



Challenges of municipalities in the face of climate change. Urban Resilience, Sustainability and Solutions based on Nature

June 9th 2022 – IESE Business School Barcelona

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This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 730222



Agenda

1. How other cities have used the Connecting Nature framework?
1. How the framework relates to the idea of a nature-positive economy?
1. Introduce supporting innovations such as the Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform and UrbanByNature;
1. Synthesis [EC Expert publication](#) “The Vital Role of NBS in the Nature-Positive Economy”

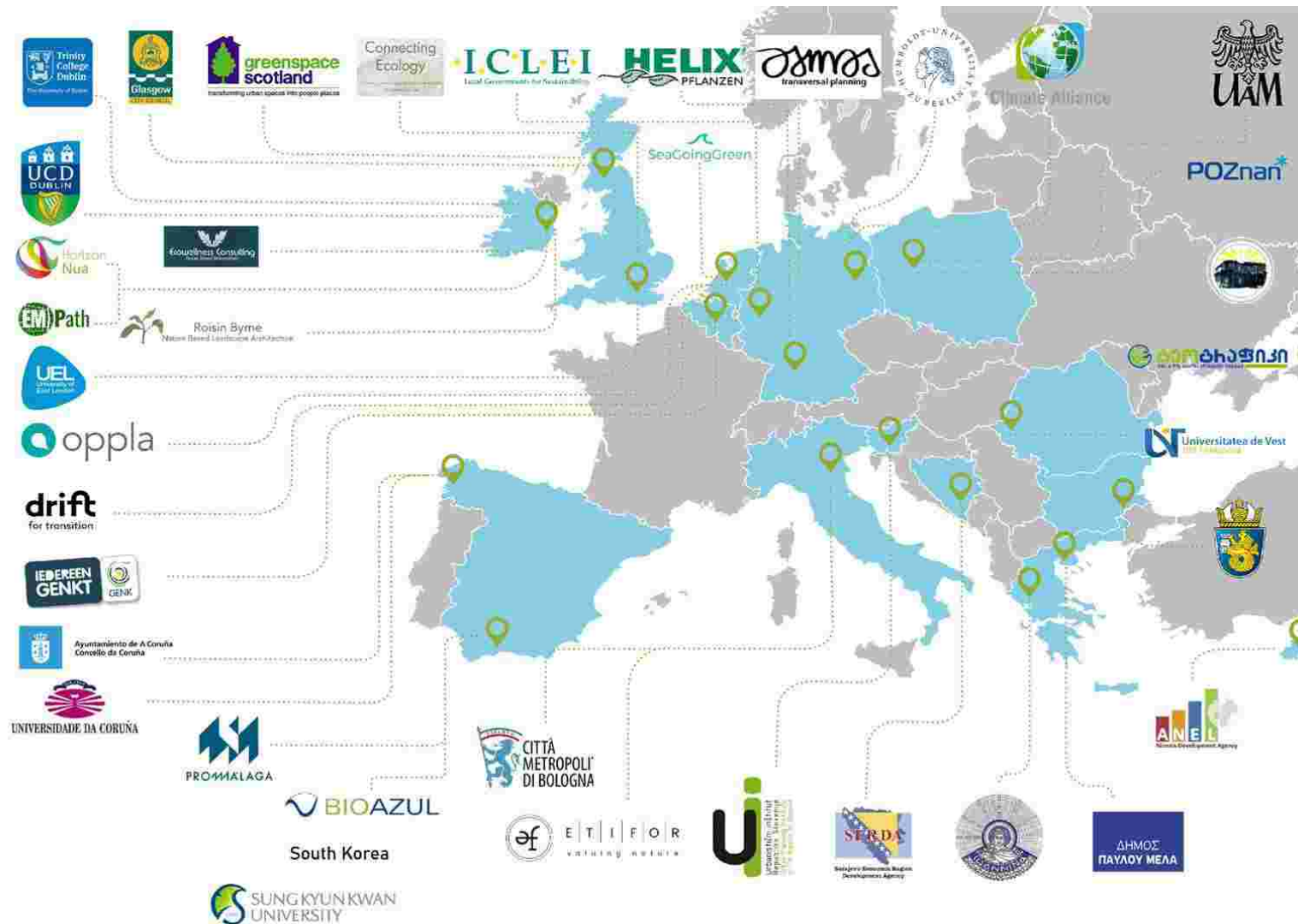
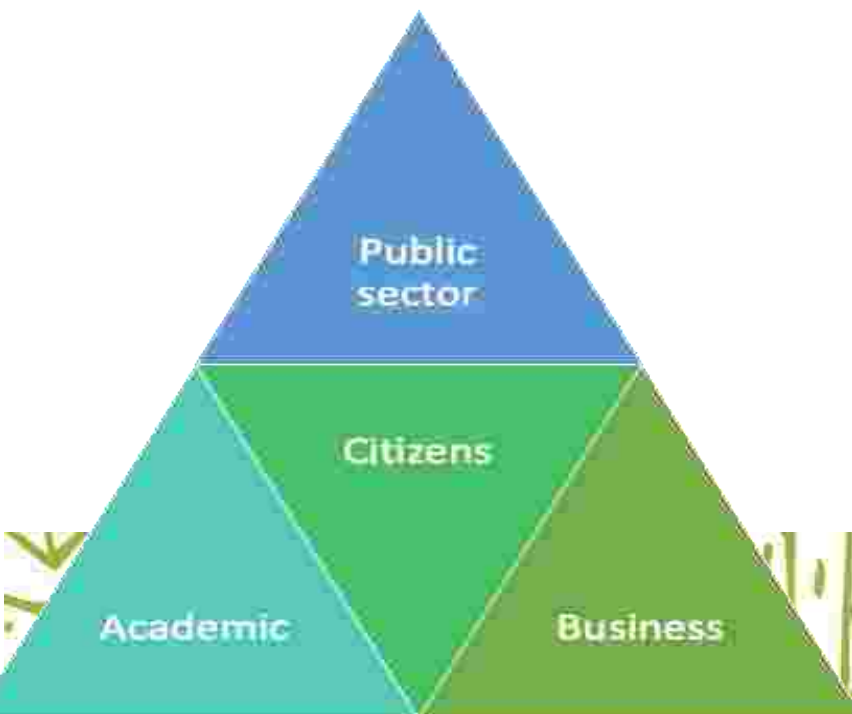
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Who we are?





