

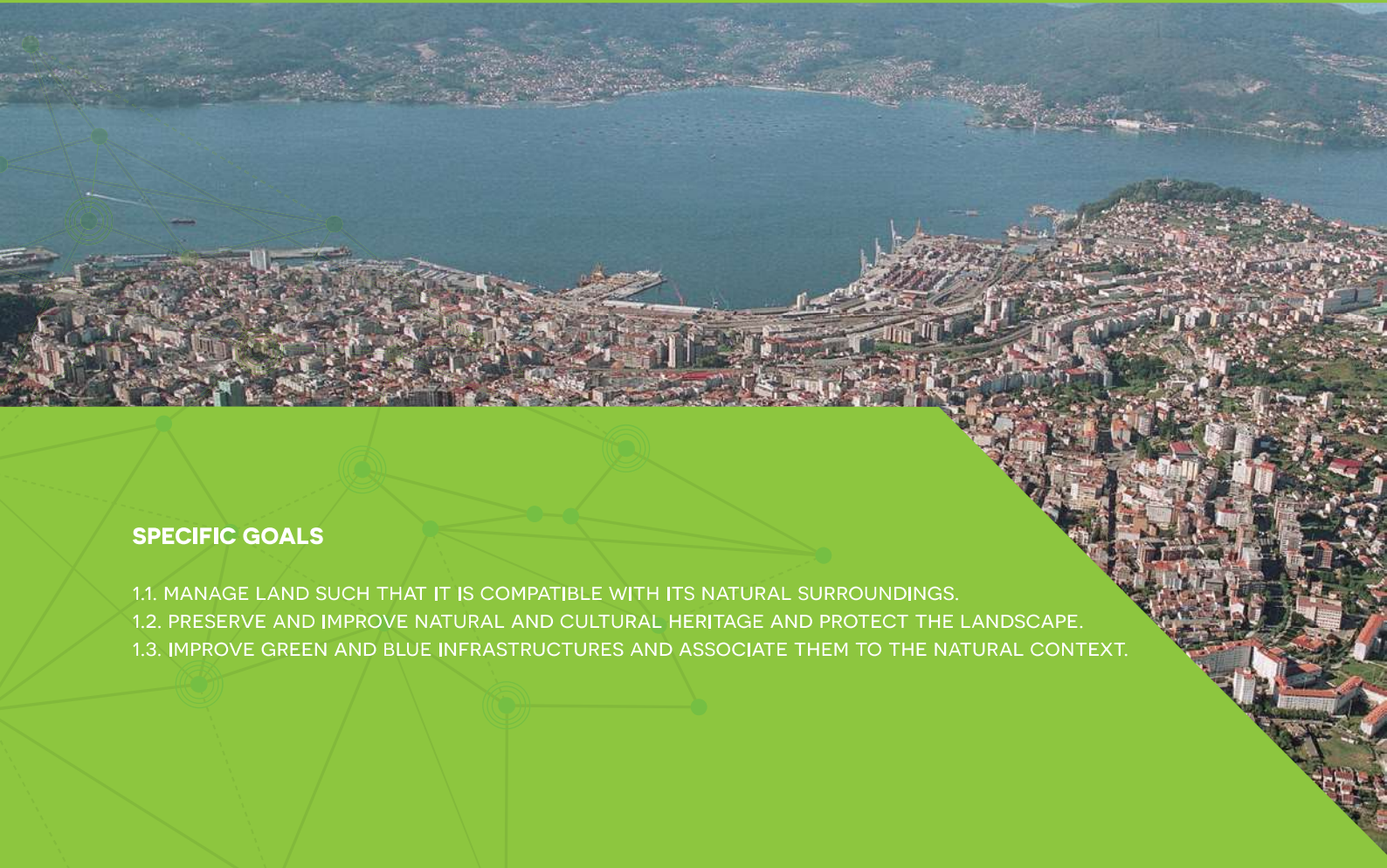
STRATEGIC  
GOAL

1

IMPLEMENTATION OF REGIONAL  
AND URBAN PLANNING TOOLS  
TO MAKE A RATIONAL USE OF  
LAND, KEEPING AND PROTECTING  
NATURAL RESOURCES

#### SPECIFIC GOALS

- 1.1. MANAGE LAND SUCH THAT IT IS COMPATIBLE WITH ITS NATURAL SURROUNDINGS.
- 1.2. PRESERVE AND IMPROVE NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE AND PROTECT THE LANDSCAPE.
- 1.3. IMPROVE GREEN AND BLUE INFRASTRUCTURES AND ASSOCIATE THEM TO THE NATURAL CONTEXT.



The city is associated with the territory it occupies, but its effects extend over a much larger setting than that. Urban lifestyle tends to be expansive and often threatens the rural way of life and the preservation of the environment affected by its growth. This circumstance should give us ample reason to be mindful of sprawling urbanisation. This context is very relevant, because it constitutes the first step in reaching a sustainable development model.

