

PROGRAM

HERRENHAUSEN CONFERENCE, APRIL 9-11, 2025

INTERNATIONAL URBAN HEALTH SUMMIT

HERRENHAUSEN PALACE, HANOVER, GERMANY

Over 4.4 billion people globally live in urban areas and the urban population is predicted to reach 6.7 billion by 2050, accounting for 70 percent of the world's population. This poses social and environmental challenges that will have disproportionate impacts on the health and wellbeing of citizens, especially of socially and economically disadvantaged communities. The varied and complex nature of urban life can complicate the development and introduction of plans and policies to promote urban health in a holistic manner.

The "International Urban Health Summit" aims to bring together researchers and practitioners to address key issues of urban health through the lens of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The conference will foster interdisciplinary collaboration and knowledge exchange on various aspects of urban health.

Within 6 Plenary Sessions and 6 topic-specific as well as interdisciplinary Breakout Sessions, which consist of Breakout formats, presentations with discussions, artistic Breakouts and other formats, future-oriented questions will be discussed and placed at the center of interest in a holistic view of urban health.

PLENARY 1: URBAN PLANNING & GOVERNANCE

Managing the pace of urbanization and promoting an approach to urban planning that fosters human health and wellbeing are at the core of the issues to be explored in this plenary session. The session will also examine ways to mobilize the political leadership to bring multiple stakeholders to the table. To advance a "Health in All Policies" approach that promotes equity is a critical challenge for the future of cities.

PLENARY 2: BUILT ENVIRONMENT & URBAN HEALTH

The built environment includes the infrastructure for housing, transportation, energy, water and sanitation and digital networking that are critical to safe and effective urban growth. This session will discuss how Rapid advancements in technology, engineering and architecture offer opportunities to create healthier and safer environments and assure equity in access to the provision of these core urban services.

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PLENARY 3: NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & URBAN HEALTH

While cities are the economic engines of the globe and most nations, they also account for the majority of greenhouse gas emissions, solid waste and energy consumption. Climate change further exacerbates urban vulnerabilities, intensifying heat effects, sea level rise and pollution. This session will discuss how a healthy city strives to balance the well-being of people, plants and animals alike.

PLENARY 4: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & URBAN DECISION MAKING

Urban governments aim to respond to the needs of their populations offering opportunities to directly engage with and involve residents in decision making that affects their lives. Community leaders, advocates and organizations are increasingly seen as critical partners in this effort. This session will explore innovative, evidence-based methods to maximize meaningful community engagement in urban decision making.

PLENARY 5: AI & URBAN HEALTH

The rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has enhanced the ability to analyze the vast and complex information that is fundamental to understanding and governing complex urban environments. This session will explore how partnerships across academia, private sector organizations, government and civil society offer unprecedented potential for understanding the critical determinants of health of individuals and populations. Participants will also discuss how these partnerships can provide insights into planning and implementing interventions that can promote health and health equity in cities.

PLENARY 6: EDUCATION & URBAN HEALTH

In today's urban landscape, comprehensive educational strategies are vital for advancing urban health and resilience. The integration of education and health is essential for creating sustainable and resilient urban environments. This session will explore the connections between urban development and health, highlighting the important role of education in the well-being of communities, particularly from the perspective of children and adolescents. A key focus is on promoting inclusive educational strategies that amplify young voices in urban health initiatives, emphasizing participation and the collaborative development of democratic structures. By employing participatory approaches and community engagement, we can develop targeted solutions that address the needs of urban communities. The discussions aim to generate actionable insights to effectively link education and health, fostering resilience and contributing to sustainable urban environments.

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The Plenary Sessions feature 4-6 speakers, including the possibility of an opening impulse of 3-5 minutes followed by a joint discussion.

The "International Urban Health Summit" is part of the Herrenhausen Conference Series initiated by the Volkswagen Foundation. There is no fee for attendance, but registration is essential.

