



Turin Mirafiori Sud © City of Turin

# Mid-term conference (on-line)

23 September 2020

21-22 April 2021

Report on Deliverable 6.8

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## Document revision history

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1			
2			
3			

## Partner organisations

No.	Name	Short name	Country
1	City of Torino	COTO	Italy
2	RWTH Aachen University	RWTH	Germany
3			
4			

## Abbreviations

Dx.x	Deliverable
EU	European Union
FRC	Front-Runner Cities

FC	Follower Cities
GA	Grant Agreement
GI	Green Infrastructure
LL	Living Lab
NBS	nature-based Solution
proGlgreg	productive Green Infrastructure for post-industrial urban regeneration
WP	Work Package

## Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of the Mid-term Conference activities, marking the first two years of the EU Horizon 2020 project proGlgreg. The conference was meant to showcase project progress to the project partners, EU sister projects and the general public.

Planned for September 2020 to be hosted by the City of Turin, the Mid-term Conference intended to offer a forum to show and discuss project progress and visit the NBS implementations in the Turin Living Lab, exchange approaches and NBS tested in the LL in the FRC, and to update the project's working progress in relation to the replication and information needs of the global proGlgreg network.

In the light of the corona pandemic and necessary physical distancing rules, the event was postponed to 21st and 22nd of April 2021, but could also not be held as physical events at both dates. As replacements, the mid-term conference took place in two different online formats in September 2020 and April 2021.

### **23 September 2020 – Online mid-term conference**

The coordinator RWTH organised an online conference intended as a public project-update meeting replacing the most important indoor presentation and discussion parts of the cancelled 3-day conference in Turin, 22.9. – 25.9.2020.

Key topics included updating proGlgreg project partners and EU sister projects on progress made in the different Work Packages and Living Labs in the four proGlgreg Front-Runner Cities Turin, Dortmund, Zagreb and Ningbo as well as an exchange between front-runner cities and sister projects on co-design learnings and barriers to NBS implementation. The break-out session on co-design provided useful insights in key lessons learnt from involving citizens and managing the co-design processes in the different projects. Learnings from sister projects on possible strategies to overcome barriers to NBS implementations yielded recommendations on how to support work in the initial stages of the proGlgreg WP 5, examining potential technological and non-technological barriers, at the time of the event.

86 participants from various backgrounds and locations attended the event.

### **21-22 April 2021 – Torino virtual site visit**

The City of Turin organised a proGlgreg Torino site visit event, which took place on line from April 21 to 22, 2021 to replace the Turin Living Lab outdoor visits and interactions with local stakeholders initially planned as part of the three-day mid-term conference in September 2020.

It was attended by 141 participants in the first session of the 2-day event, 108 in the second of the first day, and 83 in the third on the second day. Attendees ranged from partners of the proGlgreg project consortium and international external participants.

The online mid-term conference meeting was organised pursuing the following goals:

- show the Turin Living Lab working in progress by also giving a concrete idea of what is the spatial dimension of the proGlgreg activities realized and ongoing in Mirafiori Sud;
- report achievements and challenges for the following implementation and handover phases;
- allow a dialogue between participants on the NBS intervention and logic.

The conducted satisfaction survey among participants as a follow-up of the online virtual site visit shows a high-level positive feedback on all requested criteria.



# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Introduction to the project

Productive Green Infrastructure for post-industrial urban regeneration (proGReg) is developing and testing nature-based solutions (NBS) co-creatively with public authorities, civil society, researchers and businesses. Eight NBS, which will support the regeneration of urban areas affected by deindustrialization, have been implemented or are going to be deployed in four front-runner cities (FRC): Dortmund (Germany), Turin (Italy), Zagreb (Croatia) and Ningbo (China). The follower cities (FC) of Cascais (Portugal), Cluj-Napoca (Romania), Piraeus (Greece) and Zenica (Bosnia and Herzegovina), in the meantime, will receive support in developing their strategies for improving NBS at local level through co-design processes (see Figure 1 - The proGReg partnership. Source: RWTH, proGReg ).



Figure 1 - The proGReg partnership. Source: RWTH, proGReg proposal

ProGlgreg will deploy the following NBS embedded into Living Labs (LL), working with the local stakeholder landscape to create ownership and locally rooted solutions:

- NBS 1 - Renaturing landfill sites for leisure use and energy production.
- NBS 2 - New regenerated soil thanks to biotic compounds for urban forestry and urban farming.
- NBS 3 - Community-based urban farming and gardening on post-industrial sites.
- NBS 4 - Aquaponics as soil-less agriculture for polluted sites.
- NBS 5 - Capillary GI on walls and roofs.
- NBS 6 - Making post-industrial sites and renatured river corridors accessible for residents.
- NBS 7 - Establishing protocols and procedures for environmental compensation at local level.
- NBS 8 - Pollinator biodiversity improvement activities and citizen science project.

