



Developing a global alliance for urban nature

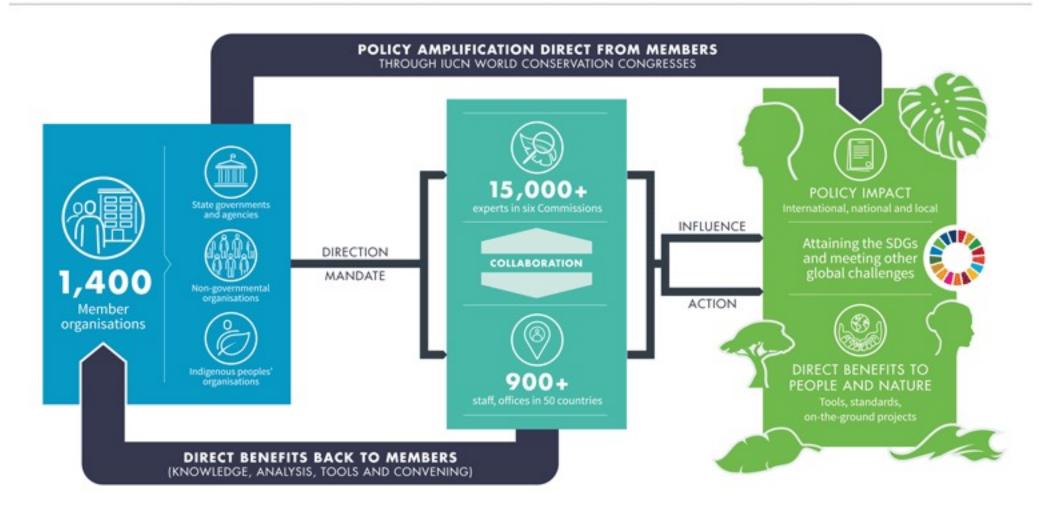
Head of Urban Alliance, Russell Galt 8 June 2021

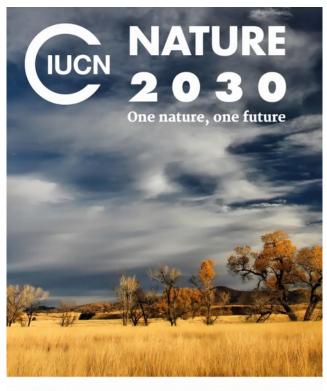


"A just world that values and conserves nature."



UNITED FOR LIFE AND LIVELIHOODS







A Programme for the Union 2021–2024











TYPE @

Species

Documents

SEARCH FILTERS @ Taxonomy

▶ Red List Category

Land Regions

Marine Regions

 1. Residential & commercial development (12963)

3. Energy production & mining

4. Transportation & service

5. Biological resource use (26112) 6. Human intrusions & disturbance

7. Natural system modifications

8. Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases (9453)

corridors (3983)

2. Agriculture & aquaculture (22326) >

▼ Threats

(5457)

(4339)

(12527)

9. Pollution (9966)

10. Geological events (695)

Featured Regions

Clear All

1

>

>

Include

Names - common, scientific, regions etc...

Q Advanced About

Assessment process

Resources & Publications

Support us



Global X Geographical Scope 1 - Residential & commercial development X Threats

Species X



ANIMALIA - ACTINOPTERYGII GLOBAL Sailfin Tang Zebrasoma veliferum

(LO) — Stable



Bulgarica pseudofraudigera

Unknown



Emilia bellioides

Unknown

(LC)













WCC-2016-Res-029-EN Incorporating urban dimensions of conservation into the work of IUCN

CONSIDERING that IUCN and the global conservation community generally have tended to focus attention on areas relatively remote from cities;

CONCERNED that giving higher priority to those areas where human impact on nature has been least, may risk overlooking the many reasons why urban places, people, and institutions are also crucial to IUCN's success;

MINDFUL that the world is urbanising fast, and that as urban influences spread ever outwards, previously remote areas will be affected;

RECOGNISING that the majority of the world's population is urban and that urban people are critical for nature conservation, nationally and globally, that cities are where most wealth is concentrated, and most media are based, and that conservation depends on support from urban voters, consumers, donors, and communicators – yet people living in cities have diminishing contact with nature;

NOTING that urban conservation actors include national, sub-national, and local authorities, and a range of non-governmental organisations, academic and scientific bodies, and community groups;

