# **EVENT SNAPSHOT**



# Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Urban Projects



## EVENT DETAILS

Wednesday 8 October 2019, 1-2pm. K-Hub, ADB Headquarters, Manila.

#### **SPEAKERS**

- Manoj Sharma, Chief of Urban Sector Group, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC)
- Trang Dang, Urban Development Specialist, Southeast Asia Department
- Lara Arjan, Urban Development Specialist, SDCC
- · Virinder Sharma, ADB UCCRTF
- Isao Endo, Environment Specialist, SDCC
- Erick Planta, Assistant Secretary, NEDA
- Mr. Raymund G. Go, Philippines National Economic Development Authority
- Ms. Sheen Rose C. Cabacaba, Wetlands International

## OVERVIEW - HOW NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS CAN TRANSFORM CITIES

As part of ADB's World Habitat Day series, this event shared lessons on nature-based solutions and launched a new publication: Nature-Based Solutions for Cities: Water Sensitive Urban Design in Viet Nam.

The publication demonstrates how nature-based solutions can improve urban water cycle management and enhance co-benefits through 'multiedge design' to increase interaction between people, nature and water.

In Viet Nam, ADB's Urban Climate Change Resilience Trust Fund (UCCRTF) is supporting piloting of nature-based solutions. Pond revitalization in Hue demonstrates how one project can create multiple benefits for water quality, tourism, recreation and land value capture. Meanwhile, the Sustainable Development Masterplan for Manila Bay, Philippines will incorporate nature-based solutions to address flooding and subsidence.

Challenges to implementing naturebased solutions include crosssector collaboration, skills, data, land availability, longer timescales, and perceived investment risk. ADB can play a key role in delivering pilot projects and advocating for robust, financially viable approaches.

"Quite often we find that nature-based solutions projects can achieve multiple benefits."

- Trang Dang, Urban Development Specialist, ADB Southeast Asia Department

# URBAN CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCE LESSONS

Feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and quality of outcomes are critical requirements to justify investment and ensure long-term success of nature-based solutions.

Clear and constant dialogue can help to build understanding, capacity and drive uptake of nature-based solution by addressing government and private sector perceptions around expense, difficulty and time frames.

Capturing and sharing pilot projects and data as 'proof of concept' for successful implementation, financial viability and positive outcomes is key to boosting government confidence.

**Strategic urban assessment** can help to identify opportunities for integrated nature-based solutions upstream. Participative planning can

help to bridge the divide in terms of 'who pays' and 'who benefits' in relation to urban infrastructure.

Knowledge resources and project inventories can help to scale-up awareness, coordination, and collective action on nature-based solutions within ADB. These are also valuable resources for country partners and private sector.

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

 Nature-based solutions for Cities in Viet Nam: Water Sensitive Urban Design: https://www.adb.org/publications/nature-based-solutions-cities-viet-nam