Rural land long ago ceased to be viewed as residual land, meaning that which remains once the urban land is identified and the land required by urban plans to ensure the expected and predictable growth over a certain time horizon is excluded. It also cannot be viewed as the means for cities to see their needs met. It is a system that merits protection in its own right and its own analysis, independent of the mechanisms through which cities operate and expand. In any case, it is true that cities are incapable of supplying themselves with their own primary production, that they could not sustain themselves on the rain they receive, nor satisfy their energy needs with the energy and material resources they have within their own land area. They create negative impacts on biodiversity as they expand over increasingly larger areas. As a result, they:

- replace natural ecosystems by using land in a way that tends to seal and sterilise it, fragmenting it from the point of view of the populations of plant and animal species and hampering their mobility.
- generate high rates of energy and material use, with ever-growing demands, emissions and waste, and
- frustrate their residents' desire to be in touch with nature by requiring them to travel unreasonable distances to have access to it. Included in this concern is the landscape, which already enjoys special protection in regional urban planning laws.

This strategic goal seeks not only to have the city adapt to nature, but for nature to make its way into the city. It is a matter of encouraging green infrastructures that guarantee biodiversity and that allow connecting traditional urban



green areas with nature itself so as to bring nature to citizens in a way that is healthy and accessible. A further goal is to ensure green areas have a beneficial impact on peri-urban settings, thus addressing the problems typical of this type of neighbourhood.

It also seeks to connect the urban environment with rural settings, on whose preservation, traditions and culture depend the future of cities and sustainable urban development. Therefore, alongside the measures for restraining excessive land use and the expansionary processes of cities, other measures will be needed to promote rural settings, to help protect the environment and to establish a population to which social and economic development opportunities can be offered. This will be possible if both settings are connected through mobility that enhances the configuration of nodes or nuclei, hampers urban sprawl and guarantees an economy of proximity that is able to reduce energy consumption and optimises resources.

In short, this strategic goal is intended to ensure that territorial and urban planning uses land rationally by treating it as what it is: a natural, scarce and non-renewable resource that deserves protection. That land that is not suitable for accommodating new growth, even if said growth may be desirable or necessary, must be spared from urban transformation. In turn, the urban model that emerges from the plan must become the best ally to guarantee sustainability, adapting the urbanisation, and the building that follows it, to the territory involved by leveraging the existing geographical, morphological, geological and bioclimatic characteristics.

It must also protect, preserve and improve spatial and urban planning, the natural and cultural heritage and the landscape, as well as promote the existence of green urban infrastructures that, to the extent possible, remain in their natural context. And beyond the planning itself, resource management will also be a key aspect. All international Agendas emphasise this point, and thus so does this one.

The specific goals that allow us to work towards achieving this sustainable model of land management, occupation, transformation and use are as follows:

## SPECIFIC GOAL

### 1.1. MANAGE LAND SUCH THAT IT IS COMPATIBLE WITH ITS NATURAL SURROUNDINGS.

#### LINES OF ACTION

- ✓ Have a **strategy or plan for managing land that lays the foundations for the territorial model.** These strategies can be regional, sub-regional and even sectoral, but they must all have in common the rational use of land.



- ✓ Introduce measures to relate **spatial planning to economic, cultural and natural resource planning** so as to limit depopulation and help to preserve nature, protect traditional rural ways and pay special attention to small population nuclei. The problem of depopulation is essentially territorial and involves a lack of strategic vision and supralocal development.
- ✓ Design the city in **accordance with the territorial model and in coordination with adjacent population centres**, taking into account its climate, humidity, territory and landscape characteristics.
- ✓ Reduce the **use of virgin land** by adapting it to the dynamics of the population and new economic activities, promoting the productivity of the land that has already been transformed. This requires preparing realistic reports that are not written merely to satisfy the formal requirement of incorporating this document into the other documentation for the corresponding Town or Territory Plan.
- ✓ Promote **the maximum interconnection between rural and urban areas**, fostering their interdependence through economic, environmental, social and governance policies, with measures that favour **orderly urban and peri-urban forest and agricultural activities, as well as sustainable livestock and rural development policies**.
- ✓ Promote the inclusion of **natural heritage in the municipal catalogues** that are part of the planning documentation.
- ✓ Implement **coordination and collaboration** mechanisms that are based on the sustainable use of the land, in regions or cities **with cross-border or interregional neighbourly relationships**.

## SPECIFIC GOAL

### 1.2. PRESERVE AND IMPROVE NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE AND PROTECT THE LANDSCAPE.

#### LINES OF ACTION

- ✓ Develop strategies to improve, preserve and highlight **cultural heritage** (both its tangible and intangible - ways of life, traditions, etc. - aspects) **and the urban and rural landscape**, in order to develop all its potential and guarantee an adequate level of conservation and maintenance.
- ✓ Adopt measures to **conserve, improve and protect nature and natural heritage**: flora, fauna, landscapes and existing ecosystems. To this end, we propose adopting measures aimed at reducing the use of chemical herbicides, improving the habitats of pollinators in urban and peri-urban areas, etc., as well as applying methodologies and programmes to monitor urban biodiversity.
- ✓ Protect **rural areas in keeping with their character**, especially rural land on the border or adjacent to urban land.
- ✓ **Use forests correctly** from the point of view of forest biomass for energy purposes, as part of a strategy to promote rural development, the conservation of traditional uses that promote the



conservation of natural spaces and the prevention of fires.

