



Plante & Cité
Ingénierie de la nature en ville



©Gondwana et CIMES

FRENCH INITIATIVES INSPIRING CITIES TO BECOME PESTICIDE-FREE

Caroline GUTLEBEN, director of Plante & Cité



From where did we start?

2



- During many years, France was the champion for pesticides consumption!
- 10% of pesticides were used in non-agricultural contexts





✧ Ecograzing to control invasives like the Japanese knotweed

©Michel ERISON / DNA



Traps and kairomons for fighting pine processionary caterpillar



©S.DESCAMPS, ASTREDHOR



📌 Planting perennials instead of weeding

28th of september 2022

Mayors and EU policies together for healthy living spaces



✂ Transforming lawns into meadows and changing the frequency of mowing operations

Jardin des Grands Moulins City of Paris | © Ville de Paris



'Costs of maintenance will increase'

'The city will be dirty'

'People won't accept'

'Weeding without herbicide is a Middle Age practice'

'It will bring new pests'

'It will increase allergies'

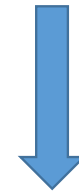
© L. LeNoan

© Paris



What do you like ?

What do you dislike ?



***Weeds are not a subject
for most of the people !***

 F. Soulard, Belles de Bitume

<https://www.frederique-soulard-contes.com/belles-de-bitume>



  Knowledge is a driver of weed acceptance

Green spaces
maintenance



Pesticide risks



Nature and sensations



Knowledge of wild
vegetation



📌 Cemeteries 'landscape in France before the 60's



BEFORE



©Agence Talpa


AFTER



©Agence Talpa

28th of september 2022

Mayors and EU policies together for healthy living spaces

- 
- 1. Prior generations were used to having more wild vegetation in the city**
 - 2. Pesticide-free strategy is not only a question of pesticides substitution with alternatives**
 - 3. Pesticide-free strategy is an opportunity to redesign open space and to consider other ecological practices**
 - 4. Pesticides-free strategy must stand on strong communication messages so that it can also make sense to inhabitants.**

  M. BARRA, ARB Ile-de-France

©ARP ASTRANCE

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION
caroline.gutleben@plante-et-cite.fr