

Nature and Climate Nexus Webinar Series

Promoting Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Infrastructures in Asia and the Pacific

Background

Nature-based solutions (NbS) can help address challenges in climate change, disaster risk management, water security, biodiversity loss, and food security. These solutions protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems. NbS also addresses societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously benefiting people and nature (<u>IUCN</u>).

NbS provides practical and cost-effective approaches for long-term sustainable infrastructure in a changing climate when integrated into traditional construction methods. Furthermore, NbS offers multiple advantages such as reduce project costs and prolong infrastructure lifespan. NbS also provides co-benefits to ecosystem services, biodiversity conservation, recreational opportunities, employment, and livelihoods.

Applying NbS requires integrated planning and management that are evidence-based and for long-term sustainability. It must be guided by international, national, and local policy frameworks to reach its full potential. Despite the increasing recognition of NbS, there is still a need to provide practical knowledge on its implementation. These factors are just a few that hinder designing and implementing NbS.

To address this knowledge gap, ADB is hosting the Nature and Climate Nexus Webinar Series: Promoting Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Infrastructures in Asia and the Pacific.

This webinar series will share the latest information and benefits from using NbS. The event will highlight the integration of NbS into investments for sustainability and resiliency. The webinars will feature lectures, trainings, and workshops based on the latest scientific knowledge, case studies and best practices on NbS for infrastructure projects. This webinar series is organized by ADB's Environment Thematic Group in collaboration with other Sector and Thematic Groups as well as private, government and academic partners.

Partner Organizations

- Alliance for Global Water Adaptation
- Alluvium International
- Deltares
- Ecoshape
- Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO)
- Tsinghua University
- Witteveen+Bos

Target Audience

The event is designed for ADB officers and consultants, and decision-makers and stakeholders working on infrastructure development.

Nature and Climate Nexus Webinar Series



Nature-based Solutions for Climate Disaster Risk Management Lecture and Clinic

This two-day webinar will provide the latest information on NbS. It will focus on weather-related disaster management such as flooding and drought and present specific examples to address relevant development issues. The NbS experts will also provide technical advisory services for improving project design with a combination of green and gray infrastructure.

DAY 1

15 September 2022 / 2:00-4:00 pm, Philippines (GMT+8) Zoom / Lecture (open session)

Resource persons from Deltares and Witteveen+Bos will present the latest information on NbS as well as specific examples to address relevant development issues. The event will focus on weather-related disaster risk management such as flooding and drought. This will be followed by a panel discussion and an interactive Q&A session. The NbS Lecture is open to all.

DAY 2

21 September 2022 / 2:00-4:00 pm, Philippines (GMT+8) Zoom / NbS Clinic

This will be a venue for NbS experts to give project officers technical advice to improve project design by integrating NbS with traditional gray infrastructure. Resource persons will discuss selected ADB pipeline projects with potential NbS components. Interested ADB project officers may email Isao Endo (iendo@adb.org) and Christine Linaza (clinaza.consultant@adb.org).

WEBINAR 2

Putting Nature-based Solutions into Practice through Innovation

13 October 2022 / 1:00-2:00 pm, Philippines (GMT+8) / MS Teams

This webinar will present case studies across Asia and the Pacific to illustrate the wide-ranging challenges for which nature can provide a pathway to innovative solutions.

WEBINAR 3

Challenges and Approaches in Quantifying NbS Benefit Streams

24 October 2022 / 2:00- 3:00 pm, Philippines (GMT+8) / Zoom

To enable the uptake of NbS in cities and communities especially in developing countries, key barriers must be addressed including:

- Limited examples of application of NbS in developing country context;
- The perception that NbS are complex, costly, and uncertain, compared to grey infrastructure; and
- Challenges in quantifying multiple benefits of NbS

This webinar organized by ADB's Environment Thematic Group and Urban Sector Group through Urban Climate Change Resilience Trust Fund (UCCRTF) will discuss the factors that make it challenging to quantify socioeconomic, ecological and financial benefits of NbS and illustrate an approach on quantification of such. It draws on UCCRTF's knowledge product on NbS developed through TA 9217 (UCCRTF's Sub-Project 2: Resilience Measurement, Capacity Development and Knowledge Sharing) implemented by a consortium led by Arup.



Nature Climate Solutions: Pathways for Nature-Positive Investment and Low-Carbon Transformation

TBD November 2022 / 1:00 pm-2:00 pm, Philippines (GMT+8) / Zoom

This webinar will highlight the current progress and challenges of NbS practice. Speakers will also discuss the role of NbS contributing to the climate and nature crises.



Ecosystem Restoration through Nature-based Solutions

TBD December 2022 / 1:00 pm-2:00 pm, Philippines (GMT+8) / Zoom

This session will present the best practices and case studies on applying NbS for ecosystem restoration.