



Task 6.6 Buddy System Activities - WEBINAR #8 Summary

Monitoring and Evaluation of NBS

Organized by RINA-C

23/11/2021

UNALAB CITIES WEBINAR #8

Monitoring and Evaluation of NBS

The 8th UNaLab Buddy System webinar was organized on 23rd November 2021 as a joint public online event between UNaLab and Connecting Nature projects. It had the aim to increase knowledge between the cities and stakeholders involved in the implementation of NBS and it was dedicated to monitoring and evaluation of nature-based solutions. The impact assessment of the implemented NBS is still considered a challenging topic, due to the lack of scientific data related to measuring the effectiveness of this type of solutions. Therefore, during the event UNaLab Project Coordinator, Laura Wendling, and Adina Claudia Dumitru, Lead Researcher in Connecting Nature project, presented the work carried out in publishing the EU NSB Impact Assessment Handbook. The contributions were outlined through a joint presentation, including a framework for monitoring and evaluation, more than 400 indicators of impact and practical methodologies.

Monitoring and evaluation of NBS – NBS Impact Assessment Handbook

Adina Claudia Dumitru, Ph.D., Director of Specialization Campus in Sustainability Research (University A Coruña, Spain), Lead researcher in Connecting Nature (<https://connectingnature.eu/>)

- Insights on developing a theory of change and translating that to a monitoring and evaluation plan

Laura Wendling, Ph.D, Research Team Leader, NBS (VTT), UNaLab Project Coordinator (<https://unalab.eu/en>)

- The presentation of an integrated NBS assessment framework
- The selection of appropriate assessment indicators and (practical tips for) implementation of M&E plans

During the webinar different topics were deepened thanks to the contributions of the speakers and the fruitful exchange of questions and answers between the participants. The main points of discussion were:

- Key societal challenges addressed by nature-based solutions
- The definition of a causal map indicators and outcome synergies
- Mapping the theory of change for performance assessment
- Recommended and additional indicators to measure NBS performance and impact
- Difference between EU NBS Impact Assessment Handbook's indicators and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) indicators
- Generate a tailored portfolio of indicators