



SALZBURG
GLOBAL
SEMINAR

SESSION REPORT

557

Parks for the Planet: Nature, Health and a New Urban Generation



PARKS FOR THE PLANET FORUM



UNDP GEF Project:
*Inspiring Protected
Area Solutions*



Parks
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Session 557

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Parks for the Planet: Nature, Health and a New Urban Generation

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Foreword

The world is seeing an extraordinary and unprecedented increase in urbanization, with 70% of the global population predicted to be living in cities by 2050; an increase from 3.5 billion people today to 7 billion in just 35 years. At the same time, global levels of noncommunicable diseases such as diabetes, cancers, respiratory, and heart diseases are soaring, particularly in towns and cities, due to the change in diet and lack of exercise that many people experience. Coupled with this, nature is being squeezed out of urban areas, despite the mounting body of evidence that shows nature has a crucial role in tackling the decline of city-dwellers' health and wellbeing. These health and urbanization trends, combined with an increased disconnection between humanity and nature, affect not just people's physical health, but their mental and spiritual health too.

These issues and more were discussed at the IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney, Australia in 2014. Over 6,000 participants from 160 countries promised to reinvigorate their efforts to protect green spaces; inspire people to experience the wonder of nature; and to invest in parks and the environment. The main issues on the agenda in Sydney included the relationships between green spaces and health and wellbeing; climate change; disaster risk reduction; food and water security; and how to reconcile the need for urban green spaces with development challenges. The key outcome from the World Parks Congress was the *Promise of Sydney*: a ten-year road map that positions protected and conserved areas – including urban green space – as critical investments for human health and wellbeing and climate resilience.

The *Parks for the Planet Forum* was launched by Salzburg Global Seminar and IUCN as a ten-year collaborative platform to transform and catalyze leadership and action to deliver this promise. The inaugural session, *Nature, Health and a New Urban Generation* was convened on November 8-11, 2015 in Salzburg with session partners Conservation International, Parks Canada, session sponsor Korea National Parks Service, and program contributors ICLEI and World Urban Parks.



“Humanity is about to collapse under urbanization, industrialization, and jungles of concrete and steel. We have to reconnect with nature, give urgency to the creation of protected green and natural spaces in our cities and beyond for our own health and well-being. If not, the future looks quite bleak for us with about 70% of the people on earth living in cities in 2045! Severe health issues in urban populations are already mounting and those will not go away with simply constructing more gyms.”

Paul Jansen





1. Inger Andersen via Skype

2. Maria Neira in a pre-recorded video message

3. Gil Peñalosa

4. Kobie Brand

The Forum brought together 37 leaders from 20 countries across public health, the environment, urban planning and more to share best practices, develop practical actions to leverage transformational change, and identify opportunities to take the lead in putting parks at the heart of solutions to creating healthy, productive and livable cities fit for the future.

The aims were to develop a call to action on the global challenge and harness emerging opportunities to connect nature and health for the benefit of new urban generations; formulate a Salzburg Statement that identifies the key measures that need to be put in place; and catalyze leadership groups to take the global agenda forward.

Session Report

Framing the Challenge

Goals and priorities for the Forum were the focus of the opening session of the first day. Co-chairs and partners shared their aims for the intensive three-day program, with clear themes emerging around health and wellbeing, urban planning for a “good life,” collecting evidence for the link between health and nature, and developing cross-sector partnerships, and nurturing inspiring leaders.

SPEAKERS INCLUDED:

Inger Andersen	<i>Director General, IUCN, Switzerland</i>
Maria Neira	<i>Director, Department of Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health, World Health Organization (WHO), Switzerland</i>
Gil Peñalosa	<i>Founder and Chair of the Board, 8 80 Cities; Chair of the Board, World Urban Parks, Canada</i>
Kobie Brand	<i>Regional Director, ICLEI Africa; Global Coordinator, Cities Biodiversity Centres, South Africa</i>
Trevor Sandwith	<i>Director, Global Protected Areas Programme, IUCN, Switzerland</i>

In his opening remarks **Trevor Sandwith** explained how the World Parks Congress in Sydney in 2014 resulted in a commitment to reinvigorate efforts to progress protected areas, inspire people to experience the wonder of nature, and invest in parks and nature. New issues were also raised: human health and wellbeing, climate change, disaster risk reduction, food and water security, and reconciling development challenges.

The 2014 Congress has begun to reshape thinking about parks and green spaces, **Inger Anderson** explained via Skype. She added that she hoped the Forum in Salzburg would keep that momentum rolling. She asked participants to: reflect on what urbanization means for our future cities, what their relationships with nature will be and how they will manage it; tackle the increasing disconnection with nature across the world, particularly focusing on children and young people; and discuss how parks can combat the huge rise in deaths due to noncommunicable diseases such as obesity, diabetes, and respiratory illness. Her challenge to Forum participants was to engender collaboration with health, nature and urban planning, using the power of nature to leverage transformational change.

Gil Peñalosa assessed the implications of rapid urbanization on populations and city infrastructure. An estimated 3.5 billion more people are expected to

“If we create cities that are great for an 8-year-old and an 80-year-old, then they are going to be great for everybody from 0 to over 100.

We need to stop building cities as if everybody was 30 and athletic. We need to build parks, public spaces, sidewalks, streets and crosswalks that are great for children and older adults.

We should worry about equity in our cities, we should evaluate cities by how well we treat the most vulnerable citizens which are the children, the elderly and people with disabilities. ”



Gil Peñalosa



1. Trevor Sandwith

2. Kathy MacKinnon

move to cities over the next 35 years, and the infrastructure must be in place to support healthy communities, sustainable lifestyles and happiness – for all ages.

One city that has taken innovative steps to change its residents' relationship to their surroundings is Johannesburg, South Africa. As **Kobie Brand** shared with the gathered participants, the city's mayor has launched an ecomobility campaign which experimented with closing roads around the congested business district of Sandton, and opening them to pedestrians. Public transport, walking and cycling were encouraged. People took part in sports on the streets. Citizens embraced the initiative. Behind this inspiring tale is a bold and strong leader leading communities to reimagine their cities for the future.

Parks and access to nature are high on WHO's agenda, explained **Maria Neira** in a specially pre-recorded video. The physical environment determines people's ability to lead healthy lives; in many cities up to 20% of people are forced to be sedentary due (for instance) to traffic and lack of access to nature. Urban design can regenerate the health of people and communities, and help create environments that actively encourage people to be healthy and in touch with nature.

Kathy MacKinnon:

How can we promote the relevance of protected areas?

Chair of IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas and co-chair of the inaugural *Parks for the Planet Forum* on the need for better linkages between health, urbanization, and protected areas

One of the difficulties in dealing with ecosystem services is that we take them for granted, says Kathy MacKinnon, co-chair of the first *Parks for the Planet Forum: Nature Health and a New Urban Generation*. “Nobody thinks where does the water come from? Or you don’t realize that you’ve destroyed your coastal wetlands and actually they were protecting you until you have a major storm.”

MacKinnon, who used to be lead biodiversity specialist at the World Bank, has worked on protected area issues for most of her life. The daughter of a botanist, she was interested in nature as a child and went on to work in primate research in Indonesia.

Today, MacKinnon is chair of IUCN’s World Commission on Protected Areas, which works with governments and other stakeholders to plan protected areas and provides strategic advice to policymakers.

A relatively new aspect of IUCN’s current agenda of protected areas and urbanization is the focus on health, apparent at last year’s World Parks Congress in Sydney.

“One of the objectives at that meeting,” said MacKinnon, “was to show the relevance of protected areas to human communities, livelihoods and wellbeing, as well as for conserving biodiversity, [and] to show what the linkages are.”

At the Forum in Salzburg, a focus on cities was important due to rapid growth of populations that will be living in cities.

“How can we have greener, smarter cities?” asks MacKinnon, touching on some of the questions which frame these issues. “How can we improve the health of urban communities? How can we link that both to green spaces but also to the broader protected areas in the region? What are the links? How can we really restore more biodiversity to cities?”

Many of these issues overlap with the *Promise of Sydney*, which was borne of the IUCN World Conservation Congress in 2014. It is a shared vision to find innovative solutions for parks, people, and the planet.

“Particularly in relation to the health issue, we’re looking to see more evidence that there are clear links between nature and health,” says MacKinnon.

“We’re looking to how can you better reconnect people with nature very much with an emphasis on younger generations, but also old people, disadvantaged people, urban communities, [and] new immigrants.”

What was exciting in the Forum, said MacKinnon, was hearing what participants committed to doing.

“Many of the priorities actually overlap quite nicely with things that came out of the Parks Congress,” she said, including more evidence, communication, engagement, and linkages to nature.

More interviews are available on the session page: www.salzburgglobal.org/go/557



Sally Barnes



Nathalie Röbbel

On the Road to Transformational Change: Where are we missing the crossroads?

Closing the opening day, participants heard from four experts in parks policy, public health, research, and nature conservation and were invited to identify and explore potential synergies and interactions between these different disciplines.

SPEAKERS INCLUDED:

Sally Barnes	<i>Director of National Parks Australia, host of the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014, Australia</i>
Rob Prosper	<i>Vice President, Protected Areas Establishment and Conservation, Parks Canada</i>
Nathalie Röbbel	<i>Technical Officer, Department of Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health, World Health Organization (WHO), Switzerland</i>
Marianne Kettunen	<i>Principal Policy Analyst, Co-Leader of Global Challenges, Institute for European Environmental Policy</i>

Parks offer solutions to rapid urbanization and its effects on health and wellbeing. The social and economic benefits of urban green spaces are equally important, and need to be put in the context of global issues such as climate change and the Sustainable Development Goals, many of which focus on or are relevant to cities, public health, and nature conservation.

Sally Barnes talked about Australia’s *Healthy Parks, Healthy People* action plan, an initiative created by the Government of Victoria to develop linkages between health, wellbeing and nature in cities.

The key principles of *Healthy Parks, Healthy People* are:

- The wellbeing of all societies depends on healthy ecosystems;
- Parks nurture healthy ecosystems;
- Contact with nature is essential for improving emotional, physical, and spiritual health and wellbeing; and
- Parks are fundamental to economic growth and healthy communities.

The initiative is informed by a growing body of evidence of the many ways that parks are good for people, and has been exported around the world. The key to its success is working in partnership with medical doctors and professionals, social services, community groups and municipalities, and many others.

Nathalie Röbbel explained that 88% of urban populations are exposed to levels of outdoor air pollution that exceed WHO Air Quality Guidelines. Globally 3.7 million deaths were attributable to ambient air pollution in 2012. Urban areas contribute to high levels of physical inactivity amongst their populations, which the WHO attributes to 3.2 million deaths per year. Traffic injuries leave 1.3 million people dead annually. Climate change causes 140,000 deaths per year, which will rise further as more cities become vulnerable to its effects.

The WHO has identified four pathways by which the natural environment can positively affect human health and wellbeing. They revolve around air quality, physical activity, social contacts, and stress reduction, and are based on clear evidence from across the world. A public health focus is likely to create the greatest leverage with the largest number of stakeholders, particularly given the growing supporting evidence.

Harnessing the power of parks to inspire a new generation of conservation champions was the theme of **Rob Prosper**'s talk. The younger a connection to nature is made, the more lifelong that connection will be, so encouraging people to have an early first experience in nature is very important. Parks Canada runs projects for young people and their families, including "Learn to Camp" events in sports stadia, involving sports stars and celebrities to motivate young people to engage with nature.

Marianne Kettunen posed the questions: Is the scientific evidence about the links between parks and health leading to positive policy action? If not, what information is needed from scientists to make the case? And what would help Forum participants need to make a compelling business case for parks?

The session's themes of inclusion, public health, information gathering, knowledge sharing and nature prompted lively discussions among participants. Participants agreed that documenting case studies would be crucial in illustrating the evidence of links between parks and public health for other key stakeholders including local government and public health professionals.



