

# Smart Sustainable Districts **Attractive resilient districts using Blue Green Solutions**

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**SSD Webinar, 18 September 2017**





# Climate Resilient urban planning

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## Process

- Planning process
  - Blue Green Systems approach
  - Vulnerability analysis
  - Stakeholders
  - Collaborative planning



## Tools

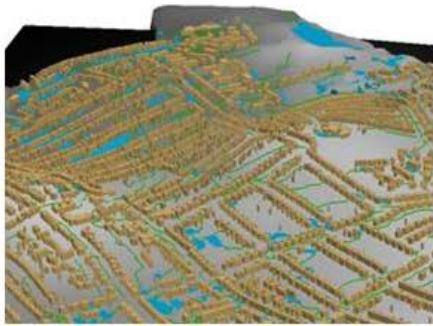
- Goal driven planning targets
- BGD - Adaptation Support Tool
- 





# Challenges our cities face

## Flooding



## Water pollution



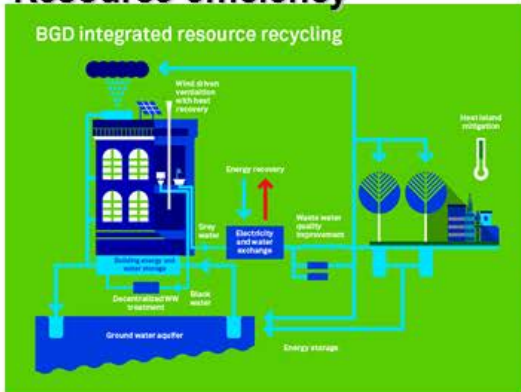
## Droughts



## Air pollution



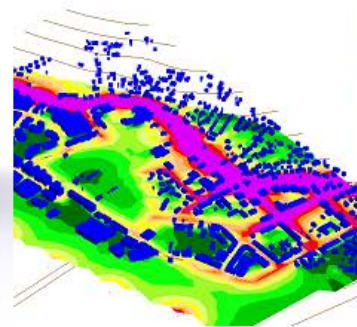
## Resource efficiency



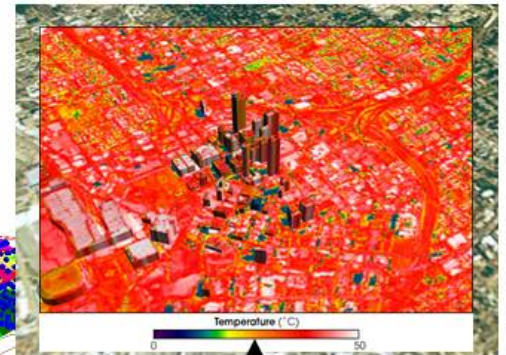
## Crime



## Noise



## Urban Heat island







# Blue Green Solutions

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- **Blue Green Solutions** are urban interventions that use **vegetation** and **water** to achieve:
  - **sustainable and resilient solutions**
  - **cost-effective solutions**





# Process







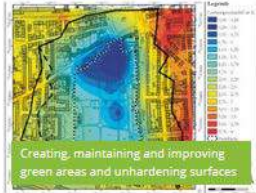
# Lots of measures can be taken



Green squares and playgrounds



Private green gardens



Fluted gutters



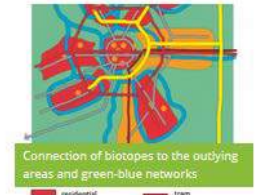
Prefab fluted gutter



Open gutters



Urban forests and parks



Urban wetlands



Covered gutters



Hollow roads



Ditches



Retention roof



Grass fields and flower meadows



Urban farms



Open water channels



Use of groundcover and shrubbery



Porous paving materials



Rainwater ponds for buffering and purifying extremely polluted water



Bioswales



Green riparian zones and wet biotopes



Ground infiltration



Infiltration meadows and infiltration strips with above-ground storage



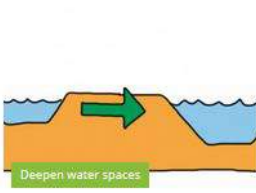
Rainwater ponds for buffering and purification of moderately polluted water



