



Co-design, co-development & co-implementation of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS): The EU R&I perspective

**Fifth GGKP Annual Conference
Policy Session A3 - Infrastructure for Disaster Risk
Management: Overcoming barriers to scaling-up
nature-based solutions**

Ugo GUARNACCI, PhD

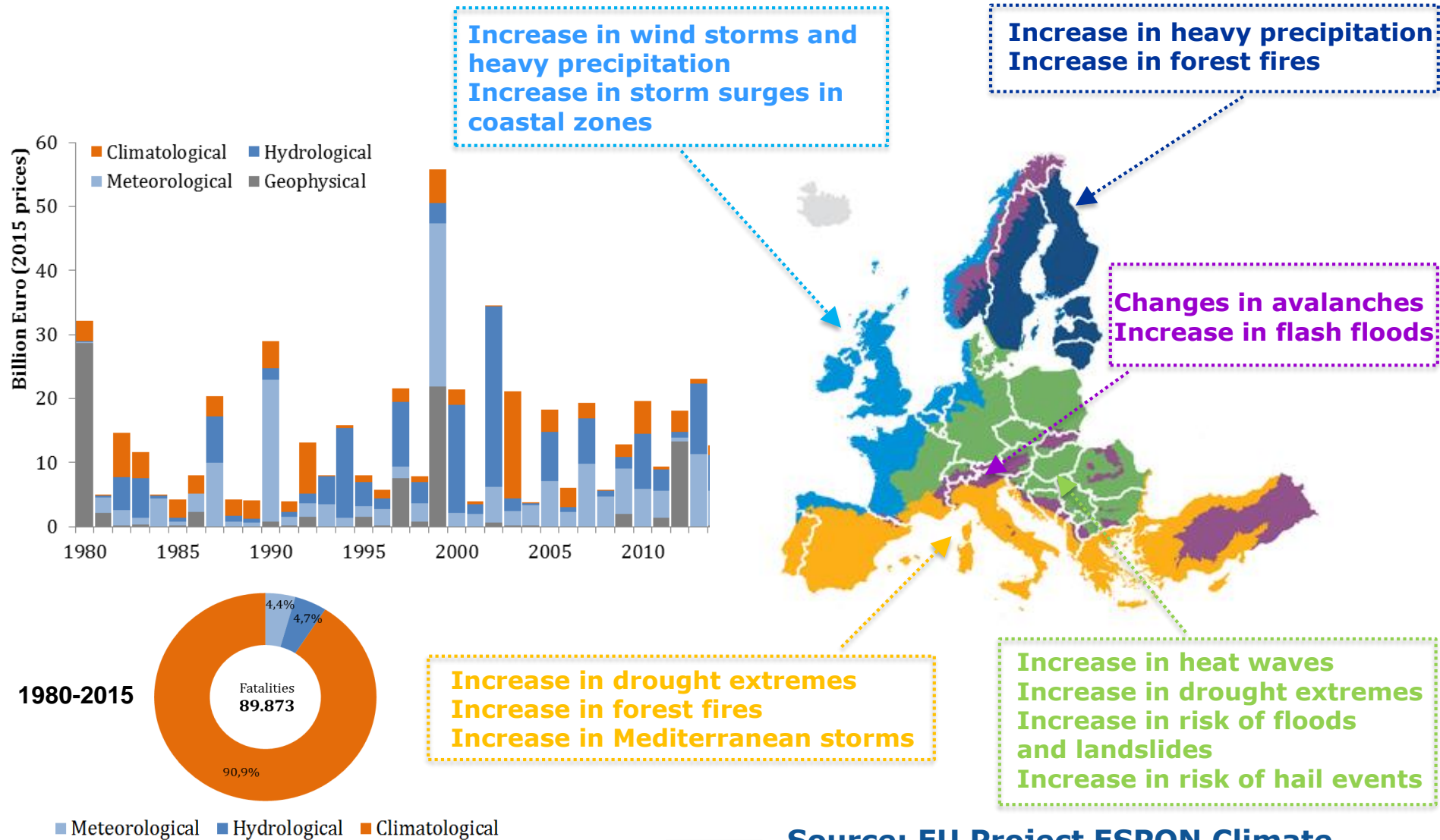
EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DG Research and Innovation