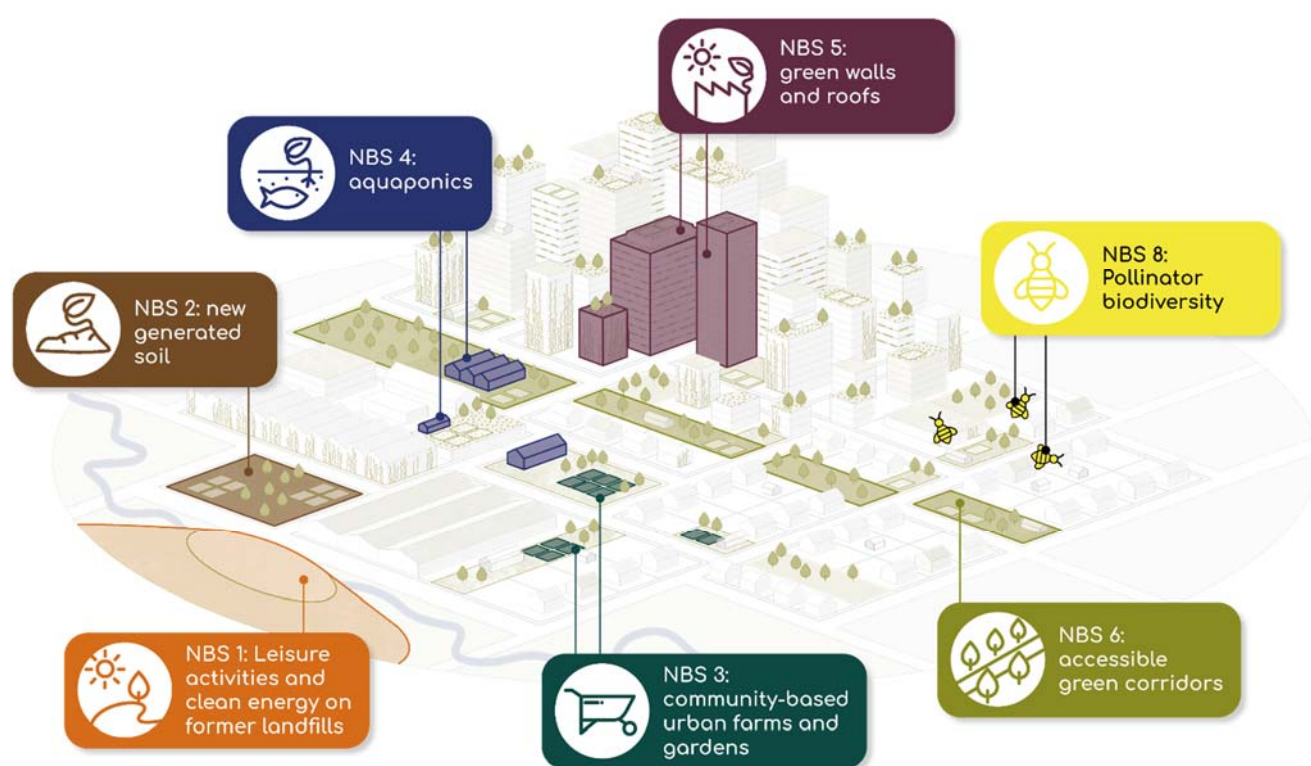


Figure 2 - Spatial representation of proGlgreg NBS within the urban context, RWTH

## 1.2. Introduction to the report

This report includes a summary of the two events that formed the Mid-term conference.

According to the GA, the mid-term conference was planned for September 2020 to be hosted by the City of Turin. But in the light of the corona pandemic and necessary physical distancing requirements, the event was postponed to the 21st and 23rd of April 2021. Instead, RWTH organised an online meeting to compensate for the September event (see chapter 1).

Ongoing pandemic restrictions forced the organiser COTO to change plans once more and organise a virtual Turin site visit event on April 21<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021 (see chapter 2).

The annexes of this report present details of participation breakdown of both events and in addition social media coverage of the Torino virtual site visits.

## 2. Online mid-term conference September 2020

Since the corona pandemic would not allow a physical event, the coordinator RWTH organised instead an online conference on September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021 representing a **Public project-update meeting replacing the cancelled 3-day conference in Turin, 22.9. – 25.9.2020.**

Objectives included presenting and discussing project progress, visits to the NBS implementation sites in the Turin Living Lab, to exchange approaches and NBS tested in the LL in the FRC, and to update the project's working progress in relation to the replication and information needs of the global proGlgreg network. The public to be addressed goes beyond the proGlgreg consortium and includes the sister projects UrbiNat, EdiCitNet and CLEVER cities, which also work on NBS for urban regeneration, other professionals from research and practice and the general public interested in NBS.

### Key topics:

- Project and NBS implementation progress in the proGlgreg Living Labs
- Exchange between front-runner cities and with sister projects on:
  - Co-design learnings
  - Barriers to NBS implementation

Exchanging experiences made and key lessons learnt in the different projects, geographic and thematic contexts during the co-design break-out session provided useful insights of involving citizens and managing co-design processes. Overarching topics include reaching a broad spectrum of stakeholders and managing expectations and power imbalances. Learnings from sister projects on possible strategies to overcome barriers to NBS implementations yielded recommendations on how to support work in the initial stages of the proGlgreg WP 5, examining potential technological and non-technological barriers, at the time of the event.

### 2.1 Presentations

The presentations held at the conference, if agreed for publication by the authors, can be downloaded from the following link: <https://rwth-aachen.sciebo.de/s/7E7biIMsHA8HJ6S>

The download folder is structured into the following files and sub-folders:

1. Introduction by the proGlgreg coordinator
2. Presentations on working progress in the proGlgreg WPs 2,3,4 and 5
3. "visual update" presentations on the implementation progress in the proGlgreg FRC

#### 4. Presentations of break-out sessions:

- a. co-design learnings from the proGReg FRC and the sister projects EdiCitNet and UrbiNat
- b. NBS barriers from the proGReg FRC and the sister projects CLEVER Cities and UrbiNat

## 2.2 Agenda

### Online Mid-term Conference Programme

September 23, 2020

#### PLENARY SESSION: Update on proGReg implementation in WPs and Living Labs

14:00 5 min.	<b>Introduction by coordinator</b>
14:10 30 min.	<b>Progress presentation by WPs 2-5 – Pecha Kucha style</b> WP 2 – Living Lab co-design WP 3 – NBS implementation WP 4 – NBS benefit assessment WP 5 – NBS barriers and business models
14:40 30 min.	<b>Visual update proGReg Living Labs - presentation by each FRC</b> LL Dortmund LL Turin LL Zagreb LL Ningbo
10-15 min.	<b>Plenary Discussion</b>

PARALLEL BREAK-OUT SESSIONS with sister projects (by prior appointment only)