The outcome...the Connecting Nature Framework

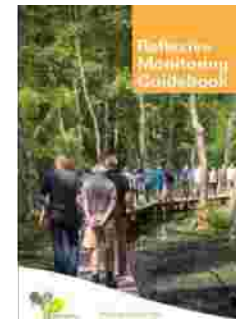
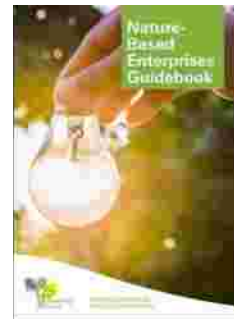
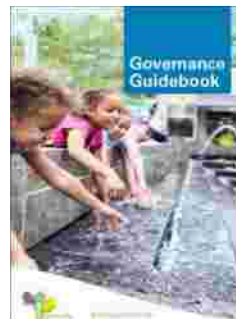
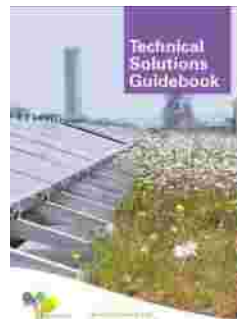
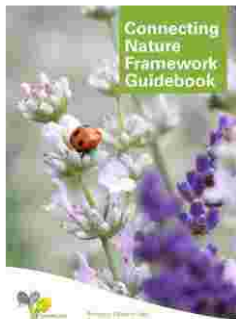
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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wvbjngig1_Q



- TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS
- GOVERNANCE
- FINANCING AND BUSINESS MODELS
- NATURE-BASED ENTERPRISES

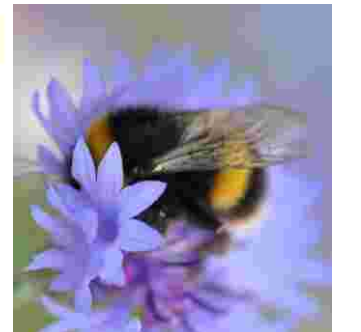
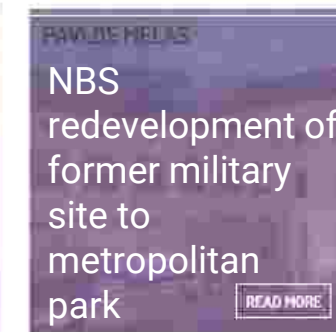
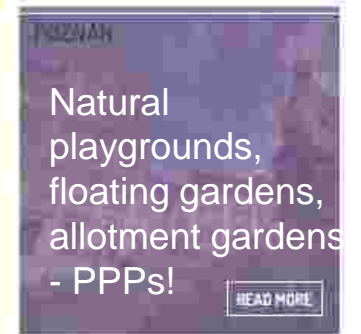
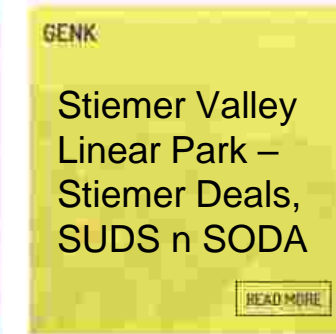
- CO-PRODUCTION
- REFLEXIVE MONITORING
- IMPACT ASSESSMENT



Some themes emerging across cities:

- Each city contextualised the Framework to their local narrative and culture.
- Resulted in unique NBS exemplars attuned to local needs and challenges - “what makes space a place”
- Expanding knowledge of NBS multifunctionality from climate change adaptation to addressing social challenges
- Economic impact of NBS remain less well known and developed
- NBS a focal point for urban regeneration (Glasgow, Ioannina, Burgas, Málaga)