Rob Prosper



Marianne Kettunen

Trevor Sandwith:

What will make the transformative jump towards progress on nature conservation?

Director of IUCN's Global Protected Areas Programme on the universal potential of nature conservation and commitments to find innovative solutions for the planet

“Nature conservation is not only about having a great experience at a national park or about the work of a smartly-dressed park ranger,” said Trevor Sandwith, director of IUCN's Global Protected Areas Programme in an interview at the first *Parks for the Planet Forum*. “It's time to be relevant.”

“Conservation has a value, and when we invest in nature conservation, we're investing in the future, in addressing some of the problems that the world is creating,” he said. “So probably the way this goes is that we have to see a big shift in our thinking towards the rapidly changing world that we live in, and what it's demanding of nature.”

Sandwith, an ecologist and nature conservation strategist, works in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. Within IUCN, a global membership organization that involves governments and nongovernmental organisations, he coordinates a program of work regarding protected and conserved areas around the world.

“Protected areas of all kinds,” said Sandwith, “present universal values that come up in every culture and society around the world. Our job in the center is to acknowledge and respect these values and to help sustain this great diversity around the world.”

The inaugural session of the Forum wrapped up with recommendations by the Fellows echoing the *Promise of Sydney*, which came out of IUCN's World Parks Congress 2014.

The *Promise of Sydney* is a shared vision to find innovative solutions for parks, people, and the planet.

“What will make the transformative jump that actually galvanises exceptional progress on these challenges?” asked Sandwith. “The big implementation question...having a plan doesn't make it happen unless you've got vital people. So we said, ‘Let's not spend our time constructing yet another plan. Let's ask ourselves: What have we been doing that's so promising that we should illuminate it and amplify it and do much more of it?’”

“The aim of the first Forum,” said Sandwith, “was to bring together sectors that don't traditionally work together. It was immediately apparent that there was a convergence of a common set of interests, and distinct progress on how to interpret and take the issues forward collectively. The willingness of participants to focus on the potential rather than the obstacles was key in moving from ideas to committed action.”

“I think a lot of people have reflected on this – how did you do that? Was it the place? Was it the open-space thinking?” he asked. “It's a very positive energy that managed to flow here. I think that's what Salzburg Global Seminar has tried to propagate over the years, but it really does work in practice, and everyone got caught up in it.”

More interviews are available on the session page: www.salzburgglobal.org/go/557

Catalyzing Change Across Critical Sectors

On day two, participants examined transformational changes happening on a small scale, which could be scaled up to create more momentum, and potential barriers to their growth.

SPEAKERS INCLUDED:

Gil Peñalosa	<i>Founder and Chair of the Board, 8 80 Cities; Chair of the Board, World Urban Parks, Canada</i>
Pam Veinotte	<i>Field Unit Superintendent at Rouge National Park, Ontario, Canada</i>
Mohammed Ayoub	<i>Executive Director NAHNOO, Beirut, Lebanon</i>
Trevor Sandwith	<i>Director, Global Protected Areas Programme, IUCN, Switzerland</i>

Gil Peñalosa outlined his vision for creating vibrant and healthy communities. Peñalosa invited participants to think about city open spaces in new ways. Streets comprise between 15 and 25% of public spaces in cities: should that space be for vehicles or people? Some cities are already thinking about this, reclaiming the streets at weekends for pedestrians, and turning highways into permanent parks and rivers.

Parks are equalizers, places where people watch sports, protest against governments, or pray with religious leaders. If there are no parks, municipalities must think about the rest of the “commons”: schools, streets and pavements. Urban planners must create public spaces that promote social activity – walking, biking, socializing, and exercising.

Peñalosa’s presentation sparked much debate, with one note of caution: cities are unique, and one must never try to copy and paste solutions; rather the approach should be to adapt and improve solutions for individual settings.

Pam Veinotte shared the creation of the Rouge, Canada’s first national urban park and some of the lessons learned. The Rouge borders five towns and cities, and its development was a bold and complex undertaking. Municipalities dealing with massive expansion are looking for ways to make their inhabitants’ lives richer; parks can offer a solution. Inclusive engagement and integrated thinking are key: open up dialogue with all stakeholders who may have needs that your park can fulfill and nurture community champions.

Mohammed Ayoub gave an insight into Beirut’s only public park, the Horsh, and the enclosure and erosion of open green spaces across the city. Private development of the beachfront has restricted Beirut’s citizens’



Pam Veinotte

“Now our children are always on their phones — they play games but all the instructions are made not by them, but by the one who created it. So there is no imagination and creation. But public space is an open space where you can create and imagine, and this will develop your brain. That’s why for our kids it’s important. From a social perspective, where will our children play? Where will our youth do activities? They need space which is free.”



Mohammad Ayoub

access to the sea. A similar “enclosure” has seen the Horsh’s space decrease from 1,000,000m² to just 300m². The municipality has locked the park’s gates because it believes the space will encourage public dissent. But, argues Ayoub, far from causing public disharmony, the Horsh, at the center of the city, can be a unifying and connecting space between different sectors of society. As a common resource for the city, it should be open to everyone.

After the presentations, speakers took questions from the floor. Issues that emerged included: how to present arguments to policymakers that they find compelling and that show why they should invest in parks. Participants agreed that parks can prompt important discussions about the future of citizens in terms of safety, resilience and health, and *Healthy Parks, Healthy People* provides a very useful summary of the science of how nature in cities is good for you.

Trevor Sandwith reviewed the key issues and emerging challenges before asking participants to prioritize the challenges by working in smaller groups. He asked: who can get things done and what does it take to catalyze transformative change? Is it up to institutions or individuals to take leadership? How does one shift from inertia to action, and how can the messages be widely communicated, and actions measured?

Reporting back to the room, common themes and activities began to emerge from the group discussions:

- Mapping stakeholders and creating networks across different sectors;
- Developing communications and key messages for different stakeholders;
- Creating case studies that demonstrate the benefits of parks on health, education, the economy, water management, and biodiversity;
- Integrating green spaces into health care provision;
- Helping people to access and reconnect with nature;
- Developing a business case that shows parks can deliver smart, green cities that attract educated, happy, productive people who contribute more to the economy;
- Building a common research agenda, engaging citizen scientists and academics, empowering people to tell politicians what they need; and
- Understanding the gaps in research and working to fill them.

Working groups were convened around emerging themes of knowledge, evidence, leadership, and social justice. Groups discussed how to encourage pockets of good practice to be widely communicated and replicated.



1. Daniel Raven-Ellison and Gil Peñalosa write down their intentions for the session

2. Key words collected from Fellows' intentions for the session

Participants agreed that resources such as research and case studies should be made more accessible and more widely disseminated so they can be understood and picked up by the media, policymakers, and citizens alike. A case study information bank would provide examples of the benefits of parks to health, biodiversity, and the economy. This would require development of an information knowledge strategy and methodology. A key question asked was who could take on this role.

Creating a vision was another theme. A global interest in health and nature, combined with urgency surrounding these issues means the time is right for parks to become integral to the debate. An overarching vision might encourage local groups to share their learnings and best practices. Participants at the *Parks for the Planet Forum* could begin to sketch that vision out, with support from organizations like the Wild Foundation and IUCN.

The vision (or value proposition) could be around the right to nature, the economic or health benefits, or even happiness. It may vary depending on the local context, and on the stakeholder for whom the message is intended.

A vision drives the objective and purpose; case studies support the vision and inform the development of indices. Leadership is required to make the work happen. The next step would be to develop concrete actions to which participants can commit and show leadership beyond the session – and potentially report back at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in September 2016 in Hawaii, USA.

Mohammad Ayoub:

Public space is not only a need – it’s a right

Executive Director of Lebanese NGO NAHNOO on the right to public space and opening Beirut’s only public park

Earlier this year, Beirut’s first public park reopened, a move that marked a first for many Lebanese citizens. Most had not known about the park’s existence, let alone that they should be campaigning for its opening.

“We made public spaces something public – not [just] for the elite,” said Mohammad Ayoub, executive director of the NGO NAHNOO which campaigned to open Horsh Beirut. “Before, people didn’t know it’s a need. Even Horsh Beirut, for example, they didn’t know it exists, they didn’t know this need, and they didn’t know it’s a right... The knowledge transformed into different coalitions and actions and Lebanon demanded this.”

Ayoub touched on the lack of public space in Beirut – including coastal areas and green spaces which are increasingly privately-owned – at the first *Parks for the Planet Forum: Nature, Health and a New Urban Generation*.

Lebanon’s social landscape is made up of 19 different demographic groups, leaving a fragmented and isolated sectarian environment. NAHNOO works on various educational, legal, and awareness efforts to encourage equality and abolish discriminatory practices.

“We live in an isolated neighborhood,” said Ayoub. “It’s always divided between classes,

economics, and sectarian [lines].” Not only is there division among these different groups, but physical barriers also take a toll on society.

“It’s isolated not only based on religion,” he said, “but as you can see in Beirut, there’s a lot of bridges which is making a neighborhood like an island surrounded by highways.”

While WHO standards recommend 9m² of green space per citizen, Beirut has only 0.8m². Living in this kind of closed city has severe psychological, emotional, and social impacts, said Ayoub. NAHNOO is also attempting to shift the perception of public space, advocating for transparency in municipality as part of the right for citizens to free space and decision-making. The NGO is also campaigning for more public spaces in the north and south of Lebanon.

The potential for public space in cities in a country like Lebanon is great, said Ayoub. “Public space builds identity of the city,” he said. “Horsh Beirut is part of our collective memory because it was a meeting space. And why is it a meeting space? Cities are made in public spaces. I mean by that the spirit of the city, and the feeling of identity.”

More interviews are available on the session page: www.salzburgglobal.org/go/557

Daniel Raven-Ellison:

A National Park City is where individuals have power

“Guerrilla geographer” on the “re-wilding” of nature through a campaign to make London the first National Park City

“There’s things that we all love in the world,” says Daniel Raven-Ellison, guerrilla geographer and National Geographic Emerging Explorer. “We all love food, we all love music, and there’s this other thing that we all love, but we don’t think about as much, which is place.”

This common love of place is what Raven-Ellison says sets the foundation for a new way of thinking about nature and urban environments. On top of his life as an explorer, he is leading an initiative to make London the world’s first National Park City. But what exactly does a National Park City look like?

“National Park City would be a new kind of national park,” said Raven-Ellison, Fellow of the first *Parks for the Planet Forum*. “It would be inspired by rural national parks in the great successes that they have had, but made appropriate for an entire urban environment.”

To do this, we need to remember that habitat is not only linked to rural parts of the world, said the explorer who taught geography for seven years.

“It’s taking people on a learning journey of having this moment of realization that an urban habitat, an urban environment, an urban landscape can be as inspirational, as ecologically diverse, as important as a rural landscape,” he said.

Particularly in the case of nature conservation, it can be difficult to convert the knowledge that practitioners and academics have to action among the wider public.

“Intellectually, we’re just in this really fascinating place where lots of people are trying to grapple with this issue, and that’s very engaging, but it’s a challenge,” he said. “But that’s why we’re here. We’re here because it’s a challenge.”

To combat these challenges, Raven-Ellison points out that changes at very basic, fundamental levels can have great impact. With 3.8 million gardens in London covering 24% of the city, this means that all of these households have the potential to “re-wild and re-engage” with nature in their own gardens.

“And because they have that ownership, it means they can really create positive change.”

Agency of this kind is key for this initiative, said Raven-Ellison.

While the campaign might sound revolutionary at first, Raven-Ellison points out that it doesn’t require wide-scale reform or massive re-planning. It is rather something that can happen in many more concentrated and organic ways.

“The unique point about this proposition for London National Park City, is it’s where individual people have city. It’s what individual people can do. So it’s not big – it’s small, but lots of small added together.”

To hear the full audio interview, please visit the session page: www.salzburgglobal.org/go/557

“I think it’s important that young people reconnect with nature because they are the next generation. Once the current generation takes over, if they are not connected with their environment... we’ll no longer see the value of conserving nature or the protected areas.

