

PARIS BIODIVERSITY PLAN - 2025-2030

Summary





CONTENTS

Editorial by Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris	P04
Editorial by Christophe Najdovski, Deputy Mayor of Paris	P05
Biodiversity: a key issue	P06
20 themed objectives to promote biodiversity in Paris	P08
01. Preserving and planting hedgerows, treasures of biodiversity	P11
02. Encouraging outdoor learning	P12
03. Developing the City's planting campaigns on a massive scale	P14
04. Giving more space to wild species in the city	P15
05. Continuing the renaturing of Parisian woods	P16
84 concrete projects in the heart of the districts	P18
06. Improving our understanding of biodiversity	P20
07. Supporting the role of water in the city and renaturing the Seine	P21
08. Shaping pro-biodiversity urban planning in Paris	P22
09. Raising awareness and mobilising for biodiversity	P24
10. Reducing the City's biodiversity footprint	P25

The Paris Biodiversity Plan is not simply an environmental roadmap, it is a declaration of our commitment to adapt our city and make it a welcoming place for all living creatures, flora and fauna alike.

Faced with the unprecedented erosion of the living environment, confirmed by recent scientific data, the climate crisis requires us to rethink our relationship with ecosystems and take concrete action to restore the place of living things in the centre of Paris.

Urban biodiversity has been a necessity and a reality in Paris for several decades. Today, thanks to pro-biodiversity management and maintaining a generous patchwork of habitats, herons, hedgehogs and wild bees are re-colonising our urban spaces. But we need to go further. The aim is to weave a veritable environmental network in which all spaces - woods, parks, squares, banks of the Seine, canals, waterways, train tracks, streets, pavements and green roofs - become a refuge for flora and fauna, all the way into the dense heart of the city.

The Seine is one of the key symbols of this transformation. After being sacrificed to concrete and pollution for many years, it is finally regaining its vitality. The return of freshwater mussels and eels testify to the ecosystem's recovery.

This renaissance is the result of strong political commitment and a long-term vision. It opens up a historic prospect: the opportunity to swim in the Seine once again, in summer 2025. The Biodiversity Plan pursues this ambition further by creating a pedestrian and natural corridor running along the Seine, from the Bois de Boulogne to the Bois de Vincennes. This green connection will offer a unique space where water and plants can take their rightful place once again, providing benefits for biodiversity and Parisians.

For many years, the choice of plants was based on aesthetic criteria, neglecting environmental ones. This meant that exotic species that are less favourable to biodiversity were chosen, offering few resources to local fauna. From now on, our planting campaigns will combine the beauty of nature with resilience, providing shelter and food for local species while withstanding future climate conditions.

Our children will grow up in this reinvented Paris. Each school will offer access to nature, either in its own schoolyard or nearby. A green schoolyard is more than just landscaping: it is a place to breathe, to promote wellbeing and to learn. In fact, the results of the latest citizen vote show that there is major support for green spaces among Parisians. Almost 66% of you voted "in favour" of greening and pedestrianising 500 new streets across all neighbourhoods. Raising children's awareness of biodiversity, teaching class outside and connecting them to living things by involving them in the upkeep of natural spaces prepares them for the world they will have to build. I am convinced that our relationship with nature and animals reveals our humanity.

In the face of climate sceptics and backward-looking lobbies that are trying to hinder this progress, attacking scientists, sowing doubt and delaying action, we must resist. Standing alongside all progressive forces, we will make Paris a model of a vibrant, resilient and fair city.

Ten years after the signing of the Paris Agreement, this city continues to care for others and for the living world as a whole, now more than ever.

Let's work together to build the Paris of tomorrow.



Anne Hidalgo,
Mayor of Paris

Protecting nature means protecting our future.

In the face of the major challenges posed by climate change and biodiversity collapse, Paris is mobilising more than ever before.

To defend nature, we need to spread awareness of its treasures, support its existence, and bring it back from the interstices to which it has been reduced in our cities. They are not a desert of living things, quite the contrary. Cities are at the heart of the challenges of understanding, safeguarding and increasing biodiversity. Local authorities are on the front line in halting the collapse of nature and finding a new balance for the entire living world in their local areas.

We know that we must be the architects of structural change, and this is necessary if we are to achieve our goal of making Paris a "Ville-Jardin", a welcoming place for all living things.

By transforming Paris, which has been heavily built-up over the last 150 years, into a Ville-Jardin, we are strengthening this living network. By planting trees, creating hedgerows and re-naturing woodlands, we are providing coolness, shelter and cover for many species, including us Parisians. Widespread planting, managed without the use of chemical plant protection products for the past 20 years, is the key to coping with the consequences of climate change, while also preserving the capital's biodiversity and landscape.

By removing the tarmac from our streets and returning to open ground wherever possible, we can restore the water cycle, the richness of soils and with them, the fungi, flora and fauna that live there. By cleaning up the water of the Seine and restoring its natural banks, we are not just protecting fish, we are ensuring our future.

By raising awareness of the treasures of our natural heritage from an early age, and by bringing the sounds of nature to every corner of the city, we are protecting it for the present and the future. By creating refuge areas and neighbourhoods adapted to the needs of endangered species such as the European hedgehog, bats and sparrows, we are protecting all ecosystems and all living things, including ourselves.

