# EU-Funded Nature-based solutions research projects

addressing Societal Challenges across Ecosystems



The European Commission defines Nature-based solutions (NBS) as "solutions that are inspired and supported by nature, which are cost-effective, simultaneously provide environmental, social and economic benefits and help build resilience". NBS must benefit biodiversity and support the delivery or a range of ecosystem services.

Such solutions bring more, and more diverse, nature and natural features and processes into cities, landscapes and seascapes, through locally adapted, resource-efficient and systemic interventions. This definition is aligned with the **IUCN** and the recently internationally adopted **UNEA-5** definition.

NetworkNature is a resource for the nature-based solutions (NBS) community, creating opportunities for local, regional and international cooperation to maximise the impact and spread of nature-based solutions. The project is funded by the European Commission under the Horizon 2020 programme.

NetworkNature synthesizes & strengthens the Nature-based Solutions evidence base by gathering experiences, knowledge, tools and services from 44 Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe projects. The objective of this visualisation is to provide a clear overview of the EU NBS research projects, the ecosystems they target, and the societal challenges addressed.



# Nature-based solutions across Ecosystems

The ecosystems typologies addressed by the projects were listed based on the policy report "Mapping and assessment of ecosystems and their services (MAES): An EU Ecosystem Assessment Report". The classification has been slightly adapted for the purpose of this visualisation.



Coastal, shelf and open ocean

<u>CONEXUS</u> | <u>FutureMARES</u> | <u>Invest4Nature</u> | <u>MaCoBioS</u> | Marine SABRES | <u>MarinePlan</u> | <u>MERCES</u> | <u>MSP4BIO</u> | <u>NAIAD</u> | <u>Nature4Cities</u> | <u>NATURVATION</u> | OPERANDUM | REST-COAST



