



Nature based Solutions for water resource management and biodiversity

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NbS have significant potential to address our societal challenges



US\$ 57 billion

Flooding damages averted by mangroves in China, India, Mexico, US and Viet Nam each year



37%

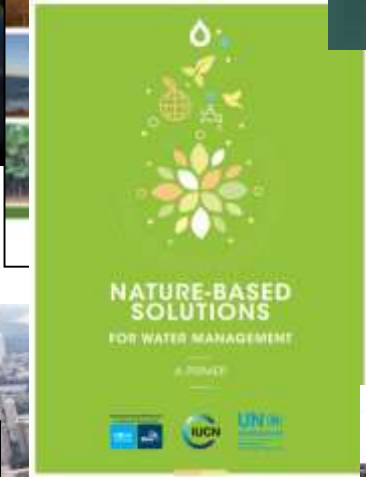
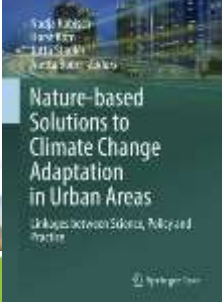
Amount of climate mitigation nature-based solutions can contribute to meeting Paris climate goal

US\$ 170 billion

Estimated global benefits in ecosystem services from nature-based solutions focused on climate

A problem solving approach for sustainable development





Natural Infrastructure for Water Management

Investing in nature for multiple objectives



NBS builds on an established track record:- e.g. Landscape Restoration and public policy influence



63+ regulatory mechanisms, reassigned subsidies and other government-supported initiatives after the Bonn Challenge commitment was made

~**US\$ 11.2 billion** invested in FLR (80% domestic funding)

1.379 billion tonnes of CO₂eq sequestered over a decade

Real re-orientation of public sector financing to **reduce transaction costs** and improve private investment **options**



62 country commitments

172.35 million ha pledged

1/2 billion ha assessed

**of 13 countries reporting
on progress**

43.7 million ha under restoration
(56% of commitments)

354,000 jobs created or secured

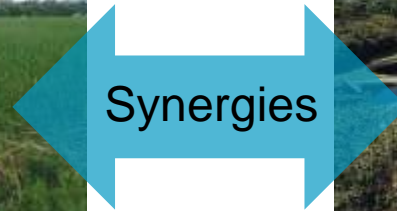


Not a stand alone solution

Hybrid approaches, utilizing a combination of natural and grey infrastructure



Natural infrastructure

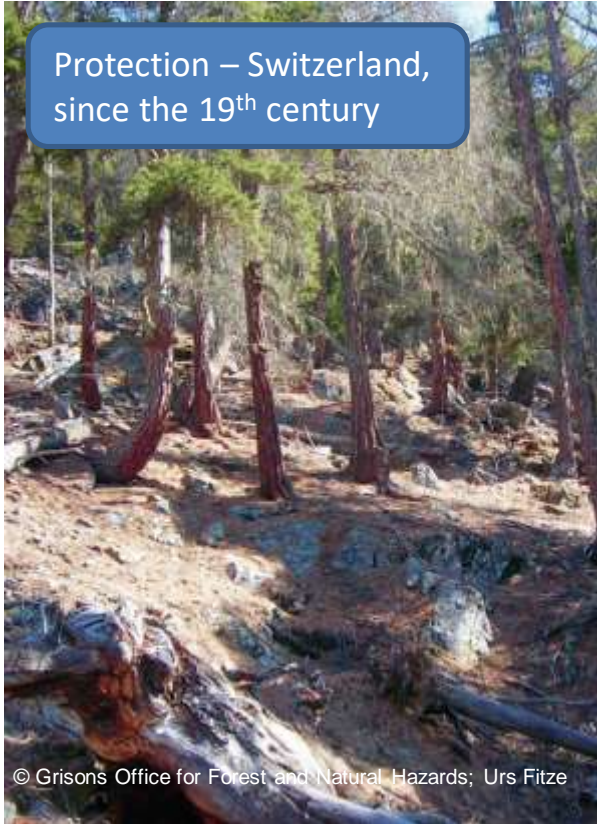


Grey infrastructure

What do Nature-based Solutions look like?



