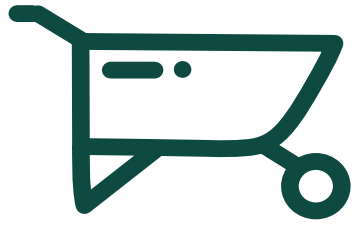


Living Lab Turin, Italy



NBS 3

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

ORTI
GENERALI



Mirafiori Castle ruins recovery and new planting



NBS description

At the end of the 16th century, Carlo Emanuele I of Savoy started the construction of the Castle of Mirafiori. It had been a residence with wonderful gardens, taking part in the „crown of delights“ of the Savoy dynasty. It was demolished in the 19th century with only ruins of the palace remaining.

Comitato Mirafiori Borgata, a Mirafiori Sud neighbourhood committee founded in 1978 has recovered the historical memory of the site over the years. The proGReg NBS enabled carrying out restoration works of the castle ruins while spreading the historical and artistic heritage. With this NBS, Orti Generali together with Comitato Mirafiori Borgata finalised a landscape transformation of the green area adjacent to the Castle of Mirafiori ruins and the altar inside the area of the Bela Rosin Mausoleum.

New plantings of three lines of hedges resumes the ancient layout of the Mirafiori castle gardens. The design echoes the alignment

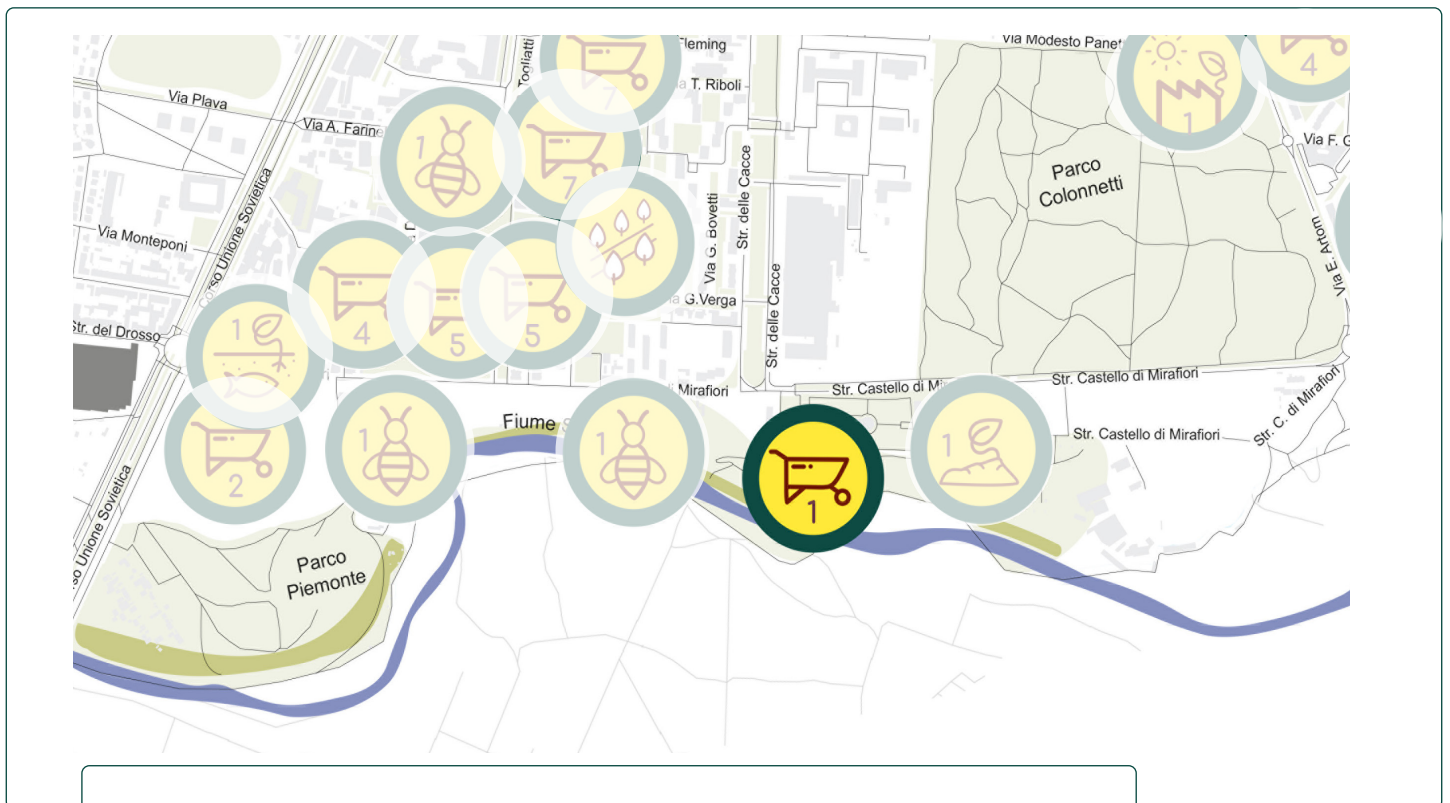
with citrus and topiary pots. Signposting the area of historical-environmental interest has enhanced the attractiveness of this part of the Sangone Park and access to the historical site. The engagement of Comitato Borgata allows an insight into the history of the area.

