LEGEND (from right to left)
Events
NGOs / International actors
EU-related actors
Scientific actors
Activists
Newspapers
Corporations / private actors

Quote: Arlati (2025). *A chronological contextualisation of NbS and upscaling.*

TotalEnergies
Nature-based solutions Initiative for reduction of emissions | June 2019
„Total announced the creation of its new Nature Based Solutions (NBS) unit in June 2019 to develop natural carbon sinks to sequester the remaining tons of CO2 from its operations. Backed by an annual budget of $100 million, Total's objective is to participate in the development of sustainable sequestration capacity of at least 5 million tons of CO2 per year from 2030, while contributing to the preservation of biodiversity, and the sustainable development of local communities".

Microsoft
Microsoft will be carbon negative by 2030 | 16 January 2020
It claims to go carbon negative by 2030, betting on the NbS called „biomass energy carbon capture storage – BECCS". The guardian raises some concerns regarding the actual carbon neutrality of BECCS; also, it is highly land consuming. Another technology Microsoft is betting in is direct air capture (DAC), essentially highly efficient artificial trees. In the article, the author talks about a moral hazard.

ENI
Long-Term Strategic Plan to 2050 and Action Plan 2020-2023 | 28 February 2020
To much next prove. ENI is going to support the Nature Climate Solutions (NCS), launching the NCS initiative.

SHELL Global
Offsetting strategy 2030 | 2020
Assert to be an offsetting strategy in 2020 and funding nature based projects for a total investement of 450m $. The goal is to „mitigate emissions of around 120m metric tonnes of CO2 equivalent (MtCO2e) per year by 2030" using nature-based solutions.

SHELL Global
Ensuring high quality nature-based carbon credits | 2021
Report from Shell on the nature-based solutions business to assess projects related to carbon credits. Talk about REDD mainly.

Monbiot, George | The Guardian
Put a price on nature? We must stop this neoliberal road to ruin | 24 July 2014
Transcript of Monbiot's lecture. He talks about the neoliberal capitalist approach to nature, where ecosystem services and green infrastructure are the new nature that „exist[s] only to serve us". The new Natural Capital Agenda attracts a lot of money but it is „the road to ruin" as it attempts to „harness the natural world to the economic growth that has been distroying it". Different people (and culture) give different values to nature, it does not make sense to monetize nature.

Paddison, Laura | The Guardian
Is natural capital a 'neoliberal road to ruin'? experts discuss | 1 August 2014
She refers to Monbiot discourse, saying that it might be too dangerous to renounce completely to the Natural Capital Agenda „An ecosystem approach is an important framework to allow people to make better decisions about the impacts" on the natural environment. She calls for a new economic system, that she names „bioeconomy".

Gunther, Marc | The Guardian
Behind one of the Nature Conservancy's largest ever forest purchases | 30 January 2015
Article on the new aquisition of 165,000 acres of land by TNC. This reflects the new trend of private investments in conserving (and I would say governing) nature.

Davies, Anne | The Guardian
Game changer: is private funding the only way to save national parks? | 20 December 2018
Example of how private management of public land for nature conservation is working also in Australia. However, the article opens to NGOs funding for nature conservation.

Schwartz, Oscar | The Guardian
Could Microsoft's climate crisis 'moonshot' plan really work? | 23 April 2020
He raises some concerns regarding the plan of Microsoft to become carbon negative. This plan should include NbS, BECCS, and direct air capture (DAC), essentially highly efficient artificial trees. In the article, the author talks about a moral hazard.

Rayener, Dominic; Gray, Murray; Murray, Phil; Foster, Ian | The Guardian
Problems with putting a value on natural capital | 3 February 2021
A letter from scholars on the monetization of nature, raising many concerns on its feasibility and accountability of all necessary pieces. Nature is not a commodity, and it is not simply trees.

Guillot, Louise | POLITICO
Putting a price on nature may help save it | 15 October 2021
Difficulty on putting a price on nature. Not only, even if it is done, it is not said that this will inform political decisions. However, having an idea of that value might help in the near future for biodiversity conservation.

Romano, Valentina | EURACTIV
EU tables 'Nature Restoration Law' to reverse biodiversity loss | 23 June 2022
Nature restoration will bring benefits on all levels, including food security, climate resilience and mitigation, and human health. Understanding that systems are interconnected. Clear reference to NbS. It sets legally binding targets. NbS knowledge can be put into practice through this law (Virginijus Sinkevičius, the EU's Environment Commissioner). Concerns are expressed by NGOs on too much freedom given to Member States; also, there is a need of seeing consistency with other legislations, monitoring plans, and rules for measures.

Hadzhieva, Eli | EURACTIV
Slow progress at CoP27 underlines need for systemic solutions | 22 November 2022
Critique on the fact that the COP summit in Egypt was focussed on loss and damage funding without real achievements. Focus on regenerative agriculture, to support both economy and the environment.