## Break-out session 1 CO-DESIGN LEARNINGS

**Moderator: WP 2 lead Margot Olbertz (RWTH)**

<b>15:30</b> 30 min.	<b>Impulse: proGlgreg LLs and sister projects (UrbiNat, EdiCitNet, CLEVER Cities)</b>
<b>20-30 min.</b>	<b>Discussion</b>

## Break-out session 2 BARRIERS TO IMPLEMENTATION

**Moderator: WP 5 lead Bernd Pölling (SWUAS)**

<b>15:30</b> 30 min.	<b>Impulse: proGlgreg LLs and sister projects (UrbiNat, EdiCitNet, CLEVER Cities)</b>
<b>20-30 min.</b>	<b>Discussion</b>

## 10 MINUTES BREAK

## CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

<b>16:40</b> 20 min	<b>Closing session with report from break-out sessions</b> <b>Invitation to on-site conference in Turin in April 2021</b>
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### 3. Torino virtual site visit 2021

The virtual Living Lab visit in Turin was the second part of the online conference replacing the initially planned conference in Turin. It had the goals to allow a direct experience of the NBS being implemented and an interaction between the researchers, policy makers and the general public from inside and outside proGReg and the local stakeholders and practitioners who play a crucial role in NBS implementation in Turin and all proGReg Living Labs.

The virtual visit was organised in different sessions of about 1.5 hours each on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of April 2021. This allowed online participants to integrate them into their working day and avoided online sessions with excessive length.

Despite delays due to the pandemic, the city of Turin was able to implement most of the planned NBS within the proGReg project timeframe at the beginning of 2021. The Living Lab in Turin realises seven of the eight proGReg NBSs with the support of involved local stakeholders, numerous partners and third parties according to the quad helix model. The state of the art of actions' realisation in Torino is continuously updated in this online map: <http://www.urbantoolbox.it/project/progireg/>.

Due to ongoing restrictions caused by the pandemic, the postponed physical event in Turin planned for April 2021 had to be reconsidered. Since it is important to provide insights into which NBS implementations have been realized in Turin to European proGReg partners, the EU sister projects and the public, the City of Turin conceived an entertaining yet informative online event format. The online format was structured by short moderated introduction to each virtual site visit, interspersed by documentaries of the different NBS implementation sites with interviews of people involved. The live online part aimed at interaction for a dialogue with the public and to host interventions of other project partners.

The basic concept of the format aimed at avoiding long lasting frontal presentation and usual online conference in order to produce relatively brief three virtual "VISIT" contributions spread over the course of two days. These contributions mixed live moments, pre-recorded features (video and interviews) and debate sessions. Each session lasted one and a half hours.

The programme was technically designed together with a media agency, who helped the city in the improvement of the initially designed format.

The event was moderated by the City of Turin representative Ms. Elena Deambrogio and opened by an introduction as live broadcast by the EU proGReg Project Officer Mr. Alberto Pozza on the concept of Nature-based Solutions and Ms. Margot Olbertz, the representative of the proGReg coordinating partner RWTH. Over the course of the event, project partners of proGReg front runner cities and Urbasofia, representing the work done with the follower cities, contributed to enrich the event on specific topics in relation to the NBS implementations such as aquaponics in Dortmund and therapeutic garden in Zagreb.

It was shared the **Network Nature presentation film** to promote the sharing of knowledge across NBS projects.



At the end of the event, the Italian Territorial Cohesion Agency contributed to give a vision of the possible future of the implementation of NBS actions in Italian cities.

The target audience comprised the full proGlgreg consortium including more than 100 individuals, in addition, the event addressed the EU, EU sister project partners (UrbiNat, EdiCitNet, CLEVER Cities), and local institutions, experts and the interested public.

### 3.1. Detailed programme entailing three Living Lab site visits

The below table provides the general structure of the meeting's programme including a detailed overview of different steps of the site visits:

**Table 1 Overview of Turin LL virtual site visit content**

Visit name	Sessions	Duration	NBS contents
<b>Visit 1</b>  <b>Title:</b> Intro Turin LL The first session will introduce Torino Living Lab in Mirafiori district. An indoor green wall in a school and	1. L: Welcome session 2. PR: Documentary on School in via Torrazza (NBS 3 Community school garden and NBS 5 Green wall indoor) (15 min) + bike tour to WOW Garden (NBS 5.4) (15 min) in fast forward motion and dynamic map + Orto WOW documentary 3. L: Q&A – open debate (15 min) where protagonists from the documentary are available for a live situation and discussion	90 minutes: 9.30 – 11.00 (including a 15 minutes welcome and introduction)  morning of 21st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>students of the primary school and teachers participation;</li> <li>food education and self-production;</li> <li>environment and</li> <li>pollinators;</li> </ul>
<b>Visit 2</b>  <b>Title:</b> along the Sangon river	1. PR: Documentary on New soil (NBS 2) (10 min) + bike tour to Orti Generali (NBS 3) (5 min) in fast forward again or be a "commented journey" which makes tangible the challenges of the LL area beyond the NBS implementation sites. 2. PR: Documentary on Orti Generali 3. L: Q&A - open debate	90 minutes: 14.00 - 15.30  afternoon 21st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>soil regeneration techniques;</li> <li>active participation, community;</li> <li>regeneration of abandoned spaces and marginal areas;</li> </ul>
<b>Visit 3</b>  <b>Title:</b> in the factory block	1. PR: Documentary on Crescere Insieme Garden (NBS 3) (5 min) + bike tour to Shelter Tazzoli (10 min)	90 minutes: 09:30-11.00 (including a goodbye final session)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>food production and families in need during covid period;</li> </ul>



	2. PR: documentary on Green wall outdoor Corso Tazzoli (NBS 5) (15 min.) 3. L: Q&A - open debate (15 min) 4. L: final session	morning 22nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>green wall techniques; homeless involvement;</li> </ul>
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(PR= pre-recorded content; L= Live debate and interactive moment).

