The ‘Building with Nature’ approach for the upcoming harbour combines breakwaters with mangroves to protect the port. The mangrove growth is stimulated by depositing the port’s own dredged material.

East Kolkata wetlands, India
Our South Asia team’s analysis of wetland loss concluded that urbanisation, contamination from sewage and fish farms are rapidly diminishing the East Kolkata wetlands, and in turn, their services for flood protection and water provision. To counter this, we developed a holistic wetlands management plan with stakeholders to conserve the ecosystem and allow integration of ecosystem services and biodiversity values in the city’s urban and suburban planning. This resulted in an institutional framework for their wise management.

Water as Leverage for Resilient Cities: Asia
As part of the ONE Resilient Semarang design team, Wetlands International participated in Water as Leverage for Resilient Cities: Asia competition to tackle climate-change fuelled water challenges. We promoted a strong ecological component in the sustainable coastal protection strategy that includes connecting Semarang coastal infrastructure with the mangrove Green Belt we are restoring in adjacent Demak.

The ‘Building with Nature’ approach for the upcoming harbour combines breakwaters with mangroves to protect the port. The mangrove growth is stimulated by depositing the port’s own dredged material.
Flood protection in the Juan Díaz basin, Panamá City
We coordinated the Panama Dutch Water Dialogues directed at solutions to frequent urban flooding in the Juan Díaz watershed in Panamá City. Together with the Municipality and Dutch water experts, we developed a vision while ONE Architecture piloted the design for one key area. We also developed new regulations to prevent flood risk that are to be adopted by the new municipal administration. Next step is the participatory design and building of flood risk reduction infrastructure for the entire middle basin financed by a loan from Inter-American Development Bank.

Influencing the Manila Bay Sustainable Development Master Plan
Together with our Partners for Resilience (PfR) alliance, we are engaged in the formulation of the Manila Bay Sustainable Development Master Plan to prevent land reclamation on mudflats and mangroves with prized biodiversity. We bring in knowledge on wetland and waterbird habitats as well as communities’ voices into the planning process. The aim is to ensure these perspectives are respected in the sustainable growth of the Philippines’ capital region.

Mangroves for coastal defence - Guidelines for coastal managers & policy makers
Wetlands International & The Nature Conservancy
https://www.nature.org/media/oceansandcoasts/mangroves-for-coastal-defence.pdf

Managing urban flood risk in Blue Green cities

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