Lawson, Alex; Greenfield, Patrick | The Guardian
Shell to spend $450m on carbon offsetting as fears grow that credits may be worthless | 19 January 2023
It warns on the plan of Shell in offsetting. Still, understanding of nature in economic terms risks to bring to actions that result actual greenwashing.

Rudd, Kassia; Utkarsh, Shreya | EURACTIV
Empowering the Next Generation: Nature-Based Solutions Education | 06 June 2023
Nature is connected to heritage and culture in Europe. Education aspect of NbS is stressed to form environmental education.

Guillot, Louise | POLITICO
Greta's green activists clash with farmers over nature law | 11 July 2023
Debate on the law. Many conservative parties and even the president of the European farmers' association are claiming that it is good to care about biodiversity and the environment, but this law is too punitive for farmers. But requests to increase fundings for farmers advanced by the category have been accepted and included. Thunberg also says that nature and farmers go hand in hand, and that we are supposed to be on the same side.

Niranjan, Ajit | The Guardian
EU passes nature restoration law in knife-edge vote | 12 July 2023
Underline that this law is on behalf of nature and not against any person (César Luena, centre-left MEP). While EEP, European Conservatives and Reformists, Identity and Democracy, and parts of the Renew group were arguing that the law hurts food security and punishes producers. But a latter of scientists argues that this accusations are lacking of evidences and that are contradicting themselves, calling against misinformation.

NBSI
Nature-based Solutions to Climate Change. Key messages for decision makers in 2020 and beyond | 13 February 2020
Message to the presidency of the UNFCCC COP26 in Glasgow, they provide guidelines for NbS in four points: 1) NbS „are not a substitute for a rapid fossil fuel phase-out"; 2) Protection and restoration measures must be done on a wide range of ecosystems on land and in the sea; 3) „NbS are designed, implemented, managed and monitored by or in partnership with Indigenous peoples, and local communities through a process that fully respects and champions local rights and knowledge, and generates local benefits"; 4) „NbS support or enhance biodiversity, that is, the diversity of life from the level of the gene to the level of the ecosystem".

GFC
Action alert: join us to oppose nature-based solutions greenwash on International Day for Biological Diversity | 16 May 2020
#OurNaturesNotOurSolution was launched to counter all these solutions that were sold as green, as a greenwashing action.

CLARA
CLARA Submission to Standing Committee on Finance | 28 July 2020
With their submission paper, asks the UN Global Climate Action Summit 2019 to talk about the meaning of NbS. CLARA agrees with IUCN standards. CLARA requests to define what projects are not NbS. The 'red-lines' are: NbS must reinforce the importance of ecological integrity and conservation of biodiversity (not only about carbon sequestration); no exotic or single-species, NbS as a cover for business as usual as offsetting solutions for fossil fuels; must not include geoengineering technologies. CLARA demands a hierarchy of NbS according to the co-benefits they bring, prioritizing mitigation and adaptation impact.

Doreen Stabinsky | TWN and ACB
Nature-based solutions or nature-based seductions? | September 2020
A plea against greenwashing, pro-carbon-offset and carbon marketing practices from corporations that are using NbS for their interests, all „dangerous myths'. It warns from the ambiguity of the concept. „Solutions for what? Whose problems are being solved? Who is profiting from the „solution'? Who put the carbon into the atmosphere in the first place and who should be responsible for removing it?" (p.3)

FOEI
Chasing Carbon Unicorns | February 2021
„It is clear that there is a huge economic incentive to ignore all the science presented here." (p.19). Criticizes the offsetting and the net zero practices. These are „false zero strategies," supported by market-friendly academics and NGOs. Demands for „real zero approach" for emission reductions at sufficient scale by governments through a) phasing out use of fossil fuels and b) investing in and supporting ecosystems and the people depending on those. „Market will not rescue us "if we think so, the planet is going to burn" (p.19).

GYBN, Y4N and YOUNGO
What are nature-based solutions? Risks, concerns, and opportunities | April 2021
Information brief where youth representatives speak about the problems around the concept of NbS. Points out the variety in definitions. States that NbS can play a significant role but limited, it must be combined with decarbonization (p.5). Also, it warns about greenwashing, monocultures, lack of social safeguards, lack of NbS, and a plea for natural and social scientists to work together. Additionally, warns about off setting of interventions of major corporations in the global south. However, NbS as umbrella term function as a bridging tool to mainstreaming „nature and biodiversity into other sectors and decision-making" (p.10).

