

Case Examples

Supporting Natural Assets at the Local Level

Module 4: Supporting Natural Assets
Enhancing VLRs for Sustainable, Green, and
Resilient Recovery & Transitions



UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS



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UCLG

United Cities
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Good Practice Example

Canada's National Standard for Natural Asset Inventories

- Unlike engineered assets, natural assets are often excluded from asset management plans and financial reports leading to their mismanagement and the deterioration of the services that they provide.
- Provides definitions, guidance
- Helps bridge the gap for local governments looking to begin accounting for their natural assets, while also providing consultants and practitioners with expert-developed best practices to apply in their work.
- Makes collaboration between communities easier, help attract diverse funding, and connect natural asset inventories to broader climate and natural based solutions and reporting.



The screenshot shows the CSA Group website interface. At the top left is the CSA Group logo. To the right are links for 'CSA Group' and 'CSA OnDemand™'. Below these are 'CATALOGUE' and 'SUBSCRIPTION' dropdown menus. A search bar with a dropdown set to 'All' and the text 'Search Products' is visible. The breadcrumb trail reads 'Home > CSA W218:23'. The main heading is 'CSA W218:23' with the subtitle 'Specifications for natural asset inventories'. At the bottom, it lists 'SKU: 2430709', 'Published by CSA Group', 'Publication Year 2023', and '37 pages'.

Source: <https://www.csagroup.org/store/product/2430709/>

Good Practice Example

EcoPark Project

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

- Bishkek's EcoPark project began in 2010 with a field study carried out by 2,800 residents to better understand community needs and expectations.
- The project has evolved every year since 2010 and to date, approximately 10,000 trees have been protected, increasing carbon storage and restoring native species in the unique forest of Bishkek referred to as the Karagachevaia Rocha ("grove of elms").
- The project redeveloped the forest into an environmental education centre, the first of its kind in Kyrgyzstan.



Source: <https://una.city/nbs/bishkek/eco-park-project>

Good Practice Example

Green Belt

Nur-Sultan, Kyrgyzstan

- The area of the green belt of Nur-Sultan is 100 thousand hectares, of which 15 thousand hectares are planted within the city limits.
- The green belt was created not only as an aesthetic element but also to serve as the lungs of the city.
- To serve as a mechanism for improving air quality, mitigating climate and as a natural barrier to protect the city from dust winds and snowstorms



Source: <https://una.city/nbs/nur-sultan/green-belt-nur-sultan-city>

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Good Practice Example

Embankment enhancements on the Rioni River

Samtredia, Georgia

- The city has been affected by floods in the Rioni River basin.
- Flooding has been harmful not only to the local population but also to the biodiversity of the area, which suffered losses and an ecological imbalance and a disruption in the habitat patterns of local fauna.
- city services have been implemented including riverbank terracing, vegetative buffers, and tree revetments



Source: <https://una.city/nbs/samtredia/slowing-flow-rioni-river-basin>

Good Practice Example

Tree Project

Yerevan, Armenia

- The Armenia Tree Project is a national initiative founded in 1994
- Focuses on the most vulnerable communities with the most need for greenery
- From a climate change perspective, the project addresses issues of clean air and temperature regulation, as Armenia confronts a frequency of extreme weather events, worsening desertification and land degradation.
- From a biodiversity perspective, the project aims to conserve the country's rich biodiversity and to restore its ecosystems



Source: <https://una.city/nbs/yerevan/armenias-tree-project>