives.

Effective Coordination: Establish regular communication channels, such as meetings, progress reports, and digital platforms, to ensure ongoing dialogue and coordination.



Effective Coordination

1. **Cross-Departmental Collaboration:** Foster collaboration across different municipal departments to streamline efforts and reduce silos.
2. **Enhancing Technical Capacity:** Build technical expertise within the municipality to support the planning, implementation, and maintenance of greenery projects.
3. **Process Simplification and Automation:** Simplify permitting processes and adopt digital tools to streamline project approvals.

Community Involvement: Engage community groups, local businesses, and non-profits in planning and decision-making processes.



Community Involvement

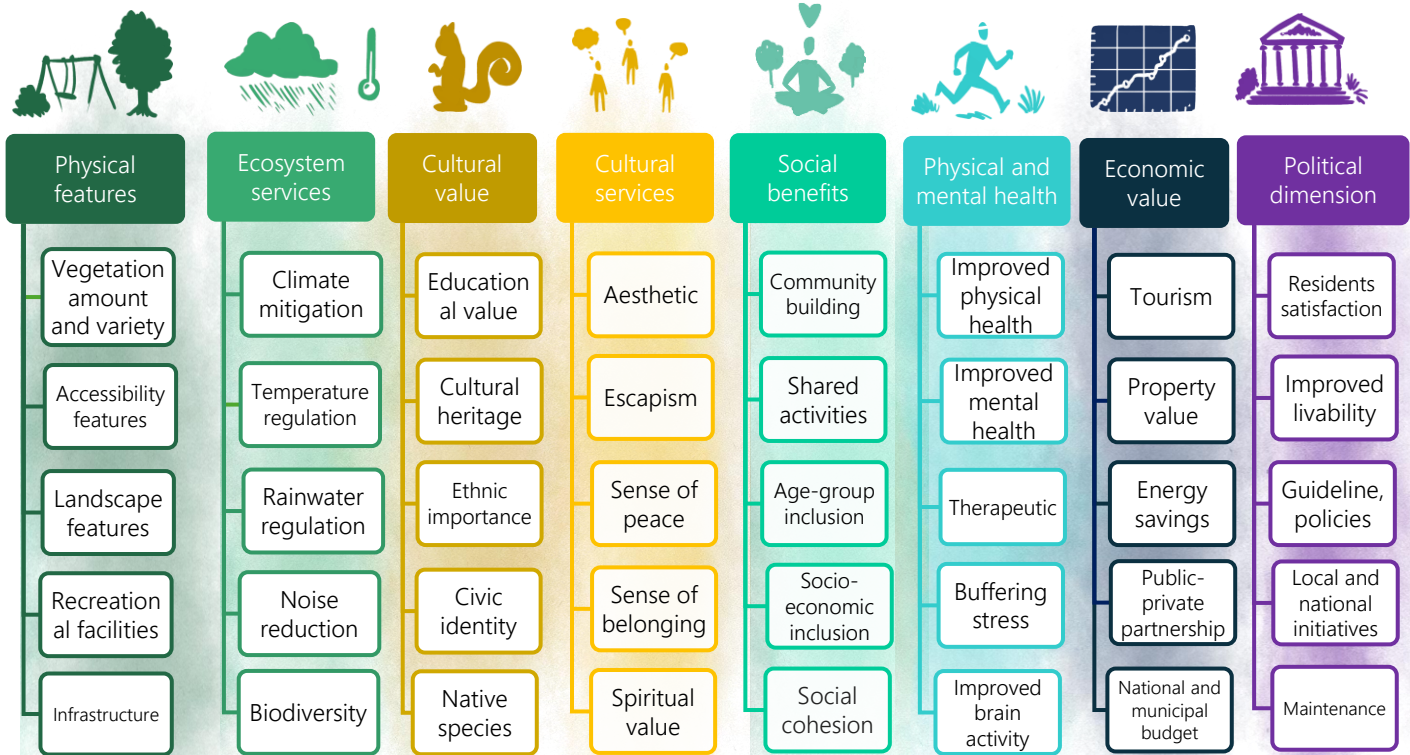
1. **Mapping Local Networks:** Identify and map out local networks, including public-private partnership opportunities and key stakeholders for project implementation.
2. **Departmental Champions:** Identify champions within departments to advocate for greenery initiatives and drive action.
3. **Stakeholder Engagement:** Actively engage stakeholders, including community groups, local businesses, and non-profits, in the planning and decision-making.

Multi-dimensional Framework

The framework is designed to enhance communication and facilitate connections across the diverse fields involved in urban greenery planning, management, and research. By organizing urban greenery into eight core dimensions, the framework provides a comprehensive view of the varied benefits and functions of greenery within urban environments. Each dimension includes representative elements that serve as discussion points and examples, allowing stakeholders to explore, expand upon, and align their perspectives more effectively.

This framework acts as a bridge between sectors like health, urban planning, policy, and community engagement, offering a common language and reference for discussing the multifaceted roles of greenery. Referring to the framework helps stakeholders from various backgrounds to quickly identify shared priorities and understand each other's objectives. By fostering these connections, the framework supports a unified approach to decision-making, ensuring that urban greenery initiatives are multi-functional and socially, environmentally, and economically sustainable.

Multi-dimensional Framework



Towards multi-stakeholder collaboration

The framework covers all main topics and themes and brings them to one table, offering a chance to switch between topics and highlight their connection and relevance to enable:



Knowledge sharing

Increase knowledge transfer for a more collaborative approach not only between scientists but also between government bodies and departments.



Coordinated efforts

Involve more stakeholders and bring clarity to their different roles. Form targets that help to identify priorities when collaborating.



Holistic solutions

Possibility to zoom in on concrete issues while zooming out and seeing the connection to the overall system.



Multidisciplinary

Combining and bridging several disciplines for a harmonised and cohesive approach towards sustainability.

Use examples



Synchronizing Environmental Policy and Resident Satisfaction Initiatives

Example Use: For city policy-makers and environmental departments, the framework can bridge the gap between regulatory needs and public demands by focusing on the Political Dimension and Ecosystem Services. The design of greenery will meet environmental guidelines, like temperature and air goals, while also ensuring that residents have access to well-maintained and enjoyable natural spaces.

Outcome: Policies are developed that not only meet ecological standards but also improve resident satisfaction, aligning political action with community expectations.



Aligning Health and Urban Planning Departments

Example Use: The Health and Urban Planning departments can use the framework to integrate green spaces that improve both physical and mental health outcomes, such as reducing urban heat or creating recreational trails. By jointly assessing the Physical and Mental Health and Ecosystem Services dimensions, they can align goals for developing green corridors that serve as both cooling zones and physical activity spaces.

Outcome: This alignment ensures that new greenery initiatives consider both public health outcomes and sustainable urban design, leading to more resilient, health-promoting neighborhoods.



Facilitating Public-Private Partnerships for Economic Value and Maintenance

Example Use: To encourage investment in urban greenery, the framework can align the interests of municipal agencies with private developers by highlighting Economic Value and Political Dimension. For example, municipalities can offer incentives for green rooftops or vertical gardens in new developments, emphasizing benefits like increased property value, tourism, and improved resident satisfaction.

Outcome: Public-private partnerships emerge where developers contribute to green infrastructure, municipalities support maintenance, and residents gain improved livability, benefiting all parties involved.

