

## Benefit of the month #11: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESILIENCE

Each month the Interreg Central Europe Project MaCICLandscapes introduces a particular benefit of green infrastructure including examples from the project's case study areas and across Central Europe.

Cities are becoming more and more edible throughout Central Europe! People are cultivating plants of all types and varieties in urban spaces – so-called 'edible places'. Areas which provide local food, increase the sense of place, promote education on the origins of food. As elements of green infrastructure they filter air and rain water, mitigate against the urban heat island effect and create recreational space.

The town of Hollabrunn in Lower Austria (AT) has created such edible gardens in the redesign of its main square and by planting and maintaining green spaces throughout the town. Local people can actively join in with the cultivation of fruit and vegetables. Also in Dresden citizens have started the participative public gardening initiative <u>"Essbares öffentliches Stadtgrün"</u> (engl. edible public urban green). Citizens plan, create and manage public spaces with fruit trees, berry bushes, herbs and vegetable beds. These edible places are being created for and by local people. They serve as social meeting points, raise awareness and responsibility for the environment and for the need for green infrastructure, especially considering climate change.



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Cover photo:Community garden "Hechtgrün" in Dresden/© Christiane Kupfer

