BERLIN URBAN NATURE PACT

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

BERLIN URBAN NATURE PACT

Status: Living Document Release v1

Date: 2025-01-23

Contents

1. Introduction to the Pact Guidance

Welcome to the Berlin Urban Nature Pact Guidance, a comprehensive resource designed to guide cities, local and regional authorities that signed the Pact (hereafter referred to as Pact Cities) in the implementation of the Pact. The Pact represents a bold step toward addressing the pressing challenges of biodiversity loss and climate change, which pose imminent threats to our urban environments and the well-being of our citizens.

The Berlin Urban Nature Pact is rooted in a profound commitment to action and ambition. It emphasizes the importance of implementing targeted, innovative, and transformative actions to protect, preserve, and restore biodiversity in urban areas. This document outlines the principles and good practices necessary for embedding and operationalizing these commitments, providing a roadmap for impactful local action.

For those considering joining the Pact, this is an invitation to become part of a global community of forward-thinking cities dedicated to a nature-positive future. By joining, cities gain access to a network of like-minded peers, benefit from knowledge sharing, and participate in capacity-building opportunities. Members are supported through practical guidance, templates, and case studies, empowering them to set and achieve ambitious biodiversity goals. Joining the Pact is not just a step toward environmental stewardship—it is an opportunity to lead by example, showcasing your city's commitment to creating resilient, sustainable urban environments for current and future generations.

The Pact is not about having fully achieved all greening targets by 2030 but rather about preparing cities to embark on and accelerate the transformative greening transition that lies ahead. The Pact welcomes newcomers at any stage of their progress, fostering an inclusive community committed to building resilient cities for the future.

By adhering to the principles and targets of the Pact, Pact Cities can contribute significantly to the global biodiversity agenda. The Pact is not merely a document; it is a call to action for cities to become leaders in the global movement toward a nature-positive[1] century.

We acknowledge that achieving these ambitious goals requires collaboration, innovation, and continuous learning. Therefore, this document also emphasizes the importance of equal and just co-creation with local initiatives and stakeholders, capacity building, and the sharing of knowledge and good practices among cities.

This document provides guidance on selecting targets, setting up the Pact action plan, and offers an overview of case studies, good practice examples, and templates for action plans, monitoring, and reporting. Modes of implementation will vary based on local contexts, ensuring flexibility and adaptability for all participating cities.

---

[1] Nature Positive is a global societal goal defined as 'Halt and Reverse Nature Loss by 2030 on a 2020 baseline, and achieve full recovery by 2050'. To put this more simply, it means ensuring more nature in the world in 2030 than in 2020 and continued recovery after that.

2. First Steps to Take

The steps outlined below provide guidance for Pact Cities to implement the Berlin Pact. While the order of these steps may vary depending on internal structures and procedures, the process is designed to be flexible and adaptable to local contexts. These steps aim to ensure a seamless transition from initiation to action, fostering collaboration and support from stakeholders at every stage. The order of steps may vary from city to city, depending on internal structures and procedures.

Step 1: Initiation of the Pact

- Schedule a formal signing event with the mayor or authorized representatives to officially endorse and celebrate the implementation of the Pact
- The event should be well-publicised (e.g. on social media, LinkedIn, and other networks) to garner attention and support from the community and stakeholders (please refer to Support Options provided by the Pact Coordination Office)
- If this is not possible, a sign-up form will be available, and a press release is recommended to be issued by the city signing the Pact

Step 2: Organisational Requirements

- Designate a responsible person as focal point of contact, and communicate the contact details to the coordination office
- Explore the possibility of translating the Pact into local language, if useful, feasible and not available yet
- By signing the Pact, a city automatically commits to join the CitiesWithNature initiative if it is not already part of the platform. This integration is essential as the reporting mechanism for the Pact is embedded in the CitiesWithNature platform. A profile will be created, and login details will be provided to the designated contact person.
  - https://citieswithnature.org/pact-targets/
  - Reach out to info@citieswithnature.org if technical support is needed

Step 3: Selection of Pact Targets

Please refer to the annex headline "Select the Specific Target".

Step 4: Development of the Pact Action Plan

Please refer to the annex headline "Establish the Pact Action Plan".

3. The Pact Coordination Office

The Pact Coordination Office is based at ICLEI Europe in Freiburg, Germany, and works closely together with ICLEI CBC and IUCN. Commissioned by the city of Berlin, it coordinates all Pact processes, documents and developments, and provides information as well as support to interested and signatory cities.

4. Establish Framework Conditions

According to the Pact Implementation Principles, this section gives a brief overview of the framework conditions for an effective implementation of the Pact. By considering these processes, Pact Cities can effectively implement and promote the Pact, ensuring it becomes a cornerstone of a city's biodiversity efforts with broad-based support and active community involvement.

Successful implementation requires collaboration across sectors, alignment with city policies, and active participation from diverse stakeholders. By integrating the Pact into existing structures and fostering innovation through partnerships and community co-creation, cities can amplify their impact on nature.

