The conference will summarise scientific and practical approaches towards implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in urban areas in an international context, to raise the profile of this important area of work during the COP 9 meeting in Bonn, Germany (May 2008).

Conference patrons
- Executive Secretary CBD
  Dr. Ahmed Djoghlaf
- Honorary President CONTUREC
  Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Herbert Sukopp

The case for urban biodiversity
- Distinctive characteristic of urban ecosystems
- Centres of evolution and adaptation (e.g. important in context of climate change)
- Complex hotspots and melting pots for biodiversity
- The only biodiversity which many people experience
- Contributing to the quality of life in an increasingly urban global society

Main topics of the conference
- Biodiversity of urban-industrial areas and its evaluation
- Cultural aspects of urban biodiversity
- Social aspects of urban biodiversity
- Urban biodiversity and climate change
- Design and future of urban biodiversity

The conference will include excursions to famous locations demonstrating issues of urban biodiversity and design:
- Historic city Erfurt
- Schöneberger Railway Area, Berlin
- Park An der Ilm, Weimar (UNESCO World Heritage)
- Wartburg near Eisenach (UNESCO World Heritage)

Post conference excursion: National Park Hainich, Western-Thuringia

Conference time and venue
Medieval city of Erfurt, Thuringia, Germany

Conference audience
all disciplines involved in research, planning, design and management of the green urban environment including biologists, ecologists, landscape architects and planners, horticulturists, urban designers and local government administrators.

Arrangement
University of Applied Sciences Erfurt (main organiser) & Natural England on behalf of CONTUREC – COmpetence NeTwork URban Ecology

Supporting societies
- BDLA – Federation of German Landscape Architects
- DGfG – German Geographic Society - working group Urban Ecology
- IAVS – International Association for Vegetation Science
- LE:NOTRE – Thematic Network in Landscape Architecture, Europe

Funding
- Supported by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation with funding from the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany
- University of Applied Sciences Erfurt, Germany
- Natural England, United Kingdom

Further Information:
www.urbio2008.com