

# Nature in cities, how to face the challenges of tomorrow?





# Impacting figures

# Sustainable urban ecosystem

**Nature-Based Solutions** 

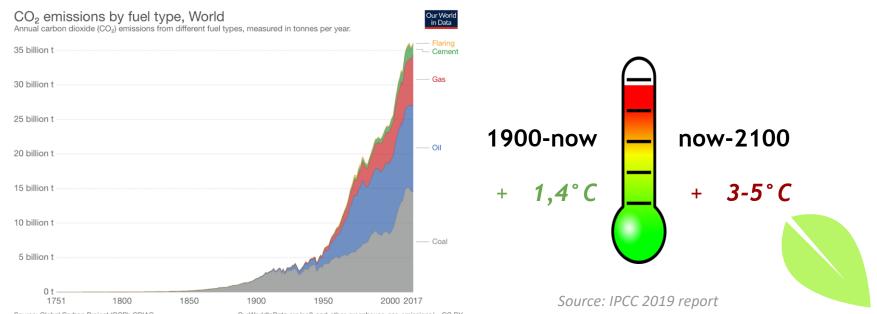


## Climate change



#### **36.8 billion tons** of global gas emissions in the world in 2018

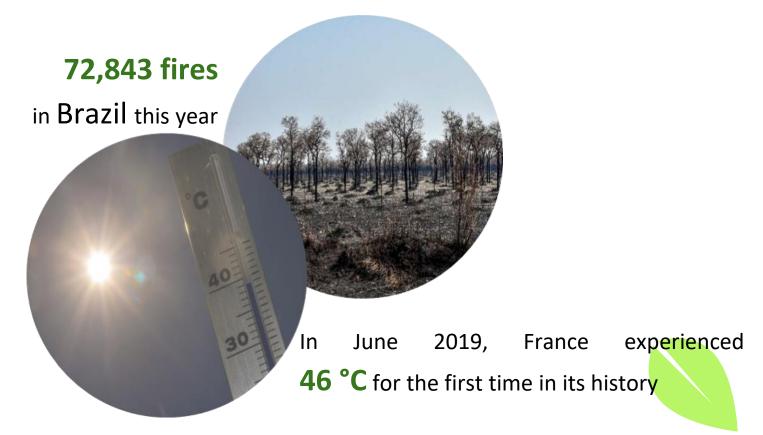
(Science Advisory Group to UN Climate Action Summit 2019 report)





#### **Consequences**





Sources: IPCC report 2019; Météo France

# **1 000 000** animal and vegetal species are endangered. (*IPBES, May 2019*)

## **Biodiversity**





Between 1970 and 2012, the evolution of WWF's Living Earth Index which measures world biodiversity shows a **58%** reduction of vertebrates populations abundance. (*WWF*, 2019)



# Some figures: world hunger

Although global food production can meet 1.5 times the food needs of 7.6 billion people,

1/3 people don't eat enough

**30%** of food is lost or wasted

If we continue to waste so much and over-consume, we will have to double the world's agricultural production to feed the 9 billion people in 2050.

Source: WWF, 2019



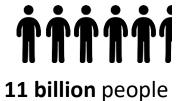
## Some figures: social



Humans, a species of lightning growth



**7.6 billion** people 50% living in the cities



2.1 billion people

in the city
increase of 20% to 30% of
drinking water request by
2050







# These phenomena are amplifying faster than ever.

What solutions can we find?