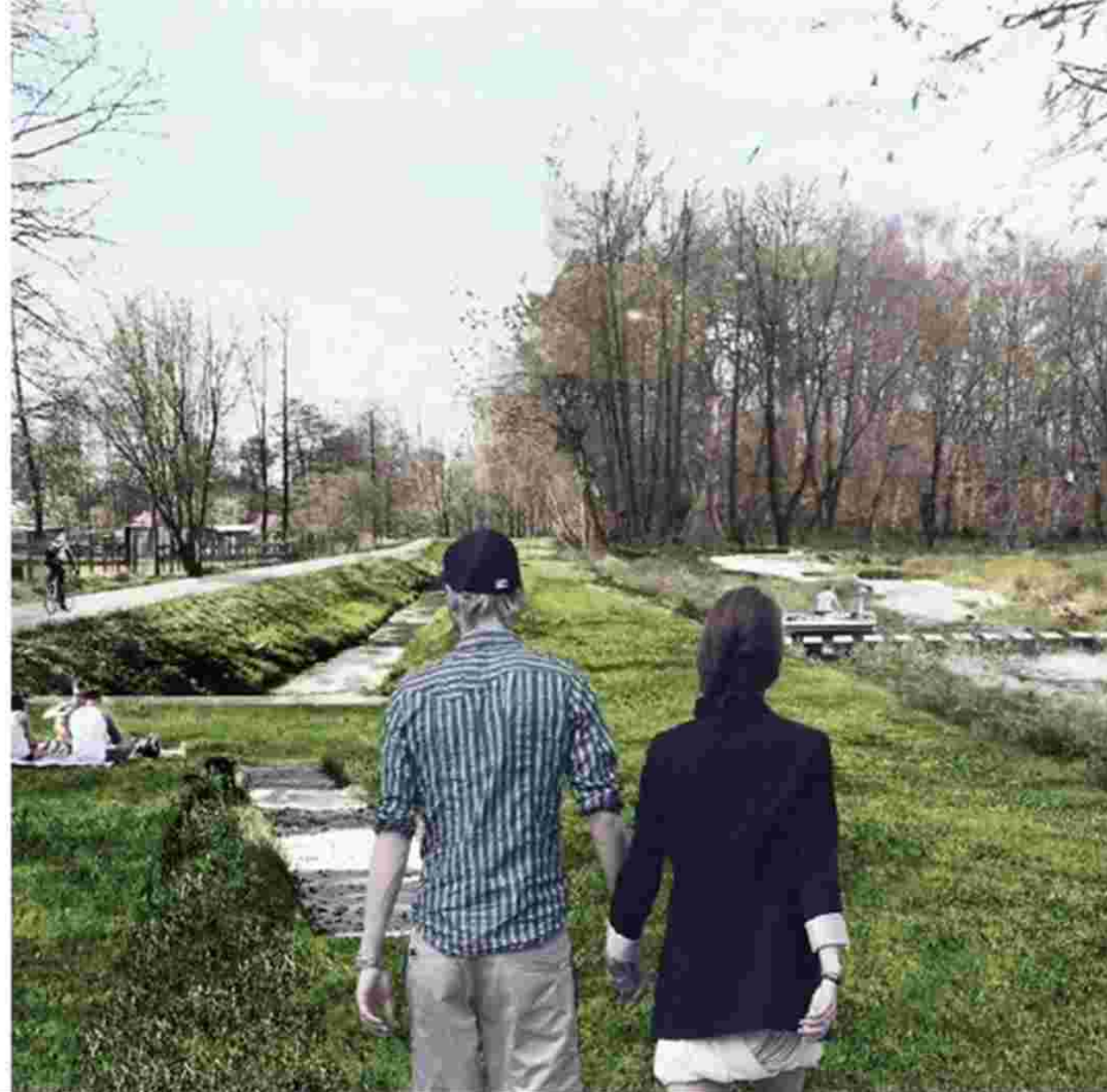
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Genk

Regeneration of the *Stiemervallei* to re-imagine the natural quality of the valley in an urban context and to co-produce ecological, environmental, social and economic benefits in partnership with the local community.



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Glasgow

Glasgow's *Open Space Strategy* is helping the city to address its changing context and changing demands on open space through a nature-based solution approach to open space planning, delivery and stewardship.



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Poznań

Using nature-based solutions approaches to improve the quality of life in city areas with limited access to greenspace, focusing specifically on development of a network of eco- and social-gardens at kindergartens.



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A Coruña

An Urban Allotment Gardens
Green Network connecting green areas and providing multiple benefits: enhancing biodiversity and fighting climate change, improving health and wellbeing of citizens, and promoting social cohesion.

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Burgas

Using a co-production process to regenerate the neglected *Saint Trinity Park* into a nature-based solution delivering nature conservation, climate change adaptation, education, health & wellbeing, and recreation benefits.

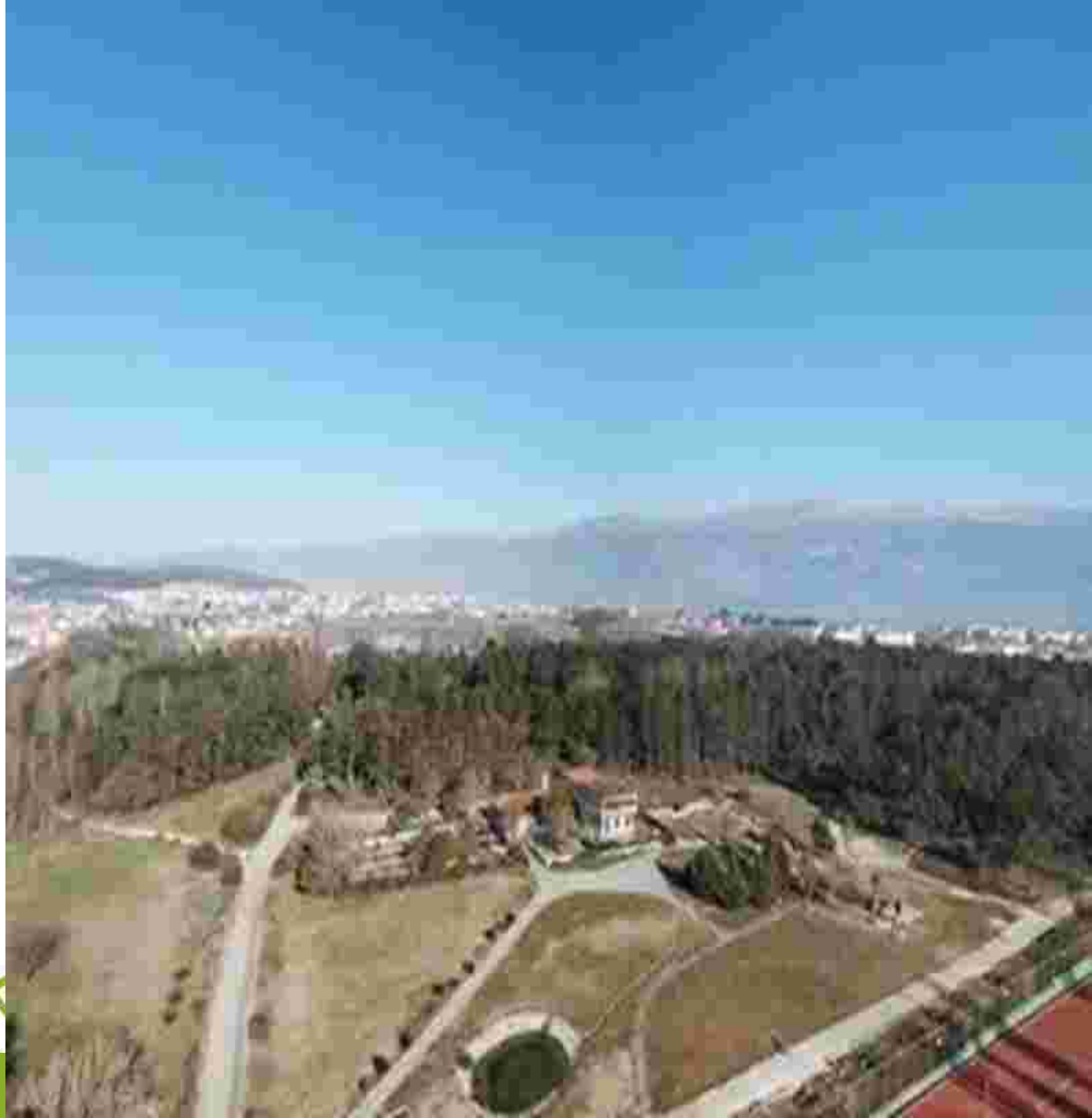
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Ioannina