Please refer to the annex headline "Good Practice Examples" to find concrete examples and good practices on the different topics from around the world.

Integration into City Policies and Workflow

- **Policy integration**: Ensure that the Pact is integrated into relevant city strategy documents, such as urban development plans, environmental strategies, and sustainability agendas.

- **Cross-departmental coordination**: Work closely with other city departments (e.g. urban planning, environmental protection, community development, and education) that are responsible to incorporate the Pact targets and initiatives effectively, for instance through regular meetings in which a joint vision is developed.

- **Incentives and funding**: Provide public funding programs and incentives for local biodiversity initiatives and public-private partnerships; use public procurement to promote and implement the targets.

- **Ownership across sectors:** Foster a sense of ownership of the Pact across various sectors by engaging key stakeholders early on.

- **Reporting requirements:** Make reporting on the Pact a central element of the city's environmental and sustainability reporting framework.

Community Engagement and Co-Creation:

- **Network and engage:** Collaborate and foster partnerships with existing community initiatives, NGOs, local organisations, and environmental groups to enhance community engagement to implement the targets of the Pact.

- **Public participation:** Encourage public participation and feedback through outreach programs, workshops, and educational campaigns. Engage disadvantaged and marginalized communities in planning and decision-making processes.

- **Inform the public:** Provide information on community organisations and engagement opportunities for volunteering and participatory planning.

- **Support the public contributions:** Foster volunteer and citizen science contributions to restoring and mapping biodiversity.

Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing

- **Knowledge exchange:** Share knowledge, good practices, and lessons learned. Engage in the Pact Community of Practice within the CitiesWithNature platform.

- **Formats for knowledge transfer:** Conduct annual meetings, webinars, and dialogues with the Pact City. The Pact Coordination Office will support some of these processes by providing guidance.

Participation in the Pact Community

- **Annual Pact meeting:** The first Pact Cities meeting is tentatively scheduled for Autumn 2025 in Berlin, with subsequent meetings to be hosted mainly online or in person by various Pact Cities. Opportunities to host future meetings will be available for interested cities.
- **Exchange and networking:** Make use of the different options in engaging with other Pact Cities.
- **Stay tuned on the latest insights:** Take part in knowledge exchange and capacity building provided (please see also the following section 5. Get Involved in the Pact Community).

5. Get Involved in the Pact Community

Active involvement in the Pact Community fosters collaboration, knowledge exchange, and collective progress toward achieving biodiversity targets. By participating in joint capacity-building initiatives and taking on thematic leadership roles, cities can contribute to a dynamic implementation alliance that strengthens collective efforts. This collaborative approach not only enhances individual city initiatives but also showcases progress and leadership across the network, with updates and achievements visualized on the Berlin Pact website and social media.

Joint Capacity Building

- To support our implementation alliance, Pact Cities will collate and develop further guidance on specific topics, showcase good practice case studies, establish peer-learning, and share joint achievements
- Furthermore, building on the signatories demands and interests, webinars and dialogues will be organised
- These formats will allow for frequent exchanges and discussions on challenges and solutions, as well as capacity building within the CitiesWithNature [Action Platform](#) and [Pact Community of Practice](#)

Taking Thematic Leadership

- Based on the individual selection of the Berlin Pact targets, all cities will - as a network and implementation alliance - have several Pact Cities leading conceptual and practical implementation of the different targets.
- For strengthening our implementation alliance, Pact Cities can take leadership in other thematic and strategic working groups and processes.

Support Options from the Pact Coordination Office

- Welcome package, logos, email- and social media templates will be provided
- Regular updates and network engagement, e.g. on new developments, exciting publications, events, and webinars:
  - Newsletter: https://forms.gle/ovSYS9KkEN6egXkP8
  - Website: https://www.urbannaturepact.berlin.de
  - LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/berlin-urban-nature-pact/
  - YouTube: http://www.youtube.com/@BerlinUrbanNaturePact
  - X/Twitter: https://x.com/BerlinPact/
- Contact for any further questions:
  - E-Mail: info@urbannaturepact.berlin.de

---

6. Select the Specific Target

The Berlin Urban Nature Pact emphasizes setting ambitious yet practical targets to address biodiversity and climate challenges within cities. It outlines 28 SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound) targets, providing a framework for cities to operationalize transformative actions by 2030. Pact Cities must commit to at least 15 of these targets, covering critical areas such as education, species and habitat conservation, green and blue infrastructure, soil health, and equitable co-creation with stakeholders. These targets aim to balance ecological restoration with urban development while fostering social equity and climate resilience.

Overview of the Target Areas

Education and nature experience

Species and habitats

Co-habitation

Green infrastructure and ecosystems

Blue infrastructure and water management

Soil health

Food and agriculture

To achieve the respective individual targets of these target areas, Pact Cities will implement targeted and visible actions, projects, and processes between now and 2030 aimed at achieving the targets set, or at least ensuring that the conditions and measures are in place to achieve them.

