



**NBS
EduWORLD**



Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) and Nature-Based Thinking (NBT) Lecture (online)

Credit: Trinity Business School – Centre for Social Innovation

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(Part 1) Learning Outcomes for this Learning Unit

- Interrogate why **Nature-Based Thinking contributes to effective NBS**
- Assess the **role of stakeholders** in adopting NBT and implications on NBS
- Analyse how **NBT principles contribute to new ways** of relating to nature, transdisciplinary governing and sustainable NBS
- Reflect on NBT in their own **personal/professional context and academic discipline** of study

Exploring NBT

What comes to mind when hearing
'Nature-Based Thinking'?

Nature-Based Thinking (NBT) - definitions

“NBT emphasizes the **inspiration from nature** to foster sustainable urban development and **conceives nature to be intertwined with people**. NBT will engage local actors, generate novel governance approaches, and **promote long-term thinking, according to nature’s own cycles.**”

Reference: [Network Nature – ConexusNBS Factsheet](#) – p.1

Nature-Based Thinking (NBT) - definitions

“...**a mindset** that sees nature and humanity as indissolubly connected, working across sectors, disciplines and levels of governance to implement NBS over conventional infrastructure, whilst advocating and educating for change that supports this transformation. NBT attempts to incorporate a **relational and reciprocal perspective on human–nature relations.**”

Reference: [Mercado et al 2023, p.81](#)

Why Nature-Based Thinking?

“...the process of implementing NBS necessitates **holistic thinking** and working that pulls together a **range of sectors and disciplines**. Combined with traditional grey infrastructure these measures offer city managers, planners, water and environmental authorities with a **variety of hybrid solutions** that can be selected in relation to desired benefits and trade-offs.”

- **Holistic thinking**
- **Intersectoral thinking**
- **Rethinking infrastructure**

Exploring NBT – Revisited

- What comes to mind when hearing 'Nature-Based Thinking'?

Is NBT what you thought?

What is different? The same?

Answer in the chat (or Miro Board)

