



# The Urban Nature Navigator

**NATURVATION**  
cities - nature - innovation

Created by: Naturvation research project  
Link: <https://naturvation-navigator.com/>  
Language: English  
Low level of expertise required

This assessment tool is based on the use of indicators that capture ecological, social and cultural benefits that nature-based solutions can make towards urban sustainability goals. It also provides methods to enable the decision processes for implementing nature-based solutions in cities.

## Challenges addressed

- Heat stress and heat island effect
- Water management
- Watershed restoration and quality
- Ecological connectivity
- Green space management
- Flood risk
- Social cohesion
- Social equity
- Nature appropriation and environmental education
- Human health and wellbeing

## Outcomes

The Bronze Level provides a snapshot of how different nature-based solutions can contribute to addressing urban sustainability challenges. The Silver level enables the identification of the benefits and the trade-offs of different nature-based solutions together with a set of decision processes. The Golden level delivers a set of tools that can be used in local contexts to generate values of nature-based solutions in high resolution or across cities.

## Examples of application

Mexico City: Water Fund

The challenges addressed in this project were: flooding, water scarcity, and improving water management. A Water Fund (The Nature Conservancy) was implemented and improved, offering solutions to conserve, restore and manage ecosystem to improve rainwater absorption and filtering, and aquifers' quality and governance. The fund was implemented as "a mechanism to channel investment from associated organizations toward projects that meet collectively agreed priorities", in which local communities became stewards and often collective owners of natural assets.

## Scope

Urban.

## Type of tool

- Decision-support tool
- Index or indicators

## Uses

Assessing the contributions that different nature-based solutions can make to meet the urban sustainability challenges and identifying nature-based solutions that fit the needs of the user.

## Scale

- Subnational
- Local

## Location

Worldwide.

## Advantages

Intuitive platform accessible to wide audiences engaged in applications of nature-based solutions. It allows to assess the multifunctionality of nature-based solutions.

## Constrains

It does not include documentation on the calculation of the scores which limits its applicability.