AWARE that nature is essential to people's physical and mental health, development, and well- being, that natural areas in and around cities help give residents a sense of place, offer opportunities to learn about nature and sustainability, provide a wide range of ecosystem services, contribute to carbon sequestration, and bolster resilience to climate change and natural disasters, and that many natural and semi-natural areas in and around cities are rich in biodiversity and geoheritage and can include protected areas in any of IUCN's six categories;

NOTING the dependency of urban populations on goods and services, such as drinking water, energy, food and flood protection, provided by rural ecosystems;

FURTHER NOTING that urban natural areas can enhance tourist attractions of cities and boost income from tourism;

RECOGNISING that access to nature in urban areas can be important in addressing environmental justice and sustainability issues;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that cities can have major negative impacts on surrounding ecosystems, for example, air and water pollution, deforestation for fuelwood, and harvesting of wildlife for human consumption, that urban ports, airports, and gardens are entry points for invasive alien species, and that urban sprawl is often a major threat to nature;

ALSO RECOGNISING the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDG 11 to make human settlements, inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; and

NOTING that Habitat III, the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development will be held in Quito, Ecuador, in October 2016, and will act on the development of a new Urban Agenda;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:

- REQUESTS the Director General to:
- a. direct all Secretariat groups to review their programmes to ensure that urban dimensions of conservation are appropriately reflected in their priorities; and
- appoint a focal point at senior level in the Secretariat to coordinate urban conservation matters;

- 2. STRONGLY REQUESTS the Director General and Commissions to:
- a. convey to leading organisations and experts concerned with urban dimensions of conservation the importance of participating in IUCN Membership and Commissions;
- b. contribute expertise on this theme to intergovernmental organisations;
- encourage the promotion of cooperation among conservation agencies and museums, zoos, botanical gardens, and similar institutions in urban areas to introduce urban people to their region's natural heritage through public programming, community engagement and citizen science; and
- d. seek to develop collaborative programmes with other bodies to raise awareness of the importance of urban protected areas; and
- 3. CALLS ON Council to:
- a. lead a strong IUCN-wide initiative to promote awareness of the crucial role that nature performs in urban places;
- encourage actions that reinforce the role of nature in the planning and management of urban areas, and the role of urban areas in planning and managing conservation programmes; and
- c. establish an 'IUCN Urban Alliance', chaired by a member of Council and composed of Members and units of Commissions and the Secretariat concerned with urban dimensions of conservation, and charge it with assisting Members, Council, the Director General, Commissions and National and Regional Committees in carrying out the purposes of this Resolution.

WCC-2016-Res-029-EN Incorporating urban dimensions of conservation into the work of IUCN

CONSIDERING that IUCN and the global conservation community generally have tended to focus attention on areas relatively remote from cities;

CONCERNED that giving higher priority to those areas where human impact on nature has been least, may risk overlooking the many reasons why urban places, people, and institutions are also crucial to IUCN's success;

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NOTING that urban conservation actors include national, sub-national, and local authorities, and a range of non-governmental organisations, academic and scientific bodies, and community groups:

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FURTHER RECOGNISING that cities can have major negative impacts on surrounding ecosystems, for example, air and water pollution, deforestation for fuelwood, and harvesting of wildlife for human consumption, that urban ports, airports, and gardens are entry points for invasive alien species, and that urban sprawl is often a major threat to nature;

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WCC-2020-Res-067-EN

Call for Nature in Cities agendas and Strengthening the IUCN Urban Alliance

RECALLING Resolution 6.029, *Incorporating urban dimensions of conservation into the work of IUCN*, which set out in detail the reasons for greater involvement in urban matters by IUCN;

RECALLING Resolution 6.064 Strengthening cross-sector partnerships to recognise the contributions of nature to health, well-being and quality of life (Hawai'i, 2016) which recognises that places, including urban areas, that have a rich natural heritage improve physical and mental health, as well as spiritual well-being and may increase appreciation of nature, including for the elderly;

RECOGNISING that the New Urban Agenda approved by the United Nations in Habitat III (Quito, Ecuador, 2016) reaffirms the global commitment to sustainable urban development and a common ideal for a better and more sustainable future, in which all people enjoy equality of rights and access to the benefits and opportunities that cities can offer, and in which the international community reconsiders urban systems and the physical form of our urban spaces as means to achieving this;