3 Elements of NBT

1- Communities

2- Institutions and organizations

3- Nature & ecological processes

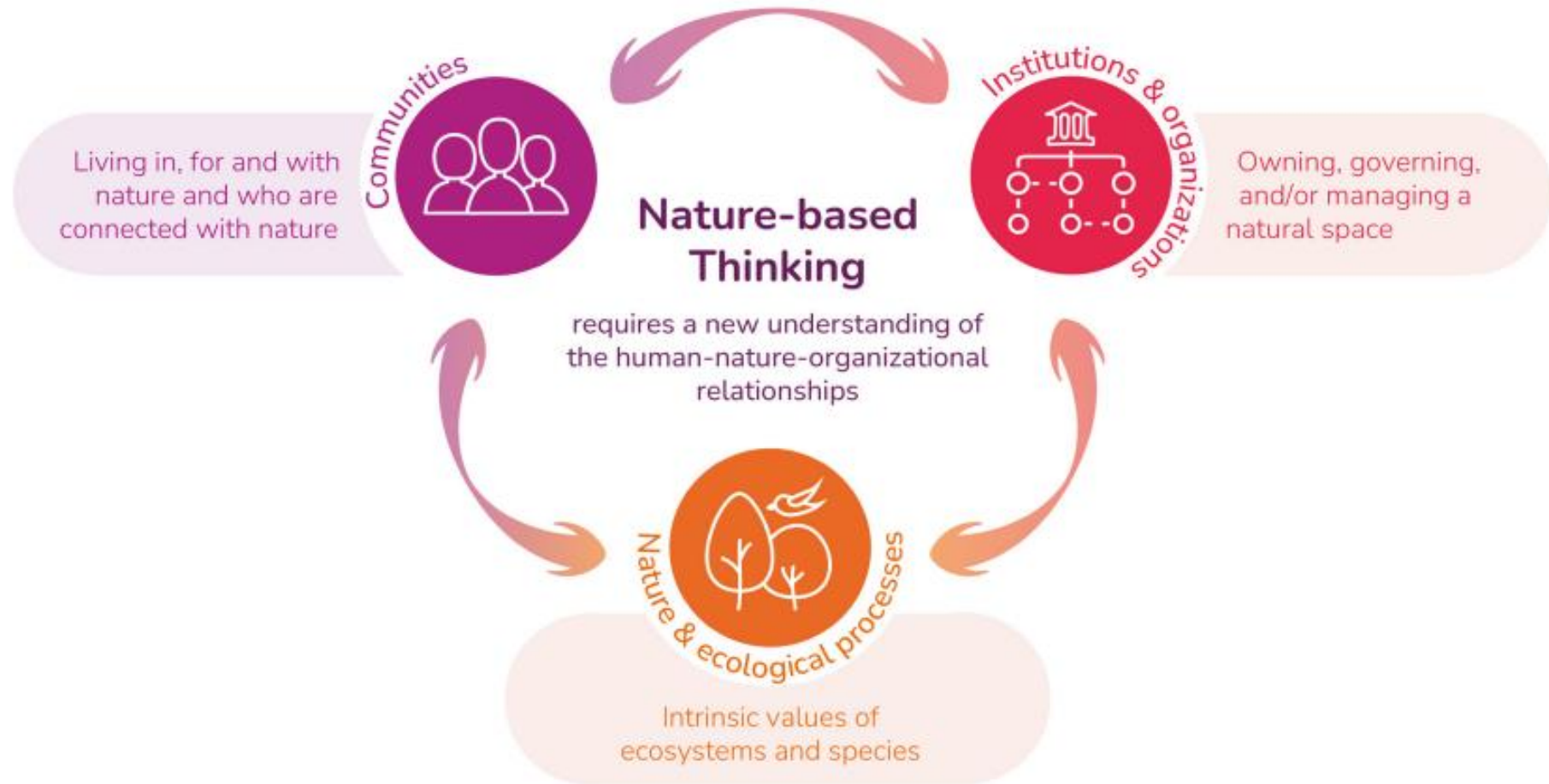
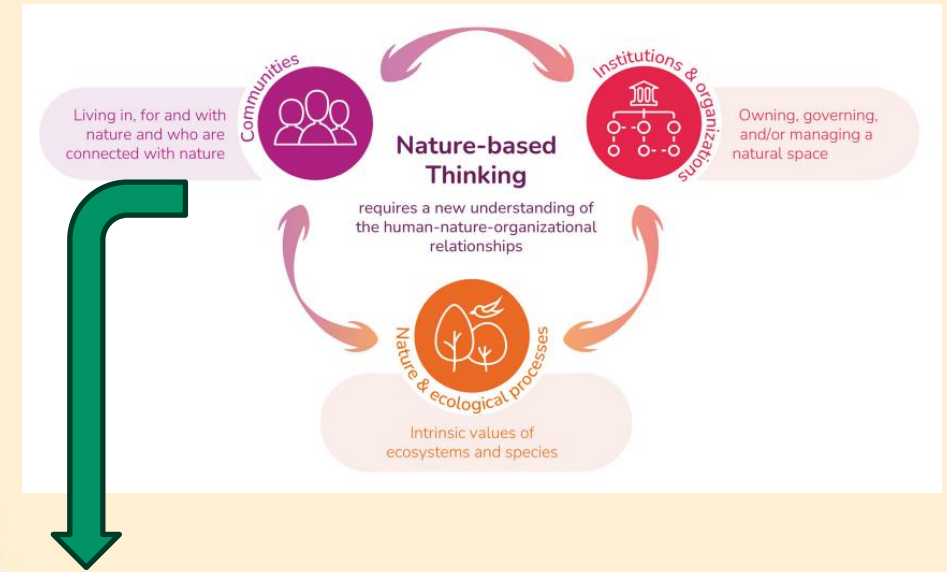


Photo Credit and reference:
[Network Nature – ConexusNBS Factsheet – p.2](#)

