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# Living Cities: Towards Ecological Urbanism

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[scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk)



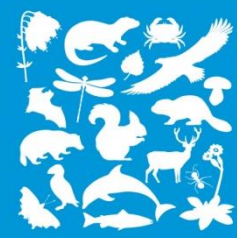
# Overview

- Why
- What
- How
- Where
- Benefits/costs

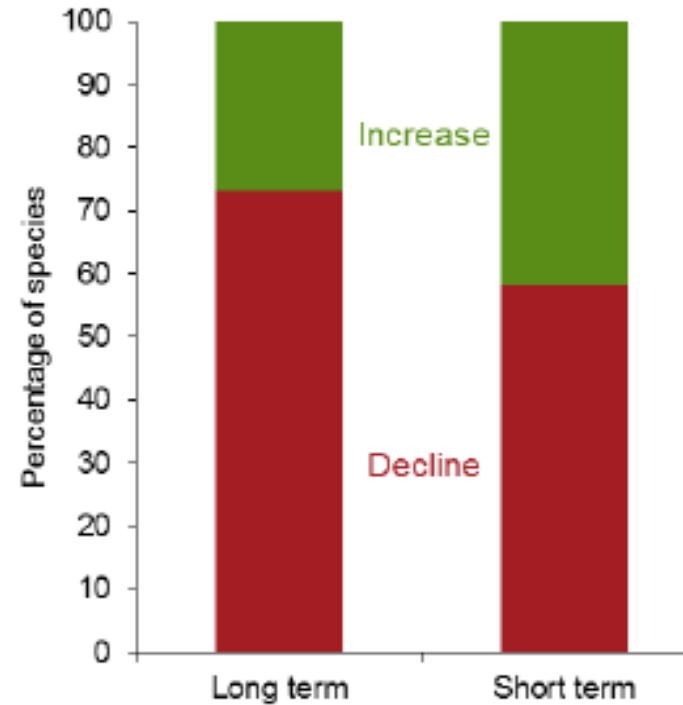
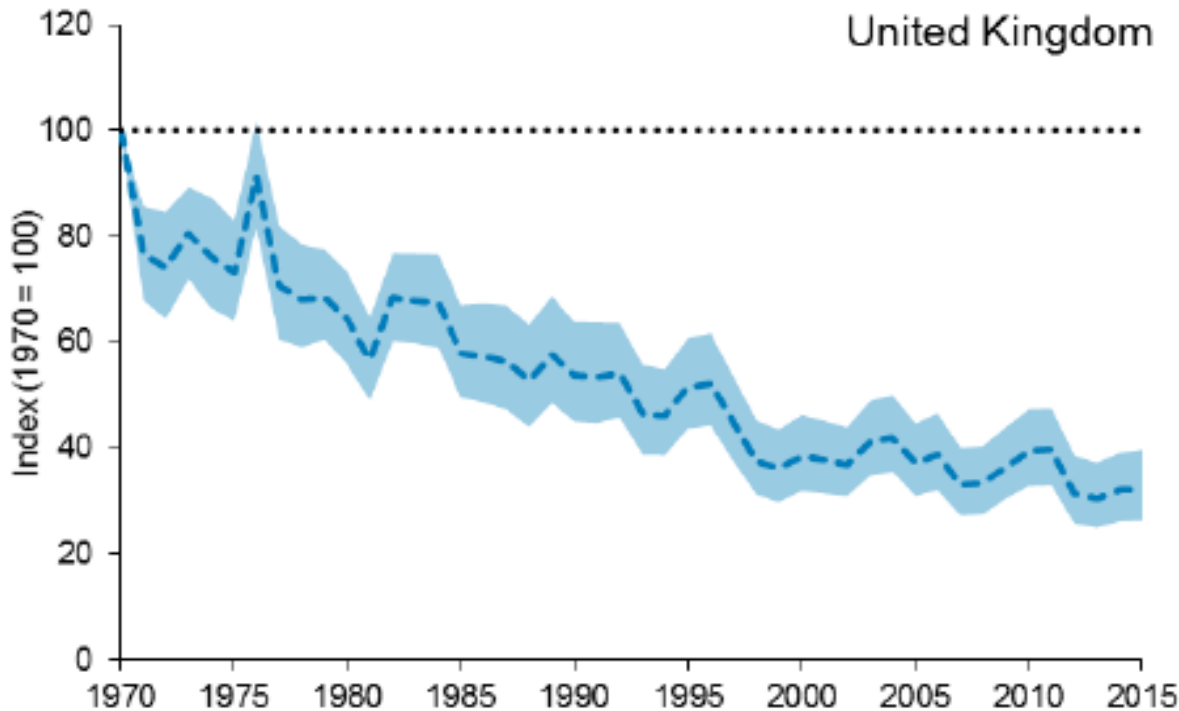


