



# City capacity building on urban policy through collaborative cooperation

## Almada (Portugal) and Saanich (Canada)

Catarina Freitas

Department for Environment, Climate, Energy and Mobility  
City Council of Almada, Portugal



United Nations

Habitat III: Cities contributing to the new Urban Agenda  
Quito, Ecuador | 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016



World Cities

EU - Canada Cooperation on  
Urban Policy

ALMADA



CITY COUNCIL



# Topics

- ... Objectives and cities expectations
- ... Saanich inspiring Almada (July 2015)
- ... Almada inspiring Almada (October 2015)
- ... Almada – Saanich, building a long lasting partnership



# Objectives and cities expectations

- Cities are facing major and complex challenges (address the uncertainty of climate change impacts; social inequities; financial constraints; gain regional importance and attractiveness...)
- Reinvent the role of a medium size city in a global context (multilevel system)
- Provide a good and reliable governance
- Creativity and flexibility in developing local policies
- Be part of global movements, innovation comes from interrelations
- **Local management with a global knowledge: World Cities Project**



# Almada and Saanich

## ■ Methodology

- ↳ **Select local stakeholders**, relevant in urban policies
- ↳ **Technical visits and discussions**
- ↳ **Meetings with elected political leaders**
- ↳ **Identify “focused areas”** in both cities
- ↳ **City-to-city exchange** (July 2015 – May 2016)



+



# Almada in Saanich, Vancouver Island, BC



## ■ Low Carbon Buildings

- ↳ Climate mitigation and adaptation research in BC
- ↳ Saanich's municipal buildings and the Carbon Fund
- ↳ Community energy efficiency programs

Site-visits: Bernhardt Passive House; Gordon Head solar panels/EV stations



- **Ecosystem Services**

- ↳ **Saanich environmental planning tools**

- ↳ **Invasive Species Programs**

- ↳ **Urban Forest Strategy**

- ↳ **Bowker Creek Blueprint: a 100-year action plan to restore the Bowker Creek Watershed**



## ■ Adaptation/Resiliency

↳ Adaptation Plan

↳ Sea level rise mapping work

↳ Key resiliency in the Official Community Plan and the Urban Containment Boundary

↳ Key community resiliency initiatives: Building Resilient Neighbourhoods

↳ Food Security Initiatives and Actions Plans

Site-visit: Panama Flats









# Saanich → Almada

# ?



## Low Carbon Buildings

- ↳ Climate mitigation and adaptation research in BC
- ↳ Saanich's municipal buildings and the Carbon Fund
- ↳ Community energy efficiency programs

Site-visits: Bernhardt Passive House, Solar panels/EV stations



## Ecosystem Services

- ↳ Saanich environmental planning tools
- ↳ Invasive Species Programs
- ↳ Urban Forest Strategy
- ↳ Bowker Creek Blueprint: a 100-year action plan to restore the Bowker Creek Watershed



## Adaptation/Resiliency

- ↳ Adaptation Plan
- ↳ Sea level rise mapping work
- ↳ Key resiliency in the Official Community Plan and the Urban Containment Boundary
- ↳ Key community resiliency initiatives: Building Resilient Neighbourhoods
- ↳ Food Security Initiatives and Actions Plans

Site-visit: Panama Flats

Habitat III: Cities contributing to the new Urban Agenda  
Quito, Ecuador | 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016