RECOGNISING that well-designed green and blue infrastructure can profoundly enhance urban livability, resilience and sustainability, while reducing climate and disaster risks, contributing to public health and well-being, and supporting substantial components of native biodiversity and native geodiversity;

ALSO RECOGNISNG IUCN's partnership with The Nature Conservancy and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability in developing CitiesWithNature, a platform for local and sub-national governments to report on their commitments to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

RECALLING that further to Resolution 6.029 Incorporating urban dimensions of conservation into the work of IUCN (Hawai'i, 2016), the IUCN Urban Alliance was launched in September 2018 as a coalition of IUCN constituents concerned with urban dimensions of nature conservation, chaired by an IUCN Councillor and including three IUCN Commission Chairs on its strategic board; and

NOTING that, in its initial phase of development, the IUCN Urban Alliance has focused on three priorities: creating a platform for knowledge exchange and debate, catalysing new projects and partnerships, and developing a new knowledge product – the Urban Nature Index – with the aim of helping cities to measure, value and conserve nature within and beyond their boundaries;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

- 1. CALLS ON Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), other governments and stakeholders to recognise the critical importance of Nature in Cities in the development and implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
- 2. URGES Parties to the CBD, other governments and stakeholders to develop Nature in Cities Agendas, mainstreaming of natural diversity, biodiversity and geodiversity, and natural heritage into urban planning and decision-making processes, promoting the implementation of the principles of ecological urbanism, strengthening urban resilience to climate change including disaster risk reduction through enhancing, establishing and effectively managing urban and near-urban protected and conserved areas and green infrastructure, and scaling up nature-based solutions providing favorable conditions for wildlife habitats, reducing the ecological footprint of cities, and fostering meaningful connections between people and nature, including urban protected areas, and taking advantage of urban natural heritage;
- 3. URGES IUCN and its constituent parts to scale up work with cities and city networks, such as ICLEI, as well as with United Nations peer agencies (UN-Habitat, World Health Organization) and strategies that work with cities (International Strategy for Disaster Reduction);
- 4. CALLS ON the Director General to champion the work and further development of a strong IUCN Urban Alliance through supporting its activities, including:
- a. developing and promoting the Urban Nature Index knowledge product;
- b. establishing science-based targets work to measure and understand the positive and negative impacts that cities have on ecosystems and natural, geological and biological diversity, around the world;
- c. compiling and developing case studies of nature-based urban interventions and solutions that have resulted in tangible benefits to the health and well-being of urban people and nature and overall to resilient city management;

- d. promoting research into ways of scaling up and extending the implementation of such case studies, and ensuring they are widely communicated through platforms such as #NatureForALL, Panorama Solutions and CitiesWithNature, as well as other communication and education alternatives and strategies, including to decision makers; and
- e. reviewing and strengthening the governance arrangements of the IUCN Urban Alliance, including enabling the chair to be drawn from Members, Commissions or Council; and
- 5. ENCOURAGES research institutions to develop and deliver training; programmes and courses on urban nature (biodiversity, geodiversity, geological and biological heritage), to promote experiences in nature, seeking to reconnect human beings with nature, and to promote assessment and knowledge of the importance nature has in people's lives and well-being, and FURTHER ENCOURAGES governmental authorities to take into account the need to restore and develop nature in cities in the programmes they manage.

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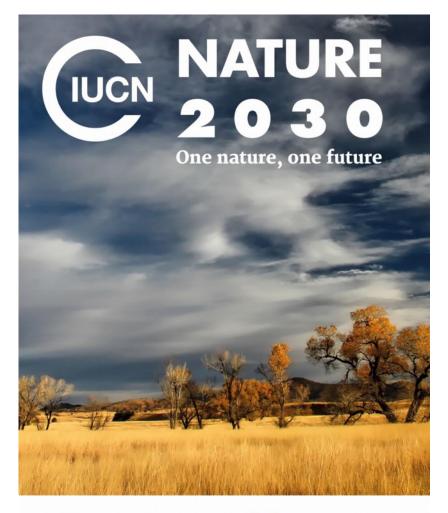
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b. establishing science-based targets work to measure and understand the positive and negative impacts that cities have on ecosystems and natural, geological and biological diversity, around the world;

 c. compiling and developing case studies of nature-based urban interventions and solutions that have resulted in tangible benefits to the health and well-being of urban people and nature and overall to resilient city management;





A Programme for the Union 2021–2024

3. Nature and people thrive in cities while delivering solutions for urban challenges and a sustainable ecological footprint.

