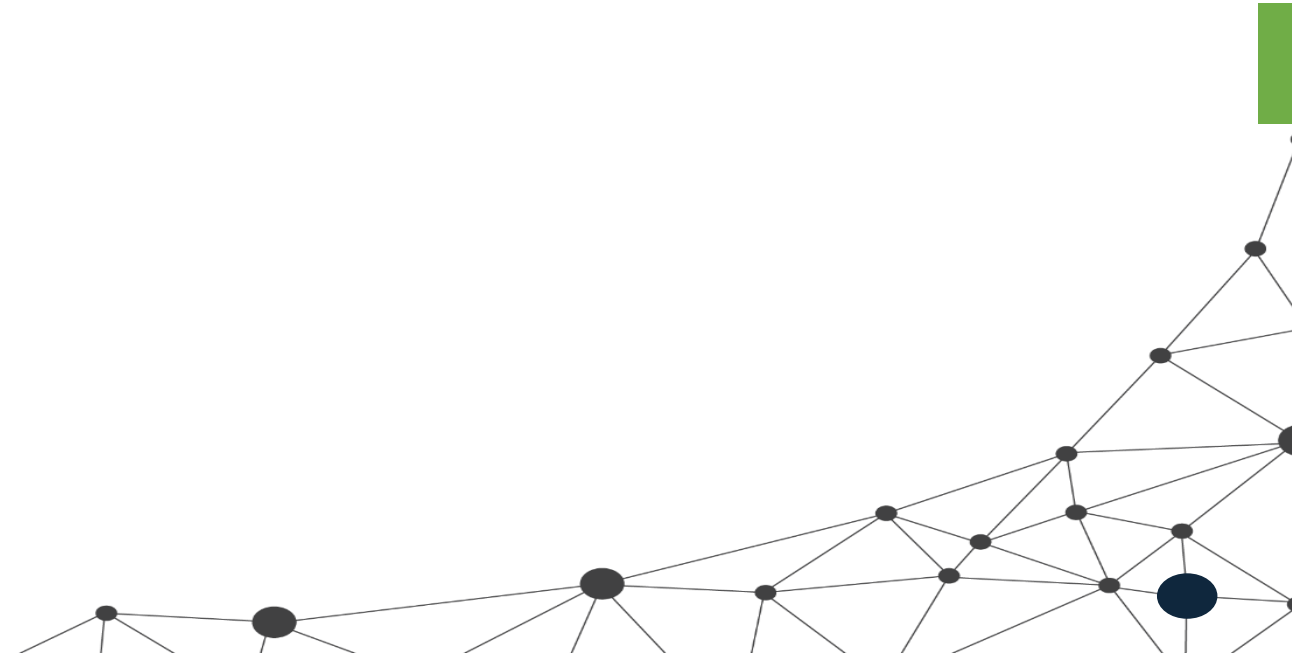


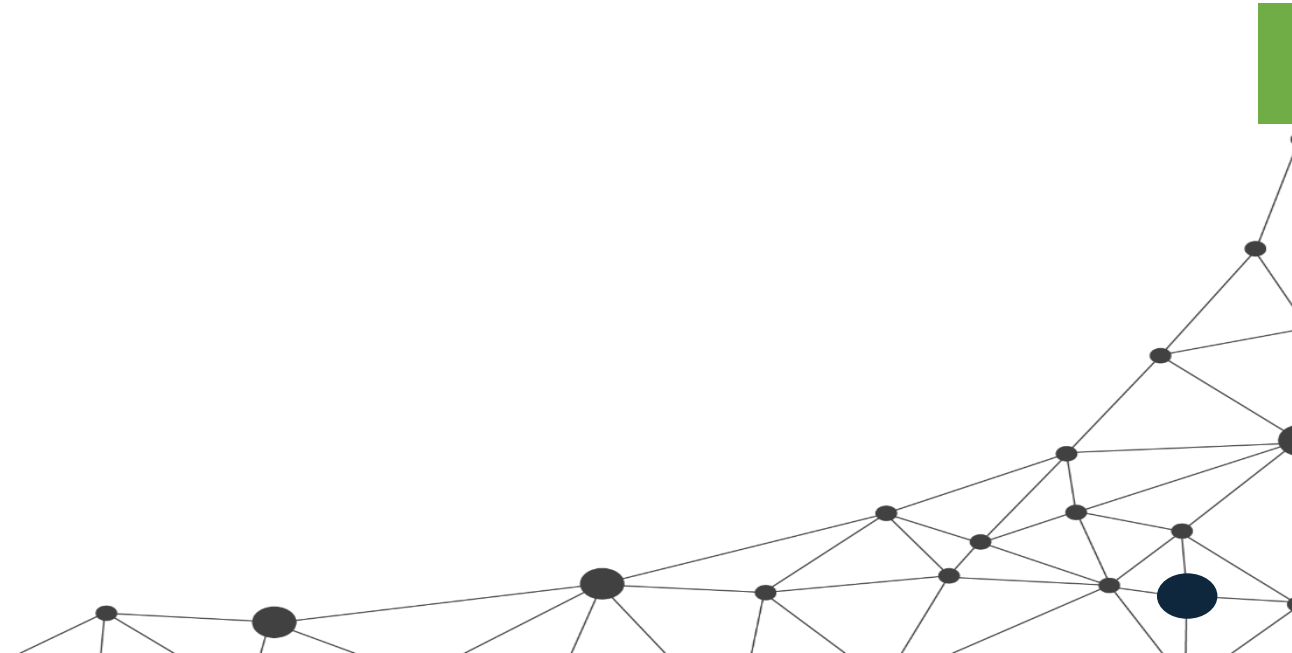
Discussion



Sharon Gil- Programme Management Officer

Investing in Nature-based Solutions in Cities

Cities Unit/Economy Division at UNEP





Investing in Nature-based Solutions in Cities

Sharon Gil, Programme Management Officer
Cities Focal Point / UN Environment Programme



Nature-based solutions are key to ensure sustainable infrastructure development and green urban futures

