

19 – 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016, Turin Town Hall office, Via Corte d'Appello 16

Object: **WGs Meeting Minutes**

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Object: **Meeting Minutes WG1**

Chairman: Roeland Samson

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### **WG1: Environmental services of GI and UF and implications of climate change**

During the Turin meeting four WG-specific sessions were foreseen, one on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>, and three on Wednesday April 20<sup>th</sup>.

As this was the last real WG1 meeting the session started with giving an overview on the evolution (of the activities) of WG1 and the realized and planned outputs. Attention was given to the remaining possibilities for short term scientific missions during this last year.

It was decided to dedicate most of the time to our WG1-contribution to the planned GreenInUrbs book, because of the close and strict deadline of the book, but also because these efforts are closely related and beneficial to the WG1 thematic papers which are in progress.

The first session was organized as a common workshop during which everybody was asked to schematize the whole environmental ecosystem services (EES) concept in one diagram. From all these proposals a draft concept for a diagram will be distilled that will be used for the introduction of the WG1 book chapter.

A large part of the sessions on Wednesday were dedicated to the construction of the table of the most common European urban tree species we want to include in the book chapter, and which – as dataset – is also one of the foreseen outcomes of GreenInUrbs. Especially, we discussed in detail the essential information which needs to be included in this table as indicators of the considered EES. An important aim is to make the table on one hand as complete as possible, but on the other hand also condensed, so that it can be easily included in the book.

Besides the lively 'table discussion' people split up to work further on specific WG1 book sub-chapters while in parallel the selection of the species which will be considered in the table was discussed, and the process of the selection of these species was agreed upon.

Finally clear agreements were made on the timing and the process of species and EES-indicator selection. Contributors were reminded on the strict timing on which contributions are expected, as the aim is to present the book on the GreenInUrbs closing symposium in Orvieto. Moreover, clear guidelines were given on what is expected from the text in regard to style and length. All this info was also communicated by e-mail to the leading authors of the various sub-chapters.

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**Object: Meeting Minutes WG2**

Chairman: Liz O'Brian

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Three of the four task groups (TG) within Working Group 2 continued with the key tasks of developing and drafting book chapters for the Cost Action book.

These chapters are:

1. Social and environmental justice: diversity in access to and benefits from GI - examples from Europe
2. Recreational uses and perceptions of Urban Green Infrastructure: the tourists' perspective
3. Avoid disappointment: learning from mishaps when planning and implementing green infrastructure projects

Those attending Turin from TG1 worked with members of TG2 on the book chapter focused on social and environmental justice in access to and benefits from GI. Two people attended from TG3 and they carried on working on the chapter on the role of GI in tourism. One member of TG4 was present and again worked on the book chapter focused on good practice going awry to provide more examples that would be useful for a stand alone book chapter.

Discussions held by all of the TGs were very helpful in shaping the structure and content of the 3 book chapters that WG2 are working on.

WG2 also held a plenary session to discuss the potential for future collaboration. One member is considering an STSM to another members institute, we talked about the papers we are working on. Taking note of funding opportunities was discussed with a call from Biodiverse on urban nature being mentioned. There was some interest on bringing together meta data to look more explicitly at access to nature across different countries. WG2 agreed to consider future collaboration and keep in touch via email if a member wanted to explore a specific opportunity.

Since the meeting the leader of WG2 has emailed all members to thank them for their participant in the meeting in Turin (if they were there), remind them of the deadlines for the book chapter, remind them to think about opportunities for STSM's and raise awareness of the training school to be held in Germany in October 2016.

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**Object: Meeting Minutes WG3**

Chairman: Natalie Marie Gulsrud

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The meeting was extremely fruitful in terms of making progress on the deliverables from the four task groups in WG3. The afternoon of the 19<sup>th</sup> we gathered as a group to exchange progress reports on our various group tasks and deliverables. An interesting academic discussion followed regarding theories and methodologies used by task group 1 when assessing a term such as the urban forest buffer. Another interesting discussion came about regarding the pros and cons of various urban tree valuation tools and their accessibilities to a variety of actors in UF governance processes. These dynamic conversations assisted us in laying out tasks for the next day's work, agreeing on expectations for the meeting outputs and delegating specific jobs to every group member in attendance. Task group 1 only had one active member in attendance so it was decided that he would collaborate with task group 2 which had completed their book chapter and academic article outputs prior to the meeting. Task groups 3 and 4 decided to work on their academic papers and book chapter.

Day two was eventful in that task groups 3 and 4 both experienced "ah ha" moments in their work flows with task group 3 making significant progress on their academic article and task group 4 achieving a break through with the content of their book chapter. The collaborative task group consisting of members from task groups 1 and 2 had a rich conversation regarding urban forestry governance processes in action. They outlined several relevant cases illustrating various types of UF governance in an urban green infrastructure context. This conversation drew heavily on the workshop from the 18<sup>th</sup> where practitioners from across Europe were able to share their UGI and UF governance stories.

In conclusion the following results were achieved:

- Task group 1: decision made to work further with the survey results from the NFI Europe survey. An application for further networking money in being put together and will couple with the EU Diablo project. Expected output: 1-2 peer-reviewed journal articles.
- Task group 2: Contributed to a collaborative discussion drawing on the role of partnerships in UF governance.

- Task group 3: Worked actively on an article focused on an evaluation of the European Green Capital Award. Expected output: article will be submitted in June, 2016 to a peer reviewed journal.
- Task group 4: Worked actively on two academic articles and one book chapter for the Cost book. Expected output: two peer-reviewed articles and one book chapter.