IUCN will strengthen its engagement with cities and scale up its work on urban dimensions of nature conservation. We will leverage the value of nature in cities for enhanced education, recreation and human health and well-being. We will strive to improve resilience to the challenges of climate change, disaster and disease risk, food and water security and safety. This will involve supporting the establishment and strengthening of protected and conserved areas to safeguard key biodiversity areas in or near cities. It will include the promotion of Nature-based Solutions to urban challenges and the integration of biodiversity values into urban planning, design and decision making by cities, including through mobilisation of urban nature indices. Better documenting and mitigating the embodied impacts of cities, through their supply chains, will be essential. Finally, IUCN will also promote the re-connection of people to nature.



Programme → The Event → France → Newsroom →

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A - Including subnational governments in IUCN's membership

Latest version in this language: *Version as originally submitted to Congress* | Published on: 16 Oct 2020

Explanatory memorandum

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

Adopts the following amendments to the IUCN Statutes, the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress and the Regulations:

(i) Amend Article 4 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)







Create a platform for debate and knowledge exchange

Catalyze new projects and partnerships for greener cities

Develop an Urban Nature Index to measure change and drive action





Governance of the IUCN Urban Alliance

Strategic Board

- Jonny Hughes (Chair)
- Angela Andrade
- John Robinson
- Kathy MacKinnon
- Kobie Brand
- Luc Bas
- Pengfei Xie
- Sean Southey

Project Board

- Jonny Hughes
- Chantal van Ham
- Thomas Brooks
- Jo Pike

JOTIK

Technical Expert Group

- Jonny Hughes
- Russell Galt
- Nikara Mahedeo
- Jennie Moore
- Rob McDonald
- Thomas Brooks
- Jennifer Pierce
- Weiqi Zhou
- Peter Frost
- Lena Chan
- Julie Dewar
- Adeniran Akanni
- Peter Massini
- Alessandra Peres

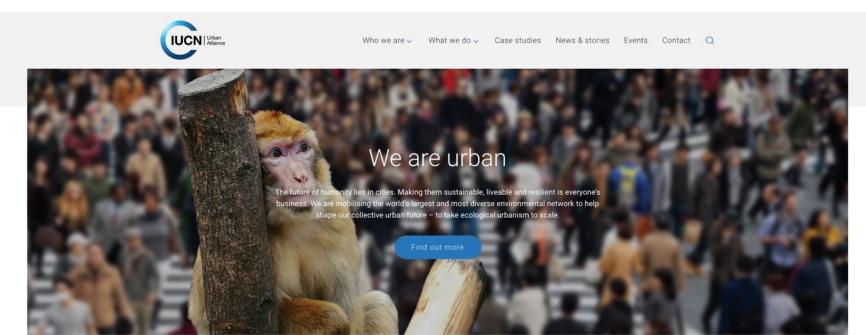
Founding Members

- A Rocha
- Canadian Wildlife Federation
- CEC
- CEM Urban Ecosystem Specialist Group
- Center for Humans and Nature
- DKM Foundation
- Earth Watch
- Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación (FUNDAECO)
- Fundação Vitória Amazônica (FVA)
- ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability
- Lilongwe Wildlife Trust
- Lincoln Park Zoo
- Naturalis Biodiversity Centre
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- The Scottish Wildlife Trust
- WCPA Urban Conservation Strategies Group
- Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

Secretariat

- Luc Bas
- Thomas Brooks
- Chantal van Ham
- Ines Hernandez
- Russell Galt

www.iucnurban.org





Tools & resources

An urban apparatus for achieving positive conservation outcomes



Projects

A global portfolio brokering knowledge and pioneering A repository of impactful, replicable and scalable best practice

