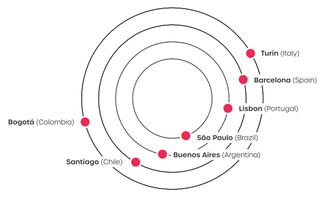
BARCELONA
CONEXUS LIFE LAB



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Urban Agriculture Observatory

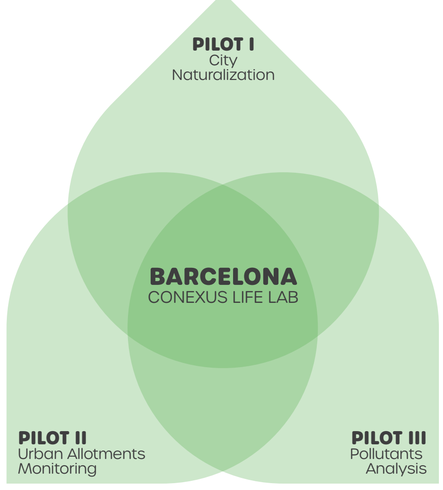
The city of Barcelona as Life Lab seeks to value Urban Agriculture as part of the city's green infrastructure, through the creation of an Urban Agriculture Observatory. The main objective of the Observatory is to establish a database of environmental and social aspects of urban allotments and analyze their benefits.

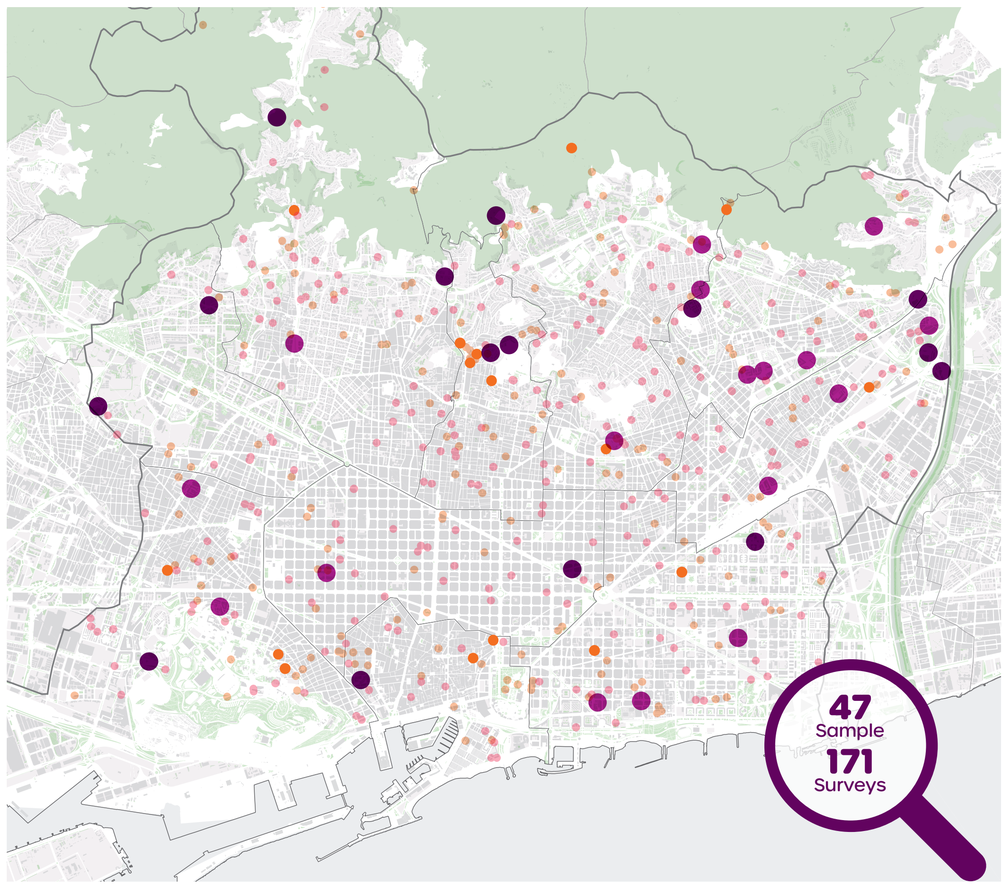
The focus of the study in the Conexus project are three pilots based on Nature Based Solutions. They contribute to the Urban Agriculture Observatory to build up a learning community that, collectively, exchanges and sharing information, knowledge, ideas, experience, and expertise linked to urban agriculture.