Infiltration meadows and infiltration strips with above-ground storage



Ground infiltration



Rainwater ponds for buffering and purifying extremely polluted water



Nature-friendly bioswales



Gravel layers/trenches/reverse drainage



# Blue Green solutions have many functions

## TREE FUNCTIONS



## RESULTING SYNERGY BENEFITS

Urban heat island effect reduced	Building envelope cheaper	Reduced noise and air pollution
Outdoor air evaporative cooling	Surface flood risk reduction	Better conditions for pedestrians
Buildings more comfortable	Higher property value	Socialising more intensive
Buildings using less energy	Humans healthier	Water management more effective

**A system is needed to get the best out of Blue Green Solutions**





# Blue Green (BG) Systems approach

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A **framework** for resilient, sustainable and cost-effective urban development

Main features:

- **Systematic use of synergies**
- **Full quantification** of the benefits of BG solutions
- Extensive **stakeholder involvement**
- **Pre-planning for optimal design**



See the guide on <http://bgd.org.uk>





# Systematic pre-planning methodology

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**Goal Driven Planning Matrix**  
Systematically defines  
requirements and resources

**Interaction Matrix**  
Synergies identified and  
quantified

**Overall result**  
**Conceptual design brief**  
**with proposed concept**  
**solutions**

**Cost Dependence Matrix**  
Potential capital cost  
reductions identified

**Climate Resilience Matrix**  
Integration of resilience  
concept solutions

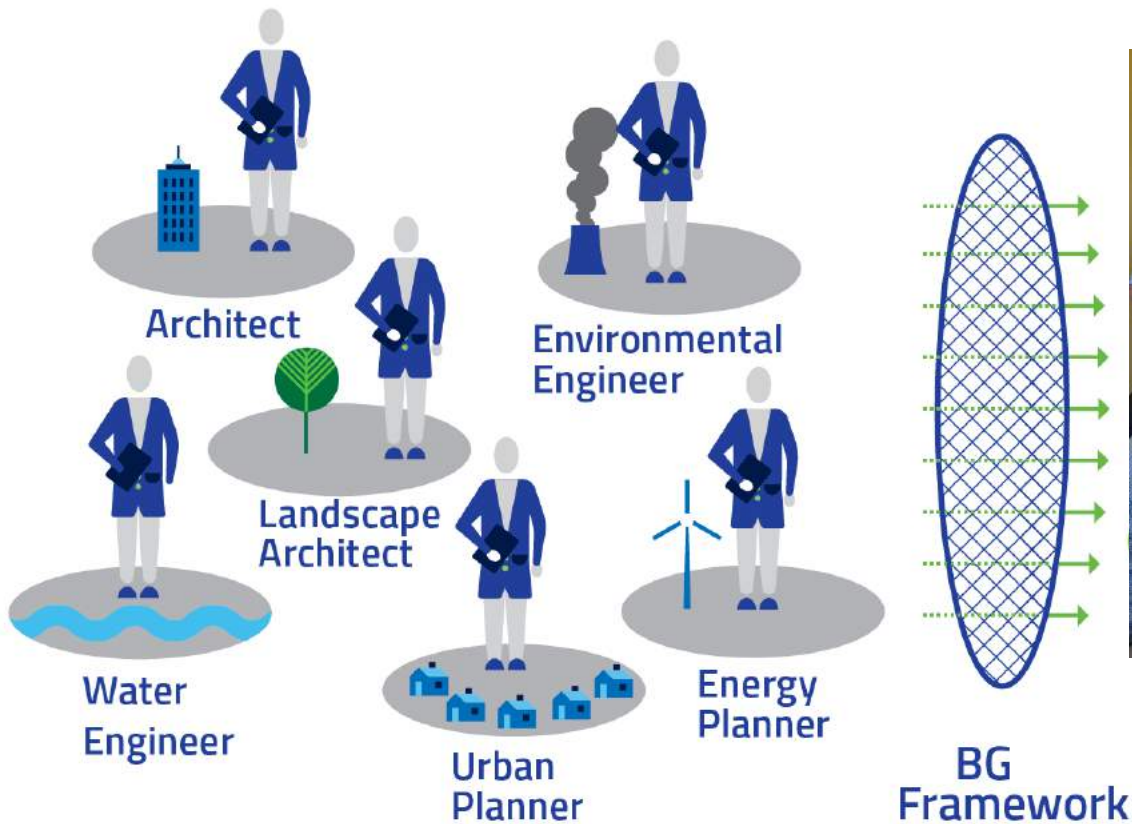


# Goal Driven Planning Matrix example

	GOALS	TARGETS	FUNCTIONS / CONCEPTS	REQUIRED ANALYSES
1	Improve the attractiveness of the city for citizens and tourists	<p>Boost housing in the inner city</p> <p>Reopen the inner city to the functions of the river</p>	FACILITIES	<p>Urban microclimate simulations (including greenery)</p> <p>Solar loading and indoor comfort analysis</p>
2	Make the city more resilient to climate extremes.	<p>Strengthening historically significant spaces</p> <p>Profiling downtown for the "image effect"</p>	INDICATORS	<p>Transport and mobility</p> <p>Urban flooding and resilience</p>
3	Reduce the reliance on cars in the city center	<p>Increase the quality of stay around the river</p> <p>University accentuate more as an image factor</p>	<p>Outdoor Environmental Quality Indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Thermal comfort;</li> <li>2. Auditory comfort;</li> <li>3. Visual comfort.</li> </ol>	<p>Acoustic and visual studies</p> <p>...</p>
4	....	<p>Formation of focal points in the neighborhoods</p> <p>strengthen the residential areas by upgrading apartment clearances</p> <p>....</p>	<p>Time spent outdoors (activities, cycling etc)</p> <p>Expected number of yearly visitors</p> <p>....</p>	



# Collaborative planning: experts + local stakeholders







# Tools

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# Adaptation Support Tool to see

