



Horizon 2020 European Dialogue and Clustering Action
*Transforming cities, enhancing wellbeing: innovating with
nature-based solutions*

A Coruña (Spain), 16-18 May, 2018

Fundación Barrié, Cantón Grande, 9, A Coruña

PROGRAMME

Wednesday 16th May

Topic of the day

TIME

SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION IN CITIES AND RESTORATION OF DEGRADED ECOSYSTEMS

8:00	FLOOR 0	REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS
8:45-09:20	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p>OPENING AND WELCOME</p> <p>Julio Abalde Alonso, Rector of the University of Coruna, Spain</p> <p>Ricardo Garcia Mira, President of the International Association of People-Environment Studies, University of A Coruña, Spain</p> <p>Adina Dumitru, CONNECTING NATURE, University of A Coruña, Spain</p> <p>Nikos Nikolaidis, THINK NATURE, Technical University of Crete, Greece</p> <p>Miguel Aymerich, Deputy Director General of Natural Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and Environment, Spain</p> <p>Beatriz Mato Otero, Conselleira de Medio Ambiente e Ordenación do Territorio, Xunta de Galicia, Spain</p> <p>Xulio Ferreiro, Mayor of A Coruña City Council, Spain</p>
09:20-9:30	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p>INTRODUCTION TO THE EUROPEAN DIALOGUE ON NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS</p> <p>Adina Dumitru, CONNECTING NATURE, University of A Coruña, Spain</p>
09:30-10:00	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p>EUROPEAN RESEARCH AGENDA FOR NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS</p> <p>Josefina Enfedaque, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission, Belgium</p> <p>Ariana Nastaseanu, Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME), European Commission, Belgium</p> <p>Giovanni Fini, Co-Chair of the EU Urban Agenda Partnership on Land-use and Nature-based solutions, City of Bologna, Italy</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> Marcus Collier, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland</p> <p><i>Note taker:</i> Siobhan McQuaid</p>
10:00-11:30		CITIES SUMMIT (I) ¹

¹ Cities Summit parallel sessions consist of 45 minutes of presentations and 45 minutes of discussion with participants.

	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p><i>Nature-based solutions at different scales</i></p> <p>Anna Levonmaa, City of Tampere, Finland</p> <p>Maria Rosario "Cherry" Chan, Lafarge Holcim, Switzerland</p> <p>Christian Artelt, European Construction, built environment and energy efficient building Technology Platform, Belgium</p> <p>Tom Armour, Arup Landscape Architecture, United Kingdom</p> <p><i>Discussant: Denia Kolokotsa</i>, Technical University of Crete, Greece</p> <p><i>Note taker: Katerina Lili</i></p>
	ROOM 1 FLOOR 1	<p><i>The role of Cultural Heritage in renaturing cities: Learning from the past, designing for the future</i></p> <p>Matthias Ripp, Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg, Germany</p> <p>Aitziber Egusquiza Ortega, Tecnalia, Spain</p> <p>Giovanni Fini, City of Bologna, Italy</p> <p><i>Discussant: Sara Van Rompaey</i>, E2ARC, Belgium</p> <p><i>Note taker: Eleni Goni</i></p>
	ROOM 2 FLOOR 1	<p><i>Actions on the regional and local levels. What can ThinkNature do – the Platform, the regional Think&Do Tanks and the Local Representatives?</i></p> <p>Mihai Razvan Nita, University of Bucharest, Romania</p> <p>Zuzana Hudekova, Bratislava Municipality, Karlova Ves, Slovakia</p> <p>Alice Reil, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability Europe, Germany</p> <p>Gillian Dick, City of Glasgow, Scotland</p> <p><i>Discussant: Juraj Jurik</i>, Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation (GIB), Switzerland</p> <p><i>Note taker: Marleen Lodder</i></p>
11:30-12:00	FLOOR -2	COFFEE BREAK
12:00-13:30		CITIES SUMMIT (II) ²
	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p><i>The role of ecosystem restoration in increasing resilience and contributing to human wellbeing</i></p> <p>Peter de Ruiter, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands</p> <p>Marco Fritz, European Commission, Belgium</p> <p>Frederic Lemaitre, Biodiversa, France</p>

² Cities Summit parallel sessions consist of 45 minutes of presentations and 45 minutes of discussion with participants

	<i>Discussant: Nikolaos Nikolaidis, Technical University of Crete, Greece</i> <i>Note taker: Maria Lili</i>	
ROOM 1 FLOOR 1	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Benefits of ecosystem restoration</i></p> <p>Fernando Magdaleno, Centre for Studies and Experimentation on Public Works (CEDEX), Spain</p> <p>Victor Beumer, Deltares, Netherlands</p> <p>Veronica Ruiz, IUCN-International Union for Conservation of Nature, Switzerland</p> <p><i>Discussant: Stavros Stagakis, Foundation for Research and Technology, Greece</i></p> <p><i>Note taker: Nektarios Chrysoulakis</i></p>	
ROOM 2 FLOOR 1	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Innovative techniques for restoring and reclaiming rural land</i></p> <p>Paula Novo, Scotland Rural College, UK</p> <p>Heather Elgar, West England Nature Partnership, UK</p> <p>Polona Pengal, Revivo Institute for Ichthyological and Ecological Research, Slovenia</p> <p><i>Discussant: Steve Banwart, University of Leeds, UK</i></p> <p><i>Note taker: Benjamin Rabb</i></p>	
13:30-14:30	<p>NH Restaurant</p> <p>LUNCH</p>	
14:30-15:30	<p>FLOOR -2</p> <p>Nature-based Enterprise Expo & Pitch Battle³ <u>Coffee will be served here</u></p>	<p>Poster Exhibition <u>Coffee will be served here</u></p>
15:30-16:15	<p style="text-align: center;">EU-BRAZIL SECTOR DIALOGUE ON NBS</p> <p>Tiago Freitas, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission, Belgium</p> <p>Guilherme Wiedman, Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communication, Brazil</p> <p>Cristiano Cagnin, CGEE – Strategic Studies and Management Centre, Brazil</p> <p>Cecilia Herzog, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</p> <p>Carmen Rosado, VTT Technical Research Centre, Finland</p> <p>Augusto Mozine, Vila Velha University, Brazil</p> <p><i>Moderator: Nikolaos Nikolaidis, Technical University of Crete, Greece</i></p> <p><i>Note taker: Niki Frantzeskaki</i></p>	