Counsell | WRM
Conservation NGOs Gift Polluters a Massive Land Grab called Nature Based Solutions | May 2021
Published an online article on the bad work of TNC to have created in 2017 false promises on its activities, thereby having led to misinterpretation of results for policy making of countries and also of the IUCN. Especially, they mention that the origin of the term is to be found inside „large international conservation groups" as a mechanism to get funding for their own interests. This cynic view is also coupled with greenwashing actions and as an excuse from governments to avoid unpopular political decisions. It is defined as "a plan to cash in on protected areas".

Corporate accountability, Global Forest Coalition and FOEI
The Big Con | June 2021
The report analyses the operations of „Big Polluters" in their work to reach sustainability through net zero climate plans investing a series of solutions, NBS being one of those. In particular, the report claims that the „Big Polluters" use Big Polluters to commodify nature. [...] and claim that the carbon removal via these projects can balance out their continued high levels of emissions" (p.12). The report underlines four flaws of net zero climate plans, the most important of which is that these plans „ignore the simple truth that the climate crisis is [...] a problem of political will and cannot be solved technologically" (p.15). The report further describes three strategies deployed by the „Big Polluters" in using the the net zero climate plans, namely 1) Buy political goodwill to help secure net zero policies, 2) Influence policy to lock in net zero agenda, and 3) Shape academic research to validate net zero. In conclusion, the report calls for real solutions and climate justice stating that „the cross-sectoral solutions we need already exist, are proven, and are scalable now" (p.37).

GYBN, YOUNGO and Y4N
Global youth position statement on nature-based solutions | November 2021
Presented during UNFCCC COP26. In the key messages, they state that NbS „is a new term for an old idea", „is vulnerable to greenwashing", „must not delay the urgently needed decarbonization of our economy", dominant narratives promote mainly carbon off-setting schemes only; „must be grounded in justice, equity, and inclusion"; legal framework is required to prevent misuse and promote justice and rights; should focus on local communities, indigenous people and rights of nature; they „will not tolerate polluters and decision-makers wo co-opt and misuse the term to evade their responsibilities".

WRM
Statement: NO to Nature Based "Solutions" | 15 March 2022
Criticises the net-zero strategies of corporations while keep increasing their production. This is a „dangerous distraction" Mentions also Total, Microsoft, Eni, Shell, BP and Unilever that are making „nature-based solutions the core of their climate action plans while the conservation industry tops into corporate nature-based solutions funding to expand their control over forests" (p.1). NbS are a scam that „will not curb pollution but will result in nature-based dispossessions because they will enclose the remaining living spaces of Indigenous Peoples, peasants and other forest-dependent communities and reduce "nature" to a service provider for offsetting corporations' pollution and to protect the profits of those corporations most responsible for climate chaos" (p.1). Resist to grab peoples' territories. Also, other concepts such as nature positive solutions risk to increase the chaos on biodiversity and nature conservation, with corporations profiting from this.

Youth Network partners
Webinar Nature Based Solutions: the good, the bad, and the youth perspective | 23 March 2022
Because youth did not have a voice at the table of decision makers on NbS, they decided to make a survey asking about NbS among youth. Concerns and enthusiasms and suggestions came up and are summed up in the global youth position statement.

NBSI
Nature-based Solutions included in COP27 Cover Decision text | 22 November 2022
Welcome the fact that NbS have been inserted in the decision text on forest, but it is not only that. It is key that these propositions are translated into an implementation and actions avoiding misuses. „With NbS now in the text, it is essential that it is understood that NbS are not an alternative to drastic emissions cuts, without which ongoing rising global average temperatures will turn the biosphere into a net source of greenhouse gases, and so those investing in NbS must also be doing everything they can to rapidly scale back use of fossil fuels."

Y4N, YOUNGO and GYBN
Nature-based solutions ahead of COP15: where are we now? | 2 December 2022
„[NbS]'s definition puts nature at the centre of the concept, which is good to see, but it still fails to explicitly mention the need for NbS to be grounded in justice, equity, and inclusion, and rights-based approaches. This aspect needs to be strengthened".

Eggermont et al. 2015
Nature-based Solutions: New Influence for Environmental Management and Research in Europe | September 2015
First attempt to categorize NbS according to scale.

Nesshöver et al. 2017
The science, policy and practice of nature-based solutions: An interdisciplinary perspective | 2017
NbS concept is vague and blurry, with dangers and benefits of it. Connection of NbS to other similar concepts „concepts related to NbS". Stress the market impact on the EU definition. The solution-oriented approach makes the NbS epistemology potent in defining a priori that a problem exists and can be solved. Set of questions to define a case study (p.1226). strength of the NbS concept to think out of the box bridging policy, business, and practice. Risk of overselling nature.

Kabisch et al. (eds.) 2017
Nature-based Solutions to Climate Change Adaptation in Urban Areas. Linkages between Science, Policy and Practice | 2017
Indicators for assessing the effectiveness of NbS for climate change mitigation and adaptation in an urban areas. The chapter from Frantzeskaki et al. refers to upscaling NbS as a multi-actor partnership process.