- what can be done
- how effective that is



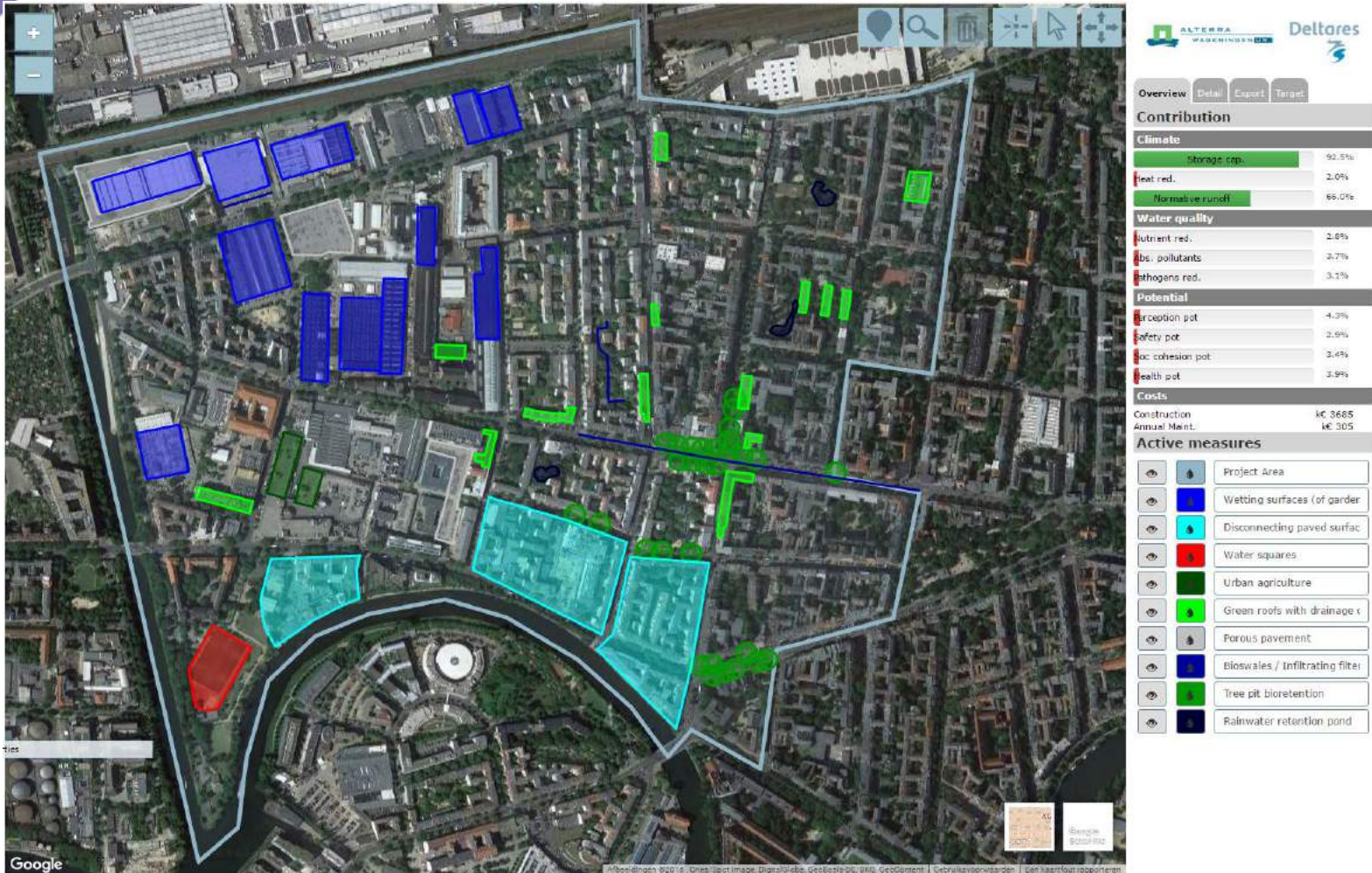
## Bioswale

Bioswales are similar to bioretention cells in that they are depressed planted areas with overflow structures that collect, detain, infiltrate, and filter runoff. However, bioswales differ from bioretention cells in that they are also conveyance facilities (linear systems) that are greater in length than width. Due to their efficacy in filtering and removing pollutants from stormwater runoff, these features are commonly located adjacent to impervious areas that receive substantial amounts of automotive use such as parking lots or roadways. Depending on site constraints the construction of a bioswale can take several forms.

- Provides filtration, infiltration, and detention
- Used to convey water as a linear system
- Average Depth of Stormwater Capacity: 0.85 FT