In some cities, the selection of targets may require more time and feedback rounds with internal departments than in others. Thus, also a strong progress towards the targets will be considered - if the prospect of achieving them shortly after 2030 seems feasible.

To facilitate the process of selecting the targets for the Berlin Urban Nature Pact, a structured approach needs to be taken, focusing on the compatibility, alignment, and feasibility of each target with existing strategies and measures. In addition, a baseline assessment may need to be carried out and considered in planning. This process is guided by specific questions aimed at understanding the status and prospects of achieving Berlin Pact targets. Here's an exemplary outline on how to approach this process.

Selection Approach and Questions

A structured evaluation process is essential for cities to select and implement the Berlin Pact targets effectively. The following criteria and guiding questions provide a framework to support cities in this decision-making process.

1. **Compatibility and Alignment with City Strategies**:

   - **Objective**: Determine how well the targets align with existing strategies, measures, and legal bases.

   - **Questions**:

     - How do these targets fit within the existing urban nature strategies in your city?

     - Are there any specific measures or legal instruments already in place that support these targets?

     - What existing strategies are most closely aligned with these targets?

     - What are the key impacts and dependencies of your city to nature that align with these targets?

2. **Current Implementation Status**:

   - **Objective**: Assess the status of measures taken towards achieving these targets.

   - **Questions**:

     - What measures have already been implemented?

     - What progress has been made towards these targets?

     - Are there any notable achievements or milestones?

3. **Feasibility by 2030**:

   - **Objective**: Evaluate whether the targets can be realistically achieved by 2030.

   - **Questions**:

     - Based on the current progress and available resources, is it feasible to achieve these targets by 2030 or at least ensure that the conditions and measures to achieve them at a later stage are established?

     - What are the main challenges or shortfalls that need to be addressed?

     - Are there specific actions or interventions required to ensure these targets are met?

Selection Process

A clear and collaborative process is crucial for selecting and assessing the Berlin Pact targets effectively. The following steps outline a structured approach to ensure thorough analysis, cross-

departmental engagement, and continuous refinement, enabling Pact Cities to align their targets with existing strategies and address potential gaps in implementation.

1. Undertake a preliminary analysis for the targets based on documents and fill in the table regarding the measures, legal instruments, and any known shortfalls for each target. This could e.g. be done by the biodiversity group, green department etc.

2. Ensuring that all relevant departments and sectors are involved in the review process to capture a holistic view. Approach all relevant departments (e.g. city development, agriculture, water protection, education) asking them to review the preliminary analysis results, guided by the key questions above. This is needed to ensure that targets are critically assessed, and other departments support these targets and their implementation.

3. Document the outcomes of this cross-sectoral exchange and refine the table content, highlighting areas of strong alignment, identifying gaps, and outlining necessary actions to address any shortfalls. If possible, identify and address resource needs to ensure the successful implementation of measures.

4. Keeping the table and the associated information updated to reflect new developments and progress.

Based on the results from the previous steps, targets are selected that are both ambitious and likely to be achieved by 2030 (includes positive trends & measures/percentage of achievements reached), as well as targets that are already partially implemented. This process can take a few weeks and includes feedback loops. Eventually, the final list of selected targets is shared with all the involved responsible departments and sectors.

Please refer to Annex "Pact Targets – Selection Structure " for a selection support aid.

7. Establish the Pact Action Plan

The Berlin Urban Nature Pact emphasises the importance of a well-structured Action Plan to operationalise its ambitious targets. Each city is encouraged to create a comprehensive roadmap tailored to its local context, clearly defining the selected targets and a recent baseline assessment (2020 onwards). The Action Plan should align with existing and new policies, outline the pathways and specific actions required, and detail technical implementation strategies. It shall assign responsibilities to relevant actors, establish time-bound milestones, and allocate resources effectively. Furthermore, the plan should incorporate robust monitoring mechanisms to assess progress and ensure the achievement of the selected targets and actions by 2030 (including positive trends & measures/percentage of achievements reached), fostering a nature-positive urban future.

By adhering to SMART criteria, the Pact ensures that its targets are clear, focused, and capable of driving meaningful progress in urban biodiversity and sustainability efforts. Please refer to the tables "Action Plan – Pact City Data" as well as "Action Plan – Target Selection Overview" for a concise pathway outlining the steps for achieving each target, limited to a maximum of one page per target.

8. Monitor & Report on Achievements

Pact Cities will be provided a simple yet effective system for monitoring and reporting. It will include an overview of the selected targets, baseline level and the status of their implementation. The monitoring framework will be based on already-existing efforts and performance indicators in use in Pact Cities. In cases where such data cannot be employed, or in case municipalities would like to explore additional datasets or calculation methods, performance indicators will be suggested. The provision of such metrics will support Pact Cities in identifying the most appropriate targets, milestones and indicators that best apply to their contexts and resources. The indicators will be drawn by different international frameworks that measure urban nature, such as the City Biodiversity Index, CitiesWithNature Action Platform and the IUCN Urban Nature Indexes. Below is a potential example of proposed metric for a given Pact target.

