On February 20th, 2020, at the Za Bramką office building, the workshop entitled: Nature-based solutions (NBS) as a part of green regeneration was held for nearly 30 officials from 16 various departments of City Hall and municipal units in Poznań. The participants of this meeting were also the members of the Local URBACT Group, which was created as a part of Health & Greenspaces project in the frame of URBACT III programme.

The workshop lasted for 3 hours. After the welcome and introduction, participants were asked to work on the first worksheet about their knowledge of NBS. Most participants knew of NBS (16 people) and were able to give examples and the functions of NBS. Participants most often pointed to natural playgrounds, green stops, social gardens, and floating gardens. The most frequently mentioned examples were educational, improvement of air quality and greening of cities.

Next participants listened to a presentation on NBS - definitions, functions, and examples. After this Poznań presented the NBS solutions that have been implemented as part of the Connecting Nature project. The floor was then opened for discussion.
The next part of the workshop was a speed dating session, the subjects of this were, natural playgrounds, eco-demonstrations, floating gardens and open gardens. Each group leader from the Poznań Connecting Nature team explained the technical details of its NBS.

After a coffee break the participants completed the second worksheet on the identification of NBS in the daily work of each participant or department and in future plans (NBS which could be implemented by each participant or department). The results were presented in the forum. As many as 10 workshop participants work every day on the implementation of NBS. The most frequently indicated NBS were permeable surfaces and activities aimed at increasing the amount of greenery in the city. According to participants, the barriers to implementing NBS are lack of financial resources, lack of knowledge in the field of NBS, and high generality of local development plans. Over half of the participants declared their willingness to implement new NBS in the future. The most likely to be implemented were natural playgrounds, eco-demonstrators, city meadows and insect houses.

At the end, the participants were asked to complete the last worksheet regarding their reflection and observations about the workshop.
Reflection and Observations about the Workshop:

"A much needed workshop, showing how many units / departments deal with greenery. Hope that such workshops will allow to establish cooperation to strive to introduce as much greenery as possible in the city."

Natalia Ziółkowska, ZZM

"The cooperation of faculties / MJ in activities related to nature in the city is necessary. Such workshops + exchange of information what projects are carried out should be organized more often. A common and constant policy of the city in activities for nature and the environment is needed."

Alicja Bogalecka-Pabisiak, WUiA

"Let's act :)"
Aneta Perz, POSIR

"We have a lot to do."
Łukasz Bandosz, ZTM

"As many such meetings as possible. Create green Poznań right now ...!"
Ewelina Murzydło, WDGiR

"We should share ideas and good practices. May there be more such meetings, cooperation opportunities and solutions. Thank you! :)"
Marta Cywińska, BKPiRM