



PRESS RELEASE

4 December 2017, Budapest

EUROPEAN URBAN GREENING NEWS

EUGIC 2017 BUDAPEST

The Second European Urban Green Infrastructure Conference was held in Budapest on the 29-30 November. EUGIC 2017 brought together professionals from various fields, including our keynote speakers landscape architect Laura Gatti; Dusty Gedge, founder of **livingroofs.org**; or Ronan Uhel from the European Environment Agency. Attendees could submit their innovations as posters and present as part of our Story Corners, with an Award for the Best Urban Infrastructure Project. Our collaborations with the **Horizon2020** programme and the **International Visegrad Fund** also led to presentations and a side event on green and smart cities in Central Europe.

We are looking forward to the next EUGIC conference; for more information please visit **eugic.events**.

EUGIC 2017 Budapest is delivered by CEEweb for Biodiversity, the leading central European biodiversity network, and Livingroofs.org founded by Dusty Gedge, President of the European Federation of Green Roof and Wall Associations.

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EUROPEAN URBAN GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CONFERENCE



The Budapest Statement A Call for a Greener Vision for Cities in Europe

A call to action

All urban citizens should be able to benefit from nature – wherever they live and work. Nature and green infrastructure are increasingly being recognised as important in ensuring our cities are resilient, healthy and sustainable from economic, environmental and social perspectives.

Whilst we acknowledge and celebrate the current [European ecosystem services and green infrastructure strategy](#) that was instigated in 2014, we wish to intensify the development and delivery of this strategy across the whole of Europe. In doing so we see a Europe whose cities:

- o *Provide increased health and well-being for citizens*
- o *Ensure that the increased urban temperatures due to more intense summer climates are reduced and urban flooding is ameliorated*
- o *Embrace nature-based infrastructure as being as important as other more conventional infrastructure*

We require a nature-based approach to designing cities that:

- o *Maintains, improves and augments ground level green spaces such as parks, pocket parks and other open spaces*
- o *Embraces the viability of [a nature-based solutions approach](#) to re-designing the existing urban realm and creating new city spaces of the future*
- o *Understands, through mapping and evaluation, the value of green spaces and seeks to protect, enhance and increase these areas for the benefit of all*
- o *Creates a nature-based solutions economy that fuels this new vision*
- o *Supports innovation in co-creation, planning, design and incentive programmes to drive this vision*
- o *Promotes and delivers green infrastructure strategies that deliver resilient cities*
- o *Communicates to all citizens the benefits of a green infrastructure approach to urban design*

We accept that our 'greener vision' for cities in Europe will be an evolution rather than a revolution. It will require many actors across the professions to come together and evolve new ways of planning, implementing and maintaining the greener cities of the future. In doing so, we will create cities that are ecosystems that deliver the economic, social and environmental benefits that will be required in the 21st Century.

EUGIC 2017 Budapest
29-30 November 2017