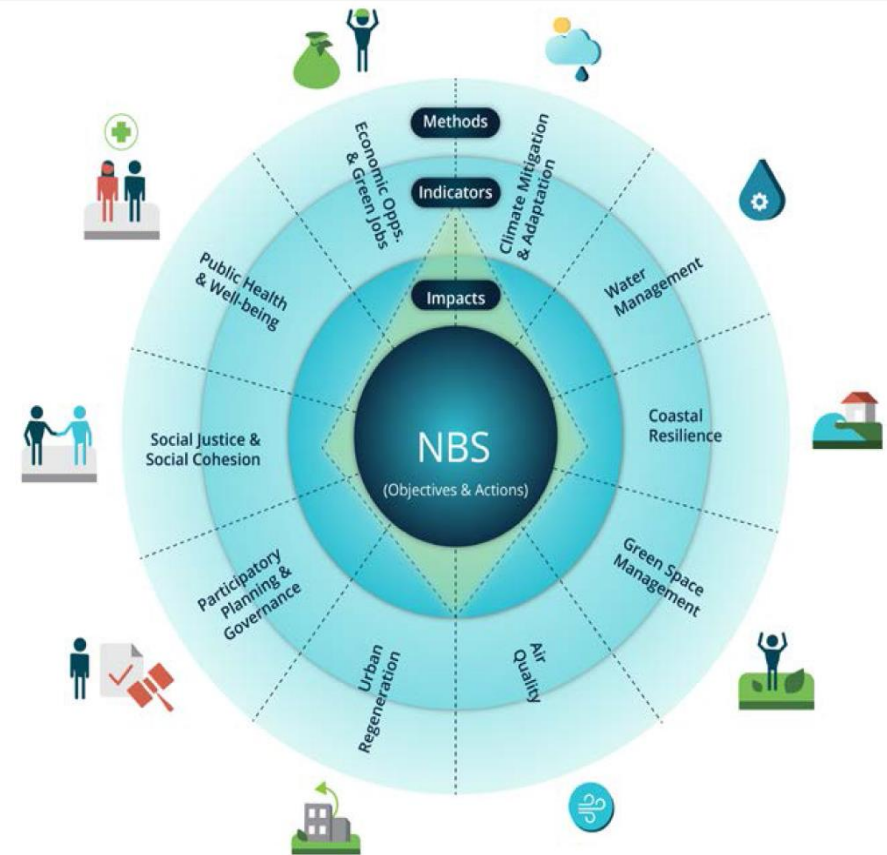
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Content

- *Europe at risk: NBS to address societal challenges*
- *International Policy Context*
- *EU Policy Context*
- *EU R&I: NBS for integrated urban regeneration*

