

Urban wetlands: prized land, not wasteland



Control flooding



Filter waste from water



Improve air quality



Source of drinking water



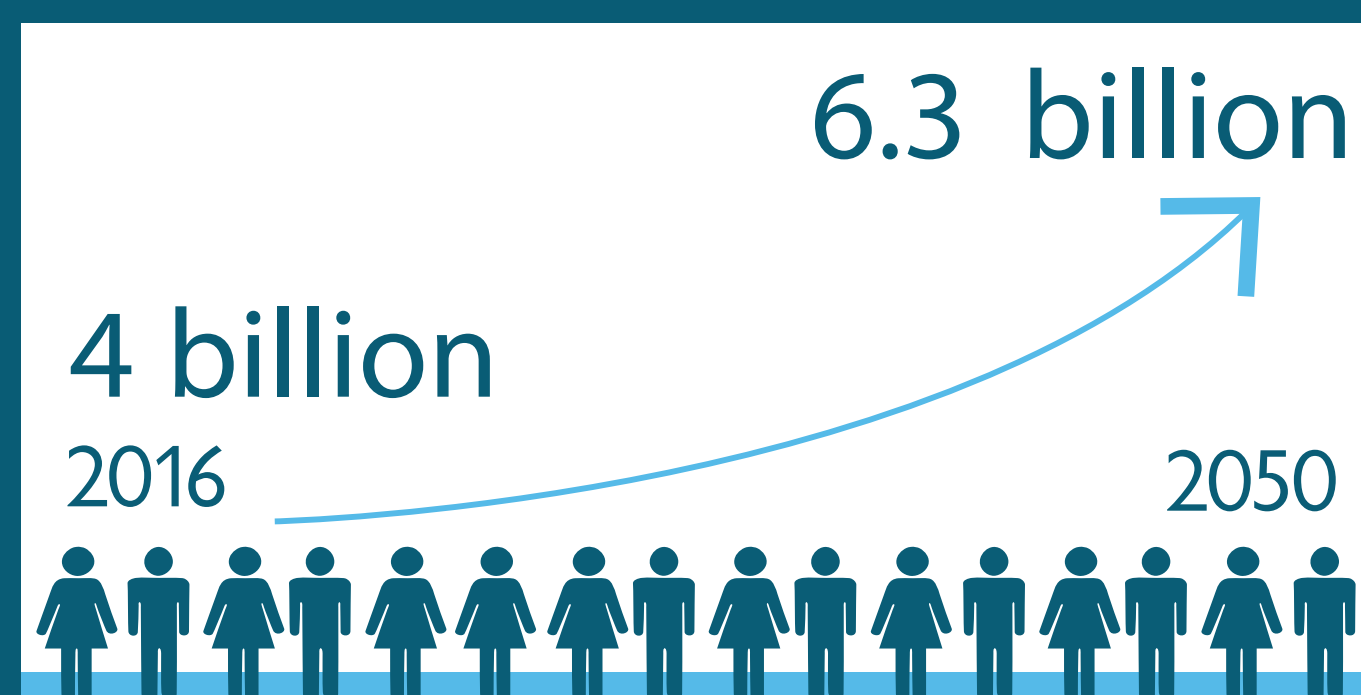
Promote human wellbeing



Source of livelihoods

While cities are GROWING

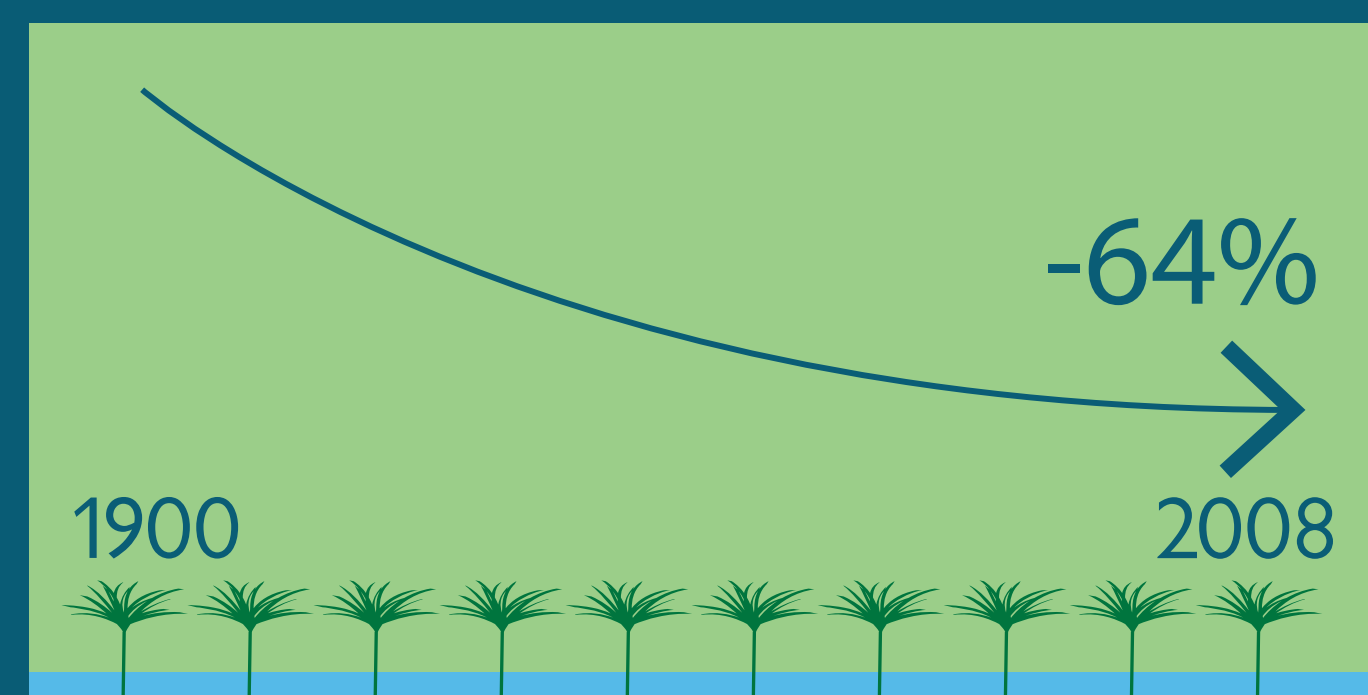
50% of the population live in urban areas today.
By 2050 that number will increase to 66%



WORLD URBAN POPULATION, 2016-2050

Wetlands are DECLINING

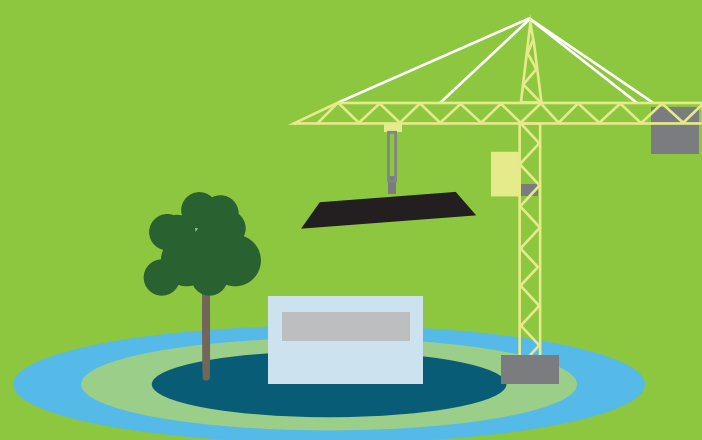
More than 64% of the world's wetlands
have been lost since 1900



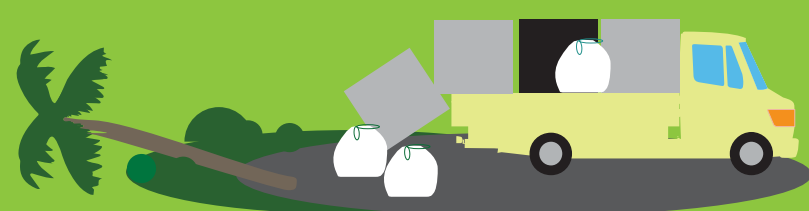
ESTIMATED WETLAND LOSS

As demand for land increases, the tendency is to encroach on wetlands

Filling in wetlands disrupts natural water provision



Dumping rubbish degrades natural green spaces



Burning or draining peatlands releases CO₂



Clearing mangroves and mining coral reefs can expose city coastlines to storms



To make cities sustainable into the future:
retain, restore and preserve urban wetlands

#KeepUrbanWetlands
#WorldWetlandsDay
www.worldwetlandsday.org

- ▶ Include wetlands in urban land use planning
- ▶ Preserve and restore urban wetlands

- ▶ Involve local residents in wetland management
- ▶ Reduce water consumption and harmful runoff



Knysna

Municipality • Munisipaliteit • uMasipala



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



World Wetlands Day
is made possible by the
Danone Fund for Water.



World
Wetlands Day
2 February 2018

Wetlands for a sustainable urban future