

Career Sheet: Landscape Architect in Nature-Based Solutions



ILDEFONSO GARCÍA (LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT)

My name is Ildefonso García de Longoria Ramos and I live in La Coruña, Spain. I am a landscape architect who loves making 3D models with kites, sticks, and drones. I have worked as an actor, musician, and cultural director to be able to afford my studies. Currently, I am working as an architect, making homes energetically efficient. As a landscaper, I transform trails into friendly and appealing pathways for people to walk or ride a bicycle. As a social activist, I look for free spaces to grow vegetables.



OVERVIEW OF THE JOB

I apply a multidisciplinary approach to enhance and rehabilitate culturally and socially significant buildings in natural spaces. Besides, I am currently creating a cooperative to try to map, build, maintain and revitalise new urban gardens in my city by integrating them into the existing blue-green infrastructure. I am also trying to reuse old urban infrastructures for social and ecological use.



WHAT INSPIRED YOU

What inspired me to follow this career of Nature-Based Solutions was “Silence Spring” by Rachel Carson, and “Letter from the Great Chief Seattle to the President of the United States of America”.

Besides, the following quotes:

“No bees, no future”, which is believed to be attributed to Albert Einstein.

“People say we should leave a better planet for our children. The truth is we should leave better children for our planet”.



TYPICAL WORKING DAY

Early in the morning, after having a cup of coffee, I water the urban garden. Once I am back home, I spend the morning through phone calls, messages, emails, drawings, renderings, and administrative problems. During the afternoon, I finish some uncompleted projects. Finally, the last task of my working day is to water the urban garden once more and socialize with my neighbours.



STUDY & CAREER PATH

I have a bachelor's in architecture from the Architecture School of Coruña (Spain), a master's in Heritage Digitalisation, and a master's in Landscape Architecture. Since 2012, I have been working as a Landscape Architect specialised in digitalisation.



KEY SKILLS

The **professional and personal key skills** needed to do my job are:

- Scalability: Thinking Global acting Local.
- Multi-disciplinary: Integrated urbanism of the urban schedule.
- Sustainability: 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 agenda.
- Analytical Reasoning: As a research scientist in Nature-Based solutions, I must be up-to-date in the research developed, using adequate analytical tools and data analysis.
- Collaboration: I must deal with different backgrounds of knowledge and opinions to develop and study a solution.
- Initiative: To design solutions that meet societal needs, such as the sustainable development goals 2030 (SDG), I need initiative and proactivity.



CAREER PROSPECT

With my skills, I can work in the following industries and sectors: in the field of construction, robotics (drone use) or the TIC field.



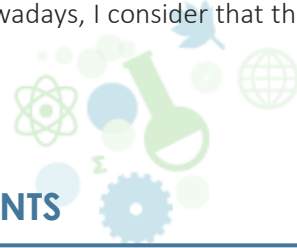
CHALLENGES

The main challenges that I encounter in my job are to develop projects that aim to solve social and environmental problems and to deal with different backgrounds of opinion when collaborating on the projects.



YOUR ADVICE TO STUDENTS

My advice to students is not to pursue careers attracted mainly by the economic reward, but because they feel passionate about them. Money does not give happiness. Nowadays, I consider that the most important people are those who earn little money.



YOUR ADVICE TO TEACHERS AND PARENTS

My advice to teachers and parents is they educate their students and children in freedom by empowering their capabilities. Students should start working early on projects and cross-check results to foster practical learning.



LEARN MORE

Ildfonso's LinkedIn Profile:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ildefonsoglongoria/>

Ildfonso's Facebook Profile:

<https://www.facebook.com/4raias>

Ildfonso's Architecture and Landscape website:

<http://www.4rayas.es/>

Urban Gardens:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/LeiraDasFreces>

Digitalisation:

<https://sketchfab.com/4rayas/models>