3 Elements of NBT – Why?

1- Communities

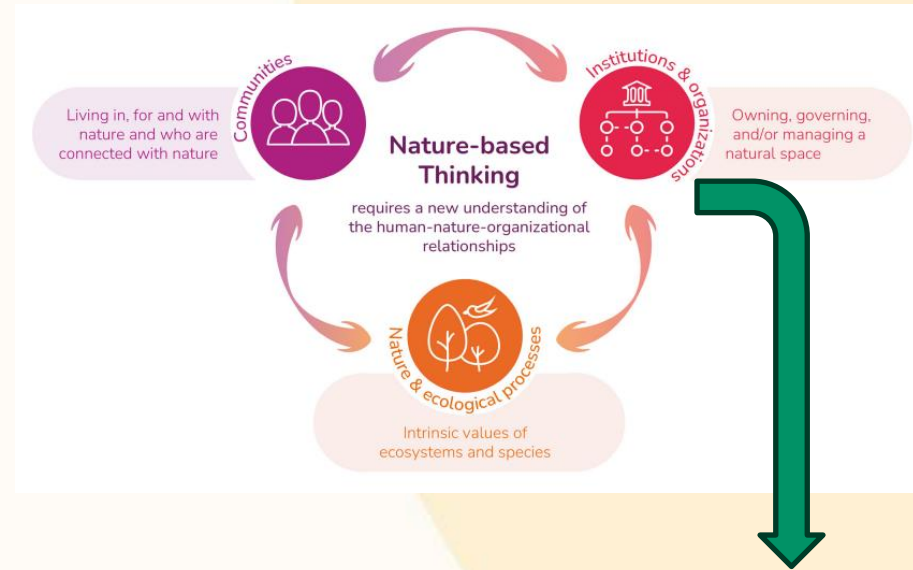


Why? “... break siloes and build opportunities associated with linking formal government with local communities..”

Photo credit and reference: [Randup et al 2020, p.923](#)

3 Elements of NBT – Why?

2- Institutions & Organisations



Why? “... break siloes and build opportunities associated with linking formal government with local communities..”

Photo credit and reference: [Randup et al 2020, p.923](#)

3 Elements of NBT – Why?

3- Nature & ecological processes

Why? “...build in more space for natural processes, ecosystem functioning, and long- term unpredictability.”