Biodiversity must no longer be an adjustment variable for the future of Paris. On the contrary, environmental planning now guides the transformation of our capital, and our actions are bearing fruit. Much remains to be done to achieve a balanced coexistence between urban projects and biodiversity protection.

Living things know no administrative boundaries, and the time has come to take account of our city's impact on biodiversity on a global scale.

At grassroots level, with the driving forces of society - associations, citizens, businesses and institutions -, we are inventing a development model that respects people, the planet and all species with which we coexist.

We are working towards all aspects of this society of living things on a daily basis, and the City of Paris will do its utmost to bring it about. That is the goal of this Biodiversity Plan.



Christophe Najdovski,
Deputy Mayor of Paris in
Charge of Urban Vegetation,
Green Spaces, Biodiversity
and Animal Welfare

"You will still struggle to understand that human constructs are carved out and overlaid, that these are the places that are the in-between, not the other way around."

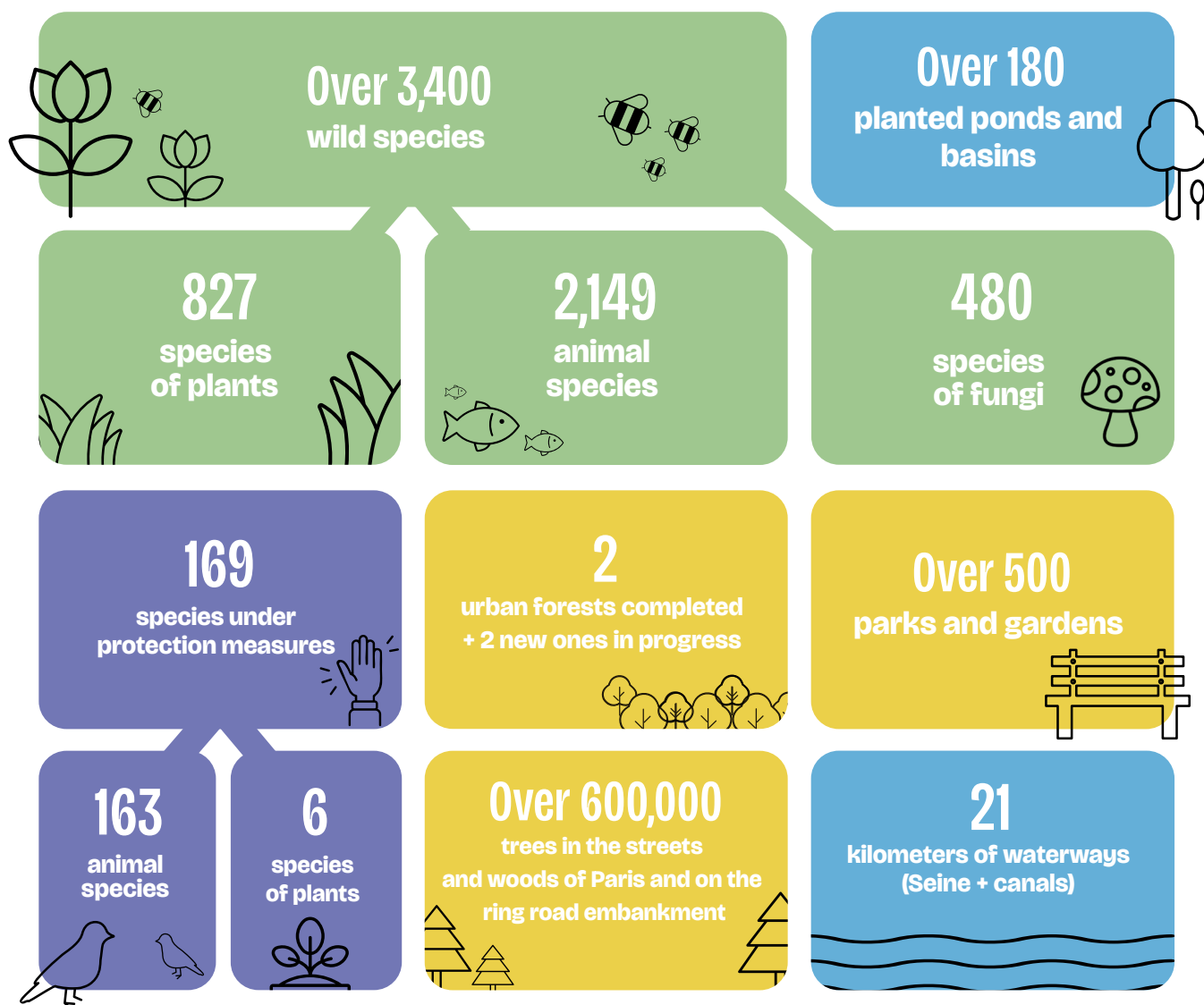
Becky Chambers - *A Psalm for the Wild-Built*



Biodiversity: a key issue

Hedgehogs, falcons, frogs, jellyfish, dragonflies, mushrooms, orchids, ferns, mosses and maples... In all, over **3,400 wild plants, animals, fungi and lichens** have been observed in Paris over the past 10 years. They live in the woods, in the 530 or so municipal green spaces, in the Seine, in the canals, in green streets and even on the roofs of our buildings.