## 3.2. Public event programme

21. Apr. 2021	Activity	Responsible
	<b>Introduction to Torino Living Lab</b>	
09.30 – 09.50	Welcome and introduction to the activities of the day	Elena Deambrogio (city of Torino), Olbertz, Margo (RWTH-AACHEN)
09.51– 10:05	1st step in Living Lab Torino: NBS at school	Elena Deambrogio, Alessandra Aires (city of Torino), Vittorio Bianco (Fondazione Mirafiori), Elena Comino (Politecnico di Torino)
10.06 – 10.40	2nd step in Living Lab Torino: Spazio WOW	Elena Deambrogio (city of Torino), Emanuela Saporito (Orti Alti)
10.41 – 11.00	3rd step in Living Lab Torino: Casa del Parco	Elena Deambrogio (city of Torino), Roberta Molinar (Fondazione Mirafiori), Alberto Pozza (EASME)
	<b>Along the Sangone river</b>	
14.00 – 14.30	4th step in Living Lab Torino: New soil	Elena Deambrogio (city of Torino), Paola Zitella (Envipark), Federica Larcher (Universita' di Torino), Federico Benenati (DUAL), Emilia Budau (Urbasofia), Simone Mangili (city of Torino)
14.31 – 14.50	5th step in Living Lab Torino: Mirafiori castle and Mausoleum Bela Rosin	Davide Di Nasso (Orti Generali), Laura Ribotta (city of Torino)
14.50 – 15.30	6th step in Living Lab Torino: Orti Generali	Davide Di Nasso (Orti Generali), Iva Bedenko (city of Zagreb)

22. Apr. 2021	Activity	Responsible
	<b>In the factory block</b>	
09.30 – 09.50	Welcome and 7th step in Living Lab Torino: gardens among houses	Elena Deambrogio (city of Torino), Vittorio Bianco (Fondazione Mirafiori)
09.51 – 10.25	8th step in Living Lab Torino: Politecnico di Torino	Elena Deambrogio (city of Torino), Cristian Campagnaro (Politecnico di Torino), Rolf Morgenstern (South Westfalia University of Applied Sciences)
10.26 – 10.45	9th step in Living Lab Torino: outdoor greenwall in a homeless dormitory	Riccardo Saraco (city of Torino), Cristian Campagnaro (Politecnico di Torino), Laura Rusconi (Verde Profilo),
10.46 – 11.00	Network Nature presentation. Closing with the intervention of <a href="#">the Italian Territorial Cohesion Agency</a>	

### 3.3. Video documentation

An extended video documentation of the conference can be found under the following YouTube links:

**Visit 1:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Kqg8a\\_xppc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Kqg8a_xppc)

**Visit 2:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i\\_l6dwa4P4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i_l6dwa4P4)

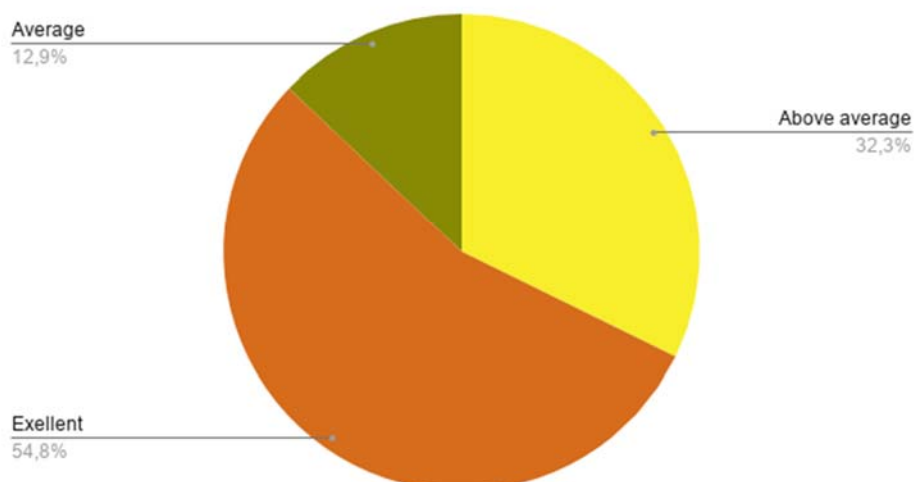
**Visit 3:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pvKTgAMGUHc>

### 3.4. Satisfaction survey

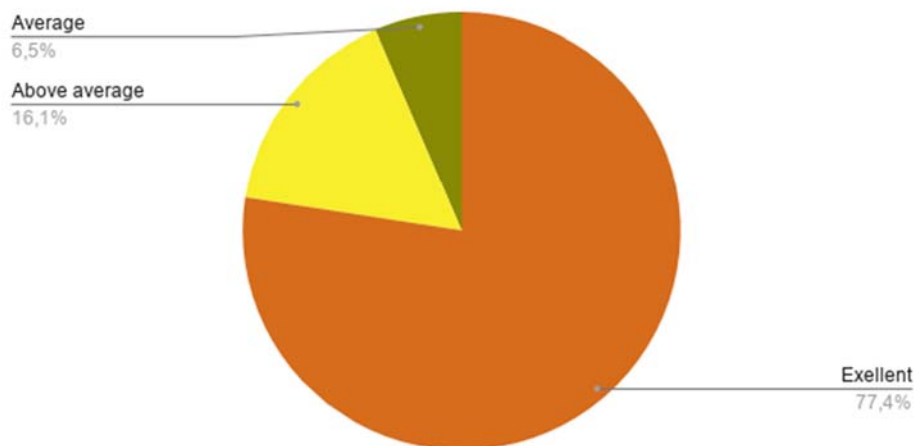
After the meeting, the city of Turin sent out a satisfaction survey to all registered participants and received 31 answers. Overall, the ratings ranged mostly above average and excellent.

