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**ALL HANDS MEETING
FEBRUARY 22 - 26, 2021**





NATURA

**NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS
FOR URBAN RESILIENCE IN
THE ANTHROPOCENE**

**ALL HANDS MEETING
FEBRUARY 22 - 26, 2021**

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NATURA ALL-HANDS MEETING 2021



OVERVIEW

NATURA's second Virtual All-Hands Meeting took place within The Nature of Cities (TNOC) Festival on February 22-26, 2021!

NATURA was a co-sponsor of this festival which included programming across five regional time zones, and was provided in multiple languages. The festival focused on facilitating transdisciplinary dialogue, small group workshops, arts engagement, and fostering a collaborative spirit around solutions for our urban futures. NATURA members, and included a "meeting within a meeting" for NATURA thematic working groups, regional nodes, and early-career network to touch base, but also to showcase work being done across NATURA networks to the larger urban research and practice community.

IMPACT & REACH

Over 2,300 people from 72 countries were involved with the Festival, according to TNOC reporting. In total, they held 18 plenaries which included a number of keynotes, art and 180 seed sessions and field trips.

NATURA members contributed to 45 events within our AHM-TNOC Festival in total. Approximately 65% of known NATURA members participate and we engaged with about 27 of our partner networks!

2 KEYNOTES

Festival wide presentations from NATURA Leadership and Coordinating Committee.

2 FIELD TRIPS

Live-narrated video of an actual walk. The audience watched the video with the trip leader and discussed what they saw. This was the next best thing to being there!

7 DIALOGUES

Short talks and conversation among 3-4 thought-leaders in various disciplines. Keynotes from diverse points of view.

4 CONVERSATIONS

Mutual interviews between 2-3 people. A more laid back format where there are no presentations.

25 SESSIONS

Small interactive workshops that explore an idea or project, or direct actions in cities.

5 MEETINGS

Short gatherings to either kick-off or wrap of the event.

TAKEAWAYS AND SUMMARY OF EVENTS

NATURA addresses five key knowledge gaps:

1. Synergistic benefits of **bundles of NBS** for urban resilience
2. Role of **social-cultural (S)** context in NBS outcomes
3. Role of **ecological-biophysical (E)** context
4. Role of **technological-infrastructural (T)** context
5. Role of **SETS interactions** in NBS outcomes

NATURA
Nature-based Solutions for Urban Resilience the Anthropocene
natura-net.org | @natura_project

Timon McPhearson

Screenshot of presentation from the first NATURA Kick Off Meeting led by NATURA Co-Director Timon McPhearson

DAY 1 | MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Kick-Off Meeting

Organizers: NATURA Network Planning Committee

In this event kick-off meeting, NATURA Co-Director, Timon McPhearson, kicked off the week of exciting NATURA events by leading reviewing the event agenda and discussing projections for NATURA's future.

Seed Session | The Changing Form of Nature: A Multi-sensory Exploration of Our Connection to Nature

Organizers: Tadhg MacIntyre, Cassie Murphy, Giovanna Calogiuri, Evi Petersen, Elaine Gallagher

Three themes were explored: 1. Digital Nature vs Authentic Nature Experiences 2. Virtual vs Augmented Nature 3. Urban Nature vs Wilderness. We will use examples (eg. video, drawing) to prompt, probe and provoke reactions to create a backdrop to the emerging discourse.

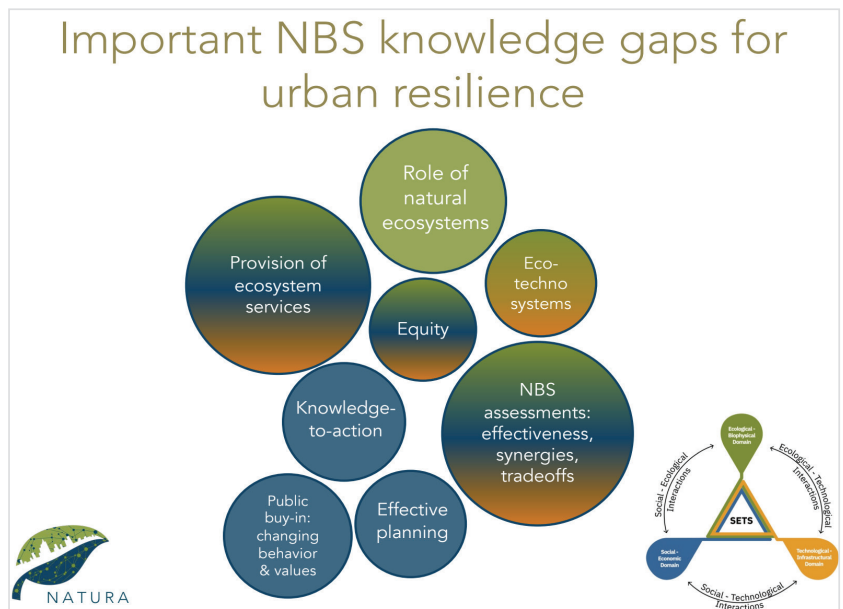


Screenshot of presentation from Seed Session, The Changing Form of Nature

Keynote | Building urban resilience with nature-based solutions and a global network of networks by Elizabeth Cook

Keynote speaker: Elizabeth Cook

In this keynote, Elizabeth Cook discusses challenges that urban areas are facing today and how nature-based solutions may be the answer. Cook gave examples from around the world in which nature-based solutions enhance city resilience and explains what gaps exist in the NBS knowledge base for urban resilience. She tied the presentation together by summarizing what is needed to address these urban challenges.



