

NbS Conference 2024

Film room programme

Confluences: The weaving waters of Oxford

Morten L Kringelbach & Chris Park - England - 5:00 min

Oxford is a watery city, a confluence of rivers whose shallow channels once drew cattle herders here in search of a safe route across England's midlands - so giving rise to the city's ancient name as an oxen ford. Now famed for her dreaming spires, Oxford is kept humble by the sweep and frequent fill of her floodplains, bringing a mysterious stillness to the land. This film lifts us into flight to experience the city's life-giving waterways from above, in a flow from sunrise to sunset. It was filmed by neuroscientist and naturalist Morten L Kringelbach, with the help of his faithful witch Serafina, and it is narrated by Chris Park, a renowned local storyteller, beekeeper and practising druid, steeped in the folklore of these isles.

RE:considering Nature-Based Solutions

RE:TV - Global - 7:18 min

Beyond technological solutions, nature offers powerful tools to mitigate environmental damage and adapt to climate change. Nature-based solutions (NbS), championed by Professor Nathalie Seddon of the University of Oxford, involve synergistic projects between humans and nature. These include forest protection, coastal ecosystem restoration, sustainable land management through agroforestry, and urban greening. Effective NbS benefit local communities and honour indigenous knowledge.



RESTORE: The High Andes

UN World Restoration Flagships, Acción Andina - South America - 8:38 min

Acción Andina is a groundbreaking social movement dedicated to saving the Andean forests. Collaborating with indigenous communities, this initiative aims to plant 30 million trees by 2030 and restore one million hectares of native forest by 2045 across Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, and Peru, with plans to expand into Colombia and Venezuela. Home to 45,000 plant species and thousands of birds, reptiles, and amphibians, the Andes is a biodiversity hotspot. Recognized by the UN as a World Restoration Flagship, Acción Andina exemplifies large-scale, long-term ecosystem restoration, guided by the ancient Inca principles of Ayni and Minka, emphasizing collective effort for the common good.

The Territory

National Geographic - Brazil - 2:25 min

The Territory provides an immersive on-the-ground look at the tireless fight of the Indigenous Uru-eu-wau-wau people against the encroaching deforestation brought by farmers and illegal settlers in the Brazilian Amazon. With awe-inspiring cinematography showcasing the titular landscape and richly textured sound design, the film takes audiences deep into the Uru-eu-wau-wau community and provides unprecedented access to the farmers and settlers illegally burning and clearing the protected Indigenous land.

Partially shot by the Uru-eu-wau-wau people, the film relies on vérité footage captured over three years as the community risks their lives to set up their own news media team in the hopes of exposing the truth



Radical Listening

Alam Sehat Lestari (ASRI) - Indonesia - 3:44 min

ASRI is the 2022 Ashden Award winners of the Natural Climate Solutions Award, supported by DESNZ.

For over 15 years, ASRI, a community-based effort, has been transforming the landscape of Indonesian Borneo by empowering local communities to combat illegal logging and deforestation. At the heart of ASRI's success is their 'radical listening' approach, where continuous, respectful dialogue with communities leads to co-created, effective solutions. This has resulted in a 90% reduction in illegal logging and a 67% decrease in infant mortality around Gunung Palung National Park. Through innovative programs like the chainsaw buy-back initiative, beekeeping, financial training, and healthcare, ASRI ensures economic stability but also nurtures a deep-rooted commitment to rainforest conservation. This holistic approach is inspiring a new generation to protect their natural heritage and create a brighter, more sustainable future.

Freetown the Treetown

RE:TV - Sierra Leone - 7:40 min

Freetown the Treetown is an ambitious and innovative 'pay to grow' scheme that is incentivising residents to plant and maintain indigenous trees and mangroves in the city. The technology-led scheme is built around an app and web platform where growers register their planted trees, which are then verified, tracked, and monitored over several years. In exchange for their efforts, growers receive 'tokens', which can be exchanged for cash when the tree hits certain milestones in its lifecycle. These payments are ultimately funded by the international carbon market, as the tokens generated are transferred into 'impact tokens' and sold to corporations and institutions seeking to meet their climate targets.