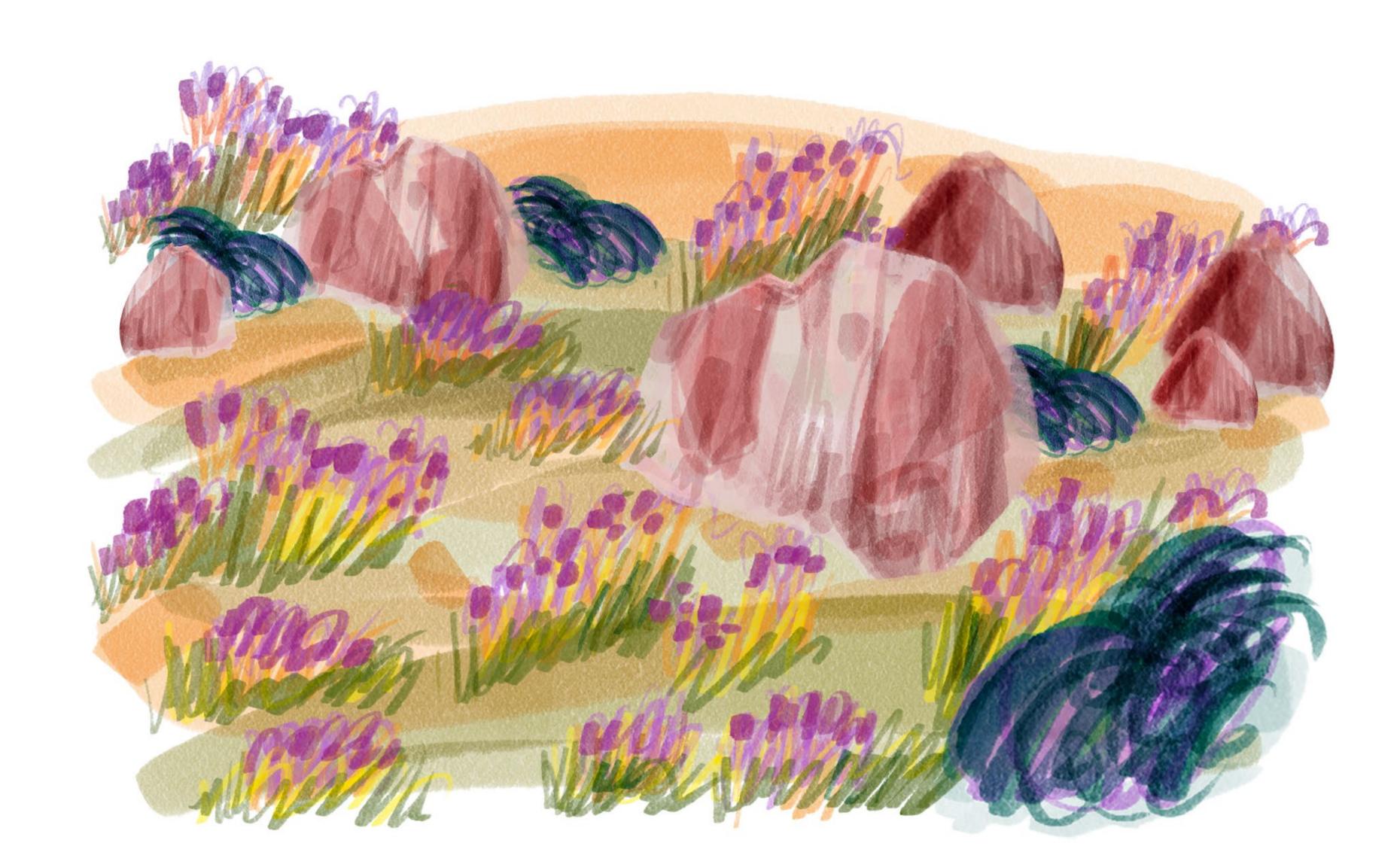
Urban ecosystems

CLEARING HOUSE | CLEVER Cities | CONEXUS | Connecting Nature | DivAirCity | <u>EdiCitNet | euPOLIS | GoGreenRoutes | GrowGreen | IN-HABIT | INTERLACE |</u> <u>Invest4Nature</u> | <u>JUSTNature</u> | <u>MULTISOURCE</u> | <u>NAIAD</u> | <u>NaturaConnect</u> | Nature4Cities | NATURVATION | NICE | OPERANDUM | PONDERFUL | proGIreg | REGREEN | UNaLab | UPSURGE | URBAN GreenUP | URBINAT | VARCITIES