Case studies

→ Find out more

→ Find out more

→ Find out more

SOLUTIONS FOR A HEALTHY PLANET







https://panorama.solutions









Promoting habitat diversity at Le Golf National















Profesionales del Área de Reciclaje de Brasil

Vertedero de la Estructural, Brasilia/DF





Turning unused public space into an Eco-Hub for Education







the effects of design,





Compostaje de los Residuos de la Comida Escolar



Cierre y Recuperación del Vertedero de Ipatinga, Minas Gerais







Fembrae Meadows: the creation of a new urban park



















Measuring the effects of trees on heat mitigation in Northern France



Innovation at the nexus



Square Metre for Butterflies: A network of green roofs in Edinburgh





























Transformation to a Compact City through Light Rail Transit

Financing Urban Park Management with Private Sector Participation



scientific evidence, cross-sectoral collaboration and community action water sources

























green space on tree and





The effect of green spaces and urban trees











WWF Nature Academy cooperation of schools and protected areas





Management through the 3R Approach

Revitalizing the Aging City: Kadokawa Nursing Care Prevention Center









Land Value Capture

Waterfront District as a High-Amenity Business and Commercial Center





Enresterbill Health

Campus: Creating healthy spaces for patients, staff and visitors through green

for sustainable drinking



From derelict golf course to vibrant community green space





Middlefield Greenspace and Regeneration Project























Modernization of Hydromet Services in













Geopolitics of Conservation

















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Fembrae Meadows:



track butterflies and inform urban greening







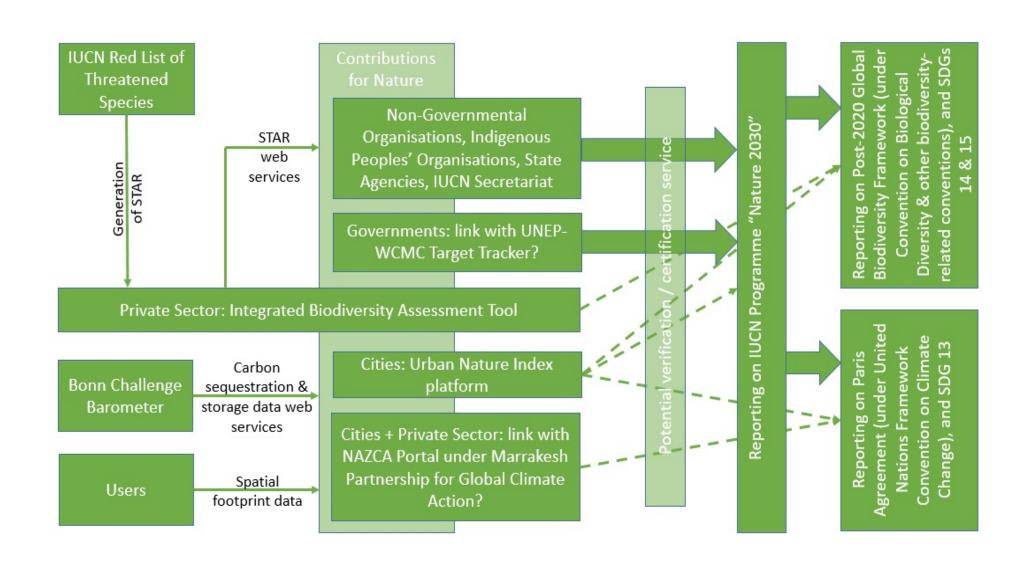








IUCN Contributions for Nature platform











Addressing three spheres of impact





Urban Nature Index



Draft set of indicator topics

Theme	ID	Indicator Topics (tentative)
<u>Ecosystems</u>	E1	Native species status
	E2	Functional diversity
	E 3	Invasive species
	E4	Microbiota
	E 5	Soil function
Habitats	H1	Aquatic habitats
	H2	Terrestrial habitats
	Н3	Vegetation
	H4	Restoration
	H5	Connectivity
Pollution	P1	Water pollution
	P2	Air pollution
	P3	Soil pollution
	P4	Noise pollution
	P5	Light pollution

ID	Indicator Topics (tentative)
C1	Waste
C2	Trade
C3	Energy
C4	Purchasing
C5	Food systems
I1	Exposure to nature
12	Sacred heritage
13	<u>Livelihoods</u>
14	Equity of impacts
15	Equity of benefits
R1	Law & Policy
R2	Education & Awareness
R3	Lifestyles
R4	Planning
R5	Reporting
	C1 C2 C3 C4 C5 I1 I2 I3 I4 I5 R1 R2 R3 R4