³ More info about the NB Enterprise Expo [here](#)

16:15-17:00	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p style="text-align: center;">PAVING THE WAY FOR SHARING THE EUROPEAN NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS EXPERIENCE WITH THE WORLD</p> <p>Kate Reilly, Grow Green project, IUCN-International Union for Conservation of Nature, Belgium</p> <p>Raúl Sánchez, URBAN GreenUP project, Cartif, Spain</p> <p>Sami Kazi, UNaLab project, VTT Technical Research Center, Finland</p> <p>Alice Reil, Connecting Nature project, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability Europe, Germany</p> <p><i>Moderators: Alice Reil</i>, ICLEI Europe, Germany</p> <p><i>Note taker: Shreya Utkarsh</i></p>
17:00-17:30	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p style="text-align: center;">OVERCOMING BARRIERS, ENHANCING BEST PRACTICE</p> <p>Nick Pearce, University of Bath, UK</p> <p><i>Presenter: Ricardo García Mira</i>, University of A Coruña, Spain</p> <p><i>Wrapping up, key messages of the day</i></p> <p>Denia Kolokotsa, Technical University of Crete, Greece</p> <p><i>Note taker: Marcus Collier</i></p>
17:30-20:00	ENTRANCE FLOOR 0	<p style="text-align: center;">GUIDED EXCURSION TO VISIT A LOCAL NATURE-BASED SOLUTION⁴</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Organized by the Council of A Coruña</i></p>

⁴ Information about the Nature - Based Excursions can be found [here](#).

Thursday 17th May

Topic of the day

TIME

ROBUST ASSESSMENT OF NATURE-BASED SOLUTION IMPACTS: CREATING THE EVIDENCE BASE TO INFORM URBAN POLICY- MAKING

8:30	FLOOR 0	REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS
09:00-09:30	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p>TOWARDS A REFERENCE FRAMEWORK FOR NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>David Maddox, The Nature of Cities, USA Gillian Dick, City of Glasgow, Scotland <i>Moderator: Adina Dumitru</i>, University of A Coruña, Spain <i>Note taker: Stuart Connop</i></p>
09:30-10:30	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p>IMPACTS OF NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS: DEVELOPING THE EVIDENCE BASE</p> <p>Andreas Littkopf, Environment Agency Austria (EAA), Austria Jennifer Senick, Rutgers Center for Green Building, USA Kate Reilly, IUCN-International Union for Conservation of Nature, Belgium Adina Dumitru, University of A Coruña, Spain <i>Moderator: Marcus Collier</i>, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland <i>Note taker: Irina Macsinga</i></p>
10:30-11:00	FLOOR -2	COFFEE BREAK
11:00-12:30	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p>CITIES SUMMIT (III) ⁵</p> <p><i>Innovative methodologies for continuous monitoring and support of the evaluation of nature based-solutions</i></p> <p>Catharina Bamps, DG GROW, European Commission, Belgium Mattia Marconcini, Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V. (DLR), Germany Stavros Stagakis, Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas, Greece <i>Discussant: Nektarios Chrysoulakis</i>, Foundation for Research and Technology, Greece</p>

⁵ Cities Summit parallel sessions consist of 45 minutes of presentations and 45 minutes of discussion with participants.

		<i>Note taker: Stavros Stagakis</i>	
	ROOM 1 FLOOR 1	<p><i>Innovative methods for health and wellbeing impact evaluation through nature-based solutions</i></p> <p>Julie Barnett, University of Bath, UK Clare Twigger-Ross, Collingwood Environmental Planning, UK Adina Dumitru, University of A Coruna, Spain <i>Discussant: Irina Macsinga</i>, West University of Timisoara, Romania <i>Note taker: Emma Siddal</i></p>	
	ROOM 2 FLOOR 1	<p><i>Nature-based solutions for leisure: what impact and for whom?</i></p> <p>Agnieszka Dziubała, Poznań City Council, Poland María García, A Coruña City Council, Spain Angela Castrechini, Universitat de Barcelona, Spain <i>Discussant: Leiqing XU</i>, Tongji University, Shanghai, China <i>Note taker : Nadine Galle</i></p>	
12:30-13:30	NH Restaurant	LUNCH	
13:30-14:30	FLOOR -2	<p>Nature-based Enterprise Expo & Pitch Battle⁶ <u>Coffee will be served here</u></p>	<p>Poster Exhibition <u>Coffee will be served here</u></p>
14:30-16:00		CITIES SUMMIT (IV)⁷	
	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p><i>Stimulating innovation through platforms for monitoring and evaluation of nature-based solutions</i></p> <p>Jonathan Porter, OPPLA, UK Victor Beumer, Deltares, Netherlands Peter Roebeling, University of Aveiro, Portugal Marta Rica, Icatelist, Spain <i>Discussant: Mamuka Gvilava</i>, Geographic, Georgia <i>Note taker: Isobel Fletcher</i></p>	
	ROOM 1 FLOOR 1	<p><i>Creating multiple benefits for nature-based solutions for water management</i></p> <p>Agnieszka Dziubała, Poznań City Council, Poland Bart Van Gassen, Tractebel-Engie for Genk City Council, Belgium Elena López-Gunn, Icatelist, Spain</p>	

⁶ More info about the NB Enterprise Expo [here](#)

⁷ Cities Summit sessions consist of 45 minutes of presentations and 45 minutes of discussion with participants.