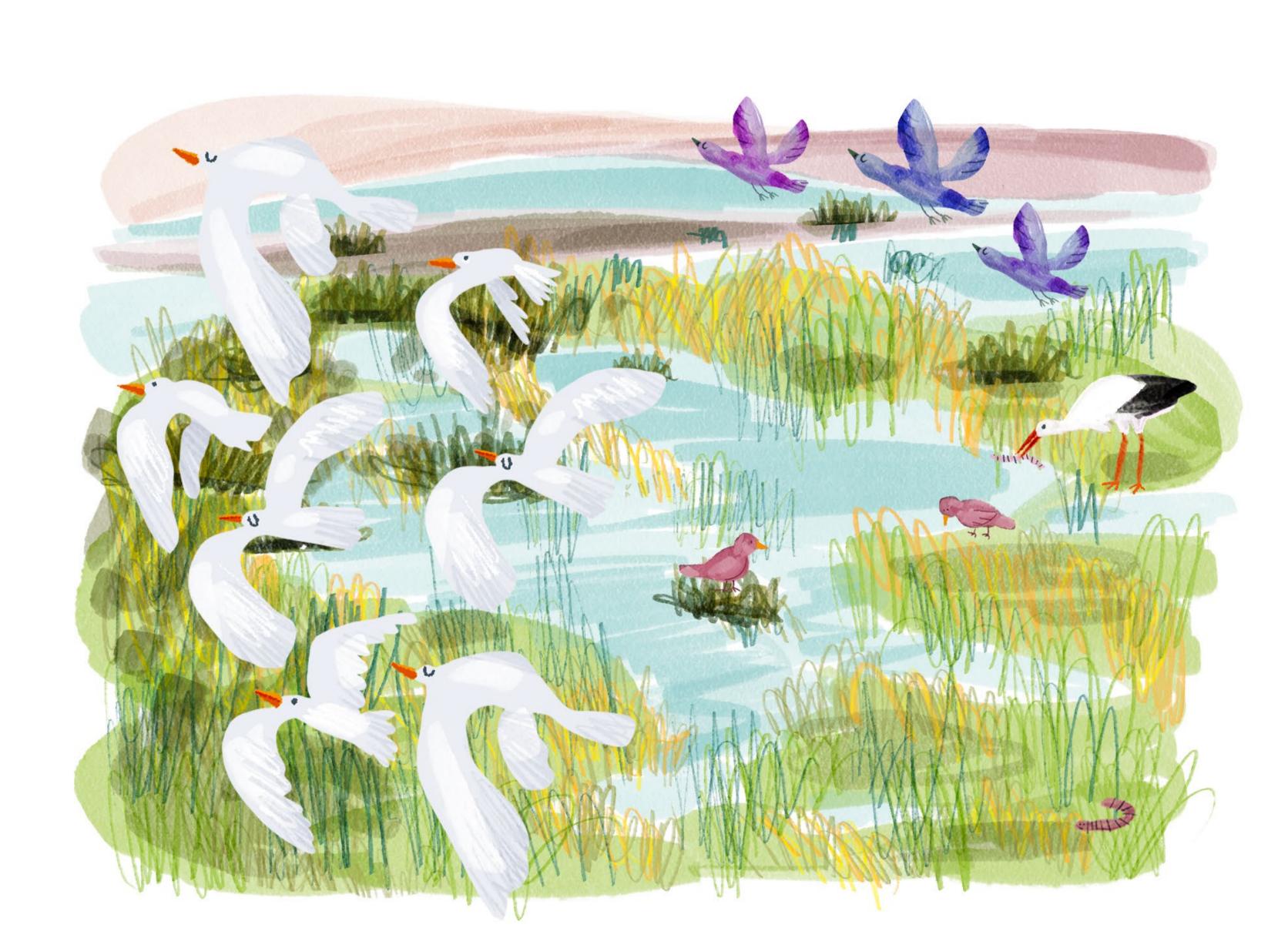
Cropland

<u>Invest4Nature | NAIAD | NaturaConnect | Nature4Cities | PHUSICOS</u>



Heathland and shrub

Invest4Nature | NaturaConnect | Nature4Cities



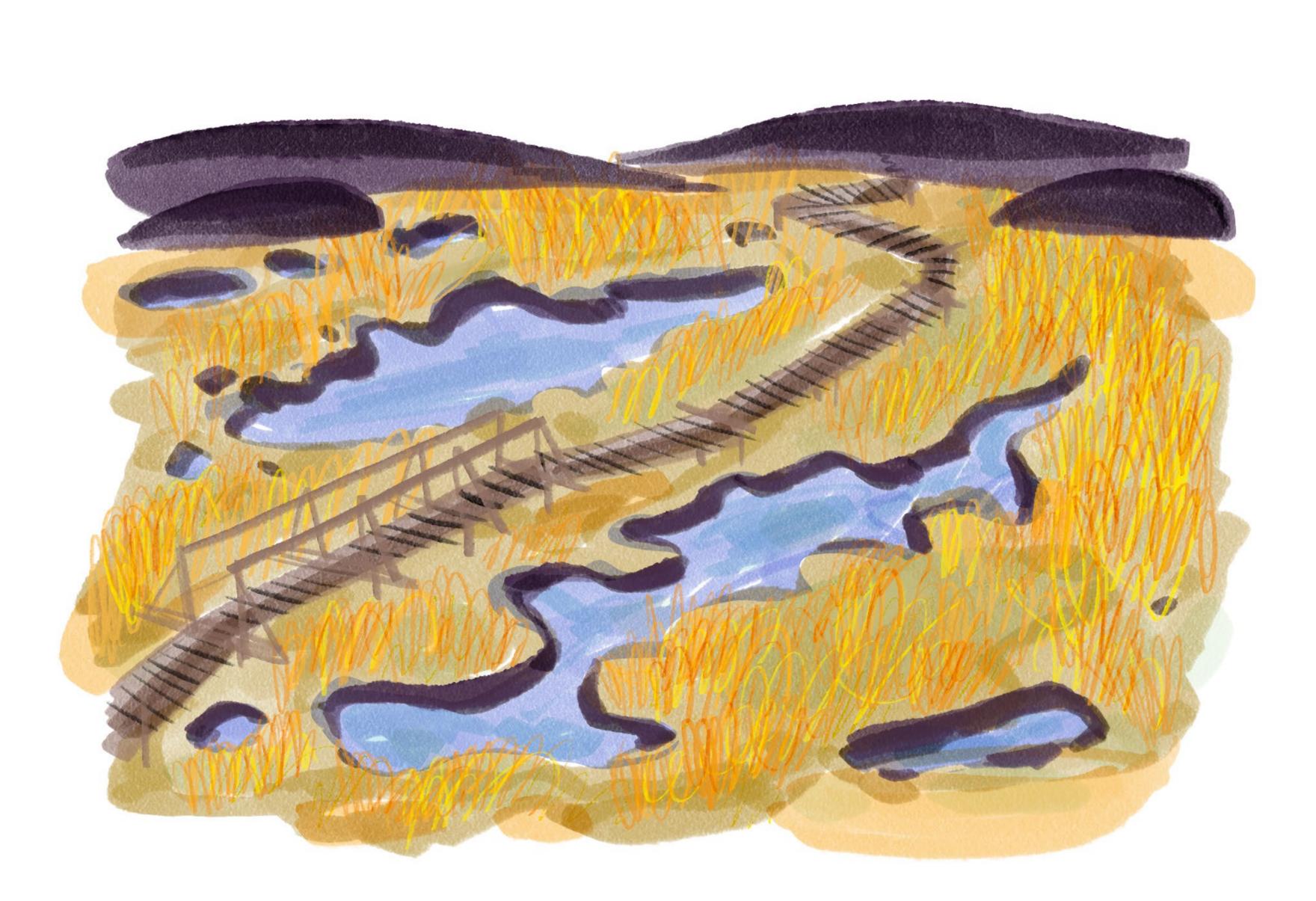
Marine inlets and transitional water

<u>euPOLIS</u> | <u>FutureMARES</u> | <u>Invest4Nature</u> | <u>MaCoBioS</u> | Marine SABRES | <u>MarinePlan</u> | <u>MSP4BIO</u> | <u>NAIAD</u> | <u>Nature4Cities</u> | <u>NATURVATION</u> | <u>OPERANDUM</u> | RECONECT | REST-COAST | WaterLANDS



