CLEARING HOUSE

Collaborative Learning in Research, Information-sharing and Governance on How Urban forests as nature-based solutions support Sino-European urban futures

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And more than 60 scientists and city partners active in the consortium

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BMEL, 18/09/2019

Urban forests as nature based solutions - the evolution of ideas

1. Urban forests have ever been a critical provider of manifold ecosystem services to urban societies

2. There are distinct urban forest governancen, management and conservation strategies for urban forests that are at the interface of a changing ecosystem and evolving societal demands

3. Increasing our understanding of different management approaches across countries and continents is imperative to facilitate mutual learning and better urban forestry strategies in the future

Credit: iTreetools.org

Global/Climate change

Societal perceptions & demands

Institutional & economic drivers

Design & plan

Deploy

Monitor

Govern & manage

Urban forest as nature-based solutions

Ecosystem services
e.g. improving air quality, water regulation, recreation, moderating the urban heat island effect

Restored and reconnected urban ecosystems

Human well-being e.g related to public health, liveability, social inclusion	Biodiversity benefits
Sustainable urban development	

Urban Forests as nature-based solutions – concept
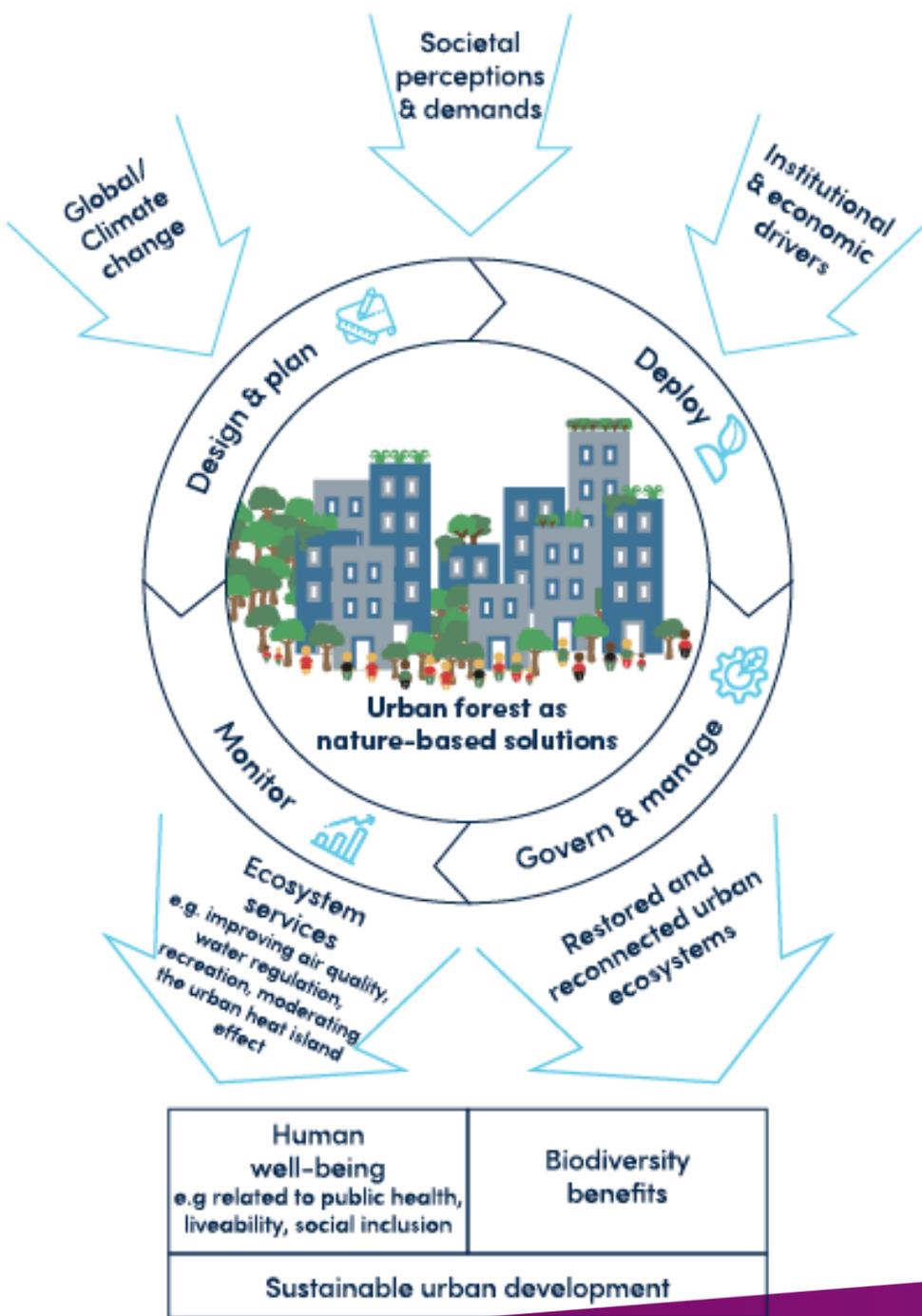
- Nature-based solutions: "solutions that are inspired and supported by nature, which are cost-effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience.