City life is becoming the default human experience. Cities are engines for development, connect people and stand for innovation and opportunity.

But cities, and their expected growth, can also exacerbate some of the world's most serious environmental and socioeconomic challenges.

If we make our cities work with nature,
we can address the triple crisis:

- biodiversity loss
- climate change
- Pollution

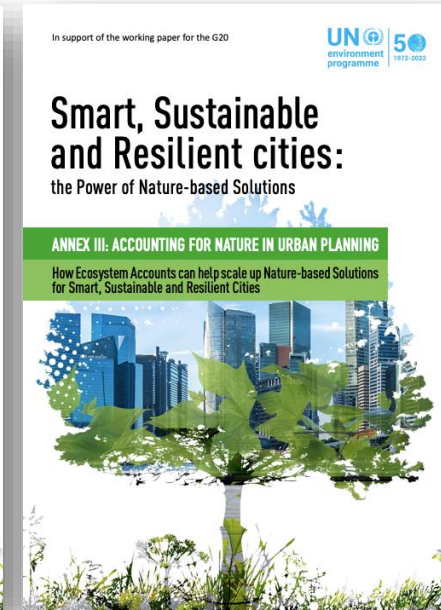
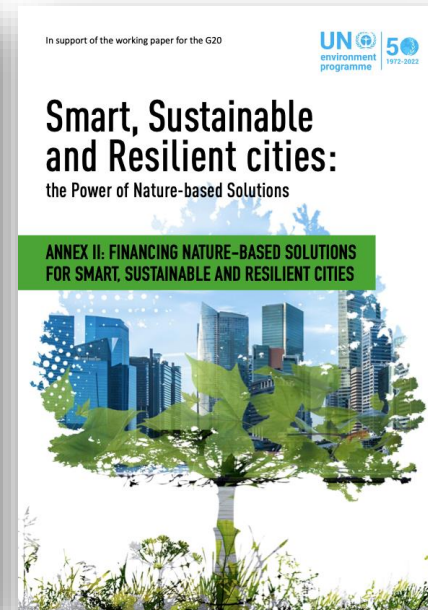
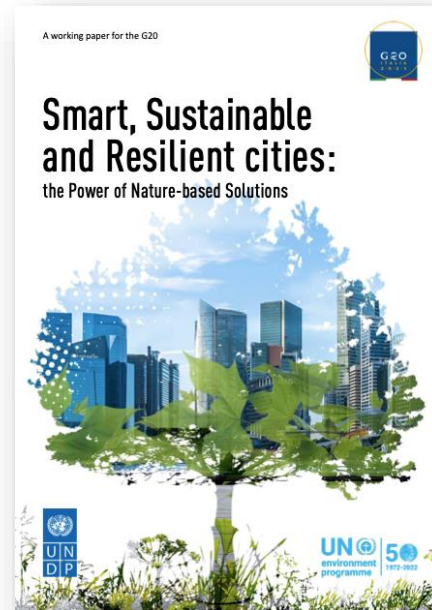
For healthy planet and healthy people.