**3 levels of land use planning:**

**Master Plan (1:10.000)**

**+**

**Urban Plans (1:1.000)**

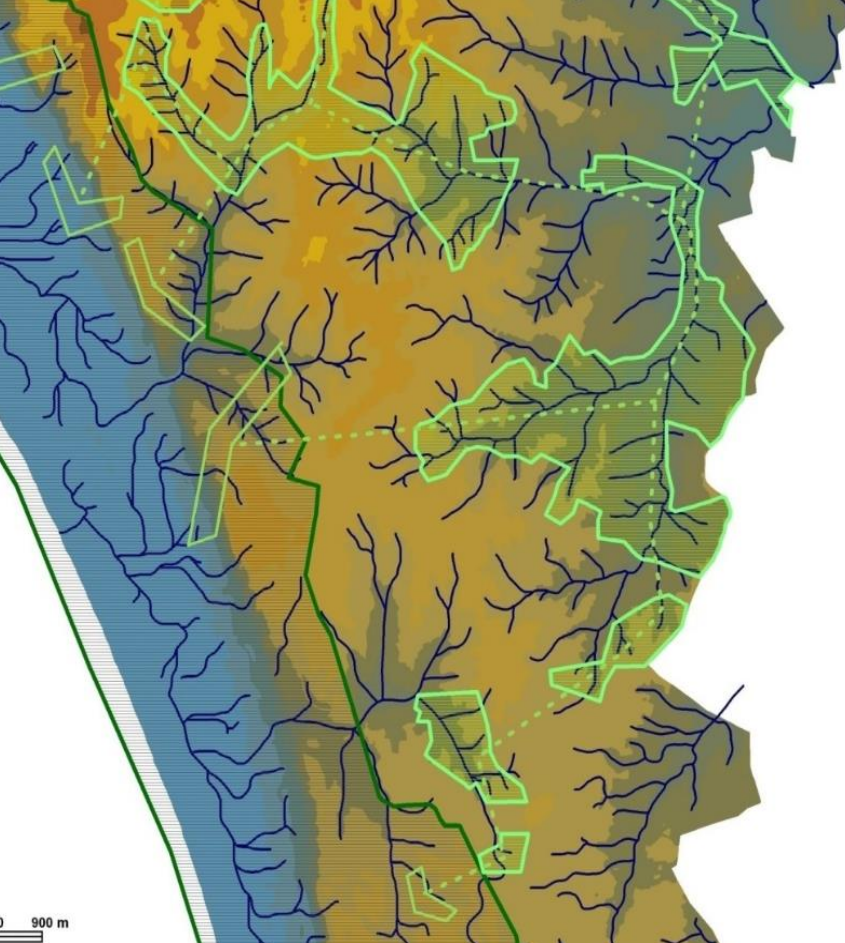
**+**

**Local Plans (1:1.000)**

**=**

**18 Urban Plans**





**Foz do Rego Watershed, in Inland Valley system, artificialized, bottlenecks, ...**

## ■ Ecosystem Services

↳ Saanich environmental planning tools

+

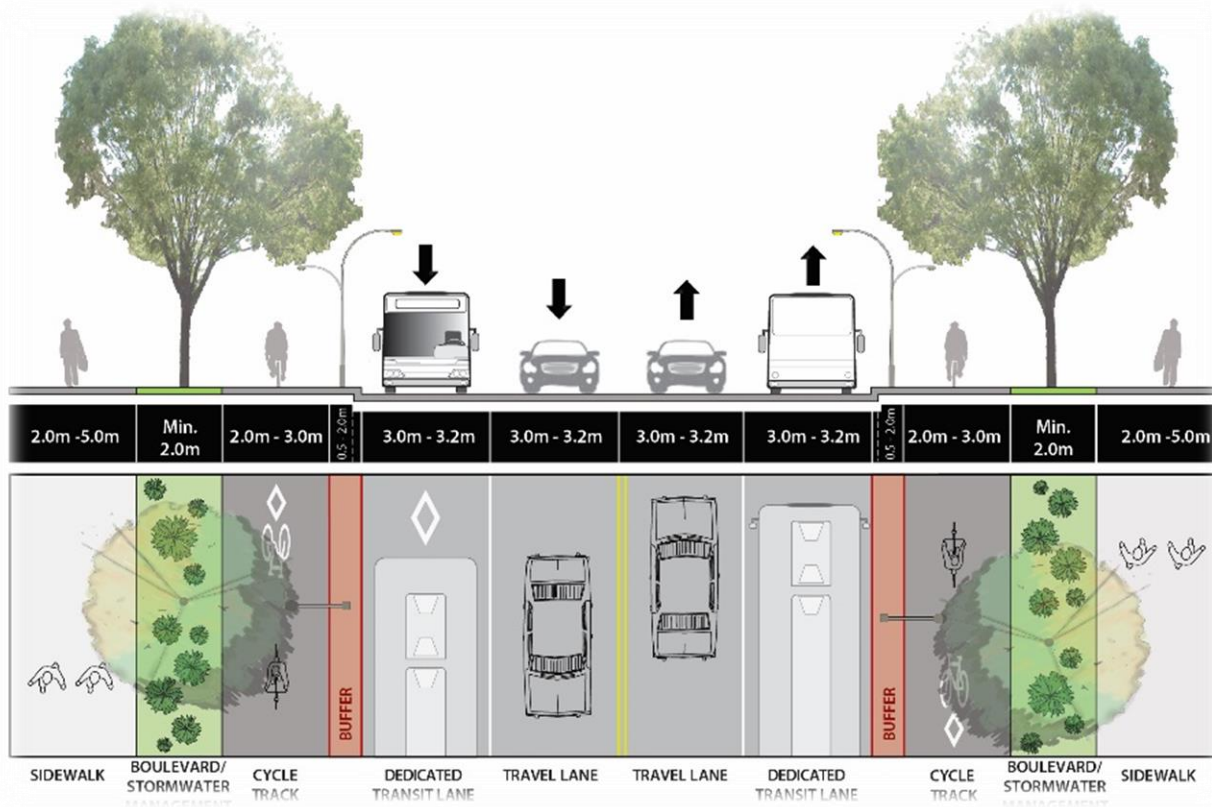
↳ Bowker Creek Blueprint: a 100-year action plan to restore the Bowker Creek Watershed



