

Nature-Based Solutions for Water

Working with nature to achieve water security for all, and contribute to all SDGs

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What do we mean by nature-based solutions (NBS) for water?

Nature-based solutions are inspired and supported by **natural processes** to contribute to the improved management of water. A NBS uses ecosystem services to contribute to a water management outcome. A NBS can involve conserving or rehabilitating natural ecosystems or natural processes in modified or artificial ecosystems.

Some examples:



SOIL MOISTURE RETENTION,
GROUNDWATER RECHARGE



NATURAL AND
CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS



REFORESTATION



RIPARIAN BUFFER STRIPS



URBAN GREEN SPACES AND
GREEN BUILDINGS



DRY TOILET

The report is structured in five parts:

- 1: Rising water demand, increasing scarcity, degrading quality and increasing risks.
- 2: Ecosystems and the water cycle.
- 3: NBS for better water management.
- 4: The untapped potential for NBS.
- 5: Making it happen – the accelerated uptake of NBS.





PART ONE

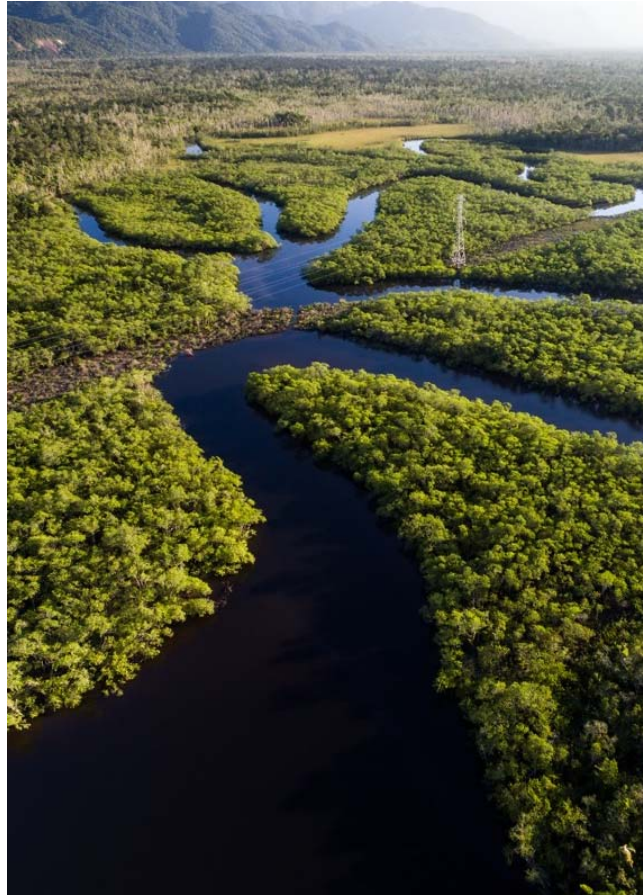
The world's water: Rising demand, increasing scarcity, degrading quality and increasing risks

Rising demand for water

The demand is increasing significantly, for agriculture, industry, construction, and many uses.

3.6 billion people live in areas that are potentially water-scarce.





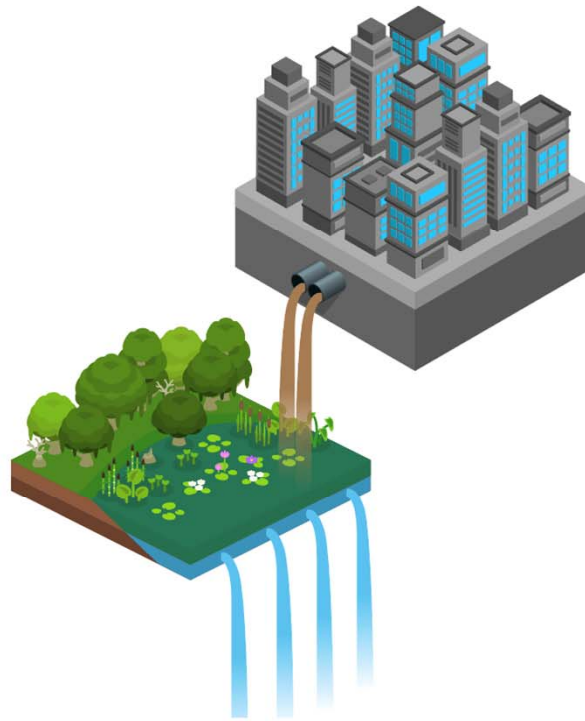
PART TWO

Ecosystems and the water cycle

The world's ecosystems: Increasing degradation

Since 1900, an estimated 64–71% of natural wetland worldwide have been lost due to human activity.





