

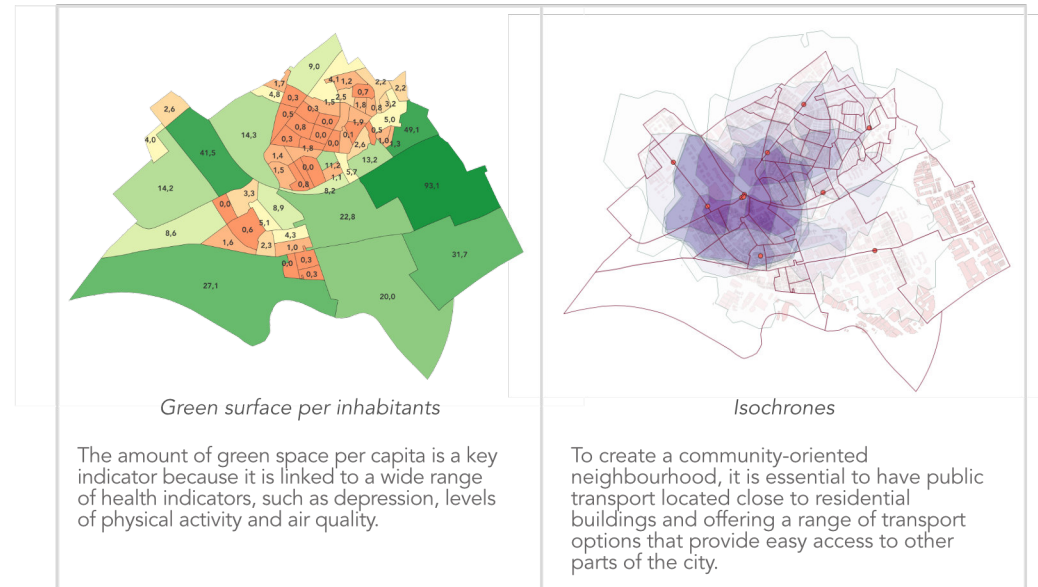
Assessment

Cornellà Natura: Plan Impact Assessment

Client Ayuntamiento de Cornellà
Location Cornellà de Llobregat, Barcelona, Spain
Year 2024-2026



The Cornellà Natura project, launched by the Cornellà de Llobregat City Council in 2016, aims to transform the city into a greener, healthier, and more climate-resilient environment. This urban transformation strategy focuses on renaturalizing public spaces, enhancing biodiversity, promoting sustainable mobility, and improving residents' quality of life through the creation of new green areas, traffic calming, enhanced ecological corridors, and sustainable water management. Between October 2024 and March 2026, an in-depth impact assessment study was conducted to measure the effects of the Cornellà Natura project on the urban environment, well-being, and public health.



Healthy Cities Approach

Health data showed Cornellà's residents had higher rates of air pollution exposure, obesity, depression and cardiovascular disease. The aim of this impact assessment is to check whether the plan is addressing the health needs of the population and to evaluate its effects. To this end, the following steps have been taken:

- Needs Assessment**
Initial data showed local rates of obesity, depression, and heart disease were 10– 20% worse than the Catalan average.
- Baseline Assessment**
The initial assessment revealed significant shortcomings in terms of green infrastructure and active mobility.
- Plan Profile**
The plan responds to a 70% of identified needs, with high impact in Green Coverage, Walkability, and Traffic Reduction.

Findings and Achievements

The alignment of the development plan with the Healthy Cities strategy produced measurable improvements in both the environment and public health.

- Health**
 - ↓ 10% Cardiovascular Diseases
 - ↓ 30% Anxiety
 - ↓ 34% Mood disorders
- Environmental**
 - ↑ 15,6% Green Coverage
 - ↑ 7,3 km Bike lanes
 - ↑ 17.014 m2 Pedestrianized Area
 - ↓ 14% NO₂ Emissions
- Economic**
 - +218€/ppy Healthcare savings

Health indicator	Expenditure	Performance	Weight	Savings per person/year
Physical health				
Obesity	532 €	24 %	2.14 %	11 €
Premature mortality	1,548 €	54 %	4.88 %	75 €
Type2diabetes	416 €	21 %	2.87 %	12 €
Cardiovascular disease	186 €	27 %	3.79 %	7 €
Respiratory disease	20 €	47 %	7.93 %	2 €
Accidents and falls	451 €	42 %	3.75 %	17 €
Traffic injuries	10 €	17 %	1.50 %	0 €
Pain	331 €	58 %	5.25 %	17 €
Heat stress	253 €	33 %	3.00 %	8 €
Mental health				
Stress	165 €	56 %	5.00 %	8 €
Anxiety	807 €	33 %	3.00 %	24 €
Depression	124 €	22 %	2.00 %	2 €
Emotional state	255 €	42 %	3.75 %	10 €
Attention deficit	1 €	50 %	4.50 %	0 €
Mental wellbeing	1,242 €	22 %	2.00 %	25 €

"Cities need to breathe, and green spaces can be an engine for quality of life. It not only brings environmental benefits, but also urban and economic ones."
 — Emilia Briones, Deputy Mayor of Cornellà de Llobregat