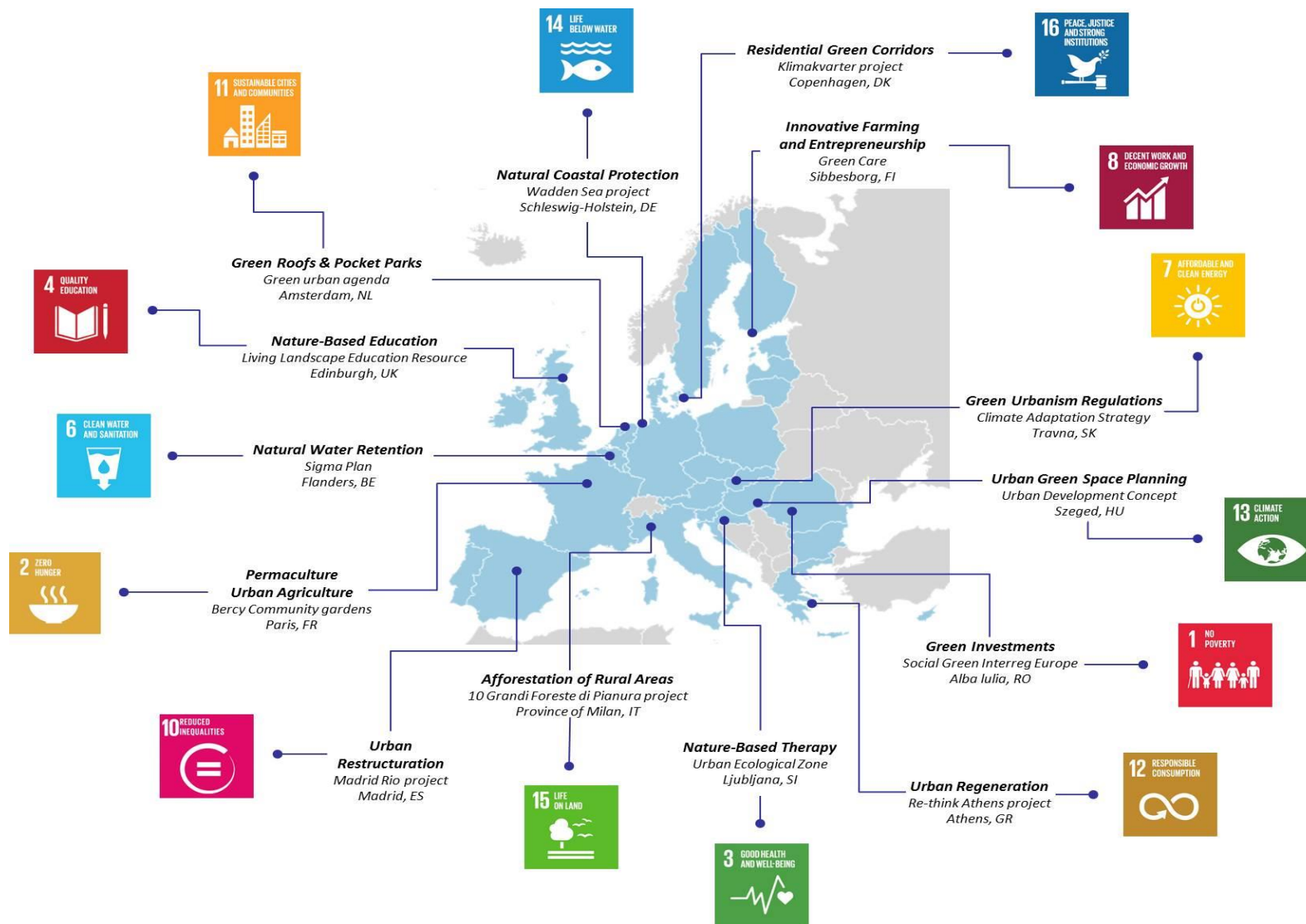


Why focusing on NBS to address societal challenges? Benefits & Co-benefits

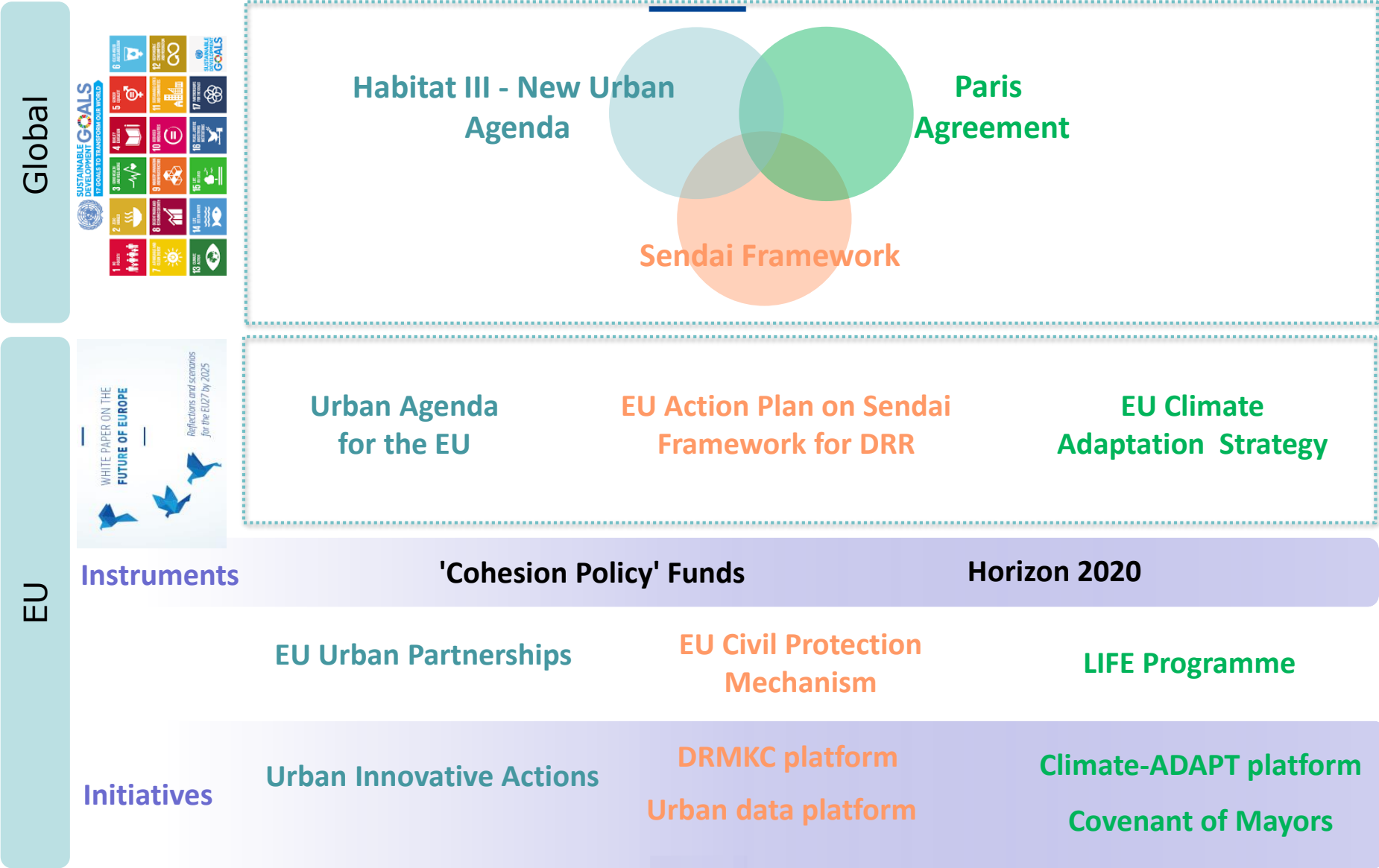




European
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EU/global Policy context for NBS in Cities





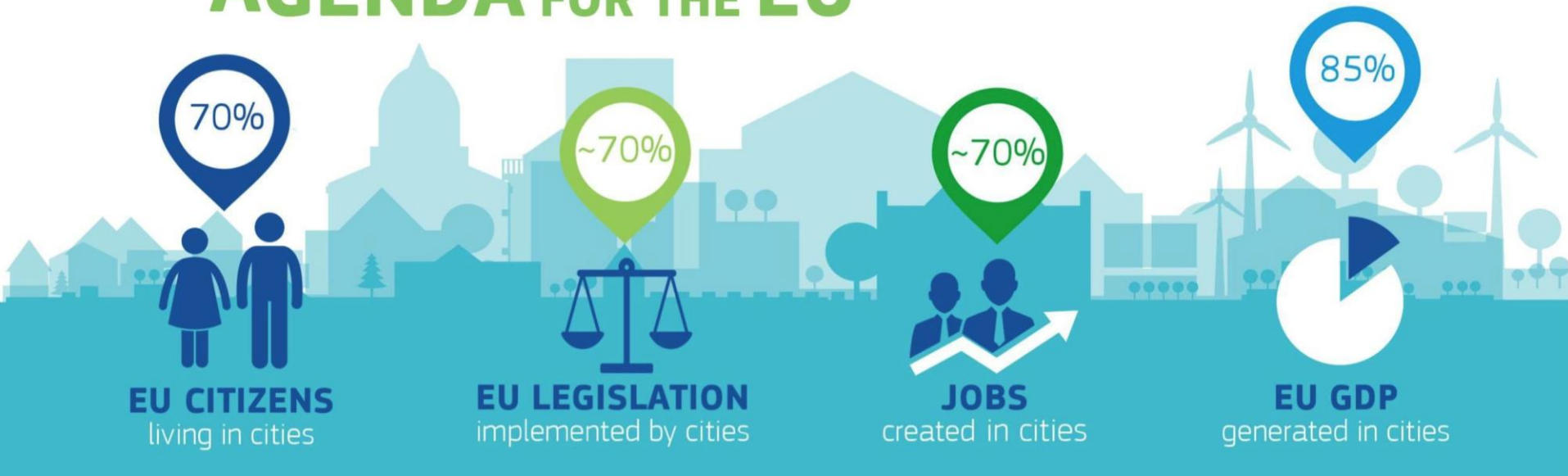
#NewUrbanAgenda
#InnovatingCities

“We will support science, research, and innovation, including a focus on social, technological, digital and **nature-based innovation**, robust science-policy interfaces in urban and territorial planning and policy formulation” [...]

Quito Declaration on sustainable cities and human settlements for all - New Urban Agenda

United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development - Habitat III - October 2016

URBAN AGENDA FOR THE EU



12 PRIORITY THEMES

PARTNERSHIPS WHICH ALREADY STARTED



----- 2017



----- 2017

EU Strategy on Adaptation to climate change (2013)



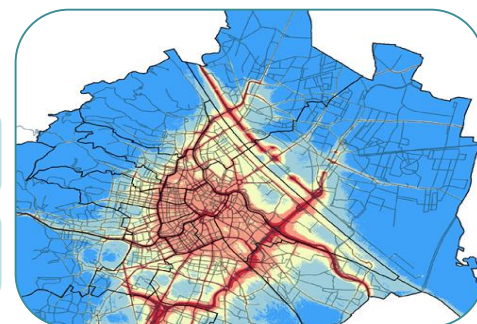
Priority 1: Promoting action by Member States