		<p>Laura Wendling, VTT Technical Research Centre, Finland <i>Discussant: Paula Vandergert</i>, University of East London, United Kingdom <i>Note taker: Coralía Sulea</i></p>
	ROOM 2 FLOOR 1	<p>Designing green infrastructures in Galicia: challenges for ecological and social impact assessment</p> <p>Cristina García-Fontán, University of A Coruña, Spain Amparo Casares-Gallego, University of A Coruña, Spain María García, A Coruña City Council, Spain Xan Duro, Council of Santiago de Compostela, Spain Alfredo Fernández, Instituto de Estudos do Territorio- Xunta de Galicia, Spain <i>Discussant: Isabel Lema Banco</i>, University of A Coruña, Spain <i>Note taker: Cian White</i></p>
16:00-16:30	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p>OVERCOMING BARRIERS, ENHANCING BEST PRACTICE</p> <p>Julie Delcroix, DG Research & innovation, European Commission, Belgium</p> <p><i>Wrapping up, key messages of the day:</i> Adina Dumitru, University of A Coruna, Spain</p>
16:30-18:00	FLOOR -2	<p>EARLY CAREER WORKSHOP⁸</p>
16:30-19:30		<p>EU R&I TASKFORCE MEETINGS Sustainable cities through nature-based solutions. From Projects to Policies</p>
	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p>Taskforce I: "Data Management and EU NBS Knowledge Repository" <i>Facilitated by: Nikos Nikolaidis (TUC) and Marco Fritz (DG RTD)</i></p>
	ROOM 1 FLOOR 1	<p>Taskforce II: "NBS Impact Evaluation Framework version 2.0" <i>Facilitated by: Denia Kolokotsa (TUC) and Tiago Freitas (DG RTD)</i></p>
	ROOM 2 FLOOR 1	<p>Taskforce III: "Governance, Business Models and Financial Mechanisms" <i>Facilitated by: Steven Banwart (ULEEDS) and Julie Delcroix (DG RTD)</i></p>
	ROOM 3	<p>Taskforce IV: "Communication and NBS Branding Coordination" <i>Facilitated by: David Struik (ISOCARP) and Josefina Enfedaque (DG RTD)</i></p>

⁸ More information about the Early Career Workshop [here](#).

	FLOOR 1	
19:30- 21:00	ENTRANCE FLOOR 0	A CORUÑA GUIDED CITY TOUR <i>A nice walking tour around the historical part of the city</i>

Friday 18th May

Topic of the day

TIME

ENHANCING INNOVATION POTENTIAL THROUGH NEW GOVERNANCE AND FUNDING MODELS FOR NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

8:30	FLOOR 0	REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS
09:00-10:00	AUDITORIUM	FINANCING AND BUSINESS MODELS FOR NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS
	FLOOR 0	<p><i>Introduction</i></p> <p>Siobhán McQuaid, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland</p> <p>Jean Marc Tacnet, IRSTEA- National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture, France</p> <p>Jan Rasmussen, City of Copenhagen, Denmark</p> <p>Kristyna Pelikanova, European Investment Bank, Luxemburg</p> <p><i>Moderator: Steve Banwart</i>, University of Leeds, UK</p> <p><i>Note-taker: Stuart Connop</i></p>
10:00-11:00	AUDITORIUM	CO-CREATION AS GOVERNANCE FOR EMBEDDING NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS IN CITIES
	FLOOR 0	<p>Niki Frantzeskaki, Dutch Research Institute for Transitions, Netherlands</p> <p>Katrien van de Sijpe, Genk City Council, Belgium</p> <p>Marino Cavallo, Città Metropolitana di Bologna, Italy</p> <p>Alice Reil, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, Germany</p> <p><i>Moderator: Marleen Lodder</i>, Dutch Research Institute for Transitions, Netherlands</p> <p><i>Note taker: Irina Macsinga</i></p>
11:00-11:30	FLOOR -2	COFFEE BREAK
11:30-13:00		CITIES SUMMIT (V) ⁹

⁹ Cities Summit parallel sessions consist of 45 minutes of presentations and 45 minutes of discussion with participants.

	AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p>City-led solutions to financing nature-based solutions and business models for sustainability</p> <p>Paula Vandergert (UEL), presenting London Barking Riverside Community Interest Company, UK</p> <p>Anna Levonmaa, presenting UNaLab value chain analysis approach, Finland</p> <p>Jan Rasmussen, presenting NAIAD insurance payment model, Denmark,</p> <p>Discussant: Siobhan McQuaid, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland</p> <p><i>Note taker:</i> Cian White</p>	
	ROOM 1 FLOOR 1	<p>Climate change and mitigation “by Nature”: co-creating nature-based solutions for sustainable urban quality and well-being</p> <p>Emeline Bailly, Dorothée Marchand & Raphael Jean, Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment, France</p> <p>Marc Barra, Paris Region, France</p> <p>Ricardo García Mira, University of A Coruña, Spain</p> <p><i>Discussants:</i> Ricardo García Mira & Marc Barra</p> <p><i>Note taker:</i> Raphaël Jean</p>	
	ROOM 2 FLOOR 1	<p>Pushing boundaries in city-making: indicators for transformative organizations</p> <p>Stuart Connop, University of East London, UK</p> <p>Irina Macsinga, West University of Timisoara, Romania</p> <p>Coralia Sulea, West University of Timisoara, Romania</p> <p><i>Discussant:</i> Irina Macsinga, West University of Timisoara, Romania</p> <p><i>Note taker:</i> Emma Siddal</p>	
13:00-14:00	NH Restaurant	LUNCH	
14:00-14:30	FLOOR -2	<p>Pitch Battle Prize: “Most Innovative NBE 2018”¹⁰ <u>Coffee will be served here</u></p>	<p>Poster Exhibition <u>Coffee will be served here</u></p>
14:30-15:30		CITIES SUMMIT (VI)	
	ROOM 1 FLOOR 1	<p>Innovation in nature-based solutions: The Adaptation Support Tool (AST)</p> <p>Ellie Tonks, Climate-KIC, Germany</p> <p>Victor Beumer, Deltares, Netherlands</p> <p><i>Discussant:</i> Ellie Tonks, Climate-KIC, UK</p>	

¹⁰ More info [here](#)

15:30-
16:15

<i>Note taker: Nadine Galle</i>	
AUDITORIUM FLOOR 0	<p style="text-align: center;">OVERCOMING BARRIERS, ENHANCING BEST PRACTICE</p> <p>José Juan Díaz Trillo, President of the Climate Change Commission, Spanish Parliament</p> <p>José Manuel Silva Rodríguez, former European Commission's Director General for Research and Innovation, Spain</p> <p>María Garcia Gomez, Environmental Division, A Coruña City Council, Spain</p> <p><i>Moderator: Ricardo García Mira</i>, University of A Coruña, Spain</p> <p><i>Wrapping up, key messages of the day:</i></p> <p>Niki Frantzeskaki, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands</p> <p><i>Next steps: roadmap for action:</i></p> <p>Adina Dumitru, University of A Coruña, Spain</p>

DESCRIPTION OF THE SESSIONS

CITIES SUMMIT (I)¹¹

16/05/2018 - 10:00-11:30

Nature-based solutions at different scales

Anna Levonmaa, City of Tampere, Finland

Maria Rosario "Cherry" Chan, Lafarge Holcim, Switzerland

Christian Artelt, European Construction, built environment and energy efficient building Technology Platform, Belgium

Tom Armour, Arup Landscape Architecture, United Kingdom

Note taker: **Katerina Lili**

Description of the session. The scope of this session to collect information about the NBS infrastructure focusing on buildings at district and city level. Specifically, the case studies should be highlighted, emphasizing in the advantages and barriers resulting from the development of NBS. It should also be made clear how the NBS affected the human health and wellbeing and the global working potential. The subtopics that will be discussed are the following: Green walls, Green roofs, Rain gardens (focusing on buildings and individual infrastructure); Meadows, Urban trees and woodlands (district level); Re-use of abandoned green and grey areas (district level); New materials for NBS: which are they and their benefits linked to the region of utilization, sustainability of materials as well as biotic materials (Plants and abiotic materials and their sustainability, especially GWP (Global Warming Potential)

Audience targeted: Researchers / City Planners / Market Actors & Businesses / Architects

The role of Cultural Heritage in renaturing cities: Learning from the past, designing for the future

Matthias Ripp, Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg, Germany

Aitziber Egusquiza Ortega, Tecnalia, Spain

Giovanni Fini, City of Bologna, Italy

Discussant: **Sara Van Rompaey**, E2ARC, Belgium

Note taker: **Eleni Goni**

Description of the session: Cultural Heritage is a key component of European cities. The scope of this Session is to highlight the importance of introducing Cultural Heritage in an integrated approach for renaturing cities. Nature Based Solutions taking into account and inspired by Cultural Heritage will be presented through different Case Studies. The co-benefits of using cultural heritage as a driving force in renaturing cities will be analysed whereas best practices as well as failure factors will be explored. Innovative approaches and recommendations towards the upscaling of NBS with respect to Cultural Heritage will be identified. All the above will be achieved through three brainstorming exercises which will allow the valuable exchange of knowledge and experiences between the participants and the invited speakers/ moderators. The anticipated outcomes of the sessions include feedback regarding: Identification of the co-benefits of using cultural heritage as a driving force in renaturing cities; Examples of NBS case studies using Cultural Heritage in renaturing cities; Analysis of barriers (eg financial, technical, technological, legislative); Presentation of best practices; Recommendations regarding EC policy and R&I priorities

Audience targeted: Researchers, City planners, Architects, Landscape Architects, Representatives of local authorities, Heritage experts, Policy makers

¹¹ Cities Summit parallel sessions consist of 45 minutes of presentations and 45 minutes of discussion with participants.

Actions on the regional and local levels. What can ThinkNature do – the Platform, the regional Think&Do Tanks and the Local Representatives?

Mihai Razvan Nita, University of Bucharest, Romania

Zuzana Hudekova, Bratislava Municipality, Karlova Ves, Slovakia

Alice Reil, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability Europe, Germany

Gillian Dick, City of Glasgow, Scotland

Discussant: **Juraj Jurik**, Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation (GIB), Switzerland

Note taker: **Marleen Lodder**

Description of the session. The scope of this session is to collect information about how Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) could successfully proliferate at the regional and local level. More specifically, the session aims to set the stage for a systematic mainstreaming and institutionalisation of NBS, by assisting local authorities (and others stakeholders) to integrate these new approaches into their development plans, policies and strategies. The session also aims to explore the drivers and barriers to a further integration of NBS. One of the key questions is how ThinkNature Platform and the members of the platform can assist and make mainstreaming easier.

