

New studies: What is the state's role in preserving National urban parks? How to use indicators in urban farming?

State authorities can and should support urban green infrastructure

Studies show that urban green areas enable societies to enhance biodiversity, mitigate and adapt to climate change, and reduce the risk of flooding and erosion. From an economic perspective, green space can make neighbourhoods wealthier and increase housing costs. But how can the state support urban green infrastructure? Nordregio researchers studied this topic and published a new analysis on National urban parks and the role of the state in preserving urban green areas in Sweden and Finland.

- Successful implementation needs multilevel governance engagement to provide support for the delivery of innovative and sustainable solutions in green space management. The state can stimulate further development at the local level by giving inspiration and enhanced recognition of urban green infrastructure, says Senior Research Fellow Elin Slätmo.



Elin Slätmo,
Senior Research Fellow, Nordregio
elin.slatmo@nordregio.org

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New tool measures impact of gardening on urban sustainability

Urban agriculture contributes to food security, provides health benefits for the population, and is a valuable resource for urban regeneration. However, it may also have social and environmental externalities that need to be considered when evaluating the benefits to city sustainability. In a new article, Nordregio researchers studied four key enablers of sustainable urban farming and presented an indicator-based evaluation framework for urban agriculture.

- This framework can support local governance processes for sustainable urban design at other stages of the policy cycle. It is also expected to contribute to on-going academic debates about the role of urban agriculture for increased environmental and community resilience, says Senior Research Fellow Carlos Tapia.



Carlos Tapia,

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