

Dear colleagues within the water community,

We (AGWA and GIZ) are currently engaged in creating a policy paper on “Nature-based Resilience”.

This paper aims to demonstrate the essential contribution freshwater ecosystems and thus NbS can make in achieving climate and biodiversity targets. It argues that in order to realize the benefits of freshwater NbS, we ought to transform the ways in which we manage freshwater ecosystems, moving from an exclusive emphasis on efficiency and conservation towards managing and restoring ecosystems for a resilient future perspective. This paper builds on IUCN’s foundational work on NbS, as well as AGWA’s publications “Watering the NDCs” and “Locking Carbon in Wetlands”, which underscored the value of wetlands as a way for enhancing mitigation action and argued for the inclusion of freshwater wetlands in NDCs and NAPs, the integration within the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030 as well as for reaching the targets SDG 6 and further water-related objectives. This paper will expand on a call to action of freshwater ecosystems becoming resilient by 1) exploring particular challenges for the applicability of NbS at an ecosystem level and 2) deriving NbS guidance on opportunities and threats for sustainable use, management, protection, and restoration from practical experience.

At the moment we are in the drafting phase of the report, and we are glad to share our draft with you and invite you to take part in this first reviewing round. We are looking forward to reading about your experiences and exploring further significant aspects to include. We welcome any feedback you have on the draft paper, its objective and potential case studies, from detailed comments to broad reactions and suggestions. Please provide your reaction in the form of comments and/or recommendations for case studies. **We will be accepting feedback until Friday 23 September 2022**, in order to leave time to make further revisions and publish the paper in time for COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

Comments and proposed case studies can be shared as comments within the DRAFT Google Document accessible at this link: <https://bit.ly/nbs-triple>. Any additional feedback can be submitted directly to Alex Mauroner of AGWA via email: [amauroner@alliance4water.org](mailto:amauroner@alliance4water.org).

You may find some suggestions to consider during your review, below. All those who provide feedback will be recognized (if you wish) in the final publication.

Please let us know if you have any questions or if we can provide additional information. We look forward to receiving your thoughts and comments.

Thanks a lot for contributing!

Best regards,



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i.v. 

Dieter Rothenberger,  
Head of Sector Programme WaPo-RE,  
GIZ

Review considerations:

- We especially ask for your suggestion of further case studies which help to highlight different challenges with regards to the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental pollution, and possible solutions to those provided by NbS. In this section we aim at portraying a variety of regions and ecosystem interfaces.
- We would be glad to learn about your thoughts on challenges for freshwater NbS in supporting climate change and biodiversity agendas. Which challenges have you encountered? Are there lessons from NbS projects that did not succeed that you would like to share? What have been the biggest threats to the success of your projects? Do you have possible solutions to overcome difficulties in implementing NbS that you have applied in your particular working context? How can this be done on a technical, policy, and/or finance level?