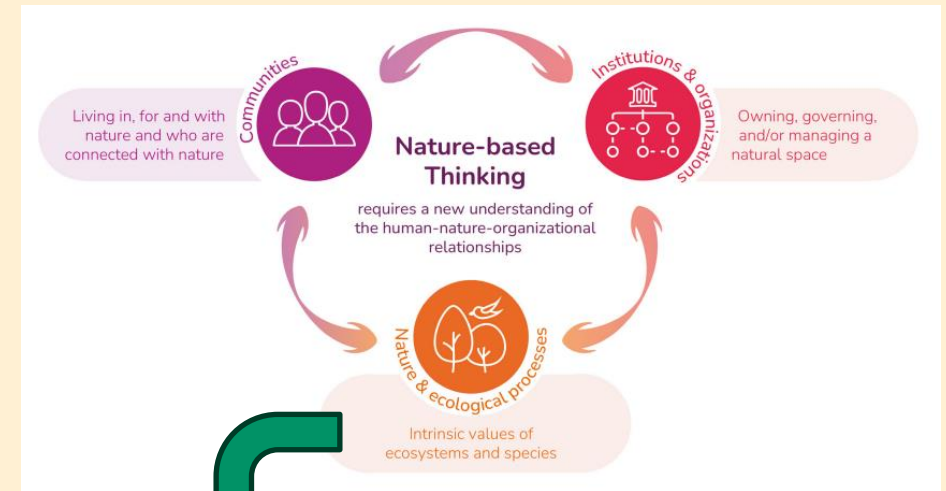


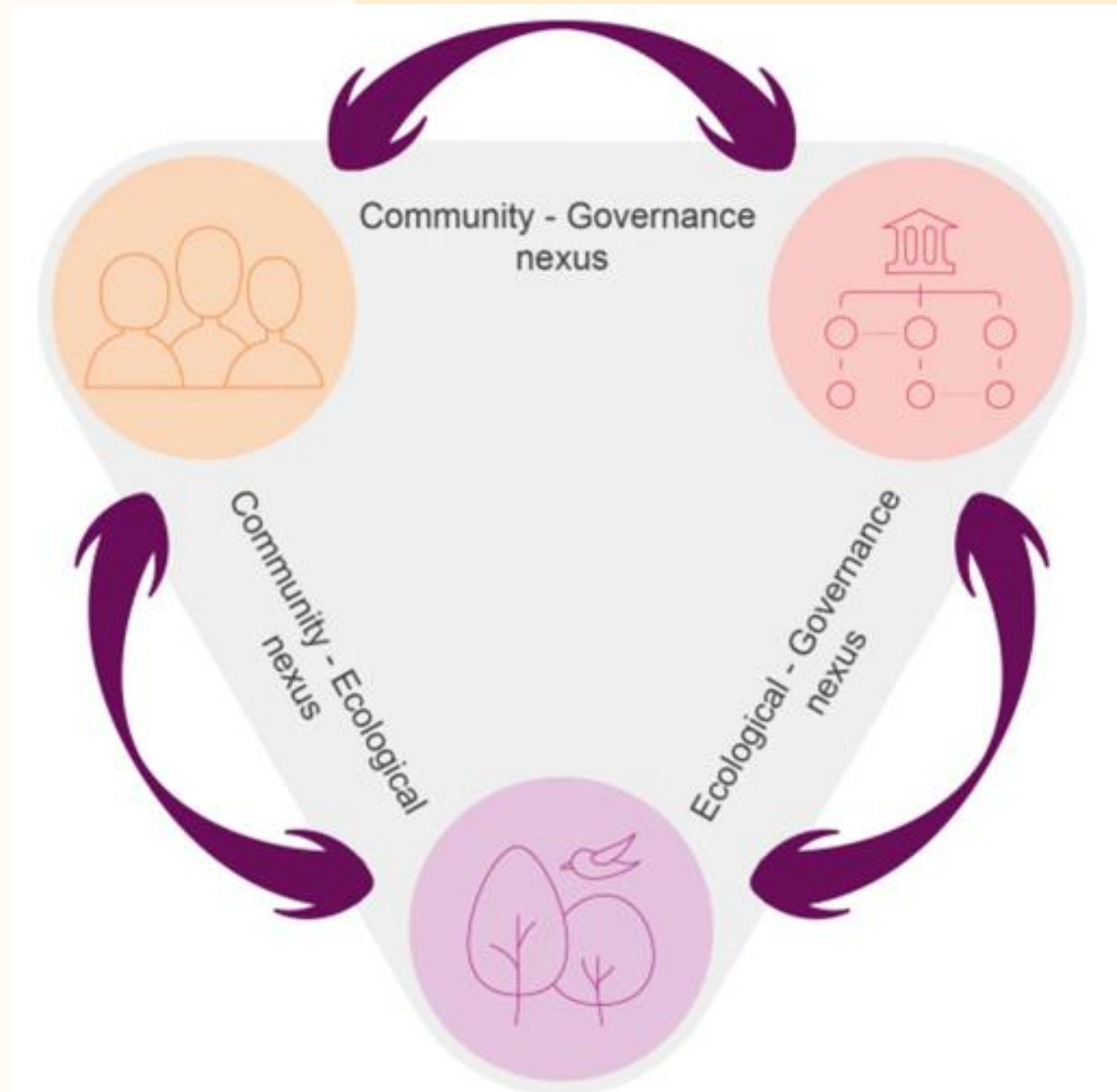
Photo credit and reference: [Randup et al 2020, p.923](#)

NBT nexus dimensions

Community-
Ecological

Community-
Governance

Ecological-
Governance



NBT nexus dimensions

**Community-
Ecological**

*Community-
Governance*

*Ecological (nature)-
Governance*



How institutional
governance structures
engage and involve
citizens in NBS
processes

How citizens, often
independently (or even
in conflict with)
governments interact
with nature.