- Action 1. Encourage MS to adopt Adaptation Strategies and action plans
- Action 2. LIFE funding, including adaptation priority areas
- Action 3. Promoting adaptation action by cities via the Covenant of Mayors initiative



Priority 2: Better informed decision-making

- Action 4. Address knowledge gaps through research
- Action 5. Develop 'one-stop shop' platform for adaptation information in Europe: Climate-ADAPT

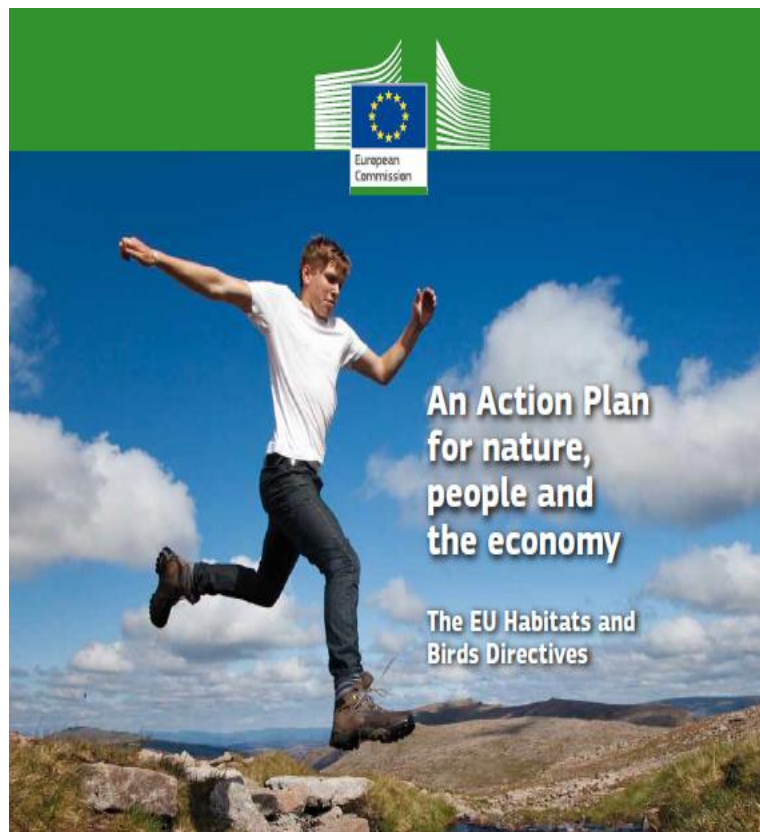


Priority 3: Adaptation in key vulnerable sectors

- Action 6. Climate proofing the Common Agricultural Policy, Cohesion Policy, and the Common Fisheries Policy
- Action 7. **Making infrastructure more resilient**
- Action 8. Promote products & services by insurance and finance markets



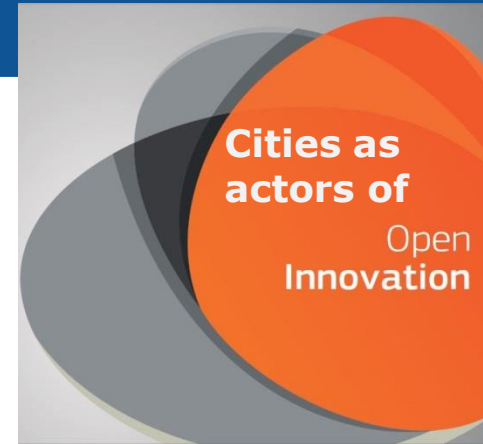
EU Action Plan on Nature, People and the Economy



"[...] the successful economy and society of the future is a society that does not deplete our natural resources and that is in balance, in harmony, with its natural environment."

First Vice-President
Timmermans's closing
speech – 6 June 2017

Horizon 2020: EUR 80 billion (2014-2020) Smart & Sustainable Cities with NBS



Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships



EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF INNOVATION

A place to bring
ideas to life



Barcelona

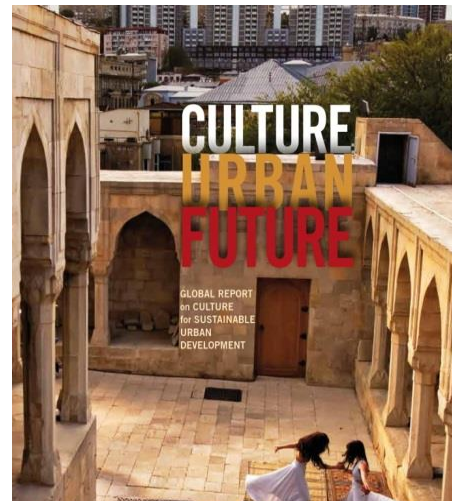
Amsterdam

Paris

Horizon 2020: Linking Natural & Cultural Capital



Introducing the initiative “Charter of Rome on Natural and Cultural Capital”