The Barcelona Life Lab is a consortium of partners representing local or regional government organizations like Barcelona Regional or Barcelona City Hall, local research institutions or universities like CREAF, as well as local citizens and organizations.

Barcelona Life Lab

Ajuntament de Barcelona + BR + CREAF + Local citizens and organisations





538
Urban Allotments

- **15** Municipal Allotments Network
- **14** Hands to Green
- **160** Community and Social Allotments
- **349** Schoolar

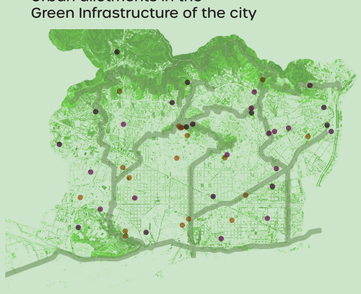
Pilot I. City Naturalization

Objective
Monitoring the actions implemented in different municipal government plans related to green infrastructure. In addition to highlighting urban agriculture as part of the green infrastructure that provides abundant environmental services.

Contextualization: axes, actions, proposals and strategies

Methodology
Bibliographic search, analysis with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and the corresponding data processing.

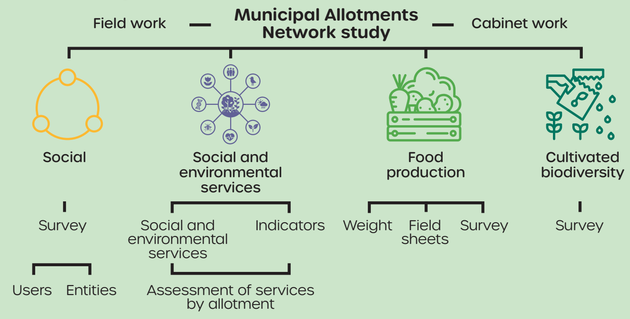
Urban allotments in the Green Infrastructure of the city



Pilot II. Urban Allotments Monitoring

Objective
Establish a database of environmental and social aspects of urban allotments and analyze their benefits.

Methodology



Age and gender
- **74.2** Average age
- **20%** Female
- **80%** Male

How often do you come?
- **3** Days per week
- **2** Hours per day

Why do you come to the urban allotments?
- Spend spare time
- Do exercise
- Growing what you eat
- Nature connection
- Social relationship (schools, mates)

How are the social relationships?
- **60%** Help other users
  - → Watering
  - → Seeds exchanging
  - → Harvesting
- **30%** Participate in community meals

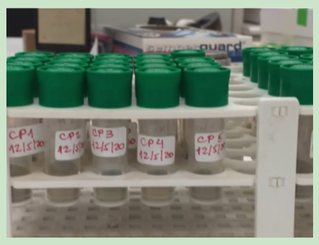
92% of users have made new friends

Pilot III. Pollutants Analysis

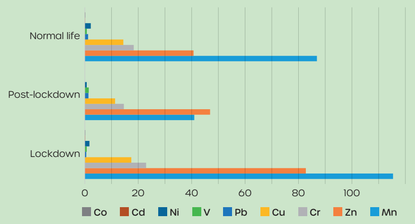
Objective
It is known that urban allotments have many social and environmental benefits. Most plots are organically cultivated, so the food is supposed to be very healthy. Despite of that, the fact that some urban allotments are located near large and crowded infrastructures may cause food to be contaminated due to the deposition of air pollutants on it. This pilot evaluates the content of heavy metals in some vegetables and the risk to the health of users.

Field sampling

Laboratory



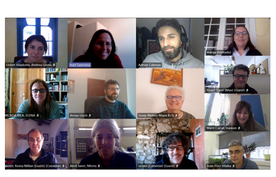
Some preliminary results
After lockdown and post-COVID-19 era heavy metals increased, due to urban traffic.



2020

September

1st Participatory Workshop



Lisbon Conference

Torino Conference

2021

November

Indicators Participatory Workshop

Conexus Project presentation to users

December

Bogotá Conference

2022

March

Encouraging users getting data about production and biodiversity

April

University Buenos Aires & Sheffield visit Barcelona

Project leader and WP3 visit Barcelona

May

48 Hours of Urban Agriculture

São Paulo Conference

June

Workshop with entities managing urban allotments

September

External Conference II Seminario Green Infrastructure CPIA (Argentina)

October

External Conference Enhancing Green Spaces in Cities EUKIN (Slovenia)

November

Buenos Aires Conference

Ajuntament de Barcelona

BR BARCELONA REGIONAL URBAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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CONEXUS
Urban nature connects us
Conectados por la naturaleza urbana
Conectados pela natureza urbana