The following pie charts show the level of satisfaction on various criteria illustrated by the question asked:

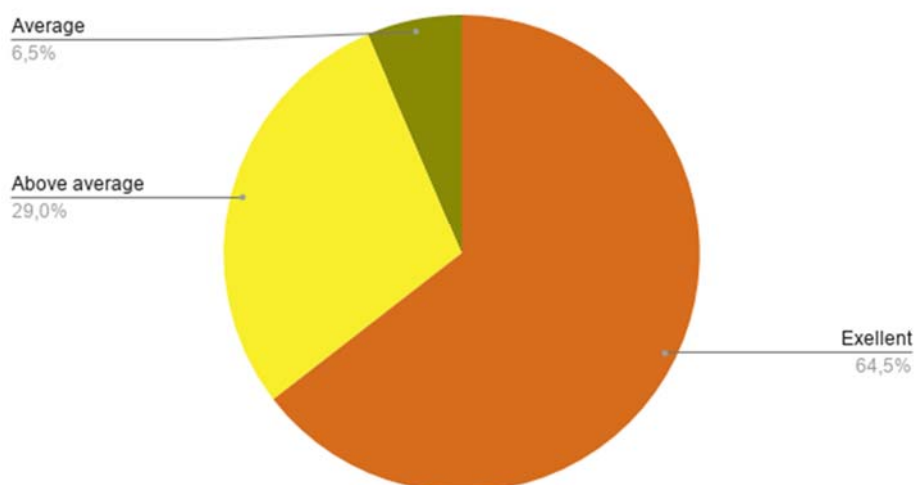
How would you rate the speakers presentation skills?



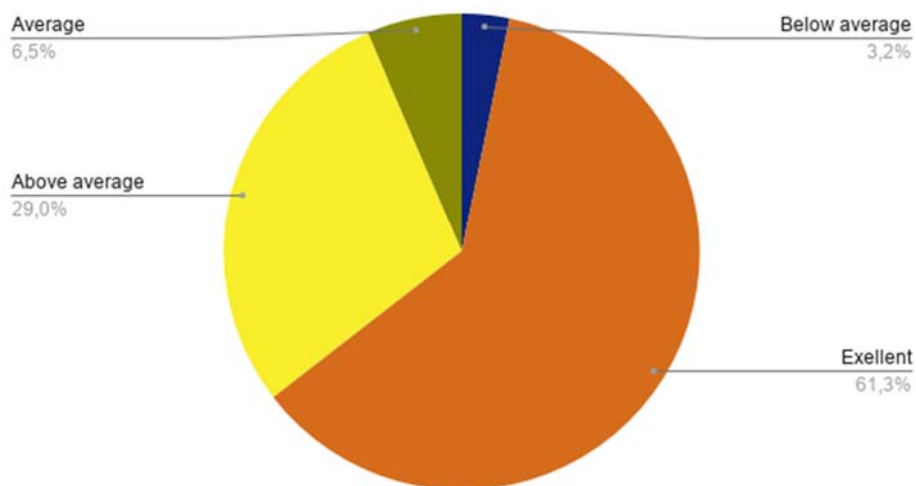
How would you rate the event in terms of meeting your expectations?



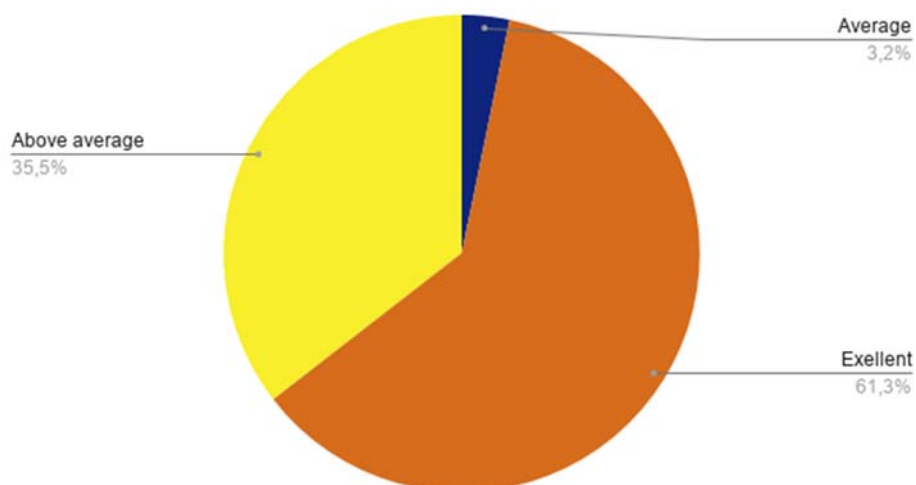
How would you rate the materials/videos presented?



How would you rate the usefulness of information to your job?



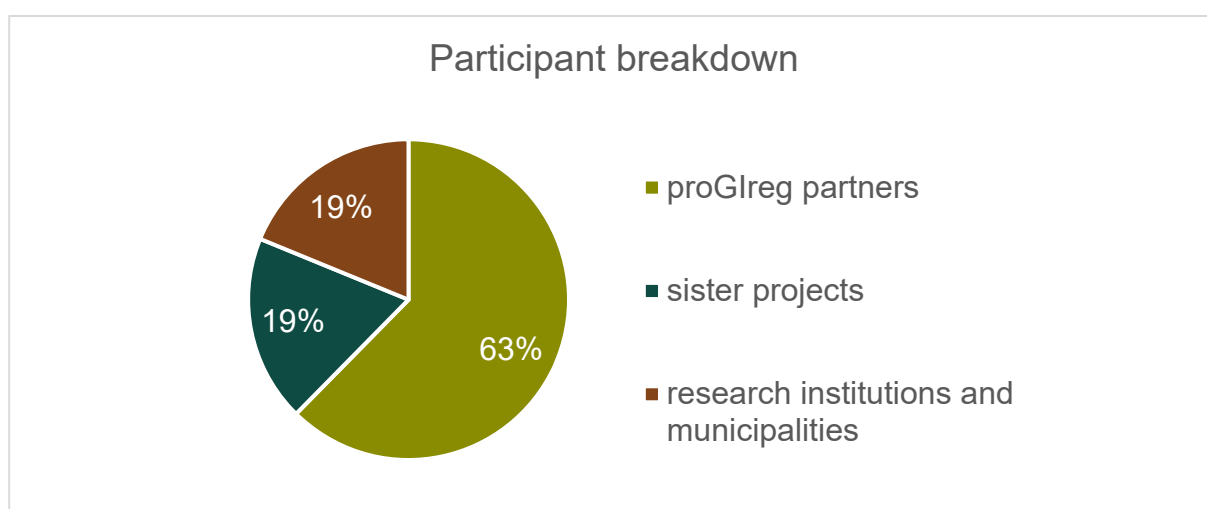
How would you rate the amount of information you learned?



