

Urban Nature Program Resources



| Title | Type | Short Description | Org. | Date | Link | Region | Language |
|---|---------------------|--|------------|-----------|----------------------|--------|----------|
| Regional City Academy in Asia | Workshop / training | The upcoming Regional City Academy will focus on green and resilient urban infrastructure and the unique needs of Asian cities, where rapid urbanization has presented opportunities and challenges. Cities across Asia face significant climate risks, urban flooding, and resource constraints, while also striving to transition toward low-carbon and resilient growth. This Academy will provide a platform for city leaders to share experiences and co-develop strategies for achieving resilient, low-carbon, and inclusive urban development. We will share the PPTs and other related information after the meeting. | World Bank | 12-May-25 | Link | Asia | English |
| Financing Climate Adaptation and Nature-Based Infrastructure | Publication | This report assesses opportunities to increase private sector participation and financing for climate adaptation and nature-based infrastructure in Emerging and Developing Economies (EMDEs). Climate change is intensifying hydrological variability, coastal storms, and heatwaves, and these effects are anticipated to intensify as global temperatures continue to rise in the coming decades. The impacts of climate change will be felt hardest in EMDEs, which are structurally the most vulnerable to climate change. These climate trends are also combining with economic and population growth to drive unprecedented impacts on nature, including biodiversity, ecosystems, and the services they provide. | World Bank | 5-May-25 | Link | World | English |
| Financing Climate Adaptation and Nature-Based Infrastructure | Publication | This report assesses opportunities to increase private sector participation and financing for climate adaptation and nature-based infrastructure in Emerging and Developing Economies (EMDEs). Climate change is intensifying hydrological variability, coastal storms, and heatwaves, and these effects are anticipated to intensify as global temperatures continue to rise in the coming decades. The impacts of climate change will be felt hardest in EMDEs, which are structurally the most vulnerable to climate change. These climate trends are also combining with economic and population growth to drive unprecedented impacts on nature, including biodiversity, ecosystems, and the services they provide. | World Bank | 14-Apr-25 | Link | World | English |
| NBS World Bank Projects Database | Database | In many vulnerable regions, harnessing the power of nature is a promising and cost-effective strategy to strengthen climate resilience while fostering shared social and economic prosperity. The World Bank and Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) are scaling up the integration of nature-based solutions to climate challenges to help countries build resilience. Check out NBS projects in the database for more resources. | World Bank | 1-Jan-25 | Link | World | English |

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| Compendium for City Good Practice Series: How Paris Is Leveraging Nature For Climate Resilience | Publication | This report, as part of the Compendium for City Good Practice series, highlights Paris's innovative approach to climate resilience through the strategic integration of nature into urban environments. It offers a comprehensive overview of Paris's strategy on urban nature, showcasing how the city is integrating biodiversity into planning, leveraging green spaces, biodiversity corridors, and sustainable landscaping to mitigate the impacts of climate change. The report serves as a valuable resource for cities worldwide seeking to emulate Paris's successful model of nature-driven urban planning. | World Bank | 1-Nov-24 | Link | Paris | English |
| Biodiversity Finance Metrics for Impact Reporting | Publication | This supplement to IFC's Biodiversity Finance Reference Guide is designed to provide expanded guidance on impact reporting for eligible biodiversity finance activities. The guide builds on established recommendations outlined in the International Capital Market Association's (ICMA's) Green Bond Principles and in the Green Loan Principles to provide indicative investment activities and project components eligible for biodiversity finance. | IFC | 1-Oct-24 | Link | World | English |
| The Nature-Based Solutions Opportunity Scan | Toolkit | The Nature-Based Solutions Opportunity Scan (NBSOS) is a tool designed for World Bank operations by the Global Program on Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Resilience (GPNBS) of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). In about 6 weeks, NBSOS provides investment opportunities in nature-based solutions to reduce disaster risk and to build climate resilience. As the starting point for an investment plan, NBSOS results help the World Bank engage governments and stakeholders and to inform feasibility studies, design, and implementation. | World Bank | 17-Jun-24 | Link | World | English |
| Nature-Based Solutions in Cities: Solutions and Examples for Municipalities and the Private Sector | Presentation | This catalogue is a summary of an extensive and in-depth technical Catalogue of Nature-based Solutions for Urban Resilience developed and financed by the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery at the World Bank. 1 The aim of this abridged version is to raise general awareness of where nature-based solutions, which are still new in the market, can be integrated into urban settings. This catalogue targets municipalities and the private sector to help identify opportunities and possible projects for implementing urban nature-based solutions. | IFC | 1-Jun-24 | Link | World | English |

