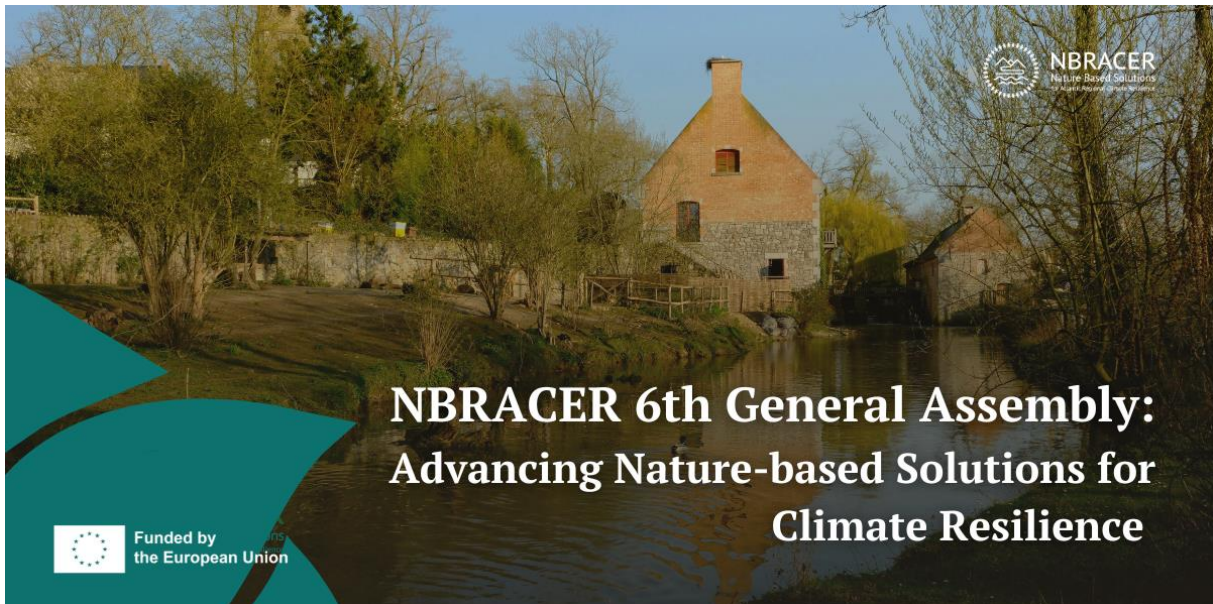




NBRACER
Nature Based Solutions
for Atlantic Regional Climate Resilience

NBRACER 6th General Assembly: Advancing Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Resilience at Intermediate General Assembly in Brussels



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Press Release

Paris, March 18, 2025 –

The NBRACER consortium convened its Intermediate General Assembly from 24–25 March 2026 in Brussels, bringing together project partners, regional representatives, and key stakeholders to advance the implementation of NbS across Europe.

Held in a hybrid format, with an additional immersive field visit on 26 March, the Assembly marked a significant milestone in aligning regional priorities, strengthening collaboration, and accelerating progress towards climate resilience and sustainable transformation.

Enhancing Regional Collaboration

A central focus of the Assembly was improving coordination between Demonstrating Regions and Replicating Regions. Discussions highlighted the importance of strengthening ongoing exchanges, enabling more structured peer-to-peer learning, and ensuring that regional needs are integrated earlier in project processes.



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Participants emphasized the value of regular, targeted interactions between regions, as well as the need to maintain long-term collaboration beyond the duration of the project. While strong synergies are already emerging, further efforts will be made to streamline communication and improve alignment across work packages and regional activities.

Driving Implementation of Nature-based Solutions

The Assembly reinforced the project's role in supporting systemic regional adaptation through Nature-based Solutions. Key discussions focused on embedding NbS into governance and policy frameworks, scaling solutions across diverse regional contexts, and ensuring that scientific outputs are translated into practical, actionable approaches.

A recurring theme was the need to clearly demonstrate the benefits of NbS at multiple levels, while ensuring that solutions remain realistic and tailored to each region's specific capacities and challenges.

Advancing Tools and Methodologies

Progress was presented on the development of innovative tools and methodologies to support regional decision-making. These include advanced mapping and modelling approaches that link climate risks, such as flooding and heat, with infrastructure exposure, as well as tools to identify optimal locations for implementing Nature-based Solutions.

These developments aim to bridge the gap between research and implementation by providing regions with practical, data-driven support for planning and prioritization.

Strengthening Communication and Citizen Engagement

Effective communication and stakeholder engagement were identified as critical components of successful implementation. Discussions explored approaches to simplify complex concepts, tailor messaging to different audiences, and ensure consistency across the project.

Participants highlighted the importance of engaging citizens early in the process, fostering co-creation, and building trust. The use of clear narratives, practical examples, and visual communication tools was recognized as essential to making NbS more accessible and widely understood.

Immersive visit Flemish Ardennes

The immersive visit to East Flanders provided a valuable peer-learning opportunity for local and regional authorities, practitioners, and the NBRACER partners. Set in the hilly landscape of the Flemish Ardennes around Ronse, the visit highlighted how farming, biodiversity, and water management are integrated within a constrained and highly pressured landscape. A central focus was the governance challenge of implementing multifunctional riparian zones, which participants observed on site.

These vegetated buffer strips along watercourses play a crucial role in slowing down runoff, trapping sediments, improving water quality, supporting biodiversity, and reducing downstream flooding risks.

At the Kanarieberg site, participants saw first-hand a practical example of NbS in action. In a landscape marked by agricultural pressure and soil erosion, participants observed how vegetated buffer strips, erosion control measures, and no-tillage practices are being implemented to reduce runoff, improve water quality, and support biodiversity at the catchment scale.

Discussions also highlighted the importance of long-term collaboration, farmer engagement, and clear governance frameworks to ensure the successful implementation of Nature-based Solutions.



Next Steps and Outlook

The Assembly confirmed alignment on key upcoming priorities, including the delivery of major project outputs, continued development of policy briefs, and the expansion of dissemination activities across Europe.

The consortium also validated project updates and reaffirmed its commitment to delivering impactful and scalable solutions. The next General Assembly will take place in October 2026, where partners will continue to build on the progress achieved to date. Stay tuned !

For more information and to stay up to date on NBRACER's progress, visit [NBRACER.EU](https://nbracer.eu).

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