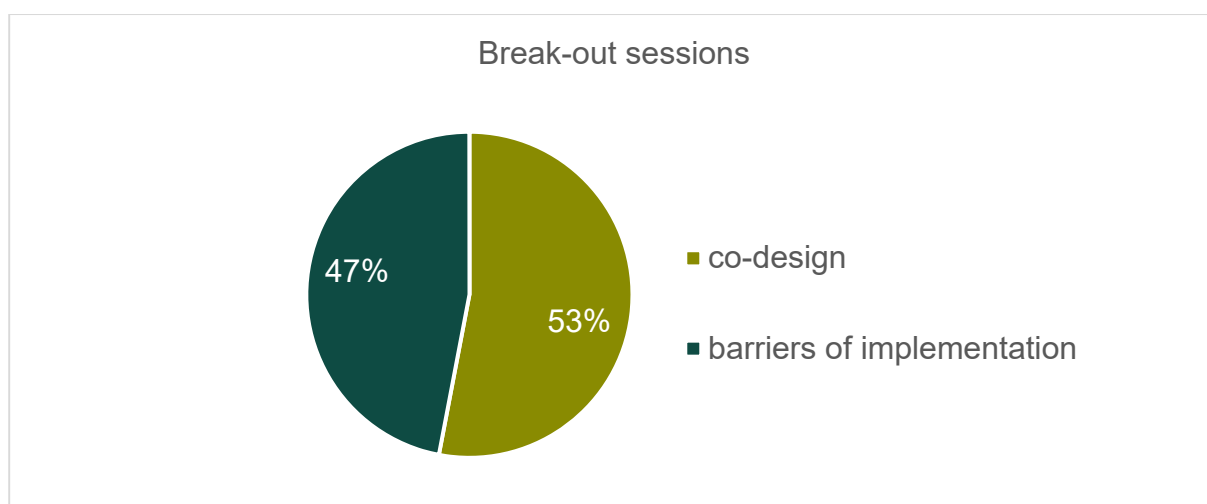
## Annexes

### Annex 1: Registered participants at Online Mid-term conference

In total, 86 participants attended the online conference. Based on the registration list, see below diagrams depicting participant breakdown by type of institutions (proGReg and sister projects), other participants from research institutions and municipalities, number of participants in the break-out sessions and geographic coverage:



**Figure 3** Participant breakdown; 19% of the participants have been from outside the NBS for urban regeneration project family



**Figure 4** Participant attendance by break-out session co-design and barriers of implementation

*Please note: gender split of participants could not be generated due to technical issues*



Figure 5 Geographic location of participants

## Annex 2: Registered participants at Turin virtual visit

Participants included proGReg project partners, but also many research institutes, NGO organizations, and municipalities across Europe. In total, the was attended by 141 people in the first session and 108 in the second session on April 21<sup>st</sup>, the third session on April 22<sup>nd</sup> attracted 83 participants.

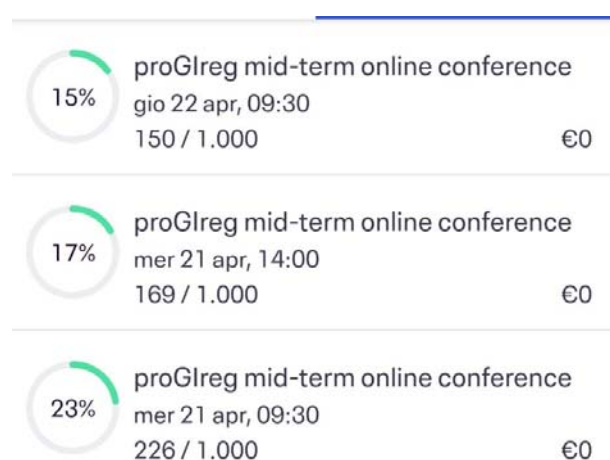
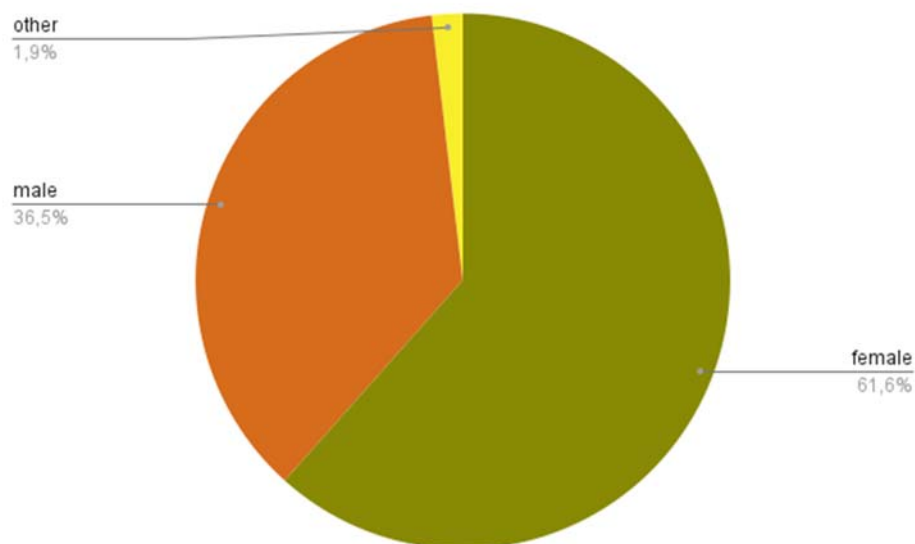


Figure 6 Attendance breakdown by conference session over the duration of the 2-day event

Of the total registered participants, the majority were females.



