

Interreg



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North-West Europe

Cool Neighbourhoods

July 2026



Cool Neighbourhoods Newsletter #5

This edition turns shared knowledge into practical climate action, bringing together new articles, project insights and public-facing outputs from across the Cool Neighbourhoods partnership.

From Grey to Green: Turning Knowledge into Action

During the Cool Neighbourhoods Mid-Term Conference on the 12th March 2026, more than 130 participants from across Europe gathered in Middelburg, The Netherlands. A key milestone in the project's journey.

In this newsletter you can find information on specific topics which were presented during this event



Interreg's Future of European Cooperation - Scaling Impact Through Collaboration

Good ideas only make a difference when they spread.

As projects across Europe search for practical ways to tackle climate challenges, attention is increasingly turning towards sharing knowledge, scaling success and supporting wider adoption. Discussions between Interreg North-West Europe and Interreg North Sea Region highlighted how collaboration and capitalisation can help successful local solutions create benefits far beyond their original pilot areas.

[Read the full article](#)



Better Health Begins at Your Front Door - Green Streets as a Catalyst for a Healthy Society

The journey towards a healthier community can start with something as simple as a greener street.

Across Europe, neighbourhoods are being redesigned to create safer, cooler and more attractive places to live. The benefits go far beyond climate adaptation, helping support wellbeing, strengthen social connections and improve everyday quality of life for residents.

[Read the full article](#)



Planning Equitable Cool Networks - Prioritising Urban Heat Adaptation

Hotspots, hard surfaces and hidden vulnerabilities.

As temperatures continue to rise, some neighbourhoods face greater risks than others. Understanding where heat hits hardest is becoming one of the biggest challenges facing European cities. Smart planning can help ensure that support reaches the communities that need it most.

[Read the full article](#)



From Grey to Green Infrastructure - Scaling Nature-Based Solutions Through GreenDense

Greener streets. Cooler communities. Stronger cities.

Trees, planting schemes and nature-based solutions are helping cities respond to rising temperatures while creating more attractive places to live. Experiences from GreenDense demonstrate how working with nature can deliver benefits for people, biodiversity and neighbourhood liveability.

[Read the full article](#)



Co-Creation in Action - Designing Cooler Neighbourhoods with Communities

People power can be just as important as plant power.

Across the Cool Neighbourhoods partnership, residents are helping shape solutions that reflect local priorities and local knowledge. By involving communities in decision making, climate adaptation becomes more practical, more inclusive and more likely to deliver lasting benefits.

[Read the full article](#)



Knowledge Exchange Driving Climate Adaptation Across European Projects

More than 30 posters. Multiple projects. One shared ambition.

The Cool Neighbourhoods Mid-Term Conference created a vibrant platform for knowledge exchange, bringing together Cool Neighbourhoods, Cool Cities, GreenDense, Polliconnect and representatives from Interreg North-West Europe and the Interreg North Sea Region.

[Read the full article](#)



Data is everywhere. Turning it into action is the challenge.

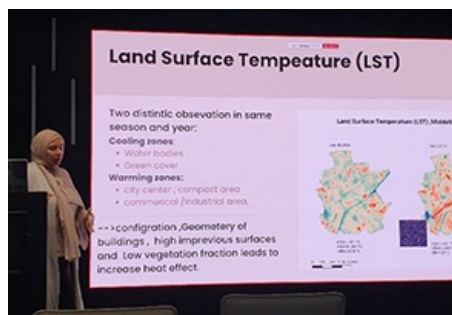
During a visit to JRC Zeeland, partners explored how research, digital technologies and climate monitoring can support better decisions and stronger climate resilience.

[Read the full article](#)

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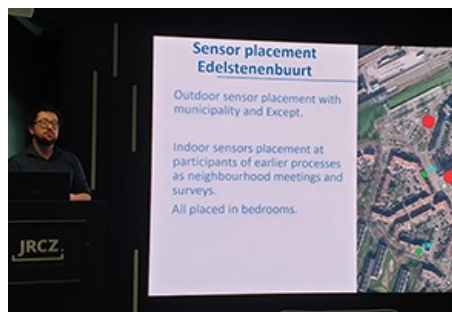


Mapping Heat and Urban Form - Evidence-Based Insights from Middelburg

Why are some streets noticeably hotter than others?

Researchers in Middelburg have been exploring how buildings, public spaces, vegetation and urban design influence local temperatures.

[Read the full article](#)



Measuring Heat Where It Matters - Citizen Science and Sensor Deployment in Middelburg

Climate action starts close to home.

Across Middelburg, residents have been helping collect valuable neighbourhood-level temperature data through sensors installed in streets, public spaces and homes.

[Read the full article](#)

Published Reports & Outputs

Sharing the tools, frameworks and knowledge developed through Cool Neighbourhoods



Empowerment Process Guidebook

Cooler, greener neighbourhoods are created with communities, not simply for them.

As the first featured output in the new Published Reports & Outputs section, the Empowerment Process Guidebook provides municipalities with a practical framework for engaging citizens, stakeholders and local communities in neighbourhood-scale climate adaptation. By supporting participation, collaboration and co-creation, the guidebook helps turn local knowledge into meaningful climate action.

[Download the report](#)



Collaboration in Action - From Projects to European Impact

Partnerships spark progress. Shared knowledge scales success.

The Cool Neighbourhoods Mid-Term Conference brought together Cool Neighbourhoods, Cool Cities, GreenDense, Polliconnect, Interreg North-West Europe and Interreg North Sea Region around a common purpose - creating cooler, greener and more liveable communities.

From Grey to Green.

From Knowledge to Action.

From Pilot Projects to European Impact.

[Watch the highlights](#)

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