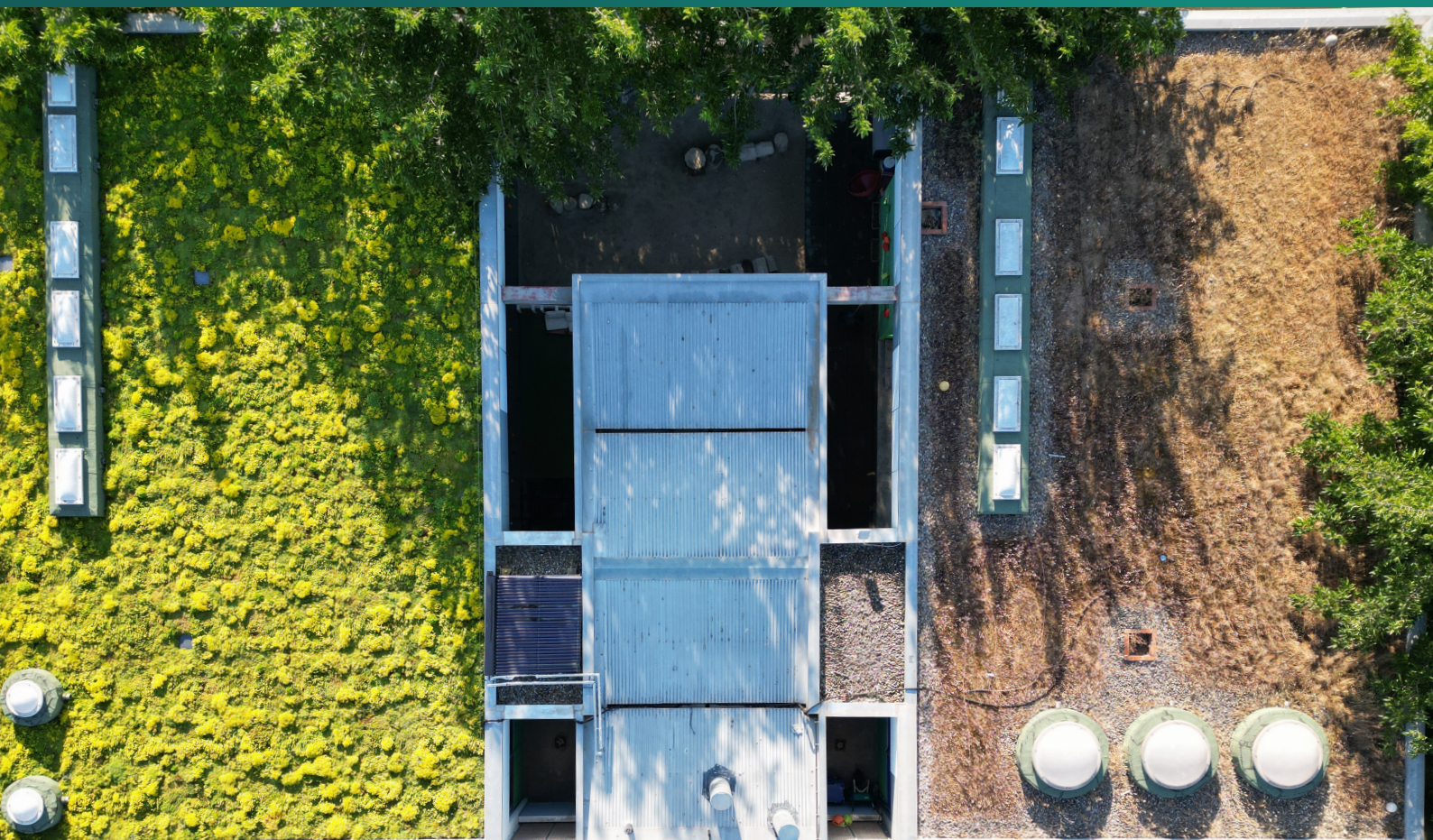




BIG4LIFE

BUILDING-INTEGRATED GREENERY

Promoting collaborative strategies for management, maintenance, impact monitoring, and evaluation of Building Integrated Greenery (BIG) systems
Towards the New European Bauhaus by advancing the lifespan of BIG Systems



/ Welcome to the BIG4LIFE newsletter!

This fifth edition highlights the project's progress over the past few months, with a special focus on the ongoing maintenance and monitoring of the green roofs, as well as BIG4LIFE's involvement in educational activities, scientific conferences, knowledge transfer to industry professionals, and the promotion of learning through community service.



The BIG4LIFE project has received funding from the LIFE Programme of the European Union

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Featured News

/ Participation in the New European Bauhaus Festival

In mid-June, the BIG4LIFE project took part in the 2026 New European Bauhaus Festival in Brussels, sharing a stand with two other LIFE projects.

One of the highlights was the installation of a vertical green wall by our project partner Sempergreen, showcasing the potential of urban green infrastructure.

We were also honoured to welcome Jessika Roswall, European Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy—a recognition of the work being carried out through the LIFE project.

In addition, we participated in a joint workshop with the other LIFE projects attending the festival, exchanging knowledge and creating synergies to advance greener and more resilient cities.



