



NATURIncMed

PROMOTION OF THE NATURALISATION
OF PUBLIC SPACES, INTEGRATING SOCIAL INCLUSION
AND ECOSYSTEMIC SERVICES

Federica Giardina

Project officer of the NaturIncMed Project

International Study Visit on Green
and Inclusive Urban Planning
Barcelona, 28th of April 2026



The project is coordinated by:



The project is funded by:





Previous experiences on renaturalisation and urban greening

- **Combining diagnosis and implementation** on the ground.
- **Mapping vulnerabilities** and needs. Strategic approach.
- Strengthening the **capacities of municipalities** and supports them throughout the process.
- **First approach** with **participatory processes**.
- **Network approach**



NATURMED – Nature for Urban Resilience in the Mediterranean 2022

Funded by Barcelona City Council

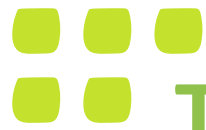
Pilot projects in **Saida (Lebanon)**, **Jerash (Jordan)** and **Bethlehem (Palestine)**.

Promotes the **naturalisation of green public spaces** as a tool for urban resilience.



HERA – Green Infrastructure in Mediterranean Cities 2023

Implements **concrete actions** to increase and improve the green infrastructure of 3 MedCities members



The project

Inclusive green spaces for resilient Mediterranean cities

Technical support to municipalities in the southern Mediterranean in the planning and design of green and socially inclusive spaces as a lever for an urban environment that is more resilient to climate change and with a greater social impact.

Financed by: Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation AECID

Within the Masar Al'an regional programme supporting local governance and sustainable urban development with a focus on capacity building and municipal strengthening

Coordinated by: MedCities

Beneficiaries: El Mina (Lebanon), Gabès (Tunisia), Madaba (Jordan), Tétouan (Morocco)



Total budget (ongoing):

€300,000 | October 2024 – October 2026 | phase - 24 months

€100,000 | January 2026 – June 2027 | phase – 18 months

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The phases

Phase I – Participatory diagnosis and preliminary project design (ongoing)

3 pilot cities:

- Madaba (Jordan)
- El Mina (Lebanon)
- Gabès (Tunisia)



Madaba, Jordan



El Mina, Lebanon



Gabès, Tunisia

Phase II – Expansion (ongoing)

Addition of a 4th pilot city:

- Tetouan (Morocco)



Tétouan, Morocco

Phase III – Implementation of the pilot (upcoming)

Implementation of the green infrastructure in pilot cities

Phase IV – Project closure (upcoming)

Consolidation, results, and scaling



The challenge - Mediterranean cities under climate pressure

- **Critical climate risk in urban areas** of the Mediterranean, the region most affected by the effects of climate change
- **Common and recurring phenomena:** heat island effect in urban areas, rising temperatures, lack of water resources
- **Lack of socially inclusive green spaces, shaded spaces and coexistence** that promote quality of life and the environment.
- **Lack of technical capacity and resources at the municipal level** to plan and implement sustainable green infrastructure.



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THE APPROACH - Rethinking public space

- Transforming urban areas into inclusive green infrastructures
- Nature-based solutions & WEFE
- Social inclusion
- Co-creation with citizens, CSOs and local stakeholders

What we aim to achieve...

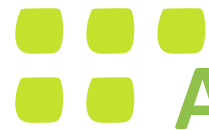
- Greener and more resilient cities
- More inclusive public spaces
- Improved quality of life
- Strengthened local capacities
- Having a champion in each pilot country for local replication





WHAT WE HAVE DONE SO FAR...





ACTIVITIES: COLLABORATIVE ASSESSMENT

- Understanding before acting
- Social and environmental analysis
- Identification of priority spaces
- Involvement of local actors and experts



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ACTIVITIES: Peer learning, capacity building & international exchanges

- 3 days Technical training on how to deploy a participatory diagnosis (Madaba may-June 2025)
- Co-creation of the NATURIncMed Methodology
- Online exchange sessions and 3 days online training within the Greener and Resilient working group (September 2025 & December 2025)

power of a digital twin

Combining open source data and state-of-the-art algorithms, we can take informed decisions on the landscape of the city

re to build...
new hospital
new block of apartments
new road
new metro station

From anatomy to physiology of the city

Circular Barcelona: A New Urban Model

is subject to rapid urban growth. Its number of inhabitants, and use of resources, is increasing by the day. While adding to the y, of the city, it also comes with certain risks and challenges. y, which is the optimization of resources and minimization of crucial for maintaining and increasing quality of life and creating a sustainable urban environment for future generations.

SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) and municipal plans. Intends to increase the circularity of its districts. For the city of Barcelona to progress on this commitment, insight on its late is needed. By analyzing circularity factors of each district, the city of Barcelona will be able to use this information to reach its

A Methodological Guide For Inclusive Diagnosis, Co-Design & Community Stewardship of Public Spaces

Date: 10th of December 2020

Insaf Ben Othmane Hamroun
Nada Jaoui
Hassan Elmouchfi

Site Overview: Transforming Underutilised Space

Why does green space matter?

Urban green spaces are areas of vegetation in cities consisting of parks, gardens, urban forests, and green roofs and walls.

It is estimated that, by 2050, 68% of the global population will live in cities. Already in Europe % of the population live in urban areas.

But how is this relevant to green spaces, and why is this important?

EI Mina city, Lebanon
NATURIncMed team members

Local Coordinator: Roger Raftoi, MedCity

Municipality of El Mina: Ameer Haddad, Chief of the engineering department

Expert responsible for implementing the participatory diagnosis: Sara Massoussi, Labcity Action team

بلدية قابس

فريق المشروع:
السيد محمد الشريف الطاهر - الكاتب العام
السيد سامي يزاني
السيد عدنان بن رمضان

Ipek Korlu
Faten Boumiza - Msak...
Joelle Makary
Sezgin Tekin
Florianne Yvon...
Stefania Traverso...
Mouhammad sh...
HANEN HASS...
Khalid Bahloul...

ACTIVITIES: Peer learning, capacity building & international exchanges

- 2 technical study visits Valencia 2025 & Barcelona 2026
- Barcelona Academy for Mediterranean Municipalities (BAMM25)



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ACTIVITIES: CO-DESIGN in El Mina

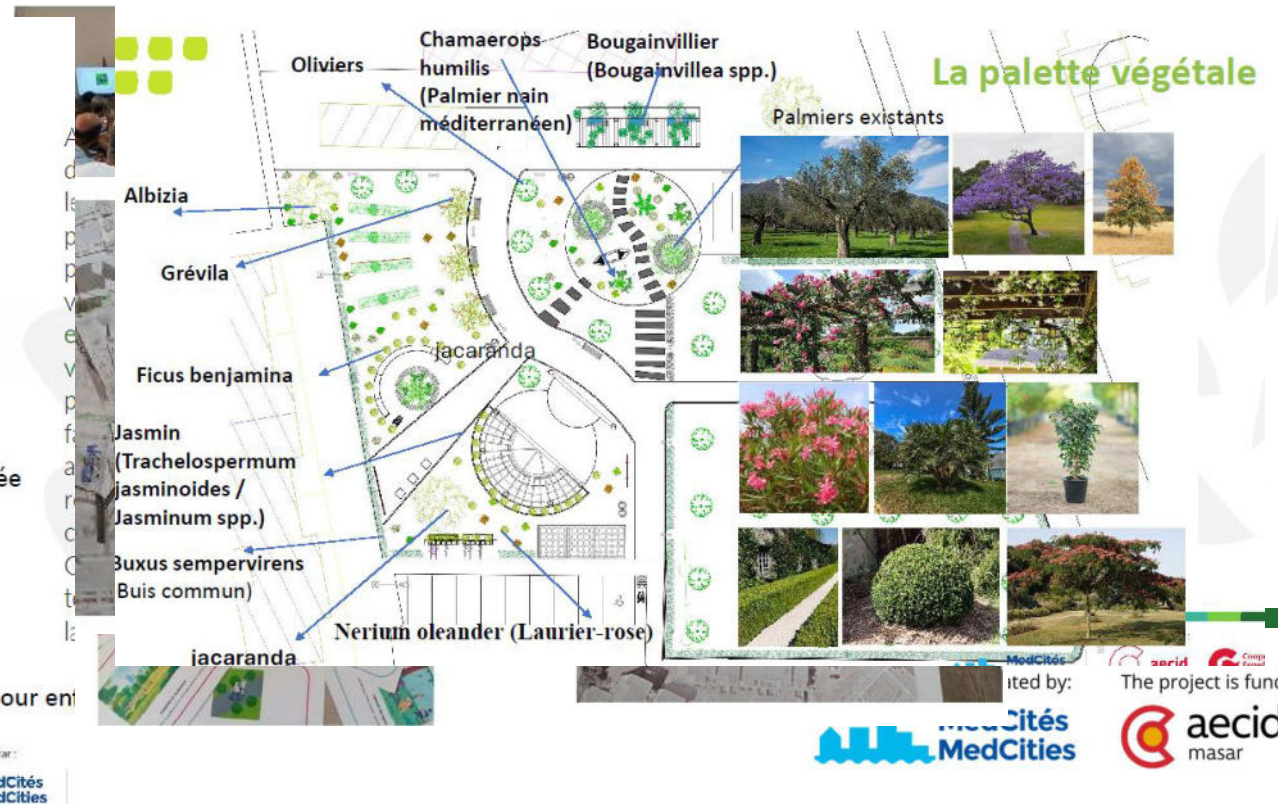
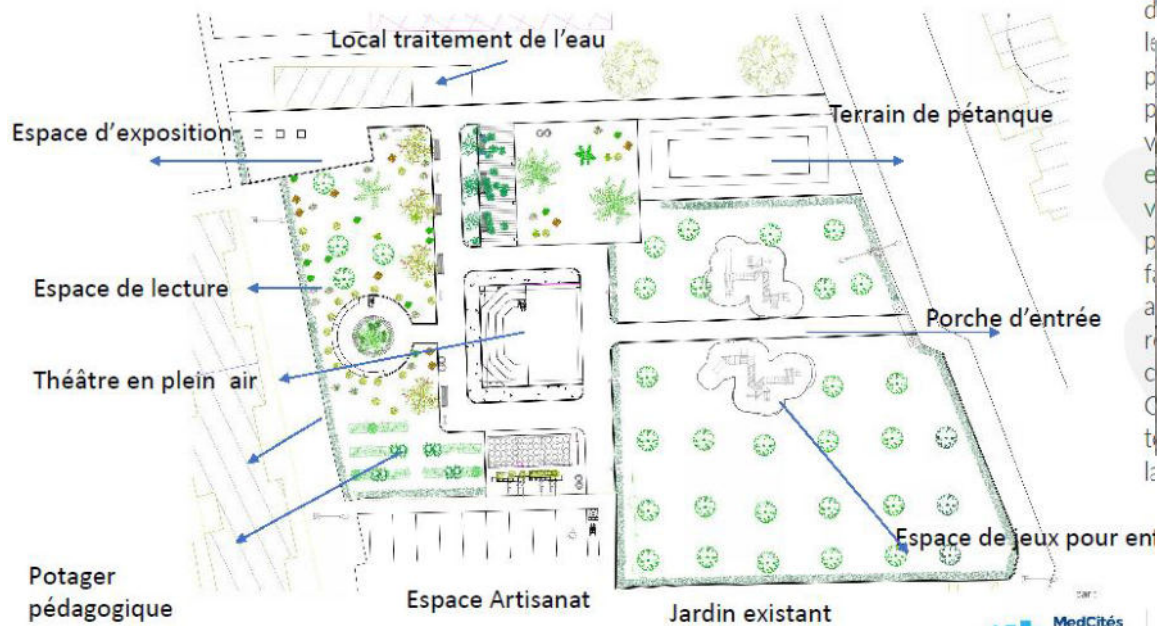
- Integration of nature and social use (assessment survey with volunteers from LRC)
- Participatory diagnosis: 4 workshops with youth, football team, people with disabilities and children and caregivers (45 people)
- Preliminary project design + 1 validation workshop (20 people)