# Why: Biodiversity loss

relative abundance of priority species



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# Why: Climate change



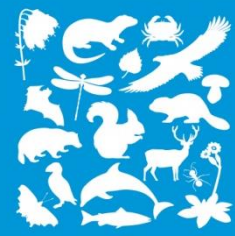
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Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)  
special report:

- Benefits of rise in global temperatures of 1.5 v 2.0°C
- We are on course for 3.0°C
- Need to halve emissions by 2030
- Humans “at the centre of global climate change”
- Need substantial changes in our lifestyle and behaviour

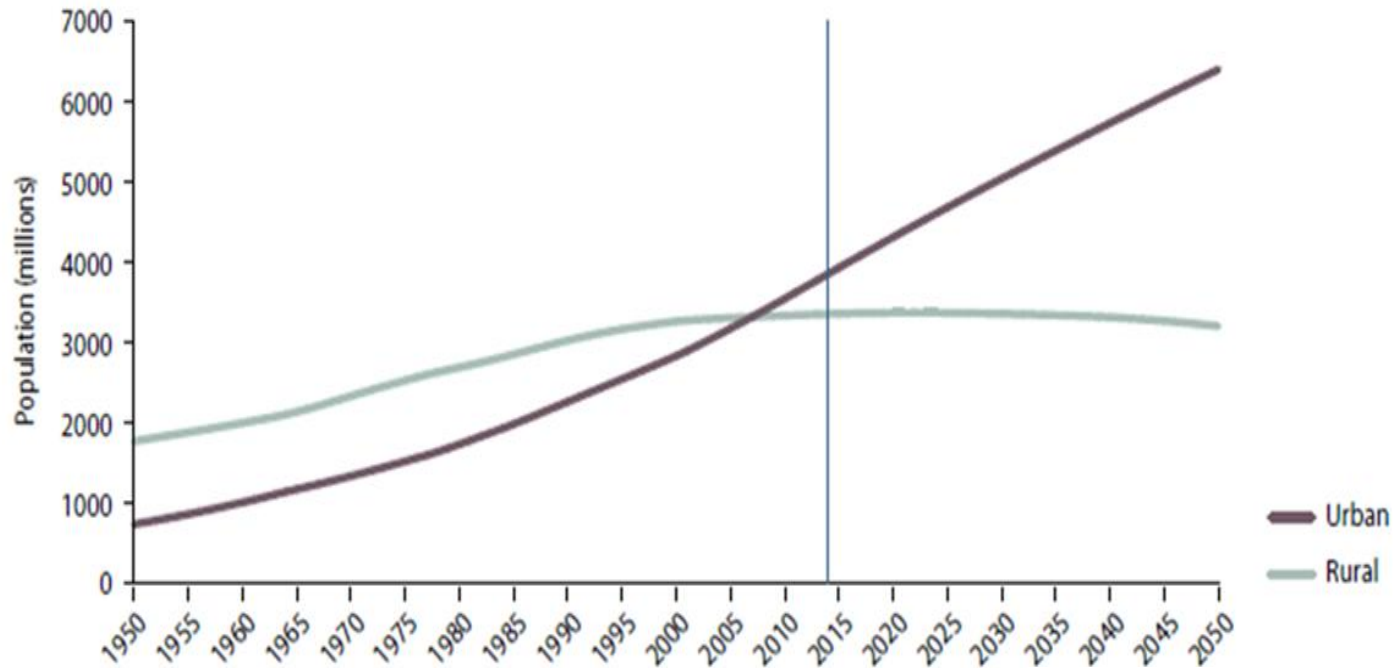


# Why: Homo Urbanus



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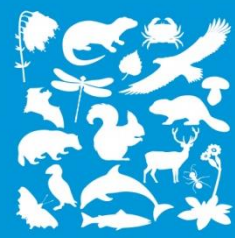
Urban and rural population of the world, 1950–2050



