

UBC TALKS Webinar

From Awareness to Action: Engaging Citizens in Urban Biodiversity

Tuesday 27 October 2026
10.30–12.00 EET (09.30–11.00 CET)

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This UBC TALKS webinar will focus on discussing different ways to encourage local communities to take action in planning, creating and maintaining more biodiverse cities. In the webinar we will hear examples from different cities for engaging citizens in local biodiversity work from participatory nature management to initiatives supporting actions in private gardens. Engaging citizens in the local biodiversity work leads to more effective and widely accepted actions that draw on local knowledge and foster long-term stewardship.

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| 10.30–10.35 EET | Welcome to the webinar and introduction to Urban Biodiversity Parks project
<i>Maija Rusanen, Senior Advisor, UBC Sustainable Cities Commission/City of Turku</i> |
| 10.35–11.00 | Engaging Citizens through participatory nature management activities in the development of the Skanssi Biodiversity Park in Turku , <i>Annika Pöyhtäri, Project Manager & Selina Raunio, Project Coordinator, City of Turku</i> |
| 11.00–11.15 | Public Parks for/with People , <i>Miso Hudák, City of Košice</i> |
| 11:15- 11:30 | Fair or Bare: Bringing Biodiversity Back to Cities , <i>Riia Ränisoo, urbanLIFEcircles Project Manager, City of Tartu</i> |
| 11:30-11:45 | Citizen engagement for biodiversity and invasive species , <i>Åsa Laurell, Municipality of Umeå</i> |
| 11.45–12.00 | Questions from the audience and closing words |



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