Biodiversity in Paris in a few key figures



Source: GeoNat'idF

Paris is proud of its natural heritage. **Since 2011, the city has been taking action** to preserve and enhance it through the Biodiversity Plan. With this new strategy, the City of Paris is reaffirming its ambition to make Paris a Ville-Jardin where **biodiversity flourishes right through to the heart of the urban fabric.**

The 2025-2030 Biodiversity Plan features **five areas of focus**, covering the major intersectional issues facing the area:

- preserving and planting **hedgerows**
- enhancing the **Seine** ecosystem
- preserving and renaturing the **Bois de Boulogne and the Bois de Vincennes**
- assessing the **biodiversity footprint** generated by the City of Paris
- developing biodiversity **at the heart of Parisian districts**

This new Biodiversity Plan is structured around **20 themed objectives** designed to **improve our knowledge and understanding** of the capital's species, **make Paris more resilient** by relying on its ecosystems, and **mobilise all the city's stakeholders** to support biodiversity preservation.

The plan is firmly practical, with a new aspect that will enable us to **monitor** the progress of our actions on an **annual basis**, thanks to **77 defined indicators.**

The City will be working closely with **its association and scientific partners** to implement its action plan.

20 THEMED GROUP OF ACTIONS TO PROMOTE BIODIVERSITY IN PARIS



1. Understanding and measuring



2. Green network



3. Blue network



4. Brown network



5. Nocturnal network



6. White network



7. Regional flora



8. Protected and/or threatened species



9. Invasive exotic species



10. Environmental management



11. Development and construction



12. Nature-based solutions



13. Environmental health



14. Urban and rural agriculture



15. Tourism



16. Purchasing and finance



17. Cooperation



18. Raising awareness



19. Training and jobs



20. Involvement of private stakeholders





01 Preserving and planting hedgerows, treasures of biodiversity

As a continuous line of vegetation, hedgerows are precious urban allies: they provide a priority habitat for many wild species, serving as a refuge, a larder and a travel corridor. They are also a structural landscape element in our parks and streets, providing cooling and shade in summer.

The City of Paris will deploy a specific strategy, not only to preserve and strengthen existing hedgerows in the capital, but above all to increase the number of hedgerows by planting new ones in public spaces and encouraging such activity on private land. In order to strengthen the green network, priority will be given to concreted areas and those lacking vegetation.

The Biodiversity Plan lays the foundations for this hedgerow strategy, by committing to:

- establish an inventory of existing hedgerows, with a participatory dimension, before drawing up a planting plan to complement annual tree-planting campaigns,
- plant a variety of species, with different strata (herbaceous plants, shrubs and even trees),
- ensure 50% of plants are regional species in new or replanted hedgerows,
- replace 15 km of single-species hedgerows in Paris cemeteries with multi-species hedgerows containing at least 60% regional species,
- manage all these hedgerows with minimal pruning,
- involve Parisian volunteers in participatory planting campaigns.

Key figure

→ At least 500 meters and up to several linear kilometers of various hedgerows in each district by 2030.

02 Encouraging outdoor learning

Nearly 200,000 little Parisians make their way to municipal primary and middle schools every morning. By increasing the number of opportunities for outdoor learning, the City is giving children more opportunities to experience nature and reconnect with its smells, colours, sounds and seasonal rhythms.

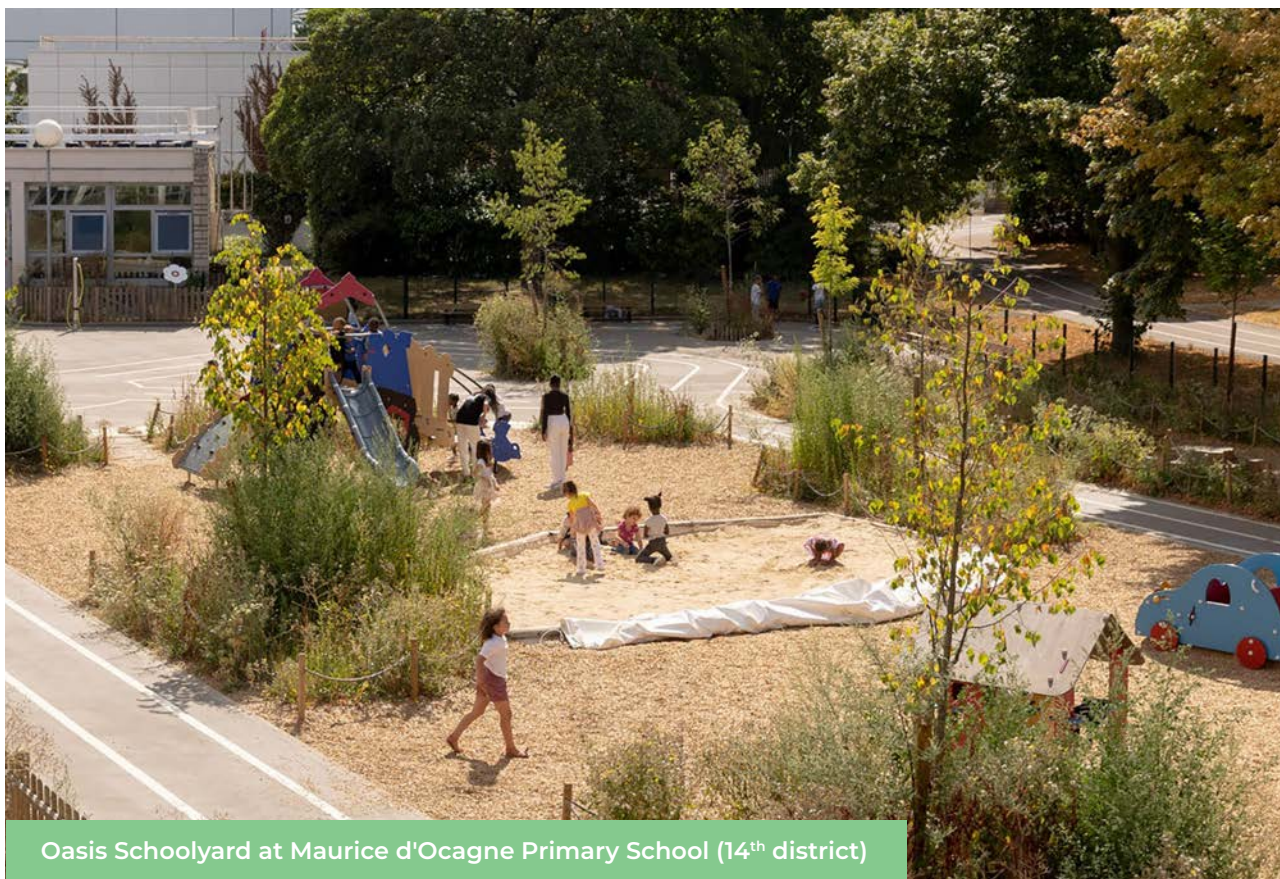
There are already 165 Oasis Schoolyards, which are excellent teaching aids for developing biodiversity-related activities on site, such as participatory science. To complete this range of nature outings, by 2030 the City of Paris plans to:

