



Living Lab Zagreb, Croatia



NBS 6

Accessible green corridors



Green corridor



NBS description

The bicycle and pedestrian path connects the old centre of Sesvete and the existing Novi Jelkovec housing development for 11.000 people to the south. Initially, a 850-meter-long green corridor was proposed running along the planned street no. 6, including a cycling path. During the proGleg project implementation, it became apparent that the planned street will not be built within the project timeline. Instead, a new green corridor as a cycling and pedestrian path was proposed, which crosses the Sesvete Living Lab in east-west direction.

Following the approval of the District council, and the Mayor assigning the land for the NBS project implementation, the cycling and pedestrian path was built and finished in September 2023.

The cycling and pedestrian path contributes to an integral pedestrian and cycling network within the larger area. It connects the areas to the east and to the west of the former meat processing industrial zone, hence making the area accessible and safer for the inhabitants of Sesvete and the Novi Jelkovec housing estate.

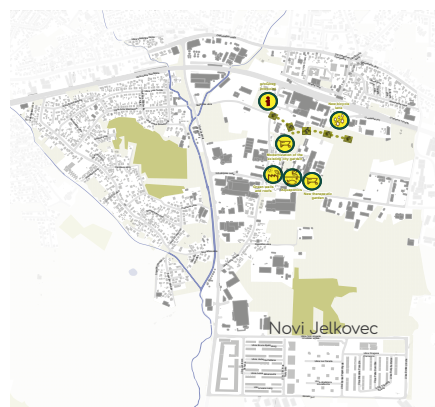
Aim & goals

The NBS addresses societal and environmental issues:

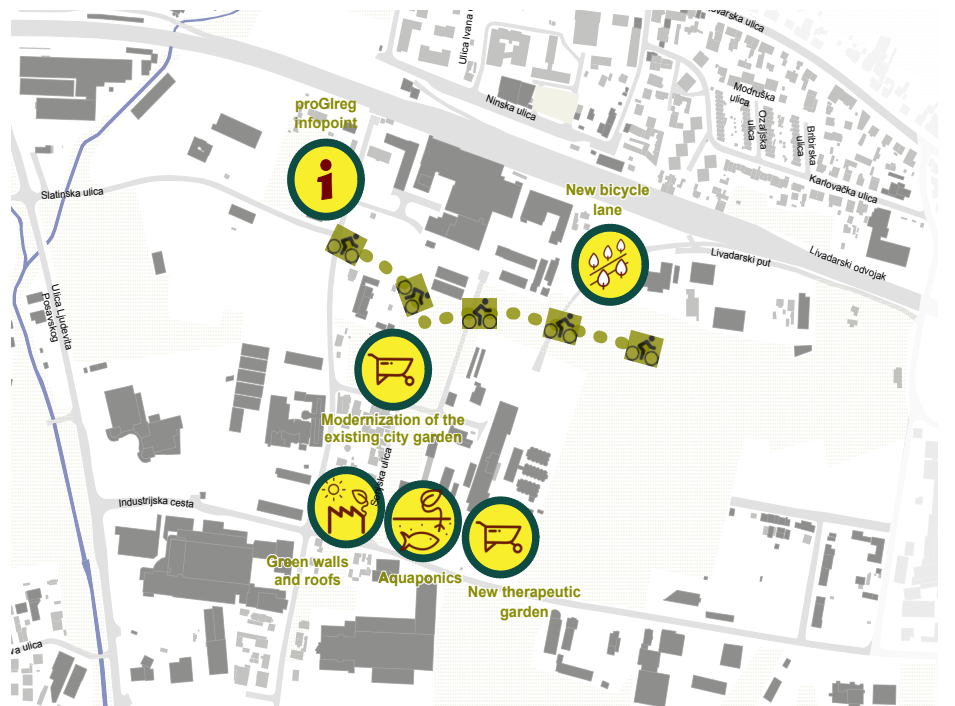
- Provides fast and safe pedestrian and cycling connection of previously disconnected areas
- Opens the area of former industry to the public – for cycling and walking, but also for other activities such as rollerblading school, cycling and running races and similar.
- Contributes to an integral pedestrian and cycling network within the larger area

Area of implementation

The new cycling track connects the Slatinska street to the west with the zone of the Sesvete fair to the east. The path crosses the central part of the living lab.



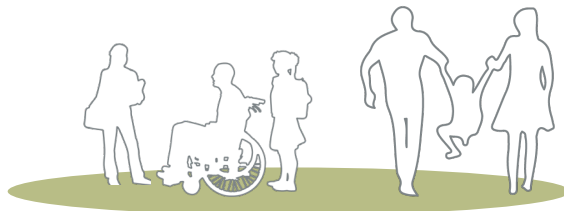
Map of Living Lab Sesvete



GPS coordinates: 45.823443, 16.107486

Target groups (beneficiaries)

- Residents, notably young and active local citizens
- All age groups of citizens to engage in a more active lifestyle



Stakeholder constellations

Main responsible partner

City of Zagreb, City Office for Economy, Environmental Sustainability and Strategic Planning coordinating activities:

- Facilitating the collaboration between several city departments was necessary to coordinate the design of the NBS "Green Corridor".
- Organising meetings with the District Council for approval of the alternative corridor, also engaging the local NGO Green and Blue Sesvete, one of the main project partners.