- Average Stormwater Capacity: 128 CF

# Adaptation Support Tool to see

- what can be done where
- where and how effective that is







# Planning workshop





# Resilience metrics

Van de Ven, Frans H.M., Robbert P.H. Snep, Stijn Koole, Reinder Brolsma, Rutger van der Brugge, Joop Spijker, Toine Vergroesen (2016). Adaptation Planning Support Toolbox: Measurable performance information based tools for co-creation of resilient, ecosystem-based urban plans with urban designers, decision-makers and stakeholders, Environmental Science & Policy, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2016.06.010>

## Resilience metrics can include:

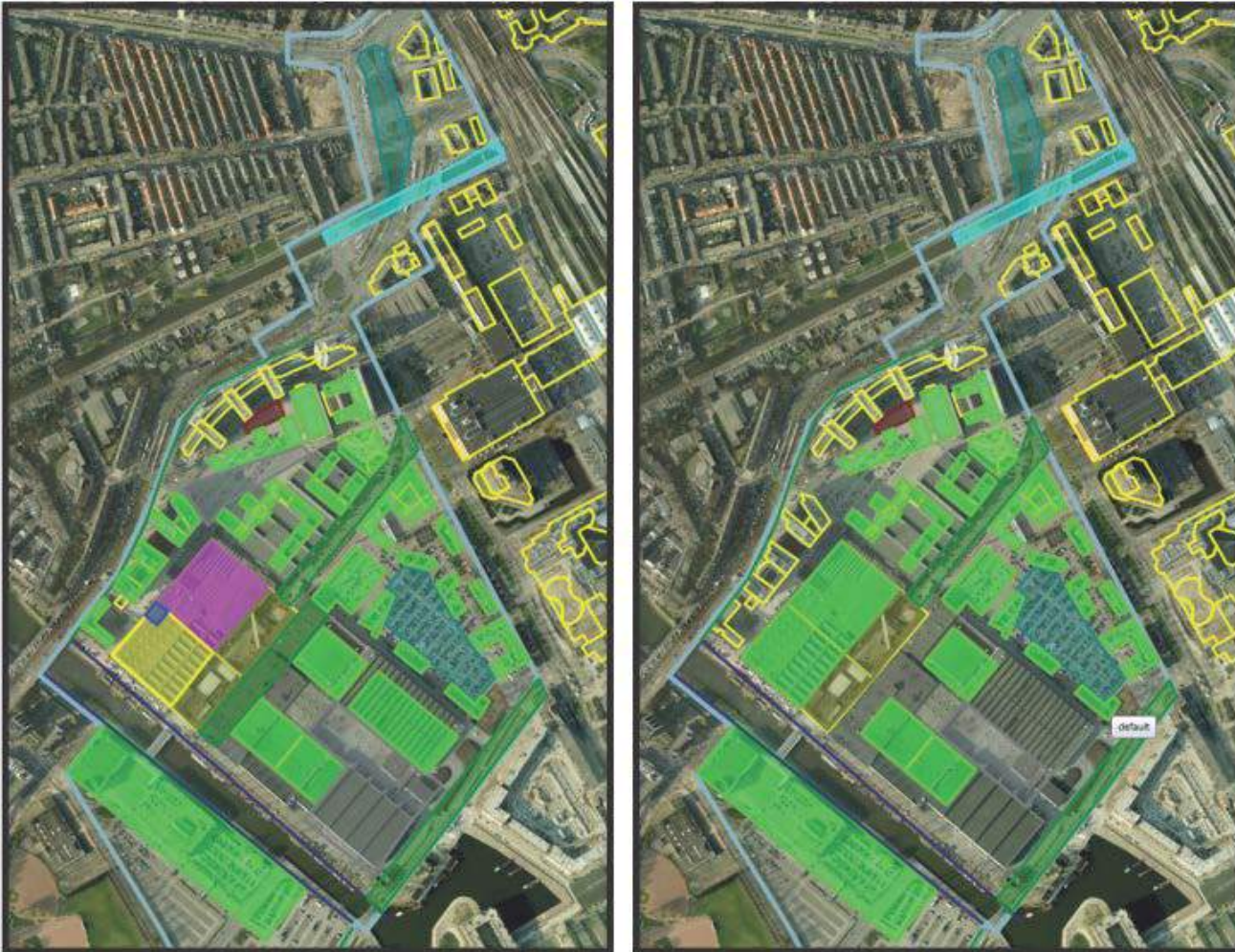
- Detention capacity
- Peak flow reduction
- Cooling effect
- Groundwater recharge
- Water quality improvement:
- Costs of implementation & maintenance
- Safety
- Health
- Social cohesion
- ....