- transform 360 new schoolyards in primary schools and daycare centres into Oasis Schoolyards,
- carry out plantings in at least 200 new school streets,
- run educational initiatives on the theme of aquatic biodiversity in Paris and promote participatory science in primary, middle and high schools, in conjunction with the Paris Education Authority,
- set up educational areas, small natural spaces managed with participation from students in conjunction with the French Biodiversity Agency, particularly near the Seine and canals,
- support the Pass'Nature scheme, offering free nature outings to classes, organised by the association behind the project,
- roll out the Positive Biodiversity Families Challenge on an experimental basis, particularly in working-class neighbourhoods.

Resource centres and stakeholders will continue to support pedagogical teams: the Académie du Climat, local associations and environmental advisors from Maison Paris Nature will offer new activities and turnkey educational resources.

Key figure

- 100% of Parisian students will have access to a nature space in or near their school by 2030.



© VILLE DE PARIS



© SONIA YASSA / VILLE DE PARIS

03 Developing the City's planting campaigns on a massive scale

For a number of years now, the City has been undertaking widespread planting to improve quality of life for residents and wildlife alike, with a focus on biodiversity-friendly landscaping. Paris is strengthening this ambitious policy of reinforcing its green and brown networks by:

- creating new ecological corridors and strengthening existing ones,
- identifying breaks in environmental continuity to combat fragmentation,
- planting and maintaining trees to achieve 25% canopy cover,
- attaining 10 m² of green space per inhabitant, in line with WHO recommendations,
- making ground cover permeable and green,
- greening public and private buildings,
- encouraging reduced-intensity maintenance in streets and all urban interstices,
- funding the greening of 100 private shared management properties, through the CoprOasis scheme,
- encouraging local greening initiatives, particularly those undertaken by local residents,
- developing pedestrian, green streets that are highly ambitious in terms of biodiversity.

Going further

- In the citizen vote on 23 March 2025, Parisians confirmed their desire to go even further in reclaiming public space: 5-8 new green and pedestrian streets will be created in each neighbourhood.
- These streets will be highly ambitious in terms of biodiversity and extend the Parisian green network right into the heart of the urban fabric. They will be diversified in terms of strata (herbaceous plants, shrubs and trees) and species planted. They will be made up of at least 50% regional species and perennials to provide a permanent habitat for local wildlife.

Key figures

- 500 green, pedestrian streets will be created across all Parisian districts by 2030.
- 30% of the territory will be permeable and planted by 2030.
- 100 greening projects for private shared management properties will be funded via CoprOasis by 2030.
- Over 40 new hectares of constructed areas will be planted by 2030.

04 Giving more space to wild species in the city

Urban areas provide a habitat for many wild species: birds and bats nest in cavities in façades and roofs, plants grow spontaneously from gaps in pavements or on roofs many meters high, and cliff-dwelling species take over Parisian skyscrapers.

The City aims to make Paris a welcoming place where wildlife can thrive by:

- rolling out the new Sparrow Districts programme and reproducing it for other species such as the European hedgehog, in close collaboration with local partners,
- setting up nesting boxes for a variety of species,
- certifying over 90% of municipal green spaces for their environmental management,
- improving the quality of Urban Biodiversity Reservoirs (UBRs), with an additional 50 hectares of UBRs with high ecological functionality,
- encouraging meadows and border areas to freely develop in new biodiversity refuges in green spaces,
- spreading recommendations for management strategies to maintain the presence of these species, in green spaces, public spaces and residential blocks,
- creating sanctuaries at key sites such as the Darse du Fond de Rouvray canal,
- implementing the nocturnal network to reduce the intensity of public lighting.

