Library of use cases

Key

Elements of Urban Nature Habitat patch size – Winning ground Connectivity – Connecting playmakers



Matrix quality - Finding openings



Habitat diversity - Building a balanced team



Native vegetation - Seizing home advantage



Special resources - Landing the big hits



Wildlife-friendly management - Masterminding the game plan

Co-benefits of Urban Nature for Sport



Cooling Athletes, Participants & Fans



Keeping the Field of Play Playable



Purifying Air & Water for Peak Performance



Beautifying Venues for Better Experiences



Quickening Recovery & Strengthening Mindsets



Bringing Communities Together



Future-proofing Venues

Scale of Intervention



Building



Club Grounds



Neighbourhood



Education, Promotion & Advocacy

Title	Organisation	Sport	Location	Scale	Elements	Co-benefits	Description
Roots and Records: Budapest's Urban Forest Reborn	Budapest 2023	Athletics	Budapest, Hungary				The 2023 World Athletics Championships in Budapest incorporated biodiversity goals by planting native trees to expand green spaces and cool the city. These actions supported local climate targets and created a legacy of enhanced urban greenery. The event also encouraged sustainable transport and showcased environmentally responsible event planning.
Birds and Baseball: The Oriole Garden at Camden Yards	Baltimore Orioles & NWF	Baseball	Baltimore, USA				The Oriole Garden at Camden Yards, Baltimore, was established by the Baltimore Orioles and the National Wildlife Federation to support pollinators and native birds. Located prominently at the stadium entrance, the garden contains over 30 native plant species. Reduced chemical use and its proximity to other green spaces enhance ecological connectivity and public awareness of biodiversity.
Wild at the Wicket: Whalley Range's Cricketing Conservation	Whalley Range Cricket Club	Cricket	Whalley, UK				Whalley Range Cricket Club in the UK has taken significant steps to enhance biodiversity and promote sustainability. The club has planted over 200 trees, installed swift boxes for nesting birds, eliminated pesticide use, and created vegetable planters for local food production. These actions have improved habitats for urban wildlife while engaging the local community. Their efforts were recognised with the Cricketer magazine's Greenest Ground award.
Greening the Pavilion: Lord's Cricket Ground's Living Walls	Lord's Cricket Ground	Cricket	London, UK				Lord's Cricket Ground installed green walls as part of a major redevelopment, adding over 12,000 plants and integrated nesting boxes for birds and bats. These walls enhance air quality, provide urban habitat, and serve as a visible commitment to sustainability in one of the world's most iconic cricket venues.
Drenthe's Cycling Corridor for People and Nature	UCI	Cycling	Drenthe, The Netherlands	(a)			Drenthe's Green Corridor connects cities via eco-friendly cycle highways designed with nature in mind. The project includes safer wildlife crossings, reduced fragmentation, and greener travel infrastructure. As a UCI Bike Region, Drenthe exemplifies how mobility and biodiversity can be integrated.
Greening the Game: Spurs' Biodiversity Blueprint	Tottenham Hotspur	Football	London, UK				Tottenham Hotspur has embedded biodiversity into its infrastructure by integrating green design across both its stadium and training centre. Key interventions include planting wildflower meadows, installing ponds, bug hotels, bat boxes, and creating wetland habitats. Biodiversity is monitored through collaboration with external tracking systems, informing data-driven decisions. These actions contribute to ecological value while engaging fans and staff in nature-positive efforts.



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Pitch Perfect: Forest Green's Organic Football Revolution	Forest Green Rovers	Football	Nailsworth, UK				Forest Green Rovers has pioneered environmental sustainability in football through organic pitch maintenance, vegan catering, and renewable energy use. The club's new stadium, Eco Park, is designed with climate-conscious architecture, including electric vehicle infrastructure and green spaces. These efforts have significantly reduced the club's environmental footprint and inspired sustainability within the wider sports sector.
Garden Goals: Girvan FC's Sensory Sanctuary	Girvan Football Club	Football	Girvan, UK				Girvan Football Club has created a sensory garden at the entrance to its grounds, planting fruit trees that support pollinators and provide a tranquil space for visitors. This initiative demonstrates how even small clubs can enhance biodiversity and community wellbeing through simple greening interventions. The project strengthens the club's role as a local hub for inclusivity and environmental awareness.
Grass Roots, Green Goals: Brazil's First Eco Stadium	J. Malucelli FC	Football	Curitiba, Brazil				Estádio Janguito Malucelli in Curitiba, Brazil, was the country's first ecological stadium, featuring a grass-covered grandstand and construction with recycled materials. Although now repurposed, the stadium stood as a pioneering example of integrating sustainability into sports infrastructure and inspired future developments in eco-friendly stadium design.
Kicking for Clean Streets: MYSA's Eco League in Nairobi	Mathare Youth Sports Association	Football	Nairobi, Kenya				MYSA's Eco League in Nairobi rewards youth football teams with league points for litter collection and tree planting. This gamified approach improves urban sanitation, raises environmental awareness, and fosters a culture of community care and conservation among young people in the slums.
Greens of Distinction: Le Golf National's Habitat Mosaic	French Golf Federation	Golf	Paris, France				Le Golf National near Paris demonstrates how golf courses can enhance biodiversity by maintaining habitat mosaics. The 139-hectare site includes ten EUNIS-classified habitats, including three rare ones. Management practices feature reduced chemical use, amphibian hibernacula, and deadwood, with unmown buffer zones helping to preserve wildlife corridors and ecological richness.
Monarchs on the Fairway: Golf Courses for Pollinators	United States Golf Association (USGA)	Golf	Multiple, USA				The USGA's Monarchs in the Rough program helps golf courses across the US convert out-of-play areas into pollinator habitats. Participants plant native milkweed and wildflowers to support monarch butterflies, while reducing mowing and chemical use. This low-cost, high-impact initiative promotes biodiversity and pollinator conservation.
Galloping Greens: Kenilworth Racecourse's Habitat Refuge	Kenilworth Racecourse	Horse Racing	Cape Town, South Africa				Kenilworth Racecourse in Cape Town protects a rare remnant of critically endangered Sand Plain Fynbos, maintaining it as a large, intact habitat patch within the urban matrix. The site's conservation value lies in preserving native flora and associated wildlife in one of the world's most diverse plant kingdoms.



