



Nature-Positive Design and Development

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Message from the Guest Editor

Many public and private organizations are pledging to become ‘nature positive’ or even ‘net positive’. However, the definitions and standards are rubbery. Net-positive design was originally defined as requiring both nature- and community-positive outcomes. A net-positive development would increase (a) the ‘ecological base’, or natural life-support systems, and (b) the ‘public estate’, or social life-support systems. A nature-positive project would therefore increase nature beyond pre-urban conditions. (See baselines and benchmarks on the net-positive design app at www.netpositivedesign.org). In common usage, however, these terms have been weakened to mean ‘regenerating remnant landscapes’, ‘increasing nature’s resilience’, or ‘protecting existing habitats’. It is time for a critical examination of what constitutes ‘nature positive’ strategies and standards. Suggested topics are in the ‘special issue information’ section, but related proposals are welcome.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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