Transformation of the neglected *Pirsinela Park* into the city's largest greenspace, re-connecting residents with the park through educational, sporting, and cultural activities, enhancing the park's ecological resilience, and creating a green economy for the site.

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Málaga

Transforming the central *Lagunillas* neighborhood using the Connecting Nature framework methodology to deliver nature-based solutions that improve quality of life and social cohesion of its neighbors.

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Nicosia

Using the Framework as a tool to include nature-based solutions as a policy theme in national and local strategies to prepare and facilitate projects across the city that create healthy, attractive, and natural surroundings for the local communities.

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Pavlos Melas

The transformation of an ex-military camp into an urban open innovation core creating a supra-local green space providing environmental, social, cultural heritage, and economic benefits for local communities.

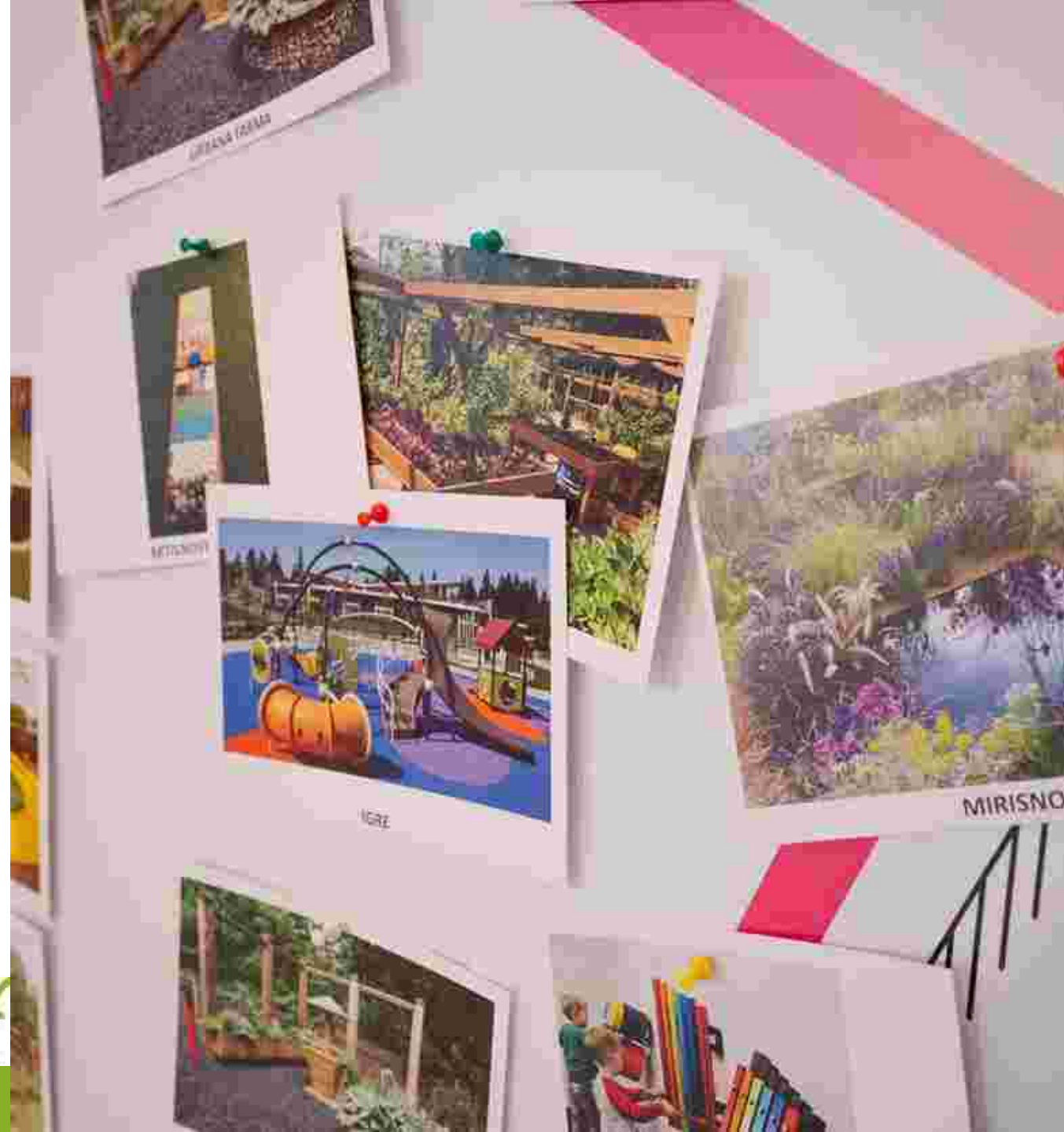
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Sarajevo