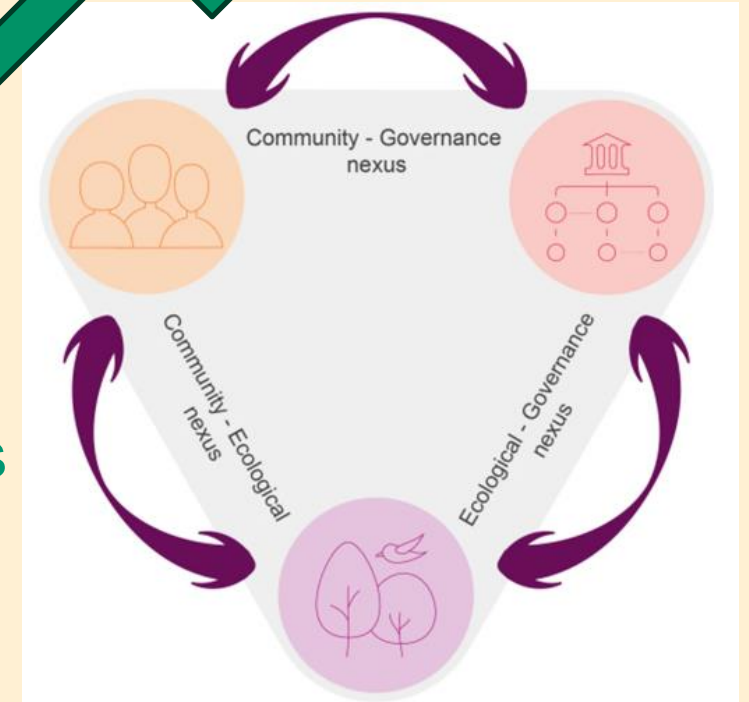
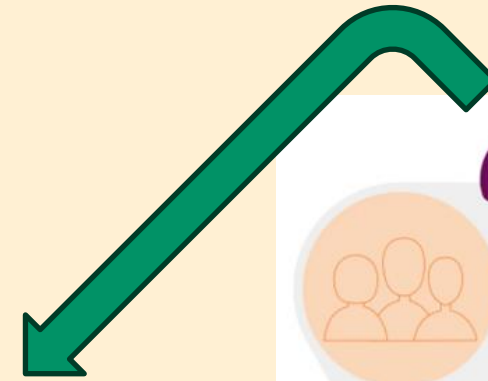


Photo credit and reference: [Randup e](#)

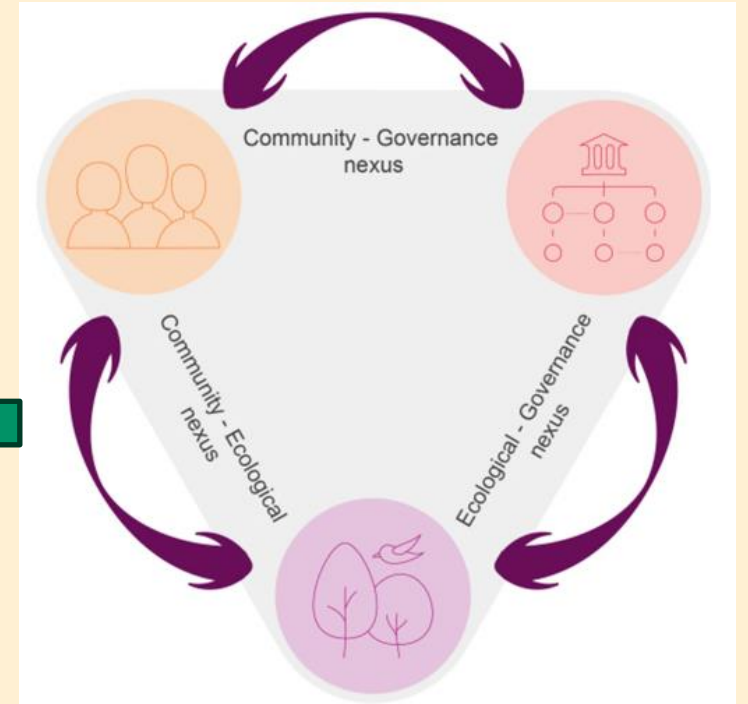
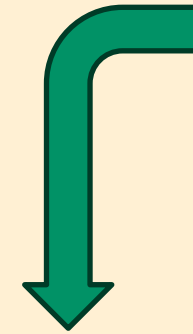
NBT nexus dimensions