ProGReg partners involved

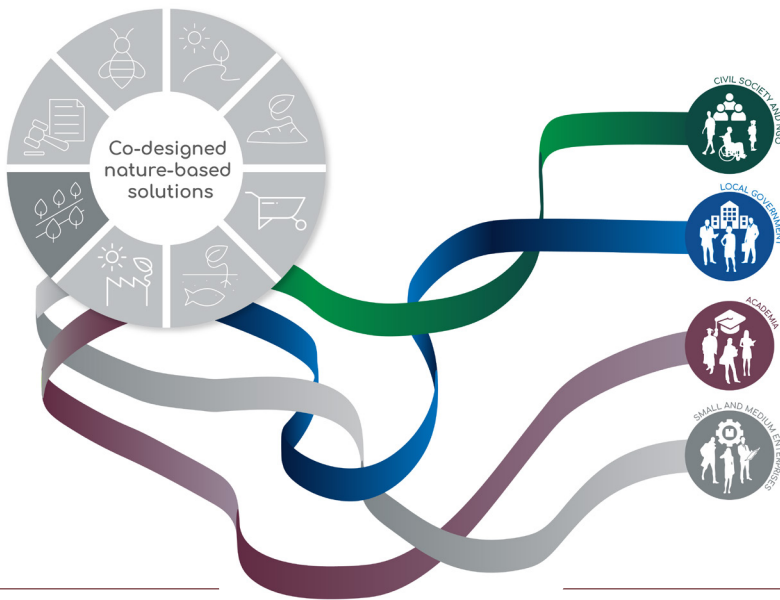
- ZIPS (Green and Blue Sesvete NGO) - Contact point and link to the local community
- AF (Zagreb Faculty of Architecture) - Consultation on spatial planning
- ZZPUGZ (Institute for Spatial Planning of the City of Zagreb) - Consultation on planning regulations and requirements

Other stakeholders involved

- District Council of Sesvete - Approval for constructing the path
- Zagreb Holding Company, Zrinjeva - Responsible for constructing the path



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



Planning and preparatory activities (administrative and technical procedures)

Key steps carried out for the NBS implementation:

- Working meetings with local partners and relevant stakeholders (various city offices) in ZG forum and proposing alternative west-east route.
- First design version created by ZIPS.
- Presentation of the idea at Mayor's office
- Assessing feasibility of construction in view of the actual situation.
- Initiation of procurement for project design
- Project design development
- Meetings with partners.
- Initiation of the public procurement procedure for amendments to the design.
- Considering suggestions of partners, development of master design.
- Initiation of procurement for construction supervision of the path.
- Contract for the execution of the path approved by the Mayor.
- Construction under supervision.
- Review of the final report on the built path
- Development of traffic signaling design.
- Approval by the police.

Co-design and engagement activities

Originally, the cycling and pedestrian path was planned within the traffic network from the adopted detailed plan of the Sljeme former meat processing plant. When this original plan was postponed, the local stakeholders made an effort

Implementation budget



Total implementation budget and proGReg funds:

82.000 €



to define a new corridor on city-owned land.

Several meetings among proGReg partners and with the District council were organized to find the best alternative corridor, under the condition of being easily implementable.

After the design was approved by the District council and the Mayor, the cycling and pedestrian path was constructed.



Key achievements and implementation results

After abandoning the original plan for the green corridor as a cycling and pedestrian path due to prolonged procedures, the engaged stakeholders made an effort to find and agree upon a valuable alternative new corridor under the condition that the land is city-owned.

Considering the number of delays and obstacles the NBS intervention had encountered, avoiding time-consuming procedures became a key priority to finish the path in time. The design and procedure were conducted within the planned timeframe of the proGReg's duration by October 2023.

Synergies with other proGReg activities

The area is part of a series of proGReg interventions:

-  **NBS 3 - Therapeutic garden**
 -  **NBS 3 - Modernised urban garden**
- By connecting the western part of the wider area, it opens access to NBS 3- Modernized urban garden and the therapeutic garden with the Sesvete fair area.

Links with other external projects or activities

Upgrade of the Črnomerec Stream which lacks high-quality public and social facilities, and it is characterized by the relative lack of maintenance and underutilization of green infrastructure zones,

as well as the lack of cycling infrastructure, except for certain short sections:

<https://www.zagreb.hr/potok-crnomerec/173578>

The first part of the cycling route in Sesvete, from the centre of Sesvete to the north, was built along the Vuger stream prior to the start of the proGReg project.