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| Catalogue of Nature-Based Solutions for Infrastructure Projects | Presentation | This catalogue provides examples of nature-based solutions that private infrastructure companies can integrate into their core business operations and articulates the business case for doing so. Many examples rely on ecosystem services, while others present opportunities to complement the design of gray infrastructure to benefit nature and people. In both cases, the intent of the catalogue is to raise the awareness of the business benefits of nature-based solutions and start the conversation with infrastructure companies to identify opportunities and possible projects. The catalogue will evolve over time as the market for nature-based solutions for infrastructure projects develops and matures. | IFC | 1-Jun-24 | Link | World | English |
| Integrating Gender and Social Inclusion in Nature-Based Solutions | Publication | The goal of this note is to provide guidance on gender and social inclusion in NBS. Specifically, the note presents factors for consideration in NBS projects from the early stages of project conceptualization through the project design and implementation process. It is intended to help World Bank staff working on operations involving NBS, as well as governments and other development officials trying to design and implement inclusive NBS. It is also designed to contribute to the literature on NBS, because it provides insights, lessons, and case studies from the World Bank-financed NBS portfolio and other sources | World Bank | 1-Jun-23 | Link | World | English |
| Biodiversity Finance Reference Guide | Publication | IFC's Biodiversity Finance Reference Guide provides a structured approach for investors and financiers to identify eligible use of proceeds that constitute biodiversity finance. Building on the Green Bond Principles and the Green Loan Principles, the Guide provides an indicative list of investment projects, activities, and components that help protect, maintain, or enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as promote the sustainable management of natural resources. The Guide also maps the indicative investment activities' contribution to the targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. | IFC | 15-May-23 | Link | World | English, Chinese, Spanish, French, Portuguese |
| Piloting Nature-based Solutions for Urban Cooling | Publication | Cities face rising temperatures, making urban cooling a key resilience challenge. While air conditioning remains the dominant solution, nature-based approaches and urban design strategies are underutilized. These include integrating green and water features, optimizing wind flows, and enhancing solar reflectivity in urban surfaces. To explore these solutions, the World Bank, in partnership with Guangzhou's planning authorities, conducted three pilot projects to test nature-based and urban design interventions for cooling cities. | World Bank | 28-Dec-22 | Link | China | English |

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| Ending Global Sprawl: Urban Standards for Sustainable and Resilient Development | Publication | The cities we build in the next two generations will shape our social, economic, and environmental future, influencing key challenges like climate change, inequality, and infrastructure costs. With urban populations rising from 4.3 billion to 6.7 billion by 2050, current global sprawl patterns—especially in lower-income cities—exacerbate inequalities, increase infrastructure costs, and harm ecosystems. However, an alternative urban approach, guided by the seven principles detailed in this book, can foster economic opportunities, social integration, and ecological health while mitigating the negative impacts of sprawl. | World Bank | 22-Nov-22 | Link | World | English |
| A Catalogue of Nature-Based Solutions for Urban Resilience | Publication | The catalogue of Nature-based solutions for urban resilience has been developed as a guidance document to support the growing demand for NBS by enabling an initial identification of potential investments in nature-based solutions. The document is structured as follows: Chapter 2 describes generic principles for integrating NBS into urban environments. Chapter 3 provides a reader's guide and holds the Catalogue of the fourteen NBS families. | World Bank | 8-Nov-21 | Link | World | English |
| Urban Nature and Biodiversity for Cities. Policy Brief | Publication | One important way for urban leaders to rise to today's challenges is to bring biodiversity and nature into urban design through urban ecological planning. Such planning recognizes that cities depend on biodiversity and that biodiversity depends on cities. Ecological planning not only illuminates the linkages between urbanization and biodiversity, but also helps integrate this understanding into urban planning, strategy, and investment. We have the knowledge, data, tools, and approaches to direct investment in nature to solve many different types of urban problems. Using these approaches today will help cities of the future become more sustainable, livable, resilient, and equitable. | World Bank | 22-Sep-21 | Link | World | English |
| Primer for Cool Cities: Reducing Excessive Urban Heat – With a Focus on Passive Measures | Publication | Cities are getting hotter as a result of growing urbanization and global climate change. The negative impacts of temperature increases are significant and touch nearly every aspect of urban life. Protecting populations from extreme heat is one of the key resiliency and sustainability challenges of the twenty-first century. Successfully implementing measures to cool cities will lead to many benefits, including for health, well-being, productivity, air quality, and energy systems. Urban cooling solutions can be deployed in the short term to help mitigate the risk of rising urban air temperatures. This primer and its companion report, Cool City Case Studies: Reducing Urban Heat, provide practical, actionable guidance and examples for implementers, policy makers, and planners tasked with mitigating urban heat impacts. | World Bank | 19-Feb-21 | Link | World | English |

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| Natural Asset and Biodiversity Valuation in Cities | Publication | Cities are increasingly recognizing the role of the natural environment in shaping healthy and livable places that enhance human capital and urban resilience. This paper shares how cities are using innovative approaches for policy making and planning to account for natural assets and to protect and enhance biodiversity. A range of policy options is provided together with a practical action plan for conducting assessments of natural assets in and around cities. With this information, cities can holistically assess, plan, create, and maintain natural assets to leverage their value for residents' wellbeing. | World Bank | 1-Jun-19 | Link | World | English |
| Natural Asset and Biodiversity Valuation in Cities [Conference Edition] | Publication | Cities are increasingly recognizing the role of the natural environment in shaping healthy and livable places that enhance human capital and urban resilience. This paper shares how cities are using innovative approaches for policy making and planning to account for natural assets and to protect and enhance biodiversity. A range of policy options is provided together with a practical action plan for conducting assessments of natural assets in and around cities. With this information, cities can holistically assess, plan, create, and maintain natural assets to leverage their value for residents' wellbeing. | World Bank | 1-Jun-19 | Link | World | English |