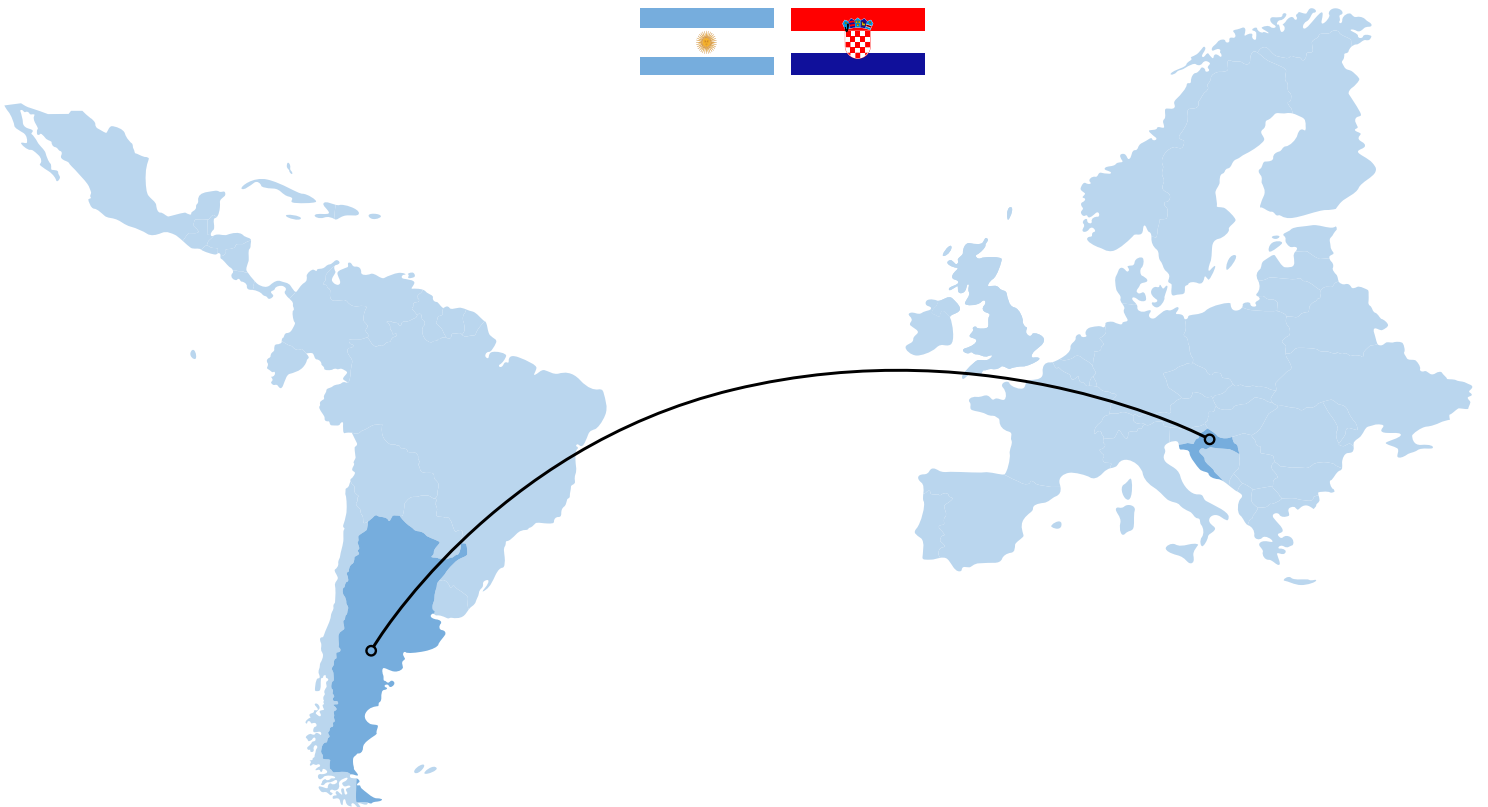




INSPIRATIONAL
CASE

PAIRING REPORT:

CÓRDOBA - ZAGREB



INTERNATIONAL URBAN COOPERATION
European Union-Latin America and the Caribbean



A European Union
Programme

CÓRDOBA-ZAGREB

THE PAIRING AT A GLANCE

Córdoba (ARG):

Córdoba is the capital city of the Argentine province of Córdoba. It is in the central region of the country, on both banks of the Suquia River. It is the second most populated city in Argentina after Buenos Aires and the largest in the country. It is also an important cultural, economic, educational, financial and entertainment centre of the region. It has 1.3 million inhabitants. It is strategically communicated with neighbouring regions and with a deep-rooted manufacturing history, the city maintains an important productive activity, with the industrial, services and construction sectors being true engines of economic activity.

Zagreb (HR):

Zagreb, with a population of nearly one million, contains almost a quarter of the entire population of Croatia. Zagreb has special status as a Croatian administrative division and is a consolidated city-county, administratively subdivided into 17 districts. One third of the total area of the City of Zagreb is agricultural land, with forests taking up a similar area. The transport connections, concentration of industry, scientific and research institutions and industrial tradition underlie its leading economic position in Croatia.

Keywords

#Nature-based solutions
#Native forests
#Green walls and roofs

Thematic areas of cooperation

Sustainable land use and nature-based solutions.