*Community-
Ecological*

**Community-
Governance**



*Ecological (nature)-
Governance*



*How nature relates to
communities living in, for
and with nature*

NBT nexus dimensions

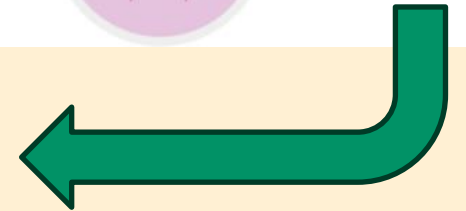
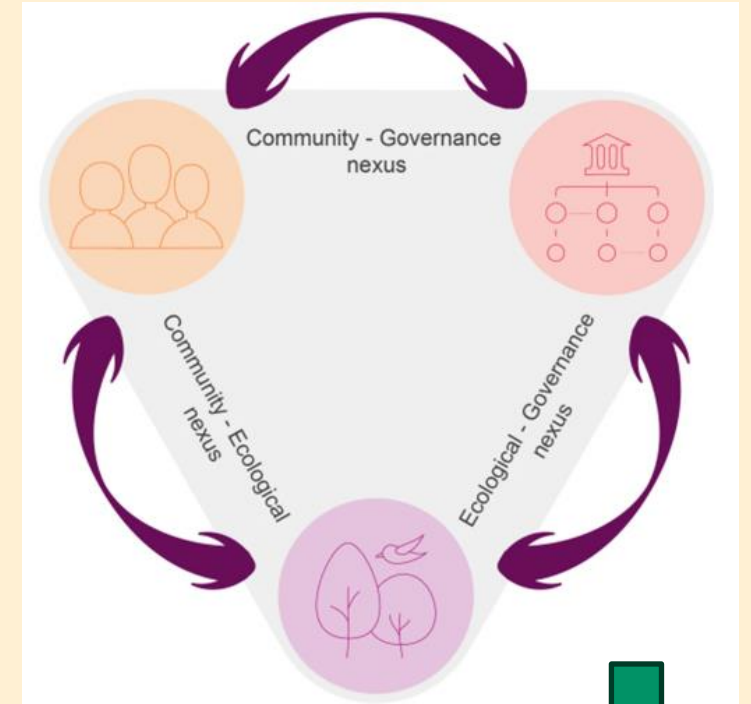
*Community-
Ecological*

*Community-
Governance*

**Ecological
(nature)-
Governance**

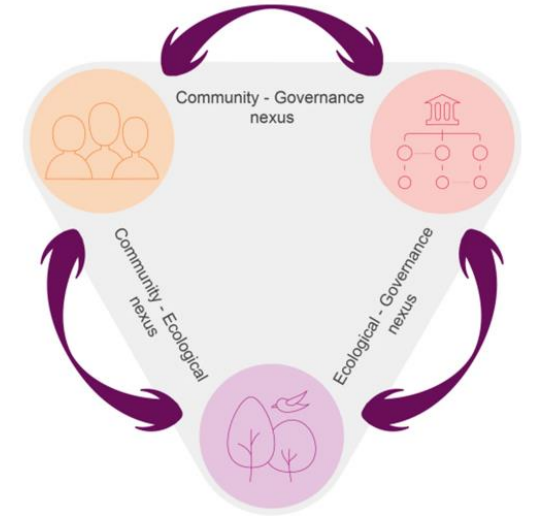


*How nature is being
developed, governed,
managed and maintained*



What NBT offers

- an approach or a mindset in human–nature interaction in NBS development
- reciprocal and interdependent
- all the nexus dimensions are same weight and importance



Part 4: NBS and NBT: A multidisciplinary reflection

Given the learning on the benefits and elements of Nature-Based Thinking

- What do you see as the links to your academic discipline?
- How can you link NBS and NBT ideas and benefits in your area of study?
 - *Pair and Share (breakout groups – 2 people) – 5 minutes*
 - *Share with the whole group*

Final Reflection: Nature-Based Thinking

Reflect on your learning:

- What is your key takeaway on NBT?
- What new information will you share with others?



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Thank you!

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Trinity Business School – Trinity College Dublin***

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