Key figures

- 100 new wildlife conservation areas by 2030.
- 40 new biodiversity refuges by 2030.
- At least 20 new planted ponds and basins by 2030.

05 Continuing the renaturing of Parisian woods

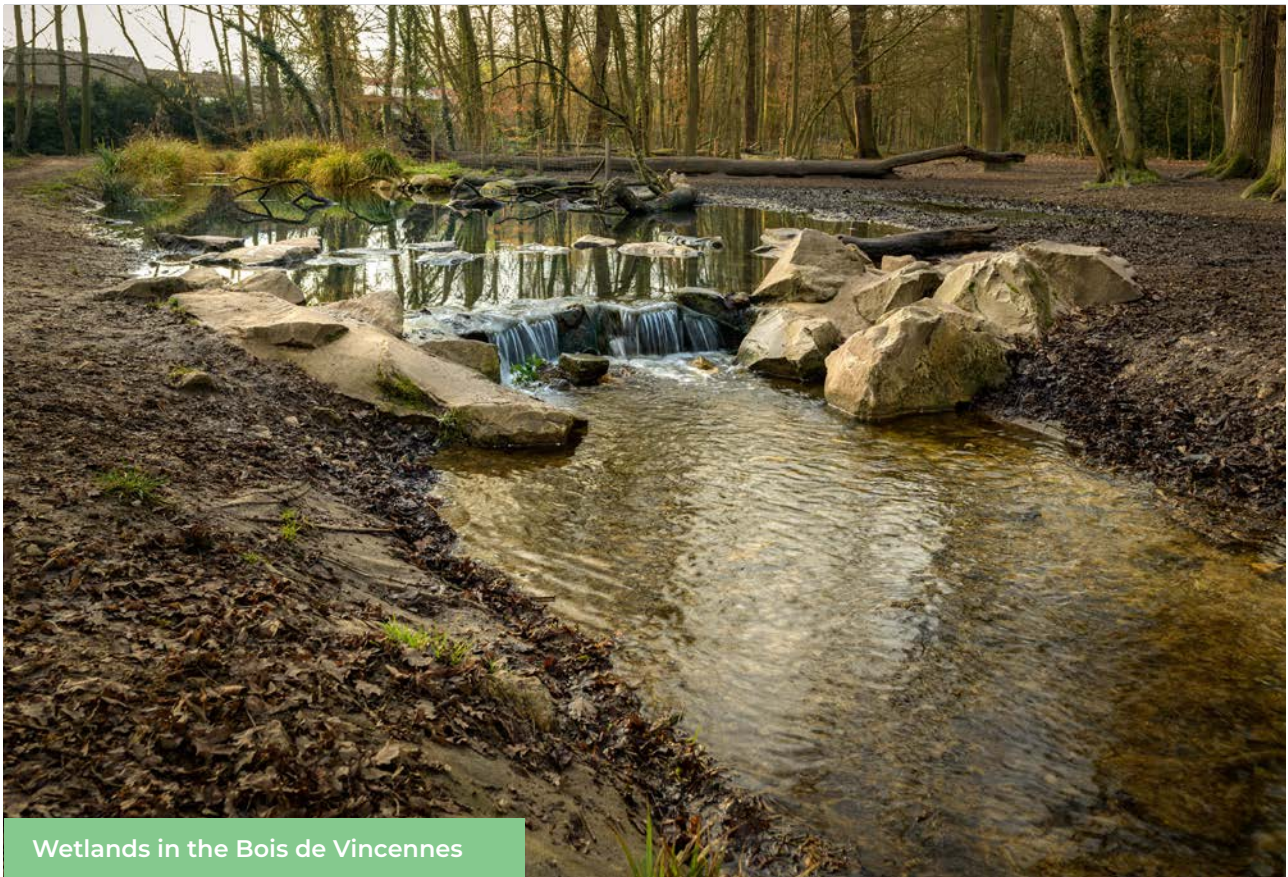
To the east and west, Paris is surrounded by two green lungs: the Bois de Vincennes and the Bois de Boulogne. They offer 1,840 hectares of wooded environments, dotted with lakes and criss-crossed by man-made waterways. Recognised as ecological reservoirs of regional interest in the Regional Ecological Coherence Scheme (SRCE) of the Île-de-France region, they are major biodiversity refuges in Paris. The City of Paris is taking action on a daily basis to reduce the fragmentation caused by paths for motorised vehicles, by making these spaces (previously reserved for cars) permeable and green.

The City aims to intensify its efforts to preserve and renature woodlands by:

- increasing the surface area of woodland reserves by 10%,
- creating 4,000 m² of new lakes in the Bois de Vincennes by 2030,
- limiting nocturnal lighting,
- diversifying forest populations and facilitating natural regeneration,
- creating new hedgerows, meadows, wild areas, rivers and ponds,
- protecting the last natural banks of the Seine in Paris, along the Bois de Boulogne,
- carrying out biodiversity studies specific to these two natural treasures,
- undertaking a study for creating a pedestrian and biodiversity corridor between the two woods, via the Seine.

Key takeaway

- New paths in the Parisian woods will be closed to provide more promenades and biodiversity-friendly areas by 2030.