Target	Intent	Calculation	Datasets	International relevance
4.4 We will achieve that every citizen is able to reach a public accessible green space within 500 metres (walkable distance) of their home.	Percentage of all residents living within 500 m of a public, open access natural area.	(Population of city living within 500m from a park/green space) ÷ (Total population of city) × 100% Instructions adapted from CBI Indicator 13: 1. Parks in the local area are mapped out using ArcGIS or similar software. 2. A 400m area buffer is be applied to each of the parks. 3. Create polygons and count households that fall within the 400m area buffer of the parks.	QGIS, satellite images	Global Biodiversity Framework Target 12, City Biodiversity Index indicator 13, CitiesWithNature Action Platform, IUCN Urban Nature Indexes indicator 5.2

Overall, the Pact will encourage the reporting and monitoring of progress of actions towards the conservation of urban nature, and therefore focus will be given to actionable progress rather than adherence to specific metrics. Reporting will only be required at a later stage, after the submission of the Action Plan. As the annual Pact event approaches, the reporting process will begin, using the example below as a template and allowing for self-categorization at the time of reporting.

Please see and follow the approach of annex "Action Plan – Report on Results" – it enables a comprehensive evaluation of selected targets, ensuring that the aggregated results reflect meaningful progress towards biodiversity and sustainability goals.

Report on Target Progress

Pact Cities will document and yearly report their progress towards the Pact targets through the [CitiesWithNature Action Platform](#) and present their results during the annual Berlin Pact meetings. This reporting will serve as a contribution to the targets of the UN CBD Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). The process will be facilitated with CitiesWithNature and will include:

- Showcase achievements: Upload documents such as established reports and policies for target actions to the platform to collect and earn Pact badges.

- Biodiversity overview: Present an overview of biodiversity and related actions.

- Engagement activities: Information on activities and initiatives aimed at engaging stakeholders and communities in biodiversity conservation.

This structured approach ensures transparency and alignment with international biodiversity goals within the CBD-recognized CitiesWithNature Action Platform.

9. Outlook on Future Revisions

The Pact Guidance document is a living document. It thrives from the much-appreciated input of Pact Cities, institutional partner organizations, consortium members and valued colleagues. Future revisions will include the following updates and reworks:

- Baseline setting in more detailed description
- Match wording & language with the Science Based Targets Network (SBTN)
- Match wording with the EU Nature Restoration Regulation (NRR)
- Improved coherence with indices like SBTN and IUCN UNI
- Revised monitoring strategy
- Extended annex collection of resources & case studies
- ...(your input & feedback)...

Annex

Good Practice Examples

The following case studies and initiatives highlight a range of strategies, tools, and practices that cities and organizations around the world are employing to enhance urban biodiversity. Together, they demonstrate innovative approaches and actionable solutions that can inspire and guide cities in achieving their biodiversity targets. Please refer to the respective Implementation Principles of the Pact document for further details.

	Case Study	Gover- nance	Financing/ Funding	Co- Creation	Capacity Building	Monitoring & reporting
City Plans and Strategies						
1	Milan's Urban Forestry Plan	x	x	x		
2	Barcelona's Nature Plan (2021-2030)	x	x	x	x	x
3	London's Environmental Strategy		x	x	x	x
4	Paris Climate and Energy Action Plan	x	x		x	
5	Rotterdam's Climate Adaptation Strategy:	x	x	x	x	
6	Stockholm's Environmental Program	x				x
7	New York City's Community Parks Initiative		x	x	x	
8	Cape Town's Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan	x	x	x	x	x
9	Singapore's City Biodiversity Index	x	x	x		x
10	Edinburgh's Biodiversity Action Plan			x	x	x
Overarching Toolkits and Initiatives						
11	Urban Governance Atlas	x	x		x	x
12	ICLEI's Cities Biodiversity Centre				x	
13	EU's Urban Nature Atlas	x	x		x	x
14	PANORAMA Cities Community				x	
15	IUCN Urban Nature Indexes	x		x	x	x

I

1. **Milan's Urban Forestry Plan**: Milan has committed to planting 3 million trees by 2030, focusing on improving urban biodiversity, air quality, and reducing the urban heat island effect.

2. **Barcelona's Nature Plan (2021-2030)**: This plan is a strategic tool that outlines the city's vision for 2050. It aims to improve social and environmental services, particularly in terms of health and adaptation to climate change.

3. **London's Environmental Strategy**: London's strategy includes integrating green infrastructure into city planning, aligning policies across different sectors to enhance urban biodiversity.

4. **Paris Biodiversity Plan**: This page takes stock of all the mechanisms for the protection of Parisian biodiversity, both to preserve it and to promote it. The "Plan Biodiversité de Paris 2018-2024" is divided into 30 actions grouped into three axes.

