POLICY SUPPORT FACILITY





ESTE RIVER GREENWAY NATURE-BASED REHABILITATION



HAZARDS ADDRESSED

- Extreme heat, droughts, and water scarcity
- Heavy precipitation and flooding
- Climate change health impacts



SOLUTIONS

• Nature-based Solutions



FUNDING

- Local government's own funds
- National grants

STATUS OF MEASURE



BRAGA, PORTUGAL

The project aims to promote a naturalisation of the Este River to conclude a larger naturalisation process, which is already ongoing in less urbanised and artificial areas of the municipality. This project could significantly boost local resilience to flooding and heat haves as well as provide a new amenity for residents to commute by walking or cycling through the urban green spaces.

Additionally, Braga is considering other concepts for urban green spaces, such as "micro forests", which contribute to ecosystem regeneration and the city's resilience.



DIRECT BENEFITS

- Improved drainage of precipitation
- Reduced damage in case of flooding
- Saved resources on maintenance



CO-BENEFITS

• Incentivised healthy lifestyles



STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGED

- Local population
- National environment agency



NEXT STEPS TO PROGRESS AND/OR UPSCALE THE MEASURE:

Braga needs to secure funding to follow up with the project's implementation. Despite having a well-established pool of technical knowledge and political will, the gap in investment can only be covered through external funding. Similar to other Portuguese cities within the Policy Support Facility, Braga's project can be merged with neighbouring cities, which are also looking into river naturalisation as a climate friendly solution.