## TeAM HUb – The Hungarian NbS Hub

## NbS for urban biodiversity & stormwater management







## Peaceful coexistence of human & nature in the urban fabric

The 12th district of Budapest is a densely built, hilly, residential area of the capital city, with a strong commitment for sustainable urban development. As a member of the "Bee Path Cities" network, the municipality promotes bee-friendly practices, like wildflower meadows and urban beekeeping. They are also exploring the applicability of green & blue infrastructure to tackle flood risks from extreme precipitation events. TeAM HUb and Budapest

Circle organized an urban walk to showcase current and future NbS sites in the district, demonstrating the importance of thorough planning and stakeholder engagement for successful interventions.

Identifying the ideal site for NbS interventions in a dense urban area with many landowners and complex underground utilities is difficult. By mapping potential locations, designers finally identified a municipalowned property with a front yard designated as a public space. A rain garden will soon be installed here.

Photo: Vanda Nánási



In densely built urban areas green spaces suitable for water retention are scarce. To address this, Budapest's 12th district legally binds developers to create extensive green roofs on buildings with flat roofs, and also leads by example: green roofs have been installed at various municipal buildings, including the Mayor's Office.



Pollinator-friendly wildflower meadows promote urban biodiversity, and at the same time also mitigate urban heatisland effect and combat air pollution. Still, citizens may easily perceive them as neglected areas. Pro-active communication campaigns and community programs are necessary to acquaint residents with the initiative and gain their support.



Photo: Gergely Viz

Photo: Nóra Laki

"An interesting lesson was the importance of social participation and communication,



"There are already useful solutions worldwide that can be adopted and applied here in Hungary as well for managing and utilizing rainwater and protecting our natural resources. To achieve this goal, collective thinking, public awareness, and cooperation are essential lessons."

> "Thorough knowledge of nature, water and the local circumstances, combined with professional knowledge can result in impactful interventions. It is important to maintain communication with the

> > process."

Éva Kovács

Civil engineer,

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.





Funded by

the European Union

Network Nature