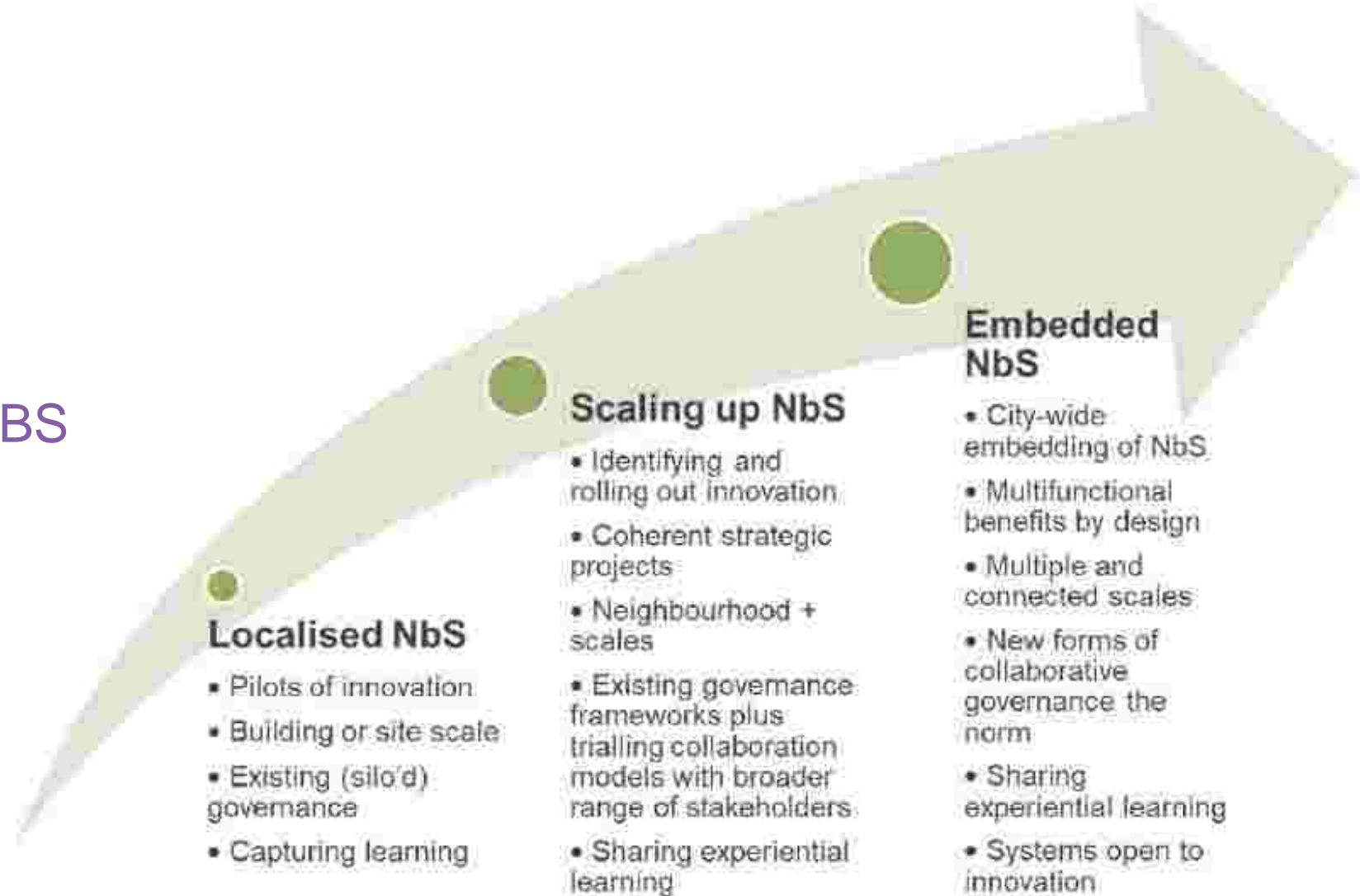
Development of a multifunctional urban garden and sensory park, open to all citizens, and created to deliver health & wellbeing and educational benefits for special target groups.

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Ambition: The pathway to mainstreaming NBS



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Connecting Nature's global impact through



Events - Korean Stream



UrbanByNature Events - Caucasus Stream



UrbanByNature Events - Brazilian Stream



UrbanByNature Events - Chinese Stream

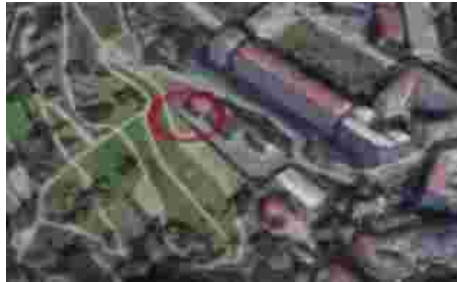


- 4 original hubs completed webinar series + 3 new European hubs launched
- 1000+ registrants from +100 countries with +70 published videos (almost 10,000 clicks) and 10 issues of UbN monthly Digests as well as deep-dive UbN courses by partners OSMOS and DRIFT
- UbN programme hosted by and backed up by CitiesWithNature with its 215+ signatory cities (officially recognised city registry by SCBD)
- Close collaborations established, e.g.: MoU CGEE (Brazilian Catalogue for NBS), Brazilian cities included NBS in their local climate action plans, teaming up with other EU-projects
- Contribution to the Edinburgh Process/ Declaration to post-2020 GBF



