

## **21<sup>st</sup> URBIO newsletter – October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012**

Dear colleagues,

Just a few days in front of our 3<sup>rd</sup> URBIO conference in Mumbai we like to share with you the following news

### **1 3<sup>rd</sup> URBIO conference in Mumbai 8<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2012: Urban Biodiversity and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation – latest update of the program**

We are looking for a wonderful conference and interesting days in India. Please see the latest draft of the program <http://www.hss.iitb.ac.in/urbio2012/index.php/programme>

### **2 URBIO Advisory Board meeting during the 3<sup>rd</sup> URBIO conference in Mumbai on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2012**

We will have an URBIO Advisory Board and CBO meeting in the afternoon of the 9<sup>th</sup> October. Important topics to discuss and decide are

1. Further development of the CBO (City Biodiversity Outlook) including a research agenda for urban biodiversity, ecosystem services and design
2. Preparation of URBIO 2014
3. URBIO network personal matters (nomination of new Advisory Board members, further development of the network, possibilities for future funding through CBD parties from Asia etc.)

### **3 Invitation to COP 11 side-event “Best practices for biodiversity conservation in European urban areas”**

The Swiss Federal Office for Environment (FOEN) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) invite you to the side-event “Best practices for biodiversity conservation in European urban areas” during the Eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Hyderabad, India on Friday 12 October from 13:15 – 14:45.

This side-event will promote the exchange of knowledge, lessons-learned and best practices that can contribute to conserve and manage biodiversity and ecosystems and increase the resilience of cities. In addition, the event will raise awareness and demonstrate the economic and social value of ecosystems services for the well-being of urban populations.

If you would like to participate, please send a message to: [christos.tympanaris@iucn.org](mailto:christos.tympanaris@iucn.org)

#### **4 Urban Biosphere Initiative (URBIS) launched**

Recently, at the ICLEI Urban Nature Forum in Belo Horizonte, the Urban Biosphere Initiative (URBIS), was unveiled. URBIS is an open global network connecting scientists, researchers, policy-makers, architects, planners and environmental practitioners from across the world with local and sub-national governments to share, develop and implement ideas for creating more resilient, equitable and sustainable urban regions. The initiative will serve to transcend the science-policy interface, catalyze knowledge-exchange, and spur collaborative action, with the intention of forging harmony between cities and the ecosystems of which they are part. URBIS is therefore posited to contribute to the attainment of the CBD Aichi Targets... Please find out more at: <http://www.urbis.org/>

Also, please find the latest ICLEI newsletter with further information on URBIS, Urban Nature, Rio+20 Outcomes and ICLEI World Congress at

[http://www.iclei.org/index.php?id=12915&utm\\_source=GraphicMail&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=NewsletterLink&utm\\_campaign=CBC%20August%20Newsletter%202012&utm\\_content](http://www.iclei.org/index.php?id=12915&utm_source=GraphicMail&utm_medium=email&utm_term=NewsletterLink&utm_campaign=CBC%20August%20Newsletter%202012&utm_content)

#### **5 PostDoc position Urban Ecology Paris available**

An 18-months postdoc position in evolutionary ecology is available in the laboratory “Ecology and Evolution” at the University of Pierre et Marie Curie in Paris. The postdoc is funded by the “région Ile-de-France” (Paris district). The postdoc research will be part of an interdisciplinary project that aims at studying adaptations developed by organisms living in urban environments. The candidate should have a PhD degree in evolutionary biology or ecology as well as good hands-on skills on bird manipulation. A good background in data analysis (statistics) and experiment design is also recommended. A driving licence is indispensable. All applicants from any nationalities are welcome. The work will be conducted under the supervision of Dr Julien Gasparini and Dr Adrien Frantz... If you are interested, please read more at

<http://www.sfecologie.org/ecodiff/2012/09/07/postdoc-en-ecologie-evolutive-en-milieu-urbain/>

#### **6 Master of Science in Environmental Governance**

We would like to inform you about the open for applications for 2013 academic year of the *Master of Science Programme in Environmental Governance - Specialization in Biodiversity* ([www.ias.unu.edu/masters](http://www.ias.unu.edu/masters)) offered by the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS, [www.ias.unu.edu](http://www.ias.unu.edu)) in Japan. This programme is the first of this kind offered by the United Nations University after the UN General Assembly amended the UNU Charter on December 2009 to allow UNU to grant and confer degrees. The programme counts with the support of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and will be build on the long work of UNU-IAS in the area of biodiversity. The objective is to support an academically grounded and practice-oriented formation in the area of biodiversity to accelerate the implementation of the objectives of the CBD at the different levels (local, national and international).

## 7 Upcoming Conferences

### **3rd Global Energy Basel Summit: New financing for sustainable infrastructure - Strategies for deployment – January 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> 2013 in Basel Switzerland**

The Summit provides a multi-stakeholder environment for discussing effective, solution oriented strategies and policies for financing sustainable infrastructure. It brings together senior decision-makers from the public and private sectors. It showcases good practice for sustainable development in cities, by national governments and the private sector. The Summit serves impact-oriented investors who want to safeguard both their assets and long-term returns by identifying and investing in a pipeline of meaningful and profitable projects. The event incorporates an Investment Forum, where the GEB Graded Infrastructure Projects are presented.

Please read more at: <http://www.globalenergybasel.com/>

### **7th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns: Geneva 2013 – April 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> 2013 in Geneva, Switzerland**

Governance and finance for sustainable development will be at the forefront of the 7th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns, which will take place in the City of Geneva. Geneva will provide a platform to foster critical and creative thinking, and take a step forward to realising sustainable development solutions at all levels. New answers will be sought to address the global financial crisis in the context of sustainable development and international and local governance for sustainability. The conference will offer plenty of learning and networking opportunities as well as the chance to mingle with those at the forefront of sustainable thought, practice, policy and implementation. Read more at

<http://www.sustainablegeneva2013.org>

### **Resilient Cities 2013: Global Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation – May 31<sup>st</sup>-June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013 in Bonn, Germany**

Resilient Cities 2013 welcomes papers for the next year's congress on the following themes:

- Risk and vulnerability assessment
- Adaptation and resilience planning and policy making
- Multi-stakeholder and community-based collaboration
- Governance
- Implementing specific solutions
- Financing resilience

Visit their website now to submit your contribution for a presentation, panel, workshop, poster session, Reality Check Workshop or co-event. The deadline for submissions is 30 November 2012. Please find more information at:

<http://resilient-cities.iclei.org/resilient-cities-hub-site/2013-call-for-contributions/>

## 8 New Literature

### Results from URBIO 2010 published

Various papers from URBIO members with results from URBIO 2010 have been published in Landscape and Urban Planning recently. Also, Landscape and Ecological Engineering will publish further such papers in the near future.

Best wishes from Germany and Japan, we are looking forward to meet you in Mumbai  
Norbert and Mahito

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*(Please be aware that some of the [links](#) may not be working anymore.)*