RESTORE: The Land of Tigers and People

UN World Restoration Flagships, Department of Forests and Soil Conservation (DoFSC) of Nepal, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) of Nepal, WWF Nepal - Nepal - 8:31 min

Communities in Nepal, alongside government and civil society groups, have undertaken a remarkable effort to protect and restore 66,800 hectares of forest, earning recognition as one of seven UN World Restoration Flagships. The Terai Arc Landscape initiative, launched in 2001, aims to preserve a vital biodiversity hotspot shared by Nepal and India, crucial for over 7.5 million people and diverse wildlife including tigers, rhinos, and elephants. Through community-based anti-poaching units, citizen science, and nature-based tourism, nearly 40,000 local community members are improving livelihoods for almost 500,000 households. This landscape approach recognizes the interconnectedness of people and nature, addressing environmental challenges across sectors. By focusing on restoring forest corridors, the initiative has tripled Nepal's tiger population and aims to restore an area 70 times the size of Nepal's capital. Explore how Nepal's Terai Arc Landscape is pioneering a new approach to balance nature and human development. Visit www.decadeonrestoration.org for more.

Emerson and Viviane: Saving an Endangered Palm by Farming It

World Resources Institute Brazil - Brazil - 3:53 min

Emerson Miranda and Viviane Vieira Lopes are dedicated to saving the endangered juçara palm trees in Brazil's Atlantic Forest. Instead of harvesting the palms for their heart-of-palm, which kills the tree, they focus on sustainably harvesting the fruit, ensuring the palms remain standing. With support from organizations like INCAPER and Reflorestar, they established Rancho Fundo as the first property in Espírito Santo state approved for sustainable juçara fruit harvesting. Despite challenges in establishing a market for juçara, they process the fruit into various products and envision expanding their impact through education and entrepreneurship with Yçara. Through their efforts, they aim to conserve the juçara palm and contribute to the ecological balance of the Atlantic Forest while generating income for family farmers.



One man's dream to restore a forest

Trees for Life - Scotland - 10:29 min

In 1976 Alan Watson Featherstone made a promise to restore Scotland's Caledonian Forest. On the back of that promise, he founded the hugely successful rewilding charity Trees for Life and is arguably responsible for the rewilding movement in Scotland and beyond. I was fortunate enough to spend a day with Alan in Glen Afric hearing about that feat and the ongoing impact his promise is having. It was a hugely inspiring day for me and I hope you feel the same - his words brought me (and him) to tears and is a story of hope, optimism and success.

RESTORE: The Wave Breakers

UN World Restoration Flagships & Sri Lanka Ministry of Environment - Sri Lanka - 7:42 min

In 2004, Sri Lanka faced a catastrophic tsunami, revealing the protective power of mangroves. Initial mass planting efforts failed, but adaptation led to success. Recognized as a World Restoration Flagship under the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, Sri Lanka's initiative now focuses on natural mangrove regeneration. By nurturing the right conditions, the country has restored 500 hectares since 2015, enhancing climate resilience and supporting local communities. With a goal to restore 10,000 hectares by 2030, the initiative aims to benefit 5,000 households and create 4,000 jobs. Watch how Sri Lanka's science-driven, community-led approach is turning the tide for its coastal ecosystems. Visit www.decadeonrestoration.org for more.



RESTORE: Africa's Drylands

UN World Restoration Flagships, Regreening Africa, CIFOR - Africa - 8:31 min

In Africa, 45% of the land is threatened by desertification, with 55% of this area at 'high' or 'very high' risk of further degradation. However, there is hope. Initiatives like Farmer-Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) and wild enclosures. The Regreening Africa initiative, recently named a World Restoration Flagship under the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, is leading the way. Co-led by CIFOR-ICRAF, the project aims to restore 5 million hectares by 2030, enhancing biodiversity and supporting communities. Already, over 350,000 hectares across eight countries are being restored, reaching over 607,000 households. Watch as communities transform their land and livelihoods through regreening practices, boosting tree-related incomes and sustainable agriculture. Visit www.decadeonrestoration.org for more.

Soares Family: Making Agroforestry in the Amazon a Family Affair

World Resources Institute Brazil - Brazil - 3:20 min

In the Amazonian municipality of Juruti, Brazil, the Soares family's story unfolds, showcasing their shift from slash-and-burn agriculture to sustainable agroforestry. Originally relying on cassava production, they have diversified their business offerings to over 30 products derived from cassava. Led by Messias and Nilda Soares, and with the support of organisations like WRI Brasil and Preta Terra, they transition to sustainable practices, boosting income, enhancing food security and avoiding deforestation. Key to their success is the active involvement of women and younger family members, who contribute innovative ideas and drive positive change. Through agroforestry, the Soares family envisions a brighter future for themselves and their community, demonstrating the potential for sustainable agriculture in the region.