We’ll start to lose the reason of why we had them in the first place and the new normal will become a normal where nature is not really there, and then we’re creating a future for our children and our grandchildren that is frankly unfair to them.

They’ll miss out on seeing certain animals because those animals have gone extinct, they will miss out on certain experiences that you can only truly have when you’re surrounded by green spaces.”



Chūk Odenigbo

Taking Change to Scale

The final session of the second day explored the drivers of change. How can sectors work together? Which institutions and stakeholders have the mandate, resources and influence to scale up transformational change?

SPEAKERS INCLUDED:

Mark Drewell	<i>Senior Partner, The Foresight Group, UK</i>
Takemi Sugiyama	<i>Associate Professor of Design, Swinburne University of Technology, Australia</i>
Juana Mariño Drews	<i>GUT-SAS, Bogotá, Colombia</i>

Participants heard from attendees from the **Brandwein Institute** and **National Environmental Education Foundation (NEAF)** who were attending a meeting in West Virginia, USA, called *Inspiring a New Generation*. With clear synergies with Salzburg Global Seminar’s own work in developing youth leadership, the young leaders of tomorrow talked about breaking down the barriers to nature that people young and old experience. NEAF is developing a North America Action Framework to enhance nature through intergenerational relationships and partnerships, building opportunities for intergenerational contact, mentoring, and inspiration. It will present another chance and framework to build upon and include in the outcomes and recommendations of the Salzburg session.

Mark Drewell took to the podium to help unlock deep change and challenge accepted thinking. Drewell invited participants to set intentions rather than a goal, and to accept that while the picture of the future they share may be vague, there is action in ambiguity. He encouraged them to “think big, act small, start now.”

Takemi Sugiyama told participants that although motivation helps people take up physical activity, the physical environment is key to maintaining it. Many environments that encourage active living are difficult to change, such as street patterns, sport and recreation facilities, and the geography of local shops. Parks, however, are easier to transform.

Sugiyama’s research has shown that the quality and size of parks is more important than their number in encouraging people to maintain physical activities. He concluded that multi-stakeholder programs involving local governments, advocacy and community groups and the private sector might more successfully motivate and maintain physical activity in cities.

Finally, **Juana Mariño Drews** shared insights into urban planning, risk and environmental management via her experiences in Medellín, Colombia,

specifically her involvement in a research project “Biodiversity and ecosystem services: Integrated management in urban-rural territories.” Bringing together science, society and policy to manage biodiversity and ecosystem services can help break down boundaries. The project started with researchers mapping the biodiversity and ecosystem services in Medellín. Then communities came together to discuss the perception of Medellín’s green spaces, and find out about the scientists’ biodiversity mapping. Based on the conclusions and recommendations of both groups, politicians developed and delivered a Medellín Land Use Plan and a Policy and Action Plan on Biodiversity, which had buy-in from all stakeholders involved.

The final discussion of the day was around how to move the agenda forward and create positive actions. Participants shared information on current activity and networks across the health and nature sectors. IEEP is developing a series of case studies for the European Commission on biodiversity and green infrastructure. There are others groups (not represented at the session) working on the parks and urbanization agenda including citizen groups, NGOs (such as Greenpeace), funders (including the Gates Foundation), and city municipalities. It was suggested by the participants that ICLEI and IUCN could help map global activity and bring other organizations to the table.



Takemi Sugiyama



Juana Mariño Drews



Mark Drewell (right) and Ivan Levin

“We are at a critical moment. The potential that our cities hold to help us connect to new generations is immense. 80% of the US already lives in urban areas and the world population will mirror that statistic by 2050.

If we don’t act now to create innovative spaces within urban environments that connect youth and their families to nature, we will be left with a generation that does not understand the value of natural places.

That value is not only in the biological diversity and ecosystem services but in the health benefits, cultural, and historical meaning of special places. ”



Rebecca Stanfield McCown

Launching Transformation

Having discussed many issues over the previous two days, participants now heard from four leaders who have, in different ways, helped launch transformative changes.

SPEAKERS INCLUDED:

Erion Veliaj	<i>Mayor of Tirana, Albania</i>
Janet Edmond	<i>Conservation International, US</i>
Cecil Konijnendijk	<i>Head of the EU’s GREEN SURGE Project; Head, Department of Landscape Architecture, Planning and Management, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences; Professor of green space management, University of Copenhagen, Denmark</i>
Jürgen Hoth	<i>Director, Water Forest Initiative, Mexico City, Mexico</i>

Erion Veliaj talked about the importance of demonstrating leadership and democratic accountability. In just one hundred days in office as mayor of the Albanian capital, Tirjana, and with limited resources, he tackled air pollution, sedentary lifestyles, and traffic by introducing no-car days (and making the entire Council ride a bike, take a bus, or walk to work). He put up a display board in the city that showed the decline in air pollution levels to demonstrate the positive effect of removing cars on the streets.

Other initiatives included a city clean up, asking citizens to volunteer to pick up rubbish. Over 15,000 people removed 100m tons of waste. A program of dismantling municipal gates and walls aims to address addressing the growing gap between rich and poor in the city.

Political mandates and legitimacy should not just focus on the electoral cycle – in reality politicians need a mandate every day. A city app has been developed to address this: citizens upload information about what needs urgent attention in their neighborhood from potholes to bad schools, they then vote on which issue is most important, and the “winning” issues are prioritized.

Janet Edmond explained how Conservation International leverages change by working with leaders across three distinct sectors. First, it helps philanthropic donors put parks and nature high on their agenda. Second it works with business leaders (including fast food chains such as McDonald’s) to encourage behavior change and help broker public private partnerships. Third it identifies champions (including celebrities) to take its messages to the wider community.

Next, **Cecil Konijnendijk** told participants about his project, the EU-funded GREEN SURGE Project. Comprising 23 partners across 11 countries, the project identifies, develops, and tests ways of linking green spaces, biodiversity, people, and the green economy in order to meet the major urban challenges related to land use conflicts, climate change adaptation, demographic changes, and human health and wellbeing.

Its aim is to provide a sound evidence base for urban green infrastructure planning and implementation, exploring the potential for innovation in better linking environmental, social and economic ecosystem services with local communities.

Konijnendijk shared also his insights into good leadership: A leader must be trusted by the people they lead, inspire, share learning, communicate, and provide a vision and clear sense of direction.

Mexico City, one of the world's largest cities, can only survive by protecting its natural surroundings. **Jürgen Hoth** explained that the Water Forest, a small area of nature which supplies the city with drinking water, had been under threat. A multi-stakeholder partnership of NGOs, government agencies and community groups was established to protect the Water Forest from encroaching urban development. The resulting Water Forest Conservation Strategy ensures the forest is valued for its natural and cultural heritage; managed in a participative, integrated and coordinated manner; and benefits its inhabitants, biodiversity, ecological processes, and environmental services. The initiative also shows that cities cannot be seen as separate from their

Left to right: Pam Veinotte, Sam Tran, Daniel Raven-Ellison, Paul Jansen, Gil Peñalosa, Grace Mwaura and Blendi Gonxhja in a working group session in the Chinese Room of Schloss Leopoldskron



1. Julia Africa

2. Bernardus Djonoputro



Janet Edmond



Cecil Konijnendijk



Jürgen Hoth

surroundings, that these natural surroundings are in fact vital to the viability of the city and thus crucial for protection and conservation.

Across the four presentations participants saw how different types of leadership (political, business, academic and multi-stakeholder) can all deliver effective mandates for change. These insights prompted many reflections. A safe, livable, and healthy city can be instrumental in attracting people who can contribute to making it more successful in many ways (not just economically). Parks can have a role in attracting these people – in particular millennials and boomers – to cities.

There is a strong relationship between smart and green, as demonstrated by the “savviest” cities, like Seoul, Bangalore, and Vancouver, which all have very strong green agendas. Yet the danger remains that smart green cities could still contain children who do not interact with nature because their parents are working long hours and the children are simply not taught or encouraged to interact with their natural environment. Other arguments can be found for poor communities, disabled citizens, and other marginalized groups who will not or cannot interact with nature and green spaces in their cities, which will have increasingly negative effects on the health situation of these groups. How could that trend be reversed?

For example, international certification and metrics could ensure that new cities are working with nature for public health and wellbeing. URBIO and the world body of landscape architects could help bring NGOs and academics together to create measurements that are independent of (city) government actions and planning, as this is at times an impossible hurdle to pass. It is crucial to intersect all the issues in a meaningful way; instead of championing one perspective, champion them all at the same time.

Taking the Work Forward

In a final exercise of the session, participants were invited to answer the question: “What can I do in the next 12 months to scale up and accelerate the transformation of our cities around nature, parks and health?”

MODERATOR:

Mark Drewell

Senior Partner, The Foresight Group, UK

Mark Drewell led participants in sharing their answers with the room. The commitments included writing case studies; working alongside politicians and decision-makers; engaging children and young people in nature-based projects; setting up an international task force with local hubs; nurturing future conservation leaders; developing metrics; fostering intergenerational relationships around parks; and working with local groups to facilitate access to nature for the poor, the disabled, and other marginalized citizens including refugees. The exercise resulted in an ambitious list of individual intentions and actions to be taken forward by the participants in the coming year.

Participants were then invited to congregate around shared or similar actions, and encouraged to develop shared concrete proposals and actions before reporting back to their peers.

The **case study group** proposed developing frameworks for writing, sharing, and promoting case studies. Key case study information could include a description of the challenges and how they were overcome; missteps; which interventions worked and which did not; and the overall goal or vision. The group suggested two sub groups: one to focus on developing case studies and the second to develop the platform that would host and keep the case studies alive.

1. Yurim Oh and Martin Spray

2. Rebecca Stanfield McCown and Dong Ik Kang



“Anything we can get out of this meeting has a great chance of leading to real implementation across sector, reaching across stakeholder groups, across regions, and that is rare, because in academic settings the atmosphere is often very different. This is a rare opportunity for people from completely different groups — people who don’t know each other — to come together and discuss on neutral grounds.”



Maria Schewenius

The **intergenerational group** focused on grandparents and their grandchildren in new urban environments. They proposed assessing how the environment can be enriched by and enriching for these families, including by identifying initiatives already working in this space. The group committed to setting up an initiative based in Bogotá and Toronto. The working title of the initiative is “Outdoor Grannies” [see page 27 for more details].

The **youth engagement group** proposed developing a network to hold conversations with youth leaders across the world. This work would provide professional development opportunities for young people as well as a program to engage youths in parks. A key part of the work would be to use language and terminology that is understood across cultures and generations.

The **fashion and nature group** explored connections between active lifestyles and the outdoors, and how to incorporate nature into culture, fashion, and active wear. The group proposed repositioning being outdoors in nature as fashionable. One member of this group volunteered to write a thought leadership paper on this issue. A short reflective feature from Chúk Odenigbo on his work in this area following the session is available on page 29.

Finally, one participant proposed creating an **online platform** that would host and nurture the partnerships started in Salzburg. IUCN and ICLEI agreed to join the platform and a Facebook page has been created to keep interested parties connected. The resulting “task force” has now evolved into the “Green Initiatives (GI) Cities,” led by Maria Schewenius, project manager at the Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University, Sweden. GI Cities plans several meetings in the second half of 2016, starting in Santa Marta, Colombia. An interview with Schewenius on the progress of the initiative is available on page 25.

In addition to these efforts, a **joint statement** was issued from the participants of the session. The *Salzburg Challenge for Nature, Health and a New Urban Generation* outlines the need for urgent action, what that action should be, and who should act. The Salzburg Challenge [see Appendix I] was published soon after the session in Salzburg and has been circulated via the Fellows to organizations and individuals around the globe. The recommendations were also incorporated into Salzburg Global’s multi-year *Health and Health Care Innovation* series beginning with inclusion of a discussion panel on the Salzburg Challenge at the January 2016 session on *Hooked on Health Care: Designing Strategies for Better Health*, attended by senior health figures from around the world. This session was sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to advance their new strategic focus on “Building a Culture of Health for America,” and the UK-based Health Foundation.