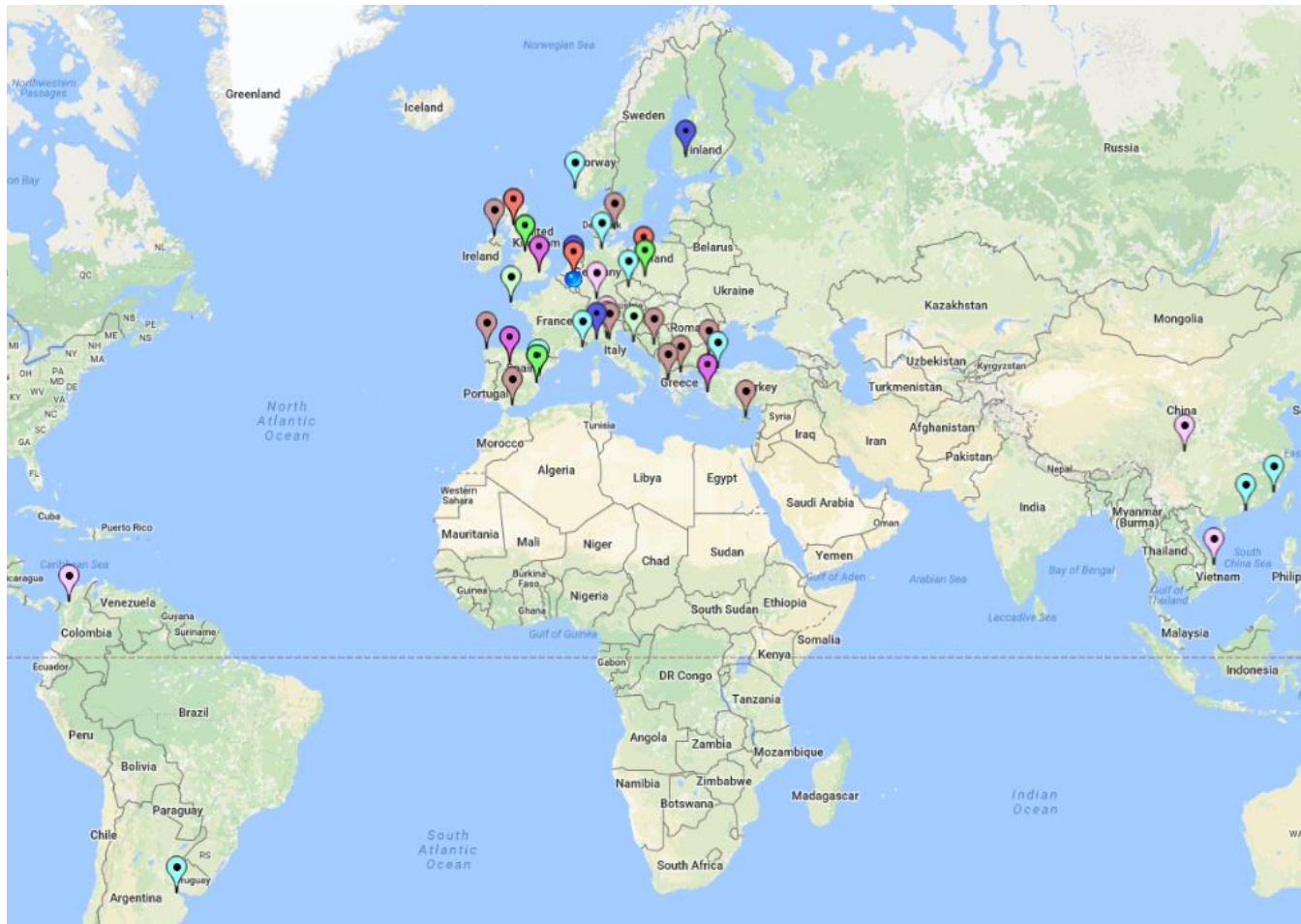
UNESCO Report, 2016





European
Commission

Horizon 2020: Creating a community of practice on NBS & cultural landscapes



ROCK-Regeneration and Optimisation of Cultural heritage
in creative and Knowledge cities

