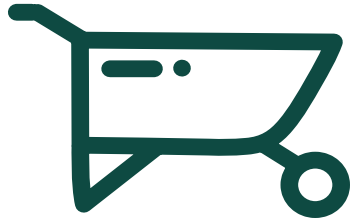




Living Lab Turin, Italy



NBS 3

Community-based urban farming and gardening on post-industrial sites



Gardens integrated within housing

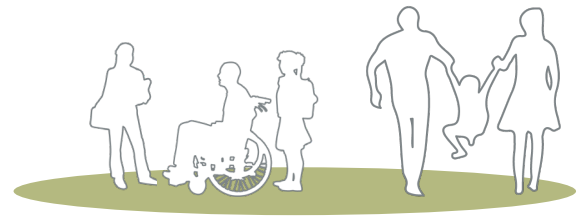






## Target groups (beneficiaries)

- Mirafleming: Children aged 6-14 and their educators and families
- Casa del Mondo: male adult refugees and their educators
- Crescere insieme: disadvantaged families living in the centre and local residents
- via Roveda and via Morandi public areas: all citizens of the neighbourhood willing to participate.



## Stakeholder constellations

### Main responsible partner

- NGO Fondazione di Comunità Mirafiori:
- co-design
  - co-implementation
  - co-maintenance
  - all accompanying activities

### ProGReg partners involved

- NGO Associazione Miravolante (Linked Third Party): co-design, co-implementation, co-maintenance and accompanying activities
- City of Turin: administrative procedures
- District 2 (City of Turin): financial support and collaboration

### Other stakeholders involved

- ATC - Agenzia Territoriale per la Casa: institution responsible of public social housing - involved in the preliminary activities for identifying the areas - owner of the area of the public garden in via Roveda.
- Cooperativa Mirafiori, Cooperativa l'Arcobaleno and Associazione Arcobaleno - non-for-profit organizations managing Mirafleming centre
- Progetto Tenda - non-for-profit organization managing Casa del Mondo
- Associazione Crescere insieme - non-for-profit organization managing Crescere insieme centre near via Roveda public garden



Co-design activities, stakeholder engagement, and pre-implementation activities



Planning and preparatory activities (administrative and technical procedures)

The preliminary phase of identifying suitable areas for the container gardens started in June 2018, with meetings between Fondazione Mirafiori, ATC and the City of Turin District 2. During on-site inspections around the district, together with officers of the District administration suitable areas could be identified.

After presenting the planned NBS to local stakeholders, the co-planning phase started by involving respective target groups in activities such as cognitive mapping, collages etc. This allowed detecting participants' expectations and predispositions of the planned urban horticulture NBS. Visualizing different proposals of cultivations sparked discussions about different ideas and potential problems and possible solutions regarding the management of the garden. A series of biweekly workshops at Crescere Insieme and via Roveda public garden was concluded with the installation and inauguration of the container garden. The installation of the wooden boxes eventually started in May 2021.

Implementation budget



ProGREG funds: 32.000 €  
 City of Turin District 2:  
 2.800 € - creation of the project  
 "L'orto tra le case" to fund more wooden  
 boxes than initially planned

Total budget: 34.800 €



## Co-design and engagement activities

Key steps of the Co-design and local community engagement process for this NBS included:

- Choosing the technique of container gardening aimed at avoiding possible risks related to soil contamination. A number of different boxes available on the market were considered; the most suitable and cost-effective was proposed to stakeholders during the co-design activities.
- Meetings with ATC and Circostrizione 2 (City of Turin)
- Joint on-site inspections with Circostrizione 2
- co-design workshop with members of via Morandi centre for elderly people
- Co-implementation of Casa del Mondo container garden together with refugees hosted in the centre
- Co-implementation of Mirafleming container garden and workshops
- Via Roveda / Crescere Insieme co-design workshops

- Via Roveda container garden was implemented delayed by one year.
- Via Morandi implementation was further delayed as the green corridor activities had to be completed first.
- Via Morandi continues to suffer from acts of vandalism. Local stakeholders are supporting measures to prevent further acts.
- Severe water scarcity in the summer 2022 led to plants drying out. A final irrigation solution has yet to be found.