5. **Rotterdam's Climate Adaptation Strategy**: This strategy uses SMART targets to implement NbS for climate resilience, including green roofs and water plazas.

6. **Stockholm's Environmental Program**: Stockholm's program includes clear, measurable targets for increasing green spaces and enhancing urban biodiversity.

7. **New York City's Community Parks Initiative**: This initiative focuses on underserved neighbourhoods to ensure equal access to green spaces and involve communities in park planning.

8. **Cape Town's Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan**: Cape Town works with local communities and stakeholders to protect biodiversity and ensure equitable access to green spaces.

9. **PANORAMA Cities Community**: As part of the wider platform PANORAMA - Solutions for a Healthy Planet, this thematic community presents over 240 replicable solutions on urban sustainability.

10. **Singapore's City Biodiversity Index**: The City Biodiversity Index (CBI) - also known as the Singapore Index on Cities' Biodiversity (SI) - is a self-assessment tool for cities to evaluate and monitor the progress of their biodiversity conservation efforts against their own individual baselines.

11. **Edinburgh's Biodiversity Action Plan**: This system enables tracking and reporting on biodiversity action plans and outcomes.

12. **Urban Governance Atlas**: A collection of more than 250 good practice policy instruments supporting nature-based solutions and ecosystem restoration.

13. **ICLEI's Cities Biodiversity Centre**: This centre facilitates knowledge exchange and collaboration among cities to enhance urban biodiversity.

14. **EU's Urban Nature Atlas**: The Atlas provides a comprehensive database of NbS implemented in European cities, fostering knowledge sharing and collaboration.

15. **IUCN Urban Nature Indexes**: This flexible framework helps cities monitor their ecological performance through the assessment of baselines and the monitoring of trends on urban nature through a set of indicators.

Pact Targets – Overview and Examples

We recognize the diversity of biogeographical and local conditions as well as the priorities and policy frameworks of the signatory cities. Each city should consider the relevance of each target and decide which goals are ambitious yet achievable. To be recognized as a signatory, each city must select at least **15 of all 28 specific targets, and, if possible, cover at least one target from each of the seven target areas by 2030** (baseline: 2020). Cities have different starting points and may have already started to take action to plan, design or implement some of the specific objectives listed. The following table provides an overview of the seven target areas and their corresponding specific targets.

Target area	Specific targets	Examples and further information
1 Education and nature experience		
1.1	We will actively promote collaboration with schools, universities, and other educational institutions (e.g., museums, botanical or zoological gardens, NGOs) to develop and implement a public biodiversity program for education and capacity building.	Collaboration with educational institutions can include initiatives such as integrating biodiversity topics into school curricula, organizing interactive biodiversity exhibits with museums, or partnering with botanical and zoological gardens for guided educational tours. Universities can contribute by hosting citizen science projects like urban wildlife monitoring, while NGOs can offer community workshops or campaigns to raise awareness about urban ecosystems and sustainable practices.
1.2	We will facilitate in-depth nature experiences for all children. For this, we commit to provide pedagogically supported, free, and fully accessible in-depth-experiences in nature at least 1 day a year, for every child up to the age of 15.	Cities can organize annual "Nature Days" where children participate in hands-on activities like planting trees, exploring local ecosystems, or observing wildlife. Accessible nature experiences can also include outdoor classrooms, eco-camps, or guided nature walks, ensuring that every child, regardless of background, could engage meaningfully with nature and understand its importance.
1.3	We strive for on-site educational presence in forests, parks, and other biodiverse public green and blue spaces by rangers or supervisors that provide nature-based environmental education.	Employing rangers or trained supervisors in public green and blue spaces can provide regular guided tours, educational workshops, and interactive sessions on biodiversity. These rangers can also set up informational kiosks, host community events like tree identification walks, or offer seasonal programs to engage the public and promote environmental stewardship.

2 Species and habitats		
2.1	We will improve the conservation status of endangered species. We will protect, restore, and sustainably manage habitats within our jurisdiction so that at least 30% of the species and habitats with a bad ecological condition will reach a good ecological condition or at least show a positive and improving trend. We will ensure that the condition of these habitats do not deteriorate.	Efforts to improve the conservation status of endangered species can include restoring degraded habitats through measures like rewilding, planting native vegetation, and removing invasive species. Cities can also establish or expand protected areas, implement species-specific action plans, and create ecological corridors to support wildlife movement. Regular monitoring and data collection can ensure that at least 30% of species and habitats in poor ecological condition show measurable improvements, while strict safeguards prevent further degradation. Collaboration with conservation experts, local communities, and NGOs will further enhance the effectiveness of these initiatives.
2.2	We will increase the share of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) to 30%.	OECMs (other effective area-based conservation measures) is an area other than a protected area, which is governed and managed in ways that achieve positive and sustained long-term outcomes for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity, with associated ecosystem functions and services Examples include urban parks (with provisions for biodiversity conservation/ restoration measures), special forest management plans under the principles of close-to nature forestry, agro-environmental schemes or nature protection management in cooperation with citizens.
2.3	We will incorporate measures for habitat connectivity as a key element in our land-planning processes to increase species and habitat structure richness and resilience.	Integrating habitat connectivity into urban land planning can involve creating green corridors, enhancing riverbanks, and implementing wildlife crossings to ensure uninterrupted movement for species. These measures not only enhance biodiversity but also strengthen ecosystem resilience, making urban environments more adaptable to climate change and other stressors.