Objectives

Zagreb and Córdoba share similar challenges related to the creation of urban heat islands and other climate change-related adverse effects. For this reason, both cities identified as a key cooperation field in their partnership the re-naturalisation of the most urbanized areas through **urban trees and green spaces**, recognising their potential to generate modifications of the microclimate. Córdoba proposes a Nature-based solution to overcome the problems of illegal landfills; while Zagreb proposes urban renewal through the introduction of green walls and roofs in the buildings.

The main objectives identified in their joint action plan are:

- Implementation of green roofs and walls on existing and new structures in the city.
- Urban regeneration through green covering.

Activities

The study visits programmed between the two cities had to be cancelled due to Covid-19, but a series of virtual meetings have been held instead.

Both cities have shared documents, materials, online meetings, and discussions. Nature-based solutions were identified as crucial to solving the urban heat island problem that both cities face; as well as other climate change and urbanization-related problems. Each city has provided the other partner with a suitable example of good practices in this field.

Stakeholders involved

- **Municipalities**
- **Citizens and Neighbourhood Centers.**
- **Local NGOs, Companies, University, Chambers, Professional Associations**

MAIN INTERVENTION-PILOT PROJECT

The main interventions in both cities are generated by the examples provided by the peer-city in each case:

- **Green protected areas ordinance in Zagreb**

Cordoba has presented a new local regulation allowing the new buildings to include a percentage of green covering at the facades and roofs. The ordinance provides for a "Manual of good practices for the construction of green roofs and walls" in which technical construction and maintenance specifications are provided. Based on Cordoba's experience in the use of green walls and roofs, Zagreb will develop a centre for the study of different technologies in this field to be applied to public buildings within the city.

- **Implementation of a pilot Native Forest Project in Córdoba**

With the objective to raise awareness among citizens about the transformation of a city garbage dump into a

During the exchanges, the cities of Zagreb and Córdoba have identified the expansion of green coverage as a valuable activity to develop together. Each city will address this issue according to its needs: on the one hand, Zagreb through the green walls, roofs and terraces; and on the other hand, Córdoba with the creation of urban forests.

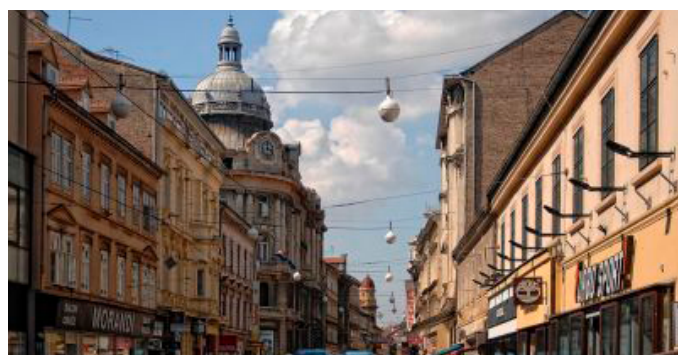
native forest, Córdoba will carry out a survey of the state property open-air dumps existing in the city. Considering the results of this survey, and the alternatives proposed, the most suitable place allowing the development of a Native Forest will be chosen. A complementary digital media communication campaign will be designed as well to disseminate this initiative.

On the other hand, the Zagreb City Office of War Veterans initiated a program called "Public work activities for unemployed citizens and unemployed war veterans". The education and training program is designed to activate unemployed people by having them working on the preservation and clean-up of green spaces. Zagreb will share some examples of campaigns on open dumps and urban trees that can be inspirational for the peer-city in the communication strategy on the native forest project.

MAIN IMPACTS AT LOCAL LEVEL

Despite the impossibility of carrying out exchange visits, both cities agreed that the meetings held digitally made it possible to check periodically on the progress made on both the Pilot Action and the sustainability advances.

The cities are willing to continue this joint work and to explore together new opportunities for their future cooperation.



LESSONS LEARNED AND ADDED VALUE OF IUC

"The main lesson learned has been to realize that despite being in such different places, we have common interests such as working on expanding green coverage in cities. These instances of exchange allow us to approach new ways of thinking about our city"

- Córdoba

"We are more alike than we expected to be"

"We need to make nature our top priority in cities and networks"

- Zagreb

CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

Related SDGs and Urban Agenda for the EU topics:

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



13 CLIMATE ACTION



Urban Agenda for the EU: Sustainable use of Land & Nature-Based-Solutions.

INTEREST IN THEMATIC NETWORKS

Interest shown by **Córdoba** both in the Action Plan and in the survey conducted by the Program

Interest shown by **Zagreb** both in the Action Plan and in the survey conducted by the Program

NETWORK 1	Mobility, Connectivity and Transport	NETWORK 1	Mobility, Connectivity and Transport
NETWORK 2	Smart Cities & Digital Transition	NETWORK 2	Smart Cities & Digital Transition
NETWORK 3	Urban Poverty and Regeneration, Housing, Social Inclusion – Cohesion, Equity	NETWORK 3	Urban Poverty and Regeneration, Housing, Social Inclusion – Cohesion, Equity
NETWORK 4	Circular Economy, Waste and Sustainable Production / Consumption	NETWORK 4	Circular Economy, Waste and Sustainable Production / Consumption
NETWORK 5	Sustainable and Healthy Cities, Sustainable Land Use – Nature-Based Solutions	NETWORK 5	Sustainable and Healthy Cities, Sustainable Land Use – Nature-Based Solutions
NETWORK 6	Climate Action, Energy, Water and Air Quality	NETWORK 6	Climate Action, Energy, Water and Air Quality
NETWORK 7	Innovation and Economic Growth, Strategic Sectors, Jobs and Skills.	NETWORK 7	Innovation and Economic Growth, Strategic Sectors, Jobs and Skills

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