Why are we talking about nature-based solutions now?

Pictured: South Pole’s Kariba Forestry Project established to protect the threatened rainforest on Lake Kariba in northern Zimbabwe
Nature Based Solutions

Restoring and protecting living ecosystems can play a huge role in reducing the amount of carbon emissions in the atmosphere.

The conservation, restoration and management of forests, grasslands and wetlands could provide around 37% of the greenhouse gas emissions reductions required by 2030.

- **Reefs and seagrass** absorb CO₂, protect coastlines and provide habitat for fish species.
- **Mangrove and coastal wetlands** absorb CO₂, reduce flood impacts, stabilise slopes and clean water.
- **Forests** absorb CO₂, reduce flood impacts, stabilise slopes, and clean water.
- **Support for local farmers** improves livelihoods to help reduce deforestation and mangrove destruction.
- **Regenerative agriculture** protects and restores soils through cover cropping and low tillage, absorbs CO₂, reduces fertiliser runoff, and increases resilience and productivity.
Nature-based solutions can cost-effectively meet Paris targets

Bronson W. Griscom et al. PNAS 2017;114:11645-11650
## 5 ways corporates use nature-based solutions to meet Paris targets

1. **Using NBS to comply with carbon policies**
   Compliance schemes are spreading at national, subnational and international levels.

2. **Using NBS to reduce emissions to meet voluntary targets for scopes 1, 2, & 3**
   90% of companies with approved Science Based Targets aim to reduce emissions in their value chains, potentially insetting with NBS.

3. **Using NBS to improve supply chain resilience**
   Interventions can also contribute to Sustainable Development Goals.

4. **Using NBS to compensate for residual emissions to meet voluntary targets**
   For example, near farm through reforestation, mangroves and peatland restoration, or clean cookstoves to stop further deforestation.

5. **Setting up carbon funds for financing nature based solutions**
   Private (e.g. Shell fund for NCS and ISA Fund for jaguar conservation) or public (FCPF of the World Bank).
Trends in the Voluntary Carbon Market
Nature-based solutions (NbSs)

- According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, NbSs are “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**.”

![Volume of offsets from REDD+ projects: 2016 vs. 2018](image)

- Between 2016 and 2018, the volume of offsets from REDD+ projects, a prime example of an NbS, nearly **tripled**. Much of that growth came from **Peru**.

- NbSs (such as mangrove restoration) provide both **mitigation** and **adaptation opportunities** with high co-benefits to the communities where these are implemented.

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