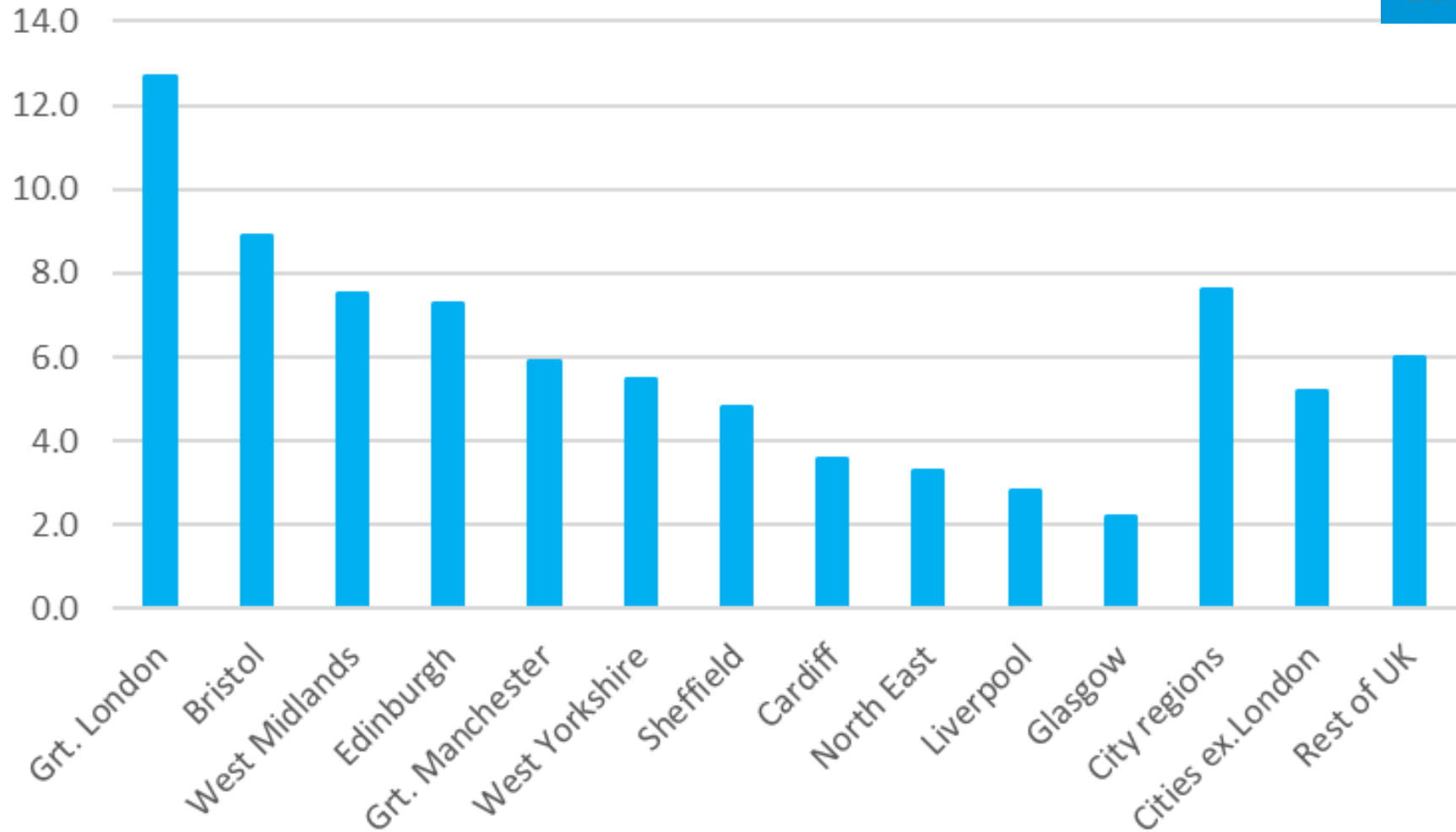
A majority of the world's population lives in urban areas