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Gameplan for Pollinators: A Guide for Clubs	National Biodiversity Centre of Ireland	Multiple	Ireland				The National Biodiversity Centre of Ireland has developed a practical guide for sports clubs to support pollinators. The guide promotes five simple actions such as reducing mowing, planting native species, and avoiding pesticides. It is part of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and has been adopted by clubs across the country. The programme is supported by mapping tools and a biodiversity toolkit, helping clubs track and scale their efforts.
Green Goals: Zuiderpark's Sustainable Sports Campus	The Hague Municipality	Multiple	The Hague, The Netherlands				Zuiderpark's Sustainable Sports Campus in The Hague is a CO2-neutral facility that incorporates green roofs, permeable paving, and a restored creek system. The site integrates seamlessly with the adjacent park and promotes biodiversity, recreation, and education. Built by the municipality and a local university, the campus offers a model for future-proof, sustainable sports infrastructure.
Flora at the Footy: Cape Town Stadium's Biodiversity Garden	City of Cape Town	Multiple	Cape Town, South Africa				Cape Town Stadium's Biodiversity Showcase Garden, located in Green Point Park, demonstrates how native plants can be used in public landscaping. It serves as an educational tool for visitors, promoting awareness of local flora and the importance of conserving the region's unique biodiversity.
Greening the Paris Games from the Ground Up	Organising Committee of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games	Multiple	Paris, France				The Paris 2024 Olympic Games cut its carbon footprint in half by repurposing venues, prioritising renewables, and promoting sustainable transport. But the commitment didn't stop there: over 1,700 trees were safeguarded, six kilometres of habitat protected, and soil equivalent to 20 rugby pitches preserved. The Olympic Village and surrounding developments featured wildlife-friendly lighting, dead wood, nesting structures, and other special resources.
London 2012: Olympic Park as a Biodiversity Benchmark	Olympic Delivery Authority	Multiple	London, UK			TX & FI	The London 2012 Olympic Park was built with biodiversity at its core, guided by a comprehensive Biodiversity Action Plan. The park restored waterways, expanded habitat patches, and constructed wildlife corridors to allow species movement. Additional features included bird and bat boxes, native vegetation, and artificial otter dens, all contributing to post-Olympic ecological resilience.
Vancouver's Olympic Habitat Isleand	Vancouver Organizing Committee (VANOC)	Multiple	Vancouver, Canada	44			To offset shoreline habitat loss from Olympic Village construction, the Vancouver 2010 Winter Games created a new island planted with native vegetation. The habitat creation project increased overall patch size and connectivity, with additional restoration work in nearby parks. The initiative is a strong example of compensatory habitat creation tied to urban development.



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Row for the River: British Rowing Tackles Pollution	British Rowing	Rowing	London, UK				British Rowing partnered with environmental NGOs to empower rowers to monitor water quality and tackle pollution in UK rivers. By detecting phosphates, nitrates, and litter, clubs are helping to improve aquatic health and biodiversity. The initiative promotes citizen science, strengthens advocacy, and fosters stewardship among athletes and river-based communities.
Oars for Restoration: Spring Creek's Revival	Kinross Wolaroi School	Rowing	Bathurst, Australia				A rowing club in Bathurst restored the riparian area around its reservoir by removing invasive trees and planting native vegetation. This improved water availability in a drought-prone region and enhanced habitat quality. The project involved collaboration with a local school and the city, exemplifying community-based restoration.
Reefs Afloat: Saint- Tropez's Marine Makeover	Sail GP	Sailing	St Tropez, France				SailGP, in partnership with the Pure Ocean Foundation, is restoring marine biodiversity in Saint-Tropez through ecodesigned floating reefs made from recycled fishing nets. These structures provide refuge for marine species and protect sensitive seagrass beds using ecological anchors.
Waves of Change: Surf, Sustainability, and Community in Dakar	Copacabana Surf Village	Surfing	Dakar, Senegal	66			At Copacabana Surf Village in Dakar, Babacar Thiaw leads beach clean-ups and surf camps for youth, blending sport with ocean stewardship. His work, in partnership with the Surfrider Foundation, addresses plastic pollution and empowers surfers to become coastal conservation ambassadors.
Taekwondo and Tree- planting	Jadir Taekwondo Association	Taekwondo	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	44			The Jadir Taekwondo Association combines martial arts with ecosystem restoration in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro. Young people participate in belt tests that incorporate environmental challenges and tree planting. Activities take place in degraded urban areas, transforming them into green community spaces. This approach fosters both ecological awareness and social empowerment.