Please visit the summit's website for more information and to register:

<https://www.volkswagenstiftung.de/en/events/international-urban-health-summit>

Or follow our page on the social media platform LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-urban-health-project/>

PROGRAM

APRIL 9, 2025

12.00 REGISTRATION AND LIGHT LUNCH

1.30 WELCOME & INTRODUCING THE PARTNERS

GEORG SCHÜTTE

CEO, Volkswagen Foundation, Hanover, Germany

TEDROS ADHANOM GHEBREYESUS (VIDEO MESSAGE)

Director-General, World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva, Switzerland

ANACLAUDIA ROSSBACH (VIDEO MESSAGE)

Executive Director, UN-Habitat, Nairobi, Kenya

PEGGY HAMBURG

Co-President, InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), Washington DC, USA

JEFFREY L. STURCHIO

Board Chair, International Society for Urban Health (ISUH), Washington, DC, USA

*Chair : **DETLEV GANTEN**, Virchow Foundation, Member for Leopoldina and Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Berlin, Germany*

2.00 SETTING THE SCENE

JO IVEY BOUFFORD

New York University, InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) Urban Health Working Group and International Society for Urban Health (ISUH), New York, USA

DETLEV GANTEN

Virchow Foundation, Member of Leopoldina and Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Berlin, Germany

PETER MCGRATH

InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), Trieste, Italy

OLE PETTER OTTERSEN

Lancet Commission on Global Governance for Health, Oslo, Norway

3.00 COFFEE BREAK

3.30 PLENARY 1 : URBAN PLANNING & GOVERNANCE

MARCUS GRANT

Cities & Health, London, UK

HEIKE KÖCKLER

Bochum University of Applied Sciences / ARL (Academy for Territorial Development in the Leibniz Association), Germany

CARLOS MORENO

IAE Paris-Sorbonne, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris, France

SAMUEL GACHOHI NJUGUNA

UN-Habitat, Nairobi, Kenya

WU ZHIQIANG

Chinese Academy of Engineering, Beijing, China

*Chair : **RAINER FEHR**, Medical Faculty University of Bielefeld, Germany*

PROGRAM

5.00 COFFEE BREAK

5.30 BREAKOUTS 1 : URBAN PLANNING & GOVERNANCE

Breakout A

Urban Planning for Equity and Cities' Resilience

Moderator: HEIKE KÖCKLER, Bochum University of Applied Sciences / ARL (Academy for Territorial Development in the Leibniz Association), Germany

SAINATH BANERJEE, *Urban Plus Solutions, India*

SABINE BAUMGART, *formerly Technical University Dortmund, Germany*

JULIA ESPINOZA, *"Luchadores de Lo Hermida" Santiago de Chile, Chile*

LISA WAEGERLE, *University of Applied Sciences in Bochum, Germany*

DENNIS SCHMIEGE, *Institute for Urban Public Health, Essen, Germany*

Breakout B

Addressing Implementation Gaps

Moderator: CLAUDIA HORNBERG, Medical Faculty University of Bielefeld, Germany and SAMUEL GACHOHI NJUGUNA, UN-Habitat, Nairobi, Kenya

THOMAS CLAßEN, *North Rhine-Westphalia Health Centre (LZG.NRW), Bochum, Germany*

JULIUS FREYMÜLLER, *University Bielefeld, Germany*

FRANZ GATZWEILER, *Bonn University, Germany*

ANNE-LISA HEYE, *University Applied Sciences, Bochum, Germany*

CLAUDIA HORNBERG, *Medical Faculty University of Bielefeld, Germany*

KOLJA LANGE, *Hanover Region, Germany*

Breakout C

Good Practices – small interventions and substantial returns

Moderator: THOMAS WILLEMEIT, GRAFT Architects, Berlin, Germany

ALAWI LUETZ, *Charité - University Hospital Berlin, Germany*

Breakout D

Good governance within the city as a complex system

Moderator: THOMAS GÖTZ, former Secretary of State for Health in the federal states of Berlin and Brandenburg, Germany

DOROTHEA BALTRUKS, *Center for Planetary Health Policy, Berlin, Germany*

JANINE STERNER, *Academy for Social Medicine, Bremen, Germany*

Nature Therapy

Nature Therapy as an Evidence-Based Urban Health Practice

The breakout will take place outside in Herrenhausen Gardens.

The maximum number of participants is 12.

