



22 Actions for Biodiversity

During the 2022 [Biodiversity Day](#) campaign, lists of 22 actions for biodiversity will be released gradually for various audiences to inspire action for nature. The actions are aligned with the post-2020 [global biodiversity framework](#). The public is called to:

- Adopt any of the 22 actions or propose their own actions or lists
- Share photos/videos of their action(s) on social media with the hashtag [#BiodiversityDay](#) ([available in other languages](#))
- In the run-up to 22 May, the campaign will showcase these actions taking place around the world.

Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Biodiversity Day 2022 is commemorated mainly through online campaigns to ensure safety of all participants. You are in the best position to know what awareness-raising campaigns and calls to action are feasible at your national level considering local conditions, the COVID context and related restrictions.

The lists of 22 actions for biodiversity are not exhaustive. Examples are given for online and in-person actions. We acknowledge that some actions may not be feasible in certain countries or communities. The actions suggested in the lists are meant to mobilize action for biodiversity and to create engagement and participation in the [Biodiversity Day](#) campaign. They are by no means exhaustive or fully representative of all the possible actions that can be taken around the globe. We apologize for any inconvenience or misunderstanding this could cause. We look forward to your feedback. Please [contact us](#) for any comments and suggestions to rectify any inconsistencies. More importantly, we invite you to create your own lists of 22 actions for biodiversity, which will be more representative of your work and adapted to your field of interest.

21 of the actions are aligned (but not identical) with the post-2020 [global biodiversity framework](#) to be adopted at the [United Nations Biodiversity Conference \(COP15\)](#). Through these actions, every person can play a role in achieving the targets set in the framework. The 22nd action is to celebrate [Biodiversity Day](#).

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22 Actions for Biodiversity

Actions by cities

Courtesy of ICLEI.

1. Control pollution

Use nature-based solutions to reduce and prevent pollution in urban ecosystems. Cities can also look to empower their citizens to take an active part in ensuring a clean city by mobilizing community clean-up days and linking with existing initiatives.

Support and implement policies and regulations to reduce other types of pollution, such as solid waste, air, noise and light pollution.

2. Protect, connect and restore ecosystems

Support the [UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration](#) to take action on restoring, rehabilitating and protecting urban ecosystems.