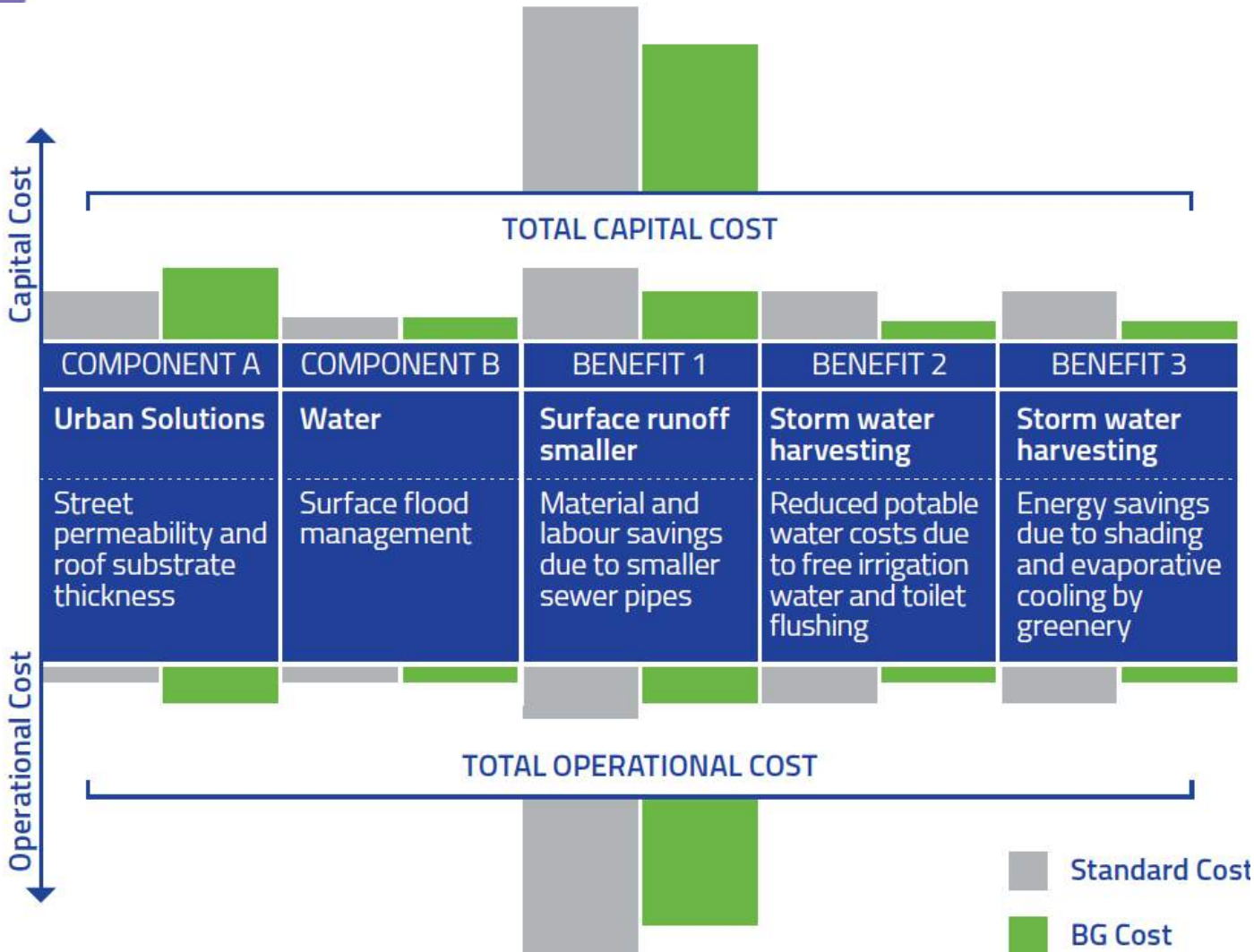
# Compare alternative plans performance



- Van de Ven, F.H.M., P. Bosch, R.J. Broilma, J.J. Kok, E.S. van der Meulen, F.E. Schasfoort, C.L. ten Velden, A.J.J. Vergroesen (2016) Green, comfortable, attractive and climate resilient Utrecht Centre-West area : Smart Sustainable Districts – deep dive Utrecht opportunity 3. Deltares/TNO report 1220357, [http://publications.deltares.nl/1220357\\_000.pdf](http://publications.deltares.nl/1220357_000.pdf)



# Reducing capital and life-cycle costs + maximize benefits (cost dependence matrix)





# Benefits

- Co-investment opportunities
- Fair distribution of costs and benefits



## Distribution of benefits over the beneficiaries

Services/ Stakeholders	Municipality Utrecht	Water manager	Jaarbeurs	Residents	Travelers	Visitors	Other companies	Leisure companies
<b>Climate adaptation</b>								
Decrease pluvial flooding	+++	+++	++	++	+	+	++	++
Increase air quality	++		+	+++	+	+	+	+
Decrease heat stress	++		+	+++	+	++	+	+
Increase water quality*	+	+++		+		?		?
Replenish ground water**		++						
<b>Climate mitigation</b>								
Decreased energy use	+++		+++	+			++	++
Decreased CO2 emission	++		++					
<b>Circular economy</b>								
Increase lifetime of infrastructure***	+++							
Add to closing water cycle		++	+				+	+
Add to closing energy cycle****	+++		+++	+			++	++
Add to closing nutrient/resources cycle		??						
<b>Other services</b>								
Increase recreation opportunities	++		+++	+++	+	+++	+	+++
Increase landscape quality	+++		+++	+++	++	+++	++	+++
Increase social cohesion	+++			+++				
Increase physical activity	++			+++		++		
