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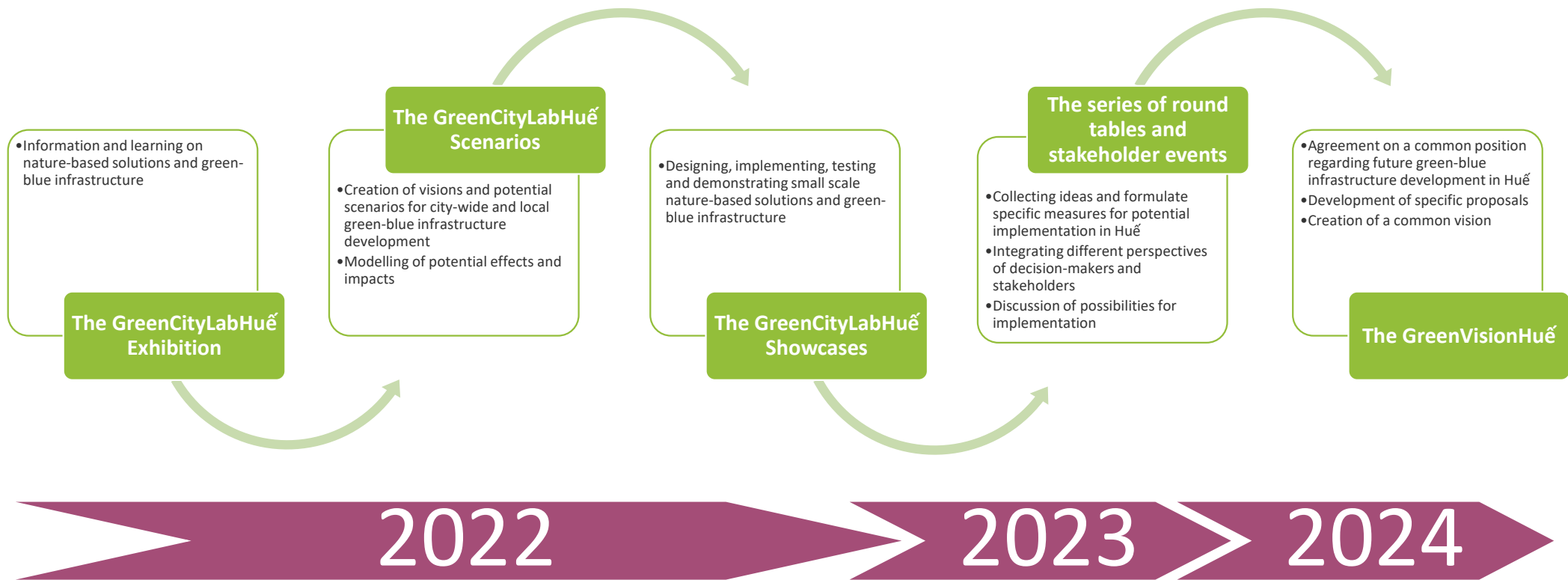
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Workshop Sustainable Urban Development

Insights of the GreenCityLabHuế Project

German-Vietnamese Science Day, Đà Nẵng 2023

The GreenCityLabHuế Project: Strengthening climate resilience of urban regions in Central Vietnam through nature-based solutions for heat adaptation and air quality improvement



Main obstacles on the way to implementation of research results: Lack of financial resources, coordination and awareness

- Huế is classified as a non-central city and hence is generally receiving limited funding from the national government
- the provincial and city budget for environmental matters is relatively low
- Environmental/ sustainable development projects have been mainly funded by international donors
- Urban development projects have been mainly funded by private investors
- Dependence on economic interests vs. needs regarding climate adaptation
- lack of coordination between different departments and stakeholders
- Generally low level of awareness about climate change and environmental issues among parts of the stakeholders

Strategies for involving the public, stakeholders and the private sector in research and implementation

- Awareness raising of stakeholders and citizens on importance of urban climate adaptation and ecosystem services through information, education and trainings
- Involving stakeholders and the public while identifying and prioritizing major challenges and needs on the regional level, the city-wide level, and the local level (districts, wards and communities)
- Get stakeholders and citizens to identify with the measures to be implemented and take ownership of them -> e.g. Involve stakeholders and citizens in the maintenance and management of urban green spaces and transfer responsibility to them
- Engaging citizens in collecting and generating data through Citizen Science
- Convincing local private companies of the benefits of being a neighbor of green spaces
- Convincing private investors from benefits of integrating nature-based solutions into their planning

How do solutions with regional knowledge facilitate implementation?

- better consideration of social and environmental interests within urban planning and approval procedures by gaining local information and knowledge
- the knowledge of local community leaders, citizens, associations and other stakeholders about specific local social and environmental issues can be used to identify any negative environmental impacts of the project at an early stage, and to avoid and/or reduce and compensate for them

How can science and policy makers benefit from each other?

- Science provides knowledge, concepts, solutions and analysis related to current challenges in urban development
- Policy makers provide data, influence implementation decisions and funding opportunities
- Policy makers can use regulation to influence the private sector to take environmental and social aspects into account in their planning
- Policy makers have influence on the acquisition of public funds for the implementation of (scientific) concepts

What is the main added value of international cooperation (esp. VN-GER) in research projects on sustainable urban development?

- Learning from and inspiring each other
- Strengthening the voice of local communities within the international scientific and political debate
- Learn about different perspectives and approaches to environmental and social challenges
- Transferring proven concepts to other countries
- Strengthen partnerships and expand networks
- Extending the reach of scientific results
- Validate theoretical concepts in practice
- Implementation of smart (local) solutions that could not be implemented without international (German) funding

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Thank you!

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