Aim & goals

The transformation carried out by the local NGO Orti Generali and the citizen group Comitato Borgata Mirafiori aims to improve access to a historical site for the entire city of Turin, thus creating a touristic pull to the usually underrated Mirafiori Sud district.

This NBS pursues multiple goals to improve the green infrastructure and socio-cultural fabric of Mirafiori including:

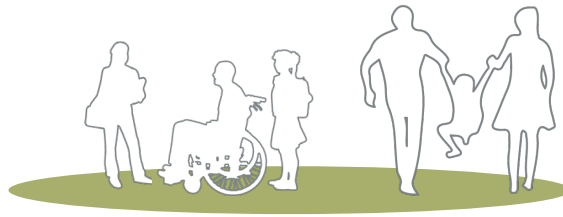
- valorising the historical and cultural heritage of the Castle of Mirafiori ruins
- transforming the landscape and green areas around the historic site
- enhancing accessibility for local residents.



NBS 3 No. 2 :: Mirafiori Castle's ruins recovery and new planting
GPS coordinates: 45.011266, 7.627034

Target groups (beneficiaries)

Citizens of Mirafiori and other parts of Turin who want to discover this historical part of the Sangone Park



Stakeholder constellations

Main responsible partner

Key partner Orti Generali srl - Impresa Sociale responsible for coordination and supervision of all activities.

- led the works for the landscape transformation.
- taking on board the redevelopment requests of the Comitato Borgata Mirafiori,
- becoming an instrumental body to carry out NBS works for enhancing the vestiges of the forgotten heritage asset.

ProGReg partners involved

City of Turin (Green Department)