Moderator: LENA GROß, Yoga and Forest Therapist, Berlin, Germany

ART goes Urban Health



VolkswagenStiftung

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*Moderator: **ROMAN KROKE**, Artist, Germany/France*

7.00 POSTER SESSION AND MOVING DINNER

Early Career Researchers present their research:

“University Campus Healthscapes: Introducing Healthy Space Index ‘HSI’ for cultivating healthy built environments”

RANA ABDELKADER, *TU Dresden, Germany*

“Economic burden of extreme heat stress among coastal urban dwellers in Accra, Ghana: an exploratory study”

SAMUEL AMON, *University of Ghana, Ghana*

“Your Emotional City”

SHADI BAGHERZADEH AZBARI, *Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany*

“Youth Priorities in Global Health – A Call to Action”

AHMET BEKISOGLU, *German Youth Delegate to the 78. World Health Assembly, Berlin, Germany*

“Exploring Frugal Digital Twinning as Fulcrum for Smart Cities in Developing Countries: The Case of Ghana”

HENRY DANSO, *Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana*

“Transforming Urban Health: Participatory Strategies for Fostering Neighborhoods' Heat Resilience”

MONICA DECHENE, *Munich Science Communication Lab, LMU Munich, Germany*

“Contrasting patterns of urban population redistribution highlight emerging challenges for sustainable cities”

QIANWEN DUAN, *University of Southampton, UK*

“Climate change and Urban Health”

OVIE EDEGBENE, *Federal University of Health Sciences Otuk-Po, Nigeria*

“Human perception in outdoor and transitional urban spaces”

CHRISTOS GRAPAS, *University of Perugia, Italy*

“Reviving Kampung Landscapes and Urban Agriculture: A Resilient Urban Health Model for Jakarta”

MUHAMMAD AZKA GULSYAN, *Crestpent, IPB University, Indonesia*

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“Clearing the Air: Tackling Diesel Train Pollution in Urban Stations Without Full Electrification”

YUXUAN GUO, *Trinity College Dublin, Ireland*

“Effects of Multiple Outdoor Environmental Factors on Risk of Asthma Exacerbations”

SEUNG WON LEE, *Sungkyunkwan University School of Medicine, Suwon, Korea*

“Planning for Physical Activity in Indian Urban Neighborhoods”

TEJENDRA NAGABHOINA, *Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology (VNIT), Nagpur, India*

“Assessing Heat Exposure and Mental Health Outcomes Using Smartphone-Based Ecological Momentary Assessment in High-Risk Occupational Groups in Vietnam and Nigeria (SEMA-MHo)”

THAO NGUYEN THI PHUONG, *Academy Of Medical Sciences, Vietnam*

“Practical strategies for transitioning into a green city and attaining SDG#11 Status by 2030”. The Case of Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe”

KEITH PHIRI, *National University of Science and Technology, Zimbabwe*

“Public Health Cinema: A New Approach to Health Promotion”

ALEKSANDAR STEVANOVIC, *Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade, Serbia*

“A Climate-Responsive Urban Framework to Enhance Physical Activity and Wellbeing in Urban and Peri-Urban Tropical Settings”

VANITHA THURAIRASU, *Department of Public Health, Perak State Health Department, Ministry of Health, Malaysia*

9.00 END OF THE FIRST DAY

PROGRAM

APRIL 10, 2025

8.30 COFFEE AVAILABLE

9.00 OFFICIALLY OPENING THE DAY WITH WELCOMING REMARKS

CHRISTOPH MARKSCHIES

*President, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities,
Berlin, Germany*

BELIT ONAY

Mayor, City of Hanover, Germany

ELLEN HAUSDÖRFER

State Secretary for Health & Care, City of Berlin, Germany

9.30 PLENARY 2 : BUILT ENVIRONMENT & URBAN HEALTH

MAZDA ADLI

*Interdisciplinary Forum on Neurourbanism, Charité - University Hospital
Berlin, Germany*

LOCANA GUNARATNA, *Sri Lanka Institute of Architects, National Academy
of Sciences, Sri Lanka*

GIL PEÑALOSA

8-80 Cities, Toronto, Canada

JAIME MONTOYA

National Academy of Science and Technology, Taguig City, Philippines

ANNE BACH NIELSEN

University of Copenhagen, Denmark

NATHALIE LAURE ROEBBEL

World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva, Switzerland

*Chair: GISELLE SEBAG, International Society for Urban Health (ISUH), New
York, USA*

