

Case 8

● CZ–Ostrava: Ostravice Riverfront Regeneration

Location: Central Ostrava, Moravian–Silesian Region, Czechia

Type of site: Urban brownfield and waterfront corridor

Size: ~50 ha along the Ostravice River

Ownership: City of Ostrava + private investors

Main legacy: Industrial waterfront + transport infrastructure

Period of activity: 19th - 20th centuries

Main challenges: Pollution, flood risk, disconnection from city centre

Priority of cluster relevance: [Green Development](#), Heritage & City Image, Public Space & Housing

Historical Overview

The Ostravice once served as an industrial artery bordered by factories and rail lines.

Decades of channelisation and contamination severed it from urban life.

From 2015 onward, the city launched a long-term regeneration programme, integrating flood management, green corridors, and public access.

Present Condition

Sections of the riverfront are now rehabilitated with promenades, cycling routes, and cultural spaces reusing former industrial halls.

Biodiversity monitoring shows significant recovery of riparian species.

The project reconnects the city centre with nature.

Governance & Actors

- City of Ostrava - lead design and coordination
- Czech Technical University & University of Ostrava - hydrology and ecology research
- Private regional developers - mixed-use investment
- Local NGOs - community activation

Key Insights

The riverfront project demonstrates how blue-green infrastructure can drive urban identity change. It links climate adaptation, public space, and heritage reuse within one governance model.

Leverage Points

Integrated flood control + recreation

Cross-disciplinary governance

Lessons Learned

Climate resilience boosts liveability

Municipality's in-house design improves coordination

Transferable Tools

Blue-green development strategies

Municipality run urban lab ecosystems



The channelized Ostravice River in central Ostrava, a reminder of the city's industrial reshaping and a potential focus area for future ecological revitalization.

Photo: Csaba Lakócai / University of Ostrava