Screenshot of presentation from Dr. Elizabeth Cook' Keynote Address

Dialogue | NATURA Regional Node Dialogue at The Nature of Cities Festival

Panel: Pippin Anderson (Africa Node), Erik Andersson (Europe Node), Nancy Grimm (North America Node), Jordi Morato (Latin America Node), Yeowon Kim (Asia-Pacific Node)

Moderator: Elizabeth Cook

In this dialogue, NATURA Regional Node representatives discussed the topic of a global roadmap of NBS with a guiding question of– why do we need a roadmap? NBS is moving beyond the new buzzword

to becoming the locus of massive scale of investments. However, recent reviews on NBS show that available literature and thus transferable knowledge is dominated by the global north. At the same time, it is clear that implementing NBS requires local knowledge to adapt to local SETS context. It seems there is a clear gap in bringing local knowledge, challenges, and cases of success to regional and global scale policymaking and investment in ways that can be shared and support mainstreaming of NBS for impact.

Dialogue | NATURA Thematic Working Group Dialogue at the All-Hands Meeting

Panel: Thomas Elmqvist (Urban Nature TWG), Chingwen Cheng (Design for Justice TWG), Duván Hernán López (Urban Informality TWG), Jennifer Rae Pierce (Global to Local TWG)

Moderator: Marta Berbés-Blázquez (Nature-Based Pathways TWG)

In this session, NATURA’s five Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) came together to give the audience an overview of the exciting work that they are doing and answer some moderated questions. Discussion topics included how these TWGs contribute to the grand scheme of the future of cities, addressing potential gaps, and future TWG topics.



Screenshot of presentations from Thematic Working Group Dialogue

Seed Session | Integrating nature’s contributions to people into urban planning

Organizers: Anne Guerry and Eric Lonsdorf

This session contained a dialogue between ecosystem service scientists, urban planners, and municipal decision-makers to generate and improve approaches and tools that integrate nature’s contributions to people into the equitable design and re-design of cities.

Seed Session | Nature for Our Health

Organizer: Niki Frantzeskaki

This session looked at which messages we can bring to urban planning for designing and planning nature-in-cities from the perspective of improving health outcomes for urban citizens. This session brought together research from the three capital cities in Australia on this matter: Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne.

Key takeaways:

- Quality of urban parks not the quantity matters for healthy cities
- Access to urban parks can be a small step towards addressing health injustices in cities
- Access to urban green spaces improves well-being
- Shocks alter behavior and perceptions of people for using urban parks
- Urban parks were preferred gateways to other peri-urban nature areas during the pandemic
- Plan and design greening initiatives in cities considering day and night heat effects
- Every bit of green matters when dealing with heat stress in cities.

Kick-Off Meeting #2

Organizers: NATURA Network Planning Committee

In this event kick-off meeting, NATURA Co-Director, Nancy Grimm, kicked off the week of exciting NATURA events by leading reviewing the event agenda and discussing projections for NATURA's future.

NATURA links over 35 global networks to enhance connectivity among the nature-based solutions scholars and practitioners
[Globe view](#)

GLOBAL NETWORKS

NATURA Nature-based solutions for Urban Resilience in the Anthropocene

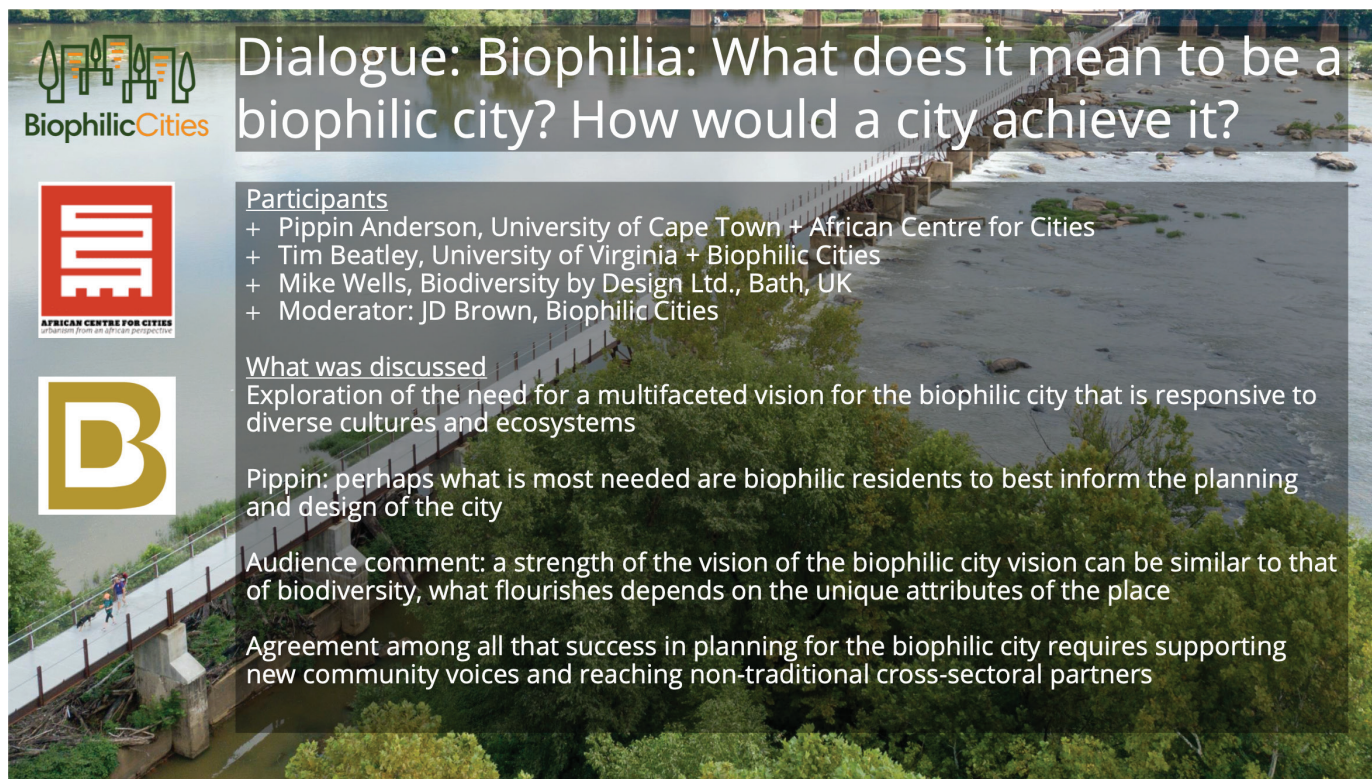
The slide displays a world map with several callout boxes containing logos of partner organizations and networks. These include: SMARTer Greener Cities, VIVA PLAN, ENABLE, eLTER, oppla, ReNature, TrainBS, USDN, The CREATE Initiative, natural capital, UWJN, Situm Cities, and ICLCI. A small video inset in the top right corner shows Nancy Grimm.