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NBS & entrepreneurship

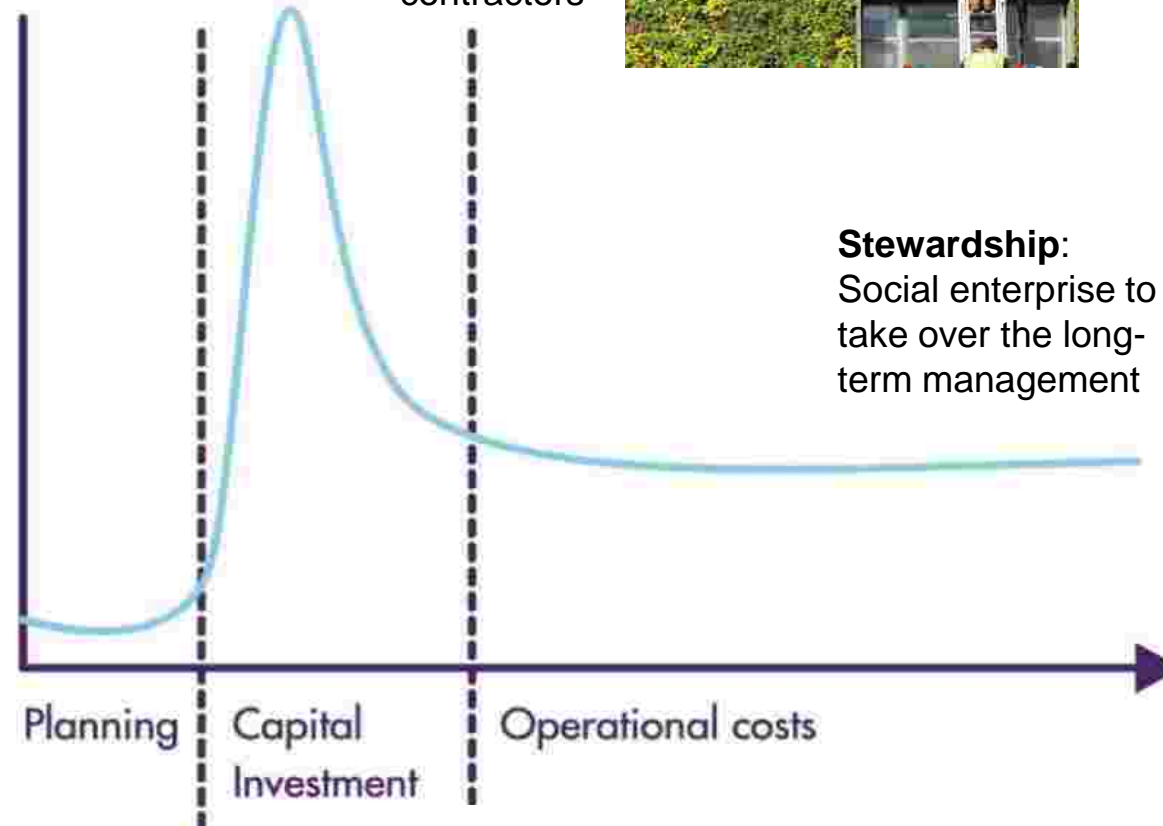


Planning:
Landscape
architects &
biodiversity
experts

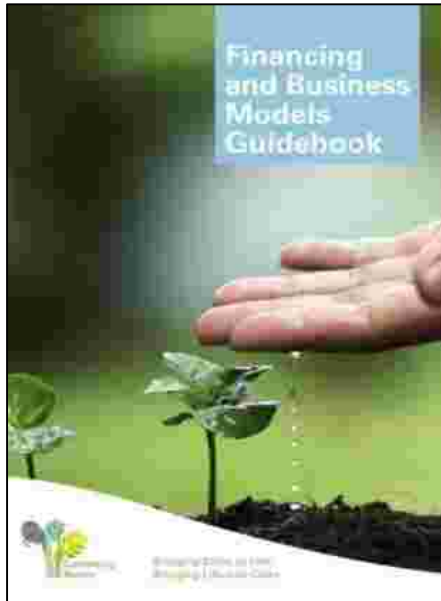
Delivery:
Specialised
horticultural
contractors



Stewardship:
Social enterprise to
take over the long-
term management



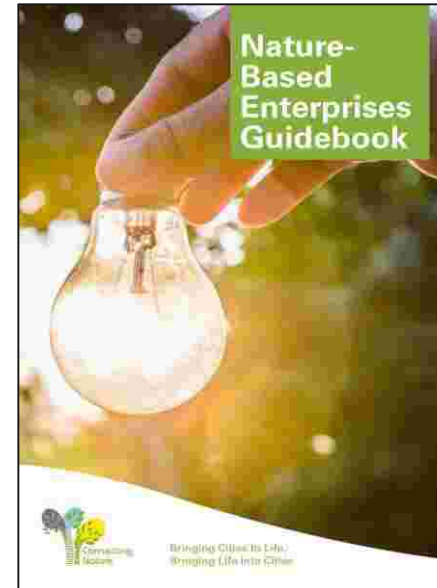
NBS Financing & Entrepreneurship strategies



Step 1: Securing a solid support base for NBS

Step 2: Planning sustainable business models and financing for NBS

Step 3: Secure funding



Step 1: Awareness & Alignment

Step 2: Strategic Alliances

Step 3: Specific support programme



Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform

The world's biggest
community for
nature-based enterprises



<https://www.naturebasedenterprise.eu/>

Our Communities



Community Engagement



Nature-Based Organisations



NBS for Green Buildings



NBS for Health and Wellbeing



NBS for Tourism and Recreation



NBS for Urban Landscapes



NBS for Water Management



Smart Technologies for NBS



Sustainable Agriculture & Food Chain

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Sustaining knowledge beyond Connecting Nature via Connecting Nature Enterprise Platform



Nature-Based Organisations

Finance & Entrepreneurship

Creating a NBE pitch (10/3/22)
Public-private financing (Jan 23)

Technical solutions & Impact

Ecological NBS design (19/1/22)
Introducing CO-Impact (Sept 2022)

CN Framework & Reflexive Monitoring

Uptake of CN Framework via UbN in South America (Mar 23 with Clever Cities)
Reflexive Monitoring (May 2023)

Governance & Co-production

Co-production (17/5/2022)
Co-creating Urban Wellbeing Plans (Nov 2022 with GoGreenRoutes)

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Siobhan McQuaid, Esmee Kooijman, Daniela Rizzi, Thomas Andersson, Joanne Schanté

Contributions from 17 NBS projects:



And 178 respondents to the public consultation!