© FREDERIC COMBEAU / VILLE DE PARIS

Wetlands in the Bois de Vincennes

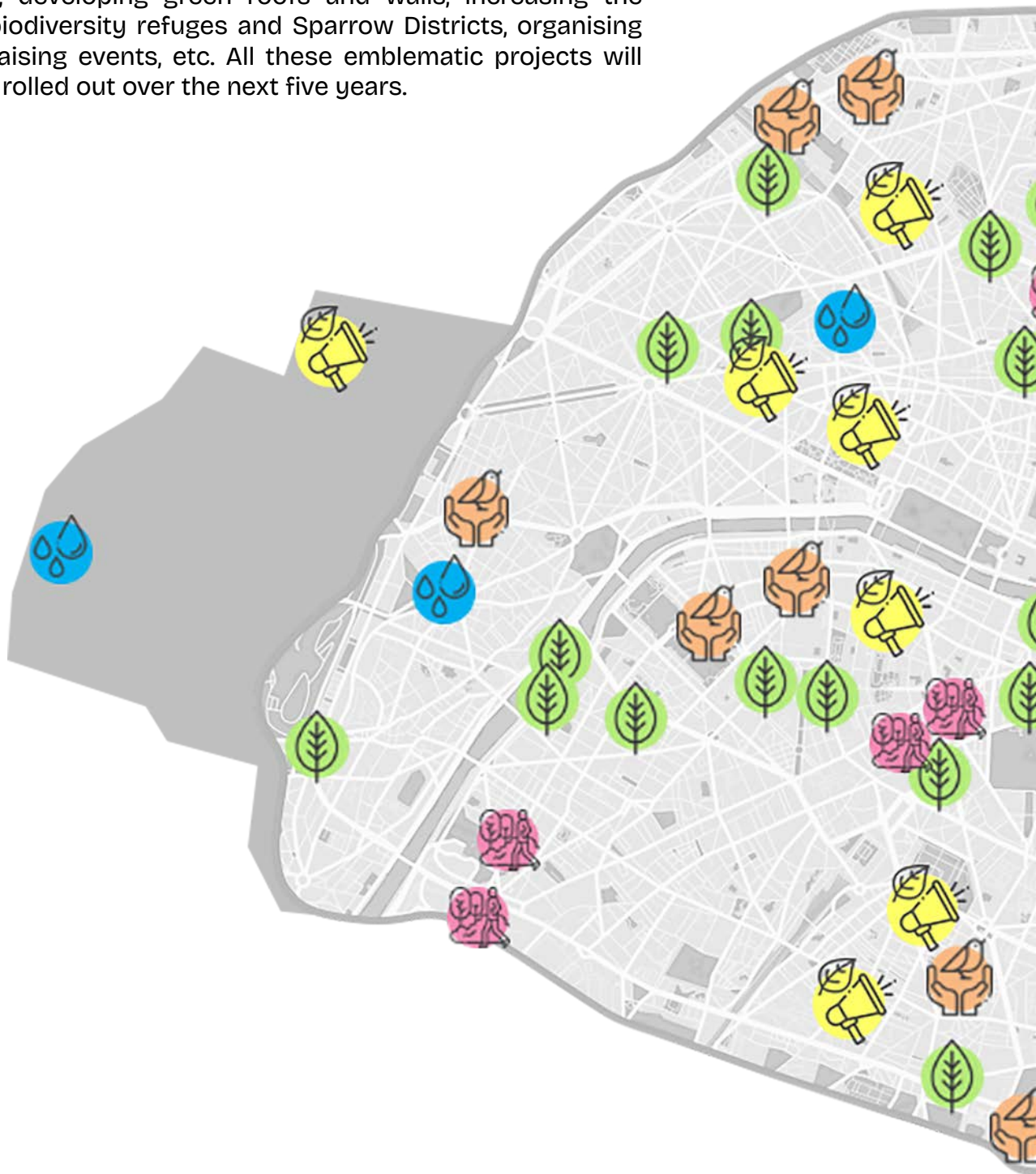


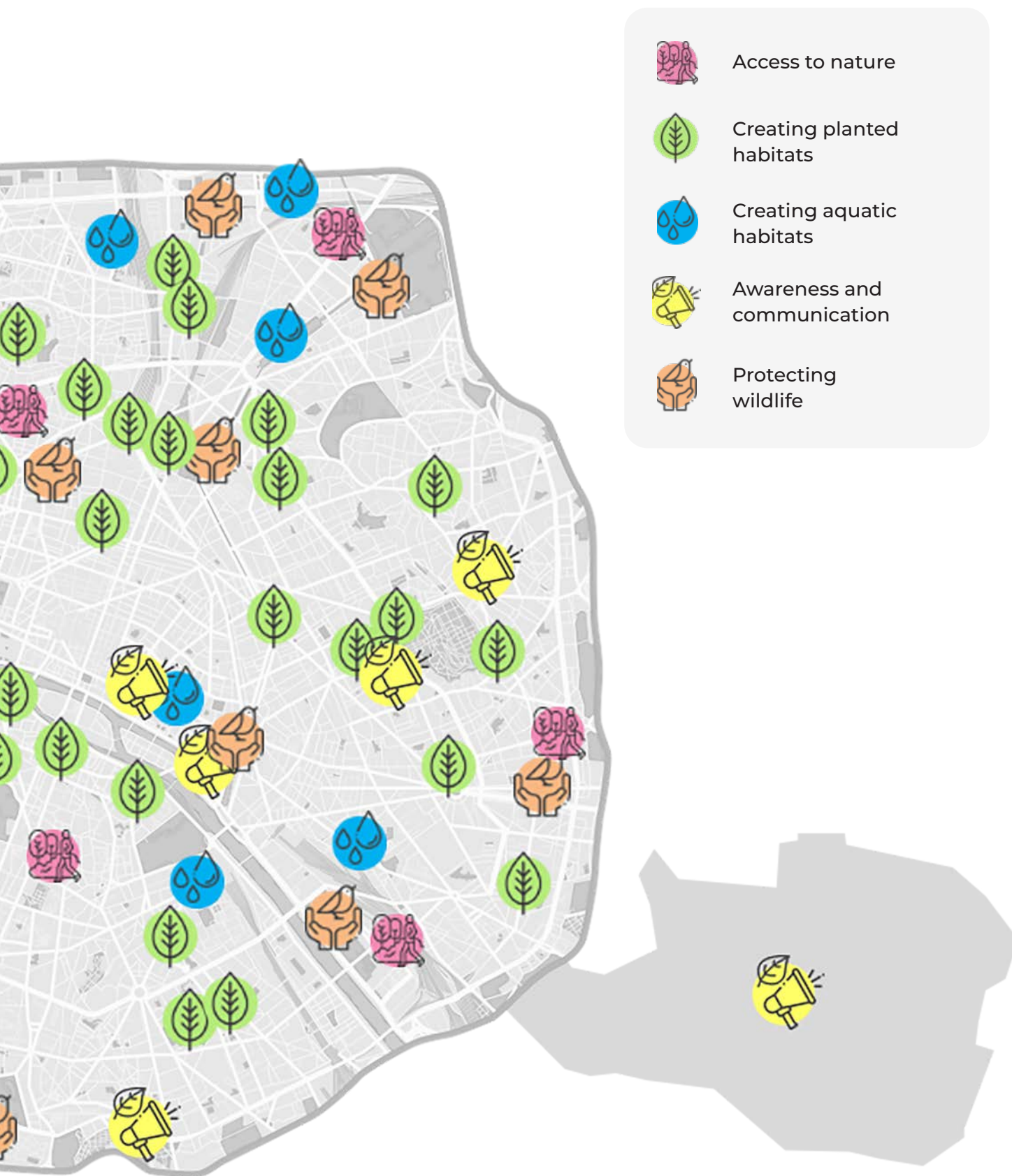
© VILLE DE PARIS

Renaturing the Route de Suresnes in the Bois de Boulogne

84 concrete projects rolled out in the heart of the districts

In order to adapt the Biodiversity Plan's measures to the specific needs of each district in Paris, 84 local projects have been identified in consultation with the district councils: opening new gardens, greening streets and squares, new pro-biodiversity Oasis Schoolyards, developing green roofs and walls, increasing the number of biodiversity refuges and Sparrow Districts, organising awareness-raising events, etc. All these emblematic projects will be gradually rolled out over the next five years.





06 Improving our understanding of biodiversity

Fauna and flora have adapted to the urban environment through mechanisms that are not always well-known to us. The City of Paris wants to go even further in assessing and understanding Parisian biodiversity. It therefore undertakes to:

- update the Chemins de la Nature resources, which map the green and blue networks,
- continue to implement participatory science protocols,
- carry out inventory campaigns and biodiversity diagnostics,
- monitor the demographics of at least 15 threatened and/or protected species,
- strengthen partnerships with the world of research and nature associations, in particular to identify the groups of species and sectors for the next wildlife conservation areas,
- monitor invasive exotic species that can negatively impact ecosystems or cause health problems in Paris (Asian hornet, tiger mosquito, Japanese knotweed),
- carry out studies on the impact of noise and light pollution on Parisian biodiversity and on making soils functional again,
- assess the City's efforts to conserve biodiversity by calculating the Singapore Index and the Urban Nature Index,