Screenshot of presentations from the 2nd NATURA Kick Off Meeting, led by NATURA Co-Director Nancy Grimm

Seed Session | Financing greener cities for the future we want

Organizer: Ingrid Coetzee

This session was centered around a discussion on innovative approaches that have been used to mobilize finance and investment in nature for cities in order to scale up the implementation of nature-based solutions. The session also showcased some examples of innovative approaches and solutions to securing finance for nature in cities.



Dialogue: Biophilia: What does it mean to be a biophilic city? How would a city achieve it?

Participants

- + Pippin Anderson, University of Cape Town + African Centre for Cities
- + Tim Beatley, University of Virginia + Biophilic Cities
- + Mike Wells, Biodiversity by Design Ltd., Bath, UK
- + Moderator: JD Brown, Biophilic Cities

What was discussed

Exploration of the need for a multifaceted vision for the biophilic city that is responsive to diverse cultures and ecosystems

Pippin: perhaps what is most needed are biophilic residents to best inform the planning and design of the city

Audience comment: a strength of the vision of the biophilic city vision can be similar to that of biodiversity, what flourishes depends on the unique attributes of the place

Agreement among all that success in planning for the biophilic city requires supporting new community voices and reaching non-traditional cross-sectoral partners

Screenshot of presentations from the Dialogue, Biophilia

Dialogue | Biophilia: what does it mean to be a biophilic city? How would a city achieve it?

Panel: Tim Beatley, Mike Wells, Pippin Anderson

Moderator: JD Brown

In this dialogue, panelists explored the need for a multifaceted vision for the biophilic city that is responsive to diverse cultures and ecosystems. The audience and panelists ultimately came to the same conclusion that success in planning for the biophilic city requires supporting new community voices and reaching nontraditional cross-sectoral partners.

Keynote | Global Insights and challenges on nature-based solutions for urban climate resilience

Keynote speaker: Timon McPhearson

Co-Organizer: Niki Frantzeskaki

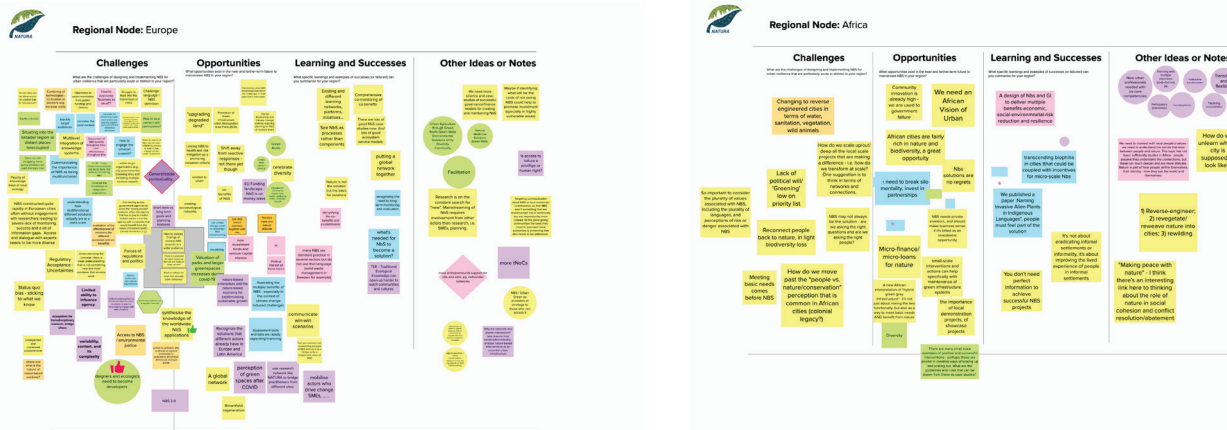
A synthesis of a recent global review of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) for urban resilience from experts on African, Indian, Chinese, Australian-New Zealand, Latin American, North American, and European cities. Timon presented 8 global challenges for NbS research, implementation, and governance and suggested three main pathways as opportunities to solve challenges and mainstream urban NbS



Seed Session | NBS Global Roadmap: Africa

Organizers: Pippin Anderson

In this session, the Africa Regional Node of the NATURA Network met up to discuss the potential Global Roadmap of NBS. This group dove into topics such as– challenges of designing and implementing NBS for urban resilience across different regions, opportunities to mainstream NBS, and specific successes and failures from each region. To keep track of ideas generated, groups utilized the Mural Board application.



Results of the Global Roadmap Mural Board Brainstorm Sessions (Viewable at natura-net.org)

Seed Session | NBS Global Roadmap: Europe

Organizers: Timon McPhearson, Erik Andersson, Christopher Raymond

In this session, the Europe Regional Node of the NATURA Network met up to discuss the potential Global Roadmap of NBS. This group began by reviewing some case studies (ex. SMARTer Greener Cities, VIVA-PLAN, + others). They then moved into breakout groups where they discussed the following: challenges of implementing and designing NBS for urban resilience specific to Europe, potential opportunities to mainstream NBS, successes and failures from the region, and existing knowledge gaps. To keep track of ideas generated, groups utilized the Mural Board application.