Working with Nature: Cities

Nature-Based Solutions Initiative - England - 21:38 min

In this film, we explore the many ways people are working with nature in urban areas, focussing on Newcastle-upon-Tyne and London, two contrasting cities both suffering from the impacts of climate change. This film was created by filmmaker, Matthew Mullholland, working in collaboration with the Nature-based Solutions Initiative at the University of Oxford. Thanks to the Environment Agency, Newcastle City Council, University of Durham, National Green Infrastructure Facility, Tyne Rivers Trust, Greening Wingrove, Benfield Park Medical Group, Uzburn Farm, Hotspur School, Natural History Society of Northumbria, Royal Docks London, Biomatrix

This film was made with the support of Ecover and the Waterloo Foundation.

Patrick Assumpção: Using Agroforestry to Restore Paraíba Valley to Glory

World Resources Institute Brazil - Brazil - 3:58 min

Patrick Assumpção, a farmer and agroforester, is leading efforts to restore 40,000 hectares of forest in Paraíba Valley, Brazil. Managing Fazenda Nova Coruputuba, he combines traditional farming with agroforestry, cultivating various crops alongside native guanandi trees. His models enhance soil fertility, biodiversity, and climate resilience. Despite challenges in creating markets for agroforestry products, Patrick collaborates with chefs and architects to promote sustainable produce. Organizations like the Vale do Paraíba Agroforestry Network support his vision, aiming to establish a Forestry Hub and scale up forest restoration efforts in the region. Through agroforestry, Patrick envisions revitalizing rural communities and producing sustainable food for the future.



RESTORE: From Fires to Forests

UN World Restoration Flagships, The Ministry of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development and Water and Forests of Morocco, The Ministry of Agriculture of Lebanon, The General Directorate of Forestry of Tunisia, The General Directorate of Forestry of Türkiye - Mediterranean - 7:16 min

Since 2017, the Restoring Mediterranean Forests initiative has restored vast tracts of degraded forests across Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, and Türkiye. Recently honoured as a World Restoration Flagship under the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, this initiative now qualifies for crucial UN technical and financial support. The Mediterranean, the world's second-largest biodiversity hotspot, faces threats from prolonged droughts, extreme heat, and wildfires. Last summer, Europe experienced its largest wildfire, devastating over 50,000 hectares in Greece. The initiative has already restored two million hectares, with plans to rehabilitate eight million by 2030. Shifting from wildfire fighting to prevention through sustainable forest management, the initiative involves local communities and promotes biodiversity. In Lebanon, local efforts are expected to boost community incomes by up to 40% by 2030 through various economic activities. Discover how the Mediterranean is combating climate challenges and restoring its forests. Visit www.decadeonrestoration.org for more.



At the Edge of the Forest

Olivia del Giorgio - South America - 7:20 min

The Gran Chaco is a dry sub-tropical woodland covering more than one million square kilometers across Bolivia, Paraguay, and Argentina. It is among the regions experiencing the highest global rates of deforestation for large-scale agriculture. I began working with campesino families living in the Chaco forest in 2019. What they are experiencing is the not-so-slow rise of the soybean tide. It is coming in from all sides, squeezing communities onto ever smaller patches of forest - green islands in a sea of monoculture. They are the primary casualties, and often targets, of land speculators, agribusiness conglomerates, and political leaders. People are being fenced in and fumigated like the soybean that surrounds them, many ultimately having to move towards towns and cities. The stories I have been logging tell of remarkable resilience to hardship - of resistance by families and communities to erasure. But there is also despair, as it seems that no one, not even the lawyers paid out of almost empty pockets, cares. The idea for this short doc was born from the frustration and fear expressed by campesino families. When is enough enough? Why is what is happening to them still happening? It is a testimony to their strength and, I hope, a loudspeaker for their voices.

Sea the Weed

AIME - Australia - 2:12 min

The Sea The Weed project, born from the Making of a Hoodie Podcast, embarked on an ambitious journey to create the world's first fully compostable seaweed hoodie and support Operation Crayweed's mission to reforest Sydney's coastline. Despite initial fundraising challenges, the project pivoted, inviting Sydney-based organizations to contribute to the cause by experiencing the ocean and engaging with Indigenous systems thinkers. By redirecting attention to the intelligence of nature, particularly underwater forests, the project aims to raise \$1 million by 2024. Operation Crayweed addresses the disappearance of vast underwater forests along Sydney's coastline, crucial for local marine biodiversity. Through innovative solutions like promoting seaweed reproduction, the project seeks to restore these vital ecosystems. Join the movement at <https://www.operationcrayweed.com>



Silvany Lima: Cultivating "Money Trees" in Brazil's Dry Forest

World Resources Institute Brazil - Brazil - 3:01 min

This is the story of Silvany Silva Lima, affectionately known as Vany, and her fellow farmers in Brazil's Caatinga region. Historically, this area has grappled with arid conditions and ecological degradation, exacerbated by climate change. Vany and her neighbors are cultivating native trees like umbu on their pasturelands, transforming them into multi-functional landscapes. The umbu tree, once disregarded, is now seen as a "money tree," providing additional income alongside traditional livestock farming.