Audience targeted: Researchers, City planners, Architects, Market Actors & Businesses

CITIES SUMMIT (II)¹²

16/05/2018 - 12:00- 13:30

The role of ecosystem restoration in increasing resilience and contributing to human wellbeing

Peter de Ruiter, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Marco Fritz, European Commission, Belgium

Frederic Lemaitre, Biodiversa, France

Discussant: **Nikolaos Nikolaidis**, Technical University of Crete, Greece

Note taker: **Maria Lili**

Description of the session. The scope of this session is to exchange and collect knowledge on the role of ecosystem restoration in increasing resilience and contributing to human wellbeing. In this session, 6 prepared posters will be provided with each poster representing specific groups of environmental goods and service (e.g. water regulation to mitigate flood and drought risks, climate regulation with carbon and nitrogen storage in biomass and soil, soil fertility for biomass production; water quality improvement, landscape cultural value, improve terrestrial biodiversity). The posters will have been completed with the appropriate information about NBS techniques, corresponding ecosystem services and the role of biodiversity. 2 exercises will be conducted among the participants. Actions needed for NBS to enhance ecosystem services and biodiversity and to increase resilience and wellbeing will be discussed. Moreover, the approaches and governance systems that can reinforce the capacity to innovate with NBS to develop and deploy them and to overcome trade-offs will be discussed.

Audience targeted: Researchers, City planners, Architects, Market Actors & Businesses, Policy-makers

¹² Cities Summit parallel sessions consist of 45 minutes of presentations and 45 minutes of discussion with participants.

Benefits of ecosystem restoration

Fernando Magdaleno, Centre for Studies and Experimentation on Public Works (CEDEX), Spain

Victor Beumer, Deltares, Netherlands

Veronica Ruiz, IUCN-International Union for Conservation of Nature, Switzerland

Discussant: **Stavros Stagakis**, Foundation for Research and Technology, Greece

Note taker: **Nektarios Chrysoulakis**

Description of the session. The session will include introductory talks by ecosystem restoration experts, panel discussion and brainstorming by the participants. The scope is to exchange knowledge on the benefits of NBS activities on ecosystem restoration. The state-of-the-art on the types and methods of ecosystem restoration will be presented and discussed, focussing on innovative NBS practices and specific NBS case studies. Some of the topics covered by the session will be: Best practices and exemplary NBS case studies of ecosystem restoration; Multiple benefits per NBS action and ecosystem type; Prioritization of NBS activities per region, targeting to maximum benefit; Technology readiness level and technical solutions for NBS deployment in ecosystem level; Upscaling/replication methods; Barrier identification.

Audience targeted: Researchers, City planners, Architects, Market Actors & Businesses, Engineers, Ecosystem management actors, Policy makers, End-users & Authorities

Innovative techniques for restoring and reclaiming rural land

Paula Novo, Scotland Rural College, UK

Heather Elgar, West England Nature Partnership, UK

Polona Pengal, Revivo Institute for Ichthyological and Ecological Research, Slovenia

Discussant: **Steve Banwart**, University of Leeds, UK

Note taker: **Benjamin Rabb**

Description of the session. Participants will be introduced to a few case study examples of where innovative NBS techniques have been used for restoring and reclaiming rural land. These example restoration and reclamation techniques will be practical and policy related, each with the purpose of providing co-benefits to the urban environment and inhabitants. Following this brief introduction, the session will guide participants through a structured process of: Identifying their own examples of innovative NBS techniques for restoring and reclaiming rural ecosystems; Assessing the potential of innovative NBS techniques to make an impact (e.g. through multiple co-benefits in urban areas); Exploring how demonstration projects and research & innovation can accelerate uptake; understanding policy barriers to mainstreaming.

Audience targeted: Researchers, City planners, Architects, Market Actors & Businesses, Policy-makers

CITIES SUMMIT (III) ¹³

17/05/2018 – 11:00 - 12:30

Innovative methodologies for continuous monitoring and support of the evaluation of nature based-solutions

Catharina Bamps, DG Grow, European Commission, Belgium

Mattia Marconcini, Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V. (DLR), Germany

Stavros Stagakis, Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas, Greece

Discussant: **Nektarios Chrysoulakis**, Foundation for Research and Technology, Greece

Note taker: **Stavros Stagakis**

Description of the session: The session explores innovative applications for monitoring nature-based solutions based on Earth Observation (EO). Satellites can provide vast information in both spatial and temporal scales that is proved valuable for monitoring the changes in the land cover and also the environmental effects of NBS. EO can be used for supporting evidence-based NBS and more specifically to setup a robust monitoring scheme to both short and long-term monitor the performance and quantitative assess the impact of the deployed NBS against well-defined baselines. The EO-derived information is not static, but it rather captures the state of the environment (supporting the evaluation of baseline or state indicators) of a targeted area and then regularly updated to monitor the changes caused by planning interventions (supporting the evaluation of change indicators). Thus, EO can deliver affordable, high quality environmental impact information (supporting the evaluation of impact indicators), based on the modern satellite missions. To this end the potential of European Copernicus Sentinels system is unique. The session includes examples EO-based applications on urban and natural environment and highlights the enormous emerging capabilities of EO in monitoring and evaluating the environmental effects of NBS.