# Shelbourne Valley Action Plan



- 30-year vision and flexible framework to guide decision-making in the Shelbourne Valley
- Urban design guide (interim solutions)



# Bowker Creek Blueprint

- A 100-yr action plan to restore the Bowker Creek Watershed (principles and actions)
- Multijurisdictional Committee and Subcommittees
- Extensive Input and Consultation
- Recommendations for management policy, planning and other stewardship actions
- When **opportunities arise we have a plan!**



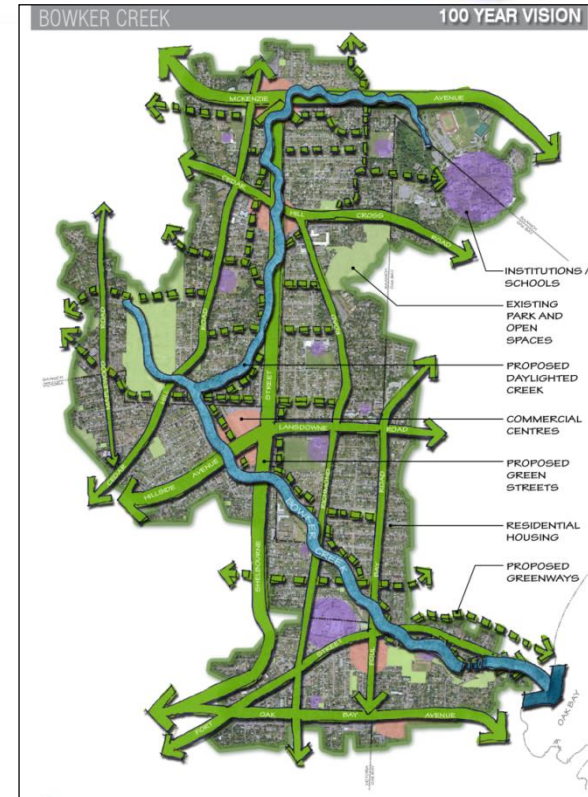


# Bowker Creek Blueprint

- A 100-yr action plan to restore the Bowker Creek Watershed (principles and actions)

Dissemination Seminar,  
in Almada in Oct. 2015  
“Nature Based Solutions  
and Bowker Creek  
Project” (50 people attended)

- When opportunities arise we have a plan!



CÂMARA MUNICIPAL DE ALMADA

# Estudo Prévio de Drenagem Pluvial da Bacia da Ribeira da Foz do Rego



1º RELATÓRIO DE PROGRESSO

## Foz do Rego Watershed Ecological Restoration Plan

SETEMBRO 2016





# Contents

- ... Almada in Saanich (July 2015)
- ... Saanich in Almada (October 2015)
- ... Almada – Saanich, a long last partnership



# Saanich in Almada, Lisbon Metropolitan Region



# Saanich in Almada, Lisbon Metropolitan Region



- **Almada's Local Strategy for Climate Change: Mitigation**
  - ↳ **Local Energy Management Agency of Almada, AGENEAL: a Local Energy Forum**
  - ↳ **Almada's Less Carbon Climate Fund**
  - ↳ **Local Strategy for Sustainable Mobility**
  - ↳ **Cycling Plan**
  - ↳ **Public Lighting: telemanagement**
  - ↳ **Parque da Paz: Almada's Low Carbon Urban Park**



- **Almada's Local Strategy for Climate Change: Adaptation**
  - ↳ **Nature Based Solutions for the promotion of ecological services and territorial resilience: Almada Green and Blue Infrastructure (Side visit: Reduna, Dune restoration project)**
  - ↳ **Accommodate climate adaptation in Urban Plans**
  - ↳ **Solutions for addressing the urban heat island effect**
  - ↳ **Promote food security through urban agriculture: Organic Farm Project**

