

Enhancing urban regeneration and spatial justice with Nature-Based Solution:  
Nature-based solutions for improving efficiency in urban settlements. A model for its measurement  
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## ▶ European Union-funded Project

## ▶ What are Nature-based Solutions (NbS)?

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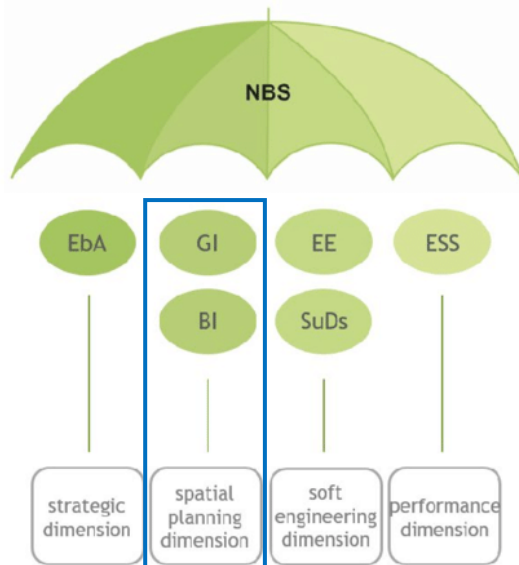
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**Nature for sustainable cities:  
planning cost-effective  
and just solutions for  
urban issues  
(NatSolis)**

**Nature-based Solutions** are “*solutions inspired and supported by nature that are cost-effective, provide simultaneous environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience. Such solutions introduce a greater quantity and variety of nature and natural features and processes into cities, landscapes and seas through systemic, locally adapted and resource-efficient interventions*”

(EC, 2022)

## ▶ NbS as an umbrella concept



- EbA → Ecosystem-based adaptation
- GI → Green infrastructure**
- BI → Blue infrastructure
- EE → Ecological engineering
- SuD**s** → Sustainable urban drainage systems
- ESS → Ecosystem services



## ► Procedural framework



### STEP 1

Device identification

### STEP 2

Identification of a set of indices to quantify the different functions exercised by vegetation in urban ecosystems.

### STEP 3

Development of equations to be associated with each indicator to quantify the functions provided by different green materials (trees, shrubs, hedges)

### STEP 4





Comparison between the identified devices and the Abacus of NbS proposed in the Metropolitan Territorial Plan of the city of Milan.



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## ► Evaluating the performance of NbS

NbS	Measure
Green areas 	Permeability $P = \frac{G_p + \phi_s G_s}{G}$
Rain Garden 	Rainfall interception $R_i = \sum_{i=1}^N \left(1 - e^{-k w_i L_i \Omega_i}\right) \cdot p_i$
Street trees Natural green shelters 	Shading $S = \sum_{i=1}^N \left(1 - e^{-k_i L_i \Omega_i}\right) \cdot p_i$
Green barriers 	Acoustic and visual insulation $I = \sum_{i=1}^N \rho_i v_i   _w e^{-\tau d_{i \perp w}}$

Parameters	Description
$i$	$i$ th element of vegetation
$N$	Number of vegetation elements
$G$	Lot area
$G_i$	Area occupied by $i$
$G_p$	Permeable area
$G_s$	Semipermeable area
$\phi_s$	Permeability coefficient
$p_i = G_i/G$	Fraction of $G$ occupied by $i$
$S_i$	Number of stems
$\Omega_i$	Clumping factor
$v_i   _w$	Volume of linear green elements parallel to $w$
$\rho_i$	Vegetation density
$d_{i \perp w}$	Vegetation distance from $w$
$L_i$	Leaf area index
$k_i$	Extinction coefficient for direct radiation
$k w_i$	Extinction coefficient for rainfall interception
$\tau$	Insulation effect at increasing $d_{i \perp w}$



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