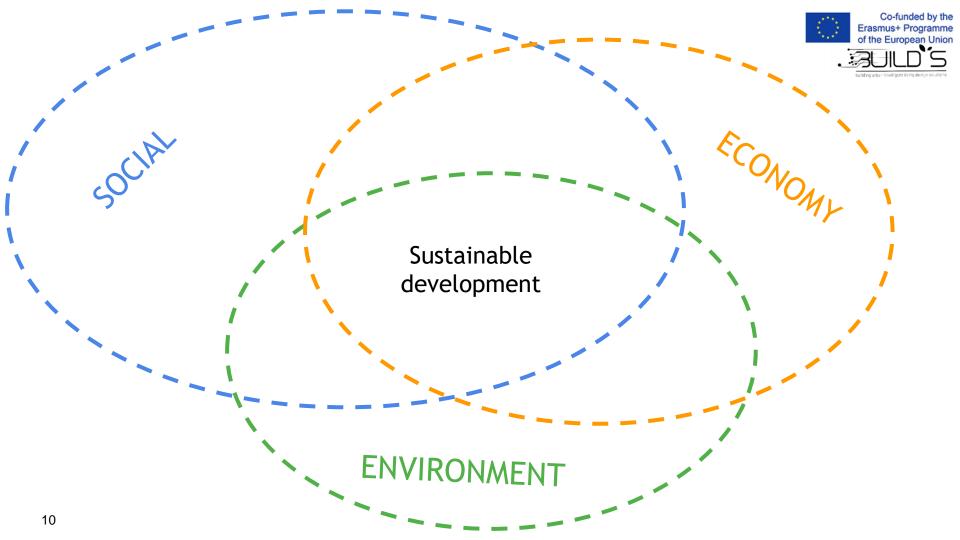


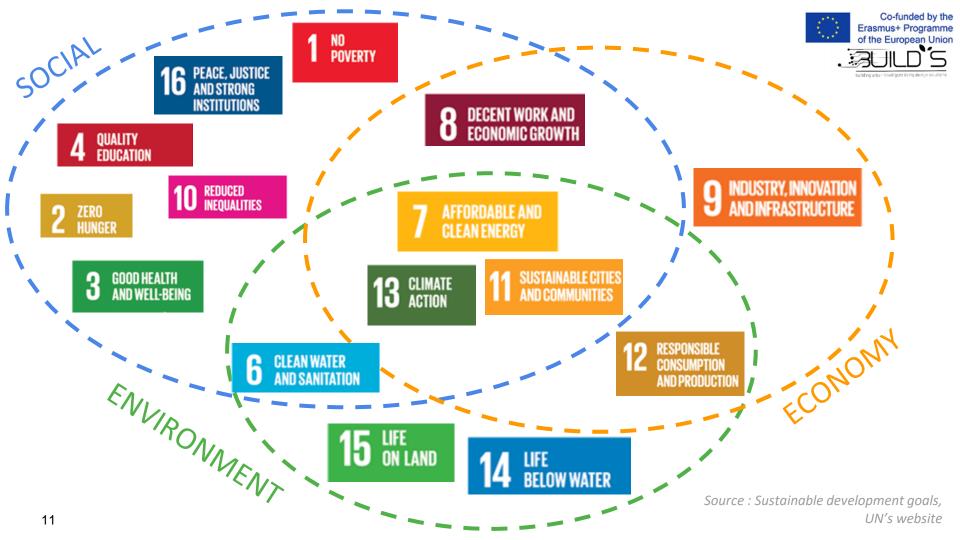


## Sustainable development

"A development which satisfies the needs of the present without compromising the capacity of future generations to answer their own needs, and guaranteeing the balance between economic growth, care for the environment and social well-being."

Source: Bruntland report



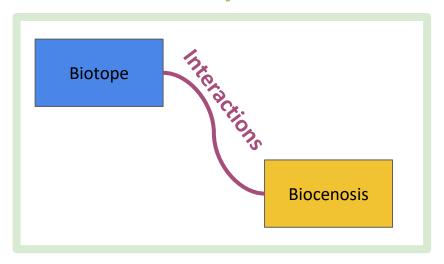






#### Working scale: urban areas

#### **Ecosystem**



A city is an ecosystem.

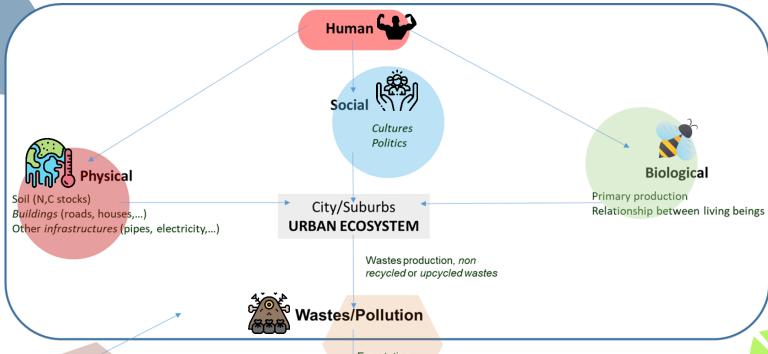
#### **Urban ecosystem** = all the areas where:

- human buildings are presents
- surface of buildings >> natural surface



#### Urban ecosystem











<b>Ecological functions</b>	Ecosystem services
Biological processes allowing the functioning and maintenance of the ecosystem	Human benefits from the biological processes
Ecocentric view	Anthropocentric view



#### **Ecosystem services**



4 categories of ecosystem services:



- → Supporting
  Creating basic conditions for the development of life on Earth (soil formation, primary production...)
- → Provisioning

  Production of marketable goods (food, drinking water, fuel...)
- → Regulating
  Regulation of natural phenomena (flood risks, climate...)
- → Cultural
  Heritage, aesthetics, education, religion...

