



The SUNLOOP project: Spontaneous Urban Nature in LOcal nO net land take Policies: A Case Study for Charleroi (Wallonia, Belgium)

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*Urban Greening and NNLT, De Wijngaert,
9.12.25*

Organismes
financiers



Portage
scientifique



Partenaires
scientifiques



Comités
locaux avec
les
partenaires
territoriaux





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Spontaneous Urban Nature

Ecological roles of SUN

- **Biodiversity Reservoirs** (Threlfall et Kendal, 2018; Bonthoux et Chollet, 2021; Woźniak et al, 2022)
- **Ecological Connectivity** (Di Pietro et Brun, 2015)
- **Ecosystem Services** (Chen et Hashimoto, 2025)

Social roles of SUN

- **Informal uses and appropriation** (Collectif Inter-Friches, 2021).

Spontaneous Urban Nature in Local no net land take Policies

- **Local no net land take policies** directly target the areas of spontaneous nature for densification, despite their social and ecological benefits.
- **Non-intervention** could be a possible action on these spaces.



Friche de la Rousserolle, Strasbourg, 2025

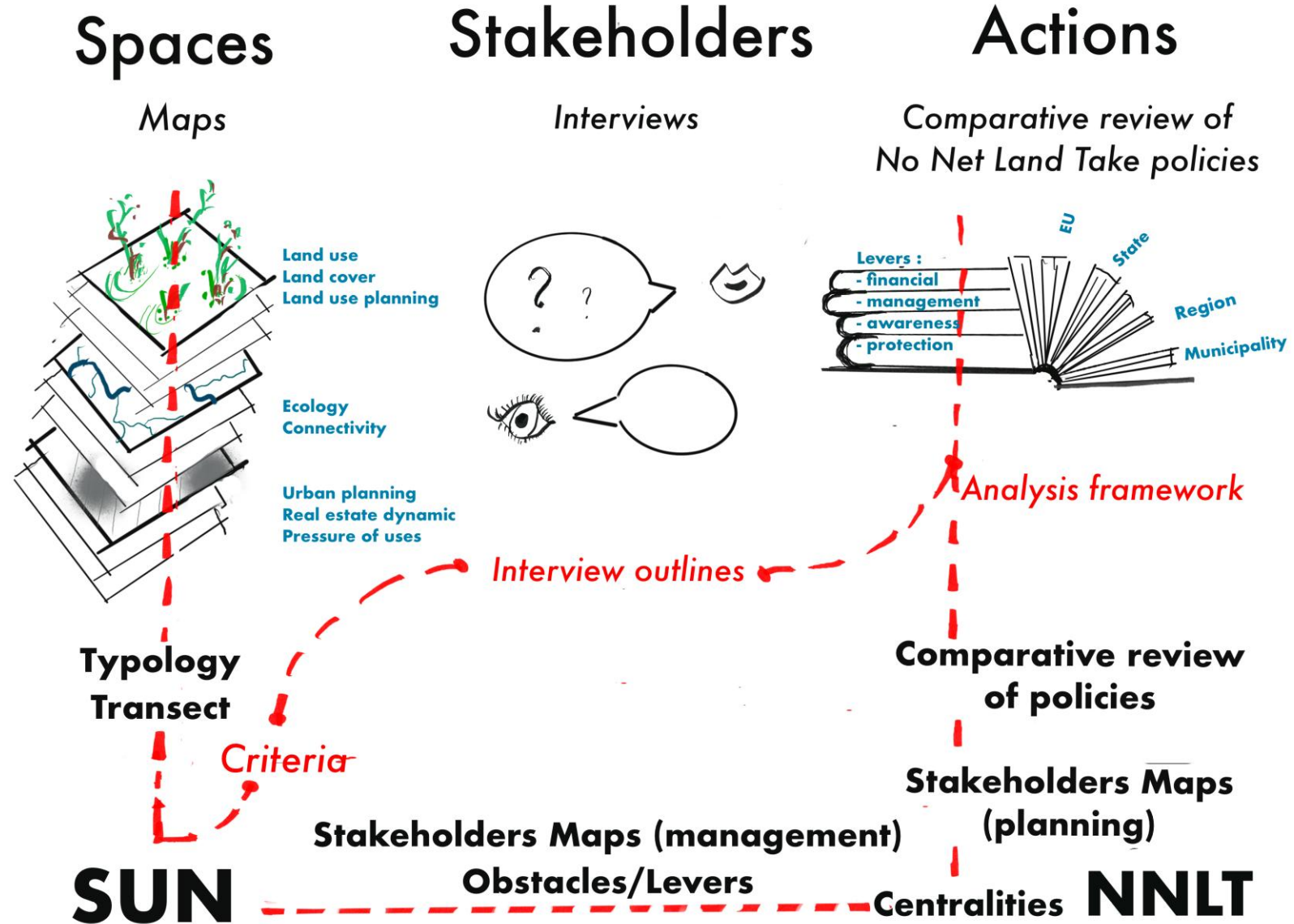
> **To what extent can non-intervention be a nature-based solution?**

Spontaneous Urban Nature in Local no net land take Policies

Different WorkPackages:

- WP1: Coordination and project management
- **WP2: Identifying SUNLOOP spaces and understanding no net land take policies**
- WP3: Qualifying and understanding SUNLOOP spaces in local contexts
- WP4: Developing ways of living with and taking care of SUNLOOP
- WP5: Building a European research network about SUNLOOP

Methodology



Results

- In Charleroi, mapping work has highlighted various types of spontaneous natural spaces:



Mining slag
heaps



Industrial
brownfields



Old quarries



Infrastructure
edges

Thank you for your attention!



Terril des Piges – 2024
Photo : Marie Pairon