



IWUN

The practice of everyday [wild]life: diversity by design?

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‘Everyday life invents itself
in countless ways by
poaching on the property
of others’

Michel de Certeau

A photograph of a stream flowing over rocks in a forest. The water is clear and greenish, with white foam from the rapids. The rocks are grey and brown, some covered in moss. The background is a dense forest with green foliage.

Messages from IWUN – what did we find?

Everyday experiences matter for wellbeing

Context matters for wellbeing

Equality and diversity matter

How do everyday experiences matter?

Noticing good things improves wellbeing

‘Nature doesn’t judge’

A sense of perspective on life



A photograph of a forest floor with large, gnarled tree roots and a semi-transparent text box overlaid on the left side. The text box contains three lines of text in bold black font. The background shows a dense forest with many trees and a path leading into the distance.

How are everyday experiences created?

Instrumentally: through planning and investment decisions

Incidentally: through encounters and surprise

Habitually: through early life experiences and familiarity

How are everyday experiences unequal?

The quality of green spaces is better in more affluent areas

People with mental health difficulties may need extra support to access urban nature

BAME communities are under-represented in green spaces

The call of nature


A loo, a brew, and something to do...





**What connects people with
[the rest of] nature?**

Not just noticing good things, but supporting the capacity to notice good things. Providing a toilet won't connect people with nature – but may give more people the opportunity.



‘I can’t tell you the number of times I’ve thought, I don’t know if I can walk much further because there’s no toilets around here...’

- Health professional

The curious incident of the fox in the daytime

Instrumental interventions are about creating space for nature – the entangled interactions of humans, non-human animals, plants, insects...

Design can facilitate capacity in the more-than-human world

The curious incident of the fox in the daytime

Nature is everything around isn't it? I've seen a fox on my way to work, a baby one crossing the road. It's a good feeling, oh I've seen this fox! There's a fox there! It makes you happy...you jump up.

'Iqbal'

The magic of the mundane

Building the microfoundations of wellbeing



Making magic

**Incidentals: Noticing, experiencing,
perceiving**

**Interventions: Creating space for
[human] nature**

**Intentions: Rethinking systems,
changing decisions**



Sharing the magic

Connection: maximise *use* of green spaces, don't just ensure proximity

Context: wellbeing benefits depend on place and person, not just prescription

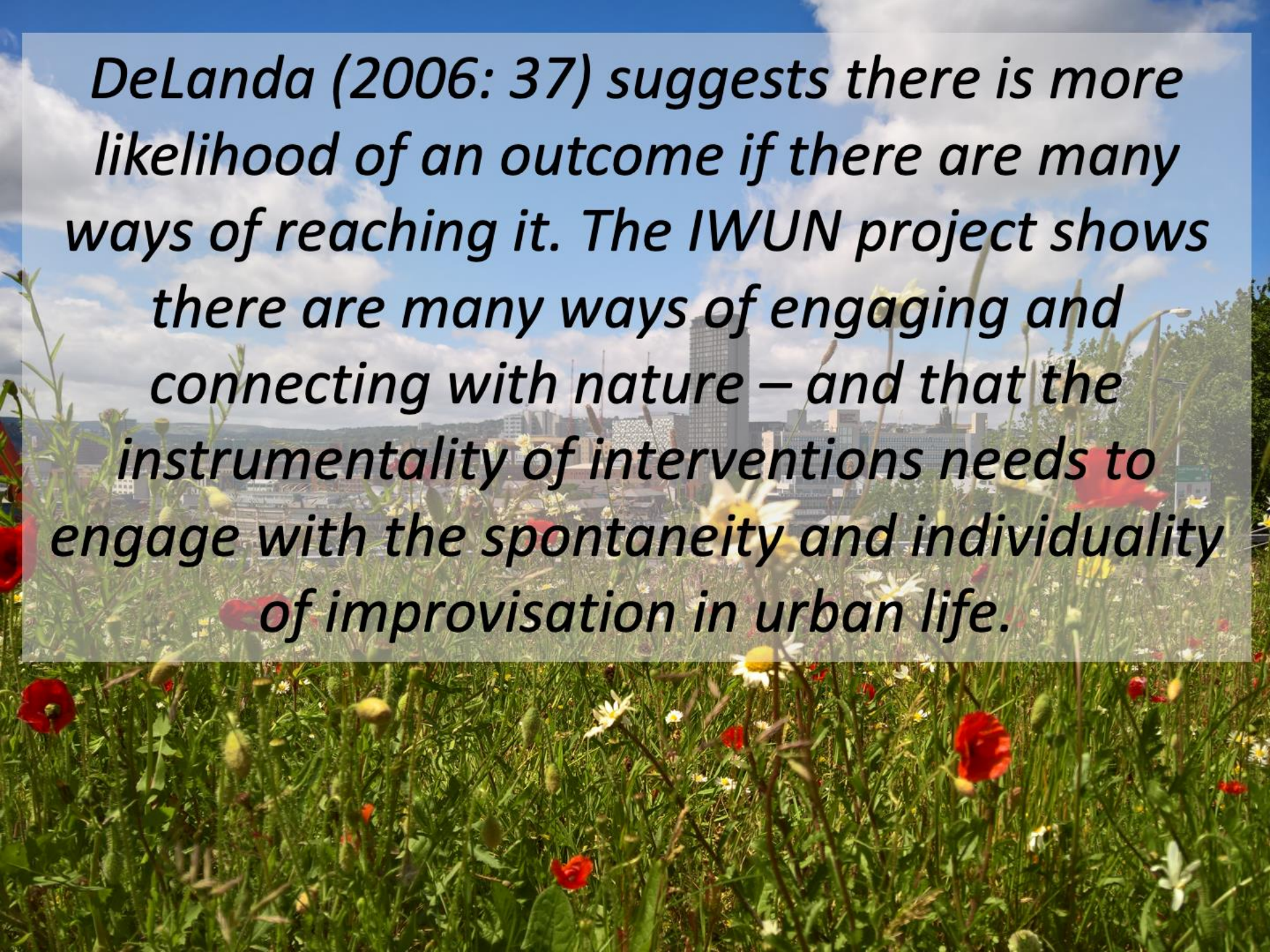
Complexity: wellbeing benefits are not reducible to single interventions – we need to understand their long logics

Continuity: wellbeing is incremental as well as immediate

All roads need to roam

'Redundant causality': an assemblage of intervention and improvisation



A photograph of a lush field of wildflowers, including red poppies and white daisies, in the foreground. In the background, a city skyline is visible under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white box.

DeLanda (2006: 37) suggests there is more likelihood of an outcome if there are many ways of reaching it. The IWUN project shows there are many ways of engaging and connecting with nature – and that the instrumentality of interventions needs to engage with the spontaneity and individuality of improvisation in urban life.



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