Raymond et al. 2017b
A framework for assessing and implementing the co-benefits of nature-based solutions in urban areas | July 2017
Upscaling of NbS as one of the stages in mainstreaming NbS. The commitment of the scientific community to spread the word. Also, the importance of the planners with the role of systematically incorporating NbS in the governance structures of cities.

Faivre et al. 2017
Nature-Based Solutions in the EU: Innovating with nature to address social, economic and environmental challenges | September 2017
NbS concept promotes the transition „from a resource-intensive growth model towards a more resource-efficient inclusive and sustainable growth model" (p. 510). In general, very market-, efficiency-driven mentality. Biodiversity is a pre-requisite through which NbS function.

Frantzeskaki 2019
Seven lessons for planning nature-based solutions in cities | January 2019
Analysis of 15 NbS experiments in Europe from which 7 lessons are gathered „(a) NbS need to be aesthetically appealing to citizens, (b) NbS create new green urban commons, (c) experimenting with NbS requires trust in the local government and in experimentation process itself, (d) cocreation of NbS requires diversity and learning from social innovation, (e) NbS require collaborative governance, (f) an inclusive narrative of mission for NbS can enable integration to many urban agendas and (g) design NbS so as to learn and replicate them on the long-term." (p.101)

Cohen-Shacham et al. 2019
Core principles for successfully implementing and upscaling Nature-based Solutions | May 2019
Definition of core principles that distinguish NbS from other similar approaches (e.g. GI and EbA). Three principles are specific to NbS only: „NbS can be implemented alone or in an integrated manner with other solutions; NbS should be applied at a landscape scale; and, NbS are integral to the overall design of policies, measures and actions, to address societal challenges" (p.29). At the same time, NbS do not convincingly cover aspects of uncertainty, participation, and temporal scale.

Dorst et al. 2019
Urban greening through nature-based solutions – Key characteristics of an emerging concept | May 2019
An analysis of the NbS concept compared to similar approaches (such as GI and EbA). The authors suggest a more performance-based planning approach and conclude that NbS can serve in bridging different bodies of knowledge to allow researchers and policymakers discussing on the role of nature in addressing current climate challenges.

Dushkova and Haase 2020
Not Simply Green: Nature-Based Solutions as a Concept and Practical Approach for Sustainability Studies and Planning Agendas in Cities | January 2020
Contribute to the concept of NbS debate. Demonstrate the multiple co-benefits of NBS based on the H2020 CONNECTING Nature. It is key for the implementation of NbS the start from already sedimented practices of greening rather than introducing totally disruptive innovations from outside, use of local knowledge (p.18).

Seddon et al. 2020
Understanding the value and limits of nature-based solutions to climate change and other global challenges | January 2020
Nature-based thinking. Interdisciplinary context is important, not only economic thinking.

Randrup et al. 2020
Moving beyond the nature-based solutions discourse: introducing nature-based thinking | March 2020
Nature-based thinking, saying that governance and social aspects are as important as economic, balancing anthropocentric and ecocentric values.

Xie et al. 2020
Nature-based solutions for urban biodiversity governance | May 2020
The study analyses 199 NbS cases in Europe to explore whether and how these solutions can address biodiversity. While NbS are broadly used to address climate mitigation and adaptation, these are rarely used to enhance specific species, suggesting that new targets to govern urban biodiversity should be developed to thoroughly address climate change-related challenges.

Woronieki et al. 2020
Nature unsettled: how knowledge and power shape 'nature-based' approaches to societal challenges | September 2020
Nature-based approaches as an umbrella name. Importance of power given to NbS and how the framing of nature constrains or enables certain actors. Nature is not external to human society.

Babí Almenar et al. 2021
Nexus between nature-based solutions, ecosystem services and urban challenges | January 2021
NbS as an umbrella concept for other approaches, set of sets. Clear link to urban challenges.

Seddon et al. 2021
Getting the message right on nature-based solutions to climate change | January 2021
Risks of supporting NbS as a panacea; greenwashing; green grabbing. Doubts on the connection between NbS and biodiversity: system approach, not only conservation for its own sake but understanding that conserving nature is for our sake.

Kotsila et al. 2021
Nature-based solutions as discursive tools and contested practices in urban nature's neoliberalisation processes | 2021
Risk of treating nature apolitically, too much expectation from the term. Warning about a neoliberal understanding of nature favouring market independence. Pushing for the inclusion of other actors.

Sowińska-Świerkosz and García 2022
What are Nature-based solutions (NBS)? Setting core ideas for concept clarification | January 2022
On the concept of NbS, they set some basic concepts to distinguish between an intervention and an NbS. They say that if the solution does not present any living system is not an NbS; similarly, if no impact on social dimension exists, it is not an NbS but a normal green solution, an aspect of co-creation. In general, the paper is rather disappointing. Attempt in reducing the spectrum of what an NbS can be.