Audience targeted: Researchers, City planners, Architects, Market Actors & Businesses, Policy-makers

Innovative methods for health and wellbeing impact evaluation through nature-based solutions

Julie Barnett, University of Bath, UK

Clare Twigger-Ross, Collingwood Environmental Planning, UK

Adina Dumitru, University of A Coruna, Spain

Discussant: **Irina Macsinga**, West University of Timisoara, Romania

Note taker: **Emma Siddal**

Description of the session: This session will delve into the complex conceptualizations of health and wellbeing impacts of nature-based solutions. It will discuss the evidence on the health-related impacts that can be attributed to specific nature-based solutions and the main challenges in their assessment. A critical review of the literature of health indicators unveils the following issues: lack of clear distinctions between direct and indirect impacts, process versus outcomes, pathways and intermediate mechanisms, differential effects on social groups.

We will discuss how these issues might be addressed by looking at:

- Challenges and methods for the evaluation of complexity and multiple causality

¹³ Cities Summit parallel sessions consist of 45 minutes of presentations and 45 minutes of discussion with participants.

- Pathways between nature-based solutions and health outcomes
- Differential health effects on particular social groups
- Ways to assess and monitor health and wellbeing impacts of nature-based solutions
- Conceptualizations and measurement of social factors influencing health and wellbeing
- Amplifiers and trade-offs between impacts

Nature-based solutions for leisure: what impact and for whom?

Agnieszka Dziubała, Poznań City Council, Poland

María García, A Coruña City Council, Spain

Angela Castrechini, Universitat de Barcelona, Spain

Discussant: **Leiqing XU, Tongji university, Shanghai, China**

Note taker: **Nadine Galle**

Description of the session. The scope of this session is to explore and collect knowledge on the benefits and challenges of green infrastructures and nature-based solutions for leisure that aims to achieve inclusion and social cohesion impact. Empirical experiences on three cities A Coruña, Genk and Barcelona, will be presented in the first part of the session. After short presentations, open discussion with the audience will focus on the best practices and robust assessment for:

- The improvement of social justice through different of green infrastructures.
- The impact of green infrastructures in the urban transformation and the promotion of social cohesion.
- The participatory budget and bottom-up initiatives as examples of civic engagement.

CITIES SUMMIT (IV) ¹⁴

17/05/2018 - 14:30- 16:00

Stimulating innovation through platforms for monitoring and evaluation of nature-based solutions

Jonathan Porter, OPPLA, UK

Victor Beumer, Deltares, Netherlands

Peter Roebeling, University of Aveiro, Portugal

Marta Rica, Icatelist, Spain

Discussant: **Mamuka Gvilava, Geographic, Georgia**

Note taker: **Isobel Fletcher**

Description of the session: This session aims to contribute to the design of the best mechanisms and instruments for the robust assessment of nature-based solutions impacts and creating the evidence based to inform and implement urban policies. This session will gather together four experts in the development of platforms for monitoring and assess nature-based solutions. Some of the topics discussed will revolve around:

- Innovation through platforms for monitoring and evaluations of nature-based solutions

¹⁴ Cities Summit parallel sessions consist of 45 minutes of presentations and 45 minutes of discussion with participants.

- Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and open-source data;
- Indicators for assessment and monitoring of nature-based solutions
- Multiscale strategies of assessment in urban areas

Creating multiple benefits for nature-based solutions for water management

Agnieszka Dziubała, Poznań City Council, Poland

Bart Van Gassen, Tractebel-Engie for Genk City Council, Belgium

Elena López-Gunn, Icatelist, Spain

Laura Wendling, VTT Technical Research Centre, Finland

Discussant: **Paula Vandergert**, University of East London, United Kingdom

Note taker: **Coralía Sulea**

Description of the session: The scope of this session is a combination of urban experiences in water management and the empirical approaches of European projects in risk assessment and climate change adaptation. Poznań City and Genk City will present nature-based solutions experiences on water management and mitigation of flood issues. On the other hand, experts on water management will present their experiences in the development of research projects related to:

- Largely on green-grey solutions for multiscale stormwater management in urban areas
- Nature-based water treatment technologies and water adaptation to climate change, water accounting, risk impact assessment
- Multiscale strategies of assessment in urban areas

Designing green infrastructures in Galicia: challenges for ecological and social impact assessment

Cristina García-Fontán, University of A Coruña, Spain

Amparo Casares-Gallego, University of A Coruña, Spain

María García Gómez, A Coruña City Council, Spain

Xan Duro, Council of Santiago de Compostela, Spain

Alfredo Fernández, Instituto de Estudos do Territorio- Xunta de Galicia, Spain.

Discussant: **Isabel Lema Banco**, University of A Coruña, Spain

Note taker: **Cian White**

Description of the session. The scope of this session is to exchange and collect knowledge on the benefits of NBS activities on on green infrastructure, connectivity and ecosystem restoration. Different types and methods of ecosystem restoration will be presented and discussed, focussing on innovative NBS practices and specific NBS Galician successful experiences and ongoing projects on green infrastructure. The best practices and exemplary NBS case studies of ecosystem restoration include:

- Identification of multiple benefits of NBS in the city of Santiago de Compostela: (a) The restoration of a historical park in the historical center of Santiago de Compostela, with sustainable drainage systems and water management and (b) the Green Corridor that connects Bonaval Park and Almaciga park, the connectivity of the green and vegetable gardens, which play an important role in the neighbourhood relations. (c) Regeneration of Monte do Gozo's metropolitan park that includes new functions to connect with the city and the pilgrims and where the ecological restoration and water management was implemented.

- Green infrastructure strategy of the city of Santiago de Compostela. Challenges and future projects.
- Green infrastructure projects and challenges in the municipality of Corunna, starting with the presentation of the biodiversity map and the strategy of green infrastructure.
- Green Infrastructure participatory design process promoted by the regional government of Xunta de Galicia.