Protection – Switzerland,
since the 19th century

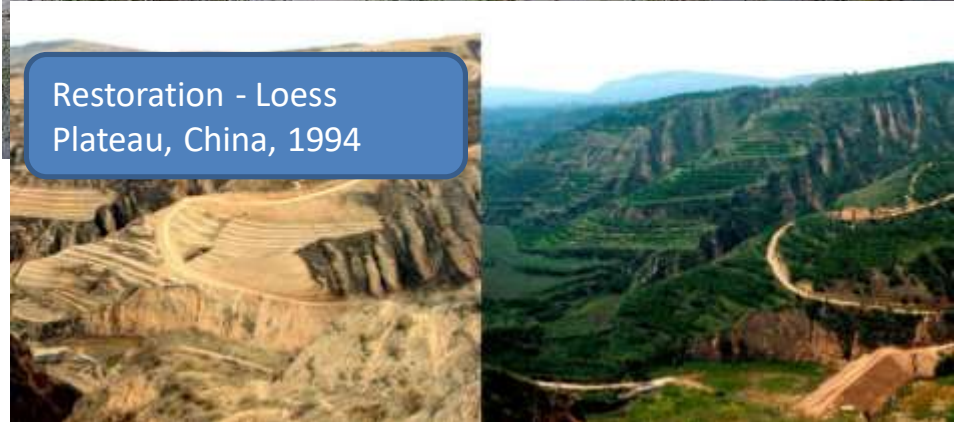


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Sustainable management
- Vietnam



Restoration - Loess
Plateau, China, 1994



Building on decades of work

1. Ecosystem restoration approaches

ER

EE

FLR

2. Issue-specific ecosystem-related

EbA

EbM

Eco-DRR

CAS

3. Infrastructure-related approaches

GI

NI

4. Ecosystem-based management

EbMgt

5. Ecosystem protection approaches

AbC



The IUCN Global Standard on NbS™



Societal challenges



Design at scale



Biodiversity net gain



Economic feasibility



Inclusive governance



Balance trade-offs



Adaptive management



Mainstreaming for sustainability

- 8 Criteria and 28 Indicators for designing (new) and assessing (existing/past) NbS
- Measured against calibrated metrics
- Developed with +800 contributors and 9 expert groups through 2 years of public consultations
- Facilitative standard to support transitioning to NbS
- Piloted across Asia, Africa, Latin America
- Translated by partners into 7 languages so far, including in Chinese by Ministry for Natural Resources, China

How do you use the Standard?



Uses of the self-assessment sheet:

- Assess whether an intervention/proposal adheres to the Standard
- Inform internal and external stakeholders on the means of verification in place/used (or lack of) to measure the indicators
- Identify areas for improvement



What does the Standard look like?

The Standard includes brief guidance on indicators, informative example.

DRAFT NbS self assessment pilot v3 - protected - Excel

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J4 Recommendations, opportunities and challenges

Criterion 1: NbS effectively address one or more societal challenges						
Indicator or No.	Indicator	Guiding questions	How well has the indicator been met?			
			Strong	Adequate	Partial	Insufficient
1.1	The most pressing societal challenges for rights holders and beneficiaries are prioritised	Are societal challenges identified? Are rights holders and beneficiaries consulted? Are the most pressing societal challenges for rights holders and beneficiaries prioritised?	Yes. The most pressing societal challenges prioritized based on full consultation with rights holders and beneficiaries.	Specific societal challenges identified with some consultation with rights holders and beneficiaries.	General societal challenges identified with limited input from some rights holders and beneficiaries only.	No. No clear societal challenges identified and/or no consultation with key rights holders and beneficiaries.
Insufficient						
1.2	The societal challenges addressed are clearly understood and documented	Are the drivers and responses to the societal challenges identified? Are the societal challenges understood at the relevant national/local context? Are the societal challenges documented and accessible to affected stakeholders?	Yes. The drivers of and responses to identified societal challenges are well understood, including with reference to the relevant national/local context, and are fully documented and accessible.	Drivers of and responses to identified societal challenges are broadly understood within the relevant context although some documentation and knowledge gaps persist.	Societal challenges framed in terms consistent with widely accepted narratives but multiple documentation and context-specific knowledge gaps persist.	No. Superficial/limited understanding of drivers of and responses to identified societal challenges with limited or no documentation.
Insufficient						
1.3	Human wellbeing outcomes arising from the NbS are identified, benchmarked and periodically assessed	Are human wellbeing outcomes relevant to the identified societal challenges identified? Are there benchmarks in place to monitor impact? Are outcomes and benchmarks assessed at regularly occurring intervals? Are human wellbeing outcomes incorporated into the strategy for the intervention?	Yes. SMART human well-being outcomes and benchmarks, relevant to the identified societal challenges and national/local context, are identified and are assessed at regularly occurring intervals.	Specific human well-being outcomes and benchmarks, relevant to the identified societal challenges and national/local context, are identified and assessed at least once during the intervention period.	General human well-being outcomes and benchmarks identified but no provision has been made for their assessment.	No. Human well-being outcomes are not identified or are vague and ill defined with no benchmarks and no provision for assessment.
Insufficient						

