



# Stakeholder involvement as a pre-condition to success



*Green Infrastructure - European Success Story*  
*5th May 2015, Brussels*

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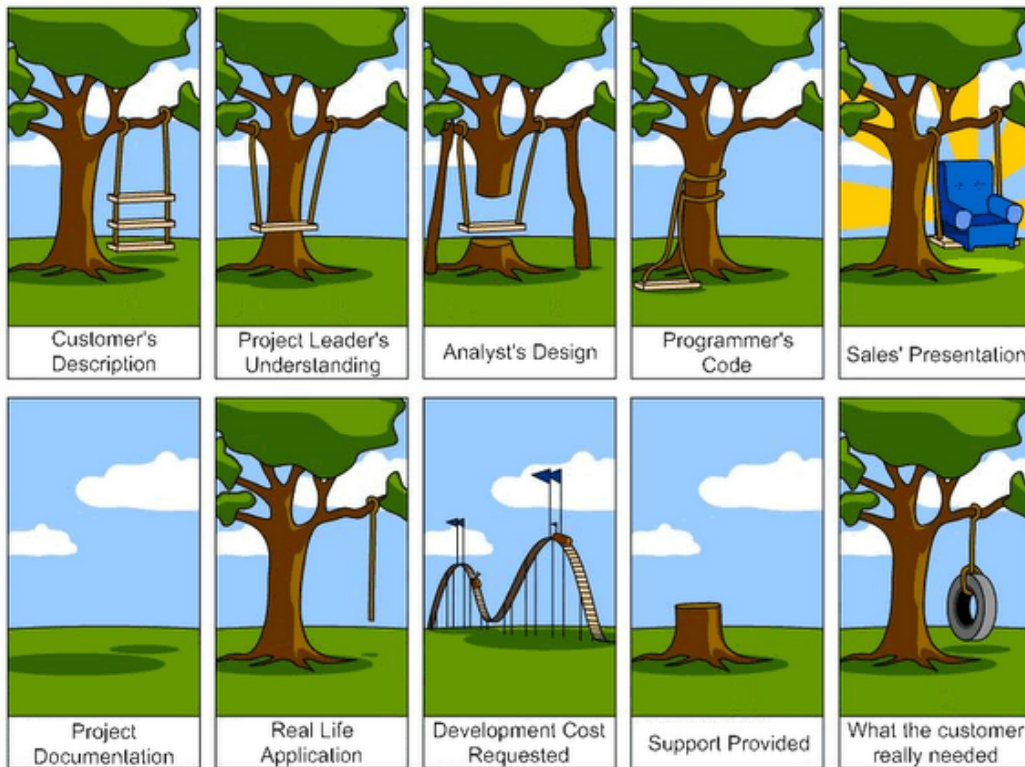
# CEEweb for Biodiversity

- 65 Member Organizations
- 20 countries in CEE
- Based in Budapest
- Has been active in biodiversity policy for 20
- Focuses on EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020 Target 2
- Co-leads EHF WG on Target 2





## How did we start off on Green Infrastructure?



1. We took time to understand the concept



# How did we start off on Green Infrastructure?

## 2. We joined our forces





## How did we start off on Green Infrastructure?



3. We took time  
to explain the  
concept





## How did we start off on Green Infrastructure?



- NGOs
- Local Authorities
- Landscape Architects
- Citizens
- Researchers



- Businesses
- Member States
- Site managers
- Landowners



- Farmers
- Water management bodies



## How did we start off on Green Infrastructure?

4. We provided stakeholders with incentives



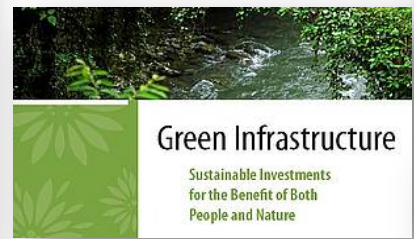
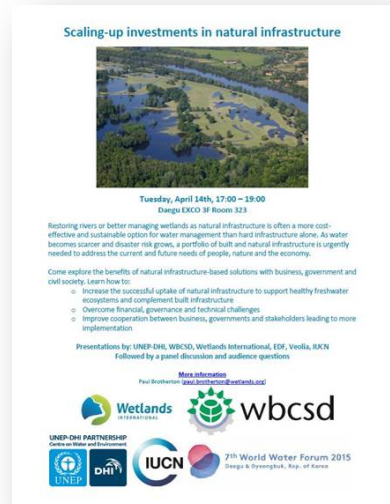