Forest

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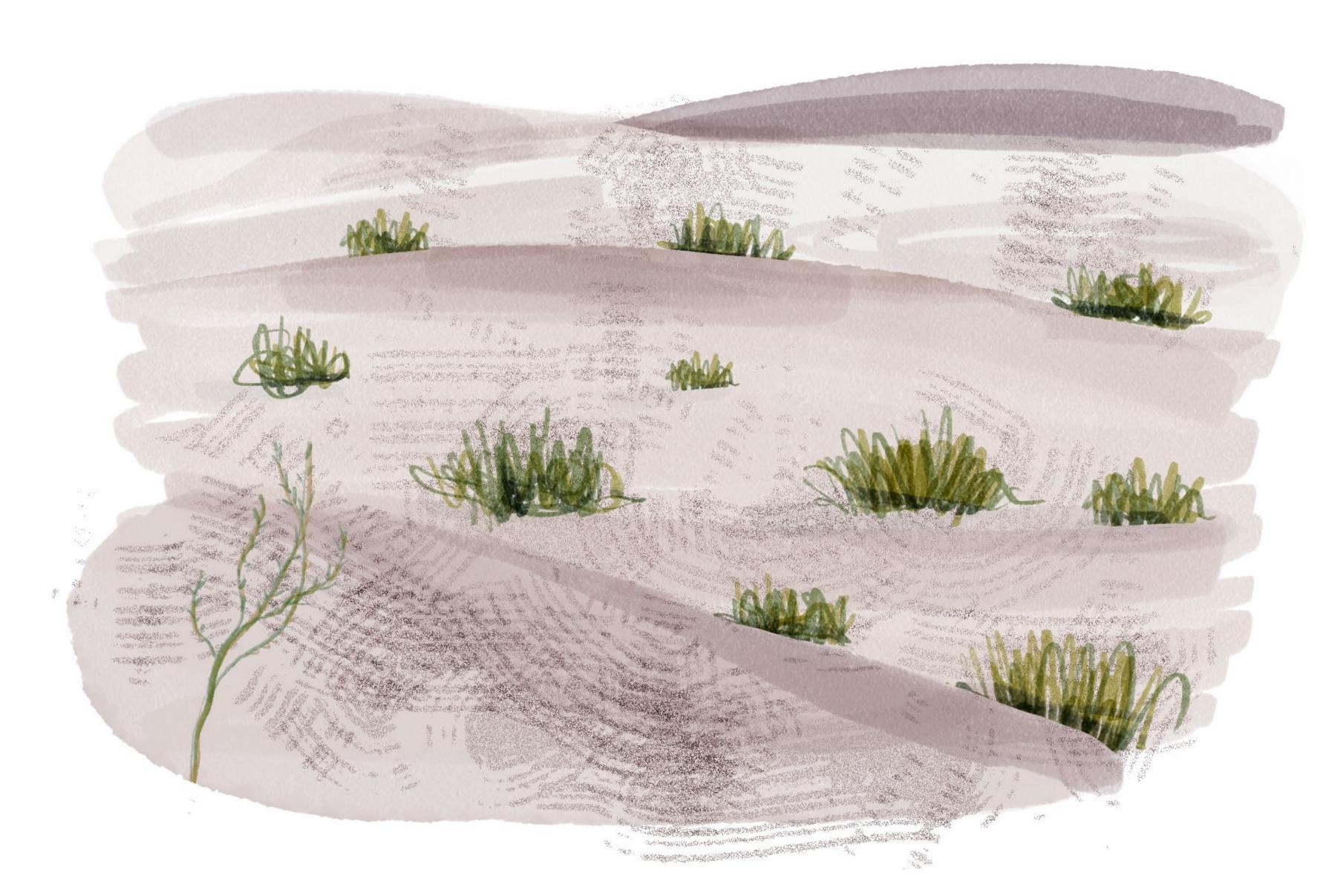
Inland wetland

CONEXUS | Connecting Nature | INTERLACE | Invest4Nature | MERLIN | NAIAD | <u>NaturaConnect</u> | <u>Nature4Cities</u> | <u>NATURVATION</u> | <u>PONDERFUL</u> | <u>RECONECT</u> | <u>UNaLab | URBAN GreenUP | URBINAT | WaterLANDS</u>



Rivers, lakes and ponds

<u>AMBER | CONEXUS | Connecting Nature | DRYvER | EcoAdvance | euPOLIS |</u> <u>FutureMARES | INTERLACE | Invest4Nature | MERLIN | NAIAD | NaturaConnect</u> | <u>Nature4Cities</u> | <u>NATURVATION</u> | <u>NICE</u> | <u>OPERANDUM</u> | <u>PHUSICOS</u> | PONDERFUL | RECONECT | REGREEN | REST-COAST | UNaLab | WaterLANDS



Sparsely vegetated land

GoGreenRoutes | NaturaConnect | URBAN GreenUP



Grassland

<u>CONEXUS | euPOLIS | NAIAD | NaturaConnect | Nature4Cities | OPERANDUM</u>



Focus on ecological processes rather than specific ecosystems

NAIAD | NaturaConnect | Naturance | NATURVATION | OPERANDUM | PHUSICOS | RECONECT

# Addressing Societal Challenges

12 societal challenges were considered for assessment, based on the European Commission's publication "Evaluating the impact of Nature-based solutions: A handbook for practitioners", which was the result of a collaboration of 17 EU NBS projects. Some societal challenges have been slightly modified to broaden their scope beyond urban ecosystems.