Criteria

Criteria 1: NbS effectively address one or more societal challenges

Criteria 2: NbS effectively address one or more societal challenges

Criteria 3: NbS effectively address one or more societal challenges

Criteria 4: NbS effectively address one or more societal challenges

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Criteria 100: NbS effectively address one or more societal challenges

Measure of standard adherence

Criterion 3. NbS result in net gain to biodiversity and ecosystem integrity

Each of the 8 criteria has a subset of indicators to be addressed

Indicator 3.1 NbS actions directly respond to evidence-based assessment of the current state of the ecosystem and prevailing drivers of degradation and loss

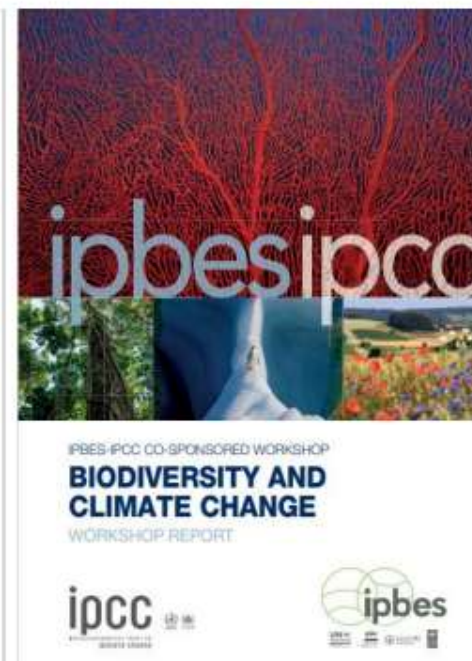
The adherence of the intervention to each indicator is rated



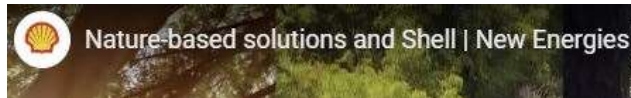
Giving an overall output of whether the intervention is in adherence with the Standard and how strong that adherence is

Key	Output
Strong	Intervention adheres to the IUCN Global Standard for NbS.
Adequate	
Partial	
Insufficient	Intervention does not adhere to the IUCN Global Standard for NbS.

Growing recognition in global policy circles



Growing momentum behind NbS – partnerships for action



Cerrado Water Consortium, Brazil

A multi-stakeholder group addressing ecosystem degradation at scale.

- A key biodiversity hotspot threatened by unsustainable agriculture, affecting soils and water supplies.
- The region produces 12% of the country's coffee and 40% of its freshwater. The Consortium's focuses on the Feio River Basin.

Public-private investments supporting multiple benefits for nature and people.

- Investment from: 36 local coffee producers & international coffee companies, the trading company Expocaccer, IUCN, NGOs and the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund.
- The region's water and sanitation utility provide 0.5% of annual public revenue to assist the Consortium as a **key public commitment to this private led initiative.**

The Consortium's interventions focus on agro-forestry, restoration of soil, restoring landscape habitats and climate change adaptation for the producers.





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LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère de l'Environnement, du Climat
et du Développement durable

**Blue Natural Capital Financing
Facility** – applying nature-based solutions
to socio-environmental challenges

Current Challenges



- **Shortfall** in both viable **pipeline** of projects/investments, and questions over **performance** due to governance challenges, poor monitoring
- **Learning is improving**, and brings the opportunity to apply tactics and approaches for learning, indicator review and development
- Research shows that there is a **lack of cross-sectoral policy coherence** – REDD has taught us this, and the Bonn Challenge has, and is, trying to address this – acceleration in NBS investment requires **acceleration in policy coherence**.
- **Integration needs to improve** – within sectors, within technical interventions, with investments – where NBS can provide hybrid solutions as a compliment to existing investments is where success is likely – this is improving quickly
- The need for NBS interventions to better consider landscape possibilities, scale efficiencies that can be gained through **new partnerships**

Thank you for your attention.
For more information:



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