

Thematic line Green & Blue Infrastructure (G&BI)

LandGI-NEXUS - Green Infrastructure, Ecosystem Services and Land Use Planning NEXUS. An application in the Portuguese rural landscape.

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ABSTRACT

Despite the growing awareness of Green Infrastructure (GI) importance, the multiple changes in the landscape lead to a reduction in biodiversity and decline of ecosystem quality. This confirms the gap between landscape transformation and spatial planning, and the urgent need to integrate landscape scale in national and regional planning.

This project aims to define an integrated approach that considers GI an ecologically based spatial concept and a strategically designed network to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services. The main goal is to develop a methodology to map the Green Infrastructure (GI) for mainland Portugal, and specific Ecosystem Services (ES) at the regional, and municipal level. It is intended to provide a more robust GI as a spatial network that defines areas of existing and potential ecological connectivity, with multiple and sustainable land uses, adapted to different ecological units of the landscape. This approach provides information on how to combine the different natural resources into more strategic and integrated land use plans. In addition, an integrative approach is defined to conciliate these ecologically-based tools into the Portuguese landscape planning system.