### Health and wellbeing

Connecting Nature | euPOLIS | GoGreenRoutes | IN-HABIT | INTERLACE |
Invest4Nature | MaCoBioS | NaturaConnect | Nature4Cities | NATURVATION |
REGREEN | UPSURGE | URBINAT | VARCITIES



### Social justice and social cohesion

GoGreenRoutes | INTERLACE | Invest4Nature | JUSTNature | NaturaConnect |
Nature4Cities | NATURVATION | proGIreg | UPSURGE | URBINAT



### Participatory planning and governance

euPOLIS | GoGreenRoutes | IN-HABIT | MSP4BIO |
MULTISOURCE | NAIAD | NaturaConnect | Nature4Cities | NATURVATION | NICE
| PHUSICOS | proGlreg | RECONECT | REGREEN | REST-COAST | URBINAT

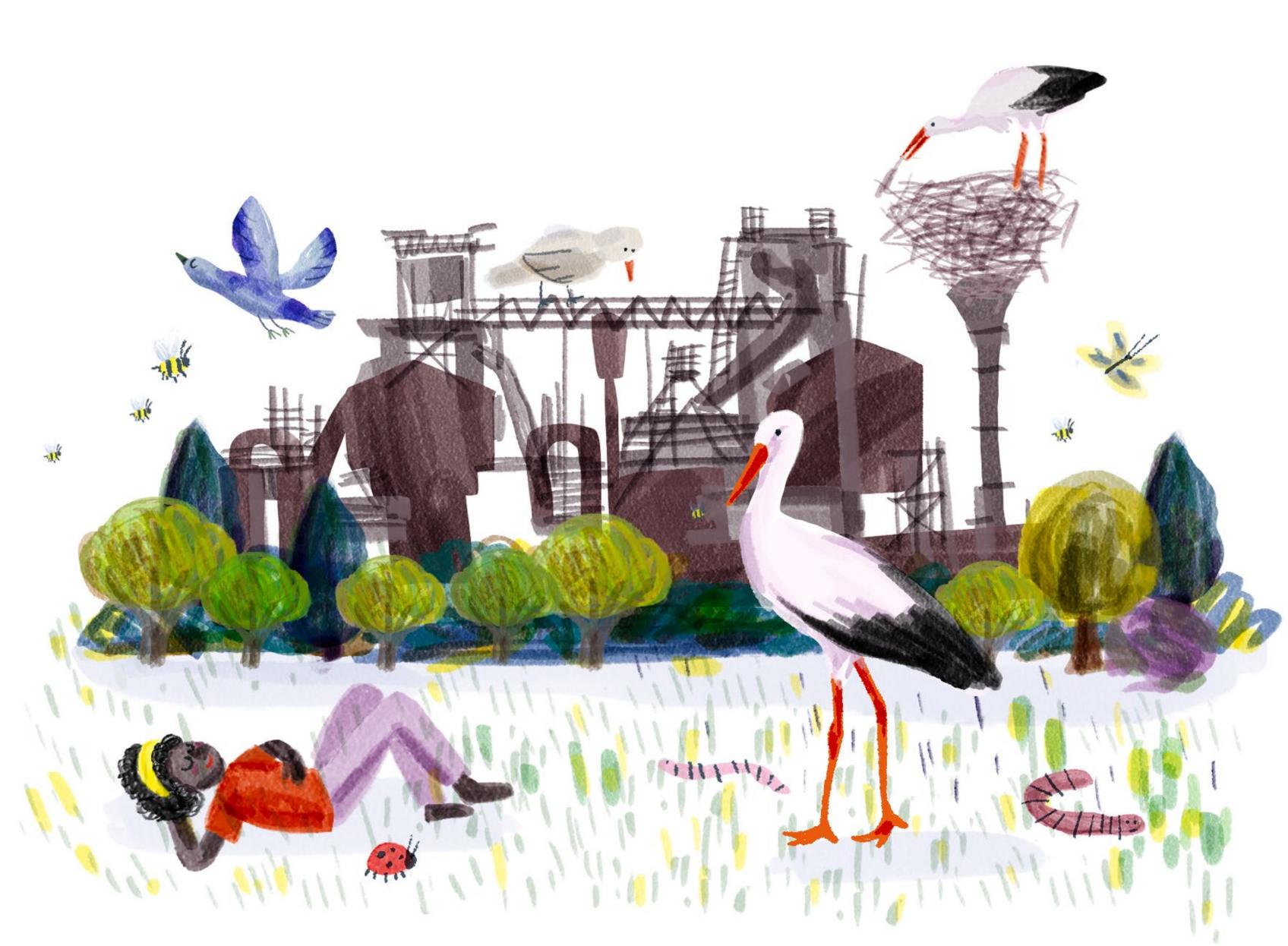


# Knowledge and Social Capacity building for Sustainable Transformation

EcoAdvance | GoGreenRoutes | IN-HABIT | INTERLACE | MarinePlan |

MULTISOURCE | NAIAD | Naturance | NATURVATION | OPERANDUM |

RECONECT | UPSURGE | URBINAT | VARCITIES



## Place regeneration

<u>EdiCitNet | MarinePlan | MERLIN | MSP4BIO | NaturaConnect | NATURVATION |</u>
<u>proGIreg | UPSURGE | URBINAT | WaterLANDS</u>



## Climate Resilience

FutureMARES | GoGreenRoutes | GrowGreen | Invest4Nature | MaCoBioS | MarinePlan | MERCES | MERLIN | MSP4BIO | NAIAD | NaturaConnect |

Naturance | Nature4Cities | NATURVATION | NICE | OPERANDUM | PHUSICOS |

