



Newsletter 4



Photos: Isabella Klebinger / Öko Campus Wien

Co-Creating Biodiversity in Urban Areas

September 2025

Welcome to the fourth edition of the Co-Bio newsletter! Across Europe, our six project partners continue to explore how co-creation can foster biodiversity and strengthen community ties. In this issue, we highlight inspiring local actions from Denmark, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Austria, and Hungary – each showing how nature and people thrive together when creativity and collaboration lead the way.



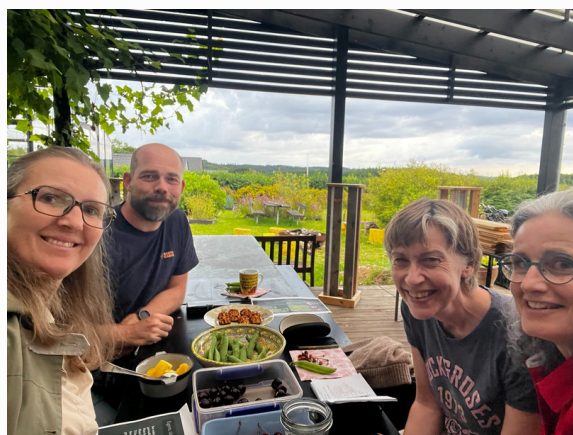
Denmark

Skibet's Green Masterplan in Action

In Skibet, citizens have come together to explore how co-creation can strengthen biodiversity and community life. Building on the local climate partnership agreement with Vejle Municipality, the group has focused on developing ideas for a Green Masterplan while also testing small-scale initiatives.

One of the most concrete results so far is the development of biodiversity boxes – starter kits with plants and inspiration to help families bring more nature into their gardens. Co-created by local volunteers and supported by Co-Bio, the boxes will be tested in households during autumn 2025.

Skibet's journey shows how co-creation can mobilize local engagement, turn ideas into practice, and inspire other communities to take action for urban biodiversity.





Greece



A Biodiversity Hub at Plataies Primary School

The Athens Lifelong Learning Institute partnered with Plataies Primary School to transform a simple schoolyard into a vibrant hub of biodiversity.

Through co-design workshops, students, teachers, and parents shared ideas and created a vision for a green space that reflects their values and promotes co-ownership. Then came co-implementation: with shovels, soil, and enthusiasm, the community brought the plan to life.

Thanks to the support of the Parents and Guardians Association and the Cultural Association “OEROE,” the space now belongs to the children – its future stewards. What will grow next? A vegetable garden? A home for ladybugs? The possibilities are blooming.



Italy



Palermo's Living Tapestry of Biodiversity

Nestled on the sun-kissed hills of Palermo, the Biodiversity Garden emerges as a living tapestry of nature's resilience and co-creation. A mosaic of endemic and rare plant species thrives alongside traditional Mediterranean cultivations, weaving a story of conservation and cultural identity.

Tended by local community stewards, the garden is more than a botanical haven – it's a vibrant classroom and a testament to the power of biodiversity to sustain and inspire. Whether wandering its paths or resting among the foliage, visitors reconnect with Sicily's rich ecological heritage.



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Portugal

Tiny Forests in Social Housing

In Portugal, the Co-Bio local case focuses on implementing Tiny Forests through co-creation in social housing areas. The project began with awareness-raising among social care technicians and residents, followed by public contracting and land preparation.

Activities include planting native species, conducting workshops, and hosting environmental education sessions. A key lesson learned: strong stakeholder involvement from the beginning is essential. The multidisciplinary team – including an NGO, municipal company, citizens, landscape architects, and policymakers – has been crucial to the project's success.



Austria



Universities Unite for Biodiversity

In Vienna, Co-Bio helped bring together university initiatives from Germany, Poland, and Austria to co-create biodiversity on campuses across Europe. Hosted by Öko Campus Wien and Gartenpolylog, the international event welcomed 35 participants. Highlights included a workshop on hoverfly habitats led by Öko Campus Wien and the Edit Student Group from PUT Poznan, showcasing a multidisciplinary approach to conservation and multispecies city design. The energy was high, and the seeds of future collaboration were planted.



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Hungary

“Wekerle, Naturally!” Wraps Up

The Hungarian local case wrapped up its summer activities with strong community engagement. Events included walking tours, planting pollinator-friendly species, and distributing wildflower seeds and bat houses. Children joined in through planting and a drawing competition.

Two private gardens were transformed with help from a permaculture expert, and the closing event featured a “tree walk” in Wekerletelep. Outdoor formats proved especially effective in engaging residents of all ages.



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