Xie et al. 2022
Mainstreaming sustainable innovation: unlocking the potential of nature-based solutions for climate change and biodiversity | February 2022
Discussion about the meaning of mainstreaming NbS as innovative approach to urban sustainability. The authors argue for a stepping stone approach to, facilitate the embeddedness and maintenance of NbS across urban infrastructure regimes" (p. 119). These stepping stones are organised in NbS for climate, for biodiversity, and for climate and biodiversity (pp. 123-129).

Melanidis and Hagreman 2022
Competing narratives of nature-based solutions: Leveraging the power of nature or dangerous distraction? | March 2022
Competing narratives of NbS, so powerful that are able to shape the policy conversation in global environmental decision-making. Ambiguity of the concept is an opportunity but also dangerous. How it is frame it can favour certain actors and hinder others.

Tozer et al. 2022
Catalysing sustainability pathways: Navigating urban nature based solutions in Europe | May 2022
Pathways to change the status quo thorugh the scaling up of NbS, adopting a stepping stone approach. This approach is able to generate catalytic change through the assemblage of key interventions that can spark new socio-material orders towards normalisation of practices.

Tozer et al. 2022
Transnational governance and the urban politics of nature-based solutions for climate change | May 2022
Importance of different frames (nature for resilience, nature for mitigation, the integrated benefits of nature, and nature first) by which NbS are discussed that influence the ways in which international actors design their agendas.

Mahmoud et al. (eds.) 2022
Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Urban Planning. Greening Cities, Shaping Cities | 2022
The book summarises the experiences on NbS planning and implementation collecting insights from different Horizon 2020-funded projects and beyond. focusing on spatial challenges from a strategic perspective (part I) and focusing on real case studies and their performances (part II).

Frantzeskaki et al. 2022
Nature-Based Solutions for Resilient and Thriving Cities: Opportunities and Challenges for Planning Future Cities | 2022
Chapter 1 of Mahmoud et al. (eds.) 2022. Inter-scalability in planning to facilitate multi-level collaboration, the act of communication between stakeholders at different scales. Risk of opportunity-driven thinking rather than strategy approach. Mission-oriented approach.

Seddon 2022
Harnessing the potential of nature-based solutions for mitigating and adapting to climate change | June 2022
Many governments, financial institutions, and corporations are embracing NbS concept for their net zero strategies, but many local groups, grassroots organisations and some nations are rejecting the term due to a) uncertainties about when, where, how, and for whom NbS are effective, and b) warries regarding the misuse in greenwashing, violations of human rights through top-down governance actions, and threats to biodiversity in the sense that only afforestation and low-diversity non-native species are supported through investments. She calls for the help of the scientific community. Current estimations of potential benefits of NbS or related (see Anderegg et al. 2020 on NCS) do not consider permanencies (e.g. anthropocentric stressors and climate change) and leakage phenomenon (problem derived by upscaling of NbS in one region that can result in the export of ecosystems loss and damage to another especially when it involves the destruction of native vegetation). In this sense, there is a huge gap between needs and implementation, this due to the fact that these solutions are not yet mainstreamed and integrated into planning tools. She suggests that hybrid solutions can be good in situations of high risk that need a prompt answer, while NbS for all other cases.

Raymond et al. 2023
The role of nature-based solutions and senses of place in enabling just city transitions | February 2023
Importance of senses to recognise the interface between structural and emotional transformation of place. The authors conclude that NbS planning should activate structural and emotional transformations and that implementing NbS should consider justice and different senses of place.

Adams et al. 2023
Mainstreaming nature-based solutions in cities: A systematic literature review and a proposal for facilitating urban transitions | March 2023
Mainstreaming is the process of uptake and becoming a norm, but no real definition and understanding of it. Scaling is one out of five mechanisms for mainstreaming NbS. Importance of the connector.

Hölscher et al. 2023
Strategies for mainstreaming nature-based solutions in urban planning in ten European cities | May 2023
Strategies of cities to mainstream NbS. Importance of narrative creation around NbS (strategy a). Co-governance and co-creation to unlock collaboration and co-funding (strategy b). Reflexivity and monitoring (strategy c). Mainstreaming is important for upscaling (go back to Raymond et al 2017b). Importance of story-telling, say things easily.

McPhearson et al. (eds.) 2023
Nature-Based Solutions for Cities | 2023
The book collects a series of transdisciplinary and interdisciplinary experiences worldwide on the planning and implementation of NbS in cities relaying on different scientific methodologies, quantitative and qualitative, but also on art and communication.