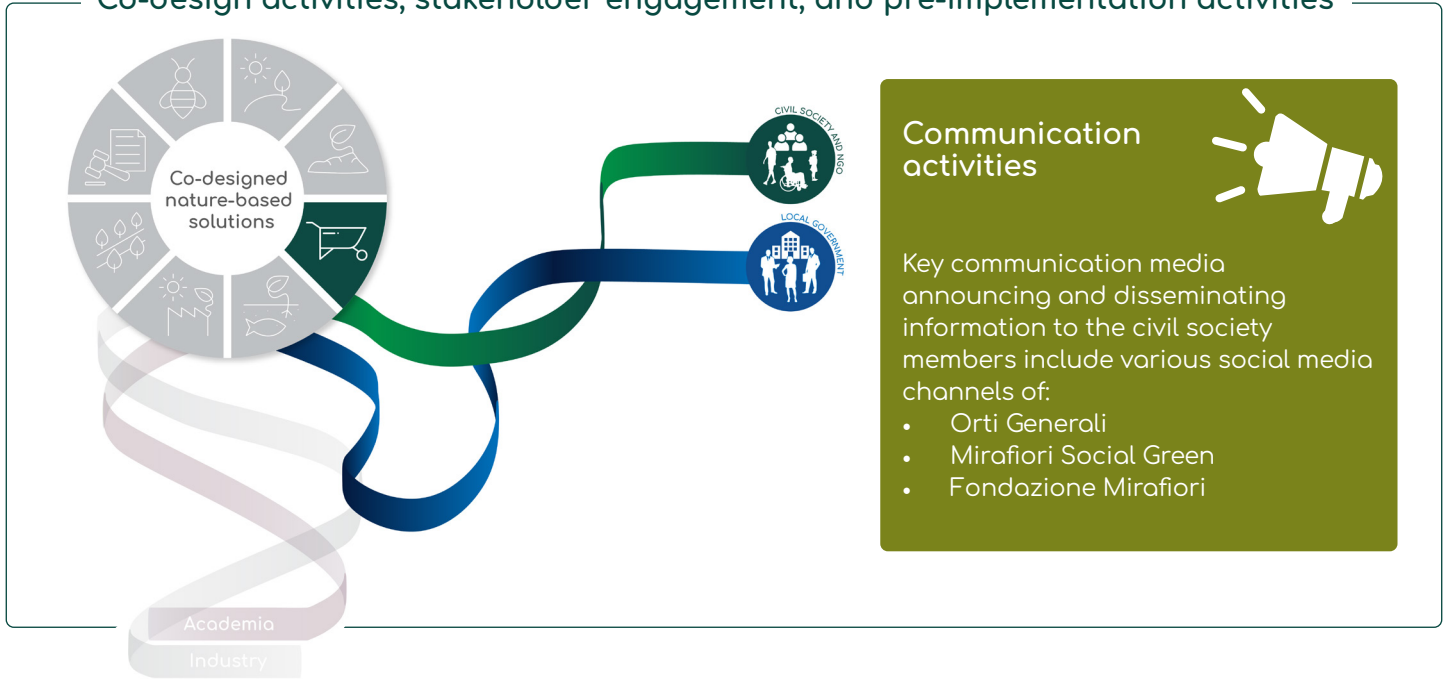
Other stakeholders involved

The Mirafiori Borgata District Committee, established in 1970 are the key driver behind the idea of recovering the castle ruin area:

- group of citizens; passionate about the Mirafiori district dedicating time, skills and creativity to promoting the area and disseminating local culture.
- organise meetings and conferences, publishing articles, promoting authors and literature
- maintain a self-managed free-access library of 3,000 volumes.



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



Planning and preparatory activities (administrative and technical procedures)

Initiated on specific request by local committee Comitato Borgata, the NBS contributes to highlighting the importance of recovering the area around the Bela Rosin Mausoleum by enchanting the ruins of the Mirafiori Castle. NGO Orti Generali welcomed and embraced this idea, hence starting a fruitful collaboration to give new life to this area.

The planning process comprised a number of steps to successfully implement the NBS interventions:

- Carrying out inspections for landscaping and planting in the green area of the Bela Rosin Mausoleum
- reformulating the cost of the Castle area based on new engineering needs.

Co-design and engagement activities

Key co-design and co-implementation activities can be summarized as follows:

- Exchanging and sharing contents between Comitato Borgata and Orti Generali
- Shaping the information panel and the bulletin board
- Preparing and defining the ordinary and extraordinary maintenance works for the new set-up in collaboration with Comitato Borgata.
- Comitato Borgata providing light maintenance periodically.

A work group of volunteers continuously managed the cleaning and maintenance of the Castle area (together with the Borgata Mirafiori Committee and the Torino Spazio Pubblico).

Implementation budget

Total implementation budget from proGReg funding

16.000 €



Key achievements and implementation results

First ordinary maintenance work near the The NBS intervention around the ruins of the Castle of Mirafiori achieved a number of measures to increase the quality of green spaces in the Sangone Park. Measures included:

- Planting three Robiniae pseudoacacia gardens and other tree plantings
- Constructing a narrow road
- Installing a wooden guard rail
- Grass cutting to keep the green area neat and tidy
- In spring 2021, new roses were planted near the Bela Rosin Mausoleum area and area at the foot of the ruins have been landscaped

Critical implementation issues and barriers encountered



The NBS faced limited critical issues or barriers. However, finding competent craftsmen to build the signposting panel to the design specifications proved challenging.

Synergies with other proGReg activities

Two NBS actions contribute to regenerating the entire area: NBS 2 - New Soil and NBS 3 - Orti Generali urban gardens located nearby.



NBS 2 - New Soil in Sangone Park
The experimental flowerbed on regenerated soil is located around

the green of Bela Rosin Mausoleum.



NBS 3 - Orti Generali urban gardens

Links with other external projects

The City of Turin has started the redevelopment of the Sangone river banks, ultimately concluding with a cycle path connecting the Bela Rosin Mausoleum area with Piemonte Park and neighbouring parks Stupinigi and Beinasco.

