



Dear colleagues,

we are pleased to invite you to the **Conference of URBIO-International Network Urban Biodiversity and Design: “Integrating Biodiversity in Urban Planning and Design Processes”**, which will take place on 28-30 November 2022 in Leipzig, Germany at the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ).

The conference will be held in hybrid format: face-to-face and online

Organized by:

URBIO – International Network Urban Biodiversity and Design

Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

University of Western Australia

University of Missouri

Background and main conceptual theme/ goal of this conference

Urban environment, health and well-being of people directly depend on the activity of urban planners, architects and landscape architects. Urban ecologists, sociologists, and other scientists are researching designed and spontaneously appeared landscapes. Strengthening connections among planning and science can help in creating biodiversity-friendly, multifunctional, resilient urban green infrastructure.

The main aim of this conference is to discuss research concepts and results of practical applications in integrating biodiversity to the urban planning and design.

The objectives are:

- How can urban ecologists, sociologists, and other scientists make stronger connections to the planning of our cities and participating in architectural and landscape design process at different scales: from Master plan to a park or neighbourhood, urban forest and private garden?
- How can urban ecologists, sociologists, and other scientists be more actively involved in the inter- and transdisciplinary teams in the city’s administration and work in close connections with citizens fulfilling goals of protection and reinforcing urban biodiversity?

Structure of the conference and preliminary program

Day One: 28th of November 2022

- integration of biodiversity in urban planning and landscape design projects
- case studies of successful integration of design and ecology
- what do we mean by biophilic cities, sustainable cities, ecological design, design with nature and nature-based solutions? how these innovative concepts can be integrated into everyday urban planning and design practice?

Day Two: 29th of November 2022

- urban ecology participation in city's master's plans, neighbourhood projects and initiatives
- mechanism of increasing biodiversity in urban areas, protection, and conservation strategies

Day Three. 30th of November 2022

- conference excursions in/around Leipzig (organized by UFZ researchers et al.)

Call for abstracts and follow-up publications

We welcome contributions that deal with the following topics:

- biological, cultural, and social values of urban biodiversity (linked to ecosystem services);
- urban flora and fauna, how to integrate nature into the urban neighbourhood and achieve the balance (human–nature interaction);
- biodiversity-sensitive landscape design actions and other approaches/best practices for better integration of biodiversity into the urban planning process and landscape architecture practice;
- nature-based solutions and their multiple co-benefits linked to biodiversity aspects;
- methodological approaches (e.g., a variety of participatory processes, research of urban biodiversity, practical implications of biodiversity in design and planning);
- analysis, assessment, and evaluation of urban biodiversity linked to social and educational issues;
- urban conservation policies and their implementation in the development of sustainable cities: practical measures for restoring and maintaining biodiversity in urban areas;
- challenges and opportunities of urban biodiversity (e.g., ongoing climate change, the impact of COVID-19 pandemics, other societal challenges).

Dead-line for abstract submission: 15 June 2022

Abstract acceptance notification: 15 August 2022

Dead-line for registration: 15 September 2022

Registration and abstract submission are now open – please, follow this link:

<https://conference.ufz.de/frontend/index.php?sub=167>

Abstracts will go through the peer-reviewed process with involving URBIO Advisory Board and following publication of the book of abstracts and the conference programme, which will be available at the beginning of the conference. Please use the provided [template](#) (max. 350 words) for your submission.

Call for abstracts and follow-up publications for topic: we are open to receive the submissions for Urban Biodiversity and Design topic announced by *LAND, Sustainability, Urban Sciences, Forests and Diversity* edited by Maria Ignatieva, Diana Dushkova and Charlie Nilon (details can be seen at: <https://www.urbionetwork.com/publication-2022>)

After the conference the academic book “Integrating Biodiversity in Urban Planning and Design Processes” based on papers from the conference participants will be published in respectful academic publishers such as Springer or Taylor and Francis.

Fees (two options available):

- 1) Participation on site (face-to-face):
 - Regular: € 180
 - Reduced Fee (Students, unemployed or retired people): € 130
- 2) Virtual Conference Package:
 - on fee: 50 €

Fees in case of cancellation:

until 23.10.2022: we will refund the fee minus a handling charge of € 15

from 24.10.2022: 100% of the invoice total

Conference committee:

Maria Ignatieva (UWA)

Diana Dushkova (UFZ)

Sonja Knapp (UFZ)

Dagmar Haase (HU Berlin)

Charles Nilon (UoM)

Contact person for questions about the conference:

Maria Ignatieva (UWA): maria.ignatieva@uwa.edu.au

Contact person for all questions related to registration and abstract submission:

Nina Bittorf (UFZ) nina.bittorf@ufz.de

We very much look forward seeing you this November in Leipzig!