/ Inauguration of the Green Roof at Parc Agrobiotech Lleida

Parc Agrobiotech Lleida has officially inaugurated the renovated rooftop terrace of the H3 building, developed as part of the European BIG4LIFE project.

The event was attended by the Mayor of Lleida and President of Parc Agrobiotech Lleida, Fèlix Larrosa; the Rector of the University of Lleida and Vice-President of PCITAL, Mari Àngels Balsells; BIG4LIFE project coordinator Gabriel Pérez; and several members of Lleida City Council.

The intervention has transformed the H3 rooftop into a monitored green space that will enable researchers to evaluate the benefits of nature-based solutions in terms of building performance, energy savings, human health, and environmental conservation.



Green Roof Maintenance and Monitoring

/ Nature Continues to Thrive on the Cavallers Roof

We continue to monitor the vegetation developing on the Cavallers roof, which receives no irrigation. Even so, nature continues to flourish.

To date, all the existing vegetation is native flora, except for the wildflower seed mix sown over one-third of the roof last spring. We recently met with Xavier Sans, a gardening specialist at CIFO Lleida (the public vocational training centre serving the western Catalonia region), to discuss future actions and continue improving this space.



/ Surveys on Subjective Well-being

We are assessing how green roofs influence the well-being of the people who use them.

Through surveys accessed via QR codes, we collect users' opinions about their experiences, feelings and perceptions when visiting green rooftops. By participating, citizens help us gather real-world data that will contribute to designing healthier, more people-centred urban spaces.



/ Participatory Biodiversity Monitoring at Parc Agrobiotech

At the H3 green roof in Parc Agrobiotech, we are monitoring the biodiversity that grows and lives there to better understand how these green spaces support urban wildlife.

Green roofs encourage pollinators, increase urban biodiversity, improve the local microclimate and enhance environmental quality. An employee working in the building has volunteered to assist with biodiversity monitoring—an excellent example of how citizen participation contributes to building more sustainable cities.



Educational Activities and Knowledge Transfer

/ Course “Renaturalising Cities”

Students enrolled in the University of Lleida course *Renaturalising Cities: A Human Rights Value*, organised within the Cooperation programme and in collaboration with BIG4LIFE, visited the garden centre of the Lleida landscaping company Art Verd Espai, where they learned about the company’s main activities and clients’ needs.



/ Visit by Students from the University of Genoa

In April, architecture and design students from the University of Genoa visited the rooftop of the TEB Verd cooperative building in Barcelona.

Following their preparatory work, students visited the site to better understand the context of the green roof they are designing. They also toured additional green roofs, including those at Urbaser and Perez Iborra, to gain further inspiration and reference examples.



/ Workshop with the Catalonia Association of Architects

In April, a workshop on Green Architecture was held in Lleida, jointly organised by the BIG4LIFE project and the Official Association of Architects of Catalonia (COAC). The aim was to demonstrate to design and construction professionals the potential of integrating vegetation into buildings. Participants learned about the BIG systems and their benefits, while also seeing real examples of operational green roofs and green façades. Following the project presentation, attendees visited the green roof at Parc Agrobiotech Lleida and took part in a practical activity, constructing a full-scale model (1:1) of a green roof section.





/ Participation in the Specialisation Course on Sustainability and Energy Efficiency

The challenges organisations face regarding energy efficiency and sustainability require new skills and knowledge.

To address these issues, the University of Lleida, through its Centre for Continuing Education, together with Universidad EAN (Colombia), organised the Specialisation Course in Sustainable Energy and Energy Efficiency. Twenty-six participants attended the course.

The programme combined theoretical and practical workshops with visits to companies and institutions related to the course topics.

On the second day, alongside sessions on business innovation strategies and practical case studies, the BIG4LIFE project was presented. Josep Presseguer introduced Parc Agrobiotech, while Laura Herrera led the technical visit to the park's green roof.



/ University Exchange: From Melbourne to Lleida!

During June, Zara Boynton joined our team for an internship, learning about the BIG systems while complementing her Advanced Science and Global Challenges studies at Monash University in Melbourne. Her research focused on the relationship between green roofs and bird biodiversity.

Zara will soon return to Australia to complete her degree, and we hope to continue collaborating through the BIG4LIFE project and other green infrastructure networks.



/ Conference Participation

CITE 2026

In March 2026, the BIG4LIFE project participated in the 10th International Conference on Technological Innovation in Building (CITE 2026), an important meeting point for advancing innovation, sustainability and nature-based solutions.

Laura Herrera presented *Modular Green Roofs*, while Julià Coma delivered the presentation *Thermal Performance of a Retrofitted Green Roof on a Public Building under Mediterranean Climatic Conditions*.



Service-Learning Activities

/ Institutes for Training and Employment in Gardening support maintenance

Students from Castell dels Templers Institute once again participated in maintenance work on the green roof at Parc Agrobiotech.

They removed weeds, replenished the mulch using shredded pruning waste from the city, and watered the vegetation using hoses.



/ And Senior Volunteers Too!

From February 2026 onwards, a group of six senior volunteers from Lleida has been supporting the maintenance and monitoring of the H3 green roof at Parc Agrobiotech.

Their commitment and experience are invaluable in taking care of this space and ensuring its long-term success.





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