Seed Session | How do we improve the availability of evidence of the impact of NBS on health?

Organizers: Clair Cooper and Danielle MacCarthy

The seed session provided an overview of research that has examined the relationship between different types of Nature-based Solutions and different types of health indicators and data sources. The session included a lively, interesting and wide ranging discussion about how we can work together as ECRs and practitioners to design studies that could help improve the evidence base of the impact of health in different contexts.

Key points included:

- We are lacking knowledge of relationship between different health issues and different types of NBS across multiple scales.
- Data specific health issues e.g depression and anxiety is often missing or inaccessible due to confidentiality issues
- Data on negative public perceptions about nature (e.g. wild fire smoke) and environmental data also important to evaluate risks / disservices associated with NBS.

Seed Session | Reimagining the binational border: Tijuana River watershed

Organizers: Antonieta Peregrina, Carmen Romo

A total of five speakers presented a perspective of urban informality in the border city of Tijuana Baja California, Mexico. They also shared their experiences and described challenges in visualizing possible articulations for the application of NBS as a response to social innovation and resilience.



THEMATIC WORKING GROUP URBAN INFORMALITY AND INNOVATION FOR RESILIENT FUTURES

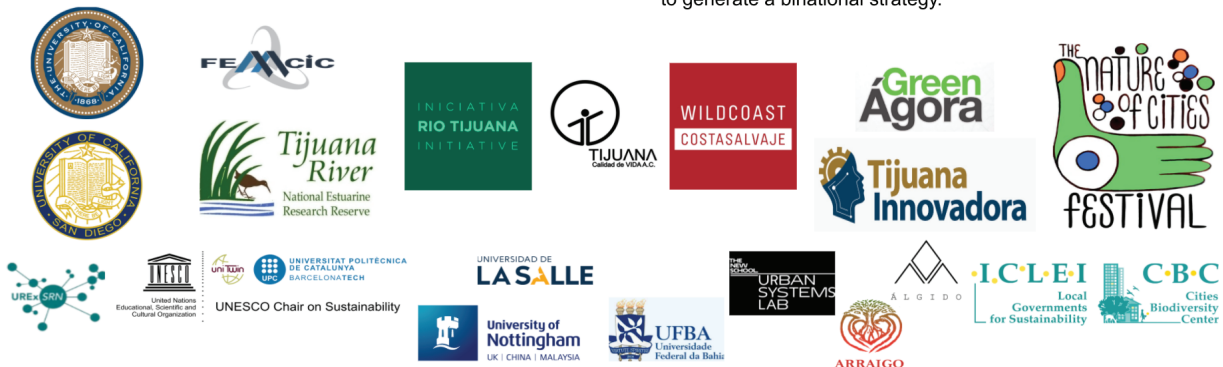


Reimagining the binational watershed

Voices on experiences and challenges of Urban Resilience

TIJUANA, B.C. MÉXICO - SAN DIEGO, CA. USA - 10 STAKEHOLDERS

5 speakers presented a context of the binational border Tijuana River watershed and their experiences and challenges in order to visualize possible articulations for the application of Nature-Based Solutions as a response to social innovation and resilience. By formulating the question: How do you reimagine the binational border watershed of the Tijuana River? 10 stakeholders answered and concluded the importance of participating collectively in a shared vision to generate a binational strategy.



Screen shot from Seed Session, Reimagining the binational border

Seed Session | Measuring Urban Nature Post-2020

Organizer: Jennifer Rae Pierce + the Global to Local NATURA TWG

In this session, participants discussed the project of the Global to Local NATURA Thematic Working group, which aims to increase coordination between global biodiversity targets (such as the Aichi Targets and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework) with local biodiversity plans. Organizers presented preliminary results of the research, which involved 45 local plans. They identified which Aichi Target themes were found in the local plans (most and least common are listed in order). Also during the seed session, they had an interactive discussion about what cities need to improve biodiversity planning, and the results are summarized in the last list on the slide.

Key takeaways:

- Assistance for low capacity cities
- Guidance on addressing tradeoffs
- Enforcement mechanisms
- Guidelines for public outreach

Seed Session | NBS Global Roadmap: Asia-Pacific

Organizers: Weiqi Zhou and Yeowon Kim

In this session, the Asia-Pacific Regional Node of the NATURA Network met up to discuss the potential Global Roadmap of NBS. This group began by discussing the following regional case studies: China by Dr. Weiqi Zhou, Research Center for Eco-Environmental Sciences, Sri Lanka by Dr. Parakrama Karunaratne, University of Peradeniya, Japan by Dr. Sadahisa KATO, Okayama University, Australia by Dr. Amy Hahs, The University of Melbourne, South Korea by Dr. Jongsoo Choi, Korea Land and Housing Corporation. They then moved into breakout groups where they had an open discussion on the following: challenges of implementing and designing NBS for urban resilience specific to Asia-Pacific, potential opportunities to mainstream NBS, successes and failures from the region, and existing knowledge gaps.

Seed Session | Gearing up for mainstreaming nature in cities

Organizers: Niki Frantzeskaki, Cathy Oke, Jonathan Kingsley, Hans Bokelund, Judy Bush, Maria Ignatieva, Laura Mumaw

In this session the audience heard insights from researchers, City of Melbourne planners, practitioners from The Nature Conservancy about ‘what transformations we need to bring nature in the agenda for cities?’.