10.30 COFFEE BREAK AND POSTER SESSION

11.00 BREAKOUTS 2 : BUILT ENVIRONMENT & URBAN HEALTH

Breakout A

Neurourbanism as a Novel Approach to Urban Mental Health

*Moderator: CLAUDI BOCKTING, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands and
MAZDA ADLI, Charité - University Hospital Berlin, Germany*

REINOUT WIERS, *University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands*

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Breakout B

Informal settlements

*Moderator: **ANTHONY CLAYTON**, University of West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica*

AFTAB AHMAD, National Academy of Young Scientists (NAYS), Pakistan

BLESSING MBERU, African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), Nairobi, Kenya

MODEST MULENGA, Health Research of the Tropical Diseases Centre, Ndola, Zambia

KEFA OTISO, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio, USA

Breakout C

Architecture & Urbanism as the New Frontier of Public Urban Health - how do we know it works?

*Moderator: **STEFANIE MATTHYS**, "European Network Architecture for Health (ENAH)", The Netherlands and **COR WAGENAAR**, Expertise Center Architecture, Urbanism and Health at the University of Groningen, The Netherlands*

Nature Therapy

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*Moderator: **LENA GROß**, Yoga and Forest Therapist, Berlin, Germany*

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12.00 LUNCH

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1.00 PLENARY 3 : NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & URBAN HEALTH

GEORGE CHRISTOPHIDES

Vector Immunogenomics and Infection Laboratory at Imperial College London, UK/Cyprus

GABRIEL DAVID

Technical University Braunschweig, Germany

BRUNO MARQUES

International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA), Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

LEILA NIAMIR

Energy, Climate, and Environment (ECE), International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), Laxenburg, Austria

GEORG SEIFERT

Charité - University Hospital Berlin, Germany

Chair: OURANIA KOSTI, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Washington DC, United States

2.00 BREAKOUTS 3 : NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & URBAN HEALTH

Breakout A

Soil Health – Urban Health: Study Case Metropolitan Area Berlin

Moderators: REINHARD HÜTTL, Eco-Environment Innovation, Berlin, Germany, KATRIN SCHNEIDER, Nantesbuch Soil Initiative, Germany and UWE SCHNEIDER, Eco-Environment Innovation, Berlin, Germany

GEORG GUGGENBERGER, *University of Hannover, Germany*

MARTIN KAUPENJOHANN, *TU Berlin, Germany*

PASCALE ROUAULT, *Water Competence Centre Berlin, Germany*

UWE ULBRICH, *Institute for Meteorology, FU Berlin, Germany*

GEORG SEIFERT, *Charité - University Hospital, Berlin, Germany*

Breakout B

Cities for Everyone: Parks & Trees, Nature Everywhere

Moderator: GIL PEÑALOSA, 8-80 Cities, Toronto, Canada

Breakout C

Climate Change & Urban Health

Moderator: ROBIN FEARS, independent consultant

HASHIM ULRICH HOUNKPATIN, *Cerrhud Research Center, Cotonou, Benin*

PETER MCGRATH, *InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), Trieste, Italy*

LEILA NIAMIR, *International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) Energy, Climate, and Environment (ECE), Laxenburg, Austria*

ANNE BACH NIELSEN, *University of Copenhagen, Denmark*

MARI VAATTOVAARA, *University of Helsinki, Finland*

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Breakout D

Nature and Green Space Interventions – Current Overview of Clinical Evidence

*Moderator: **GEORG SEIFERT**, Integrative Medicine, Charité - University Hospital, Berlin, Germany*

CHRISTIAN KESSLER, Clinical Care, Charité - University Hospital, Competence Center for Traditional and Integrative Medicine (CCCTIM), Berlin, Germany

PASCALE ROUAULT, Competence Center Water Berlin, Germany

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3.00 COFFEE BREAK

3.30 PLENARY 4 : PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & URBAN DECISION MAKING

CHRISTOPHER BAILEY

Arts and Health, World Health Organisation (WHO), Geneva, Switzerland

WALESKA TEIXEIRA CAIFFA

Faculty of Medicine, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, Brazil

