

## ERP-Gathering Kielce

Number of the workshop: 18

Name of the workshop: **Green&Blue infrastructure in the context of climate change**

### Our responses to challenges:

1. Fires and floods from extreme weather events
2. Rising oceans but also rising land masses due to melting glaciers
3. Drought leading to drying wells, loss of drinking water and crop damage
4. Understanding of what green and blue infrastructure depends on previous knowledge.

Green infrastructure can mean eco-infrastructure or in this case the green and blue spaces that support development for moving away from fossil fuel usage.

### Our proposals for governments & EU

1. Education is needed: We need to understand the technical language and the benefits that green and blue infrastructure can provide even in rural areas, such as a potential for biomass production for energy, materials (bioplastics/chemicals etc.) and fibre.
2. Local caretakers are needed to care for the green and blue infrastructure and this should not be provided solely by volunteers. These benefits are maintained for the cities as much as the local rural inhabitants, for example blue infrastructure that prevents flooding or green infrastructure for biomass, recreation etc.
3. Better laws and regulations are needed to protect the natural resources for the local people.
4. Better connections between researchers and communities are needed so they can exchange ideas on appropriate development of the natural resources. Both should bring their different expertise to the table (local and academic knowledge).
5. Green leaders needed
6. Support for rehabilitation of small areas with small grants such as permeable surfaces, rainwater gardens etc.
7. Address logistics of getting the biomass to the places where the biomass is needed and can be processed (short supply chains?)

### Good ideas, practices, processes

1. Previous agricultural practices such as green strips/hedgerows alongside fields in Poland (and the UK), cutting of hay meadows to maintain the diversity. Life project Latvia.
2. Retention ponds and ditches for water to seep into the land
3. Trees alongside roads, herbs, social orchards = edible landscapes.
4. Re-wilding of rivers to prevent water draining from the land too quickly.