



Action is needed to redress the uneven distribution of nature's benefits across urban communities.

The benefits that nature-based solutions bring are too frequently concentrated in neighbourhoods and communities which are already thriving. Historical patterns of urban development have often led those areas of cities which experience multiple forms of risk and deprivation to have limited access to nature and the benefits it provides, whilst multiple social and cultural barriers serve to exclude individuals from access to nature on the basis of their gender, age or ethnicity. It is vital that nature-based solutions do not reproduce inequalities in the city. By increasing the value of land, nature-based solutions can lead to gentrification, further marginalising minority communities and creating forms of nature where access is either physically or culturally limited to those who can afford it or conform to norms established by majority groups. Even where nature-based solutions do not exacerbate or replicate inequalities, they may do little to actively work against them – recognising past injustices and seeking purposively to intervene to redress them will be necessary if we are to ensure equity in the city. Nature-based solutions can start from a proactive engagement with equity concerns and account for their role in either addressing or embedding inequalities. Smaller, diverse or linear forms of nature-based solutions that are distributed across different neighbourhoods and communities can reduce the impacts of gentrification. Engaging with diverse communities in the design, implementation and maintenance of nature-based solutions can ensure that nature-based solutions provide the kinds of nature valued by those who currently have limited access. Opening up existing nature within the city to those who have historically been excluded and ensuring that majority groups give ground to others will all be needed if nature-based solutions are to ensure equity over the long-term.