

Community-Based Approaches

with Sean Bradley

Episode 1



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Sean works at Groundwork London and is an expert in community-based approaches to nature-based solutions (NbS). He has applied his expertise globally in Europe, Canada and Brazil, using a Living Lab approach. He contributes to the CLEVER Cities Programme.

Sean holds an MSc in Urban Environmental Engineering and an MBA in Environmental Management and Technologies.

How do NbS Impact Social Well-being?

- NbS have a positive impact on social well-being because, compared to controversial building or architecture projects, most people are in favor of natural spaces.
- The co-creation process shifts power to a larger, more inclusive group of stakeholders which builds cohesion in the community.

Key Elements of Stakeholder Engagement in NbS Projects

- 1 **Understanding the Community:** Assess the existing community and its dynamics, needs and key stakeholders before engaging.
- 2 **Building Trust:** Establish trust by fostering relationships, maintaining transparency and actively listening to community concerns.
- 3 **Community Development:** Support the formation of organisations and networks to strengthen engagement.
- 4 **Compensation:** A paid model can encourage the commitment of deeply engaged groups and foster inclusivity.
- 5 **Inclusive Decision-Making:** Involve community members directly in leadership and decision-making.

Recommended Resources

- [Guidelines for co-creation and co-governance of nature-based solutions](#)
- [Integrated Collaborative Governance Approaches towards Urban Transformation](#)
- [Strategies for Co-Creation and Co-Governance in Urban Contexts](#)