Audience targeted: Researchers, City planners, Architects, Policy-makers

CITIES SUMMIT (V) ¹⁵

18/05/2018 - 11:30- 13:00

City-led solutions to financing nature-based solutions and business models for sustainability

Paula Vandergert (UEL), presenting London Barking Riverside Community Interest Company, UK

Anna Levonmaa, presenting UNaLab value chain analysis approach, Finland

Jan Rasmussen, presenting NAIAD insurance payment model, Denmark,

Discussant: Siobhan McQuaid, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Note taker: Cian White

Description of the session. Looking through the lens of municipalities, this session will look specifically at financing and sustainable business models for NBS. 3 cities (or project partners) will present their experiences with different business models for NBS:

- Barking Riverside in London will present their experience with the CIC business model and look objectively at the challenges faced versus benefits accrued.
- Cities from UNaLab and NAIAD will present their own city experience of finance and business models for NBS sustainability and the different approaches their projects are following to address this issue.

The session will then split up into smaller groups led by the city presenters (supported by their project colleagues) looking in more detail at challenges and

Audience targeted: Researchers, City planners, Architects, Policy-makers

Climate change and mitigation “by Nature”: co-creating nature-based solutions for sustainable urban quality and well-being

Emeline Bailly, Dorothee Marchand & Raphael Jean, Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment, France

Marc Barra, Paris Region, France

Ricardo García Mira, University of A Coruña, Spain

Discussants: Ricardo García Mira & Marc Barra

Note taker: Raphaël Jean

¹⁵ Cities Summit parallel sessions consist of 45 minutes of presentations and 45 minutes of discussion with participants.

Description of the session. After a short presentation of the stakes issue from some climate change examples “by Nature”, we would like to question the issues related to CCAM according to its interactions with ecology, urban quality and well-being. This session will identify the key topics and problematical for the next Paris forum in april 2019.

Transitions towards sustainable lifestyles: governance and knowledge co-production, Ricardo García Mira, University of A Coruna, Department of Psychology. This presentation is focused in two aspects. On the one hand, the transition to a sustainable lifestyle requires important urban transformations whose main goal is to guarantee an increase in the efficiency of resource management, an improvement in the quality of life and greater environmental resilience. The adaptation of cities is a priority in this context, where we need to think about the most appropriate models, strategies and governance patterns, reflecting on how power constellations work and how to involve civil society organisations more. On the other hand, it is urgent to highlight the importance of researchers, citizens and politicians jointly contributing to the creation of knowledge; this also challenges universities, by reinforcing the link between research and politics, while reinforcing the idea of transforming cities into more sustainable places to live. Close collaboration with citizens, professionals and politicians is characteristic of transdisciplinary research which seeks to guarantee the relevance and transfer of research results to society.

Nature as a solution for climate change mitigation and adaptation in Paris region, Marc BARRA, urban ecologist, Agency for biodiversity Paris region Planning and Development Institute. Climate change and biodiversity loss in urban areas is a reality. Urban ecology provides us knowledge and solutions to maintain or restore green infrastructure within cities. This presentation will focus on climate change in Paris region and show how nature based solutions can be developed by local actors and mainstreamed in public policies, urban planning, architecture, or green spaces management.

Audience targeted: Researchers, City planners, Architects, Policy-makers

Pushing boundaries in city-making: indicators for transformative organizations

Stuart Connop, University of East London, UK

Irina Macsinga, West University of Timisoara, Romania

Coralia Sulea, West University of Timisoara, Romania

Discussant: **Irina Macsinga**, West University of Timisoara, Romania

Note taker: **Emma Siddal**

Description of the session: This session aims to exchange and collect information about those indicators that predict organizational readiness for adopting innovative solutions. First, we will focus on advancements made in organizational psychology literature regarding organization transformation, with emphasis on those organizational characteristics that are most important for change and innovation and we will present an evidence-based model of transformative organizations. Second, this theoretical background is backed up with lessons learned from several case studies and insights from the three exemplar cities where information about organizational aspects was previously collected (Genk, Glasgow and Poznan). The discussion that follows aims to align the current theoretical models and indicators with the organizational realities in different organizations.

Audience targeted: Researchers, City Planners, Policy-makers

CITIES SUMMIT (VI) ¹⁶

18/05/2018 - 14:30- 15:30

Innovation in nature-based solutions: The Adaptation Support Tool (AST)

Ellie Tonks, Climate-KIC, Germany

Victor Beumer, Deltares, Netherlands

Discussant: **Ellie Tonks**, Climate-KIC, UK

Note taker: **Nadine Galle**

Description of the session. The **aim of the session** is to then have a 60-minute workshop on the future of the AST (an open source tool). We want to hear from participants on whether they have used similar tools, what goals the AST does and does not meet for cities and urban planners, how may it be expanded, and who has the technical expertise and knowledge to expand it? We hope to bring along a transportable table so that participants can have a firsthand experience with the AST. Deltares developed the AST in close cooperation with Alterra Wageningen UR and Bosch Slabbers Landscape Architects as part of the Climate KIC project Blue Green Dream. **Climate-KIC** works on transformative, systemic innovation that involves many connected innovations developing in parallel to trigger wholesale systemic change.

The **Adaptation Support Tool (AST)** – an interactive touch table used in design workshops to assess the effectiveness and costs of differing adaptation interventions – will then be presented by **Deltares**. Urban planners, landscape architects, water managers, civil engineers, and other local stakeholders can use the AST to assess 62 blue-green measures for ecosystem-based adaptation within a site-specific context. Real-life applications of the AST will be presented during the session to understand how the tool has already supported urban developers, for example in the Chota district of Beira, Mozambique or the reconstruction of the Centre-West area of Utrecht.