2.4	We will improve the ecological conditions for insects. Therefore, we will reduce the use of pesticides and synthetic fertilizers in public urban agricultural areas by 50% and the use of herbicides and insecticides on all public urban green spaces by 100%.	Reducing pesticide and synthetic fertilizer use by 50% in urban agricultural areas and eliminating herbicides and insecticides in public green spaces can create healthier habitats for insects. This could include establishing pollinator-friendly zones, planting native wildflowers, and introducing organic maintenance practices to foster thriving insect populations and bolster urban biodiversity.
2.5	We will identify priority alien invasive species against which measures are to be taken in order to reduce the rate of establishment of these species and their impacts on native species and habitats. We will implement actions for at least 50% of those invasive species to manage their populations and achieve a non-harming status.	Identifying priority invasive species and implementing targeted management actions for at least 50% of them can mitigate their negative impacts on native species and habitats. Measures can include manual removal, habitat restoration, public awareness campaigns, and stricter regulations to limit their spread, ensuring a balanced and sustainable urban ecosystem.
3 Co-habitation		
3.1	We will support the healthy co-existence of humans and nature in urban development. When new buildings and infrastructure are built for people, they should also consider including biodiversity-friendly design elements that encourage use by native fauna.	Animal-Aided Design (AAD) integrates biodiversity into urban development by creating spaces that cater to the needs of both humans and local wildlife. It involves designing elements like green roofs, wildlife corridors, and nesting boxes to support native species such as birds, insects, and small mammals. By fostering coexistence, AAD enhances biodiversity, improves ecosystem services, and enriches urban environments for people and nature alike.
3.2	We will develop and adopt regulations for public buildings to include the protection of species breeding at buildings (imitation of ecological niches for birds, insects, bats, etc.) and protection against bird strikes on glass surfaces.	Regulations for public buildings can mandate features like bird-safe glass, green roofs, and artificial nesting sites to support species that rely on urban structures for breeding. Measures such as designing façades with ecological niches for birds, bats, and insects, and implementing bird strike prevention technologies on glass surfaces, can significantly reduce urban biodiversity risks while promoting coexistence between urban development and wildlife.

3.3	We will develop building standards for biodiverse green roofs and/or green facades and implement it on at least 50% of all new private and public developments.	A biodiversity green roof is a green roof with a high level of structural and plant diversity to enable flora and fauna to develop new habitats and thus promote biodiversity. Its structural diversity is characterised, for example, by different substrate thicknesses and qualities (sandy, loamy in places), temporary water areas, deadwood and nesting aids for insects, birds and bats. An essential prerequisite for the spontaneous colonisation of biodiversity green roofs by (invertebrate) animal species is the use of native (indigenous) plant species.
3.4	We will minimize damage to insects, bats, birds, amphibians and plants by reducing 50% of city nightglow caused by public buildings and street illumination.	Potential measures entail optimising the intensity and orientation of illumination as well as the switch-off times of indoor and outdoor lighting and switch to long-wave light for outdoor lighting of our facilities as well as in public green and blue areas.
4 Green infrastructure and ecosystems		
4.1	We will strive for one tree for every six residents in public spaces (including streets).	Planting one tree for every six residents in public spaces, including streets, creates greener, cooler, and more sustainable cities while enhancing air quality and urban biodiversity. This initiative prioritizes equitable distribution of trees, ensuring all neighbourhoods benefit from increased green cover.
4.2	We will achieve 10% or more in tree canopy cover, striving to deploy a district-by-district approach to find the best solution for each respective area.	A district-by-district approach tailors tree canopy strategies to the specific needs and conditions of each urban area. It considers factors like population density, available space, and local ecology to implement solutions that work best for each district, such as pocket parks in dense areas or extensive tree planting in suburban zones. This ensures efficient, context-sensitive outcomes and maximizes environmental and social benefits across the city.
4.3	Regarding tree, shrub and other plant species selection, we will consider climate resilience and species diversity with a preference for native species whenever feasible. The same applies to further green habitats (such as shrublands, grasslands, steppe, etc.) and their respective land-covering vegetation.	Selecting climate-resilient, diverse, and predominantly native species for trees, shrubs, and other green habitats fosters robust ecosystems capable of adapting to changing environmental conditions. This approach also supports local wildlife and strengthens the ecological balance in urban areas.