**Figure 7 Gender split of participants**

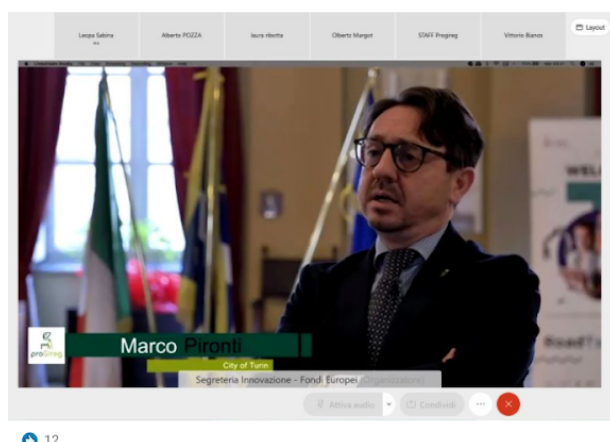
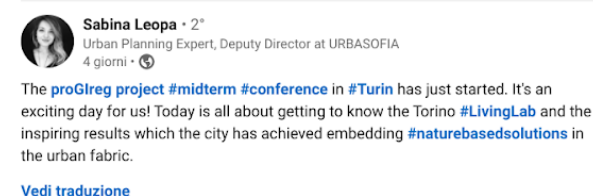
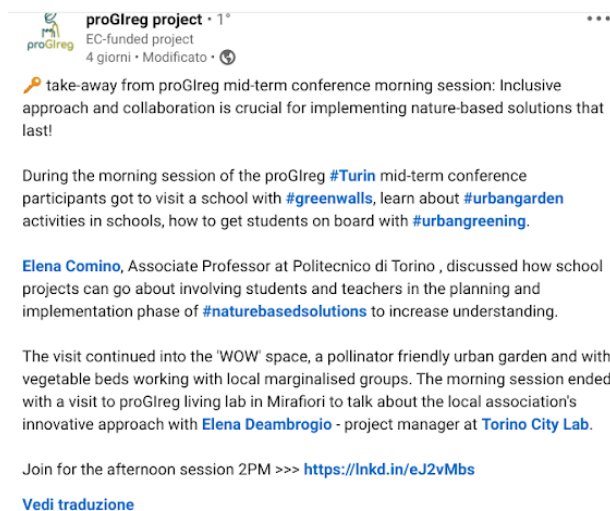
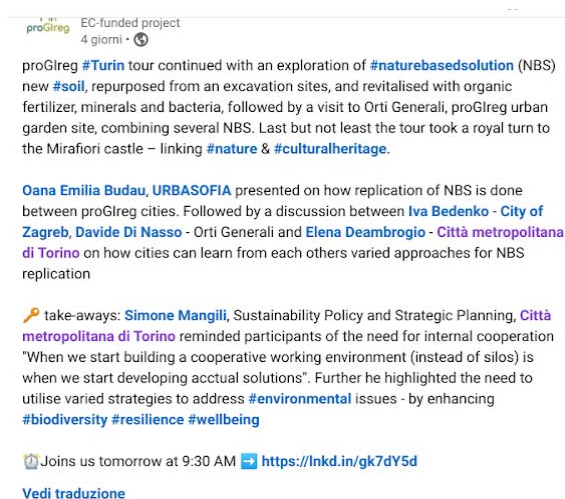
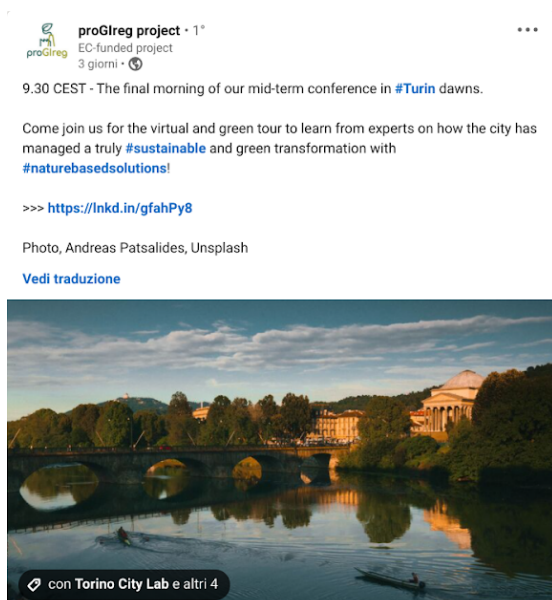
The majority of participants were spread across Europe, but the online event attracted also some participants from the US and Asia.



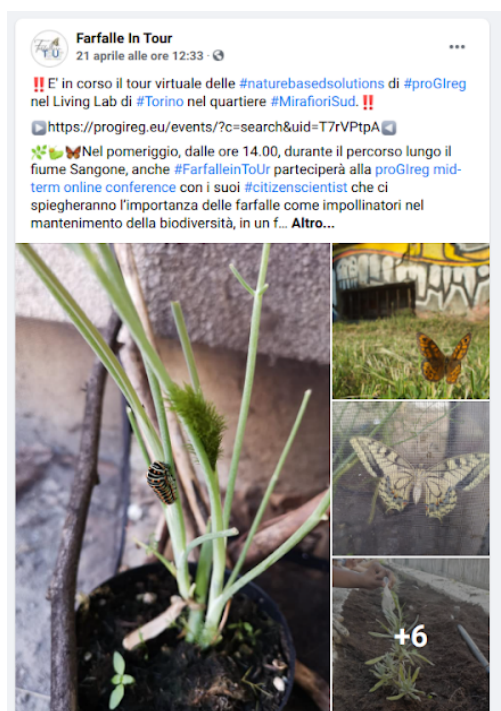
**Figure 8 Geographic coverage according to participant registrations**