# **Examples of Ecological Functions**

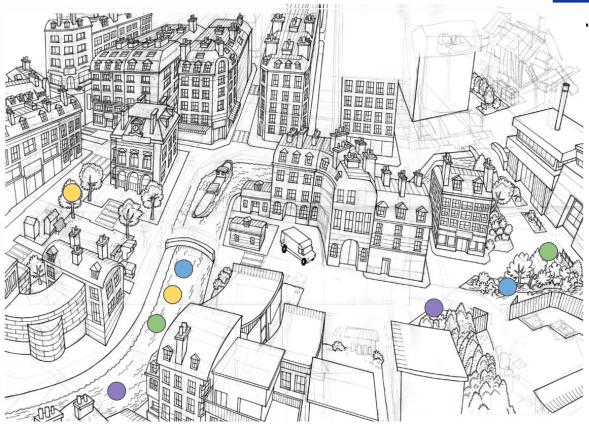
Water retention

Gas exchange

Source of raw material

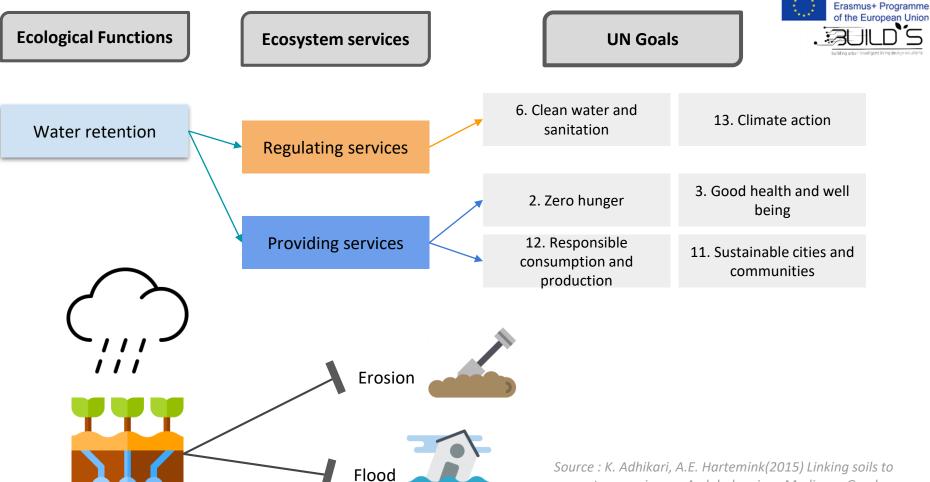
**Biomass production** 

Hosting biodiversity



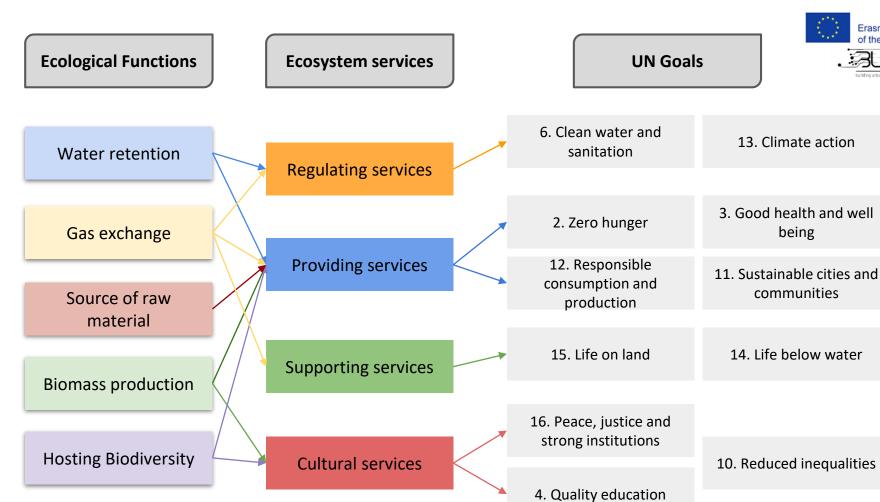
Source : over-blog.com

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



Source: K. Adhikari, A.E. Hartemink(2015) Linking soils to ecosystem services — A global review, Madison: Geoderma 262 (2016) 101–111

Co-funded by the

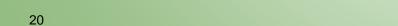


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To face those challenges we can take advantage of what nature already offers







#### **Nature-based solutions**

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.

21 Source: IUCN

#### Positive effects of NBS



- Well being
- Social activities
- New employment

- New use of the building budget
  - Need more research

- Lower footprints of chemical and physical activities
- Lesser material and energy use,
- Wildlife production and protection

**ENVIRONMENT** 



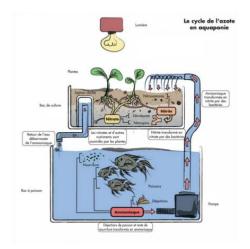
# GREYWATER ist water effluents from showers, baths and wash basins, but can also include effluents from kitchen basins.

## Wastewater treatment by plants

**VertEco** 

#### Some examples

#### Plants/fish production



**Aquaponics** 





#### La Caverne

Underground mushroom/chicory production.





Some gaps remain on the ecological level in urban areas







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