## Synergies with other proGReg activities

### NBS 6 - Green Corridor



Located in Via Morandi area. The concrete paving in the area has been removed and substituted with permeable surfaces. Thus, water from the wooden boxes can drain into the ground.

## Key achievements and implementation results

The City of Turin provided additional funds allowing for more wooden boxes to be installed than planned.

- The vegetable garden of Crescere Insieme managed by Miravolante staff produces food that is distributed to people in need by Fondazione Mirafiori, which represents an added value.
- Since the implementation of the Via Roveda container garden in May 2021, citizens are fully involved, and volunteers are now autonomous in maintaining the garden. The high level of involvement of neighbours has prevented vandalism, which was considered highly probable before the NBS implementation.
- Via Morandi container garden was implemented in February 2022. Despite some acts of vandalism, local stakeholders respond well. The farmer association Coldiretti donated plants to substitute the stolen ones.

## Links with other external projects or activities

The NBS implementations have been integrated with the social project “L’orto tra le case”, promoting small box gardens that are integrated into the dense urban fabric.

Possible links are currently considered with two other projects in Mirafiori:

- “Tele-Coltura”: project carried out by OrMe (Network of urban gardens of Turin Metropolitan Area) to distribute toolkits for container gardening at home to people in need; it is planned to involve proGReg beneficiaries to increase the number of toolkits
- Fondazione Mirafiori is active in several projects for the collection and distribution of food to people in need. It is considering using part of the “gardens integrated into housing” to produce food that can be distributed to beneficiaries; in return these can be involved in maintaining the gardens while enabling to produce their own food in the container gardens.

## Critical implementation issues and barriers encountered



- Key barrier included the Covid-19 lockdowns and the epidemic uncertainties, and administrative procedures causing major delays.



### Communication activities



- Workshop “L’orto sotto casa” organised in via Morandi centre for elderly people
- Participation at „ValletT’incontra”, open day of the public health centre near via Morandi area to present the project;
- Participation at “Eataly & OrMe”, stand at the entrance of Eataly mall to present the project to customers;
- Mirafleming workshops: handing out printed leaflets about the project and workshops for children and their families
- “Coltiviamo l’arte” event in Casa del Mondo: project presentation and co-implementation of the container garden; distributing printed leaflets in the area
- Crescere insieme workshops in January and February 2020: distributing printed leaflets
- NBS sites are included in the guided tours designed as part of NBS 6 - Natural heritage enhancement
- Slow Food events in Turin (Salone del Gusto, Terra Madre): Fondazione Mirafiori is a founding member of Mirafiori Slow Food Community; the NBS was visited during “off” initiatives

all events are communicated on Fondazione Mirafiori Facebook page and other local organisations.

### Maintenance & Sustainability beyond proGReg

Beyond proGReg, the NBS will be maintained by the group of volunteers formed and trained during the project.

This NBS is connected with Fondazioni Mirafiori strategy on food and agriculture in cooperation with the Slow Food “Comunità del cibo di Mirafiori” and with OrMe, the network of urban gardens of Turin Metropolitan Area.