4.4	We will achieve that every citizen is able to reach a public accessible green space within 500 meters (walkable distance) of their home.	Ensuring that every citizen can access a public green space within 500 meters of their home promotes equitable access to nature, improving mental and physical well-being. Creating walkable connections to green spaces enhances community cohesion and supports biodiversity in urban environments.
4.5	We commit to establish a biodiversity-oriented green space maintenance standard on at least 25% of our public urban green spaces.	Committing to biodiversity-oriented maintenance standards for at least 25% of public urban green spaces encourages the use of native vegetation, pollinator habitats, and reduced chemical inputs. These practices enrich urban ecosystems and create havens for wildlife in densely populated areas.
4.6	For our managed forests, we will attain the certification by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or equivalent. We will strongly decrease forest maintenance regimes on 10% of the forest area in our jurisdiction to allow wilderness or natural forest regeneration processes (with the exception of land management to prevent wildfires). We will also prevent forest clear-cutting regimes.	Achieving FSC certification or equivalent for managed forests ensures sustainable practices that balance ecological health with economic benefits. Reducing intensive maintenance on 10% of forested areas allows for natural regeneration and wilderness processes, while preventing clear-cutting safeguards long-term forest ecosystems, with fire prevention measures maintained for safety.
5 Blue infrastructure and water management		
5.1	We will implement restoration and rehabilitation action for at least 25% of our municipal area of all degraded freshwater, coastal/ marine ecosystems, and wetlands/ peatlands areas within our jurisdiction.	Restoring and rehabilitating at least 25% of degraded freshwater, coastal/marine ecosystems, and wetlands or peatlands within municipal boundaries is a critical step toward enhancing biodiversity, improving water quality, and strengthening climate resilience. These efforts will revitalize essential ecosystem services, such as carbon sequestration, flood regulation, and habitat provision for native species.
5.2	Sponge City rainwater management combined with measures promoting biodiversity as a nature-based solution will be our standard urban planning paradigm for new development projects and urban regeneration.	A sponge city is designed so that rain- and stormwater is kept and absorbed where it falls. Stormwater is managed through increased infiltration, detention, storage, treatment, and drainage using nature-based solutions. Those can entail, for example, parks, drainage pavements, rain gardens, infiltration and retention wells, urban gardens and plantations, green walls and roofs.

6 Soil health		
6.1	We will set and implement ambitious targets on the remediation of contaminated soils connected to groundwater within our jurisdictions.	Reduction of Contaminant Levels: Achieve a 90% reduction in hazardous contaminant concentrations (e.g., heavy metals, hydrocarbons, or pesticides) within affected soils and groundwater over 10 years. Restoration Goals: Remediate 75% of contaminated sites within the jurisdiction to meet safe groundwater quality standards for human and ecological health by 2030. Reuse of Remediated Land: Ensure that 50% of remediated sites are converted into functional spaces, such as green areas, public parks, or safe construction zones, within 5 years of remediation completion.
6.2	We aim to halt soil sealing and achieve no net loss of urban green biodiverse spaces.	To preserve urban biodiversity and enhance environmental resilience, we are committed to halting soil sealing and ensuring no net loss of biodiverse green spaces within urban areas. By protecting these vital areas, we aim to mitigate urban heat islands, improve air quality, and support the habitat needs of various species. This approach also ensures that urban development does not come at the cost of essential natural ecosystems, promoting a balance between growth and ecological sustainability.
6.3	We will mitigate soil compaction around urban trees to prevent slow tree decay caused by construction works. We will also introduce measures of good technical practice to reduce compaction on agricultural soils.	Soil compaction is a significant threat to tree health and agricultural productivity. We will take proactive measures to prevent soil compaction around urban trees, particularly during construction activities, to avoid slow tree decay and maintain their ecological benefits. Additionally, we will promote and implement good technical practices to reduce compaction on agricultural soils, ensuring their long-term viability and contribution to sustainable food production and biodiversity conservation.
6.4	We will use nature-based solutions on open soils to mitigate adverse erosion effects caused by wind or water.	Tree Planting in Urban Streets: Strategically planting trees along streets and open spaces can stabilize the soil, reduce wind erosion, and intercept water runoff, especially in cities prone to storms or droughts. Urban Wetlands: Creating small, engineered wetland areas in urban parks or along flood-prone rivers to absorb excess water, filter pollutants, and reduce soil erosion caused by water flow.