European Commission
EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020 | 3 May 2011
Nature-based interventions is mentioned one time as able to create „new skills, jobs and business opportunities" (p.3)

European Commission
Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2014-2015 | 10 December 2013
In the work programme n. 12, Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials, nature-based solutions are included in „other actions", number 10, in relation to „collecting citizens' concerns on future research agendas. Alternative to other concepts, namely Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Green Infrastructure, Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction and Natural Water Retention Measures.

Balian et al. 2014
BiodivERsA workshop report | 11-12 June 2014
„NbS refers to the use of nature in tackling challenges such as climate change, food security, water resources, or disaster risk management, encompassing a wider definition of how to conserve and use biodiversity in a sustainable manner. By going beyond the threshold of traditional biodiversity conservation principles, this concept intends to additionally integrate societal factors such as poverty alleviation, socio-economic development and efficient governance principles" (p.3).

Potočnik, Janez | European Commissioner for the Environment
Nature based solutions are often also the cheapest solutions | 16 October 2014
„Our message about nature based solution should be simple, loud, clear and understandable" (p.2). Still, ecosystem services and NbS were mixed.

European Commission
Towards an EU Research and Innovation policy agenda for Nature-Based Solutions & Re-Naturing Cities | 2015
„To become the leader in the world in R&I and market for nature-based solutions" (p.4). NbS are seen fulfilling four main goals: enhancing sustainable urbanisation, restoring degraded ecosystems, developing climate change adaptation and mitigation, and improving risk management and resilience. Call for actions for future R&I in Europe, especially using NbS in urbana eras for fostering urbnn regeneration and improving well-being.

Council of the European Union
Outcome of the 3441st Council meeting. Environment | 16 December 2015
Mid-term review of the EU biodiversity strategy 2020. At point number 11 the council of EU „RECOGNISES the importance of integrating green infrastructure and nature-based solutions into financing instruments" (p.3).

European Commission
Special Eurobarometer 444 - Citizens' view on nature-based solutions | 2015-2016
50% in favour of using nature solutions. 80% agrees on the EU promoting NbS.

European Commission
Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2016-2017 - first version | 25 July 2016
In the work programme n. 12, Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials, nature-based solutions possess their own stream of financing. Focus on the role of NbS for combating climate change in cities.

OPERAs
Introducing Oppla: a global platform for nature-based solutions aiming to revolutionise environmental knowledge | 20 September 2016
A platform for information and education on nature-based solutions (although the project did not include NbS in its description).

European Commission
First definition of nature-based solutions | 22 November 2016
„Solutions that are inspired and supported by nature, which are cost-effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience. Such solutions bring more and more diverse, nature and natural features and processes into cities, landscapes and seascapes, through locally adapted, resource-efficient and systemic interventions."

European Commission
H2020 Funding Programme 2016-2017 - second version | 24 April 2017
Nature-based solutions possess their own stream of financing. Focus on the role of NbS for combating climate change in cities, part of „2. Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials". Demonstration in large projects of NbS based on the EC Expert Group report.

Raymond et al. 2017a
An impact evaluation framework to support planning and evaluation of nature-based solutions projects | EKLIPSE expert group on NBS report
Framework and indicators suggestion for bringing the NbS to further development.

OPERAs
Five years of ecosystem science for policy & practice 2012—2017 | end of 2017
End of the project. The project was meant to explore the potential of using ecosystem services (ES) and natural capital (NC). In their final report, they include the wording of nature-based solutions as an additional concept (p.17).

European Commission
European Green Deal | 11 December 2019
„The Commission will adopt a new, more ambitious EU strategy on adaptation to climate change. [...] Work on climate adaptation should continue to influence public and private investments, including on nature-based solutions" (p.5). Importance of data accessibility for everyone to integrate instruments for risk management.

Bulkeley 2020
Nature-based Solutions Towards Sustainable Communities. Analysis of EU-funded projects | April 2020
Independent expert report on NbS coming from the analysis of European-funded projects. Focus on co-creation and governance. Transformative power of NbS. The report concludes to increase research about the significance of nature and the role of businesses and worry from potential negative impacts related to gentrification.

European Commission
EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 | 20 May 2020
The business case for biodiversity, NbS and upscaling, economy serves people, society, and nature.

European Commission
Horizon 2020 Work Programme 2018-2020 | 17 September 2020
In the work programme n. 12, Climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials', nature-based solutions appear in several streams of financing in addition to its own stream, much broader applications also outside cities.

NetworkNature
NetworkNature Nature-based Solutions: Taskforces - Welcome Package | October 2020
Start of the Taskforces (TF) on NbS. It is a clustering action with the aim of „enabling synergies, strengthening networks, sharing and synthesizing knowledge, communicating and disseminating results with a wider impact, and saving resources around common areas of work" (p.1).