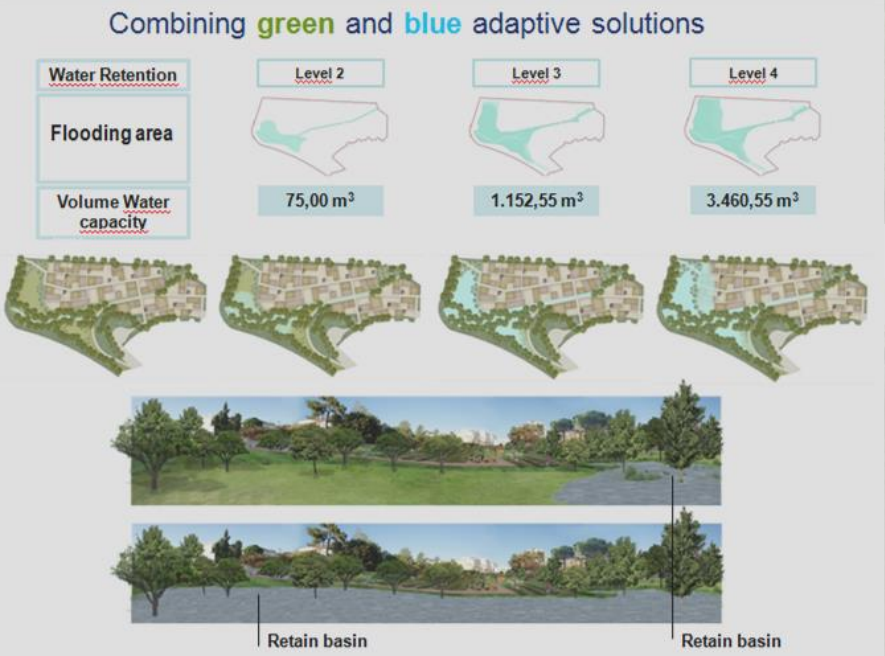




CASA MUNICIPAL DO AMBIENTE

BICICLETAS  
o modo novo de SEGUIR







# Almada → Saanich

# ?

## Saanich in Almada

## Focused Areas

- **Almada's Local Strategy for Climate Change: Mitigation**
  - ↳ Local Energy Management Agency of **Almada**, **AGENEAL: a Local Energy Forum**
  - ↳ **Almada's Less Carbon Climate Fund**
  - ↳ Local Strategy for Sustainable Mobility
  - ↳ Cycling Plan
  - ↳ Public Lighting: **telemangement**
  - ↳ Parque da Paz: **Almada's Low Carbon Urban Park**

Habitat III: Cities contributing to the new Urban Agenda  
Quito, Ecuador | 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016



World Cities  
EU - Canada Cooperation on  
Urban Policy



## Saanich in Almada

## Focused Areas

- **Almada's Local Strategy for Climate Change: Adaptation**
  - ↳ Nature Based Solutions for the promotion of ecological services and territorial resilience: **Almada Green and Blue Infrastructure** (Side visit: **Reduna**, Dune restoration project)
  - ↳ Accommodate climate adaptation in **Urban Plans**
  - ↳ Solutions for addressing the urban heat island effect
  - ↳ Promote food security through urban agriculture: **Organic Farm Project**

Habitat III: Cities contributing to the new Urban Agenda  
Quito, Ecuador | 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016



World Cities  
EU - Canada Cooperation on  
Urban Policy



# Saanich in Almada

# Actions and opportunities

## ■ Mitigation

- ↳ Local Energy Management Agency of Almada
- ↳ Almada's Less Carbon Climate Fund
- ↳ Local Strategy for Sustainable Mobility
- ↳ "... So many mobility Ideas!"
- ↳ Public Lighting: telemanagement + LED



## ■ Adapation

- ↳ Carbon neutral parks: Parque da Paz
- ↳ Green infrastructure/biodiversity conservation planning
- ↳ Biodiversity and Climate Change Indexes



October 2015 | 33



**World Cities**

EU - Canada Cooperation on  
Urban Policy





# Contents

- ... Almada in Saanich (July 2015)
- ... Saanich in Almada (October 2015)
- ... **Almada – Saanich, a long lasting partnership**





- **PLAC, Platform Local Almada Clima**

- ↳ **Launched last 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016**

- ↳ **Engage local community to achieve the goal 80% GHG emissions reduction by 2050**

- ↳ **Paris Local Leaders Declaration (COP 21)**



# Saanich, Partner PLAC

## Advisor

Ottawa, May 2016



# CONSELHEIRO



Municipality of Saanich, Canada

Compromete-se a contribuir para reduzir em 80% as emissões de CO<sub>2</sub> em Almada até 2050\* e apoiar o esforço global de combate às alterações climáticas.



Almada, 22 de Abril de 2016, Dia da Terra

PARIS2015  
COP21-CMPT1

\*Objetivo de redução assumido por Almada na COP21, Paris, Dezembro de 2015.





- Organisations with different legal and institutional frameworks, resulting in different approaches
- Sharing knowledge, experiences and cities best practices will allow Almada and Saanich to incorporate different concepts/methodologies, improving and enriching local processes
- Opportunity to disseminate European approaches and programmes for energy efficiency and RES for a low carbon development (e.g. Covenant of Mayors; Compact of Mayors)
- Creativity and innovation comes from interrelations
- Local management with a global knowledge



United Nations

# Thanks for your attention

[cfreitas@cma.m-almada.pt](mailto:cfreitas@cma.m-almada.pt)

Habitat III: Cities contributing to the new Urban Agenda  
Quito, Ecuador | 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016



**World Cities**

*EU - Canada Cooperation on  
Urban Policy*

ALMADA



CITY COUNCIL