Post-Session Impact

Following the session in Salzburg, a number of Fellow-led initiatives were launched. Here we provide insights into three such new initiatives.

The “Green Infrastructure Cities” Platform

Fellows from the *Parks for the Planet Forum* have taken up the Salzburg Challenge by creating a dedicated network to share and strengthen their future work

At the closing of the inaugural *Parks for the Planet Forum*, Fellows proposed the formation of a network to help share best practice and keep conversations continuing after everyone had left Schloss Leopoldskron. In the days after the session, a dedicated “task force” was established and a Facebook group launched.

Several months on, the network – now known “GI Cities” (Green Infrastructure Cities) – is an informal umbrella platform for sharing experiences, insights, and inspirational examples of how green infrastructure can strengthen urban sustainability and resilience, and human health. The network serves as a means to connect and support the individual projects that came out of the Forum, and inspire new actions. Through GI Cities, members aim to further the innovative thinking and ideas that were initiated at the Forum, and encourage action in cities around the world.

Maria Schewenius, project manager at the Stockholm Resilience Centre, took on the role of network co-ordinator for GI Cities immediately at the closing of the session. She believes this network is a necessary step in continuing the important work started in Salzburg.

“After the Forum, I saw the need to set up a form of co-ordinating platform for all the initiatives that emerged,” Schewenius explains. “Together with Salzburg Global

Seminar and dedicated participants from the Forum, I aim to find ways for these projects to grow stronger over time by setting up the platform, ‘GI Cities.’”

One of the main foundations of the GI Cities network is the connection between human health and green infrastructures in cities. Working with the vision of 2050, when peak global urbanization is expected, GI Cities would use the network to consider and discuss what kind of sustainable and green cities we would like to live in, and what we can and must do today to get there.

GI Cities will have their first meeting in July in Bonn, Germany at the ICLEI conference on Resilient Cities, and plan to follow up with another meeting in Santa Marta, Colombia, before presenting their plans, strategies and individual projects at various events, including the Urban Transitions Global Summit in Shanghai, China and the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Hawaii, USA in early September.

“We hope to see more and new concrete green infrastructure-based solutions in cities around the world, starting in North and Latin America,” says Schewenius. “Concrete projects that aim to support natural elements in cities that find novel approaches to urban development and that build on the inclusion of different groups in society communicating with each other. We hope this network can

promote more inclusive, resource efficient cities that are supportive of ecosystems and human health.”

Along with Salzburg Global and the Stockholm Resilience Centre, 2015 session partners Conservation International and IUCN are involved in the network, as well as individuals interested in engaging in specific areas like sustainable fashion and architectural endeavours.

GI Cities has several pillars that will help focus initiatives formed from the group:

1. **Novel green infrastructure solutions:** Building on the collaboration between engineers, designers, architects, as well as other collaboration groups that are usually not included in green infrastructure planning.
2. **Lifestyles:** Focusing on improving people’s lifestyles in collaboration with nature such as bringing people into green areas and looking sustainable textiles and fashion.
3. **Governance and management:** Providing greater understanding of decision-making structures and building bridges between organisations and decision makers.

4. **Modelling and visualisation:** Bridging knowledge with technology to work with maps, 3D models and VR technologies and how these technologies can be utilized to present ideas and engage people in different project ideas in new and innovative ways.

Schewenius believes the network’s independence will be one of its greatest strengths.

“What is special about us, is that the network is truly collaborative between people representing different groups and levels in society, and not owned by anyone,” she explains.

“It is a knowledge exchange hub where we invite people to come and share their experiences and their best practices, and get inspired to further the thinking and practice around innovative green infrastructure solutions in their cities. Amongst other things we are in the process of setting up a case study database, which will be available on our online platform as well as through our local hubs. In this way we can take the information from our central platform to local decision making and practice in an effective and streamlined manner.”



Maria Schewenius during a group work session in the Max Reinhardt Library

Outdoor Grannies

How can intergenerational exchange help strengthen the new urban generation's appreciation and engagement with nature?

Inspired by the enthusiasm expressed by Fellows at the *Parks for the Planet Forum*, Juana Mariño Drews' project "Outdoor Grannies" aims to strengthen the connection between not only the new generation with their environment but also the relationship between grandmothers and grandchildren.

The initiative seeks to reinforce the relationship between grandmothers and grandchildren and use that connection as an opportunity to improve nature's conservation and human wellbeing in urban areas.

Outdoor Grannies will encourage and promote outdoor activities and events for grandmothers and grandchildren to engage in nature and promote bonding. Activities, such as gardening projects and outdoor activities, can be used as a catalyst to talk about the natural environment with grandchildren and promote conscious thought about how they can connect with nature and create a better world in their future.

"The relationship grandmothers have with their grandchildren occurs in different moments, different environments, and under different circumstances in various cultures around the world," Mariño told Salzburg Global in an interview a few months after the November 2015 session.

"Grandmothers can be the link between past and present. There is a powerful bond that can be promoted and enriched if nature becomes a visible and meaningful part of it."



Juana Mariño Drews

Many projects focus on urban environments, but usually focus on one specific topic or population group. This initiative is attempting to make a key family relationship through shared outdoor activities and engagement the focus which can therefore involve a very wide, complex and rich range of individuals, cultures, urban environments and topics.

Mariño came to the *Parks for the Planet Forum* with a unique perspective. "I was probably the only expert who was not representing a specific institution," she said. "I'm an architect, I've been part of the government and some institutions but now I am a consultant therefore this gave me a unique perspective at the Forum."

The spark of inspiration came from the final slide of Mariño's presentation at the Forum which featured a picture of her grandson in her garden in Bogotá.



Mariño (in purple) with her work group in the Max Reinhardt Library

Through nurturing a relationship between grandmothers, grandchildren and nature, Mariño hopes that this will allow a dialogue to be created with the new generation that can improve their health, their life, and the natural environment they will inherit.

“This was the natural project for me. It combined ‘Juana the Professional’ with ‘Nanita [Granny] Juana,’” Mariño said. “The expert Fellows at the Forum were incredibly enthusiastic and encouraged me to take the idea forward.”

Mariño envisions the project to potentially involve every grandmother and grandchild in every city in the world and wishes to involve any public or private organization that cares about nature and health. She also wishes to include other members of the GI Cities platform to aid in the project.

Although these are high expectations, Mariño understands that you can think big but have to start small. To this end, she hopes by the end of 2016 to have achieved some base goals for the project. These include outlining the initiative in full with a functional website; present the initiative in an international, regional or national event; gain organizational support; and having at least one local Outdoor Grannies group constituted and operating.

Mariño hopes the project will have a profound effect for both nature and families: “This project can become a win-win situation for the grandchildren, the grandmothers, urban society, and for mother nature in cities in our urbanized world.”

Chúk Odenigbo:

The fascinating connection between fashion retail and nature

Working with both the Canadian Parks Council and fashion retailer Club Monaco, the two-time Salzburg Global Fellow details what steps he has taken since leaving Schloss Leopoldskron

Wealth in wisdom is a commodity that was in abundance at the inaugural session of the *Parks for the Planet Forum: Nature, Health and a New Urban Generation*. Attending this event were people prominent in their fields and their organizations, and in the knowledge they shared, there was not only a demonstration of the importance and beauty of the natural world, but also a sense of practicality rarely seen amongst idealists. Although the Forum was only three days long, it pushed us all in a direction – whether it simply reinforced the value of what we already did, or redirected our efforts to a magic yet untapped.

On a personal level, the Forum inspired me to really take a hold of the deficiencies in the subject matter at hand and challenged me to engage myself and find solutions. One of the common themes that continually arose was the lack of research and the lack of information surrounding the intersection between nature and quite a few other sectors, including fashion, retail, health, and urban planning. Upon returning to Canada, I immediately disseminated all the information I gleaned and distributed it amongst my network. I gave a summary report to the Canadian Parks Council, senior management at the popular retailer Club Monaco, and got in touch with Calgary Parks.

As the Operations Manager for the Club Monaco (Chinook location), I was quick to insist on using plants and greenery in our store design and set-up, such that when customers would walk in, they would get the not-yet-fully-understood benefits that arise

from simply looking at nature. They were also a great source of beauty to the store. In addition to this, the clothes were organized to tell the story of how their designer was inspired by the Icelandic landscape. As the customer would walk in, they were greeted with reds, whites and beiges with hints of black, whispering the stories of Icelandic volcanoes. Then as they walked into the adjoining room, the varying shades of blue would take over, speaking to the surrounding ocean. Finally the third room was filled with greens, representing the forests. Efforts to really involve nature in the shopping experience were paramount to my vision.

In furthering this, I was able to head back to Salzburg for the session *Beyond Green: The Arts as a Catalyst for Sustainability* in February 2016. This session focused on the influence artists have in advancing sustainability issues and how they can use their ability as cultural innovators to really enable society to move forward in an environmental fashion.

The connection between fashion retail and nature is a fascinating one. The materials the clothes are made from, where they are sourced, and how they are sourced tends to be what first comes to mind to most people, but in focusing on the retail aspect of it, the following are some of what comes to mind:

- The origin of inspiration for the clothing (was the designer inspired by nature?);
- The layout of the store and how it reflects nature;
- The design of the store and what accessories are used to make it look

attractive (e.g. plants, paintings, photographs, vintage furniture etc.);

- The durability of the clothes and whether consumers can see themselves wearing it to go to the park or to do something outdoors;
- The advertising – whether it is nature-oriented or not;
- How the clothes are romanticized to customers – do the sales associates use nature-oriented language to speak about how incredible the clothes are?

What is especially interesting about change in retail is if you can cause change in one branch, and it is found to be profitable, then one will start seeing that change replicated in all the other branches around the world, and as other retailers look to their competition, successful changes will then be copied.

In my work with the Canadian Parks Council, I was quick to emphasize the best practices that had been shared at the session with my co-authors as we continued forward on writing a document geared towards connecting young Canadians with nature. Finding out what worked for other people in other countries, what has been successful, and innovative ideas that have yet to be tried but sound interesting, has definitely helped in shaping the document.



Chúk Odenigbo during a group work session in the Chinese Room

There is so much more I plan to do as a direct result of the *Parks for the Planet Forum*, and I have many potential projects in the works.

Conclusion and Next Steps

Across the world, nature is increasingly marginalized in cities, and yet the evidence for its importance in delivering health and wellbeing outcomes is becoming ever clearer. Lack of money, co-ordination, vision, and infrastructure planning means urban parks are at the bottom of the list of local authorities' policy priorities. The Salzburg session sought to change this.

Salzburg Global Seminar's session *Parks for the Planet: Nature, Health and a New Urban Generation* brought together many expert voices on urban parks to make a compelling and united case for accelerating regional and global action for nature-based solutions to help communities and cities flourish, and advance health and dignity for everyone.

Inspired by *The Promise of Sydney*, participants convened by Salzburg Global Seminar and IUCN, issued a jointly-written statement [see Appendix I], to take up the global challenge and emerging opportunities to connect nature and health for the benefit of new urban generations in more livable cities.

The Salzburg Challenge – A Call to Action

In their statement, the participants committed to catalyzing and nurturing “new ways of working together to secure the right for all people to experience and be excited by nature and gain lifelong benefits for health and wellbeing from outdoor activities in varied and stimulating environments.” Additionally, they seek to “foster new leadership to conserve nature as the foundation for sustainability in an era of rapid global change.”



Fellows and faculty of Session 557 *Parks for the Planet: Nature, Health and a New Urban Generation* pose for the traditional group photo on the terrace of Schloss Leopoldskron against the backdrop of the Untersberg mountain



Fellows' Recommendations for Action

Why act and why now?

