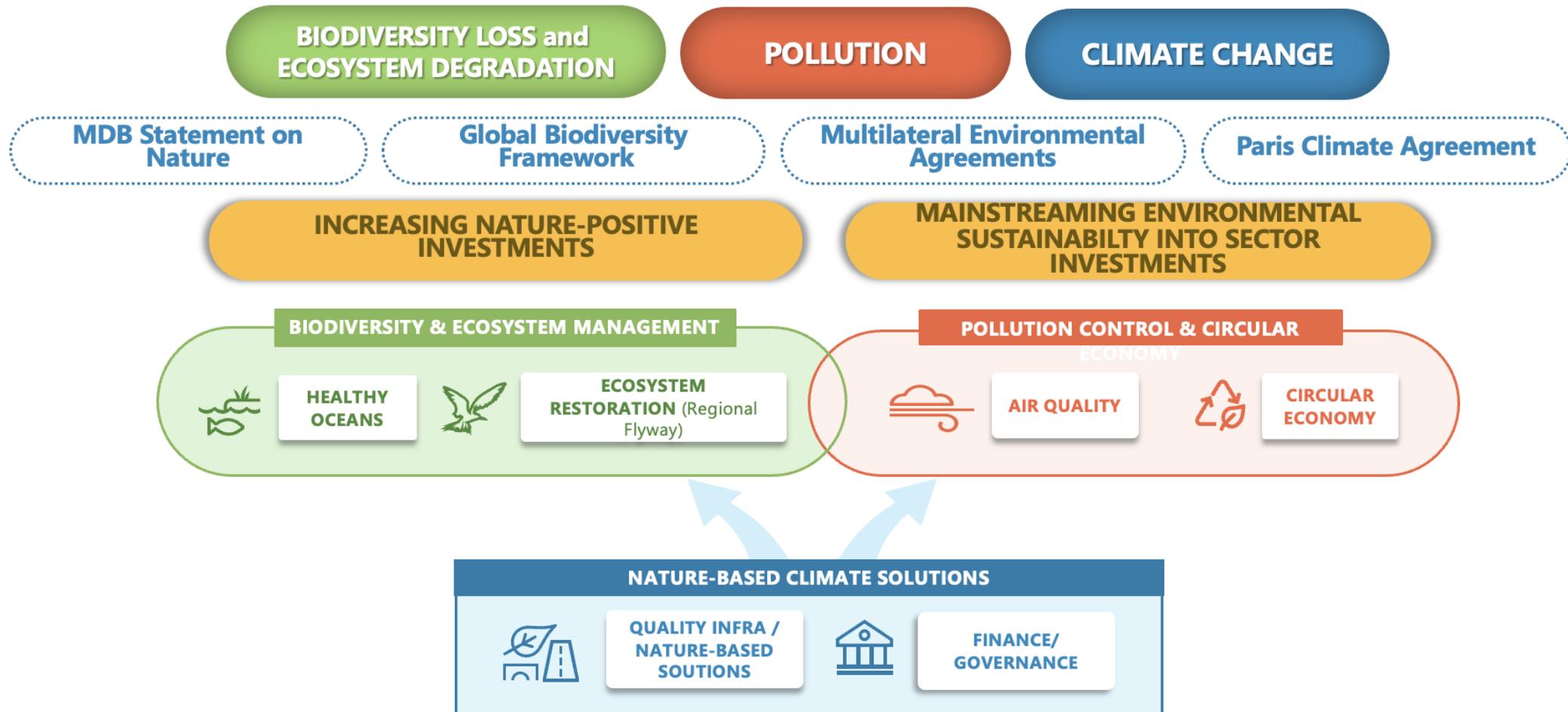


# Mainstreaming nature-based solutions into investment projects: ADB's approach



**Isao Endo**  
Environment Group  
Climate Change and Sustainable  
Development Department  
Asian Development Bank

# Nature-based solutions (NbS) for environmental sustainability



Strategic Operational Support | Knowledge Management & Innovation | Human & Financial Resource Development

Source: ADB (2024)

# ADB projects with Nature-based Solutions (examples)



## **Regional**

Revitalization of Informal Settlements and their Environments using a Water-Sensitive Approach

> Decentralized, green infrastructure



## **Pakistan**

Flood Emergency Reconstruction and Resilience Project

> Bioengineering to stabilize slopes



## **Viet Nam**

Promoting Climate Resilient Rural Infrastructure in the Northern Mountain Provinces

> Bioengineering

Secondary Green Cities Development Project

> Water-sensitive urban design



## **India**

Sustainable Coastal Protection and Management Investment Program

> Artificial geotextile submerged reefs and the enlargement and stabilization of beaches