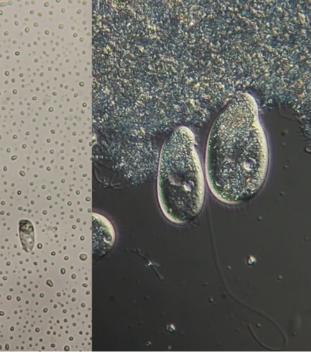
Urban Nature Index



Development timeline













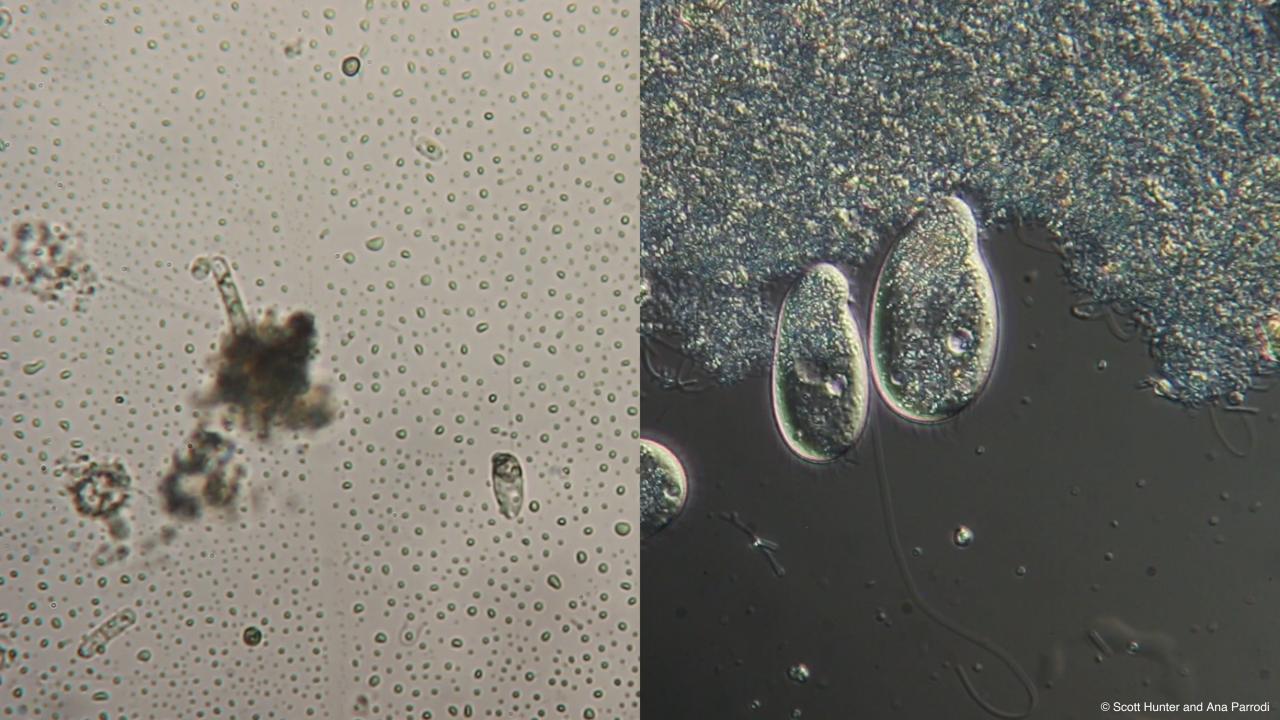




Living cities: a series of experimental short films exploring the theme of ecological urbanism











IUCN World Conservation Congress

The first hybrid in-person and virtual environmental event since the pandemic began, the Congress will drive action on nature-based recovery, climate change and biodiversity post-2020.

87 4 10 28
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Forum



Members' Assembly



Exhibition





The Webinars



LOCAL ACTION FOR OUTSTANDING NATURE

How to conserve biodiversity hotspots

m Tuesday, June 22, 2021

Read more →

Register 🗷



LOCAL ACTION FOR PRODUCTIVE LANDSCAPE

Achieving shared prosperity within the limits of Earth's living systems

m Wednesday, June 23, 2021

Read more →

Register 🗹



LOCAL ACTION FOR URBAN NATURE

Creating resilient and resource-efficient communities

m Tuesday, June 29, 2021

Read more →

Register 🗹





FINANCE & GOVERNANCE FOR LOCAL ACTION

What kind of Finance and Governance for a Green and Just Recovery

m Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Read more →

Register 🗷



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Urban Planet Pavilion





























Urban Planet Pavilion, 4-9 Sep. 2021

Aims

- Educate and inspire the conservation community to proactively engage in shaping our collective urban future;
- Educate and inspire city leaders and decision-makers to recognise the value of nature and its potential for addressing urban challenges; and
- Catalyse new projects and partnerships for greener cities.