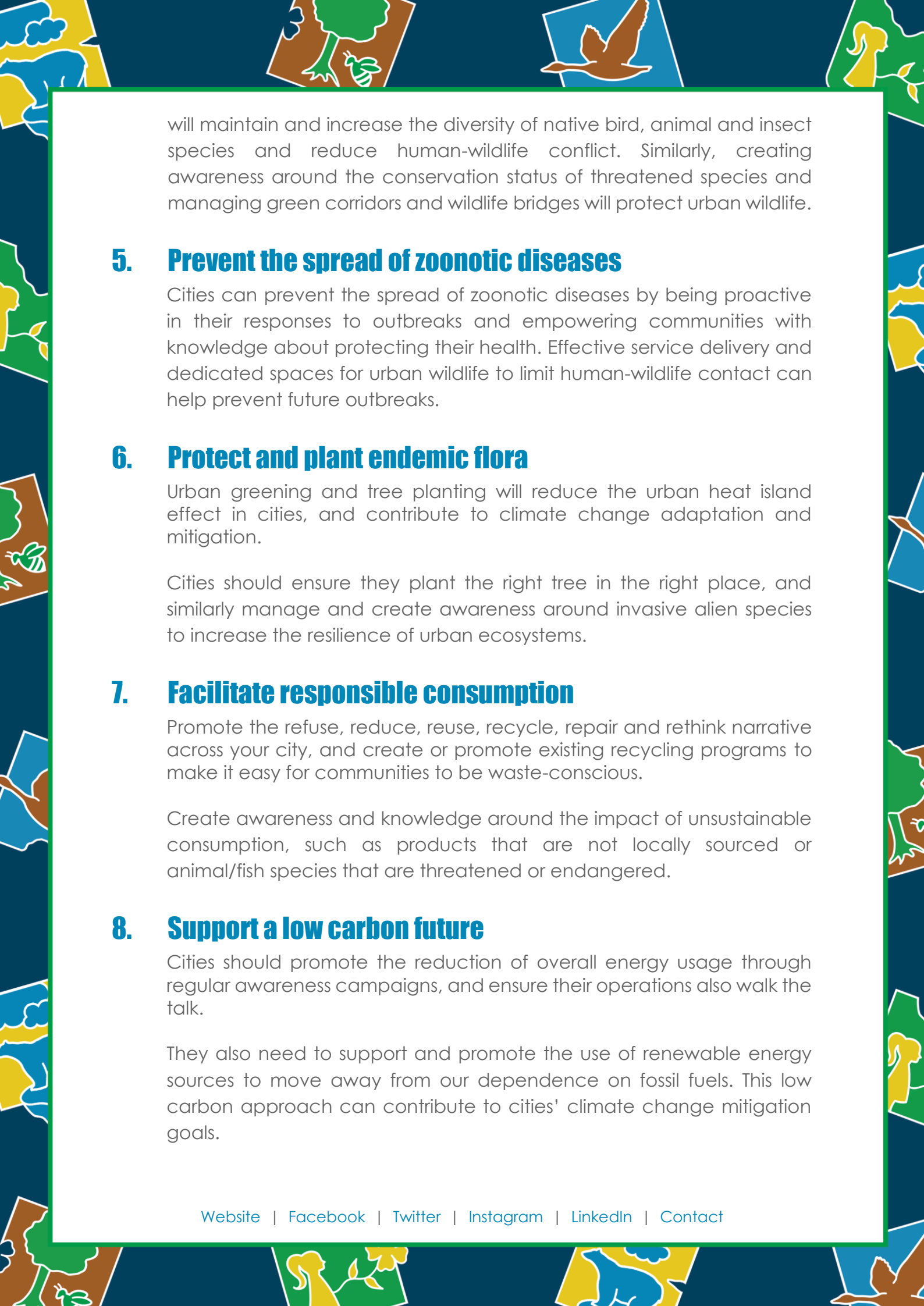
The healthier our urban ecosystems are, the healthier our cities and urban populations are. Intact ecosystems are essential to help us mitigate and adapt to a changing climate.

3. Encourage urban communities to experience nature

Dedicate spaces in your city where communities can experience nature. Cities can also create public awareness and education on the meaningful experiences and health benefits provided by urban nature.

4. Protect urban wildlife

By creating signs and dedicated spaces for biodiversity hotspots and wildlife passing, urban wildlife and their habitats can be protected. This

A decorative border surrounds the central text area, featuring various nature-related icons such as a tree, a bird, a bee, a butterfly, a person, and a dog, all rendered in a stylized, colorful manner.

will maintain and increase the diversity of native bird, animal and insect species and reduce human-wildlife conflict. Similarly, creating awareness around the conservation status of threatened species and managing green corridors and wildlife bridges will protect urban wildlife.

5. Prevent the spread of zoonotic diseases

Cities can prevent the spread of zoonotic diseases by being proactive in their responses to outbreaks and empowering communities with knowledge about protecting their health. Effective service delivery and dedicated spaces for urban wildlife to limit human-wildlife contact can help prevent future outbreaks.

6. Protect and plant endemic flora

Urban greening and tree planting will reduce the urban heat island effect in cities, and contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Cities should ensure they plant the right tree in the right place, and similarly manage and create awareness around invasive alien species to increase the resilience of urban ecosystems.

7. Facilitate responsible consumption

Promote the refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle, repair and rethink narrative across your city, and create or promote existing recycling programs to make it easy for communities to be waste-conscious.

Create awareness and knowledge around the impact of unsustainable consumption, such as products that are not locally sourced or animal/fish species that are threatened or endangered.

8. Support a low carbon future

Cities should promote the reduction of overall energy usage through regular awareness campaigns, and ensure their operations also walk the talk.

They also need to support and promote the use of renewable energy sources to move away from our dependence on fossil fuels. This low carbon approach can contribute to cities' climate change mitigation goals.

9. Share knowledge and learn from other cities and experts

Join [CitiesWithNature](#) to share, learn and inspire and take action for nature. Create an inventory of and partner with credible, inclusive NGOs in the city working with biodiversity and food security and showcase city-led collaboration with them to raise awareness.

Share your policies, plans and actions on the CitiesWithNature platform to inspire other cities to take action.