JOERG FINGERHUT

Berlin School of Mind and Brain/Department of Philosophy, Humboldt-University Berlin, Germany

ETHAN KENT

PlacemakingX, New York, USA

DAVID NAPIER

University College London, UK

MARI VAATTOVARA

University of Helsinki, Finland

*Chair: **BLESSING MBERU**, African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), Nairobi, Kenya*

5.00 BREAKOUTS 4 : PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & URBAN DECISION MAKING

Breakout A

Achieve your urban health goal using Urban Health Capacities Assessment and Response Resource Kit

*Moderator: **NATHALIE LAURE ROEBBEL**, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland*

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Breakout B

Community Engagement through Arts

Moderator: **STEFAN WILlich**, *Institute for Social Medicine Charité - University Hospital Berlin and World Doctors Orchestra, Germany*

CHRISTOPHER BAILEY, *ARTS AND HEALTH, World Health Organisation (WHO), Geneva, Switzerland*

ROMAN KROKE, *Artist, Germany/France*

ALEKSANDAR STEVANOVIC, *University of Belgrade, Serbia*

Breakout C

Including vulnerable population in decision making

Moderator: **SAROJ JAYASINGHE**, *University of Colombo, Sri Lanka*

SURAJ BHATTARAI, *Global Health Research & Medical Interventions Institute (GLOHMED), Kathmandu, Nepal/ GHR Fellow, LSHTM, UK*

DAVID NAPIER, *University College London, UK*

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6.00 **APERITIF & DINNER**

9.00 **END OF THE SECOND DAY**

APRIL 11, 2025

8.30 **COFFEE AVAILABLE**

9.00 **PLENARY 5 : AI & URBAN HEALTH**

BETTY CHEMIER

UNDP Panama Accelerator Lab, Panama City, Panama

AHMED HASOON

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA

JUDE KONG

Artificial Intelligence and Mathematical Modeling lab (AIMMlab), York University, Toronto, Canada

PETER SPEYER

Data & Analytics at the Novartis Foundation, Basel, Switzerland

KATHRIN WOLF

Helmholtz Munich, Germany

Chair: **ALIOSCHA BURCHARDT**, *AI and Language Technology, German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI), Berlin, Germany*

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10.00 BREAKOUTS 5 : AI & URBAN HEALTH

Breakout A

Zooming in: Local Perspective in SDG indicators and data justice

*Moderator: **JULIA MAYER**, SmartCity Living Lab, German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI), Berlin, Germany*

Breakout B

“UHeal” – towards an AI assistant for Urban Health

*Moderator: **JOCHEN BUETTNER**, Max Planck Institute of Geoanthropology, Germany*

Breakout C

AI for chronic disease prevention in cities

*Moderator: **PETER SPEYER**, Head of Data & Analytics at the Novartis Foundation, Basel, Switzerland*

Breakout Session D

Initiative18

*Moderator: **KLAUS-PETER SCHULZ**, “Die Mediaagenturen e.V.”, Berlin, Germany*

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11.00 COFFEE BREAK

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11.30 PLENARY 6 : EDUCATION & URBAN HEALTH

CAMILLE MBA

University of Yaounde, Cameroon

ESTHER PRESILLA DANQUAH

Health Service, Kpone Katamanso Municipality, Ghana

ATIYA MOSAM

Mayibuye Health and University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

KEIKO NAKAMURA

Institute of Science, Tokyo, Japan

TANIA SINGER

Laboratory Social Neuroscience, Max Planck Society Berlin, Germany

Chair: ANNETTE GRÜTERS-KIESLICH, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Berlin, European Federation of Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA), Germany

12.30 FINAL PLENARY : WRAP UP, NEXT STEPS AND CLOSING REMARKS

Wrap-up of the Plenaries

JO IVEY BOUFFORD

New York University, InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) Urban Health Working Group and International Society for Urban Health (ISUH), New York, USA

PEGGY HAMBURG

InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), Washington DC, USA

CHRISTOPH MARKSCHIES

Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Berlin, Germany

Chair: JEFFREY L. STURCHIO, International Society for Urban Health (ISUH), Washington, DC, USA

2.00 LUNCH

3.00 END OF SUMMIT