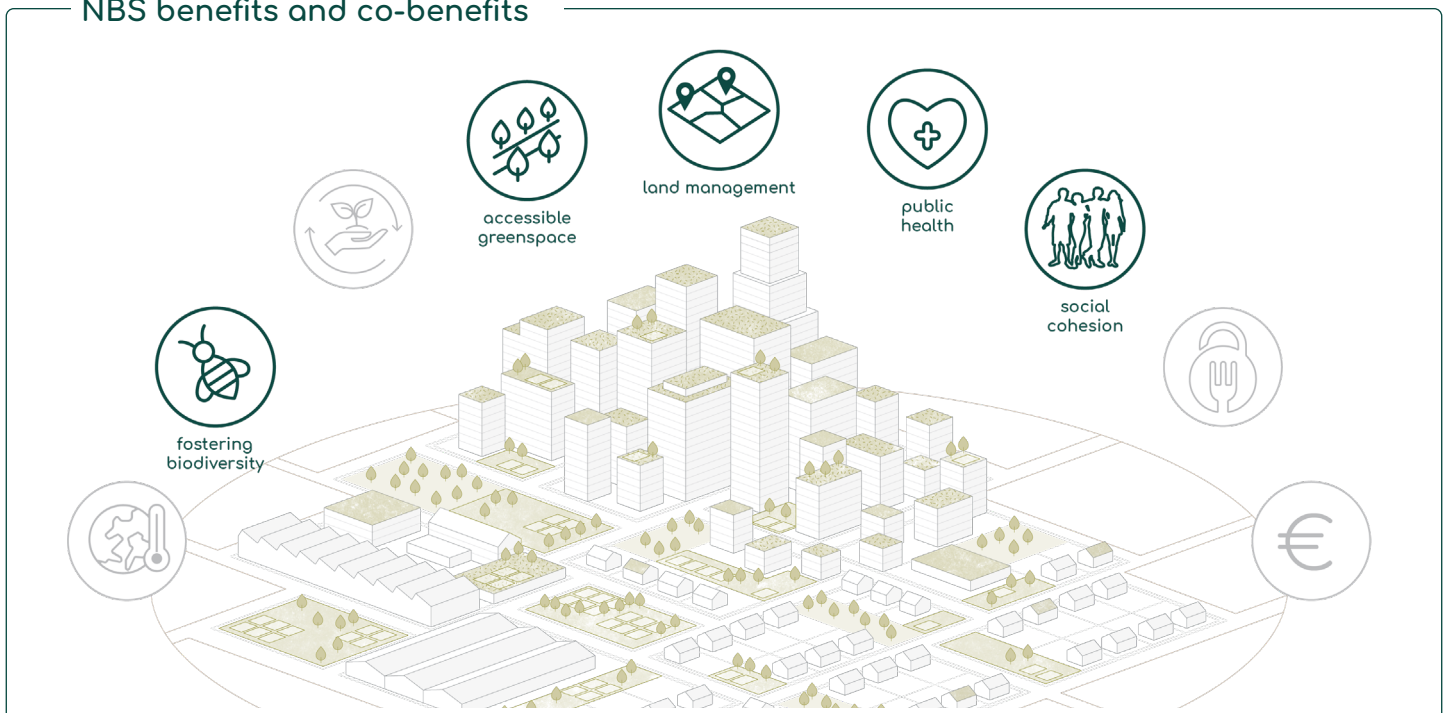
NBS benefits and co-benefits for the Living Lab Turin

Recovering the Mirafiori Castle surroundings has contributed to redeveloping one of the master pieces that promote the Mirafiori district as a tourist destination. Simultaneously, the NBS implementation has increased the area's value and usage for citizens. By responding to citizen proposals and acknowledging proactive attitudes has empowered volunteers in their roles.

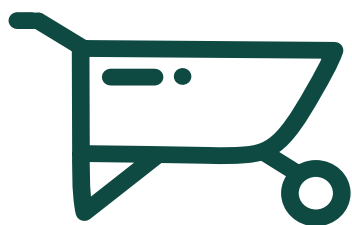
Maintenance & Sustainability beyond proGReg

Volunteering citizens of the Borgata Mirafiori committee, together with the City of Turin carry out maintenance works. Hence, ensuring the sustainability of enhancing the Mirafiori Castle ruins over time.

NBS benefits and co-benefits



Fact Sheet



NBS 3

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Mirafiori Castle ruins recovery and new planting

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Partners



CITTA' DI TORINO