Three take aways:

- We need to look closely on the transformations we need in urban planning especially for bridging the gap between aspirations and strategic priorities to ‘down-to-the-city’ plans and programs implemented
- We need to open up our understanding to the different solutions - nature-based solutions - available to be hybridised and located in cities, not to only look at one type of solutions to fit our cities and
- We need to build bridges and build on momentum to work collaboratively across sectors and transdisciplinarily with research and practice.

Seed Session | Small cities and nature-based solutions

Organizer: Dave Kendal

In this session, the group discussed how the nature of small cities can be different from large cities we so commonly hear about. Speaking from nipaluna Hobart, but also from experiences on the mainland and overseas.

Key takeaway:

- Small cities are diverse – and that research that is both place-based and generalisable is needed to generate actionable and useful evidence for small cities.
- The current evidence base is mostly generated in large cities, and focussed on the generalisable patterns that occur across (mostly large) cities.
- While some of this may be generalisable to small cities, small cities often have unique social, cultural, ecological and environmental contexts that 1) alter these general findings and patterns and 2) need place-based understanding to make meaningful findings about the role of urban nature

Seed Session | Adding the non-human other to human commoning and right livelihood in the city

Organizers: Rembrandt Zegers and Henkjan Laats

In this session, organizers presented on and discussed these three topics: how non-human others communicate all the time but not in human language, how humans have forgotten to include the voice of the non-human actors, and how city commons can revise well-being for both humans and renew our relationship with non-human actors. This discussion was followed by practical cases from the Netherlands (Czaar Peter neighborhood) and Westpark. To tie up the session, organizers and attendees used an interactive tool and redesigned Westpark from the perspective of the non-human actors.

“Adding the non-human other to human commoning and right livelihood in the city” (2)

historical, ecological site study tours to get inspirations for long-term design of the site

It should be allowed to become wild again and see what animals come back

Education, training, event space for public

We should consult animals to ask them how they want to be used! (without knives if possible)

to ask people in the neighbourhood what they want and integrate them in the process

tiny forest by Miyawaki method

Should we ask people who not use it how to make it more attractive (public values)

“60%” of daily food needs can be provide by own land/crops.

What about the politics?

I feel excited to get back to action

People invest private money in a shared land trust construction or do they rent the space?

s like planning the unplanned

TNOc Rembrandt Zegers, Henkjan Laats 24-2-2021

Screen shot from Seed Session, Adding the nonhuman other to human commoning

Field Trip | Exploring local nature-based graffiti in the Woodstock neighborhood in Cape Town: what’s there and why?

Organizer: Pippin Anderson

Seed Session | Early-Career Network: Nature-Based Solutions for Urban Resilience in the Anthropocene (NATURA)

Organizers: Yeowon Kim and Zbigniew Grabowski

Nature-based Solutions have emerged as a mainstream intervention for solving global challenges. However, NBS are defined variously by different academic disciplines, practitioner types, and cultural

contexts. This guided discussion explored the understandings of NBS, motivations, and the personal and professional challenges and opportunities for doing NBS-oriented work.

Seed Session | Equitable Access to High Quality Urban Nature

Organizers: JD Brown, Catherine Werner, Priya Tallam

Equitable access to nature is a critical priority for cities. Less common is a commitment to ensure urban nature is biodiverse. Through a combination of large and small group discussions, this session explored ways to define, and integrate to “high quality” urban nature.

Seed Session | Urban development intersections with nature and informality (intercontinental dialogue)

Organizers: Duván Hernán López, Antonieta Peregrina, Nadya Milena Rangel, Math Feagan, Carlos Agudelo

A panel of international practitioners on NBS provided a global perspective on urban informality using the city of Bogota, Colombia, as an example. They held a discussion about how different cities around the world address the intersection of urban development and informal dynamics, tracing parallels or differences.

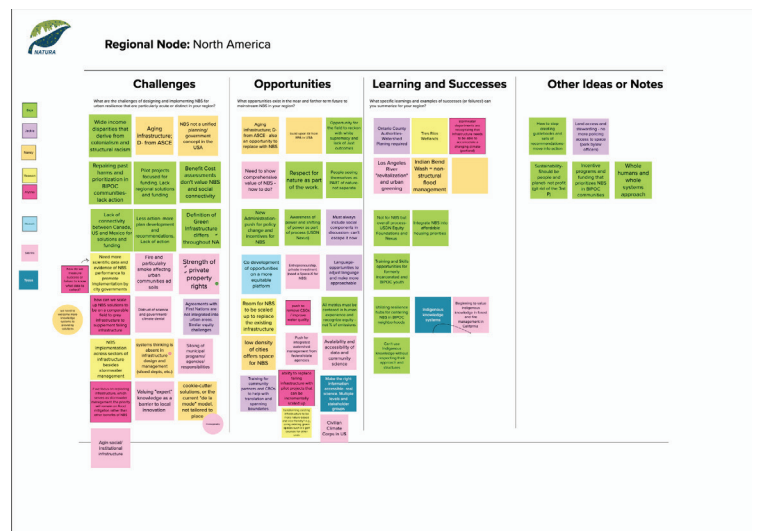
Questions on urban intersections with nature and informality:

- The volume of metabolic processes in cities that occur via formal/informal dynamics
- The decision making process that operates in the formal but seems to be presented as such, implying ethic and moral presuppositions
- The progressive role of women and the vision and vivencial experience that provides to shift the established contours that limit of recognized/unrecognized dynamics of the informal

Seed Session | NBS Global Roadmap: North America

Organizer: Nancy Grimm

In this session, the North America Regional Node of the NATURA Network met up to discuss the potential Global Roadmap of NBS. This group began by moving into breakout groups where they had an open discussion on the following: challenges of implementing and designing NBS for urban resilience specific to North America, potential opportunities to mainstream NBS, successes and failures from the region, and existing knowledge gaps. To keep track of ideas generated, groups utilized the Mural Board application.