# Why: Homo Urbanus

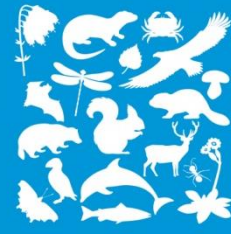
% change in population 2015-25



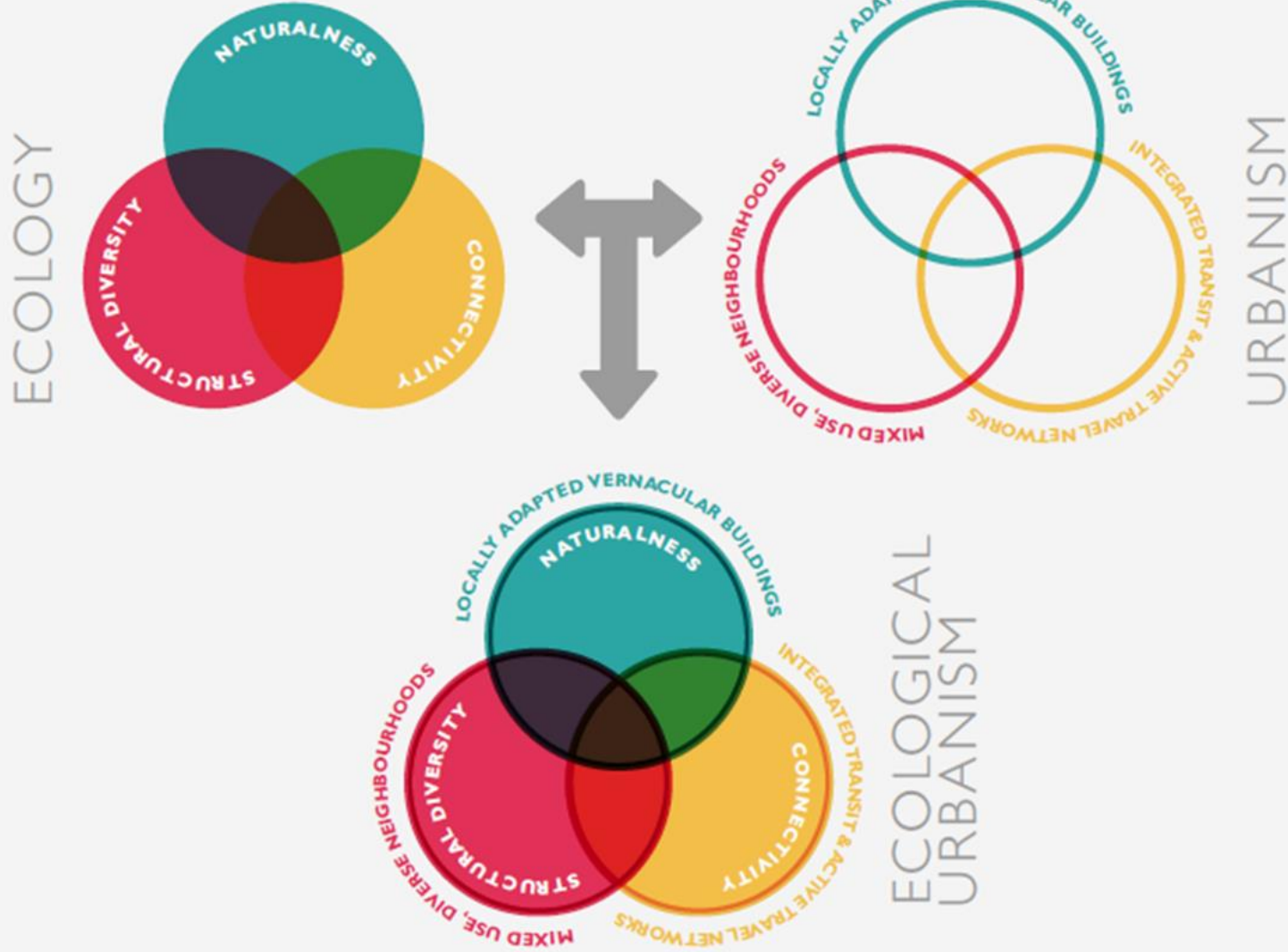
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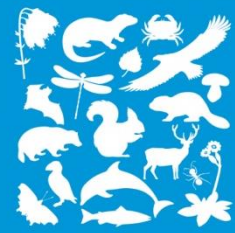
# What: Ecological Urbanism



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# What: Ecological Urbanism



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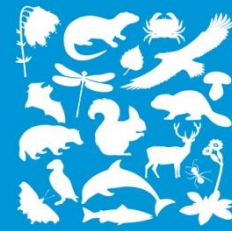
Not only about 'more and better  
greenspaces' ...