In their joint statement, the Fellows urged immediate action, believing that there is already sufficient evidence to lead change as it is already known that:

- Access to safe natural settings has a positive influence on physical and mental health and wellbeing, increases the likelihood of physical activity, fosters social connections, and reduces stress and illness;
- Direct experiences of nature are the foundation for stewardship and active care for the environment, vital to shape community and protect a resilient and life-sustaining planet now and in the future;
- Investing in urban parks and green infrastructure, and connecting these with the surrounding rural areas, helps reduce air pollution, disaster risk and climate change impacts, improve clean water supplies, and secure co-benefits for health;
- Cities and local governments provide an exceptional opportunity for leadership on sustainability, cooperation across sectors, intergenerational partnerships, mobilization of communities for action on the ground, and measurement of progress.

Together, the Fellows of the session urged all sectors and stakeholders to “accelerate regional and global action for nature-based solutions that help communities and cities flourish and advance health and dignity for all people.”

What needs to be done?

The Fellows identified ten key areas for action:

1. Build a partnership between IUCN, WHO, Stockholm Resilience Centre, ICLEI, World Urban Parks and leading cities, in conjunction with the

- Salzburg Global Seminar-convened *Parks for the Planet Forum*, to accelerate efforts to increase awareness and use of nature-based solutions in urban development and public health;
2. Collect and share success stories that demonstrate good practices;
 3. Make the case for investment, using available evidence of the economic benefits of closer synergies between key sectors of health, social care, urban planning, finance and nature conservation;
 4. Influence public policy and decision-making at local to regional scales;
 5. Create alliances between public, private and community organizations;
 6. Mobilize new audiences and champions, especially young, diverse urban populations;
 7. Include health information and experiences of nature throughout schooling, from early childhood to university and professional programs;
 8. Encourage senior urban citizens to share activities and positive attitudes towards health and nature to inspire younger generations;
 9. Address mobility and health barriers for vulnerable citizens to access green spaces, with a special focus on the poor and disabled;
 10. Promote knowledge exchange and cross-sectoral research between key sectors, in cooperation with conservation and public health agencies, urban policymakers and planners.

Who needs to act?

In closing, the Fellows committed to maintaining this momentum through multi-year collaboration, and invited all sectors and stakeholders to combine their efforts to address this Challenge, including but not limited to:

- City mayors, planners and investors;
- Public health agencies and organizations;
- Nature conservation agencies and urban park managers;
- Business and media;
- Research and educational institutions;
- Non-governmental organizations and activists;
- Neighborhood and youth organizations, religious leaders and indigenous communities.

Future Topics for the Parks for the Planet Forum

Building on the inaugural session in November 2015, the *Parks for the Planet Forum*'s goals are to progressively connect international and national organizations and networks across sectors, to build trust, define and encourage collaborative initiatives on the ground, and to "mainstream" nature into wider discussions surrounding topics such as health and wellbeing, conflict transformation, and urban development.



Clare Shine

Going forward, the Forum will take on new topics that respond to evolving partner priorities and external events, and curate them in parallel, drawing on Salzburg Global Fellows around the world for their support and expertise. In addition to revisiting the inaugural session's topic of **Nature, Health and a New Urban Generation**, two further topic strands are currently under consideration:

Transboundary Conservation for Biodiversity and Peace

The topic being explored for the 2016 meeting of the *Parks for the Planet Forum* will reinforce Salzburg Global's deep commitment to conflict transformation at a time of growing regional and global stress. International borders have always been hotspots for conflicts, contributing to human displacement. As we know, many conflicts stem from territorial disputes and contested ownership over natural resources or supplies of basic human needs like productive lands and waters. Today, these conflicts are being further stressed by climate change and population increases. In the coming decades, we believe that transboundary conservation initiatives could play a much greater role in region-wide conflict transformation, reconciliation after displacement, and disaster risk reduction. In 2016, the Forum will focus on evidence and case studies that show the potential of transboundary collaboration to deliver cross-sector benefits for inclusive development, regional cohesion and peace-building.

Coastal Cities: Learning to Work with Nature

This topic is in early-stage development. Its premise is that many cities and megapolitan regions will be rendered uninhabitable due to climate change and sea level rise in the period 2050-2100, but that decision-makers largely ignore relevant data and predictions in their land- and resource-use planning and investments. This is due to a mix of reasons, including institutional and capacity constraints, short-termism, lack of political or business will, and public misunderstanding or lack of awareness. These complex trends will have major implications for food and water security, human displacement, labor markets, and peace and stability. Through this topic, the Forum would strengthen leadership for action via advanced horizon-scanning, leverage of big data and technological tools, and radically closer interconnection of urban and rural planning and investment. It will integrate key findings and recommendations from the strategy meeting – *Addressing the Challenges of Climate Migration: Legal Protections, Resilience & Eco-Security* – that was convened in December 2014.

The ongoing success of the Forum rests on an alliance of institutional sponsors and action partners (e.g. national parks agencies, NGOs), each providing support to extend the program and undertake specific initiatives. Salzburg Global Seminar is in active discussions with a range of partners to advance these topics, and welcomes the interest of further parties.



1. A less conventional group photo
2. Timothy Straka and Sam Tran
3. Barbara Anton
4. Qhelile Nyathi
5. Heejin Lim
6. Chantal van Ham
7. Karl Wagner

The Salzburg Challenge

for Nature, Health and a New Urban Generation

A CALL TO ACTION

By 2050, over three in four people – at least 6 billion – will live in towns and cities, with the fastest urban growth across Asia and Africa.

Urbanization has many benefits but we see a growing disconnect between people and nature which affects our physical, mental and spiritual health. Given the soaring cost of noncommunicable diseases (diabetes, cancers, respiratory and heart disease), depressive disorders and obesity, it is urgent to put human needs for nature, healthy lifestyles and safe outdoor activity at the heart of planning and investments for an urban planet.

The Promise of Sydney is a 10-year road map adopted by 6000 participants from 160 countries at the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014. Affirming that “*nature is the ultimate foundation of life, our economy and our aspirations, and underpins our human existence, cultural identity, health and prosperity,*” it positions protected and conserved areas – including urban green space – as critical investments for climate resilience and human wellbeing.

The *Parks for the Planet Forum* is a collaborative platform for transformative leadership and action, launched by Salzburg Global Seminar and IUCN in 2015. The inaugural session on *Nature, Health and a New Urban Generation* (November 8 to 11, 2015) was supported by Conservation International, Parks Canada and Korea National Parks Service, in collaboration with ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, World Health Organization (WHO) and World Urban Parks.

Inspired by *The Promise of Sydney*, participants convened by Salzburg Global Seminar and IUCN take up the global challenge and emerging opportunities to connect nature and health for the benefit of new urban generations in more livable cities.

We will catalyze and nurture new ways of working together to secure the right for all people to experience and be excited by nature and gain lifelong benefits for health and wellbeing from outdoor activities in varied and stimulating environments. We will seek to foster new leadership to conserve nature as the foundation for sustainability in an era of rapid global change.

Why act and why now?

We already have enough evidence to lead change as we know that:

- Access to safe natural settings has a positive influence on physical and mental health and wellbeing, increases the likelihood of physical activity, fosters social connections, and reduces stress and illness;
- Direct experiences of nature are the foundation for stewardship and active care for the environment, vital to shape community and protect a resilient and life-sustaining planet now and in the future;
- Investing in urban parks and green infrastructure, and connecting these with the surrounding rural areas, helps reduce air pollution, disaster risk and climate change impacts, improve clean water supplies, and secure co-benefits for health;
- Cities and local governments provide an exceptional opportunity for leadership on sustainability, cooperation across sectors, intergenerational partnerships, mobilization of communities for action on the ground, and measurement of progress.

We call on all sectors and stakeholders to accelerate regional and global action for nature-based solutions that help communities and cities flourish and advance health and dignity for all people.

A full list of recommendations is included overleaf.

The **Parks for the Planet Forum** is a 10-year initiative embedded in the IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme and convened by Salzburg Global Seminar. The Forum will combine an annual high-level meeting for catalytic leadership, investment and innovation with an evolving multi-year work program to share pioneering approaches at local and international levels. Over the next decade, the Forum aims to position nature at the very heart of human health and wellbeing, security and prosperity across the planet.

The **Salzburg Challenge** will be accompanied by a full report from this session covering all discussions and key recommendations.

More information is available online:
www.SalzburgGlobal.org/go/557

Salzburg Global Seminar is an independent non-profit organization founded in 1947, with the mission to challenge present and future leaders to solve issues of global concern:
www.SalzburgGlobal.org

IUCN – International Union for Conservation of Nature, founded in 1948, helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environment and development challenges:
www.iucn.org

The views expressed in this statement reflect consensus among participants and should not be taken to represent those of all participants or of any organization with which they are affiliated.

What needs to be done?

1. Build a partnership between IUCN, WHO, Stockholm Resilience Centre, ICLEI, World Urban Parks and leading cities, in conjunction with the Salzburg *Parks for the Planet Forum*, to accelerate efforts to increase awareness and use of nature-based solutions in urban development and public health;
2. Collect and share success stories that demonstrate good practices;
3. Make the case for investment, using available evidence of the economic benefits of closer synergies between key sectors of health, social care, urban planning, finance and nature conservation;
4. Influence public policy and decision-making at local to regional scales;
5. Create alliances between public, private and community organizations;
6. Mobilize new audiences and champions, especially young, diverse urban populations;
7. Include health information and experiences of nature throughout schooling, from early childhood to university and professional programs;
8. Encourage senior urban citizens to share activities and positive attitudes towards health and nature to inspire younger generations;
9. Address mobility and health barriers for vulnerable citizens to access green spaces, with a special focus on the poor and disabled;
10. Promote knowledge exchange and cross-sectoral research between key sectors, in cooperation with conservation and public health agencies, urban policymakers and planners.

Who needs to act?

We, the Fellows of Salzburg Global Seminar, commit to maintaining this momentum through multi-year collaboration. We invite all sectors and stakeholders to combine their efforts to address this Challenge including but not limited to:

- City mayors, planners and investors;
- Public health agencies and organizations;
- Nature conservation agencies and urban park managers;
- Business and media;
- Research and educational institutions;
- Non-governmental organizations and activists;
- Neighborhood and youth organizations, religious leaders and indigenous communities.

Session Co-Chairs

(Titles and bios current at time of session – November 2015)



Inger Andersen *Denmark (via Skype)*

Inger Andersen is director general of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in January 2015. Ms Andersen has more than 30 years of experience in international development economics, environmental sustainability and policy-making, as well as in designing and implementing projects and generating on-the-ground impact. Prior to joining IUCN, Ms. Andersen held various leadership roles at the World Bank and United Nations. Throughout Ms. Andersen's 15-year career at the World Bank, her managerial roles focused on water, environment, and sustainable development with special emphasis on Africa and the Middle East. Previous to the World Bank, Ms. Andersen worked at the United Nations for 15 years, starting in the UN Sudano-Sahelian Office working on drought and desertification issues, and was then appointed UNDP's Water and Environment Coordinator for the Arab Region.



Kobie Brand *South Africa*

Kobie Brand is the regional director of ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability at the Africa Secretariat and is also the director of ICLEI Cities Biodiversity Center. Ms. Brand is responsible for the strategic direction, positioning, partnerships, programs and scope of work of the ICLEI Africa Secretariat. Ms. Brand has over 17 years of practical and managerial experience in Integrated Environmental Management – specifically policy, strategy and programme development and management at local, national and international level. Her experience is broad-based and includes Coastal Zone Management, Capacity Building and Informatics, Sustainable Livelihoods and Poverty Alleviation in South Africa and East and West Africa.



