

BwN Approach

Building with Nature Guideline

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Home

BwN
Approach

B
u
i
l
d
P
i
r
o
j
e
c
t
s
o
c
i
e
t
y
T
o
o
l
b
o
x

[Building with Nature Guideline](#) > BwN Approach

[Log in](#)

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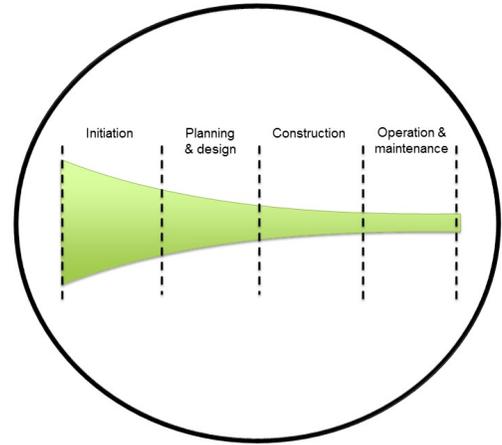
The Building with Nature (BwN) Guideline provides guidance on how to utilise natural processes while realising hydraulic infrastructure, and how to create additional benefits for nature as well as society in these projects. A range of BwN concepts have been tested in pilots and projects, which have been documented and included in this guideline. The main lessons learned are described on different levels in the [Building Solutions](#), [Projects](#) and [Toolbox](#).

The BwN concept is based on the BwN [philosophy and principles](#) that encourages the reader to take a sustainable, sometimes innovative approach, thereby often creating multi-functional solutions beneficial to multiple stakeholders. If you want to implement the philosophy of BwN, guidance for successful implementation throughout the process can be found in [Steps and phases](#).

The main goal of a BwN developer is to focus on opportunities and win-win solutions, thereby thinking outside the box of limited, uni-functional, problem perceptions and sector interests. This requires evaluating the long-term costs and benefits of the different multi-functional alternatives, which raises complexity. The [Governance](#) section provides an overview of several governance aspects of BwN-projects and their lessons learned as well as guidance on a number of key governance issues in such projects.

[Philosophy and principles](#)

[Steps and phases](#)



Target groups

These BwN Design Guidelines are specifically relevant for the following user groups. It is noted that specific sections can be of higher interest to one group of readers than to others.

- Project Developers (initiation; planning & design; construction; operation)
- Port authorities and governments (initiation; operation & maintenance)
- Consultants, designers and contractors (initiation; planning & design; operation)
- Scientists and education (initiation; planning & design | knowledge base)
- Society and NGO's (initiation; operation & maintenance | public information, awareness)

What's in a name?

Using the benefits of nature for society is utilised increasingly worldwide. This large number of initiatives has led to the use of numerous concepts that have a similar meaning. A selection is given in the table below. Other initiatives include [PEDRR](#), [Think Nature](#), [OPPLA](#), [CoastAdapt](#) and [Naturally Resilient Communities](#).

Concept	Initiated by	Description
Building with Nature (BwN)	Ecoshape	Taking advantage of natural processes for realizing hydraulic infrastructure, while at the same time providing opportunities for nature development
Green Infrastructure (GI)	European Commission	A network of natural and semi-natural areas, designed and managed to enhancing nature's ability to deliver multiple valuable ecosystem goods and services
Nature-Based Solutions (NBS)	World Bank	Living solutions designed to address various societal challenges in a resource efficient and adaptable manner
Engineering with nature (EWN)	US Army Corps of Engineers	Intentional alignment of natural and engineering processes to efficiently and sustainably deliver economic, environmental, and social benefits through collaborative processes
Working with nature (WWN)	PIANC	Approach that considers the project objectives from the perspective of the natural system rather than from the perspective of technical design
Working with Natural Processes (WwNP)	Environment Agency (England)	Protect, restore and emulate the natural functions of catchments, floodplains, rivers and the coast

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