The New Leipzig Charter
The transformative power of cities for the common good | December 2020
Call for cities to release their transformative power to pursue the realization of The Green City through the use of NbS in order to protect and regenerate ecosystems and their species (p.4).

European Environment Agency
Nature-based solutions in Europe | January 2021
Report on NbS in Europe. Focus on policy, knowledge and practice of NbS in relation with climate change adaptation. „It is vital that the full potential of nature is leveraged in NbS across all sectors to scale up biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration in order to increase actions for climate change. This action contributes to transformative change (see Strategy 2020). Common understanding and consensus on NbS are needed. In general, how to "mainstream NbS for CCA and DRR into policy on multiple scales supscoring)" is a knowledge gap and research need identified (p.73).

European Commission
Forging a climate-resilient Europe - the new EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change | 24 February 2021
Mentions the role of ecosystem biodiversity and climate change through NbS: especially, point 2.2.4 states the importance of promoting NbS for adaptation, with the necessity to „better communicate (NbS) to decision-makers and practitioners at all levels to improve take-up" (p.11).

NetworkNature
Evaluating the impact of nature-based solutions. A handbook for practitioners | March 2021
Collect experts from H2020 NbS projects to define indicators and criteria for the assessment and monitoring of NbS. It is considered a milestone within the NbS community.

European Commission
The vital role of nature-based solutions in a nature positive economy | April 2022
A nature positive economy refers to an economic system in „which businesses, governments and others, take action at scale to reduce and remove the drivers and pressures fuelling the degradation of nature, and work to actively improve the state of nature and the ecosystem services it provides" (p.6). Analysis of the NbS market in support of this kind of economy. Market and enthusiasm as main boosters, but bottlenecks in the upscaling of high quality NbS (p.8). The increase of the global demand linked to NbS is due to its mainstreaming (p.25). Combination with technological innovations can help the upscaling effort (p.72). Need for a governance approach with a long-term vision to push technology in support of NbS in all phases, one of these being upscaling (p.77). Co-creation as a catalyzer for upscaling good NbS practices (p.92). Also, importance of standards and accreditation in NbS upscaling (p.95). Example of the Netherlands where an insurance firm supported the upscaling of a certain NbS through direct investments into this solution type (p.107). Public sector is the most important actors when it comes to upscaling NbS (p.118).

European Commission
The new EU nature restoration law - First proposal | 22 June 2022
Focus on the economic viability of NbS in comparison to „man-made solutions". From the law: "Restoring ecosystems to good condition means providing nature-based solutions that help both mitigate climate change and pursue the objectives of the EU strategy" (p.5). "Nature and nature-based solutions [...] are fundamental for fighting the climate crisis." (p.18).

Doignon, Gilles | DR RTD Biodiversity European Commission
Presentation on EU biodiversity actions | 27 September 2022
„Work with nature, for nature and people", during NetworkNature event; 27 September 2022. Promotion of the new EU nature restoration law.

NetworkNature
Launch of the Hubs | October 2022
Launch of two hubs (Nordic and Hungarian), with the aim of „further upscaling NBS by fostering multi-level, vertical, collaboration between cities, regions, and national governments." (NN Report 2022, p.2)

European Commission
EU Mission: Adaptation to Climate Change | 1 April 2023
Contributing to delivering the European Green Deal, by creating funding opportunities for climate-change-related projects. Among others, on ad hoc call for NbS is present.

NetworkNature (El Herrak and Lemaitre 2023)
European roadmap to 2030 for research and innovation on nature-based solutions | 2023
Goals „to empower policy, practice, businesses, and citizens in mobilizing the full potential of NBS in achieving a sustainable and just transformation of society, building on robust evidence and expertise" (p.4). Actual one 1 describes the planning of NbS at different scales as still to be improved. This is a challenge for replication and upscaling (p.29). Action area 3, knowledge is needed to promote NbS in the international policy agendas, thereby supporting the "transfer, replication, and upscaling of NBS" (p. 31).

NetworkNature+
Scaling up nature-based solutions to achieve 2030 policy goals | August 2023
Start of the new project. The main goal is to enlarge the „community of nature-based solutions innovators", stating that the "integration of NBS in the EU policy framework has advanced considerably". The work of this project will therefore focus on building network of networks in order to engage new audiences.

European Commission
EU Nature restoration law | 24 June 2024
The EU passes the EU Nature Restoration Law, an unicum worldwide. It represents the most prescriptive attempt for all European countries to protect and restore natural areas. NbS are considered „fundamental for fighting climate crisis" and bolstering simultaneously (points 16, 9, 3) and the implication of such solutions in cities, such as green roofs and green walls, in the the designing of buildings (par. 48, p.9).