Critical implementation issues and barriers encountered



Delays occurred due to the following reasons:

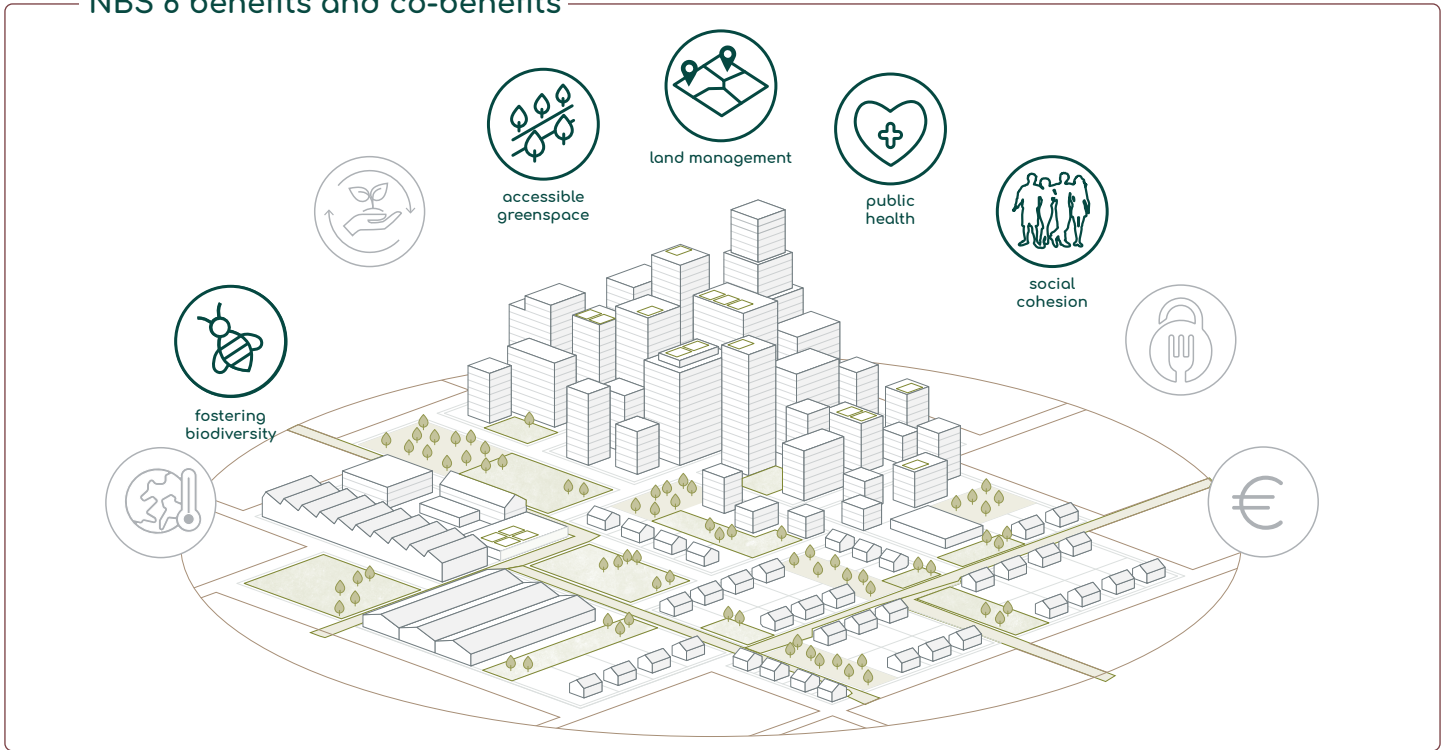
- Covid-19 pandemic
- Earthquakes in Zagreb in March and December 2020, putting strain on city budget and delaying the original plans.

Communication activities



- All project activities are being advertised in the Info point in the Sesvete Living Lab including lectures, exhibitions, discussions, film projections and other events.
- The programme of the Info point is published in the local media, especially via social media channels.
- The District council has voted on the alternative corridor of the cycling and pedestrian path
- Exhibition on the project took place in ZgForum, a venue in which the City of Zagreb communicates with the public

NBS 6 benefits and co-benefits



NBS benefits and co-benefits for the Living Lab Sesvete

The NBS will benefit the entire Living Lab area:

- The entire area of Sesvete and Novi Jelkovec is benefiting from the introduction of the new soft mobility path.
- Further planned additions to the network will add to the quality of life in the area.
- The new path offers the users of the urban garden additional possibilities of reaching the garden
- Presence of pedestrians and cyclists will bring a sense of safety to the mostly abandoned post-industrial area.

Maintenance & Sustainability beyond proGReg

- The cycling and pedestrian path is part of the city street and road network, therefore being maintained within the regular city road maintenance program.
- Necessary upgrades to the path can be organized by and funded from the budget of the District council.
- Further upgrades and maintenance of urban furniture will be implemented at a later date. The City of Zagreb Holding company is in charge of maintenance.





Accessible green corridors



Cycling and pedestrian path

Contact

✉ matija.vuger@zagreb.hr



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Partners



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