



## CALL FOR PAPERS

### International Conference

#### **“Nature for Sustainable Cities: Planning Cost-Effective and Just Solutions for Urban Issues**



**26-27 February 2026**  
*Department of Architecture*  
*University of Naples Federico II*  
*Palazzo Gravina, Via Monteoliveto 3, Naples (Italy)*

Dear colleagues,

On behalf of the Scientific Committee, we are pleased to announce the **International Conference “Nature for Sustainable Cities: Planning Cost-Effective and Just Solutions for Urban Issues (NATSOLIS)”,** which will be held on **26-27 February 2026** at the **Department of Architecture of the University of Naples Federico II (Italy).**

The conference will explore the **complex relationship between Nature-based Solutions (NBS) and urban and regional planning**, addressing both their transformative potential and the challenges that arise when they are implemented in different territorial and socio-economic contexts. Building on recent international debates, the conference will examine **how NBS contribute to urban regeneration, climate adaptation, risk mitigation, biodiversity enhancement, and improved environmental quality**. At the same time, it will critically assess emerging concerns related to spatial justice, unequal access to NBS, green gentrification, and potential enhancement of existing socio-spatial inequalities.

A key focus will be placed on the **assessment of positive and negative impacts of NBS**, including the need for robust, spatially sensitive, and context-specific methodologies for evaluating ecological, social, and economic outcomes. Contributions addressing innovative approaches for **mapping, modelling, and analysing the spatial distribution of NBS benefits** – as well as identifying **trade-offs, externalities, and unintended consequences** – are strongly encouraged.

The conference also aims to explore **governance models, participatory processes, and co-creation practices** that can support equitable and effective NBS-oriented planning. By integrating theoretical insights, methodological advancements, and practical applications, NATSOLIS intends to foster a **deeper understanding of how NBS can be designed, evaluated, and implemented to support inclusive and resilient urban regeneration**. Trans-disciplinary contributions highlighting successful (and/or unsuccessful) cases are particularly welcome, helping to advance **NBS as tools for context-aware, evidence-based, and problem-solving approaches**.



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The event constitutes the final conference of the **PRIN 2022 Project “Nature for sustainable cities: planning cost-effective and just solutions for urban issues (NATSOLIS)”,** funded by the Italian Ministry of Research, and is jointly organized by Universities of Catania, Naples “Federico II”, and Salerno.

## **CONFERENCE TOPICS**

The Scientific Committee warmly welcomes contributions addressing the relationship between NBS, planning and design, urban regeneration, and sustainability. Topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- NBS for urban regeneration**

Strategies, frameworks, and projects aimed at improving environmental quality, mitigating risks, and enhancing urban liveability through nature-based approaches.

- Spatial justice, equity, and inclusion in NBS planning**

Inter- and intragenerational equity, social vulnerability, just access to urban services and green spaces, gender-sensitive and inclusive perspectives, and the risks of inequitable effects of NBS.

- Impact assessment of NBS in regeneration processes**

Multidimensional evaluation of ecological, social, and economic impacts; cost-benefit analyses; indicators and metrics; identification of trade-offs and unintended consequences.

- Successful and unsuccessful NBS implementations**

Case studies highlighting effective or ineffective NBS projects and policies; context-specific barriers, governance failures, conflicts, and lessons learned.

- Spatial analysis and mapping of NBS benefits**

GIS-based approaches, spatial indicators, analytical models, and other tools for understanding and quantifying NBS performances and effects.

- Governance, policy innovation, and stakeholder engagement**

Participatory processes, co-design and co-creation practices, collaborative governance structures, and community involvement in NBS-oriented planning.

- Climate adaptation and ecological resilience**

NBS addressing heatwaves, flooding and stormwater management, biodiversity loss, and other environmental risks in urban contexts.

- Economic sustainability and cost-effectiveness of NBS**

Financial evaluation, maintenance strategies, long-term sustainability, and investment models for nature-based interventions.



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## **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

Authors are invited to submit an abstract (no more than 200 words) by 15 January 2026 to the following address: [natsolis2026@gmail.com](mailto:natsolis2026@gmail.com)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

After the conference, authors will be invited to submit a full paper for publication in a Springer edited volume indexed in Scopus. Additional Special Issues in peer-reviewed ISI/Scopus journals may be announced.

## **CONFERENCE WEBSITE**

Further information, updates, and deadlines are available at:

<https://www.natsolis.unict.it/content/natsolis-conference>

We look forward to welcoming you to Naples next February!

NATSOLIS Organising Committee



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