Kathy MacKinnon *United Kingdom*

Kathy MacKinnon is currently the chair of the IUCN/World Commission on Protected Areas, which is promoting protected areas for both biodiversity conservation as well as the benefits that they can provide to human wellbeing and livelihoods. She has spent most of her life working on conservation projects around the world. She helped to organize the IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney in 2014, where a key objective was to demonstrate the relevance of parks to human welfare and development sectors including the health sector. As follow-up to the *Promise of Sydney*, she is keen to explore the nexus between nature conservation, human health, and engaging and inspiring a new generation of conservation supporters including urban communities and youth. Previously, Dr. MacKinnon served as lead biodiversity specialist at the World Bank for 16 years, where she focused on mainstreaming conservation into development programs, including promoting protected areas as natural solutions to help people cope with climate change and other global challenges.

Maria Neira*Spain (Via Video)*

Maria P. Neira was appointed director of the Department of Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health at the World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland in September 2005. Prior to that, she was vice-minister of Health and president of the Spanish Food Safety Agency. She had previously held several senior positions in WHO. Ms. Neira began her career as a medical coordinator working with refugees in the Salvador and Honduras for Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders). She has been awarded the Médaille de l'Ordre national du Mérite by the Government of France and is a member of the Academy of Medicine, Asturias, Spain. Ms. Neira is a medical doctor by training. She specialized in endocrinology and metabolic diseases; and public health.



Gil Peñalosa*Colombia*

Gil Peñalosa is the founder and chair of the board 8 80 Cities, based in Canada. The organization was created centered on a simple but powerful philosophy; if you create a great city for an 8 year old and an 80 year old, you will create a successful city for all people. Mr. Peñalosa has been a strong supporter and advocate for improving city parks, first making his mark in the late 1990s, when he led the transformation of Bogotá's park system as Commissioner. During his tenure he successfully led the design and development of over 200 parks. Mr. Peñalosa is also chair of the board of World Urban Parks, the international representative body for the city parks, open space and recreation sector. He also runs his own international consulting firm - Gil Peñalosa & Associates and works for the renowned Danish firm Gehl Architects as an urban expert on mobility and citizen engagement and serves as senior advisor to Children & Nature Network, StreetFilms and America Walks.



Session Participants

Julia Africa*USA*

Julia Kane Africa leads the ecological infrastructure, biophilic design and restorative landscape areas of the Nature, Health, and Built Environment program at the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. In this role, she examines the ways in which nature and natural design cues in urban settings support psychological and physiological health and resilience. Ms. Africa is a member of the steering committee for the Biophilic Cities Network, the board of the International Society of Nature and Forest Medicine, and the Pennsylvania State University Healthy Parks, Healthy People working group. She writes for both academic and practitioner-oriented publications. Ms. Africa completed her graduate coursework in environmental health, exposure assessment, and landscape design at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the Harvard Graduate School of Design.





Barbara Anton *Germany*

Barbara Anton is a coordinator in the Sustainable Resources, Climate and Resilience unit at the ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability European Secretariat in Freiburg, Germany. Starting with ICLEI 20 years ago, Ms. Anton has become the lead person of the water team in 2006. In this role, she has also been dealing with subjects closely connected with water, in particular green infrastructure and climate change adaptation. Her main responsibilities are in advocacy and capacity building for local governments, including the development of guidance and training materials, and the organization and moderation of training and dissemination events to share and promote policies and practices for local sustainability. Ms. Anton has also (co-) authored several publications including the SWITCH training modules on Integrated Urban Water Management in the City of the Future.



Mohammad Ayoub *Lebanon*

Mohammad Ayoub is the founder and executive director of NAHNOO, a Lebanese NGO empowering young people to call for the respect of their rights. Driven by a desire to develop strong communities and dissolve sectarianism, he is leading several campaigns for the development of public spaces in Lebanon. After obtaining a M.A. in history, Mr. Ayoub pursued psychology and public policies studies.



Sally Barnes *Australia*

Sally Barnes is the director of National Parks for the Australian Government. Ms. Barnes manages six national parks, a botanic garden and the third largest marine reserve network in the world. Three of the terrestrial national parks are managed in collaboration with the Indigenous owners of the land. Ms. Barnes holds a B.A. in psychology and education and qualifications in librarianship.



Bernardus R. Djonoputro *Indonesia*

Bernardus R. Djonoputro is president of the Indonesian Association of Urban & Regional Planners (IAP), the sole institute and certification body for over 3,000 urban planning professionals in Indonesia. Additionally, he serves as senior consulting advisor to the Indonesian Infrastructure Development Initiatives (AUSAID), is active as executive council member of the UN affiliated Eastern Region Association for Planning and Human Settlement (EAROPH), and is the chairman of its Indonesian chapter. Mr. Djonoputro co-founded the Indonesian Most Livable City Index, a benchmark study to promote livability and competitiveness of Indonesian cities. He is a fellow of Session SSASA 11, *Sustainability and the City: America and the Urban World*, 2013 and Session 534 *Mind the Gap! Innovating for Regional Cohesion and Smart Growth*, 2014.

Dong Ik Kang*Republic of Korea*

Dong Ik Kang is manager of the Visitor Culture Team at Korea National Park Service. He is interested in visitor's behavior in parks and undertakes visitor management to improve the quality of culture in the Korean National Park. He also manages the environmental education for future generations. He graduated from the Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea.



Mark Drewell*United Kingdom*

Mark Drewell is a thought and action leader at the global interface between business and society. He is a senior partner at the Stockholm-headquartered Foresight Group advising large organizations on how to speed up and leverage change on major ambitions relevant to our times. He is the co-founder of The Elysia Commons – the world's first Commons Corporation which has the vision to create community land for every community in the United Kingdom reconnecting people with nature and real farming to create resilience in a post fossil fuel future. In 2014 Mr. Drewell stepped down from five years leading a global coalition of companies and business schools focused on developing the next generation of globally responsible leaders - the Globally Responsible Leadership Initiative.



Janet Edmond*USA*

Janet Edmond is the senior director for Peace and Development Partnerships in the Policy Center for Environment and Peace at Conservation International (CI). Building upon a strong foundation of science, partnership and field demonstration, CI empowers societies to responsibly and sustainably care for nature, our global biodiversity, for the well-being of humanity. Ms. Edmond has more than 26 years' experience managing integrated health, development and biodiversity conservation programs in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. At CI, her program promotes environmental peace-building as a mechanism for ensuring sustainable conservation and human well-being outcomes. Ms. Edmond is an expert in family planning and reproductive health, maternal and child health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), and biodiversity conservation. She holds a B.A. in international relations from Boston University and a M.P.H. from Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.



Blendi Gonxhja*Albania*

Blendi Gonxhja is general director of Tirana Parks and Recreation Agency. Mr. Gonxhja founded and led many Youth and Civil Society NGOs and Humanitarian Associations such as the Albanian Youth Federation, Albanian Students Council, and Swiss Aid for Albania Foundation. He held leading positions at the Albanian Democratic Forum and Albanian Democratic Alliance. While chief of cabinet of the Minister for Culture, Youth and Sports, he promoted protective policies that led to the creation of Butrint Park Foundation and sustainable development projects with the



World Bank for the Ionian seaside protection. Afterwards, he was appointed as deputy mayor of Tirana. Mr. Gonxhga was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship at the Center for Eastern European Studies at the University of Michigan, USA. He graduated from the Arts Academy of Tirana in graphics arts and design.



Jürgen Hoth

Mexico

Jürgen Hoth is a professional conservation and rural development planner and practitioner. He is working at Conservation International-Mexico, coordinating multiple stakeholders in the implementation of the Water Forest Strategy, a long term conservation initiative of national security standing. Over the last 25 years, he has promoted and supported national and international responses aimed at the conservation of native grasslands and forested areas. He has lived and worked in eight countries, ranging from the Mexican, Panamanian and Costa Rican rainforests to the Norwegian high arctic, where he has worked in close collaboration with indigenous people, key global conservation NGOs, academic organizations and governments.



Marianne Kettunen

United Kingdom

Marianne Kettunen is a principal policy analyst at the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), co-leading the institute's Global Challenges and Solutions work area. Ms. Kettunen has over ten years of expertise in issues related to the EU and international biodiversity policy, with special focus on assessing the socio-economic importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services and supporting the integration of these aspects into policies and decision-making processes. Ms. Kettunen has a long track record in outreach, policy influence and capacity building on the value of nature, ecosystem services and green economy. She is a member of the IUCN WCPA working group on Natural Solutions and the lead editor and key author of a practical guidance book on the socio-economic value of protected areas published in 2013.



Cecil Konijnendijk

The Netherlands

Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosch is head of the Department of Landscape Architecture, Planning and Management at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. He is also part-time professor of green space management at the University of Copenhagen. Moreover, he is editor-in-chief of the scientific journal *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening*. Mr. Konijnendijk's research focuses on the interactions between people and urban nature, green space governance, green infrastructure planning and urban forestry. He currently heads the European Union-funded project GREEN SURGE which analyses green infrastructure, biocultural diversity and ecosystem services in European cities. He has advised national and local governments across the globe on urban green space development. He has authored books such as "The Forest & The City: the cultural landscape of urban woodland".

Kevin Lafferty*United Kingdom*

Kevin Lafferty is the national policy advisor for Access, Health & Recreation at Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS), which serves as the forestry directorate of the Scottish Government. The Commission advises the Scottish Government on forestry policy and managing the national forest estate. Mr. Lafferty's remit covers access legislation, including rights and responsibilities, outdoor recreation, tourism and managing the Commission's woods for health program. He joined the Commission in May 2006 and produced the 'Woods for Health Strategy', developing pathfinder projects in partnership with the National Health Service (NHS) and encouraged health professionals to promote health and wellbeing through the use of the outdoors. This work has included setting up the award-winning "Branching Out" referral program of woodland activities for people using mental health services in Scotland and "Greening up", the NHS estate national demonstration program to showcase how the land surrounding health care facilities can be designed, transformed and improved to support the creation of positive physical environments for health and well-being.



Ivan Levin*USA*

Ivan Levin is the senior director of programs and Outdoor Nation for the Outdoor Foundation. He is a frequent speaker on how to engage young adults in outdoor activities and connect them to green spaces and public lands. He oversees all of the Foundation's grant making, engagement and activation programs and many strategic partnerships. He is also an adjunct faculty member at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA with the School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism. Most recently, Mr. Levin was a keynote speaker at the Utah Summit on Outdoor Recreation. Mr. Levin holds a B.S. in recreation, parks, and tourism with a concentration in outdoor recreation from the Radford University and a M.S. in recreation resource management from Frostburg State University.



Heejin Lim*Republic of Korea*

Heejin Lim is deputy manager at the National Health Insurance Service (NHIS), a public health insurer in South Korea where she has worked for the past 13 years. She was actively engaged in international cooperation by organizing events such as a training course on social health insurance in the NHIS. She previously worked at the department of human resources management. She earned a M.H.A in the USA.



Juana Mariño Drews*Colombia*

Juana Mariño Drews is an architect who has specialized in urban and land use planning from different perspectives and scales. She is currently one of twenty members of the IPBES Expert group in charge of the "Policy Tools and Methodologies Catalogue", as well as a lecturer in Universities in Colombia and Panama and a frequent speaker in forums around the world. Additionally, she has served as director of Population and Land Planning of the Colombian Ministry of Environment and



as a consultant in land and urban planning, risk and environmental management for the United Nations, the World Bank, GIZ, and IUCN and for national and local governments in South and Central America. Furthermore, Ms. Mariño Drews was the coordinator of the Policy Legislation and Decision Making Support Program of the Humboldt Institute for Biological Research, where she conducted applied research on “Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Urban areas” based on the interface “science-policy- society” principle.



Grace Mwaura *Kenya*

Grace Muthoni Mwaura is an expert in ‘youth-environment-development’ issues. She co-convenes the IUCN-wide Task Force on Intergenerational Partnerships for Sustainability (IPS) and was previously a steering committee member of the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC), both of which co-organized the ‘Inspiring a New Generation’ events at the 2014 World Parks Congress. She has served in different boards including IUCN Council, 4-H Kenya, and the African Youth Initiative on Climate Change (AYICC). She is a non-residential fellow with the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS) where she supports the Gender, Youth, and Inclusive Development program. Ms. Mwaura is currently completing a Ph.D. in geography on the subject of youth aspirations in contemporary Africa.