## **PRC**

Jiangxi Pingxiang Integrated Rural-Urban Infrastructure Development

> Sponge city

Yangtze River Green Ecological Corridor Comprehensive Agriculture Development

> Protection and rehabilitation of agro-ecosystems



## **Philippines**

Integrated Flood Risk Management Sector Project

> Landscape approach



## **Indonesia**

Revitalization of Informal Settlements

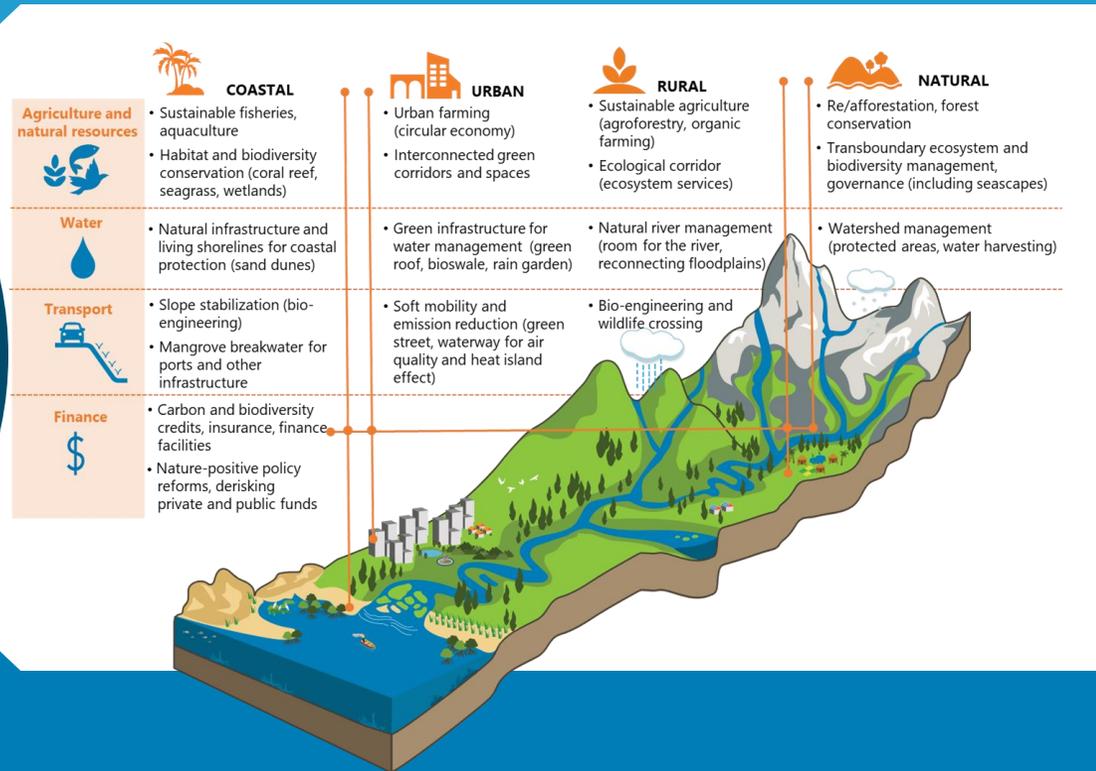
> Green infrastructure to biologically treat water



# NbS program

## OBJECTIVE

**Mainstreaming nature into investments** by delivering innovative NbS that support countries in achieving greater resilience, healthier ecosystems, and improved well-being.



	COASTAL	URBAN	RURAL	NATURAL
<b>Agriculture and natural resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sustainable fisheries, aquaculture</li><li>Habitat and biodiversity conservation (coral reef, seagrass, wetlands)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Urban farming (circular economy)</li><li>Interconnected green corridors and spaces</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Sustainable agriculture (agroforestry, organic farming)</li><li>Ecological corridor (ecosystem services)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Re/afforestation, forest conservation</li><li>Transboundary ecosystem and biodiversity management, governance (including seascapes)</li></ul>
<b>Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Natural infrastructure and living shorelines for coastal protection (sand dunes)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Green infrastructure for water management (green roof, bioswale, rain garden)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Natural river management (room for the river, reconnecting floodplains)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Watershed management (protected areas, water harvesting)</li></ul>
<b>Transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Slope stabilization (bio-engineering)</li><li>Mangrove breakwater for ports and other infrastructure</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Soft mobility and emission reduction (green street, waterway for air quality and heat island effect)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bio-engineering and wildlife crossing</li></ul>	
<b>Finance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Carbon and biodiversity credits, insurance, finance facilities</li><li>Nature-positive policy reforms, derisking private and public funds</li></ul>			

## ACTIVITIES

**Programmatic approach** strengthening NbS at both policy and project levels—including policy development, project design support, and capacity building—covering all stages of the project cycle from identification to implementation.

