



European Conference



"Renaturing Cities: Addressing Environmental Challenges and the Effects of the Economic Crisis through Nature-Based Solutions"



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Brussels, Auditorium MADOU

13-14 May 2014

Tuesday, May 13th 2014

8:30 – 9:30 Registration

OPENING SESSION

Chair: **Ugo Guarnacci** and **Maria Yeroyanni**, EC, DG RTD

9:35 – 9:45 **Video "An Urbanized Planet"** by the Stockholm Resilience Centre (SRC)

9:45 – 10:00 Opening address - **Kurt Vandenberghe**, Director of Climate Action and Resource Efficiency, EC, DG RTD

10:00 – 10:10 Opening address by the Greek Presidency - **Christos Vasilakos**, Secretary General for Research and Technology, Ministry of Education

10:10 – 10:20 Intervention by **Athena Mourmouris**, Director General for Urban Planning, Greek Ministry of the Environment, Energy and Climate Change

SESSION 1 "Going Green: How are cities facing the economic crisis and leading green economy?"

Chair: **George Stavrakakis**, Member of the European Parliament

Rapporteur: **Nektarios Chrysoulakis**, Foundation for Research and Technology – HELLAS

10:20 – 10:35 **Aniol Esteban**, Head of Environmental Economics, The New Economics Foundations (NEF)

10:35 – 10:50 **Wolfgang Teubner**, Managing Director, ICLEI European Secretariat
"Productive Urban Regions - how to create local value chains"

10:50 – 11:20 Coffee Break

11:20 – 11:35 **Emmanuel Mony**, President of the European Landscape Contractors Association (ELCA)

11:35 am – 11:50 **Chiara von Gunten**, Project Manager, Long Finance, Z/Yen Group Limited
"Financing Tomorrow Cities: The role of innovative finance"

11:50 – 13:00 Discussion

Moderators: **Vanda Knowles**, Policy Director, Eurocities.

Niki Frantzeskaki, Senior Researcher of Sustainability Transitions, Dutch Research Institute for Transitions (DRIFT)

13:00 - 14:00 Buffet Lunch

SESSION 2 "Nature-based solutions and the Built Environment"

Chair: **Murielle Eyletters**, European Female Entrepreneurship Ambassador /European Commission Reseau Diane

Rapporteur: **Chantal van Ham**, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

14:00 – 14:15 **Annabelle Jaeger**, Committee of the Regions rapporteur on Green Infrastructure and Member of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur regional Council
"Green Infrastructure: Engaging Regions, Cities and Civil Society"

14:15 – 14:30 **Christine Marlet**, Secretary General, Eurogypsum.
"GtoG: From Production to Recycling, a Circular Economy for the European Gypsum Industry with the Demolition and Recycling Industry"

14:30 – 14:45 **Robert Wimmer**, GrAT – Centre for Appropriate Technology
"Renew Building: Demonstration and Dissemination of Climate and Environmental Friendly Renovation and Building with Renewable Resources and Ecological Materials"

14:45 – 15:00 **Sara Van Rompaey**, Board Member at Architects' Council of Europe (ACE)
"Green Architecture: Sustainable Development Building and Cultural Heritage"

15:00 – 15:15 **Koenraad Van Cleempoel**, Vice Dean Faculty of Architecture, Universiteit Hasselt
"Adaptive re-use project of Park Spoor Noord in the city of Antwerp"

15:15 – 16:15 Discussion

Moderators: **Marie Cugny-Seguin**, European Environment Agency
Marco Fritz, EC, DG ENV

16:15 – 16:30 Concluding Remarks

Wednesday, May 14th 2014

8.30 – 9.20 Late Registration

SESSION 3 "Urban risks, resilience and adaptation"

Chair: **Corinne Hermant-De Callatay**, EC, DG REGIO

Rapporteur: **Anton Stahl Olafsson**, Assistant Professor, Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management, University of Copenhagen.

9:30 – 9:45 **David Alexander**, Professor, UCL Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction, University College London.

"Instability in Urban Areas: A Human Ecology of Landslides"

9:45 – 10:00 **Thomas Elmqvist**, Professeur, Stockholm Resilience Centre

"How smart are smart cities? Taking nature-based solution to the system level"

10:00 – 10:15 **Paola Albrito**, Head Regional Office for Europe, The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)

"Resilient Cities: Focusing on urban resilience and adaptation"

10:15 – 10:30 **Karen Foley**, School of Geography, Planning & Environmental Policy, University College Dublin

"Case studies from the project TURAS on urban resilience"

10:30 – 10:45 **Adriana Galderisi**, Professor, Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering, University of Naples Federico II.

"Improving cities' resilience in the face of current and emerging risks: the role of urban planning"

10:45 – 11:15 Coffee Break

11:15 – 11:30 **Lykke Leonardsen**, Head of Climate Unit, City of Copenhagen

"Turning problems into opportunities: adaptation with a green and blue touch"

11:30 - 12.30 Discussion

Moderators: **Juan Perez Lorenzo**, EC, DG CLIMA

Agnieszka Romanowicz, EC, JRC-ISPRA

12:30 - 13:30 Buffet Lunch

SESSION 4 "The Urban Laboratory: Getting Nature Based Solution on the ground"

Chair: **Cristina Gutiérrez -Cortines**, Member of the European Parliament

Rapporteur: **Adriana Bernardi**, Head of Padova Unit, National Research Council (CNR-ISAC), Italy.

13:30 - 13:45 pm **Luc Schuitem**, Visionary Architect

"Vegetal Cities - Un cheminement de réflexion sur la présence de la nature comme modèle dans la conception d'un nouveau mode de construction nommé "archiborescence".

13:45 - 14:00 **Marco Cardinaletti**, Managing Director of Eurocube Srl

"Building Resilient Cities to tackle Climate Change: the Project ACT"

14:00 - 14:15 **Catarina Freitas**, Head of Department, Sustainable Environmental Management and Planning Department City of Almada, Signatory of Covenant of Mayors.

14:15 - 14:30 **Leen Gorissen**, Transition Research Coordinator, VITO Transition Platform

"Nature-based solutions in the Transition Region of Flanders"

14:30 - 14:45 **Kjell Nilsson**, Director, NORDREGIO

"The compact green city"

14:45 - 15:00 Coffee break

15:00 - 15:15 **Isabel Rodriguez-Maribona**, International Affairs Director, TECNALIA

15:15 - 15:30 **Marina Pintar**, Professor, University of Ljubljana

"Nature-based Solutions in the City of Ljubljana"

15:30- 15:45 **Video "GEOSS Citizen Observatories"** by EC GEO Sector.

15:45 - 16:30 Discussion

Moderators: Karen Fabbri, EC, DG RTD

Pia Laurila, EC, DG RTD Urban JPI

16:30 - 16:45 Concluding remarks by **Nikolaos P. Nikolaidis**, Deputy Rector of Finance, Planning & Development Technical University of Crete.