Urban forests and forestry are a perfect example for such a "solution" with big potential…

→Starting point for the "Clearing House" EU-China project!

CLEARING HOUSE (CH)

- **C**ollaborative **Lea**rning in **R**esearch, **In**formation-sharing and **G**overnance on **Ho**w **U**rban forests as nature-based solutions support **S**ino-**E**uropean urban futures

I WOULD START WITH THE NAME AND PARTNERS HERE; THEN IN THE END OF THE TALK FINANCIAL INFORMATION WITH THE MESSAGE TO THE CHINESE → MAKE ONE SLIDE WITH THE ACRONYM AND PARTNERS; THEN OBJECTIVES, THEN OTHER INFORMATION IN THE END

- H2020 – SC5-13-2018

- 42 1st stage proposals – 11 allowed to 2nd change – 2 funded (incl. CH) – 1 on the reserve list

- Budget (48 months, September 2019 – August 2022)
  - **Estimated Project Cost:**€7,730,493.75
  - **Estimated Project Cost in EU:** 5,029,093.75 €
  - **EU contribution:** €4,986,468.75
  - **Chinese co-funding** (for Chinese partners only): 1,505,411€ (from Chinese partners' core funding)

Partners

1	**European Forest Institute (EFI)**	15	Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University (FAFU)
2	**Research institute of Forestry - Chinese Academy of Forestry (CAF-RIF)**	16	Guangzhou Institute of Forestry and Landscape Architecture (GZIFLA)
3	Fundacja Sendzimira (TSF)	17	Zhejiang University (ZJU)
4	MD2 LLP (MD2)	18	Shenzhen Fairy Lake Botanical Garden (SZFLBG)
5	Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB)	19	Area Metropolitana de Barcelona (AMB)
6	Humboldt-Universitaet zu Berlin (HUB)	20	Urzad Miasta Krakowa (UMKrakowa)
7	Centro de Investigacion Ecologica Y Aplicaciones Forestales Consorcio (CREAF)	21	Institut Bruxellois pour la Gestion de l'Environnement - Brussels Instituut Voor Milieubeheer (IBGE)
8	Uniwersytet Lodzki (UniLodzki)	22	BOS+ Vlaanderen vzw (BOS+)
9	LGI Consulting SARL (LGI)	23	Vlaams-Brabant (Vlaams-Brabant)
10	Universita degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro (UNIBA)	24	The University of Hong Kong (HKU)
11	Luonnonvarakeskus (LUKE)	25	Stadt Gelsenkirchen (Gelsenkirchen)
12	Universitaet Fuer Bodenkultur Wien (BOKU)	26	Association mondiale des grandes métropoles, Metropolis (Metropolis)
13	Hrvatski Sumarski Institut (CFRI)	27	International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
14	Beijing Forestry University (BFU)		

Partners

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● **Project Partners**

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26 International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Case Study Cities/City Regions
● beneficiary
● non-beneficiary
18 Brussels*
19 Krakow*
20 Barcelona*
24 Gelsenkirchen
27 Leipzig-Halle
28 Beijing
29 Hong Kong*-Ghuangzhou-Shenzhen
30 Hangzhou
31 Huaibei
32 Xiamen

*Covenant of Mayors signatory

Clearing House Objectives

We will **analyse & develop the potential of UF-NBS for enhancing the resilience of cities** facing major ecological, socio-economic, and human wellbeing challenges:

- Analyse current frameworks, **public perceptions and demand** towards UF-NBS (WP1)

- Evaluate **impacts on urban societies**, including aspects of socio-environmental justice and gender, cost-effectiveness and replicability for diverse contexts (WP2)

- Facilitate a **collaborative learning process** on UF-NBS, connecting practitioners, businesses, policymakers and scientists (WP3)