Building smart, sustainable and resilient cities means harnessing the power of nature.

Key theme promoted by Italy while holding G20 presidency.

Opportunity for Germany to promote NbS as part of G7 priorities.



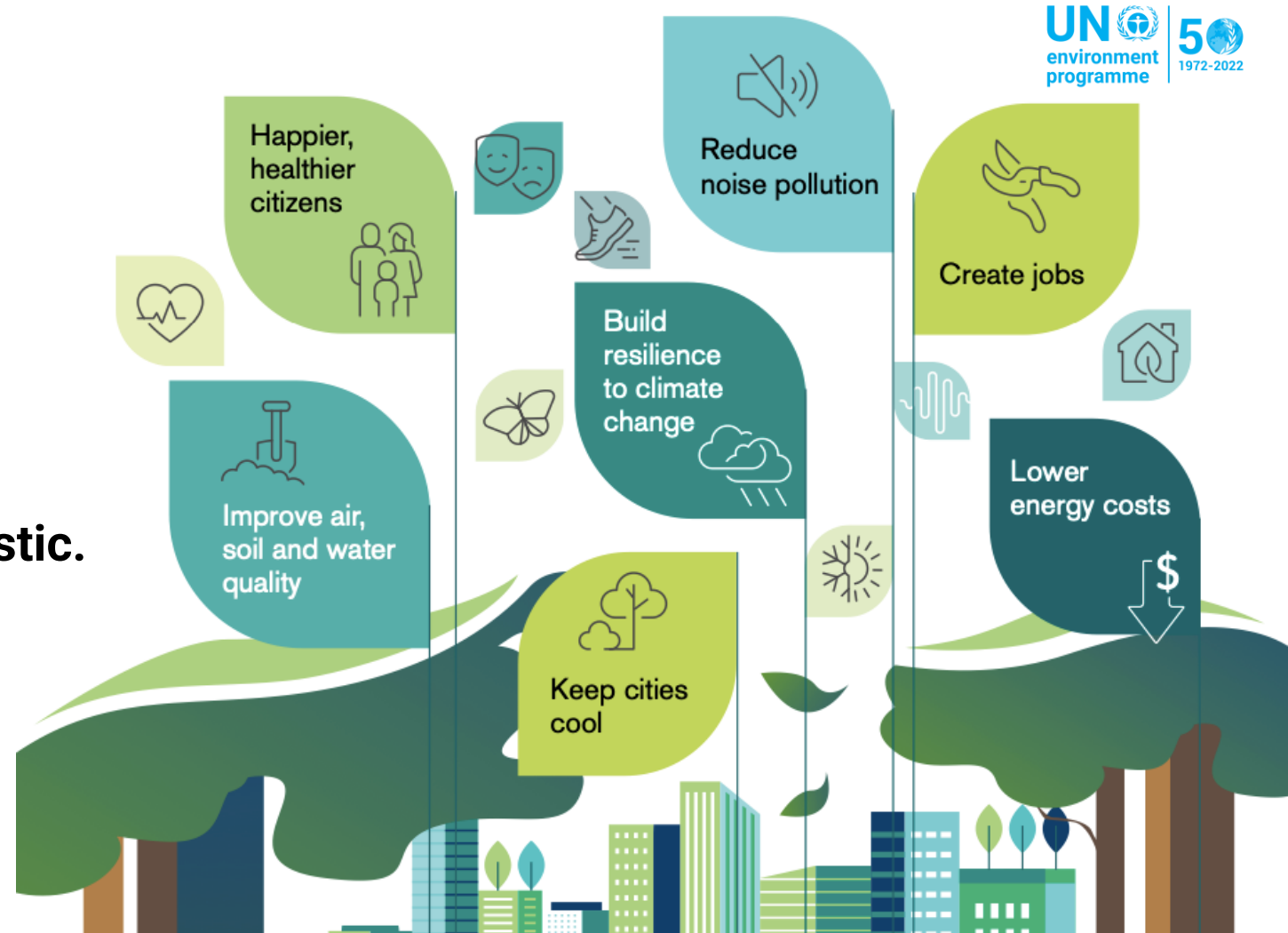
<https://www.unep.org/resources/report/smart-sustainable-and-resilient-cities-power-nature-based-solutions>

Examples of the use of nature-based solutions to build more sustainable, resilient and just cities abound.