Results of the Global Roadmap Mural Board Brainstorm Sessions (Viewable at natura-net.org)

Dialogue | What are the challenges and prospects for green urbanism in China today?

Organizers: Wemei Bai, Pengfei Xie, Weiqi Zhou, Moderated by Fish Yu

Seed Session | Transformative approaches for nature-based solutions in Australian cities

Organizer: Niki Frantzeskaki

In this session, ICLEI Oceania, Swinburne University (Niki) and strategic planners from City of Adelaide and City of Cairns presented on the practice of planning nature-based solutions.

Key takeaways:

- Cities in Australia have as practice to collaborative plan and implement nature-based solutions building from experience in ecosystem-based management, from ecological knowledge and experience
- Cities in Australia will further benefit from connecting with each other and with other cities across the globe on best practices and approaches on implementing nature-based solutions especially from cities that are on the global south and face urbanisation pressures
- Cities in Australia are trying new ways to bring Indigenous Knowledge in managing urban ecosystems and renaturing urban spaces - city of Adelaide showcased a pioneering approach they have using fire and having it managed and planned by Aboriginal communities and leaders

Conversation | How does street art influence urban perception, city landscape, and development planning?

Organizers: Naa Korkor, Hassan Ismail, Nana S. Achampong, Pippin Anderson



Screenshot from Seed Session, How to increase the use of effective nature-based solutions in urban planning?

Seed Session | How to increase the use of effective nature-based solutions in urban planning?

Organizers: Mario V Balzan, Miriam Grace, Lynn Dicks, Marcus Collier, Davide Geneletti

This session began with a short scene setting talk to present some ongoing work in the ReNature project and then took the form of a discussion. Participants shared their experiences about the use of NbS in cities and their effectiveness in leading to co-benefits to biodiversity and human well-being.

Key takeaways:

- We need biodiversity and ecosystem service baseline for cities, and to better understand patterns and processes that occur at landscape scales.
- The important contributions of small spaces in cities should not be underestimated; these are likely to be associated with high beta diversity of species (but also of ecosystem services?)
- Power to the people? Are places designed by communities for their needs more effective than those designed by cities/authorities?
- What can be considered as 'effective' NbS? Given the multifunctionality of NbS, there is a need to characterise NbS according to the ecosystem services these provide with specific contexts.
- There is a need to better consider the resilience of NbS in the context of climate change.

Dialogue | Urban biodiversity: what are the top things the CBDs post 2020 biodiversity goals need to accomplish in relation to cities?

Panel: Didier Babin, Chantal van Ham, Thomas Elmqvist

Moderator: Ingrid Coetzee

Seed Session | Learning Exchange Meet and Greet

Panel: Mark Watkins (CAP LTER), Sabrina Drill (WCMER), Sarah Hines (USDA FS), Rik De Vreese (European Forest Institute), Jennifer Rae Pierce (Urban Biodiversity Hub), Chris Kennedy (Urban Systems Lab)

Moderator: Tessa Martinez

This session consisted of short presentations given by many of NATURA's Learning Exchange Hosts.

By hearing from a good number

of the potential Learning Exchange hosts, we hope that potential Learning Exchange Fellows were able to gain more insight into these organizations and the expertise available for collaborations. For more information on how to become a LE Host or Fellow visit our LE webpage.

The screenshot shows a presentation slide with the following content:

- Unique Learning Ecosystem**
- Academy Cluster**
- Weekly meetings for ECRs, researchers etc.
- 6 Public Webinars with Experts
- Six internal Webinars with invited guests and Advisory Board Members
- Up to 30 researchers full-time on the project
- Mapping of competency profiles across timeline of project

At the bottom of the slide, it says: "www.gogreenroutes.eu" and "Across 40 partner institutions across 18".

On the right side of the slide, there is a circular diagram titled "Our Multi-dimensional model of health". The diagram is divided into several segments: COGNITION & PERFORMANCE, SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT, SLEEP, NUTRITION, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, SOCIAL HEALTH, SUSTAINABILITY, and NATURE INTERACTION. In the center of the diagram, it says "360 INTERGENERATIONAL HEALTH".

In the top right corner of the screenshot, there is a small video feed of a man speaking.

Screenshot from Seed Session, Learning Exchange Meet and Greet

Seed Session | Campus of landscape architecture

Organizers: Kevin Vega, Mark Krieger, Cengiz Akandil, Christoph Kueffer, Jasmin Joshi

Real-world labs enable social learning among researchers, students, practitioners and the public. We invite you on a tour of the university campus in Rapperswil, Switzerland to discuss our approach of teaching and researching sustainable open space design (e.g. horticulture, biodiversity, rainwater, solar energy, digitalisation) in our urban lab.

Key takeaways:

- By using a real world lab set up on the campus, OST is able to directly share research, prototype designs, and outlooks with the public who walk the campus as recreation.
- More work can be done to have a (two-way rather than unidirectional) dialogue between the architecture students and the public.

Conversation | Are people changed by interactions with wild urban nature?

Organizers: Marcus Collier and Kevin Vega

At the end of the day any design, policy, or intervention must be understood, accepted, and used by the residents of the city itself otherwise it is more or less destined to fail. Citizen science offers huge opportunities for citizens to not only engage with urban ecology and expand natural experiences, but also shape what research we do, how we do it and reveal what it means to them.



Screenshot of presentation from Conversation, Are people changed by interactions with wild urban nature?

Seed Session | Achieving climate justice through locally-led, nature-based solutions in urban areas

Organizer: Sumetee Pahwa Gajjar

This was an interactive session with an introduction to PlanAdapt, Urban EbA underlying principles, and how PlanAdapt connects with Urban EbA's way of doing work, and the nature of their work. After an introduction to the concept of Urban EbA, and its instances across the globe, as submitted to an online survey (convened by PlanAdapt and IUCN), and shared at various forums, they shared emerging principles for achieving climate justice through locally-led, nature-based solutions. The group identified how the principles were achieved in practice, by highlighting particular cases, their contexts and the processes they employed. We invite the informality and design for justice TWGs of the NATURA network to produce significant contributions to this work, through reflections on their work.