International R&I cooperation for Smart & Sustainable Cities with NBS

- Close collaboration with the **Belmont Forum: Sustainable Urbanisation Global Initiative – Food-Water-Energy Nexus (SUGI)**



- **EU-China Partnership on Sustainable Urbanisation**
- **EU-CELAC Taskforce on Sustainable Urbanisation**
- **EU-Brazil Sector Dialogue** on Sustainable Cities and Nature-Based Solutions

EU repository on NBS



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An impact evaluation framework to support planning and evaluation of nature-based solutions projects

An EKLIPSE Expert Working Group report



PLATFORM FOR
NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS



Eurobarometer

28.000 citizen consulted:

1. First step: qualitative study

Collect citizen preoccupations, their idea and preferences for the future. 4 examples discussed: a river restoration, a vertical forest, industrial zone regeneration and green roofs.

56 discussion groups in each EU MS (18-70 years old urban dwellers)

2. quantitative opinion survey

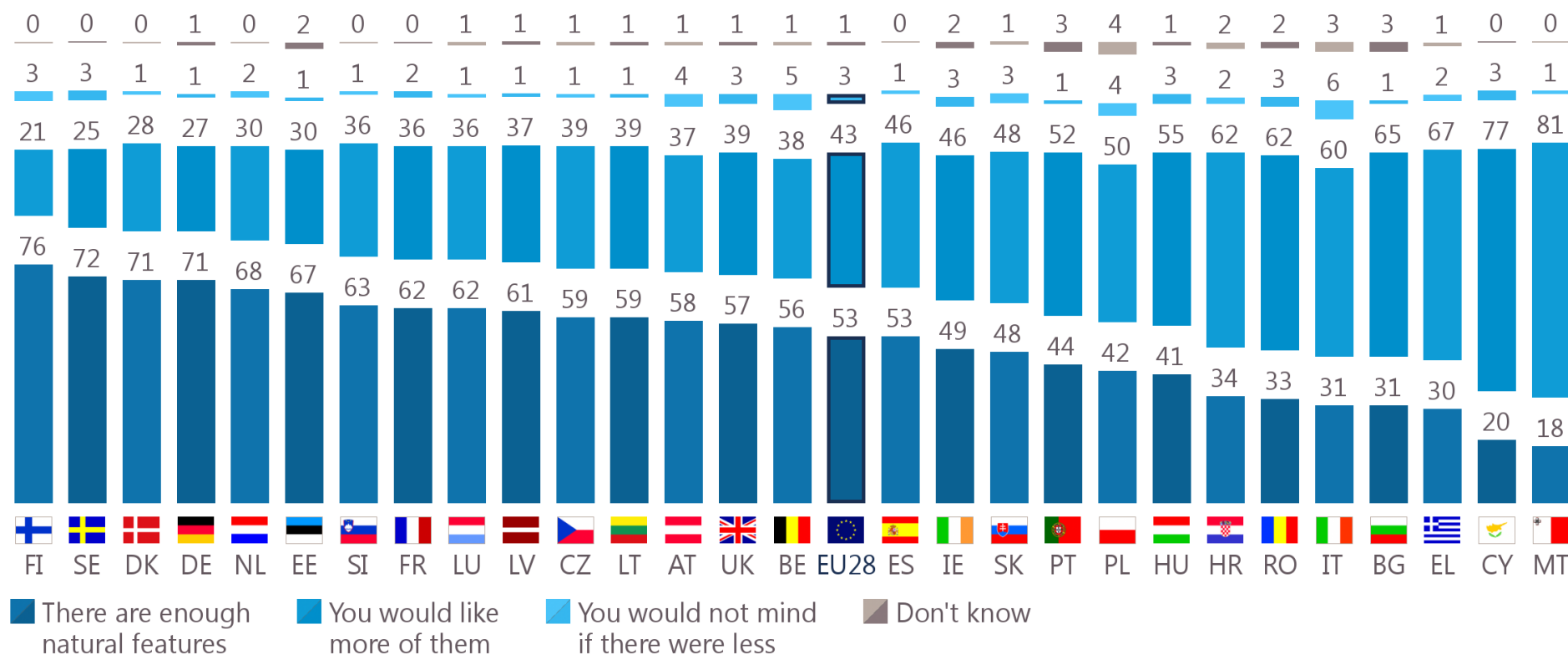
Validate the results of the qualitative study in a quantitative opinion survey statistically representative of the European population



The majority of EU citizens stressed that they have “enough nature” in the area where they live, especially in Northern Europe. However, 43% would like to have more nature in their cities!