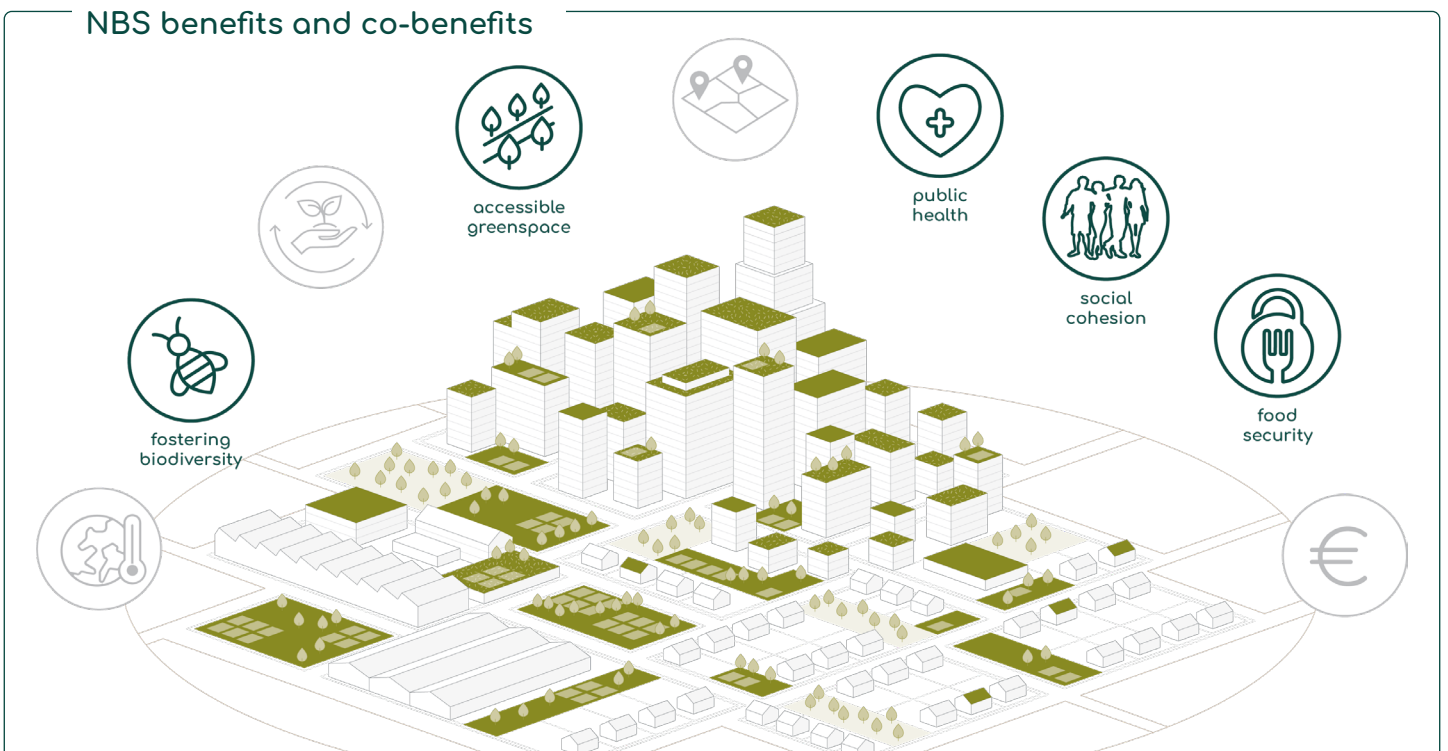
The NBS implementations have inspired other centers in the neighborhood (health centers, community centers) to create their own container gardens, which are currently in planning.

### NBS benefits and co-benefits for the Living Lab Mirafiori Sud, Turin

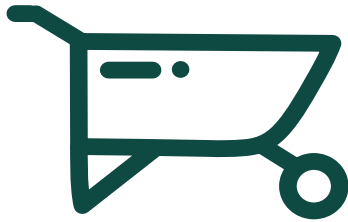
The NBS has increased social cohesion and improved the urban quality of Mirafiori Sud district:

- Social inclusion of disadvantaged groups
- Increasing the perceived attractiveness of the area for both residents living near the gardens and for all other citizen
- Increasing the sense of belonging and attachment to the neighbourhood
- Producing food locally supports food security and public health
- Contributing to greater biodiversity for pollinators

### NBS benefits and co-benefits



# Fact Sheet



NBS 3



Community-based urban farming and gardening on post-industrial sites



Gardens integrated into housing

Contact:

✉ [info@fondazionemirafiori.it](mailto:info@fondazionemirafiori.it)

🌐 [www.fondazionemirafiori.it](http://www.fondazionemirafiori.it)



🌐 [www.progireg.eu](http://www.progireg.eu)

🐦 @proG!reg

in proG!reg-project

📘 proG!reg: Nature for Renewal

📷 #proG!reg

📺 proG!reg: Nature for Renewal

📺 proG!reg: Nature for Renewal

## Partners