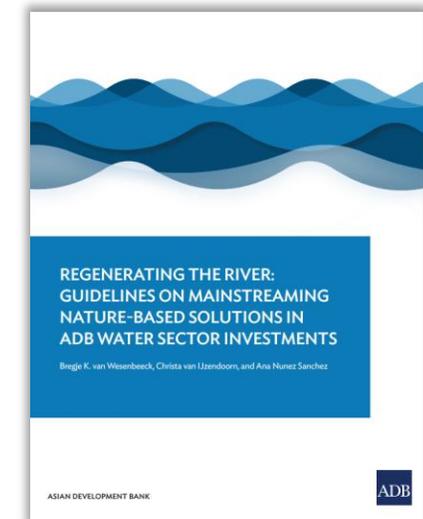
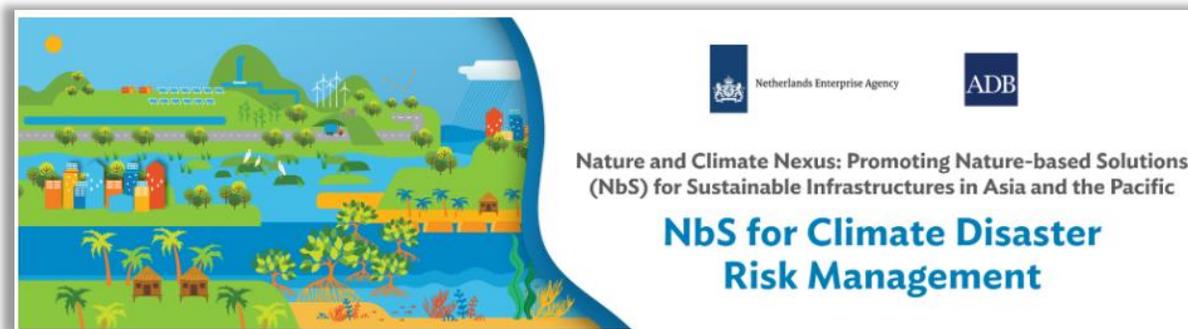
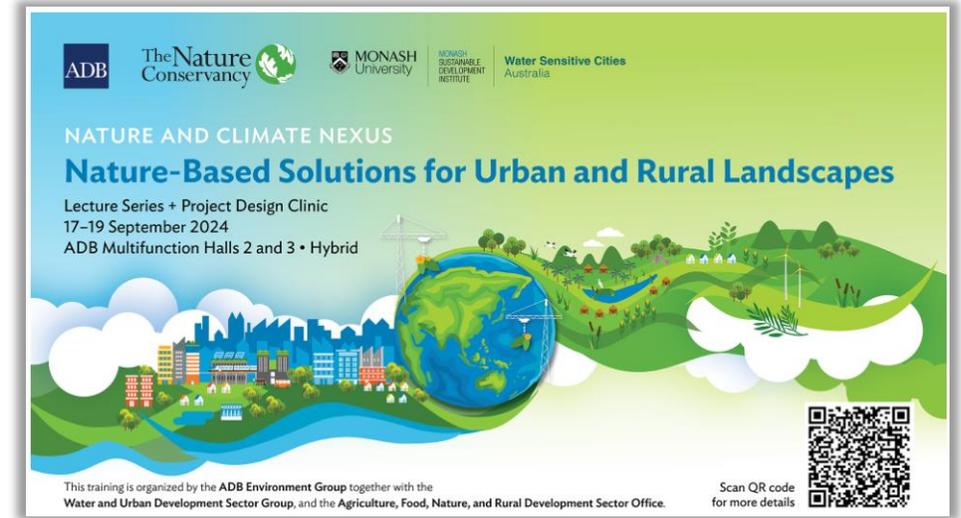
**Cross-sectoral landscape and seascape perspective** by advancing integrated solutions at scale through identifying practical and effective interventions with combination of conventional “gray” engineering approaches and “green” NbS, which create entry points for multi-sector investments and foster coordination across sectors.

## SIGNIFICANCE

**Delivering more effective, efficient, and impactful interventions** generating co-benefits across sectors, which drive economic savings, reduced environmental impact, and improved health outcomes.

# References

- Knowledge repository: [ADB Data Room: Nature-Based Solutions](#)
- Technical note: [Guidelines for Mainstreaming Natural River Management in Water Sector Investments](#)
- Training workshop: [Nature and Climate Nexus: Nature-Based Solutions for Urban and Rural Landscapes](#)
- Webinar: [Nature-based Solutions \(NbS\) for Climate Disaster Risk Management](#)



# Thank you!

