



Published on *Ecologic Institute: Science and Policy for a Sustainable World*  
(<https://www.ecologic.eu>)

[Home](#) > Implementing Nature-Based Solutions in Cities - Expert Talk

---

## EVENT

Workshop  
Biodiversity  
Cities  
Climate  
Sustainability

# Implementing Nature-Based Solutions in Cities - Expert Talk



[1]

Engaging citizens, developing comprehensive, cross-sectoral visions and implementing supportive policy instruments are key

On 7 March 2019, Polish and German NBS experts for nature-based solutions (NBS) met at the Ecologic Institute in Berlin for an informal exchange of experience and ideas. The group included engineers, planners, landscape designers, academics, policy specialists, artists, and municipal officers. The participants had a varied experience with implementing NBS - from planning citywide green infrastructure concepts or eco-districts to realising specific solutions together with citizens, such as storm water gardens or the revitalisation of riverbanks. Outcomes from this meeting will be integrated into upcoming "Climate NBS Polska" project activities, including the development of a catalogue of nature-based solutions and an overview of policy instruments, that cities can implement to support NBS implementation.

Nature-based solutions (NBS) can cost-effectively contribute to climate change mitigation through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, while also generating social, economic, and environmental benefits. Despite this potential, however, NBS have not yet been widely implemented in urban areas due to a number of barriers. The "Climate NBS Polska" project, financed through the [European Climate Initiative \(EUKI\)](#), [2] aims to help Polish cities and urban planners to overcome these challenges and increase the understanding, acceptance, and uptake of NBS for urban climate mitigation.

Discussions focused on challenges that the participants have encountered while working with NBS, as well as identifying opportunities and creative solutions to overcome these. Common

obstacles which were raised include:

- i) governance challenges (unclear jurisdictions, unsupportive regulations, tendering issues),
- ii) resource challenges (lack of funding, lack of qualified professionals and know-how, lack of data),
- iii) challenges to innovation (limited acceptance, lack of transdisciplinary thinking, lack of openness to innovation and institutional inertia).

Some solutions, which have been effective in addressing these, include strategies to engage citizens, developing comprehensive, cross-sectoral, and long-term visions for blue and green infrastructure in cities, using physical spaces creatively and implementing supportive policy instruments.

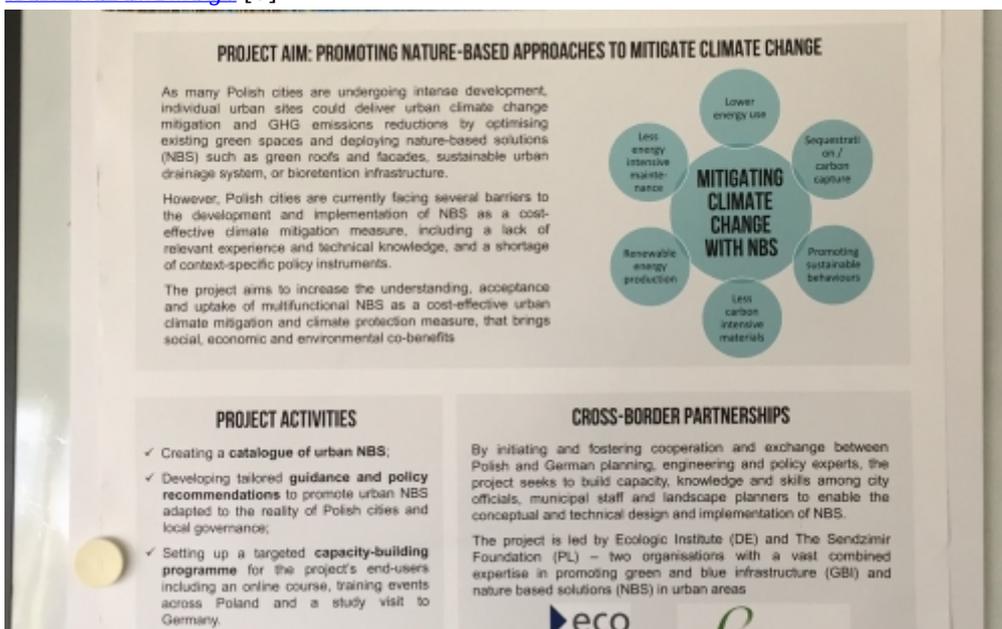
[View the full image \[3\]](#)



[View the full image \[4\]](#)



[View the full image \[5\]](#)



7 March 2019

Berlin

### Ecologic Related Articles

- Climate Mitigation Through Nature-Based-Solutions in Urban Poland - Fostering Awareness and Capacity (ClimateNBS Polska)

---

### Funding

Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU),  
Germany  
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Germany

**Organizer**

Ecologic Institute, Germany

**Partner**

Sendzimir Foundation, Poland

**Team**

Sandra Naumann  
Ewa Iwaszuk  
McKenna Davis  
Galina Rudik

**Date**

7 March 2019

**Location**

Berlin, Germany

**Language**

English

**Project**

Climate Mitigation Through Nature-Based-Solutions in Urban Poland - Fostering  
Awareness and Capacity (ClimateNBS Polska)

**Project ID**

3205

**Keywords**

Nature-based solutions, climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, cities,  
Poland

---

**Source URL (modified on 04/24/2019 - 11:17):** <https://www.ecologic.eu/16402>

**Links**

- [1] [https://www.ecologic.eu/sites/files/event/2019/44c83298-777a-4dd4-a111-70418288fcdf1\\_0.jpg](https://www.ecologic.eu/sites/files/event/2019/44c83298-777a-4dd4-a111-70418288fcdf1_0.jpg)
- [2] <https://www.euki.de/en/>
- [3] [https://www.ecologic.eu/sites/files/event/2019/img\\_5770.jpg](https://www.ecologic.eu/sites/files/event/2019/img_5770.jpg)
- [4] [https://www.ecologic.eu/sites/files/event/2019/img\\_5775.jpg](https://www.ecologic.eu/sites/files/event/2019/img_5775.jpg)
- [5] [https://www.ecologic.eu/sites/files/event/2019/img\\_5771\\_0.jpg](https://www.ecologic.eu/sites/files/event/2019/img_5771_0.jpg)