Working with Nature: Highlands

Nature-based Solutions Initiative - England - 24:52 min

Nature-based solutions harness the power of natural habitats to benefit both people and biodiversity by restoring, protecting, and connecting diverse ecosystems on land and at sea. This film delves into the potential of these solutions for the Scottish Highlands, examining the challenges of scaling them up and showcasing the efforts of local communities, organisations, and businesses in addressing these challenges. Join us on a journey through the heart of the Highlands to discover how nature-based solutions can create a sustainable future.

This film was made with the support of Ecover and the Waterloo Foundation.



RESTORE: Big Ocean States

UN World Restoration Flagships, Government of Comoros, Government of Saint Lucia, Government of Vanuatu, The Small Island Developing States Coalition for Nature - SIDS - 7:27 min

The United Nations has recognised initiatives in Vanuatu, St. Lucia, and Comoros as pioneering efforts to restore vulnerable ecosystems, marking them as inaugural World Restoration Flagships. These island nations are safeguarding wildlife, preparing for climate change, and strengthening their economies through ambitious restoration projects. Facing the threat of extinction due to rising waters and ecosystem degradation, they're cleaning rivers, restoring coral reefs, and planting mangrove forests. These efforts not only protect nature but also boost income through fisheries and tourism. For instance, the creation of the Moheli Marine Park in Comoros has doubled live coral cover and increased sea turtle nests, while doubling tourist numbers. By restoring their land and oceans, these nations could sequester an estimated 839,000 tonnes of carbon in the next 20 years. Join these Big Ocean States as they turn threats into fresh starts and lead the charge in restoring marine ecosystems. Visit www.decadeonrestoration.org for more.

Tarimat Pujut: Living in Harmony with Nature in Peru

Forest People Programme, If Not Us Then Who?, Wampis Nation, Nia Tero, International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs - Peru - 3:25 min

In this short film, the Wampis Nation of Peru demands national and international recognition for conserving and protecting their territory and mitigating climate change.

The Wampis Nation are an indigenous autonomous government who are fighting to stop rich investors from entering Wampis territory to carry out logging, oil extraction or mining. By protecting an area of over 1.3 million hectares, they are helping to fight climate change and biodiversity loss - but they are receiving no recognition or support for their actions.

This film series examines the critical contributions that Indigenous peoples and local communities make to protecting the world's biodiversity, and complements the Local Biodiversity Outlooks (LBO).

GROWING POSITIVE CHANGE



KATIWALA

Katrina Kendall & Deuxire Production - Philippines - 2:55 min

Immerse yourself in the heart of the mountains of Bukidnon, Philippines, with KATIWALA, a captivating documentary that follows a remarkable indigenous community's fight to protect their ancestral lands, culture, and way of life. As the rapidly changing world threatens their very existence, this inspiring community navigates challenges with unwavering determination, wisdom, and a profound connection to all living things. Discover their journey in the full film coming soon and learn more about how you can support the project at www.katiwala.org.ph. A film by Katrina Kendall and deuxire production, created with deep gratitude to the Daraghuyan Bukidnon tribe and Kitanglad Guard Volunteers.

Beavers as a Nature-Based Solution?

Eddie Butterworth - England - 5:20 min

The short film titled, *Beavers AS a Nature Based Solution?* is about the reintroduction of beavers into a small woodland on a farm in Cornwall and the effect this has on the natural landscape and agriculture in the surrounding area. The film focuses on Woodland Valley Farm and what the Cornwall Wildlife Trust is doing there to demonstrate to the government how the reintroduction of beavers to the wild is benefiting the local area.



We are Guardians

Edivan Guajajara, Chelsea Greene, Rob Grobman,
Fisher Stevens - Brazil - 2:32 min

In the heart of the Brazilian Amazon, thousands of people are unlawfully encroaching upon protected lands, devastating centuries-old trees for export and exploiting rare resources. It's a critical issue that impacts us all. Enter Indigenous Brazilian forest guardian Marçal Guajajara and impassioned activist Puyr Temb . They stand as unwavering sentinels, fighting tirelessly to shield their home from the relentless march of deforestation. Alongside them, we encounter an illegal logger, trapped in a desperate struggle to make ends meet, who sees no alternative means of survival, and a determined landowner, committed to preserving the rich ecosystem within his property, relentlessly seeking answers from local authorities, yet met with silence. Through this tapestry of perspectives, we see the economic connections to markets that link goods derived in the Amazon region to consumers around the world.

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