ACTIVITIES: CO-DESIGN in Gàbes

- Participatory diagnosis: 4 workshops with CSOs (4), neighbors (9), women (5), experts and local authorities (6)
- Preliminary project design (1 session of validation with CSOs, local and national authorities 12 people)
- Integration of nature and social use

La Variante 2 : Le patio urbain





ACTIVITIES: CO-DESIGN in Madaba

- Participatory diagnosis: 2 workshops with children & youth (34 people), residents and parents (11 people), 1 site visit (12 adults, 24 children)
- Preliminary project design 2 validation sessions (1 with citizens and PA 10 people, and 1 with the Mayor)
- Integration of nature and social use



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Greened shade structures with seating (pergolas/canopies).



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ACTIVITIES: WHAT'S NEXT?

- **Development of Phase I in Tétouan** – participatory diagnosis (May – October 2026)
- **Local training program in each pilot city** to promote long-term public policies about green public spaces with social inclusive perspective
 - **Madaba:** Analysis and use of GIS tools for strategic planning, integrating equity and accessibility May 2026
 - **El Mina:** designing inclusive spaces, taking into account maintenance, accessibility and inclusion June 2026
 - **Gabès:** analysis of concrete cases to transform the diagnosis into proposals for improvement, with integration of safety, quality and social inclusion criteria June 2026
 - **Tetouan:** TBC early 2027
- Participatory elaboration of **roadmaps for the design of a Green Urban Plan (May – October 2026)** and **adjustment of the current strategies for Tétouan (Phase III 2027)**
- **Technical pilot design** in each city to transform the site selected (2027 – 2028 Phase III & IV)
- **Pilot implementation** in the 4 pilot cities (2027 – 2028 phase III & IV)
- **Local communication campaign / event** to present the pilot project to promote citizens' acceptance (2028)
- **Final closing international event** to present main results of the 4 pilot cities (2028)



**NATUR
IncMed**

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Gracias!
Thank you!
Merci!
شُكْرًا
Gràcies!



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