



The UPSURGE Project Final Conference

Guiding Cities to Deliver Regenerative Urban Transformation

SESSION 4

Scaling Nature-based Innovation Across Europe

Moderators: Janine Maier & Christina Haderer

10 February 2026
Katowice, Poland



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 101003818

SCALING NATURE-BASED INNOVATION ACROSS EUROPE

- 🌀 Navigating Sustainability and Scalability: Insights from UPSURGE Comparative Assessments and Simulations

Jennifer McKinley & Bakul Budhiraja, QUB

- 🌀 Patras as an upscaling case of UPSURGE innovations

Konstadinos Konstadakopoulos & Vasilios Kantzaris, PATRAS

- 🌀 Panel Discussion: Overcoming Challenges in Upscaling Nature-Based Solutions in Cities

UPSURGE City representatives



Debbie Caldwell

*Climate Commissioner,
Belfast City Council*



Dirk-Jan Coort

*Advisor Municipal
Water & Sewerage,
Gemeente Breda*



Eva Beleznay

*Place Lab Management,
B18 Budapest*



Lech Marek

*Municipal Greenery
Authority of
Katowice*



Matjaž Fras

*Regional development
agency, Podravje-
Maribor*