PONDERFUL | RECONECT | REGREEN | REST-COAST | UNaLab |

URBAN GreenUP



# Land and green space management

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NAIAD | NaturaConnect | Naturance | Nature4Cities | NATURVATION |

RECONECT | REGREEN | SUPERB | UPSURGE | URBINAT | VARCITIES



# Water management

GrowGreen | INTERLACE | Invest4Nature | Marine SABRES | MarinePlan |

MERLIN | MULTISOURCE | NAIAD | Naturance | Nature4Cities | NATURVATION |

NICE | RECONECT | REGREEN | UNaLab



# Biodiversity enhancement

FutureMARES | GoGreenRoutes | GrowGreen | INTERLACE |

JUSTNature | Marine SABRES | MarinePlan | MERCES | MERLIN | MSP4BIO

| NAIAD | NaturaConnect | Nature4Cities | NATURVATION | PONDERFUL |

REGREEN | REST-COAST | SUPERB | URBAN GreenUP | URBINAT | WaterLANDS



# Air Quality

<u>DivAirCity</u> | <u>GoGreenRoutes</u> | <u>JUSTNature</u> | <u>Nature4Cities</u> | <u>NATURVATION</u> | <u>REGREEN</u> | <u>URBAN GreenUP</u> | <u>VARCITIES</u>



# Natural and Climate hazards

FutureMARES | GoGreenRoutes | Invest4Nature | MaCoBioS | MERLIN | NAIAD | Naturance | NATURVATION | NICE | OPERANDUM | PHUSICOS | RECONECT |

REGREEN | REST-COAST | UPSURGE



# New Economic Opportunities and Green Jobs

CONEXUS | Connecting Nature | GoGreenRoutes | Naturance |

Nature4Cities | NATURVATION