10. Mainstream biodiversity values

Include biodiversity values in decision-making about urban development and poverty reduction strategies. This includes mainstreaming biodiversity into Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs).

Increase collaboration with private sector partners to decrease their impacts on biodiversity, across their portfolios, through target setting, increased transparency and regular sustainability reporting.

Ensure you create an enabling environment to encourage all sectors to contribute to your climate adaptation goals.

11. Encourage healthy living

Increase open green space and urban parks in your city and promote their use for healthy activities. This includes an enabling environment for and campaigns that encourage communities to spend time outdoors to improve their mental and physical health and wellbeing.

Cities should strengthen awareness around healthy, sustainable lifestyle choices.

12. Improve access to and quality of green spaces

Improve access to quality, biodiverse spaces where your communities can experience nature in a meaningful way. This can be done by making urban parks and gardens safe, free or affordable to access, and by providing amenities in natural spaces that families can use for outdoor recreation.

13. Invest in the bioeconomy

Create enabling environments to promote and support sustainable practices in production and consumption across all economic sectors and across supply chains to mainstream biodiversity and climate change goals. This includes facilitating the sustainable and legal use of wild terrestrial, freshwater and marine species.

14. Encourage environmentally-conscious communities

Create awareness around nature-positive consumer behavior including water and energy reduction strategies. In addition, promote refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle, repair and rethink approaches.

Join global awareness campaigns to amplify sustainability communication to ensure urban communities are empowered with science-based information.

To address Earth's triple environmental emergencies, climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution, cities can encourage a whole of society approach.

15. Rethink urban mobility

Create awareness around the health benefits of non-motorised urban mobility, and enable urban communities to switch to more sustainable mobility by offering safe spaces or incentives for walking and cycling.

Similarly, cities can encourage their communities to use sustainable urban mobility through programs and initiatives, while contributing to their climate change mitigation goals.

16. Minimize waste

Cities should decouple urban and economic development from resource consumption and factor environmental and social costs into the price of goods and services. This will encourage equitable access to resources and create closed-loop urban and peri-urban systems.

Build sustainable cities that use recyclable, sharable and replenishing resources to end the linear model of produce, consume, discard.

Utilize biodegradable or nature-friendly products or resources at city-led events to lead the way and inspire your communities.

17. **Raise awareness about biosafety**

Inform and educate citizens about biosafety requirements for their health. Ensure biosafety policies are relevant, science-based and up-to-date.

To protect your communities from biohazards, ensure your city practices and adheres to the [Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety](#), a supplementary protocol to the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#).

18. **Practice and support sustainable procurement**

Incorporate social, economic and environmental factors into your cities' procurement processes and support local sustainable [SMMEs](#).

Cities should recognize that creating a green economy acknowledges the underpinning role of all ecological processes to our daily lives, and thus nature in all its forms should be respected and protected.

Mainstream biodiversity and climate change goals in procurement decision-making.