A key example is in Milan, Italy.



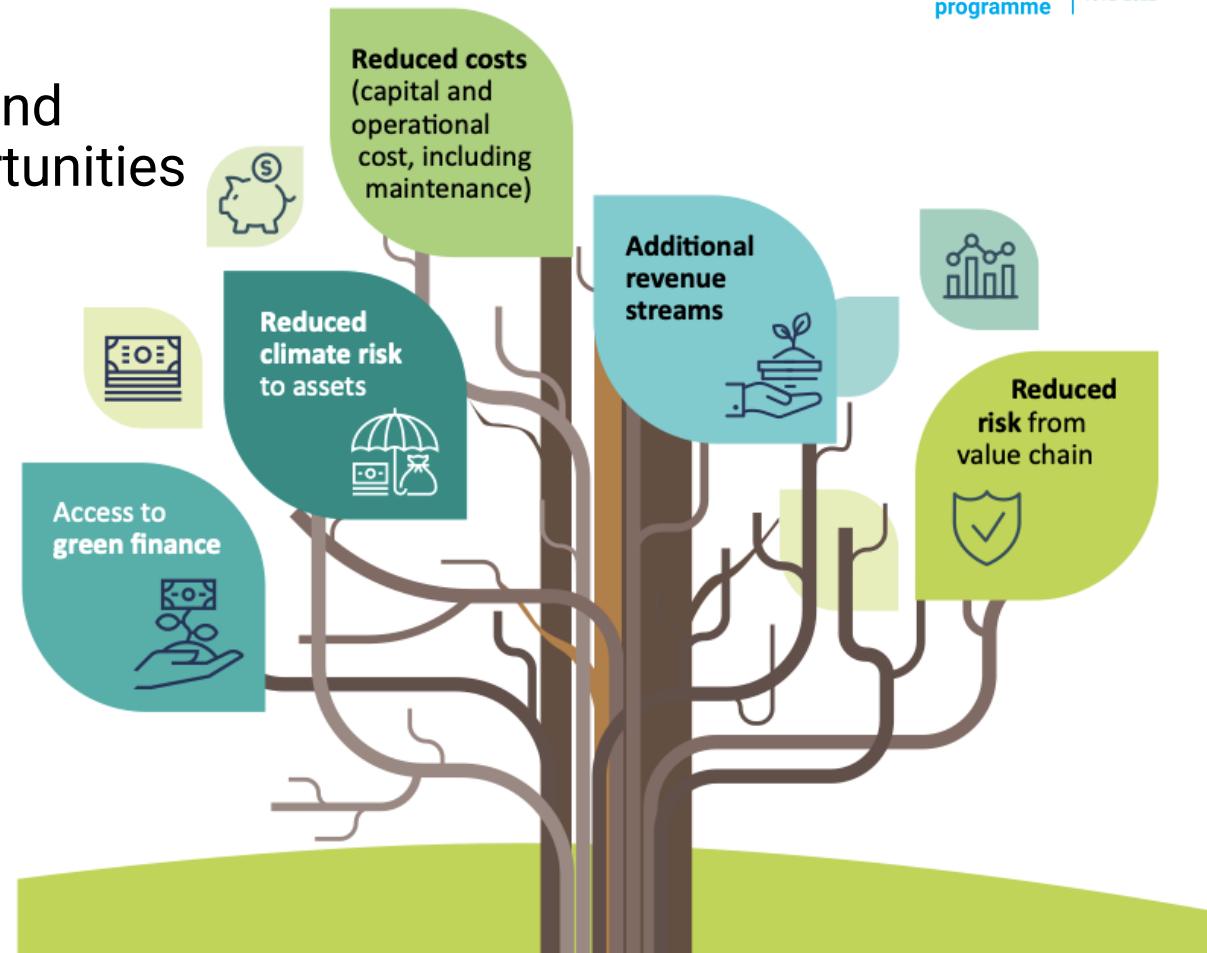
The benefits of nature-based solutions are multiple, cross-cutting and holistic.



Nature means business:
it creates jobs and offers and
offers key economic opportunities

Did you know?