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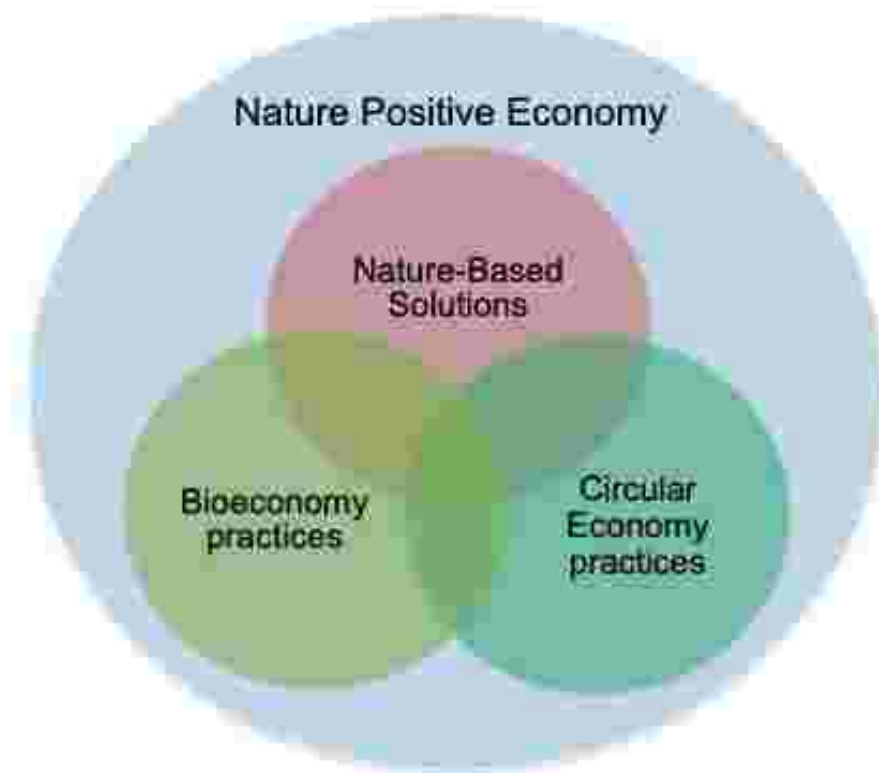


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1.2 Nature Positive Economy

"A nature positive economy is one in which businesses, governments and others, take action at scale to reduce and remove the drivers and pressures fuelling the degradation of nature, and work to actively improve the state of nature and the ecosystem services it provides."

University of Cambridge,
Institute for Sustainability Leadership



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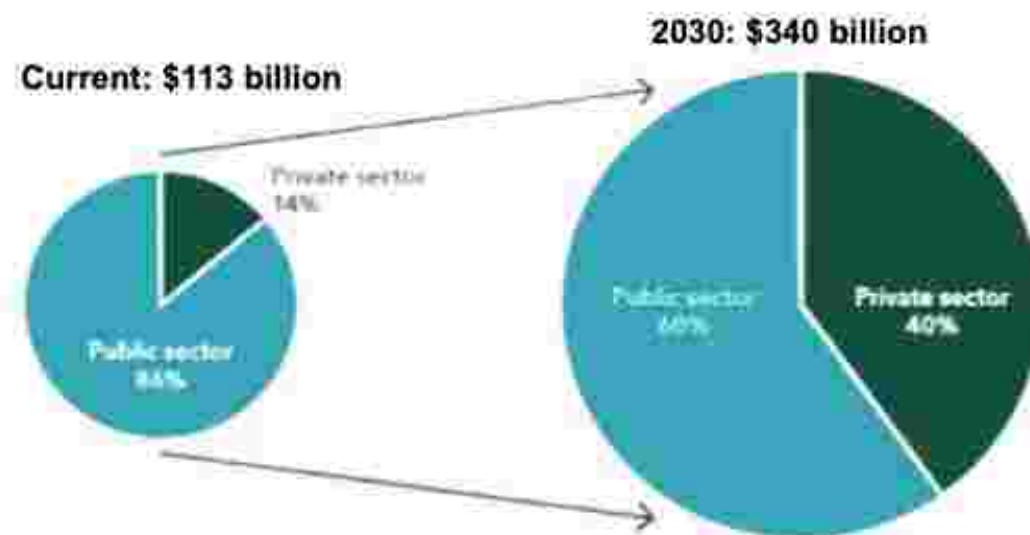
THE VITAL ROLE OF NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IN A NATURE POSITIVE ECONOMY



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2.1 NBS Market – Demand & Investment

- Growing demand for NBS to meet climate and biodiversity targets.
- Need to increase private sector investment in NBS.
- This in turn will fuel private sector supply of NBS.
- Different types of NBS at different stages of maturity and investment-readiness.



Source: Adapted from UNEP State of Finance for Nature, 2021 and White Paper on Nature-Based Economy, 2022

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2.2 NBS Market – Supply

Nature-Based Enterprises (NBEs) are driven by a mission to work with and for nature to address climate change and biodiversity challenges. They are engaged in economic activities, for example:



