

Nature Based Solutions: A concept with many different approaches

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## Ecosystems perform multiple roles and functions

Coastal defence

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Flood regulation Water purification

Fisheries, livelihood provision

Water conveyance and navigation/Cultural Services

Carbon sequestratior Coastal defence

Water provision

Water storage

## What are nature-based solutions?



IUCN defines nature-based solutions as: "actions to protect, sustainably manage and restore natural or modified ecosystems that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human wellbeing and biodiversity benefits"

(e.g. climate change, food and water security or natural disasters)

NbS are often described as 'no-regret' options, providing benefits to people in a range of scenarios



## **Growing business interest in NBS**





CN Water



# Hybrid approaches, utilizing a combination of natural and grey solutions



#### Natural infrastructure

#### Grey infrastructure

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE

### Achieving Scale – demonstrating 'no regret' investment

- Clear development relevance through integrated approaches which optimise natural system efficiencies
- Using trade-offs to blend /combine portfolios of NBS & grey/built approaches for a range of solutions across scales
- 'Offer' investment options & cost effectiveness
- Leveraging multiple benefits & co-benefits
- Social acceptance of NBS in contexts where conventional engineered approaches prevail



#### **Restoring Land Health**



**24% of Bonn Challenge** target has been brought into restoration in Quintana Roo, Mexico.

To date, restoration pledges of 170 million hectares have been successfully secured

In Rwanda, 0.7m ha of a 2m ha pledge is currently under restoration with est. CO<sub>2</sub> removal of 11,359 tonnes & creation of >22,000 jobs (incld. 48% women) since 2011



#### Land Degradation Neutrality



### 75 countries established LDN targets and response plans under UNCCD

- 17million km2 identified for restoration & sustainable land management
- 600 million direct beneficiaries
- US\$ 550m leveraged for response measures to date





## Today, more than half of the world's people live in cities use nearly 80% of the world's resources.

"The link between social well-being, mental health and green cities is very strong, we need to use this data more effectively in our efforts on promoting nature-based solutions"



Infographic 'what can green space do' © Scottish Green Infrastructure Forum



- In Manchester, it has been estimated £150million/year is saved in healthcare costs related to mental health and physical benefits thanks to access to green spaces
- In Wuhan: the city is using a variety of interventions applying nature-based solutions to deal with water management for flood protection and management





#### **Blue Natural Capital Financing Facility**

To deliver a material increase in private, return-seeking investment in conservation, thereby generating a substantial increase in natural capital

Businesses and projects combining profits with benefits for nature come in many shapes and sizes. Each has different hurdles to overcome.

#### Standardise, replicate and aggregate



About 15 blueprints for deals across 5 sectors About 50 deals in pipeline

- First blended finance facility for conservation projects
- Focused on CPIC deals
- 2 M USD from Rockefeller Foundation grant support to project developers
- 8M USD from GEF Concessional finance (loans/ equity)
- **Three years deal development** De-risking for private finance investment (30-60 M USD)





## **Global Standard on NBS**

**1:** Address societal challenges

**2:** Scale NBS design and intervention

**3:** Focus on net benefits to biodiversity and ecosystem integrity

**4: Ensure s**olutions economically and financially viable

**5:** Empower inclusive and transparent governance

6: Balance trade-offs to achieve primary goal and provide multiple benefits

7: Management is adaptive and evidence based

8: Mainstreamed focus beyond time bound interventions







## **Challenges and Opportunities**

- Systemic change needs scale-ability over time To maximise impact needs time, continued mgmt., budget, and better alignment between agencies. Many blocks need removing.
- Complementarity is Key

There are transaction costs, hence complementary and collaborative approaches are needed – restoration working with agriculture, and insurance schemes and hydrological monitoring.

Weak Policy to Practice Arena

Commitment – yet policy reform and connections are far behind. Practical skills are behind - but growing. Education and training needs are high, standard approaches needed.

Investment



#### Thank You for listening today

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