- publish the 2030 Nature Atlas,
- add new resources to the Guide to Tree Species.

Key takeaway

- Data on the diversity and abundance of wild species will be used to create a Paris biodiversity barometer by 2030.

07 Supporting the role of water in the city and renaturing the Seine

Whether ponds, basins, canals or even rivers, water is present in various forms throughout Paris. These environments play a major role in cooling down the city and contribute to the aesthetic of its landscape. They also represent an essential ecological resource, forming the blue network that enables many species to reproduce, feed, find refuge or move around. The canals and the Seine forms the backbone of this network: 33 species of fish have been recorded in Paris over the last 10 years. It is also a major travel route for many birds, bats and plants, with seeds dispersed by water and wind.

To improve the quality and coverage of the blue network, the City of Paris is committed to:

- protecting the last natural banks of the Seine, located in the Bois de Boulogne,
- restoring the natural character of the riverbanks within the city by making the ground permeable and planting vegetation and trees,
- installing planted rafts, floating gardens and spawning beds in the Seine and canals,
- launching a specific programme of studies on the species, habitats and water quality of the Seine,
- defining recommendations shared with public river management bodies, in particular to preserve spawning areas and aquatic plant habitats,
- creating at least 20 new planted ponds and basins with 100% regional species,
- designing projects in which rainwater is fully used, seeping into the ground or recovered in new rain gardens,
- developing new rivers in the Plaine Mortemart of the Bois de Vincennes, all the way to the heart of the city, with sections of the River Bièvre opened up in Paris.