PART THREE

NBS for meeting water management objectives

NBS for improving water availability in urban settlements

Urban green infrastructure, including **green buildings**, is an emerging phenomenon that embrace many NBS.

Green agriculture has also tremendous potential for NBS





PART FOUR

The untapped potential for NBS

Supporting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

NBS for water have high potential to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs and targets of the 2030 Agenda





PART FIVE

Making it happen: accelerating the uptake of NBS

Leveraging financing

NBS do not necessarily
require additional financial
resources but usually
involve redirecting and
making **more effective use**
of existing financing



Enabling the regulatory and legal environment

Peru's Compensation Mechanisms for Ecosystem Services Law of 2014 is the **first national-level regulatory framework** specific for green infrastructure investment in the drinking water supply and sanitation sector in Latin America

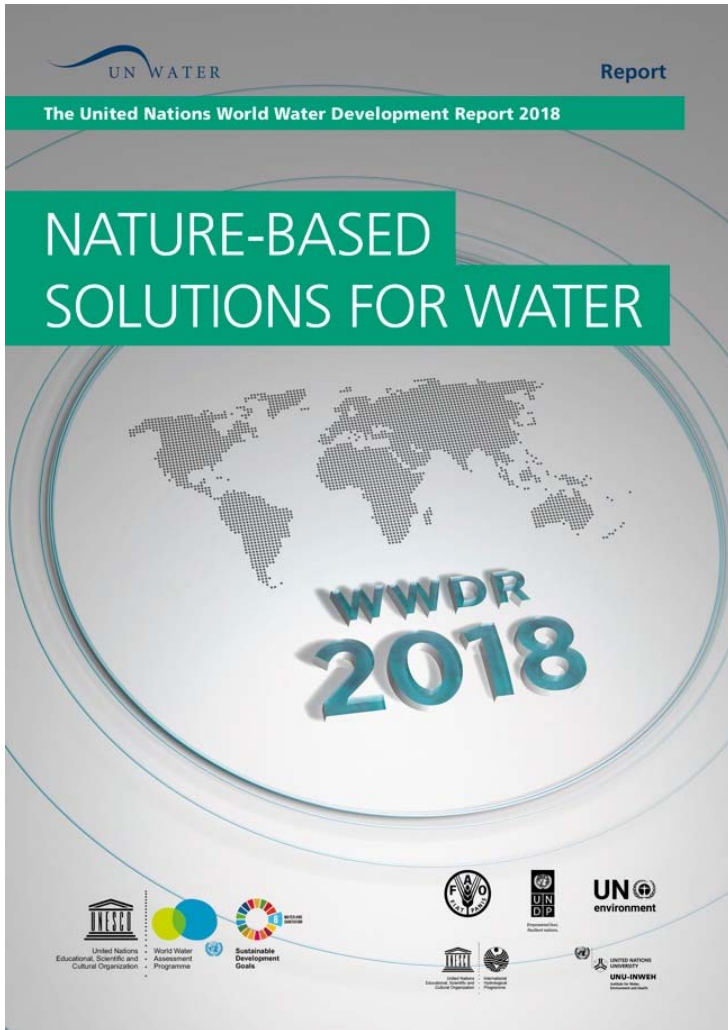


Closing statement

Sustainable water security **will** be achieved through promoting and application of Nature-Based-Solutions.

EVERY ACTION WE TAKE TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT,
NO MATTER HOW SMALL, DIRECTLY HELPS CREATE
A BETTER, HEALTHIER WATER WORLD





Thank you

Working with nature to improve the management of water resources, achieve water security for all, and contribute to core aspects of sustainable development

More info at:

www.unesco.org/water/wwap

Download the report at:

www.unesco.org/water/wwap/wwdr