19. **Collaborate with environmental organizations**

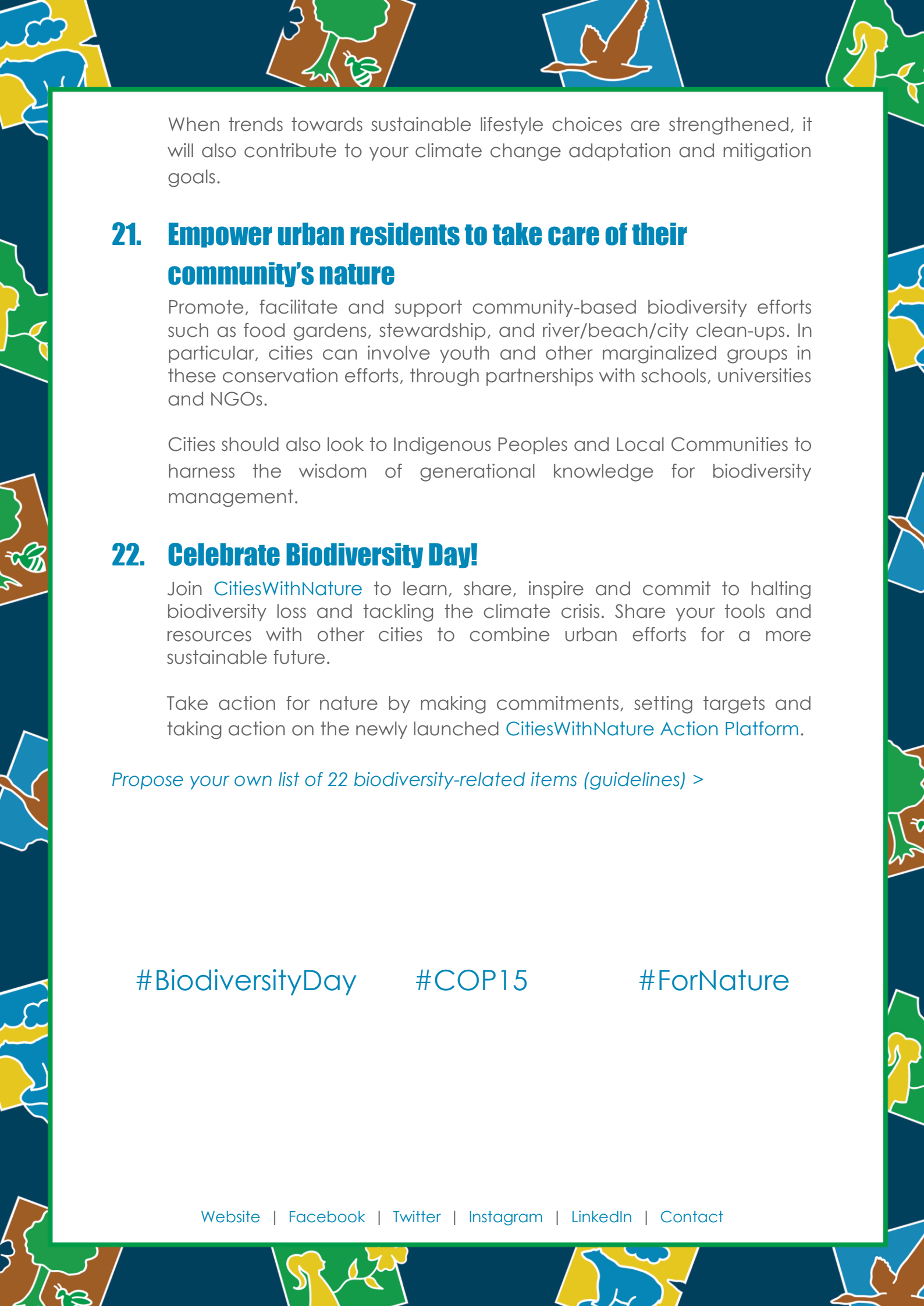
Work with environmental organizations in your city to achieve your combined biodiversity and climate change goals.

Cities should acknowledge and support existing organizations and initiatives and strengthen partnerships with them. This includes increasing public expenditure allocated towards urban sustainability actions and programs.

20. **Promote the value of nature through communication, education and public awareness**

Implement annual city-led public awareness and education campaigns, to encourage sustainable lifestyles and practices among city residents that help to reduce consumption, conserve biodiversity and restore ecosystems.

Cities should collaborate with local universities and other institutions to ensure communication and educational messages are science-based and effective.

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When trends towards sustainable lifestyle choices are strengthened, it will also contribute to your climate change adaptation and mitigation goals.

21. Empower urban residents to take care of their community's nature

Promote, facilitate and support community-based biodiversity efforts such as food gardens, stewardship, and river/beach/city clean-ups. In particular, cities can involve youth and other marginalized groups in these conservation efforts, through partnerships with schools, universities and NGOs.

Cities should also look to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to harness the wisdom of generational knowledge for biodiversity management.

22. Celebrate Biodiversity Day!

Join [CitiesWithNature](#) to learn, share, inspire and commit to halting biodiversity loss and tackling the climate crisis. Share your tools and resources with other cities to combine urban efforts for a more sustainable future.

Take action for nature by making commitments, setting targets and taking action on the newly launched [CitiesWithNature Action Platform](#).

[Propose your own list of 22 biodiversity-related items \(guidelines\) >](#)

[#BiodiversityDay](#)

[#COP15](#)

[#ForNature](#)