Qhelile Nyathi *Zimbabwe*

Qhelile Nyathi is a student actuary affiliated to the Actuarial Society of South Africa. She has experience in developing insurance solutions, having interned in disaster risk finance and insurance at the World Bank as well as at Zimnat Insurance in Zimbabwe. Passionate about Africa, finance, health and the environment, Ms. Nyathi volunteered in ENACTUS-UKZN for 3 years and served as president in 2011. She currently volunteers in JCI City Zimbabwe, where she initiated a project that has planted over 1,160 trees and is working on establishing the first health and wellness park in Harare. Ms. Nyathi holds a B.Sc. in actuarial science from the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal. She also holds a MRES in statistics and M.A. in African studies from the University of Oxford.



Chúk Odenigbo *Nigeria/Canada*

Chúk Odenigbo is currently working on a project with the Canadian Parks Council focusing on reconnecting the present generation of youth with nature and the outdoors. With experience providing environmental consulting services for the oil and gas industry, he has given himself a mission: to integrate humanity and nature, where they are not just two separate warring entities, but one unified force, symbiotically creating a sustainable tomorrow. Mr. Odenigbo has been listed as one of the top 25 environmentalists under 25 in Canada for three years running. He holds dual degrees in environmental science and chemistry from Queen’s University Ontario, Canada.

Yurim Oh*Republic of Korea*

Yurim Oh works in the conservation planning department at Korea National Park Service. She is in charge of nationalizing the private property, mapping of national park resources and water management in the parks.



Rob Prosper*Canada*

Rob Prosper is vice-president for Protected Areas Establishment and Conservation, a directorate responsible for the establishment of national parks and national marine conservation areas, the management of law enforcement, and overall Parks Canada guidance with regards to natural resource conservation and ecosystem science. He has worked with Parks Canada for 36 years, initially in the areas of natural resource conservation and in national park management. After 22 years of working in the field, he took on senior management roles in park operations, managing Canada's 12 arctic national parks, and he has been instrumental in advancing the Agency's priorities related to strengthening relationships with Aboriginal peoples. He holds two degrees in Biology from Carleton University and is a member of the Acadia First Nation.



Daniel Raven-Ellison*United Kingdom*

Daniel Raven-Ellison is a guerrilla geographer and a national geographic emerging explorer. At the same time he is leading an initiative to make London a National Park City. Bringing together politicians from across the political spectrum, big and small businesses, community groups and charities, Mr. Raven-Ellison is positively disrupting people's notions of national parks and cities to create something new. As an explorer, he uses creative adventures as a way to engage communities in social and environmental issues. Mr. Raven-Ellison is an educator and was a geography teacher for 7 years. Additionally, he established innovative start-up companies to inspire children to engage with the world around them and is the editor of a National Geographic kids books series that help young people to protect endangered wildlife.



Nathalie Röbbel*Switzerland*

Nathalie Röbbel is a technical officer in the Department of Public Health, Environmental, and Social Determinants of Health (SDH) at WHO in Geneva and is currently leading the department's work on developing WHO Housing and Health Guidelines. Her main tasks are to provide technical support for streamlining social determinants of health within environmental health programs. Before joining WHO HQ, she worked as a technical officer at the WHO Regional Office for Europe, in Bonn and Copenhagen, where she was responsible for environmental health performance reviews and involved in several housing and health related projects. Dr. Röbbel holds a Ph.D. in sociology from the Rheinische-Friedrich-Wilhems University in Bonn, Germany.





Trevor Sandwith *South Africa*

Trevor Sandwith is the director of IUCN's Global Protected Areas Programme. Mr. Sandwith is an ecologist and nature conservation strategist who promotes the integration of biodiversity conservation and protected areas in sustainable economic and social development. He has experience in the governance and management of protected area systems, and in mainstreaming biodiversity considerations into development policies and planning. At international level, he has specialized in transboundary governance of protected areas and in seeking recognition of ecosystem-based approaches to address climate change. Formerly, he has served as deputy chair of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas, as well as the director of the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014. His immediate priority is to promote the fulfilment of the Promise of Sydney, including the priority recommendations for securing effective and equitably governed protected area programs that contribute significantly towards addressing global challenges.



Maria Schewenius *Sweden*

Maria Schewenius is project manager at Stockholm Resilience Centre. She has more than five years of experience of working with research projects focusing on urbanization, management of urban social-ecological systems, and resilience. Her projects include the Cities and Biodiversity Outlook, the world's first global assessment of urbanization trends and the links to- and impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity. A current project is C/O City, which aims to support tools and methods for urban green infrastructure, based on case cities in Sweden and Latin America. Exploring ways to bridge between science and practice, Ms. Schewenius is also the founder of a new start-up that uses personal fitness training to support health and sustainability conscious solutions within the textile, food, and urban landscape development sectors in practice. Ms. Schewenius' primary research interests are urbanization in Latin America and Asia, green and blue infrastructure solutions, and human health. She holds a M.Sc. in ecosystems, governance and globalization from the Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University.



Martin Spray *United Kingdom*

Martin Spray is chief executive of the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT), the leading wetland conservation organization in the UK, operating around the world. WWT places people at the center of its work for environmental conservation. Furthermore, WWT created and runs the internationally respected London Wetland Centre, bringing wildlife to the people of the capital city. Its work includes designing sustainable drainage systems, natural water treatment systems and wetland centers in urban and rural environments. Additionally, the "Inspiring Generations" program gives pupils from more deprived city areas experience of nature at close hands. Mr. Spray's career has spanned the government, business and non-governmental sectors. He was awarded the CBE by HM The Queen in 2003 for his services to nature conservation. He holds a B.Sc. from the University of Swansea and an honorary D.Sc. from the University of Roehampton.

Rebecca Stanfield McCown *USA*

Rebecca Stanfield McCown is the director of the US National Park Service Stewardship Institute. She has helped develop and lead the National Park Service's Urban Agenda, setting the foundation for the role the Service will play in urban areas in its second century. Dr. Stanfield McCown has also done extensive research on engaging diverse youth in public lands, leadership development of conservation practitioners, and place-based educational program evaluation. Dr. Stanfield McCown holds a B.S. in recreation and tourism from Colorado State University and an M.S. and Ph.D. in natural resources from the University of Vermont.



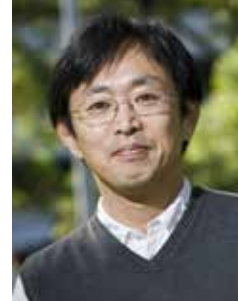
Timothy Straka *Canada*

Timothy Straka is special advisor, Education and Sustainability, and former education director from 2008 to 2012 of the Students on Ice Foundation. Committed to environmental and civic education, he advises parliamentarians and executives on youth engagement, education policy and practice, and sustainability. Seeing beyond categories and silos, Mr. Straka understands systemic change and applies creative ideas to difficult challenges. He has taught primary, secondary, and post-secondary students across North America and in Central Europe, the Arctic, and Antarctica. He earned an Hons B.A. in politics from Bishop's University, a B.Ed. in outdoor & experiential education from Queen's University, and a M.Sc. in environment from Lesley University. Mr. Straka is a University of British Columbia Sustainability Scholar.



Takemi Sugiyama *Japan*

Takemi Sugiyama is associate professor of Design and Health at Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, Australia. Mr. Sugiyama is dedicated to population health, where he has been working on environmental attributes that can contribute to residents' active living. He has a particular interest in the role of local greenspace in active living, and has published a number of papers on greenspace, physical activity and health in high-impact journals such as American Journal of Public Health, Preventive Medicine, Health & Place, and Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health. He is associate editor of Journal of Transport & Health. Dr. Sugiyama has an M. Arch from Virginia Tech and a Ph.D. in environment-behavior studies.



Sam Tran *USA*

Sam Tran is the programme manager for Middle School Programs at the Crissy Field Center located in the Presidio of San Francisco. He offers a year-long environmental youth leadership program that introduces diverse students from San Francisco public schools to the outdoors through restoration projects, environmental and social justice workshops, and exploration of the Golden Gate National Park. As a San Francisco Native, he hopes to build a valuable bridge that connects urban youth to their larger environment and helps young people make a connection between important issues and their own lives. Mr. Tran strives to give young people the tools they need to become responsible citizens who make positive contributions to the environmental health of their communities.





Chantal van Ham *Belgium*

Chantal van Ham is EU programme manager nature based solutions in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) EU Representative Office. She is responsible for IUCN's activities on urban biodiversity and the cooperation with subnational governments in Europe. She develops and coordinates projects for biodiversity and ecosystems services conservation, restoration and valuation that help policy-makers, cities, local and regional governments find nature-based solutions for sustainable development, by mobilizing IUCN knowledge and best practices. She represents IUCN in networks and fora at the European and global level to raise awareness of the value of nature-based solutions to improve quality of life, as well as economic prosperity.



Pam Veinotte *Canada*

Pam Veinotte is field unit superintendent of Rouge National Urban Park, Canada's first national urban park located within the country's largest and most diverse metropolitan area. Throughout her lengthy Parks Canada career, she has demonstrated a spirit of collaboration and inclusion, forging numerous partnerships between the public, private and non-profit sectors. Early on, she worked as an historic interpreter and head of visitor services, moving on to management roles in communications, marketing and heritage tourism in the Atlantic Region, Mountain Parks and Banff Field Unit. She has also served in an executive role as Field Unit Superintendent for: Southern New Brunswick from 2006 to 2008; Lake Louise/Yoho/Kootenay from 2008 to 2011; and Banff from 2011 to 2012. Ms. Veinotte received degrees in English from Dalhousie University and in public relations from Mount St. Vincent University, Nova Scotia.



Erion Veliaj *Albania*

Erion Veliaj serves as the mayor of Tirana, Albania since June 2015. He was previously the minister of Youth and Social Welfare in Albania, where he reformed the entire Social Security system, introduced the National Youth Action Plan and revamped social services and vocational training. He joined the Socialist Party of Albania in the capacity of Youth and Emigration Secretary and was elected member of the Assembly for Gjirokastra Constituency in 2013. He also joined the European Stability Initiative, a central body for the promotion of EU enlargement. His involvement in politics followed a long term of engagement in civil society, international organizations and media. In 2003, Mr. Veliaj founded Mjaft (Enough) Movement, an organization that streamlined the activist and protest spirit of the Albanian youth, which was recognized with the UN Civil Society Award in 2004. He headed the movement until November 2007. He earned a B.A. in political studies from Grand Valley State University of Michigan and an M.A. in European integration from Sussex University.

Karl Wagner*Austria*

Karl Wagner is a biologist by training and an environmental campaigner by profession. Over the last 30 years he has conceptualized, developed and managed successful large environmental campaigns for a number of international organizations, namely WWF International, foundations such as Oak and MAVA and think tanks like the Club of Rome, where he was director external relations until January 2015. Mr. Wagner co-organized the Global Wilderness Congress WILD 10 and works now as an entrepreneur and project developer with several teams on systemic issues such as new economics, employment, wild cities and values. He is also co-organizing WILD 11, a global wilderness Congress, which will most likely take place in China with a strong emphasis on wilderness and cities.



Rapporteur

Liz Barling*United Kingdom*

Liz Barling is a freelance communications strategist and head of communications for UK think tank the Food Ethics Council. She has worked for many years in the field of sustainability and has written and edited many reports and articles, including “Food: all things considered” and “From individual to collective action”. She freelances as a writer, editor and communications specialist for social businesses and the not-for-profit sector. In her spare time she co-runs a community energy company and sits on the steering committee of her local Transition Town group. Before moving into not-for-profit communications, Ms. Barling was a government press officer and worked as a journalist for BBC radio and TV news. She holds a B.A. in English literature from the University of Sussex.



