

PLANET4B Project

understanding Plural values, intersectionality, Leverage points, Attitudes, Norms, behaviour and social Learning in Transformation for Biodiversity decision making



Meta Data Sheet

- 1. PLANET4B Case study/ research collection title:** Case study Bio-/Diverse Edible City Graz (BEST Graz) and GAIA Gartenberg, Graz, Austria
- 2. Investigators:**
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- 3. Contact person:** Sandra Karner, sandra.karner@ifz.at
- 4. Case study/ topic summary:** The Graz-based case study explored how biodiversity, food, and social inclusion can be connected through participatory, cross-sectoral action. We initiated two Learning Communities (LCs) that worked on different but interlinked levels:
The Citizens LC co-created a community garden, the GAIA Gartenberg, where women* from diverse backgrounds engaged in gardening, various arts-based and co-creative learning activities, and reflection. The aim was to explore how they could engage with the topic of biodiversity in an accessible and hands-on way, empowering them to develop new skills, confidence, and agency while contributing to local policy debates on inclusive biodiverse urban green spaces. The Policy LC brought together municipal staff, CSO representatives, urban gardening practitioners and experts to explore integrated governance approaches. This LC aimed to foster cross-departmental collaboration within the City of Graz and with civic initiatives, and to inform forthcoming strategies, such as on biodiversity and urban food and agriculture. Through workshops, system mapping, and co-creation, it developed the BEST Graz concept with 11 “Fields of Action” for a Bio-/Diverse Edible City.
Together, both processes bridged everyday practice and policy, inspiring the City to expand the GAIA pilot area into a biodiverse edible community park and learning space.
- 5. Purpose of data collection:** Data was collected to test and evaluate co-creative, arts-based methods used to make biodiversity-related topics relevant; assess the impact of intervention activities; analyse existing policies and develop the BEST Graz concept; and understand how biodiversity and social inclusion can be fostered through urban green community spaces.
- 6. Keywords:** Biodiversity, Intersectionality, Urban green spaces, Community gardens, Co-creative methods, Participation, Urban planning, Action research, Integrated urban policies [For thematic focus: [CESSDA controlled vocabulary](#) | For Unit type, sampling, and mode of collection: [DDI controlled vocabulary](#)]
- 7. Methodology**

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- **Data type(s):** Text, images, graphics, tables, whiteboard notes
- **Country of data collection:** Austria, US¹
- **Category of respondents:** members of Citizens Learning Community (women – with migration background); members of Policy Learning Community (representatives from the municipality, Civil Society Organisations, urban gardening initiatives, social workers, artists, experts, researchers); urban gardening practitioners; representatives of different municipality departments of Graz.
- **Unit type:** Workshops, interviews, field experiments, desk research
- **Sampling procedure:** n.a.
- **Mode of collection:** in person (interviews, workshops, field experiment, meetings); some supported by whiteboard use via Miro
- **Data collection period:** October 2023 to May 2025

8. Repository

- **Name of repository:** Zenodo
- **Web address of repository:** <https://zenodo.org/>
- **DOI of uploaded dataset(s):**
 - GAIA Gartenberg related data: [10.5281/zenodo.17427007](https://zenodo.org/records/17427007); <https://zenodo.org/records/17427258>
 - BEST Graz related data: [10.5281/zenodo.17458354](https://zenodo.org/records/17458354); <https://zenodo.org/records/17458354>
 - System Mapping Report: [10.5281/zenodo.17425501](https://zenodo.org/records/17425501); <https://zenodo.org/records/17425501>
 - Systematisation of Experiences: [10.5281/zenodo.17370985](https://zenodo.org/records/17370985); <https://zenodo.org/records/17370985>

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