# How did we start off on Green Infrastructure?

## 5. We mainstreamed the concept



**GREEN GO**  
SHORT FILM CONTEST



**The European Green Belt Initiative - 10 years of challenges, experiences and achievements**

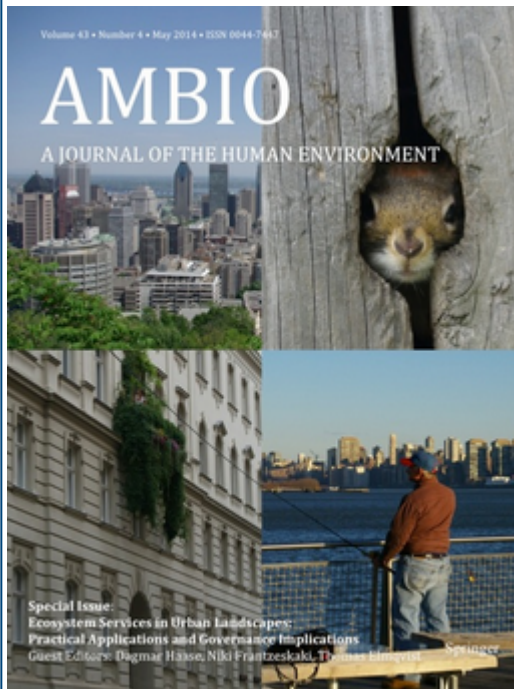






# What did we achieve?

- Scientific work



## Assessing Green Infrastructure Elements in the Visegrad Countries

*Analysing Green Infrastructure elements and connectivity at national level in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia*



CEEweb, 2014



### Urban agriculture: landscapes connecting people, food and biodiversity

Food is not only essential to our health and wellbeing, but it also often plays a pivotal role in the social connections and cultural traditions that help define both our communities and sense of self. In order to maintain the variety we want and need from our crops and livestock, and thus our food system, biodiversity is of fundamental importance. It is also the foundation of the ecosystem services that are essential to sustain agriculture and human wellbeing.

With increasing urbanization, current agricultural practices are often challenged to provide sufficient locally farmed food to food growing cities, resulting in over-fertilized and globalized food production. This often leaves growers and consumers of food separated by great distances, both physically and ideologically, and comes at a huge environmental cost. Farming and gardening in the city are effective ways of supporting wellbeing by reconnecting people with nature, supporting biodiversity, enhancing ecosystem services, and increasing food security and the resilience of cities.

This handbook will explain the importance of urban agriculture: the ecosystem services that urban agriculture provides for human wellbeing, food security and urban resilience; and the need for integrated planning across sectors to ensure that the ecosystem services that urban agriculture provides can proliferate.

Urban Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services



## Green Infrastructure

Sustainable Investments  
for the Benefit of Both  
People and Nature





# What did we achieve?

- Stakeholder involvement and cooperation





# What did we achieve?

- Projects on the field

Global Peatland Restoration  
demonstrating **success**



UK Peatland Restoration  
demonstrating **success**




MICHAEL  
OTTO  
STIFTUNG



Estonia



Slovakia



Romania



## How to move on? Some messages from NGOs

- Understanding the concept of Green Infrastructure - and its multi functionality is key
- Cooperation is a must!
- It is good to talk about Green Infrastructure among us - but the target should be other major groups (investment, infrastructure, health, agriculture, economics, etc.)
- Showing benefits - financial opportunities, social commitment, good examples and champions - will move things faster
- Mainstreaming the concept in an easily digestible way can help involvement
- Target stakeholders group, who are difficult to reach
- Commitment of European Commission and the Member States are essential



Thank you for your attention!



For more information:

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<http://www.ceeweb.org/work-areas/priority-areas/green-infrastructure/>