

# NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS for WATER



WORKING WITH NATURE TO IMPROVE THE MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, ACHIEVE WATER SECURITY FOR ALL, AND CONTRIBUTE TO CORE ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

## WHAT ARE NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR WATER?

NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS (NBS) ARE INSPIRED AND SUPPORTED BY NATURE AND USE, OR MIMIC, NATURAL PROCESSES TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE IMPROVED MANAGEMENT OF WATER



SOIL MOISTURE RETENTION, GROUNDWATER RECHARGE



NATURAL AND CONSTRUCTED WETLANDS



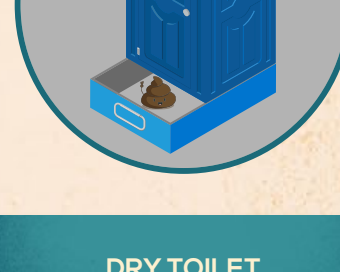
REFORESTATION



RIPARIAN BUFFER STRIPS



URBAN GREEN SPACES AND GREEN BUILDINGS



DRY TOILET

NBS for water can be applied at MICRO- (e.g. a dry toilet) or MACRO- (e.g. landscape) scales

## HOW CAN NBS CONTRIBUTE TO WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT?

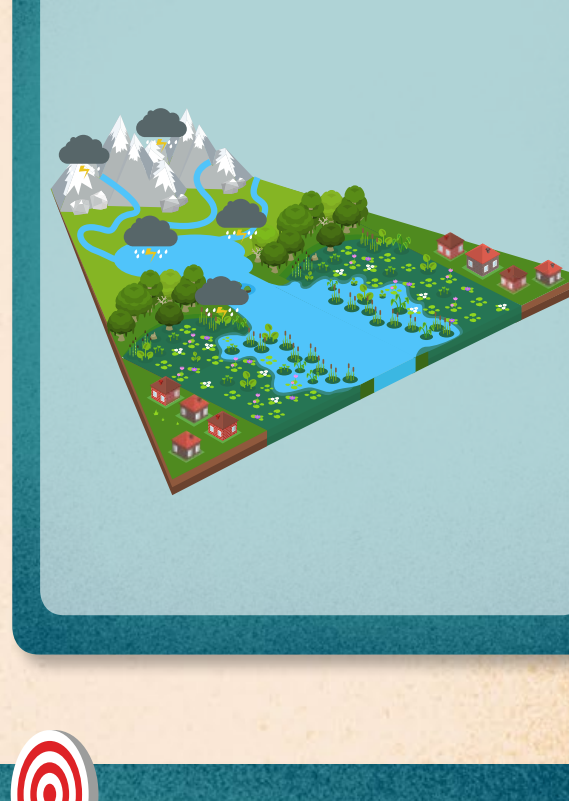
1 IMPROVING WATER AVAILABILITY



2 IMPROVING WATER QUALITY



3 REDUCING RISKS TO WATER-RELATED EXTREME EVENTS



In several cases, a single NBS can help to meet MULTIPLE water management objectives

## HOW MUCH ARE WE USING NBS?

WATER MANAGEMENT IS HEAVILY DOMINATED BY GREY INFRASTRUCTURE



THE ENORMOUS POTENTIAL FOR NBS REMAINS UNDER-UTILIZED

EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THAT NBS ACCOUNT FOR LESS THAN 5% OF ALL EXPENDITURE IN WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT



THE OBJECTIVE IS TO FIND THE IDEAL BALANCE BETWEEN GREY AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE



## WHAT MORE DO NBS GIVE US?

NBS FOR WATER GENERATE CO-BENEFITS



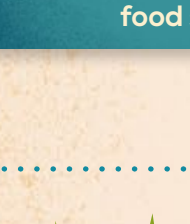
SOCIAL



ECONOMIC



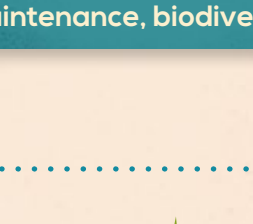
ENVIRONMENTAL



human health and livelihoods, food security



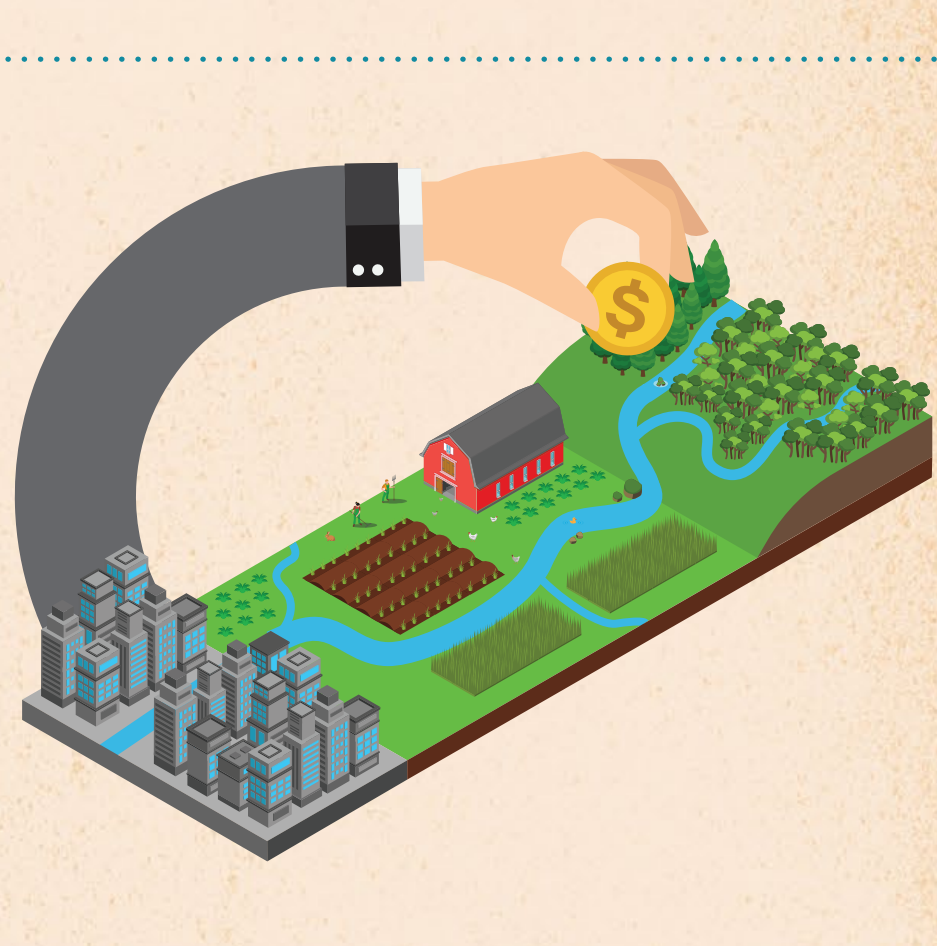
sustainable economic growth, decent jobs



ecosystem rehabilitation and maintenance, biodiversity

## HOW CAN NBS BE SUPPORTED?

THERE ARE ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS FOR FINANCING NBS, SUCH AS PAYMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES SCHEMES AND GREEN BONDS

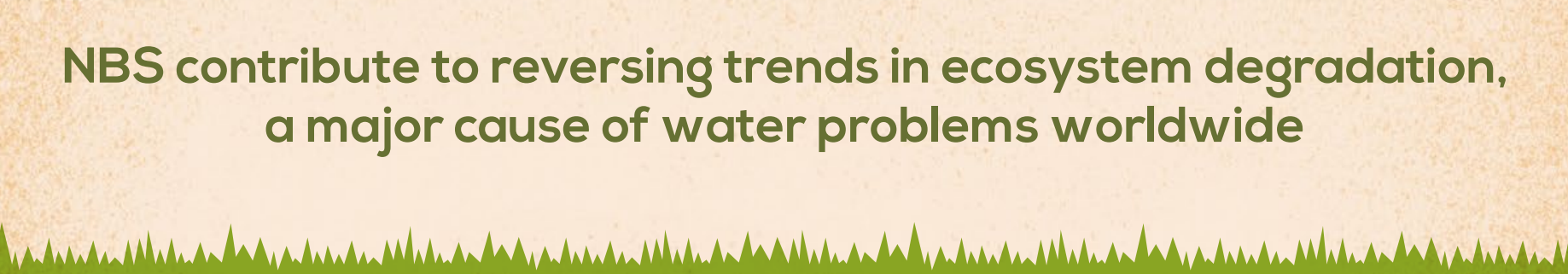


PAYMENT for ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES provides monetary and non-monetary INCENTIVES to upstream communities, farmers and private land owners to PROTECT, RESTORE and CONSERVE natural ecosystems and adopt SUSTAINABLE agricultural and other land use practices to SAFEGUARD WATER resources

Three protected watersheds provide New York City with the largest unfiltered water supply in the USA, saving the city more than US\$300 million per year on water treatment operation and maintenance costs



Since the year 1900, an estimated 64–71% of the NATURAL WETLAND area worldwide has been LOST due to human activity



NBS contribute to reversing trends in ecosystem degradation, a major cause of water problems worldwide

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

