

NATURALLY LOCAL

ZIŅU LAPA #1

PIEDĀVĀJAM IEPAŽĪTIES AR PIRMO ZIŅU LAPU INTERREG EUROPE PROGRAMMAS PROJEKTAM “MAZO PAŠVALDĪBU PIELĀGOŠANĀS KLIMATA PĀRMAIŅĀM, IZMANTOJOT DABĀ BALSTĪTOS RISINĀJUMUS” (PROJEKTA NR. 03C0848).

Klimata pārmaiņas ir realitāte. Pielāgošanās ir būtiska. Ir pienācis laiks rīkoties.

Šī ziņu lapa tapusi ciešā sadarbībā ar deviņu Eiropas valstu pašvaldībām, kuras apvieno kopīgs mērķis — veicināt pašvaldību spēju pielāgoties klimata pārmaiņām.

Projekta nosaukums angļu valodā ir “*Climate Adaptation in Small Municipalities with Natural Based Solutions*”, bet tā īsais nosaukums — “NATURALLY LOCAL”.

Iesaistītās pašvaldības koncentrēsies uz diviem stratēģiskiem virzieniem:

- klimata pārmaiņu radīto izaicinājumu pārvarēšanu
- dabas katastrofu risku mazināšanu

Sadarbojoties vietējā, valsts un Eiropas līmenī, partneri ir apņēmušies:

- 1 Rīkojoties, paātrinot dabā balstītu risinājumu ieviešanu
- 2 Iedvesmojoties, daloties veiksmes stāstos
- 3 Vietējo spēju stiprināšana, lai paplašinātu uz dabu balstītas pieejas
- 4 Politikas izvērtēšana un progresa izsekošana klimata pārmaiņu adaptācijas jomā

9
partneri

Budžets

2,015,910 €

80% ERAF 10% valsts 10% pašvaldība

Projekta
norises laiks:

01.05.2025 -
31.07.2029

Projekta “NATURALLY LOCAL” galvenais uzdevums ir stiprināt pašvaldību kapacitāti reģionālās attīstības plānošanā, veicinot pieredzes apmaiņu starp speciālistiem, kas strādā vides un klimata politikas jomā. Tādējādi tiks radīti priekšnosacījumi kvalitatīvai un ilgtspējīgai plānošanas dokumentu izstrādei.

Iesaistītās pašvaldības:

Selnica ob Dravi (vadošais partneris, Slovēnija), Serock (Polija), Óbidos (Portugāle), Montilla (Spānija), Fourmies (Francija), Storfors (Zviedrija), Danilovgrad (Melnkalne), Giessen (Vācija), Rēzeknes novada pašvaldība (Latvija).

NATURALLY LOCAL NEWSLETTER #1

WELCOME TO THE FIRST EDITION OF OUR NEWSLETTER:
NATURALLY LOCAL – NATURE AT THE HEART OF LOCAL CLIMATE ADAPTATION.
Climate change is a reality. Adaptation is essential. The time to act is now.

The Interreg Europe project NATURALLY LOCAL brings together nine public authorities from across Europe, united by a shared goal: to implement Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) that strengthen local resilience to climate change.

Firmly rooted in their territories, the project partners, mostly small municipalities, are close to citizens and local stakeholders. This proximity makes them ideally placed to turn climate challenges into tangible, visible and collective action.

The project focuses on two key priorities:

- Climate change adaptation
- Disaster risk reduction

Through cooperation at local, national and European levels, the partners are committed to:

- 1 Acting by accelerating the implementation of Nature-Based Solutions
- 2 Inspiring by sharing success stories
- 3 Strengthening local capacities to scale up nature-based approaches
- 4 Evaluating policies and tracking progress in climate adaptation



NATURALLY LOCAL shows that meaningful climate action begins locally. By drawing on the power of nature and working together, the partners are building on existing solutions, expanding them, and sharing their experience to help shape a greener, more resilient and more united Europe.

In this first issue, meet the partners, explore their regions and discover their commitments.

Let's make climate adaptation a shared journey. One rooted locally, powered by nature and strengthened through collaboration.



SELNICA OB DRAVI SLOVENIA

The Municipality of Selnica ob Dravi lies in NE Slovenia, 15 km from Maribor, along the Drava River, surrounded by the Kobansko and Pohorje hills. It has 4,480 residents and covers 64 km². Known for its natural beauty and cultural heritage, it features sites like the Holy Spirit Church, Viltuš Castle, and the historic Fala hydropower plant with a technical museum. Founded in 1998, the municipality promotes sustainable development, exemplified by its CO₂-free wooden kindergarten—one of the most sustainable in the EU. Selnica ob Dravi is vulnerable to climate change impacts such as storms, droughts, and torrential rains. It is committed to adaptation and aims for climate neutrality by 2040.



The Naturally Local project will provide partners with new knowledge and experience in the field of sustainable environmental management. With the help of international partners, it will develop an action plan for implementing nature-based solutions in infrastructure interventions. At the same time, it will transfer this knowledge and experience to neighbouring municipalities and citizens, as individual self-protection is also very important for resilience.

SEROCK POLAND

Located 40 kilometers from Warsaw, the city of Serock covers an area of 110.25 km² and has a population of over 16,300. This dynamic municipality focuses on key sectors for its development: services, tourism, and agriculture.