Decrease noise pollution	++		+++	+++		+		
Improve habitat function and biodiversity	++			++				
Increase food production								
Decrease criminality								
Decrease management & maintenance	+		+				+	+
?: only if water recreation is part of the new developments - in this case water recreationst and - companies will benefit								
??: Financial benefits may be derived by the waste water treatment plants as costs are lower when water quality is higher								
*: Only if there is demand for improved water quality and a substantial improvement is realized, this is a benefit								
**: Only if there is currently a problem with the ground water level - unknown at the time of writing								
***: Undertain effect, and not likely very strong								
****: There is double counting here with 'decreased energy use'								



# Creating urban transitions together

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- BG Systems Approach as a platform + tools to:
  - Collaboratively plan and design to maximise synergetic solutions
  - Optimise master plan costing and efficiency
  - Apply to any development or reconstruction project
  - Apply in conceptual (pre-)planning phase
  - **Tools have been proven beneficial for several projects**

**There is a large potential to enhance new and retrofit projects by systematically using BGS planning**





# Blue Green Solutions

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Thanks to:

- Climate-KIC
- Arno Peekel, Martine v.d. Woude, Tim Taylor
- Karl Smith, Ivo Suter, Reinder Brolsma
- The partners in the BGD project
- And the numerous people that provided feedback on the Adaptation Support Tool and the BGS guide