- Develop **decision support tools** and **guidelines** for cost-effectively expanding, governing and managing UF-NBS (WP4)

- Increase **awareness** on the benefits of UF-NBS and **disseminate** it among governments, businesses, civil society and academia (WP5)

Methods and activities

- Mapping how urban forests are used/managed as NBS

- Surveying societal perceptions and demands towards UF-NBS in Europe and China MENTION THAT THIS IS BIG DATA ON SOCIETAL PERCEPTIONS

- Analyzing the respective policy frameworks in Europe and China

- Comparative case study analysis in five pairing cities/city cluster between China & Europe

- Experiment with elements of citizen science, co-design and co-learning with citizens, stakeholders and decision makers in Europe and China

- Developing use-friendly UF-NBS tools (e.g. guidelines for target key users)

CLEARING HOUSE Case studies in EU and CN
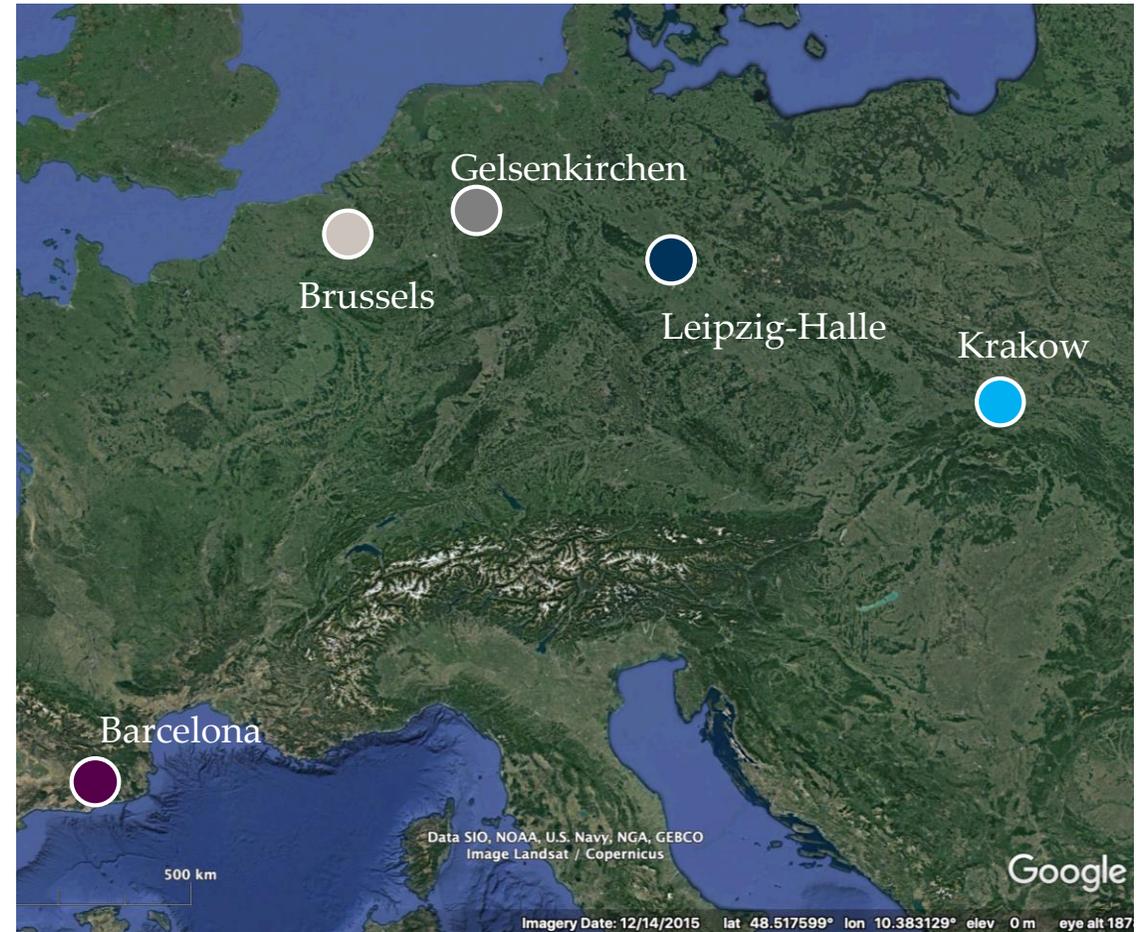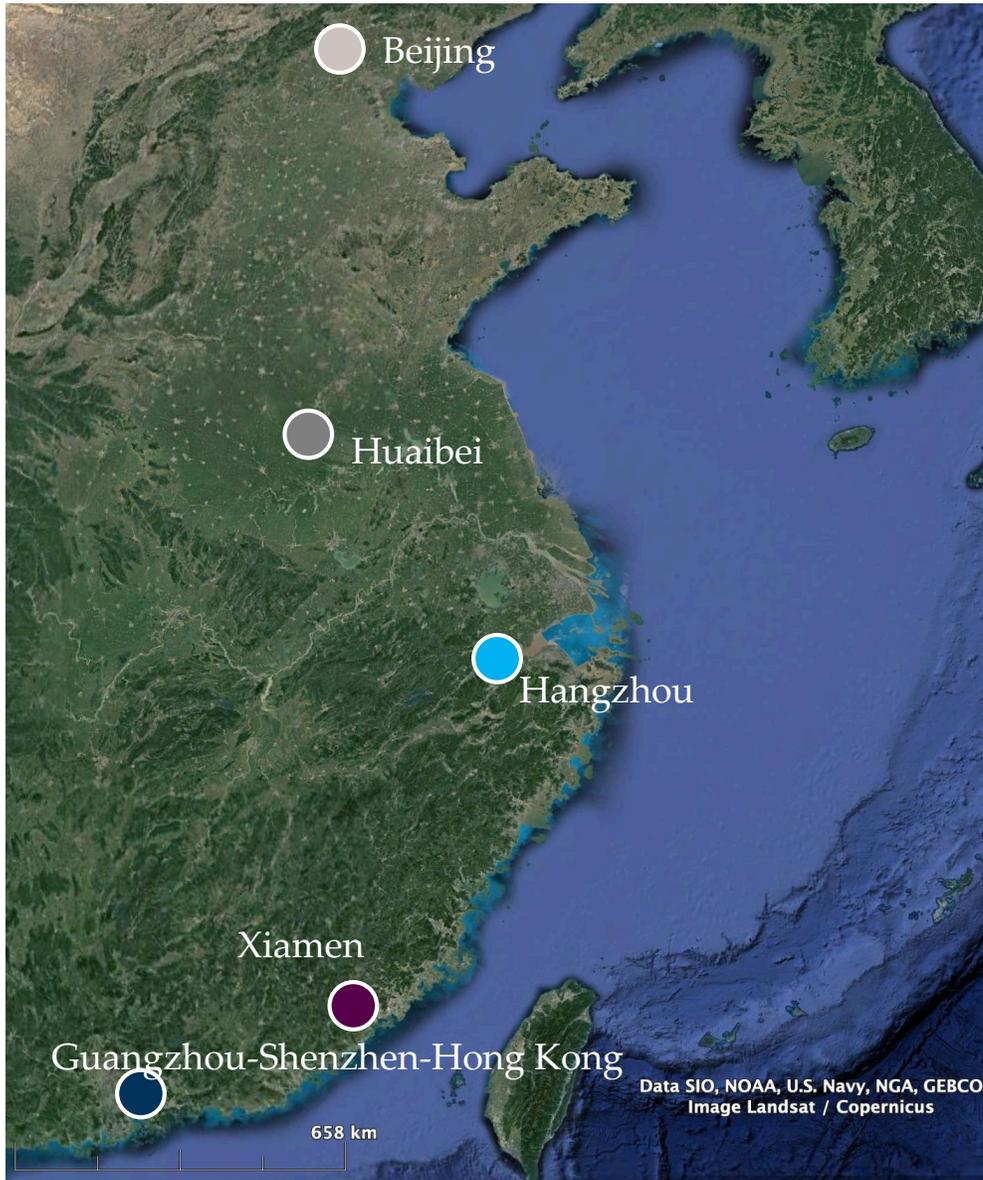
EUROPE		CHINA	
	Brussels	Beijing	
	Leipzig-Halle	Guangzhou+Shenzhen	
	Krakow	Hangzhou	
	Gelsenkirchen	Huaibei	
	Barcelona	Xiamen	

Inner-city afforestation

Urban-rural linkages

Air purification

Heat wave mitigation

Outdoor recreation

River catchment restoration

Increasing attracativeness & aesthetics

Restoring former industrial sites

Urban regeneration

Main events

CLEARING HOUSE will contribute to

- Chinese Forum on Urban Forestry (annual meetings)

- World Forum on Urban Forestry (China, autumn 2022)

- European Forum on Urban Forestry (yearly in May)

Thanks
!谢谢!