IX		Rain Gardens and Bioswales: Designing permeable green spaces that capture and absorb rainwater, such as rain gardens in city parks or along streets, to reduce runoff and prevent soil erosion in urban landscapes. Urban Green Roofs: Installing green roofs with vegetation helps absorb rainwater, reduce runoff, and prevent soil erosion on building rooftops, while also cooling the urban environment. Permeable Pavements: Using porous materials for city streets, parking lots, and walkways that allow rainwater to infiltrate into the ground, reducing erosion and preventing the creation of surface runoff. Soil Stabilization with Native Plants: Using drought-tolerant and deep-rooted native plants in urban areas like parks, riverbanks, and recreational spaces to protect open soils from wind and water erosion. Floodplain Restoration in Urban Areas: Reviving and managing floodplains within cities to reduce the velocity of stormwater runoff, preventing erosion along water bodies and enhancing local ecosystems.
7 Food and agriculture		
7.1	We will ensure that at least 10% of the agricultural land will have high-diversity landscape features with high biological diversity.	High-diversity landscape features are small fragments of natural or semi-natural vegetation and habitats, which provide ecosystem services and support biodiversity. Examples include woody features, field margins, pounds, ditches, hedges. Stone walls and tree lines.
7.2	We will implement agro-ecological practices on at least 25% of agricultural land.	Agro-ecological practices include for example cover/catch crops, retaining crop residues on the field, extending perennial phase of crop rotations, using perennial crops, permaculture, reduced tillage and zero tillage as well as agroforestry, woody landscape features or food forests.

7.3	We will reduce the use of synthetic fertilizers by at least 20% on agricultural land.	To enhance soil health and reduce environmental impacts, we commit to cutting the use of synthetic fertilizers by at least 20% on agricultural land. This reduction will promote healthier ecosystems, support soil biodiversity, and decrease the runoff of harmful chemicals into surrounding habitats, contributing to more sustainable agricultural practices and a thriving natural environment.
7.4	We will maintain and aim to increase the net area of allotments and community gardens and establish programs to foster biodiverse management thereof.	Allotments and community gardens are essential spaces for fostering urban biodiversity and community engagement. We will maintain and work towards increasing the net area of these spaces, ensuring they remain accessible to citizens. Additionally, we will establish programs that encourage biodiverse management practices, empowering communities to create green spaces that support pollinators, wildlife, and sustainable food production.

Pact Targets – Selection Structure

Target	Compatibility with Strategies	Implementation Status (e.g. measures in place)	Feasibility (by 2030)
Target Area 1: Education and nature experience			
Target 1	Aligned with Green Space Strategy Urban Green Space Law	Initial phase of implementation, several parks upgraded	High feasibility with increased funding
Target 2	Partially aligned with Biodiversity Action Plan	Some hotspots identified, monitoring mechanisms in place	Moderate feasibility, needs enhanced monitoring
Target Area 2-6: ...			
Targets 3 -15/28			

Action Plan – Pact City Data

Name of City (Country)	xxx
Focal point for the Pact in the city (name, job title, city department, address, email, phone)	xxx
Short description of status of biodiversity and challenges (baseline 2020 – if feasible)	Examples • different habitats and their ecological condition • number of threatened and endemic species, target species • ha protected areas and OECM and % of city area • ha urban green space ... add links to existing municipal documents/plans.
Overarching relevant policies	e.g. biodiversity strategy, urban greening master plan, city nature plan, education plans, ...
Key websites	...

Action Plan – Target Selection Overview

Target x.x	Corresponding policy framework	Map relevant existing and planned policies (e.g. Strategy for urban green spaces, Urban tree action plan)
	Status of target	In planning (plus short descriptive text)
	Planned actions	e.g. 1. develop a targeted funding programme (by green space and city development department) with x/ annum 2. public awareness campaign to promote the programme 3. ...
	Responsible actors	1. ... 2. ...
	Time-bound milestones	M1: x street trees by 2027 and x trees by 2030 planted M2: ... M3: ...
	Allocated total resources/ available funds	x EUR/USD/CNY/PHP/...
Target x.x	Corresponding policy framework	
	Status of target	
	Planned actions	
	Responsible actors	
	Time-bound milestones	
	Allocated total resources	

Action Plan – Report on Results

Target		Progress categories					
N°	Planned milestones	Not started yet	In Planning	Actions designed	Implementation started	Implementation partly achieved (25%/50%/75%)	Implemented/ target completed
1.3	We strive for on-site educational presence in forests, parks, and other biodiverse public green and blue spaces by rangers or supervisors that provide nature-based environmental education.						
	x park rangers across green spaces employed		Initiation of dialogue with key actors	Ranger program integrated in xx strategy	x rangers already funded	50% of rangers active in half of the city's green spaces	Rangers active in 100% city green spaces
	Milestone 2	x					
	Milestone 3	x					
	...						
7.1	We will ensure that at least 10% of the agricultural land will have high-diversity landscape features with high biological diversity.						
	Introduce policy of x % of tree hedges, tree-shrub hedges and shrub hedges per ha		Creation of planning group	Guide created and policy implemented in xx	xx hedges and shrubs funded and in planning	50% achieved by 2030	
	Milestone 2	x					
	...	x					

Initiator/Coordinator:

BERLIN

Senate Department
for Urban Mobility, Transport,
Climate Action
and the Environment

Pact Coordination Office:

ICLEI
Local Governments
for Sustainability

IUCN

Supporters:

Supported by:

Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation,
Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection

based on a decision of
the German Bundestag

BfN
Federal Agency for
Nature Conservation