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CHALLENGE GREENER 12 OCTOBER

“Jardines para la vida”, a re-greening project in Mexico City. Native pollinator gardens.

“Jardines para la Vida” (Gardens for Life), a project by SEDEMA CDMX, seeks to re-green the city through the creation of urban gardens with native plants that serve as refuges for pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Its goal is to strengthen urban biodiversity and improve environmental quality through the participation of citizens, schools, and communities, who receive training and technical support to create and maintain these spaces. In addition to beautifying the city, these gardens promote environmental education and resilience to climate change, becoming a key strategy for building a greener and more sustainable Mexico City.

Who does it serve?

Citizens of Mexico City: It offers residents training in ecological gardening and provides materials, promoting their active participation in climate action.

Pollinators: It provides food and shelter for key species such as bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds, which are vital for ecosystems and food production.

The City and the Environment: It seeks to democratize green infrastructure, especially in areas with low vegetation cover, and contributes to urban ecological restoration.

¿Why is it successful?

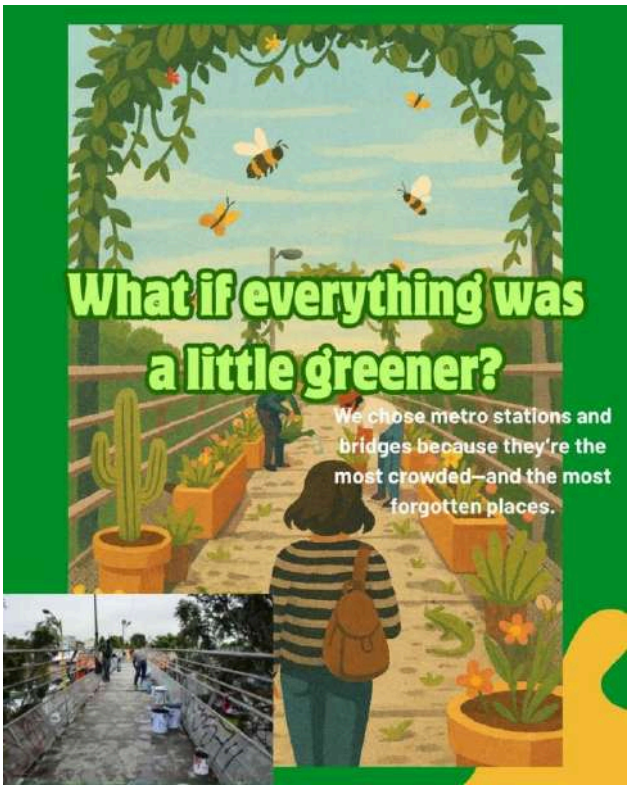
Urban ecological restoration: It encourages the creation of pollinator corridors and the planting of native species that help fight climate change, regulate temperature, and prevent flooding.

Educational and empowering approach: It trains thousands of people in environmental gardening and ecological restoration from their homes, schools, and community spaces, creating a multiplier effect.

Citizen participation: It transforms the city through the direct involvement of its residents, who take part in projects that bring tangible benefits to their quality of life and their surroundings.

Multiple benefits: It achieves results in several areas — environmental improvement, biodiversity conservation, and professional and community development, especially for women.

¿Which place in my community could benefit?



Implementing pollinator gardens at metro entrances and pedestrian bridges in Mexico City represents an innovative proposal for urban sustainability with great ecological and social impact. We chose these spaces because the metro is one of the most crowded and yet most forgotten places in the city — used daily by millions of people who rarely encounter a green or pleasant environment during their commute. The same happens with pedestrian bridges, which are often gray, hot, and unattractive areas, but with enormous potential to become urban refuges full of life and color. Transforming these strategic points into pollinator gardens would not only improve their appearance but also reconnect people with nature in their daily paths, creating a more human and harmonious urban experience.

In addition to beautifying the city, these gardens would help improve air quality, reduce noise and urban heat, capture rainwater, and increase biodiversity by attracting bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds — species essential to ecological balance. The inclusion of native plants would strengthen local ecosystems while also offering environmental education through informative signage and opportunities for communities, schools, and collectives to participate in their maintenance.

Both the metro and pedestrian bridges are democratic spaces, used by people of all ages, backgrounds, and social conditions. By transforming them with pollinator gardens, we send a clear message: sustainability and natural beauty should be accessible to everyone. This initiative does not only aim to create green areas but

also to plant awareness, well-being, and hope in the most crowded corners of the city — proving that even in the most forgotten places, life can bloom.

Link social media:https://www.instagram.com/p/DPv0vQijbkc/?igsh=MXhxbnAycWVlZXk4dg==