

## NbS may offer something new if designed and implemented with transformation in mind

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**Keywords:** conservation, ecosystem, practice, transformation

**Abstract text:** The NbS umbrella as defined by IUCN covers a variety of concepts related to ecosystem restoration and the use of ecosystem services to address the societal challenges that arise from the Anthropocene. None of the NbS concepts are new and some of them are critiqued for their anthropocentrism and their potential to increase social injustice, particularly in the Global South. This presentation builds on the review paper "Transformative conservation of ecosystems" (Fougeres et al., 2022: <https://doi.org/10.1017/sus.2022.4>) and presents six actions that support the transformation of ecosystem management that could be applied to the design and implementation of NbS. The transformations require two paradigm shifts: (1) from domination to stewardship in the relationship between humans and nature; and (2) from a mechanistic to a holistic understanding of what it means to coexist and evolve with living systems. These are profound changes in the current western industrial mindset and have the potential to address the institutional frame that supports economic growth and ultimately bend the curve of biodiversity loss. The presentation will include a preview of current work on the development of living laboratories (one of the transformative conservation practices) as a transdisciplinary educational tool for the development of NbS.

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The abstract has been accepted for the [Swedish Biodiversity Symposium](#), taking place on 21 - 23 October 2025. It will be orally presented by Mike Jones during Session 21 '[Nature-based solutions – is something new under the sun?](#)'.