

Strategic Commitment

Stad Brugge

B R U
G G E

June 2022 | The city of Bruges is a partner in the INTERREG Nature Smart Cities project. On behalf of the city of Bruges I, the undersigned, hereby commit to the INTERREG Nature Smart Cities ambitions and targets, to respond to the challenge of climate change and overall biodiversity loss and improve the quality of the city environment for our citizens and visitors.

1. We are committed to these specific steps towards this objective:

The city of Bruges has a climate adaptation plan. In this plan, the following targets are aimed for:

- By 2050, of all the new urban development projects under the management of the city: 95% of the the rainwater falling onto these buildings and pavements has to be infiltrated (action 1.8 climate adaptation plan for city center, actie 1.8. and 3.6. climate adaptation plan for other city districts).
- Every year, the run-off water of at least 75.000 m² roads and parkings will be infiltrated. So, by 2050 the run-off water of 2,9 million m² roads and parking will be infiltrated (action 4.9. climate adaptation plan for city center and action 3.1. climate adaptation plan for other city districts)
- The realization of 20,000 m² of additional greenery in residential areas by 2024 (action 4.11. and 4.12. climate adaptationplan for the city center, action 3.2 climate adaptation plan for other city districts).
- At least 100 tree and plant areas will be made make self-sufficient (no longer needing watering) per year (action 3.3 climate adaptation plan for other city districts).
- To realize at least 20,000 m² green-blue roofs on city buildings by 2030 (action 4.3. climate adaptation plan for city center, action 3.5 for other city districts).
- Significantly reducing the pavements and changing it into green area in at least 7 schools-playgrounds by 2024 (action 4.17 climate adaptationplan for city center, action 3.9 climate adaptation plan for other city districts).
- Creating at least 10 ha wetland by 2027 (action 3.13 climate adaptation plan for other city districts).

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A green infrastructure strategy will be part of the Bruges space policy plan (Beleidsplan Ruimte Brugge), which is in preparation. The climate action plan provides in the integration of its actions in the Bruges space policy plan. Also a tree strategy is in preparation. The city will engage new targets in these plans.

2. We will use the NSCiti2S Business Model, wherever appropriate, to increase the amount and quality of green infrastructure, of all types and for all purposes, in our urban area between now and 2050.
3. We will participate in a network of Nature Smart Cities and other municipalities, sharing our own experience, and exchanging information, supporting each other, and promoting cross-boundary collaboration.

Sincerely yours,

Minou ESQUENET, Chairman Climate

Mercedes VAN VOLCEM, Chairman Public Domain

Dirk DE FAUW, Mayor City of Bruges