Session Staff



Clare Shine

Vice President and Chief Program Officer

Clare Shine was appointed vice president and chief program officer of Salzburg Global Seminar in 2012, after a career spanning law, business and the arts. She is a UK-qualified barrister with 20 years' experience as environmental policy analyst for inter-governmental organizations, national governments, the private sector and NGOs. A bilingual French and English speaker and professional facilitator, she is an associate of the Institute for European Environmental Policy and member of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law. Her work and publications have focused on biodiversity, international trade, governance, transboundary cooperation and conflict prevention, with in-region capacity- building across four continents and the Mediterranean Basin. She has played an influential role in biosecurity policy development, working as legal advisor to the World Bank, European Commission and Council of Europe. She co-authored the European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species endorsed by 43 countries and recently advised the EC on implementing the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit-sharing for genetic resources. She has been a regular freelance contributor to the Financial Times arts section since 2003. She began her career in industry after studying literature at Oxford University and holds post-graduate degrees from London University and the Sorbonne University, Paris.



Paul Jansen

Program Director

Paul Jansen is a Program Director at Salzburg Global Seminar, focusing on emerging issues in social innovation, human capital development and education. Prior to joining Salzburg Global in September 2015, Paul worked as an organizational sustainability adviser for APCOM in Bangkok, Thailand, and before that role, for Dutch INGO Hivos, in both the Netherlands and South Africa. At Hivos, he started on the global sexual health and rights program, before moving on to develop initiatives for Hivos in the Middle East and around global philanthropy for rights and diversity. In his last Hivos post, Paul was based in Johannesburg, South Africa, as Hivos country director, where his focus was on sustainability and rights programs and BRICS projects. He has earlier experience with British NGO Voluntary Service Overseas as manager of the CSR program, developing private sector partnerships. Paul holds a M.A. in development studies from Utrecht University, Netherlands and a B.A. in marketing management from Maastricht Hotel Management School.

Jemma Clerkin*Program Associate*

Jemma Clerkin is program associate at Salzburg Global Seminar. She supports the program directors in organizing sessions throughout the year. She is responsible for liaising with participants and faculty, preparing session directories, lecture schedules and other related materials, coordinating programs with the conference center and admissions office, as well as supervising session interns. Jemma joined the organization in June 2014. Previously, she worked as an administrator in both private and public sectors; more recently she has worked across a range of non-profit organizations from the cultural sector to development and educational sectors. She was the events assistant at The Model, a center for contemporary art and culture in Sligo, Ireland. In 2013 she held an internship for development education with Irish Aid. Jemma has a B.A. in business, specializing in public relations and event management from IT Sligo, Ireland.



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Louise Hallman, *Editor*

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Ana Alania, *Communications Intern*

Margarita Kotti, *Program Intern*

Heather Jaber, *Communications Intern*

Appendix III

Session Agenda

Day 1 Framing the Challenge

14:15 – Welcome

Clare Shine

Vice President and Chief Program Officer, Salzburg Global

Trevor Sandwith

Director, IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme

14:40 – Co-Chairs’ and Partners’ Opening Remarks: Forum Goals & Priorities

Dr Kathy MacKinnon

Chair, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas

Inger Andersen (By Skype)

Director General, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Gil Peñalosa

Founder and Chair of the Board, 8 80 Cities; Chair of the Board, World Urban Parks

Kobie Brand

Regional Director, ICLEI Africa; Global Coordinator, Cities Biodiversity Centre

Dr Maria Neira (Video message)

Director, Department of Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health, World Health Organization

17:00 – On the Road to Transformational Change: Where are we missing the Crossroads?

Moderator: **Trevor Sandwith**

Post-Sydney: what is the opportunity to mainstream nature and protected areas in development?

Kathy MacKinnon

“Healthy Parks Healthy People”
An Australian idea that is catching on globally

Sally Barnes, Director of National Parks, Australia – host of the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014

Impacts on mental and physical health

Dr Nathalie Roebbel

Technical Officer, Department of Public Health, Environmental and Social Determinants of Health, WHO

Harnessing the power of parks to inspire a new generation of conservation champions

Rob Prosper

Vice President, Protected Areas Establishment and Conservation, Parks Canada

The squeeze on nature & health

Marianne Kettunen

Principal Policy Analyst, Co-Leader of Global Challenges, Institute for European Environmental Policy

18:15 – Wrap-up by Co-Chairs

Kathy MacKinnon and

Kobie Brand

19:15 – Dinner

20:30 – Fireside Reflections from the Heart: Nature as Change-Maker

Moderator: **Gil Peñalosa**

Sparked by change makers from the new urban generation

Led by: **Daniel Raven-Ellison, Qhelile Nyathi and Sam Tran.**

Day 2 Catalyzing Change across Critical Sectors

09:00 – Windows of Opportunity 2016-2030

Moderator: **Kobie Brand**

Urban Parks in 8 80 Cities: Creating Vibrant and Healthy Communities

Gil Peñalosa

Creating Canada’s First National Urban Park: A Case Study

Pam Veinotte

Field Unit Superintendent, Rouge NP, Ontario, Canada

Health of New Generations in New Cities

Julia Africa

Program Leader, Nature, Health and the Built Environment, Harvard School of Public Health, Cambridge, MA, USA

Beirut: The Forbidden Public Spaces

Mohammad Ayoub

Executive Director, NAHNOO, Beirut, Lebanon

11:15 – Synthesis of Key Issues and Defining Questions for Group Discussion

Moderator: **Trevor Sandwith**

13:00 – Lunch

14:00 – Small Group Discussions

16:15 – Groups report back

Moderator: **Sally Barnes**

17:00 – Round Table: Taking Change to Scale

Moderator: **Rob Prosper**

Young Leaders' Inspiring a New Generation (ING)

[Brandwein Institute and National Environmental Education Foundation, West Virginia, USA (by Skype)]

What does it take to unlock deep change and break out of "business as usual" (Finance/Investment)

Mark Drewell, Senior Partner, The Foresight Group, London, UK

Research, urban design, health and innovation (Research/Technology)

Takemi Sugiyama, Associate Professor of Design, Swinburne University of Technology

Urban planning, risk and environmental management (Government)

Juana Marino Drews, GUT-SAS, Bogota, Colombia

18:15 – Wrap-up Brainstorm

Moderator: **Gil Peñalosa**

18:45 – Closing

19:15 – Dinner

Day 3 Launching Transformation

09:00 – *Levers for Change and 2016 Priorities*

Moderator: **Clare Shine**

Viability of the Megalopolis and the Water Forest

Jürgen Hoth

Director, Water Forest Initiative, Mexico City, Mexico

The Power of City Leadership

Erion Veliaj

Mayor of Tirana, Albania

Leadership and Learning for Healthier Cities

Cecil Konijnendijk

Head EU Green Surge Project, European Cities

NGOs and the Philanthropic Sector

Janet Edmond

Conservation International, US

11:00 – *Working Groups (Cross-Sector and/or Regional Teams)*

Groups build on meeting discussions to develop:

- A concise statement on the need for integrated approaches to “nature experience and connection for young, diverse and/or disadvantaged urban populations, nature conservation, health, and urban development”.
- A summary of key data and organizational gaps requiring attention.
- Prioritized recommendations

that sector leaders can leverage in key fora to accelerate collaborative planning and programs.

- Pilot action plans for city/country hubs to provide framework to test innovation, evaluate results and scale up best practices.

12:30 – Lunch & Continuing Group Work

14:15 – Groups Report Back

Moderator: **Kobie Brand**

15:15 – Finalization of Strategic Recommendations

Moderator: **Kathy MacKinnon**

16:45 – Next Steps and Institutional/Personal Commitments

17:15 – Final Remarks by Co-Chairs and Salzburg Global

17:30 – Close of Session

18:30 – Reception

19:00 – Concert

20:00 – Gala Dinner

Day 4

11.00 – Hotel Check-Out

Salzburg Global Seminar Staff

Senior Management

Stephen L. SALYER, *President & Chief Executive Officer*

Benjamin W. GLAHN, *Vice President, Business Affairs*

Clare C. SHINE, *Vice President & Chief Program Officer*

Daniel SZELENYI, *General Manager – Hotel Schloss Leopoldskron*

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Jemma Clerkin, *Program Associate (on leave)*

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Lauren Dickel, *Development Assistant*

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Salzburg Seminar American Studies Association (SSASA)

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Emma Growney, *Davidson Impact Fellow*

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Jan Heinecke, *Fellowship Manager*

Andrew Ho, *US Development Director*

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Julie L. Jones, *Contract CFO*

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Astrid Koblmüller, *Program Manager*

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Salzburg Media Academy

Edward Mortimer, *Senior Program Advisor*

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Hotel Schloss Leopoldskron Staff

Richard Aigner, *Hotel Operations Manager*

Niklas Geelhaar, *Front Office Supervisor*

Ernst Kiesling, *Executive Chef*

Karin Maurer, *Reservations and Revenue Supervisor*

Matthias Rinnerthaler, *Maintenance Supervisor*

Karin Schiller, *Sales and Marketing Manager*

Marisa Todorovic, *Executive Housekeeper*

Interns

(at time of program)

Lauren AbuAli, *Development*

Ana Alania, *Marketing*

Lauren Dickel, *Development*

Angeliki Georgokosta, *Program*

Heather Jaber, *Communications*

Kanzi Kamel, *Library*

Margarita Kotti, *Development*

Ha Eun Park, *Program*

Hyejeong Yoo, *Program*

Report Author:

Liz Barling is a freelance communications strategist and head of communications for the UK think tank, the Food Ethics Council. She has worked for many years in the field of sustainability and has written and edited many reports and articles, including “Food: all things considered” and “From individual to collective action.” She freelances as a writer, editor and communications specialist for social businesses and the not-for-profit sector. In her spare time she co-runs a community energy company and sits on the steering committee of her local Transition Town group. Before moving into not-for-profit communications, Ms. Barling was a government press officer and worked as a journalist for BBC radio and TV news. She holds a B.A. in English literature from the University of Sussex.

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Salzburg Global Seminar

Salzburg Global Seminar was founded in 1947 by Austrian and American students from Harvard University. Convinced that former enemies must talk and learn from each other in order to create more stable and secure societies, they set out to create a neutral international forum for those seeking to regenerate Europe and shape a better world. Guided by this vision, we have brought together over 33,000 participants from 160 countries for more than 500 sessions and student academies across cultural and ideological barriers to address common challenges. Our track record is unique – connecting young and established leaders, and supporting regions, institutions and sectors in transition.

Salzburg Global's program strategy is driven by our Mission to challenge present and future leaders to solve issues of global concern. We work with partners to help people, organizations and governments bridge divides and forge paths for peace, empowerment and equitable growth. Our three Program Clusters – **Imagination**, **Sustainability** and **Justice** – are guided by our commitment to tackle systems challenges critical for next generation leaders and engage new voices to “re-imagine the possible.” We believe that advances in education, science, culture, business, law and policy must be pursued together to reshape the landscape for lasting results. Our strategic convening is designed to address gaps and faultlines in global dialogue and policy making and to translate knowledge into action.

Our programs target new issues ripe for engagement and “wicked” problems where progress has stalled. Building on our deep experience and international reputation, we provide a platform where participants can analyze blockages, identify shared goals, test ideas, and create new strategies. Our recruitment targets key stakeholders, innovators and young leaders on their way to influence and ensures dynamic perspectives on a given topic.

Our exclusive setting enables our participants to detach from their working lives, immerse themselves in the issues at hand and form new networks and connections. Participants come together on equal terms, regardless of age, affiliation, region or sector.

We maintain this energy and engagement through the Salzburg Global Fellowship, which connects our alumni across the world. It provides a vibrant hub to crowd-source new ideas, exchange best practice, and nurture emerging leaders through mentoring and support. The Fellowship leverages our extraordinary human capital to advise on critical trends, future programs and in-region implementation.

FOR MORE *info*. PLEASE VISIT:
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