

Questions presented in Presemo during Science-Policy Forum

1. Question to Sander; were the results on the structural conditions related to successful NBS implementation already published somewhere?

Dr. APN (Sander) van der Jagt:

There are currently two papers on this topic under review. I give you the references.

- Dorst, H., van der Jagt, A., Runhaar, H., & Raven, R. (forthcoming). Structural conditions for the wider uptake of urban nature-based solutions. *Cities*.
- Dorst, H., van der Jagt, A., Toxopeus, H., Tozer, L., Raven, R., & Runhaar, H. (forthcoming). What's behind the barriers? Understanding the structural conditions that hamper the mainstreaming of urban nature-based solutions in Europe. *Urban Studies*.

Please check again in 1-2 months' time to see if these are available. In addition, there is also a NATURVATION report called 'Greening European cities: Accelerating the uptake of urban nature-based solutions' that is currently with the copy editor I believe, which should be made available over the next 1-2 months' time on the website: <https://naturvation.eu/mainstream> . More reports and papers on this work are under development.

2. Why exactly is the linking of private and public sector in NBS so important in achieving results?
 - a. To try and answer the question below: only so much can be achieved within the public realm and through public funding, there needs to be buy in from private land managers and developers to ensure that NBS become more widespread. Without an strong understanding of the benefits (or 'profitability') of NBS, the private sector will be slow to adjust.
 - b. Other responses?

Dr. APN (Sander) van der Jagt:

A straightforward response would be that the majority of land in cities is in private ownership, which makes engagement of the private sector and citizens an important component of any approach at urban greening. Although less of an issue in Scandinavian countries, many other cities also struggle with funding urban greenspaces – they often do not have sufficient funding to cover the costs of greenspaces maintenance, let alone for creating more greenspaces. For example, the city of Edinburgh recorded a net-loss of 2,500 street trees over the past 20 years, despite the city growing considerably over this time, which is due to funding cuts for urban greenspace.

3. How do NBS provide solutions to questions such as social justice and equality (as mentioned in the presentation of Dr. van der Jagt)? Is there something specific in NBS that is helpful in not only providing solutions to ecological themes but social ones as well?

Dr. APN (Sander) van der Jagt:

NBS do not always contribute to addressing issues of social justice and equality, and recent work even suggests that in many cases they increase injustices. This is the result of social justice issues not being actively taken into account in the planning of urban nature. There is also a trend in many cities for increased participation of citizens and other non-governmental actors in urban greening activities. An associated risk is that neighbourhoods with more resources and social capital realize more or higher-quality urban greening than socio-economically more disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Cities would ideally monitor this and provide these disadvantaged parts of town

with more urban greening support, for example free advice by a professional gardener or subsidies, to compensate for this.

4. How nature-based solutions concept differ from earlier concepts such as green building, green infrastructure, etc.?

Dr. Rikka Paloniemi:

Major difference between NBS and other related concept is in the solution oriented approach that NBS emphasize; as NBS on are aiming to solve societal challenges. So the point is not only improve buildings or green infrastructure, but to make it in having in mind various ecosystem services that the nature (species, habitats etc) will produce and reflect them according to societal challenges that have been recognized.

Furthermore, in order to ensure environmental justice, it is important to engage various stakeholders widely in defining the societal challenges and various means to solve them.

Dr. APN (Sander) van der Jagt:

I agree with Riika's response. There are also a number of papers comparing these concepts. For example:

- Dorst, H., van der Jagt, A., Raven, R., & Runhaar, H. (2019). Urban greening through nature-based solutions– Key characteristics of an emerging concept. *Sustainable Cities and Society*, 49, 101620.