Key takeaway

- A “green Seine” will be created, to restore the natural riverbanks and establish a pedestrian and biodiversity corridor running from the Bois de Vincennes to the Bois de Boulogne by 2030.

08 Shaping pro-biodiversity urban planning in Paris

With the new bioclimatic Local Urban Plan (PLUb), the City now has a regulatory tool to accelerate eco-friendly urban planning. With the Biodiversity Plan, Paris is making the built environment a source of support for living things and committing to carrying out pro-biodiversity projects that limit the negative impact on biodiversity and maximise the potential for welcoming species. It includes:

- implementing the “avoid-reduce-offset” steps,
- promoting the PLUb's biodiversity guidelines and recommendations: continuity of open spaces, soil permeability, planting density, regional species, transformation of Protected Open Spaces to Plant, protection of Protected Green Spaces, and more,
- applying the BiodivScore to the City's development and greening programmes for buildings, and encouraging all private designers to make use of this valuable tool designed specifically for Paris,
- adapting its planning permissions according to the identified presence of nesting species in buildings,
- certifying more municipal facility projects for their exemplary nature,
- developing an environmental offset strategy to absorb the biodiversity impacts of Parisian projects that can be neither avoided nor reduced,
- encouraging species to nest in buildings by preserving existing cavities, incorporating crevices into new buildings and installing nest boxes,
- integrating biodiversity issues into the thermal renovation of private buildings, in partnership with the Paris Climate Agency,
- ensuring that nesting sites and schedules of threatened and/or protected species are taken into account during development works,
- mapping nesting sites and shelters of protected and/or endangered species to avoid their destruction, as part of urban planning projects,
- training urban planning officers, landscape architects and town planners in biodiversity issues.

Going further

- The BiodivScore is a design assistance tool for development and construction professionals in the dense urban environment of Paris. It is aimed at public and private construction/renovation projects, as well as projects to green buildings.
- It allows designers to self-assess their projects, identifying strengths and areas for improvement to make projects more biodiversity-friendly. To do this, it analyses the potential for welcoming biodiversity before and after the project; consideration given to biodiversity during the design phase; how the impact of works will be avoided and reduced, and the planned strategy to manage this.

Key figures

- Over 40 new hectares of green buildings (public and private) by 2030.
- 10% of municipal roof space devoted to priority habitats by 2030.



Green roof

© CLEMENT DORVAL / VILLE DE PARIS

09 Raising awareness and mobilising for biodiversity

Through specific public policies, Paris is taking action to raise awareness, educate and preserve biodiversity. It works closely with nature associations, research bodies, national and international networks, economic stakeholders and Parisians who wish to get involved. Paris is continuing its mobilisation actions, including:

- increasing the range of activities and events for the general public through an annual programme and by developing activities in the districts,
- targeting awareness-raising initiatives towards people who are cut off from nature in working-class neighbourhoods, nursing homes, medical and social establishments, homes for disabled workers and children's homes,
- drawing on Parisian associations and researchers to inform decision-making by developing their role within the Paris Nature and Biodiversity Committee,
- providing financial support and publicising the work of biodiversity protection associations,
- promoting the work of companies that have signed up to the Paris Climate Action Biodiversity Pact and bringing new ones on board,
- training municipal staff and service providers,
- promoting and supporting SMEs, start-ups and social enterprises with exemplary biodiversity initiatives,
- making the City of Paris part of national and international networks (the French Committee of the IUCN, the Plante & Cité Network, the French Villes-Santé Network, COP Biodiversité, the IUCN World Congress, etc.).

Key takeaways

- A major event dedicated to biodiversity will be organised every year between now and 2030.
- A Paris delegation will attend COP and the World Conservation Congress between now and 2030.

10 Reducing the City's biodiversity footprint

Just like a carbon footprint, the City of Paris wishes to characterise and measure the impact it has on biodiversity beyond its administrative boundaries, through its purchasing, production and consumption.

Having already made a number of commitments through the Climate Plan, the Sustainable Food Plan and many other public policies (PLPDMA, strategy for phasing out single-use plastic, etc.), Paris wishes to develop a methodology adapted to the local region, in order to calculate its biodiversity footprint.

Through its Biodiversity Plan, the City is laying the initial foundations and aims to:

- identify purchasing that is particularly unfavourable to biodiversity and implement a policy to eliminate it,
- draw up a green budget incorporating biodiversity issues and policies,
- increase the proportion of public procurement contracts that include a pro-biodiversity label,
- get closer to 100% organic and sustainable food in municipal catering services,
- protect water resources by installing farmers with sustainable practices in Eau de Paris catchment areas,
- reduce the City's water consumption (potable and non-potable) by 15% by using alternative watering systems rather than potable water wherever uses and technical constraints allow, and by optimising watering practices to save water,
- limit the impact on soil resources, by improving the traceability of imported soil or soil excavated and exported outside Paris for example.

Key takeaways

- 100% of expenditure identified as unfavourable to biodiversity will be redirected towards more eco-friendly purchasing and funding by 2030.
- Paris will calculate its first biodiversity footprint by 2030.

