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## Cool Neighbourhoods Newsletter

Newsletter #4 of the Cool Neighbourhoods project focuses on the major progress made across the Green Hub pilot areas. This edition brings details of the Green Hubs pilots located in Differdange, Goes, Ettelbruck, and Antwerp - showcasing how urban greening initiatives are helping reduce heat stress, improve biodiversity, and promote liveability across North-West Europe. The newsletter also highlights the special Explainer Series, recent deliverables, and project milestones as we head toward the mid-term review in 2026.

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# From Heat Islands to Cool Cities and Neighbourhoods

Joint Midterm Event | Middelburg – 12 March 2026

How can European cities and neighbourhoods work together to tackle rising urban heat while improving health, liveability and resilience?

On 12th March 2026, [Cool Cities](#) and [Cool Neighbourhoods](#) join forces for a Joint Midterm Event in Middelburg (NL), bringing together policymakers, researchers and practitioners to exchange insights and experiences on urban heat adaptation.

The event focuses on collaboration across regions and disciplines, exploring equitable cooling networks, community empowerment, green public space design and the role of European cooperation in delivering real-world impact. The afternoon programme features keynote speakers, applied case studies and opportunities for dialogue.

Please register here for the [Joint Midterm Event](#)

[Read the full article](#)



## Greening Differdange's Urban School

In Differdange, Luxemburg a green wall is being introduced at the city's elementary school - part of the broader ambition to transition from an industrial legacy to an innovation hub aligned with NetZero goals. Despite regulatory and stakeholder challenges, the pilot is progressing thanks to strong community engagement and the integration of sensor technologies to monitor environmental impacts.

[Read the full article](#)



## Greening Goes City Hall – A Climate-Resilient Hub

The City of Goes is transforming the public space around its City Hall (Stadskantoor) into a lush, climate-adaptive Green Hub. Innovative approaches to vertical and horizontal greenery, water reuse, and political engagement are helping address the site's vulnerability to heat and paving. Completion is expected before April 2026.

[Read the full article](#)



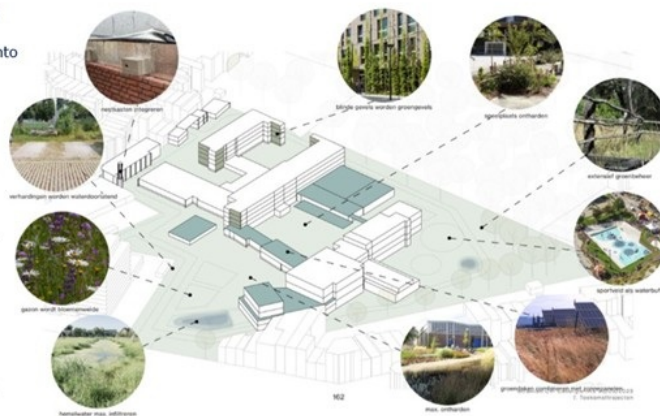
## Revitalising Ettelbruck's Green Hub

Ettelbruck is leading the way by converting a temporary flood-prone car park into a multi-functional green space. This initiative ties into both local events (LUGA Festival, FAE Fair) and the broader Cool Neighbourhoods Liveability Index. A mix of biodiversity planting, lighting upgrades, and climate monitoring aims to boost both resilience and community wellbeing.

[Read the full article](#)

**POTENTIAL MEASURES**

- Turning blind facades into green facades
- Depaving playgrounds
- Lawn becoming flower meadow
- Sport fields as a water buffer
- Combining green roofs with solar panels
- Maximum infiltration with open wadis
- Pavements become permeable to water
- Integrating nest boxes



## Transforming Antwerp's Green Hub – PIVA Pilot

At the Provincial Institute of Food Industries Antwerp (PIVA), urban greening is transforming school grounds through water infiltration, edible gardens, shaded areas, and softening hard surfaces. With strong local engagement and a start date of October 2025, this pilot will serve as an educational and climate-resilient space for students and teachers alike.

[Read the full article](#)



## Cool Neighbourhoods Explainer Series – Special Edition

A four-part series breaks down the main tools behind the project:

- What is the Liveability Index?
- What is an NHSAP?
- What is Citizen Science?
- What is Heat Stress?

Each article is illustrated with examples from across the nine pilot areas, showing how these tools can support replication and scale.

[Read the whole series](#)



## Cool Neighbourhoods joins Klimaat Event 2025 to Share Lessons in Urban Climate Resilience

Cool Neighbourhoods was in the spotlight on 30th October 2025 at the Klimaat Event in Utrecht, where climate-focused organisations came together to exchange insights, spark new partnerships, and showcase tools that support climate resilience at the neighbourhood scale.

Emma Westerduin (Except Integrated Sustainability) providing insights to the Cool Neighbourhoods project.

[Read the full article](#)

## Partners

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For more project news, please visit our website and subscribe to our Cool Neighbourhoods newsletter.



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