



November highlights

In this issue, we're excited to share highlights from recent events, interviews, and discussions that sparked new ideas and connections, along with some key opportunities and events at the European level happening this month.



Researches that are driving change

Urban innovation: the role of students

In a new article for Baltic Studies Centre, Senior Researcher Tālis Tisenkopfs shared his insights on redefining the role of students as essential contributors to urban innovation. In Riga, students from diverse fields engaged in applied research to devise sustainable partnerships and innovative funding strategies to boost the social impact of the Āgenskalns Market, and the results were impressive.

[Read more](#)

Mr. Beau

Mr. Beau, the touching documentary by Claudia Tosi, continues to be met with widespread acclaim. The film follows the heartwarming journey of a dog and his owner as they navigate the path to better understanding each other. Guided by ethologist Chiara Mariti from the University of Pisa, the documentary delves into the science behind the human-animal bond, focusing on attachment styles and communication in dogs. It underscores the importance of truly listening to our pets, fostering a deeper and more compassionate relationship based on mutual understanding.



Recent events

Here's a look back at some of the key activities and events we've recently participated in.

Empowering communities in Puente Genil

On November 7-8, our Córdoba team and Prof. M^a del Mar Delgado-Serrano hosted a technical conference in Puente Genil on "Promoting Inclusive Health and Well-being through Urban Transformation". Experts and community leaders shared strategies for healthier cities, including Blanca Miedes' 24-year roadmap for Huelva's District 5 and Miguel Luengo's insights on empowering youth through the Design for Change methodology. Group activities fostered networks and encouraged the exchange of replicable ideas.

In addition, our Córdoba team worked closely with residents in the Las Palmeras neighborhood to co-develop ideas for new workshops on topics like nutrition, gender equality, and digital skills. Together, they also explored the importance of mental health and the role of community support.

[Read more](#)





City Pets at Lucca Comics & Games

From October 30 to November 3, 2024, at Lucca Comics & Games, the collaborative card game City Pets, developed by the University of Pisa and Lucca Crea, invited children and families to imagine more pet-friendly cities. Through play and storytelling, participants explored how pets can foster compassion and connection in communities. During the event, we interviewed experts Fabio Viola and Pier Domenico Baccalario, and delved into how gamification and storytelling can shape healthier, more inclusive urban spaces.

[Read more](#)



Funding opportunity

NetworkNature's Open Call 3 offers funding of up to €20,000 for nature-based solutions (NbS) projects, including events, campaigns, tools, and more. If you're part of an EU NbS project but not yet a member, you can still apply by joining a Task Force. Submit your application by January 15th, 2025, and don't hesitate to reach out if you need assistance.

[Send application](#)

The Bridge for Billions calls are still open

All business ideas promoting culture, ecology, well-being, or inclusion can join our incubation program to receive free mentorship, educational tools, and networking opportunities to help transform Spanish cities into more inclusive places.

[More info](#)

Upcoming events

Some events and opportunities that may interest you:

11-22 Nov - Azerbaijan: UNFCCC COP29

The Government of Azerbaijan will host the 29th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP 29), aiming to build on past achievements and set the stage for greater future efforts to address the global challenge of climate change.

[Read more](#)

12 Nov - Brussels: Report Launch - Public Innovation in Europe's City Governments

Eurocities and LSE Cities will launch a major new report, Public Innovation: Building Capacity in Europe's Cities, at the European Parliament in Brussels. Hosted by MEP Pierfrancesco Maran, the event will explore how European cities are embedding innovation in their governance, with insights from a Eurocities Pulse Survey of 65 cities. The report will discuss what's working, lessons learned, and where cities need more support.

[Read more](#)

18-22 Nov - Wageningen, The Netherlands: 5th ESP Europe Conference

The European Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) hosts its 5th European conference, focusing on the intersection of ecosystem services and the global health agenda. The conference will address the critical question of how the ecosystem services concept can promote the global vision of One Health, emphasizing the interdependence between human, animal, plant, ecosystem, and environmental health. Many sessions will delve into various aspects of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS).

[Read more](#)

20-21 Nov 2024 - Helsinki: SLUSH

Slush offers advanced matchmaking, top-tier speakers, and the world's largest gathering of venture capitalists. This event is ideal for anyone looking for investors, growth opportunities, or private contacts for business expansion—and it also opens doors for valuable networking.

[Read more](#)

26-27 Nov 2024 - Lisbon: HUB-IN International Conference

The HUB-IN International Conference focuses on Innovation and Cultural Heritage in Cities. This event will explore how innovation hubs are driving economic revitalization, tackling climate challenges, preserving cultural heritage, and enhancing social inclusion across urban landscapes.

[Read more](#)

26-28 Nov 2024 - UK, Various Locations: Communicate 2024

Communicate 2024, the UK's leading annual conference for environmental communicators will bring together experts to develop their skills, share best practices, and engage in debates on pressing issues in science communication, nature conservation, and public engagement with the natural world.

[Read more](#)



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