Key Takeaways:

- The responses from participants in our interactive session were similar to previous responses from other audiences in that a general understanding of climate justice is communicable and fairly well-understood.
- Climate Justice through ecosystem-based / nature-based adaptation is underpinned by a range of principles, which include participation and collective action; context-driven; accountability to the vulnerable; community engagement; especially women and youth; integration of traditional knowledge and place-based learning and practices. Locally led adaptation often satisfies most of the above principles.
- However, due to the dynamism of urban landscapes, history of problems and their solutions, several additional principles were shared during our VAHM session, and these include trans-disciplinarity, resolution of economic and ecological drivers, intergovernmental concerns and inclusion of diverse knowledges and spatial factors.
- Often when actual practices of EbA or NbS are shared by participants they are able to reflect more meaningfully about whether climate justice is being served, through a particular project. For example, community gardens that help manage storm water in an informal settlement, also provide food security, and are a type of locally led, nature-based solution which generates environmental and social benefits. However, the justice element is not completely clear in the case of roof top gardens in Chicago that ease the heat island effect, or a green area in South of Manhattan to reduce flood risk.

NATURA Closing Meeting

Organizers: NATURA Network Planning Committee

In this meeting, the NATURA Network Co-Director, Elizabeth Cooke, wrapped up the week of meetings and sessions! This meeting summarized key points from sessions earlier in the week and took a look into the future for NATURA activities and opportunities.



The screenshot shows a presentation slide titled "The future of NATURA" with a list of updates. In the top right corner, there is a small video feed of Elizabeth Cooke. The slide content is as follows:

- VAHM-Festival Meeting recordings:** these will be shared sometime after the meeting
- VAHM-Festival Mural Board:** how can NATURA do better? We will be meeting to review results from this board
- Result of the regional seed sessions:** a series of diverse learnings and ability to explore what a global roadmap may look like
- Webinars:** we're reinventing our webinars!
- Graduate Student Seminar:** potentially an informal reading group
- Accelnet Database:** this idea is a work-in-progress as we're deciding on how we want this idea to mesh with our network
- Student Research on NBS:** small awards for research. A solicitation for this will go out soon
- NATURA Youtube channel:** we will be developing this more and are hoping to create platform to elevate our partner networks opportunities, resources, and message

At the bottom left is the NATURA logo, and at the bottom right is the tagline: "Nature-based solutions for Urban Resilience in the Anthropocene".

Screenshot from the NATURA Closing Meeting

Conversation | Urban-Rural Linkages: How can we strengthen teleconnections to improve biodiversity? (in French)

Panel: Jean-Marie Cishahayo, Gilles Lecuir

Moderator: Oliver Hillel

Field Trip | Otters, heritage, and whisky: River tales from Edinburgh

Organizer: Russell Galt

Galt took the audience along the Water of Leith, through the annals of Scottish history. Between the dark Dean Valley and the silted docks, explore allotments, weirs and walls; graffiti and graveyards; railways and wildlife. Galt then brought those in attendance to a river restored and prompted them to ponder the questions about ecology, equality and resilience.

Seed Session | Decolonizando Perspectivas: observando padrões coloniais no design urbano contemporâneo

Organizer: Anna Clara De Nardin

Exploramos as raízes coloniais das cidades no Sul Global através da relação Portugal-Brasil no planejamento e desenho urbano e seu papel na perpetuação do colonialismo em nossas mentes, culturas, convenções e leis de planejamento em cidades contemporâneas. A descolonização do design urbano traz resiliência social e climática às nossas cidades.

Seed Session | Natura jako klucz do dobrostanu mieszkańców i tożsamości miejsca

Organizers: Kinga Krauze, Wiktoria Czarnecka, Renata Włodarczyk-Marciniak

Societal and environmental challenges call for actions for human and planetary health. In this session, the group discussed how to simultaneously stimulate growth of social and natural capital of cities. It requires consensus over unpopular decisions, long-term planning, individual responsibility and finally transfer of scientific knowledge to society.

Seed Session | Beneficios y Oportunidades de las Soluciones Basadas en la Naturaleza en América Latina (NBS Global Roadmap: Latin America)

Organizers: Jordi Morato, Elizabeth Cook, Carlos Arias, Gladys Vidal

- Revisar los casos y buenas prácticas de NBS en la región. Se va a lanzar un llamado conjuntamente con la Red Latinoamericana de Humedales de Tratamiento (HUPANAM)
- Buscar las lecciones aprendidas a nivel local y comunitario
- Cuales son las Barreras y Facilitadores

Seed Session | Follow up: Global Perspective for a Global Roadmap

Panel: Erik Andersson (Europe Node), Yeowon Kim (Asia-Pacific Node), Kristin Baja (North American Node), Pippin Anderson (Africa Node), Elizabeth Cook (Latin America Node)

NATURA Regional Node Leads/Co-Leads summarized key findings from Regional Node Global Roadmap seed sessions that occurred earlier in the week. The conversation closed with discussion of how these insights will be brought together to form a NATURA Global Roadmap for NbS.

ROADMAP SUMMARIES

EUROPE: Insular policy and lack of regional approaches, individual countries not networked. NBS approaches tend to be reactive and problem solving in a system that is intrinsically fragmented. Need to embed NBS into true SETS and to take a proactive, landscape, and design approach that maximises multiple benefits. Lots of work done, lots of investments made in NBS. Time to ask, 'Did we solve the problem?'. At a point where lots of learning in place and could feed into roadmaps for other regions, tailored to target audiences. Need greater attention to equity, justice and knowledge co-production.