Water
Management



Green
Buildings



Sustainable
Agriculture



Sustainable
Forestry



Smart Tech



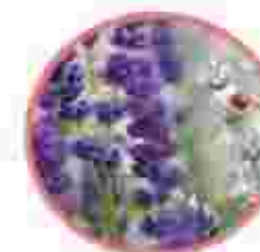
Ecosystem Restoration
& Management



Sustainable Tourism,
Health & Wellbeing



NBS for Public
Spaces



Advisory Services,
Finance



Community
Engagement

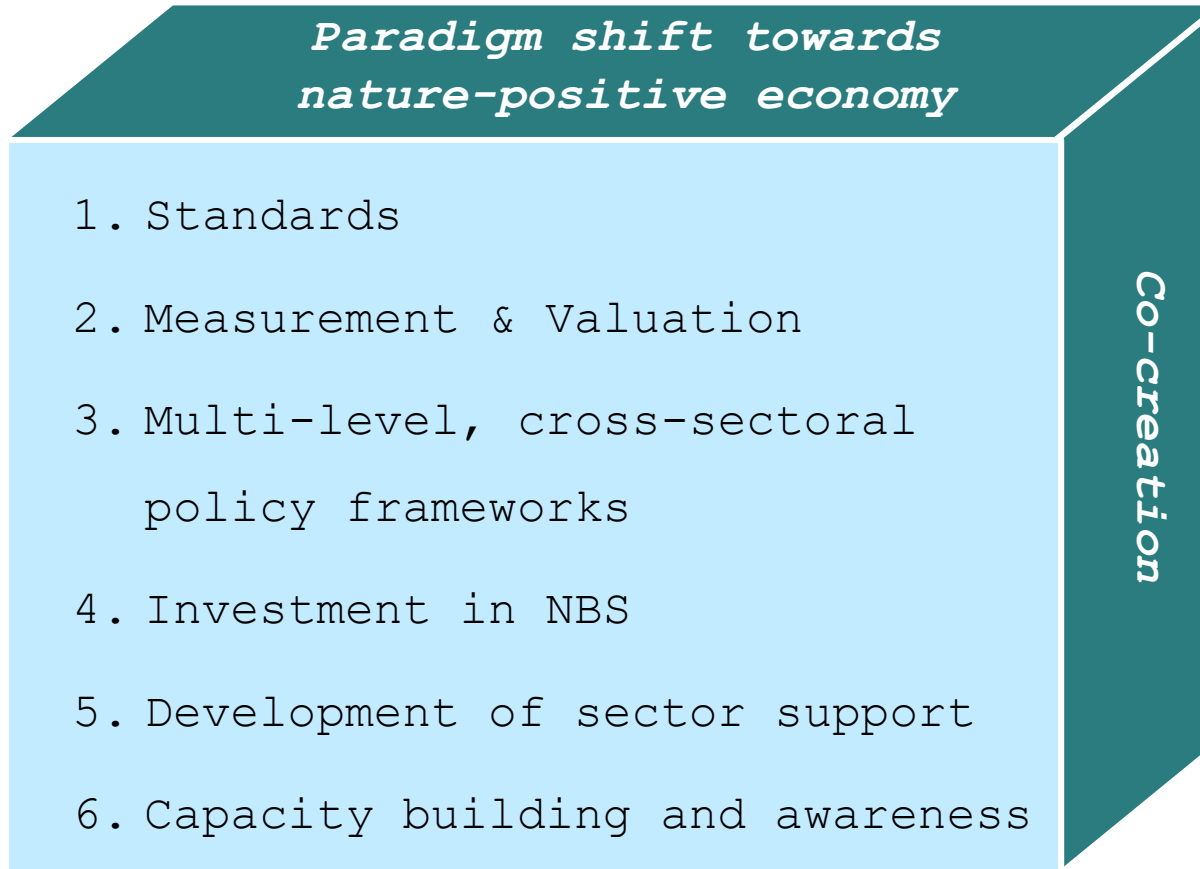
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Key Issues & Recommendations



- Policy makers (international vs. national, regional, local)
- Public sector professionals
- Civil society / NGOs
- Corporates, NBE, industry bodies
- Investors, financial institutions
- Researchers
- Other stakeholders



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Take home messages

- Need for a paradigm shift in economic thinking and policy – switch KPIs to prioritise environmental and social impact first while simultaneously achieving conventional economic goals (jobs etc)
- Nature-based solutions (and nature-based enterprises!) have the potential to drive the transition towards a nature positive economy and need to be supported and promoted.
- Large scale investment in NBS presents a significant - but largely unexplored - potential to deliver a viable route to a nature positive economy.
- This transition must equally value communities, culture, and traditions and above all, lead to the restoration of nature and biodiversity.

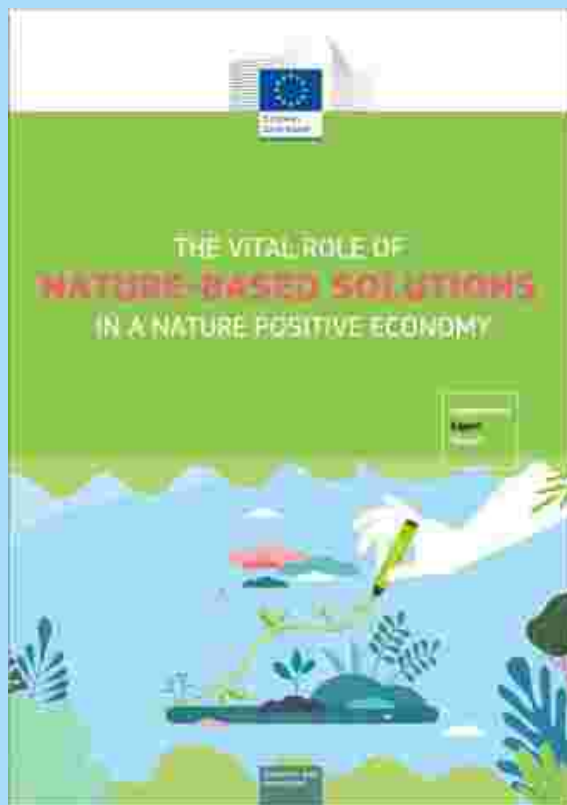
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|------------|--|
| June 16/17 | URBiNAT conference, Milan |
| June 20 | Green Economy Exchange Forum, Berlin, GIZ |
| June 21/22 | Working Group of the CBD 4 & Leaders Pledge |
| July 7 | for Nature
Cyprus Institute Climate Change Meda & Middle East |
| Sept 7/8 | UNaLAB closing event, Eindhoven |
| Sept 21 | NBE concept and the links to/potential for standards development in CEN/TC 465 |
| Sept 26 | SCC2/Network Nature Policy Event, Brussels |