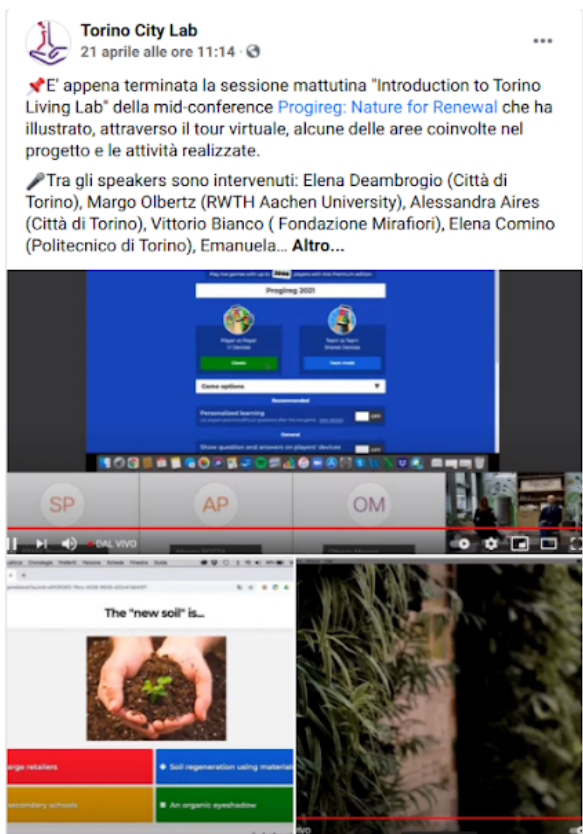


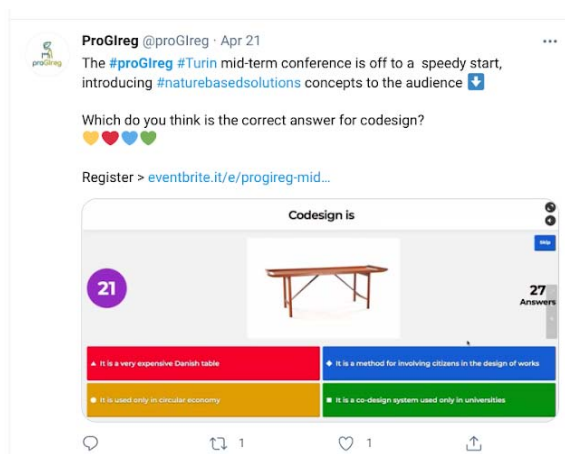
## Annex 3: Social Media Coverage of the at Turin virtual visit



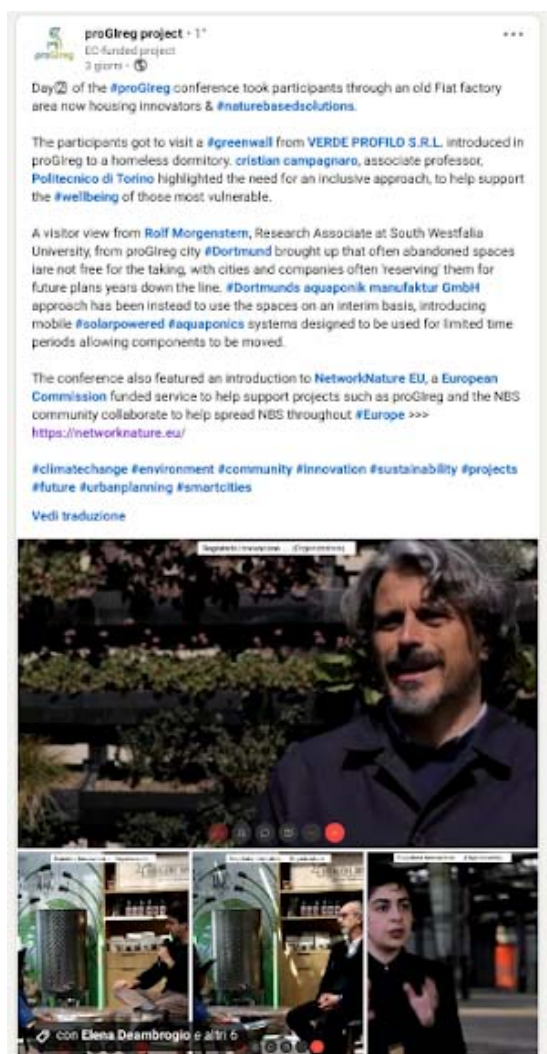













Si è appena conclusa la [proGReg project](#) mid-term conference.

Sono intervenuti: Cristian Campagnaro (Politecnico di Torino), Rolf Morgenstern (South Westfalia University of Applied Sciences), Riccardo Saraco (Città di Torino), Laura Rusconi (Verde Profilo).

In chiusura è intervenuta l'Agenzia per la Coesione Territoriale, con Giovanni Pineschi (Autorità di gestione dei programmi operativi nazionali relativi alle Città Metropolitane), che ha fatto una panoramica sui fondi stanziati nell'ambito di NextGenerationEU per la priorità "transizione verde" che verranno destinati a livello Italiano (ma anche in Europa) e potranno consentire di ampliare progettualità simili a ciò che è stato sperimentato sia a Torino che in altre città europee grazie a [proGReg project](#).

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Starting now!  
9:30 a.m. The final morning of the mid-term conference in [#Turin](#) dawns.

Come join us for the virtual and green tour to learn from experts on how the city has managed a truly [#sustainable](#) and green transformation with [#naturebasedsolutions](#)!

➡10:30 a.m. "Living Lab Torino: Outdoor Greenwall in a homeless dormitory with Laura Rusconi

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