ASIA-PACIFIC: Lots of examples out there, but mostly these are local, or national, but not regional or city-scale (though more city-level intervention emerging, and city-led with some particular pilot work)). The value of NBS still being tested, data emerging, more needed. Two main drivers – NBS for restoration towards conservation ends, and NBS to improve air and water quality, or control. So problem and proactive approaches. Multifunctionality is seen as important to demonstrate value. Significant funding constraints. Less attention to equity, justice and access than expected (with Australia as the exception).

NORTH AMERICA: NBS and how these speak to social landscapes, colonialism and structural racism. Traditional assessments and value attribution approaches are problematic, tool kits available at the moment do not allow for the kinds of social nuances and historical considerations needed. Also they fail to consider value through time and over longer periods of time. There are regional disconnects that need attention (Mexico, Canada and US not working together). Opportunities emerging around the

replacement of old infrastructure with NBS, community approaches / engagement, data capture, recognition of the whole-human, whole system approach, a moment to go back to NBS interventions and ask 'did we solve the problem?'

AFRICA: Africa has lots of nature, but it is heavily used and quite degraded, and a fair amount of community innovation in the face of failed government. Old mindsets need to shift (colonial histories, textbook visions of 'the city', engineering always the solution, conservation vs human binary). Still need to make the case (especially multifunctional values)– especially to private sector and government. Government is open to interventions where they are opportunistic (so a value add to an already underway process). Scaling up numerous local interventions still not tried and tested. Need to do networking to achieve this. Need the right people in the room, and to ask the right questions to do this. We lack (need) an Urban Vision for Africa that is mindful of NBS, we need to grow (hundreds) of practitioners to fill this space so need institutions to do this. Lots of opportunity for research (numerous ideas noted).

LATIN AMERICA: Lots of excellent examples across the whole region. Water a recurring theme. Experience shows that participatory approaches, and wide ranging dialogue is central to success> Lots of work to be done in dealing with civic (and other) scepticism. Opportunities (or examples of, or need for – I might have missed this) for multi-sectoral collaboration – private-government-civic partnerships. Use these opportunities to improve public perception of NBS.

COLLECTIVE THEMES:

- Broken systems (justice, histories etc so questions, issues, etc to be addressed prior to / or as part of NBS) (N America, Africa)
- Lack of regional collaboration (Europe, N America, Africa)
- Lots of examples out there (potential compendiums of knowledge) (Latin America, Europe, Asia-Pacific)
- Time to interrogate NBS that have been in place (did we solve the problem?) (Europe, N America)
- Still need to make the case in many regions (public scepticism, tools to demonstrate multi-values, to private sector, to government) (Latin America, Africa)
- Waters as common entry point (Latin America, Asia-Pacific, Africa)
- The danger of tool kits that do not work, do not translate between regions, are crude and not mindful of people, histories, long timeframes etc (N America, Africa)
- Lack of funds to advance NBS approaches (Asia-Pacific, Africa)
- People must be involved, consulted, participate in NBS (All regions)

Dialogue | ¿Cómo pensar y planificar ciudades como lugares biodiversos? (How to think and plan cities as biodiverse places?)

Panelists: Nicolás Galarza, Eduardo Haene, Daniela Rizzi

Moderator: Maria Mejia

Conversation | Civil Society is, or should be, the glue that holds sustainable cities together

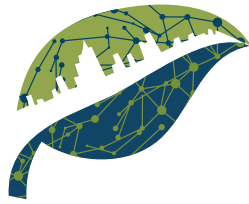
Organizers: Erika Svendensen and Lindsay Campbell, with David Maddox

Seed Session | Stewardship Storytelling Circle: Embracing many ways of knowing urban nature

Organizers: Lindsay Campbell, Erika Svendensen, Michelle Johnson, Heather McMillen, Laura Landau, Sophie Plitt, Marisa Prefer

This was an interactive seed session with a goal of exchanging many ways of knowing urban nature. While they had been organizing these stewardship salons to facilitate conversation and co-learning among urban environmental stewardship practitioners, researchers, and artists on an ongoing basis for two years (see McMillen et al. 2020), they had put them completely on hold during the pandemic. This was their first effort to re-constitute this dialogue in a virtual setting. They organized an Indigenous land acknowledgement across their locations, a set of brief presentations and ground rules, and facilitated breakout groups where they shared their own stewardship stories and collectively designed imagined stewardship salons with participants from around the globe.

Participants shared individual, family, community, and cultural practices that strengthened reciprocity with urban nature. In imagining a virtual stewardship salon - they discussed symbols and rituals that connect them to nature; contexts where sharing stewardship stories would be productive; and embodied approaches for learning from place, not just about place. They found many commonalities across our global participants and a desire for more exchanges of this sort -- both virtually facilitated as well as in person. Might COVID-19 be pushing us closer to being able to shape and realize biocultural stewardship practices that are both planetary and local, urban and rural, virtual and physical? What would these cultures of care look like?



THE **NATURA** NETWORK

The Nature-based Solutions for Urban Resilience in the Anthropocene (NATURA) project links networks in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, North and Latin America, and globally to enhance connectivity among the world's scholars and practitioners and improve the prospects for global urban sustainability. NATURA exchanges knowledge, shares data, and enhances communication among research disciplines and across the research-practice divide to advance urban resilience in face of growing threats of extreme weather events.

RECORDINGS & RESOURCES

To view recordings and other resources from the Virtual All Hands Meeting visit <https://natura-net.org/vahm2021>

PLANNING COMMITTEE



From the top left to bottom right: Nancy Grimm, Marcus Collier, Yeowon Kim, Elizabeth Cook, Pippin Anderson, Christopher Kennedy, Yuliya Dzyuban, Tessa Martinez, Timon McPhearson



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