....*ecological urbanism* is about embedding  
nature into the very fabric of the city

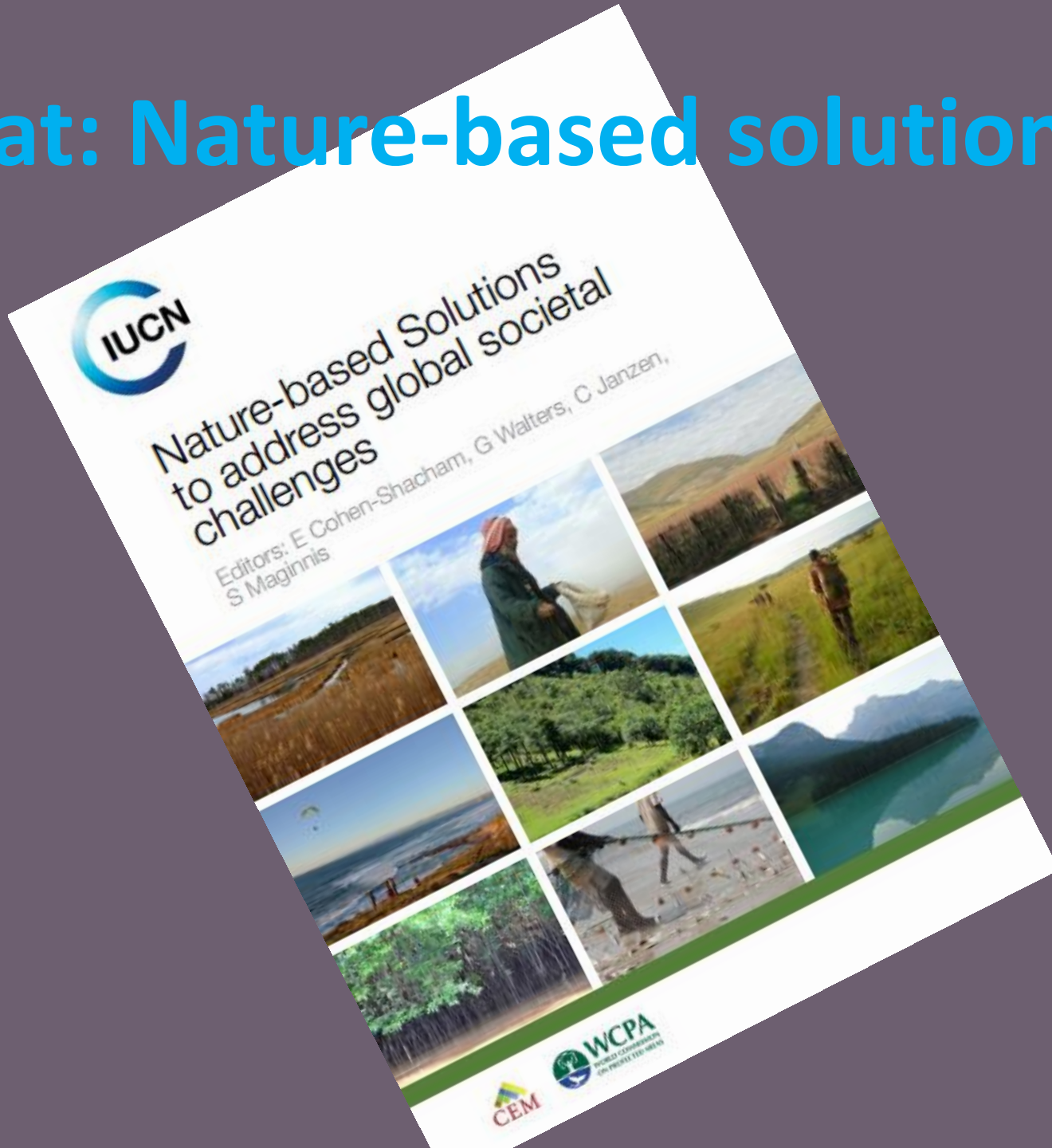
....and building whole *system* resilience



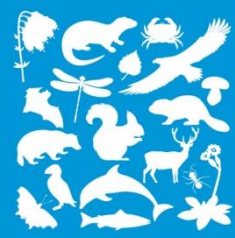
# What: Nature-based solutions



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# What: Nature-based solutions



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*“....actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems, that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits.”*