World Bank
Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Adaptation. Nature-Based Solutions from the World Bank Portfolio | September 2008
Conservation of biodiversity, for combating climate chaging, NbS are mentioned only in the title.

IUCN
No time to lose – make full use of nature-based solutions in the post-2012 climate change regime | 7-18 December 2009
NbS and ecosystem based adaptation (EbA) as a method to cope with resilience and vulnerability harnessing the power of ecosystems. Only EbA has a definition (p.4). It seems that NbS are a descriptive understanding of EbA.

Dudley et al. 2010 | IUCN, TNC, UNDP, WCS, World Bank, WWF
Natural Solutions: Protected areas helping people cope with climate change
NbS are called „natural solutions". Protected areas key in national strategies for carbon sequestration and biodiversity conservation. Natural solutions strengthen protected areas. Mitigation and adaptation measures and their definition.

IUCN
The IUCN Programme 2013-2016. Adopted by the IUCN World Conservation Congress | September 2012
NbS are promoted in the policy debate.

Cohen-Shacham et al. 2016 (eds.) | IUCN
Nature-based solutions to address climate change
Manifesto. Responding (profitably) to TNC, investments in preservation are necessary. History of NbS concept in the EU, theory and practice.

IUCN
Defining Nature-based Solutions | September 2016
Resolution n. 69 defines „actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems, that address social challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits". During the conference, Launch of the Coalition for Private Investment in Conservation (CPIC).

UN
New Urban Agenda, Habitat III | Quito 17-20 October 2016
Points 101 (NbS for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation) and 157 (support of social, technological, digital and nature-based innovation in science, research and innovation; science-policy work together).

UNESCO
Nature-based solutions for water | 2018
The report shows the relevance of NbS in contributing to a wide range of actions concerning water as a resource. Upscaling of NbS is mentioned as „central to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (p.2). Thus, the report provides a series of responses to enable conditions for accelerating the uptake of NbS, namely 1) leveraging financing, 2) creating and enabling regulatory and legal environment, 3) improving cross-sectoral collaboration, and 4) improving the knowledge base.

IBPS
Report of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on the work of its seventh session | 19 May 2019
Point 19: „Nature-based solutions can be cost-effective for meeting the Sustainable Development Goals in cities, which are crucial for global sustainability", used together with biodiversity and climate adaptation measures in cities for integrated planning of urban and landscape context.

UN
The Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Manifesto | 14 August 2019
Developed for the Climate Action Summit 2019 by more than 70 governments. Call for world's leaders to consider nature seriously. Four priorities "1) mainstreaming NbS at national level; 2) increase regional and international co-operation, 3) generating the shift for domestic and global governance and finance to value nature and NbS; 4) scaling up NbS for mitigation, resilience and adaptation.

UN
Decision 19 | Interfacing science and policy, and sharing knowledge | 6 September 2019
A request to „ensure coherence and alignment in the way ecosystem based adaptation, ecosystem based disaster risk reduction, nature-based solutions and sustainable land management are categorized" (p. 56).

IUCN
IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions. A user-friendly framework for the verification, design and scaling up of NbS. First edition | March 2020
New standards for working with NbS, including co-creation. The second criterion is about scale: economic systems, policy framework and culture must be considered.

Alok Sharma
COP Presidencies Speak at Launch of Race to Zero Campaign | 5 June 2020
Statement presidency of UN FCCC COP26 Glasgow. NbS is one of the five key priorities.

Leaders' pledge for nature
United to Reverse Biodiversity Loss by 2030 for Sustainable Development | 28 September 2020
Political leaders from 64 countries, achieve the vision of „Living in Harmony with Nature by 2050. They require strong political will, real accountability, appropriate legal, economic and financial tools and incentives. Ideal of accompanying the transition to sustainable growth „permeating fundamental changes and a significant scale-up in nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches on land and at sea" (p.2), all "in order to significantly scale up support for biodiversity" (p.4)

World Bank
A Catalogue of Nature-Based Solutions for urban resilience | 2021
Clear contraposition to grey infrastructure. NbS as an umbrella term. Focus on urban resilience.

Pörtner et al. 2021
IPBES-IPCC co sponsored workshop biodiversity and climate change | 2021
Report of a workshop conducted between IPBES and IPCC in the understanding that climate protection and biodiversity protection must be addressed hand in hand. In this context, NbS are considered a solution to address climate mitigation and adaptation and simultaneously promoting biodiversity in different ecosystems.

UN
Nationally determined contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement | 17 September 2021
Report: „Ecosystems are included in adaptation actions and economic diversification plans (33); combating sea level rise (16); key economic sectors such as energy, infrastructure etc. (16%); resilience of rural and urban areas (11)".

WWF.de
COP26 in Glasgow: Erwartungen an die Klimakonferenz | October 2021
*Position paper of WWF Germany. It mentions that it