QD1 Thinking about the natural features (such as parks, trees, plants, water areas ,etc.) in the area where you live, would you say there are enough of them, would you like more or you would not mind if there were less?

(%)



NBS & Citizen Stewardship



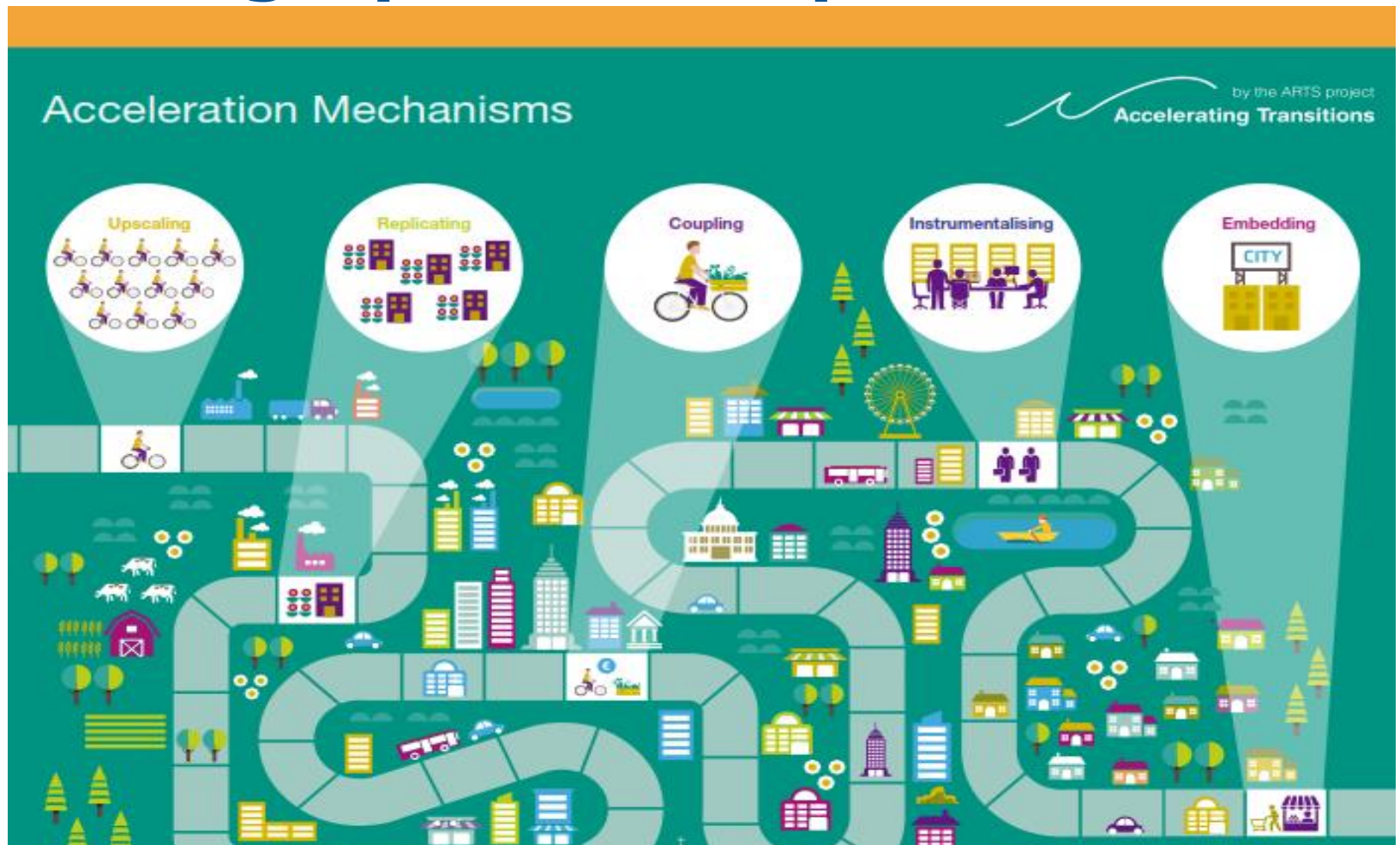
Liked:

- *having **nature** in close proximity;*
- ***strong visual impact;***
- ***clean air** and **noise reduction;***
- ***space saving** - not offering up space to nature at ground level.*

Disliked:

- ***high costs to build and to maintain***
- ***insects or birds** coming into the flats;*
- ***potential structural damage to the building;***
- *exclusivity as greenery only available to a **few** → **gentrification***

Scaling-up NBS is important BUT...





HORIZON 2020

**Thank you
for your attention!**

Find out more:
www.ec.europa/research/horizon2020