



Submission of comments to Resolution 5/5. Nature-based solutions for supporting sustainable development, adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly on 2 March 2022.

Regions4 Sustainable Development in its capacity as UNEP Accredited Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) would like to share its reflections and conclusions related to the Resolution 5/5, titled “Nature-based solutions for supporting sustainable development”.

- It is essential to communicate and socialize Nature-Based Solutions projects with the pertinent stakeholders and involved citizens. This will allow projects to be understood, accepted, and most importantly not blocked by citizens.
- There is a lack of standardized definition of NbS. Although a definition is not the most relevant aspect for the deployment of NbS, it is true that the lack of a unique definition may hinder its implementation.
- Although municipal technicians want to implement NbS, they have difficulties in articulating public contracting documents and to find NbS suppliers.
- NbS suppliers have difficulties to implement NbS sometimes because they lack the technical knowledge and other times, even when there is technical knowledge, there don't have building standards to follow.
- It is essential to work on establishing effectiveness and monitoring indicators from the design phase of nature-based solutions.
- There are many guides, manuals, and databases of NbS providing information of benefits of these solutions, measurement procedures, indicators of performance, etc. Despite all this information is high value and is generated by researchers and the academia, and often it is not useful for implementors and local and municipal technicians who are responsible for the on-the-ground implementation of said solutions.

The above views are shared thanks to the support and expertise of the Basque Government and IHOBE, Public Society of Environmental Management of the Basque Government, and their generous contribution with their expertise in implementing Nature-based Solutions at a regional scale.