

27 May 2025

Barcelona



Global Event in Catalonia LIFE GreenAdapt Workshop

From Waste to Resource: Bridging Circular Economy and Ecosystem-Based Approaches for Climate-Resilient Infrastructure



With the contribution of the LIFE Programme of the European Union under grant agreement No LIFE20 CCA/ES/001795



The Global Event in Catalonia by LIFE GreenAdapt Project “From Waste to Resource: Bridging Circular Economy and Ecosystem-Based Approaches for Climate-Resilient Infrastructure” will be held on 27 May 2025 at the Casa Batlló Gaudí Barcelona. Organized by the GreenAdapt Project, funded by LIFE Programme of the European Union, this important event will bring together a diverse group of invited stakeholders and pre-selected projects for networking and synergies that will help enrich the methodology and infrastructures developed by the project.

LIFE GREEN ADAPT aims to **enhance the resilience of EU waste infrastructures to climate change impacts**. The project will demonstrate the potential of blue-green infrastructures (BGI) and ecosystem-based approaches to manage flash flooding and runoff from heavy rainfall, as well as to prevent fires and explosions resulting from droughts and extreme heatwaves. The initiative integrates five complementary technologies, designed to collectively strengthen infrastructure resilience. Together, they form a systematic strategy for adapting waste infrastructures to climate change, while also contributing to pollution reduction through landfill leachate bioremediation, boosting local biodiversity via the creation of constructed wetlands, cutting carbon emissions through the deployment of BGI solutions, and promoting the transition to a circular economy.

The project anticipates a range of significant outcomes and impacts. Notably, **bio-technosoils—produced from landfill waste**—will be used to stabilize and rehabilitate degraded soils, enhancing their structure and regulating nutrient availability to improve overall soil quality. **New innovative treatment wetlands (TW)** will be engineered to treat polluted landfill leachate and runoff, achieving up to a 95% reduction in heavy metals and a 99% reduction in ammonium and BOD₅ compounds. Finally, an **industrial-scale demonstration site** will validate the effectiveness of the BGI and ecosystem-based approaches, providing concrete evidence of their performance and scalability.

Global Event Structure

The Global Event will focus on four main topics:

Topic 1: Transforming Waste Systems for Resilience –

Key focus: Rethinking landfills, solid waste management, and industrial by-products through circular economy principles to reduce climate vulnerability.

Topic 2: The Waste–Water–Ecosystem Nexus. NbS for Infrastructure Design –

Key focus: Embedding natural processes into the built environment to buffer against floods, heat, drought. Synergies between wastewater reuse, organic waste valorization, and ecosystem restoration. Co-benefits. Maintenance, governance, and scaling.

Topic 3: Inclusive Governance and Community Engagement –

Key focus: Ensuring that circular and nature-based strategies are participatory, equitable, and rooted in local knowledge.

Topic 4: Financing and Policy Innovation for Regenerative Infrastructure –

Key focus: Unlocking enabling environments for circular and nature-based infrastructure transitions. Green finance, blended finance, climate funds. Circular economy policies linked to adaptation strategies. Procurement, standards, and incentives.

General Programme - May 27 - 11:00 – 17:00

11:00 – 13:00 (Sala Gran)

Welcome and Introduction:

-**Institutional Welcome by Casa Batlló** and Video Presentation.

-Presentation of the meeting's objective and Brief introduction round (name, organization, role in the sector).

GreenAdapt Project Presentation and Identification of key synergies and common challenges on main 4 topics

Thematic Discussion and Collaboration Opportunities. Roundtable discussion. Working Groups and Action Definition: Breakout groups based on thematic interests.

13:00 – 15:00

Working Lunch: Closing and Next Steps: Summary of conclusions and agreements; Definition of follow-up actions and upcoming meetings; Closing remarks and farewell.

27 May 2025

Barcelona



Global Event in Catalonia LIFE GreenAdapt Workshop

From Waste to Resource: Bridging Circular Economy and Ecosystem-Based Approaches for Climate-Resilient Infrastructure



With the contribution of the LIFE Programme of the European Union under grant agreement No LIFE20 CCA/ES/001795



15:00 – 17:00 (Sala Consell)

Networking with pre-selected projects and invited stakeholders:

Welcome and Introduction:

-Institutional Welcome by Casa Batlló and Video Presentation

-Presentation of the Networking Session. Jordi Morató, UPC.

GreenAdapt Project Presentation. Luz Herrero Castilla, AIMEN.

The Pilot Grants Program, carried out within the framework of the Global Center for Climate Change, Water, Energy, Food, and Health: A Case Study of Jordan. Konstantinos Pappas, Texas A&M University. Energy Institute.

Experience with climate change projects at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Alex Pires, Programme Management Officer.

UNESCO Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme. José Luis Martín Bordes, International Water Expert.

Climate adaptation and resilience demonstrated in the Mediterranean region (CARDIMED Project). Tadej Stepisnik, National Technical University of Athens.

Empowering women associations as drivers for agro-ecological transformation to generate income for Mountain farming communities (MOUNTAINHER Project). Rachid Mrabet, INRA, Morocco.

Ensuring fair WEF Nexus transition for climate change adaptation and sustainable development based on coupled nature-based systems and bioeconomy (SURENEXUS Project). Jordi Morató, UPC.

NaBa Nature-based resilient cities. ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability. Sergio Aranguren. Technical Coordinator ICLEI, Colombia.

ECOSITES implementation for industrial-urban symbiosis through social and technological solutions Project. Emma Perez, Project Manager AITEX.

Debate Session and Synergies between Projects, Key Stakeholders and GREENADAPT Consortium.

Questions and Comments.

Closing of the Global Event

17:15

Visit Casa Batlló (Courtesy of Casa Batlló).