# Green and blue networks

Large parks

Pockets parks and squares

Gardens and allotments

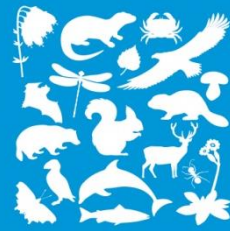
Street trees

Green roofs

Surface greening

Building integrated habitat

Scale of urban ecosystem



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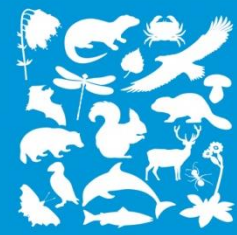
# Where: Viikki, Helsinki



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# Where: Hammarby, Stockholm



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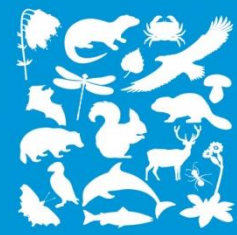
# Where: Hammarby, Stockholm



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# Where: Edinburgh



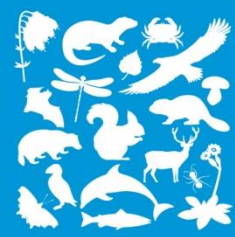
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Royal  
Botanic Garden  
Edinburgh



# Where: Edinburgh



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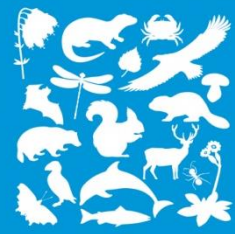


## Edinburgh Living Landscape

*is a new way of thinking about how we  
manage land in a multifunctional way to  
do more for wildlife, citizens and the  
economy*



# Where: Edinburgh

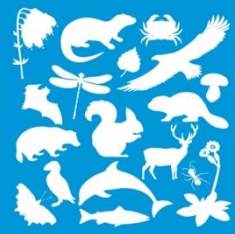


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**Edinburgh Living Landscape**  
*will create, restore and  
connect green areas of the city  
and influence the design of  
green buildings and  
infrastructure*

# Where: Edinburgh



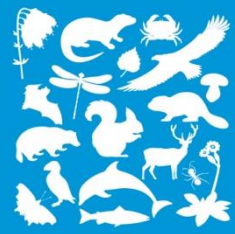
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## Edinburgh Living Landscape

*will provide natural services such as cleaner water, safe, low-pollution active travel networks and green areas within the city for play, exploration and education for children*

# Where: Edinburgh

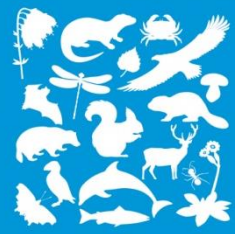


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**Edinburgh Living Landscape**  
*Square metre for butterflies*

# Where: Edinburgh



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**Edinburgh Living Landscape**  
*Nature in your neighbourhood*



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# Benefits: Health

- Increased physical activity
- Stress reduction
- Feelings of happiness
- Reduce heat island effects
- Reduce behavioural and emotional problems



# Benefits: Social/community



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- Managing major life issues
- No correlation with crime/safety issues
- Improved social cohesion
- Outdoor learning
- Green routes to work



# Benefits: Economic



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- Attract and retain people
- Potential positive impact on inward investment
- Cost savings
- Productivity



# Benefits: Environment



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- Improve air quality
- Reduce heat island effect
- Reduce traffic noise  
pollution/visual intrusion
- Diverse habitats





# Costs: Investment required

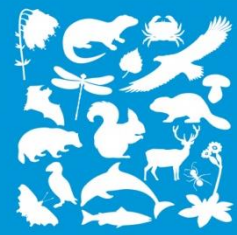


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- Can be cost savings
- Look beyond short-term
- Impacts land values not prices
- Solutions to large investments
- Example of Gothenburg.....



# Costs: Gothenburg 2013



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## GREEN BONDS

FINANCING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



# Summary

- Why: Biodiversity, climate change, urban expansion
- What: Embedding nature, whole system resilience
- How: Nature based solutions
- Where: Here, There and Everywhere
- Wide ranging benefits > costs



**Scotland** *noun* nation of spectacular wildlife including red squirrels, golden eagles, dolphins and Caledonian pine forest. The Scottish Wildlife Trust has fought to protect Scotland's wildlife for nearly 50 years and provides safe havens for wildlife on over 120 reserves.

**If you love Scotland, join the  
Scottish Wildlife Trust today.**

[scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk)