- ✓ Launch **campaigns to disseminate cultural and natural heritage** so as to establish a true culture of belonging based on knowledge, which can be combined with its rational use as an economic and tourist resource.

## SPECIFIC GOAL

### 1.3. IMPROVE GREEN AND BLUE INFRASTRUCTURES AND ASSOCIATE THEM TO THE NATURAL CONTEXT.

#### LINES OF ACTION

- ✓ Incorporate the **concept of urban green infrastructures** to urban planning and management as multifunctional solutions based on nature, which allow urban problems to be addressed. They not only contribute to **improving biodiversity**, but also fight against **climate change**, both in the area of reducing GHG emissions and in local adaptation. Lastly, they contribute to the leisure and enjoyment of citizens. This type of infrastructure is thus key to understanding and managing urban metabolism.
- ✓ Organise and design **green and blue infrastructure networks** by taking into account criteria involving **ecological connectivity** and the **geomorphological characteristics of the territory**, the goal being to optimise the provision of ecosystem services to citizens. This also involves **delimiting and identifying the elements** that constitute these infrastructures and setting up **measures for their restoration, conservation and management** at the regional, local and neighbourhood levels.
- ✓ Assign land uses that are consistent with the **characteristics of the pre-existing territorial base**.












- ✓ **Use livestock routes and incorporate them by using ecological connectivity criteria** and as a formula to combat territorial fragmentation.

The **descriptive data** related to strategic goal #1 “*Implementation of regional and urban planning tools to make a rational use of land, keeping and protecting natural resources*” are as follows:

## STRATEGIC GOAL #1. RELATED DESCRIPTIVE DATA

<b>D.01</b>	Population change	<b>D.02</b>	Territory and diversity of habitats	<b>D.03</b>	Surface area of agricultural and forestry operations
<b>D.04</b>	Land area that cannot be developed.	<b>D.05</b>	Green area	<b>D.06</b>	Population density on urban land
<b>D.07</b>	Discontinuous urban land	<b>D.08</b>	Housing density	<b>D.ST.02</b>	Percentage of land areas under development
<b>D.ST.03</b>	Percentage of delimited land suitable for development	<b>D.ST.04</b>	Land area planned for residential use	<b>D.ST.05</b>	Land area for economic activities
<b>D.17</b>	Area of transport infrastructures	<b>D.32</b>	Change in the number of households	<b>D.33</b>	Growth of the housing stock
<b>D.ST.06</b>	Homes planned in development areas with respect to the housing stock	<b>D.ST.07</b>	Number of homes planned in development areas	<b>D.37</b>	Urban planning figure in force in the municipality
<b>D.38</b>	Date of the current urban planning figure	<b>D.39</b>	Urban agenda, strategic planning and Smart Cities		

The relationships between this strategic goal and the SDGs and the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other international projects can be summarised as follows:

SPANISH URBAN AGENDA	17 SDGS: GOALS	NEW INTERNATIONAL URBAN AGENDA	EUROPEAN URBAN AGENDA (PARTNERSHIPS)	EDUSI SPECIFIC GOALS 14-20
1.1. Develop the land in a way that is compatible with its territorial environment	 <b>2.4</b> Sustainable and resilient agricultural practices	26; 49; 50; 51; 52; 65; 69; 70; 72; 95; 96	Sustainable land use and nature-based solutions	
	 <b>11.a</b> Ties to urban, peri-urban and rural areas			
1.2. Preserve and improve the natural and cultural heritage and protect the landscape	 <b>6.6.</b> Protect and restore water-related ecosystems	38; 124; 125	Cultural Heritage	
	 <b>11.4</b> Cultural and natural heritage			
	 <b>14.1</b> Marine pollution <b>14.2</b> Management of marine and coastal ecosystems <b>14.5</b> Conservation of coastal and marine areas			
	 <b>15.1</b> Conserve and sustainably use ecosystems <b>15.2</b> Sustainable forest management <b>15.3</b> Combat desertification <b>15.4</b> Conservation of mountain ecosystems <b>15.a</b> Financial resources <b>15.b</b> Resources for forest management			
1.3. Improve green and blue infrastructures and link them to the natural setting	 <b>15.5</b> Degradation and loss of biodiversity <b>15.9</b> Environmentally sensitive plans	67; 77	Sustainable land use and nature-based solutions	<p>SG. 6.3.4 promote protection, encourage and develop the cultural and natural heritage of urban areas...</p> <p>S.G.6.5.2. Integrated actions to revitalise cities, improve the urban environment, its environment</p>

