Theme 5:
Urban Growth & Environmental Stewardship

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The challenge of urbanisation
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• Rapid urbanisation – natural growth and migration
• Young population – demographic dividend
• Unemployed population – future of work? New economy?
• Legacy of extractivism – new economies & beneficiation?
• Informal settlements & economies – legitimate or shunned – how are these systems ‘formalised’ or legitimised by the city
• Circular migration – temporary jobs; questions of ownership and urban investment vs. remittances to ‘rural’ home.
• Service delivery & infrastructure development challenges – and opportunities
• Socio-technical leapfrogging – the opportunity to skip tech, learn from other cities and avoid lock-in to expensive/polluting/unsustainable systems.
• Digital Leapfrogging – ICT reshaping urban economies & distribution
• Encroachment of built area into natural environments?
Why Urban Nature?
What are the benefits?
Nature’s benefits: **provisioning services** – products from ecosystems
Nature’s benefits: regulating services – air quality maintenance & climate regulation
Nature’s benefits: **regulating services** – water purification
Nature’s benefits: **regulating services** – storm protection
Nature’s benefits: **habitat and genetic diversity** – intrinsic & functional value
Nature’s benefits: **cultural services** – eco-tourism & sense of place
Nature’s benefits: **cultural services** – recreation and sense of space
Physical – Psychological Well-being from nature’s benefits
How do we re-embed nature in our human settlements?
Two peer-to-peer platforms for learning about and reincorporating urban nature

Cities4Forests

CitiesWithNature
Cities 4 Forests

**Inner Forests**
- Clean air
- Shade from sun
- Urban wildlife
- Higher property values
- Recreation

**Nearby Forests**
- Clean air
- Drinking water
- Reduced flooding
- Reduced soil erosion
- Timber
- Recreation

**Faraway Forests**
- Carbon storage
- Rainfall generation
- Timber
- Medicine
- Biodiversity

**Sustainable Projects**

1. Clean Water and Sanitation
2. Sustainable Cities and Communities
3. Climate Action
4. Life on Land
What is on offer to partners in the Cities4Forests Network?

1. Access to technical assistance
2. Public engagement campaigns
3. A peer-to-peer exchange network
INNER FORESTS OFFERS

- Making the case for urban trees (tools, metrics for valuing trees)
- Special support and/or discrete projects for major opportunities
- Experience sharing/peer visits/study tours between C4F cities focused on urban forests
- Building trees/forests into urban infrastructure planning, investment, and governance structures
- Financing models and financing for urban forests and green infrastructure
NEARBY FOREST OFFERS

- Guidance on how to consider the science and conduct economic analyses
- Special support and/or discrete projects for major opportunities
- Peer-to-peer visits and learning exchanges for source water protection
- Guidance on building partnerships and governance structures (e.g., with water utilities, downstream companies)
- Business models and financing approaches for nearby forests and natural infrastructure
FARAWAY FOREST OFFERS

• Guidance in establishing “deforestation-free” procurement policies and plans
• Exposure to a “sister forest” program, where urban residents can participate in programs designed for mutual benefit and engagement.
• Assistance in helping cities meet their carbon commitments through sourcing sustainably certified, forest-based carbon credits.
Cities4Forests Declaration:

“Because urban areas are increasingly where people live and work, the public policies and procurement practices of cities—as well as the values, votes, and consumption patterns of residents—have enormous potential to support the conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of forests.”

“With our varying mandates and capabilities, collectively we commit to doing our part to achieving the following outcomes:”

- Understand
- Engage
- Innovate and Act
- Progress
- Share
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REGISTRY

More than 50 CitiesWithNature Pioneers committed to taking action for nature
Cities will be guided on a journey of exploration and inspiration, sharing with and learning from other cities.

Tools from leading global organizations, as well as cities, will be integrated along the Pathway.
PHASE 1: ANALYZE > STEP 1. COMMIT & MOBILIZE >

1.1 SECURE INITIAL COMMITMENT: < 1 2 3 >

Our city has made a political commitment to being a ‘city with nature’.

**YES**

Share & Inspire Others

**NOT YET**

Learn from Others

There are various ways in which your city can show its commitment, from setting declarations, such as the Durban Commitment to formulating a vision. Useful tools and examples include:

**TOOLS:**

- CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development (Part B, Chapter 2)
- ICLEI CBC Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan Guidelines
- ICLEI CBC Wetland Strategy and Action Plan Guidelines

**EXAMPLES:**

- City of Cape Town Environmental Resource Management Department – Biodiversity Management Branch Strategic Plan 2009 – 2019
- City of Melbourne: Nature in the City Strategy

Please upload:

Official document(s) and/or statements by the Mayor and/or Council committing your city as a ‘city with nature’.

Your city’s vision statement which includes a commitment to nature.

Please use this block for sharing links to relevant videos and articles.

*By uploading this information, you affirm that you have the right to do so and agree that it will appear on your City’s profile page.*
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Selection of tools
Wallasea Island Wild Coast project

Wallasea: On the east coast of England
Aim: to combat the threats from climate change and coastal flooding by removing the sea wall and restoring 133ha mudflat, 29ha lagoons, 276ha salt marsh, 109ha coastal grazing marsh, 53ha saline lagoons, 15ha of rotational arable fields.
Wallasea Island Wild Coast project

• **Costs:**
  Physical implementation works of around £17.5m. Future work (possibly costing £12m. or more) to deliver and manage habitats. Management and administration activities are estimated to be on the order of £190,000 annually.

• **Benefits:**
  ✓ Carbon sequestration £1.7 million over the next 50 years;
  ✓ Avoided expenditures for flood defence infrastructure over 10 years (ca. £5 – £10 million) and from the avoided loss of built assets on Wallasea worth £3.1 million under moderate flood event scenarios;
  ✓ 16.6 net jobs created in the local economy and up to 20.9 in the wider region over a 10-year period.
There is an Economic Case to be made to Protect Forests and Reap Downstream Benefits

Natural Infrastructure in São Paulo's Water System, finds that restoring 4,000 hectares (nearly 10,000 acres) of forests could reduce sediment pollution by 36% within 30 years, reducing turbidity by almost half and potentially boosting water supply when it's most scarce. All it takes is planting trees in the right places.
And innovative financing is available to work on these projects
The Power of Mutually Beneficial Exchange Should not be Underestimated

The spread of shothole borer beetles in South Africa is proving tough to control

November 2, 2018 4.46pm SAST

Can the Los Angeles We Know Survive the Death of Its Trees?

L.A.'s 6 million trees keep us healthy—and they are all in jeopardy

By Brandon R. Reynolds - November 6, 2018
Thank you!

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