Thanks to its natural assets—including the Zegrze Reservoir and the protected Natura 2000 sites—Serock attracts many visitors while striving to preserve its environmental heritage.

Serock is increasingly facing challenges related to climate change. Heatwaves, droughts, and floods are becoming more frequent.

In response, the city is involved in the Naturally Local project to strengthen flood protection, improve rainwater retention, and promote eco-friendly solutions. Drawing inspiration from best practices in other municipalities, Serock aims to become a local model of resilience in the face of climate risks.

OBIDOS PORTUGAL

Óbidos is 141.55 square kilometers, with a coastline with a connection to the Óbidos Lagoon, the longest lagoon by the coast. It's a rural area with a growing third sector as a tourism destination. The town is a "heritage city" with a medieval wall around.

Vulnerability to forest fires. Our territory has forest areas exposed. This vulnerability may increase due to the rise of temperatures, periods of drought and extreme events.

Vulnerability to excessive heat. Extreme events are increasingly frequent, with a significant impact on the population.

Thanks to Naturally Local, the municipality would like to integrate the NBS concept into its policies and sees its participation as an opportunity of cooperation that will allow us to develop NBS practices, which can be expanded in other territories.

MONTILLA SPAIN

Montilla is an Andalusian municipality located in the province of Cordoba, recognized for its winemaking tradition, olive groves, valuable historical and cultural heritage. The municipality has continental Mediterranean climate, characterised by hot, dry summers and mild winters.

The municipality is facing the effects of climate change, with prolonged droughts, heat waves and torrential rains. This reality forces agriculture, local industry and the urban environment to adapt, requiring more efficient management of water resources and emissions reduction.

Montilla needs climate adaptation in various sectors, including energy, water, agriculture, and infrastructure and will collaborate with other European territories, sharing experiences and good practices, promoting citizens' participation and cooperation with other local entities.

FOURMIES FRANCE

Located in northern France, Fourmies is a town known for its strong commitment to ecological and energy transition through the «rev3» strategy, part of the Third Industrial Revolution. As a national demonstrator city in the French Climate Change Adaptation Plan (PNACC), Fourmies faces the urgent challenge of adapting to climate change while ensuring a just and livable future.

With rich natural assets—forests, ponds, and hedgerows—the town sees nature as a key ally. Through the Naturally Local project, Fourmies will share its experience (e.g., passive bio-based buildings, the use of bocage for heating public facilities) and learn from partners to build a strategic roadmap for nature-based solutions.

These efforts will reinforce its local rev3 strategy and help shape a resilient, inclusive, and sustainable future.



REZEKNE LATVIA

Rezekne Municipality, located in eastern Latvia's Latgale region, blends rural charm with rich culture but faces climate risks such as floods, wind damage, heatwaves, and biodiversity loss.

Its General Action and Investment Plan 2023–2029 guides municipal development, budgeting, and EU projects but lacks a focus on climate neutrality.

Thanks to the Naturally Local project, Rezekne Municipality will revise the plan to include actions that increase residents' awareness of and interest in moving towards climate neutrality.



STORFORS SWEDEN

Storfors Municipality is one of Sweden's ten smallest municipalities, with 3,781 inhabitants in the county of Värmland. This rural municipality, with its extensive forests and waterways, is often referred to as Värmland's largest island.

Storfors is increasingly affected by climate change, with a growing risk of forest fires, floods, heatwaves, and extreme cold.

As a small municipality, Storfors is not sufficiently equipped to feel secure in the face of future large-scale and complex climate challenges.



DANILOVGRAD MONTENEGRO

The Municipality of Danilovgrad, located between Podgorica and Nikšić in central Montenegro, supports local development, sustainability, and inclusion. Through its Economic Secretariat and Project Office, it actively participates in EU integration and regional projects. With a population of around 18,500 (2023 census), Danilovgrad seeks to build capacity through international initiatives.

Originally planned as Montenegro's capital by King Nikola I in 1869, the town has a humid Mediterranean climate—with hot, dry summers and cool winters. Hot summers cause frequent fires, harming biodiversity and air quality, while rainy seasons bring floods in the Zeta River valley, affecting the protected Rijeka Zeta Nature Park.



Through Naturally Local project, the municipality aims to identify and address local risks such as floods, droughts, and fires; explore shared challenges (e.g., deforestation, fertilizer use, fossil fuels); apply nature-based, locally informed solutions; and support interregional learning with partners.

GIESSEN GERMANY

The District of Giessen (854 km²) comprises 18 communities with 280,000 inhabitants, of which the City of Giessen is the largest, with 100,000. The landscape features wide agricultural basins and rolling, mainly forested hills. The economy is characterized by small and medium-sized enterprises in the metallurgical and material science sectors, as well as logistics and farming.

Potential climate change impacts include droughts and wildfires affecting forestry and agriculture, heavy rainstorms with windbursts or even tornadoes, and areas prone to flooding.



Through Naturally Local project, Giessen seeks to adapt to climate change by learning from other European regions while also contributing its own experience—particularly in fostering communication among relevant local stakeholders—to the consortium.



Humans and nature were created to live in harmony. Therefore, we carry out all our actions to respect nature. The nature repays us for this and enables us to live a full and healthy life.

MAYOR: DR. VLASTA KRMEJ
LEADER OF NATURALLY LOCAL CONSORTIUM

