

## Information sheet

# Resilient Urban Waters

**This Policy Brief is part of a series aiming to inform policymakers involved in the implementation of the EU Nature Restoration Regulation (NRR) with policy recommendations based on the results of the BiodivRestore funded projects.**

This publication was commissioned and supervised by BiodivRestore and produced by Eli Morrell (Nature^Squared) and Iris Visser (Nature^Squared) with support of Cloé Durieux and Julie de Bouville, designed by Kelly Hartholt.

The key research results presented were co-drafted and validated by coordinators from the BiodivRestore funded projects [BiNatUr](#) and [NICHES](#).

## The BiodivRestore Cofund Action

BiodivERsA and Water JPI launched in October 2020 a joint call to support research on “Conservation and restoration of degraded ecosystems and their biodiversity, including a focus on aquatic systems”. The call was co-funded by the European Commission.

22 research projects were funded through this joint call for 21.3 million euros.

## References and Resources

### BiNatUr:

- [BiNatUr project page](#)
- End [presentation](#) Biodiversa conference
- End report

### NICHES:

- [NICHES project page](#)
- [NICHES project website](#)
- Policy Gaps and Opportunities for the management of urban water SETS. Available [here](#).
- Transitioning to sustainable urban water systems: Insights from Barcelona, Berlin and Rotterdam. Available [here](#).
- Knowledge diversity for climate change adaptation: A social-ecological-technological systems (SETS) approach to mental models. Available [here](#).
- Boundary concepts: understanding impacts of combined sewer overflows and nature-based solutions for urban water management in NICHES cities. Available [here](#).
- Integrated assessment framework. Available [here](#).
- End report

**Other:**

- The [EU Nature Restoration Regulation](#)

**Table 1: Overview of recommendation linkages to NRR Articles and key supporting evidence and tools**

<b>NRR Article / NRP Requirement</b>	<b>Key Recommendation</b>	<b>Evidence base</b>
Article 4, Article 8, Article 14 & Article 15	Screen urban catchments for high-frequency sewer overflows	NICHES (Integrated Water Assessment Framework, InVEST surface runoff suite, and BATT tool)
Article 15	Overcome institutional silos by using integrated water governance	NICHES (SETS framework and co-developed governance transition pathways)
Article 8 & Article 15	Integrate habitat-diverse design requirements into urban water and NbS projects	BiNatUr (NbS surveys and habitat assessment framework)
Article 20 & Article 21	Deploy multi-tracer testing to monitor urban water resilience	BiNatUr (multi-tracer tracking framework and eDNA)
Article 4, Article 9 & Article 15	Use integrated planning frameworks to support long-term NbS implementation	NICHES (watershed-scale scenario modelling, integrated planning approaches, and governance transition pathways)