Spending \$583 billion on NbS for infrastructure could create more than 59 million jobs by 2030



While important lessons have been learned about what works, several barriers need to be overcome for nature-based solutions to deliver transformative change.



Cities face institutional and financing barriers to implement and scale-up NbS

- Limited understanding of **benefits**, key to make the case for action and attract investments.
- Lack of **strong business models** and participation of the private sector.
- Lack of **data**, especially at the city level
- Lack of **coordination** and effective **multi-level governance**.



How do we get from inspiring stories to NbS mainstreaming at scale?

- **Quantify benefits** to better value nature & ecosystem services.
- Ensure **stakeholder engagement** and **integrated planning**.
- Put in place **effective policy frameworks** to support development and maintenance
- **Ensure active participation of citizens** in planning and decision making



What's measured gets managed. Monitoring the impact of NbS will help to improve their implementation and make the case for expanding their use.

Local and national governments should work together to craft the right mix of incentives and regulation to create a supportive environment for the widespread application of NbS.

THANK YOU

Questions? Ideas?



Get the UNEP-G20 Report



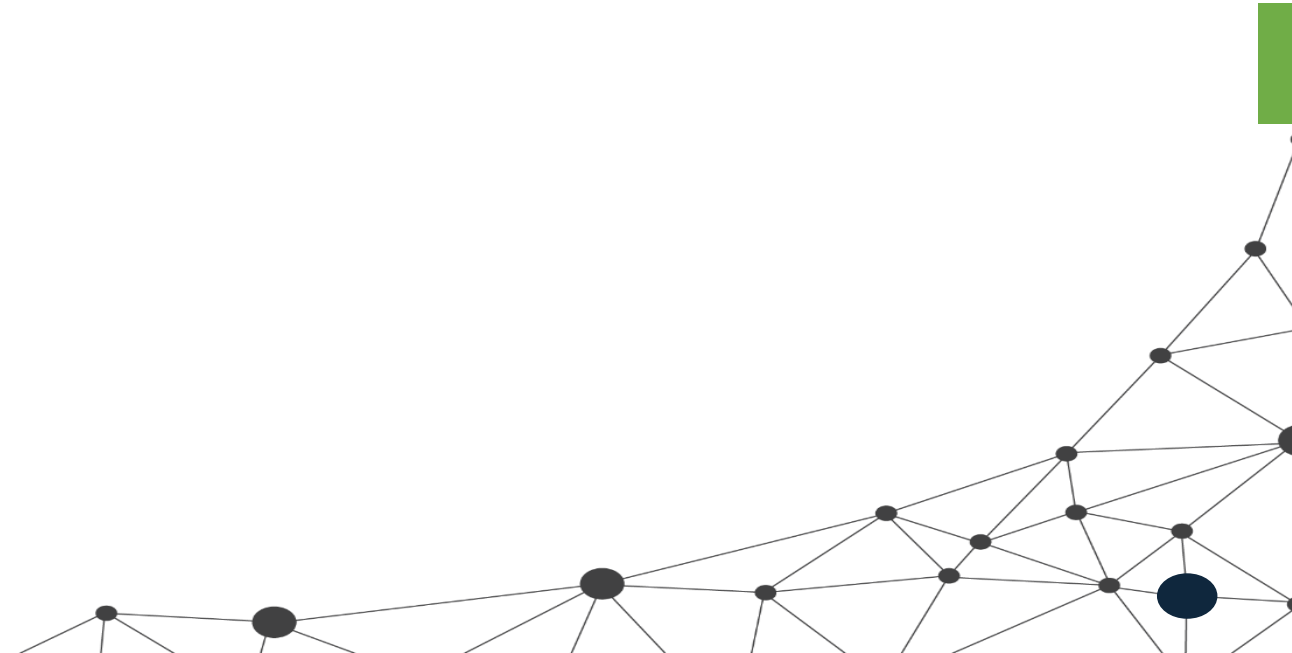
Contact

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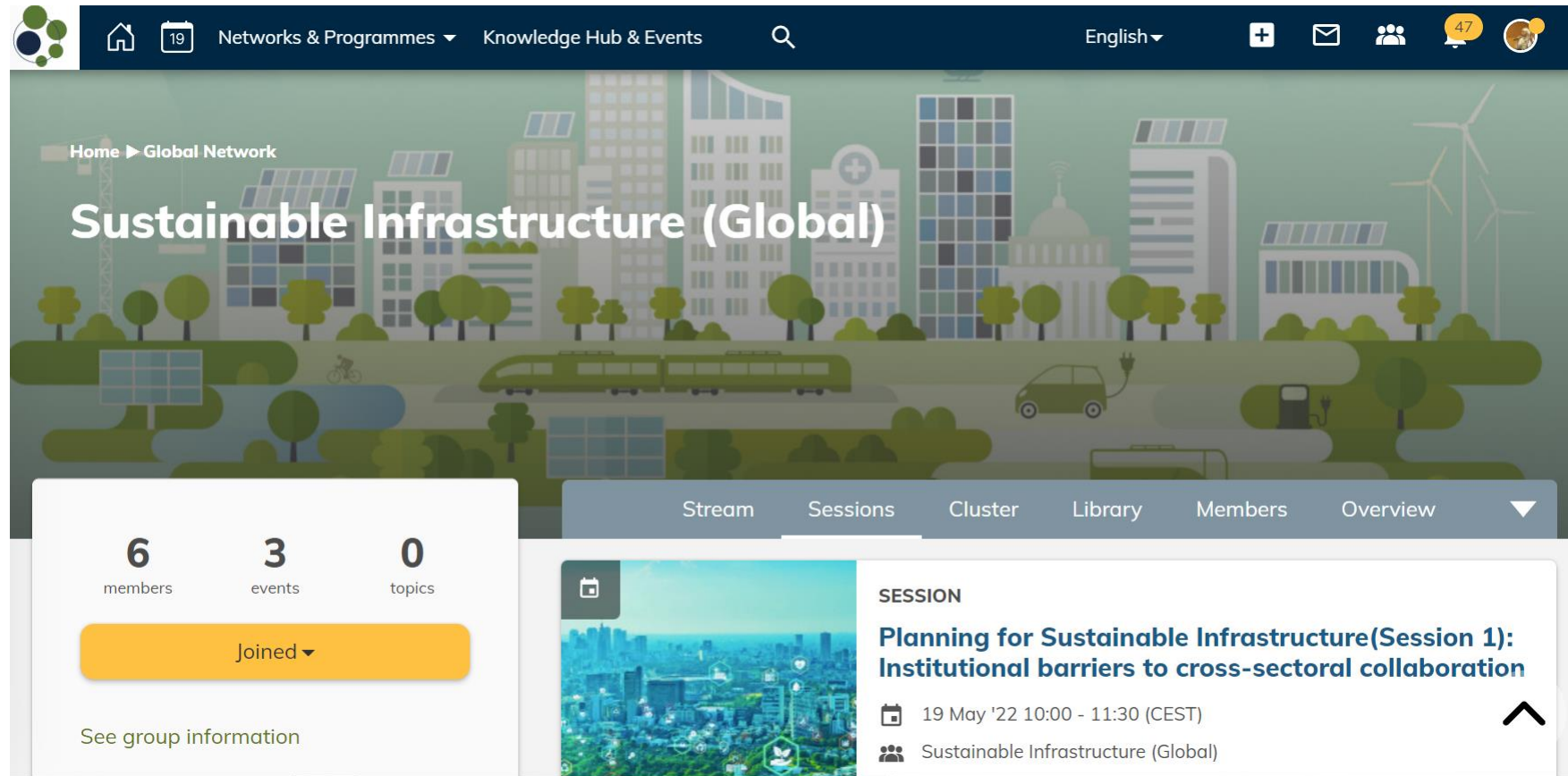
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Discussion



Connective Cities Platform

A screenshot of the Connective Cities Platform web interface. The top navigation bar is dark blue with icons for home, calendar, networks, knowledge hub, search, language, and user profile. The main header area features a cityscape illustration and the text 'Sustainable Infrastructure (Global)'. Below this, a sidebar shows statistics: 6 members, 3 events, and 0 topics, with a 'Joined' button and a link to 'See group information'. The main content area has tabs for Stream, Sessions, Cluster, Library, Members, and Overview. The 'Sessions' tab is active, displaying a session titled 'Planning for Sustainable Infrastructure(Session 1): Institutional barriers to cross-sectoral collaboration' scheduled for 19 May '22 from 10:00 to 11:30 CEST, under the group 'Sustainable Infrastructure (Global)'.

<https://community.connective-cities.net/en/group/199/events>

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