Audience targeted: Organisations and/or individuals to help further develop the AST (technical backgrounds); Cities for piloting, providing valuable feedback, and proposing next steps for the tool; Urban planners, landscape architects, water managers, civil engineers.

¹⁶ Cities Summit parallel sessions consist of 45 minutes of presentations and 45 minutes of discussion with participants.

KEYNOTES AND RELEVANT SPEAKERS

Josefina Enfedaque, European Commission, Belgium

Senior Policy Officer at the European Commission. At the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources unit in DG Research and Innovation, she contributes to roadmaps and policies related to biodiversity and ecosystems services research, oversee EU-funded projects and platforms, and develop outreach and public engagement strategies for Nature-Based Solutions.

Ariana Nastaseanu, Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME), Belgium

Project Advisor with a demonstrated history of working in the government administration industry. Skilled in International Project Management, Sustainable Development, Corporate Social Responsibility, Analytical Skills and Government. Master's degree focused in European politics and institutions from Academia de Studii Economice din București.

Giovanni Fini, Bologna City Council, Italy

Coordinator Environmental Quality Unit at the Bologna City Council, senior expert for energy conservation and urban sustainability policies. He is the coordinator of the project "Bologna Smart City". Co-Chair of the EU Urban Agenda Partnership on Land-use and Nature-based solutions.

Adina Dumitru, University of A Coruña, Spain

Senior Researcher at the People Environment Research Group at the University of A Coruña and Director of its Sustainability Specialization Campus. Her research focuses on assessments of NBS interventions, the psychological dimensions of sustainable lifestyle change, the relationship between sustainable lifestyles and wellbeing, and the psychology of social innovation, empowerment and social cohesion. She is the country lead for H2020 large-scale projects Connecting Nature, Smartees and Transit, and the WP lead responsible for indicator development and evaluation in Connecting Nature. Previously, with Professor Ricardo García Mira, she worked as scientific coordinator of the Glamurs and Locaw european projects. She was a junior Fulbright Scholar and received her Master's degree in Political Science (with a track in Political Psychology) from Washington State University (USA).

Ricardo García-Mira, University of A Coruña, Spain

Professor of Social and Environmental Psychology at the University of A Coruña, he is currently a Visiting Professor at the University of Bath. He has been coordinating the FP7 GLAMURS project, the LOCAW project and a partner of the TRANSIT project and the H2020 Connecting Nature and Smartees. García Mira is the President of the International Association for People-Environment Studies (IAPS) and is the European Editor of the Journal of Architectural and Planning Research. He has been elected as a Member of the Parliament of Spain, where he is the Spokesperson for the Commission on the Study of Climate Change.

Nikolaos Nikolaidis, Technical University of Crete, Greece

Professor at the School of Environmental Engineering and has served as Deputy Rector for Financial Planning and Development of the Technical University of Crete from 2013-2017. Prior to joining TUC, he was a professor and director of the Environmental Engineering Program at the University of Connecticut, USA. Dr. Nikolaidis has participated in many European and Greek funded projects (eLTER, advance-eLTER, ThinkNature, SoilTrec, Charms, CONDENSE, EUROCAT, tempQsim, EnviFriendly, AquaTrain, MIRAGE, SoilCritZone, CyberMan). He is the Director of the Hydrogeochemical Engineering and Remediations of Soils Laboratory (HersLab) and manages the Koiliaris Critical Zone Observatory (www.koiliaris-czo.tuc.gr/).

Denia Kolokotsa, Technical University of Crete, Greece

Assistant professor at the Technical University of Crete, School of Environmental Engineering. Her research interests include energy management and energy efficiency in the built and urban environment, neural networks and fuzzy logic technology, advanced optimization theory and applications, decision support systems in energy modeling and automation. She has participated in more than 25 EU and national projects and has coordinated various international and national projects. She is the co-founder and President of the European Cool Roofs Council.

Nick Pearce, University of Bath, UK

Professor of Public Policy and Director of the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Bath. He was formerly director of the UK progressive think-tank, IPPR (2010-2015), and Head of the N^o10 Downing St. Policy Unit (2008 - 2010) with responsibility for the formulation of policy advice to the UK Prime Minister. He is currently leading research on comparative welfare state reform, British politics, and democratic theory and practice. His latest book is *Shadows of Empire: the Anglosphere in British Politics*.

Marcus Collier, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Leader of Connecting Nature, a €11.4m Horizon 2020 project which runs from 2017 to 2022, this project will develop innovations by scaling out nature-based solutions in 11 cities in Europe as well as cities in China, Brazil, Korea and the Caucasus. His main areas of expertise are in transdisciplinary research, social-ecological systems, landscape and restoration ecology, environmental policies and collaborative governance.

David Maddox, The Nature of Cities, USA

Founder & Executive Director, The Nature of Cities, David Maddox is committed to the health of the urban ecosystem—urban resilience, the application of ecosystem services for human welfare and livelihoods, and the effective and efficient monitoring and evaluation of these issues. He has worked for The Nature Conservancy, the Maryland State government, the City of New York, in non-profits, and as a consultant.

Gillian Dick, Glasgow City Council, UK

Gillian Dick is the responsible for the City of Glasgow Place Strategy and Environmental Infrastructure development and planning group. She has many years of experience working on open space planning and management in the areas of blue/green

infrastructure, multifunctional spaces, the Antonine Wall World Heritage, the Sub-Urban (sub surface planning) project and the Green Network (GCVGN & CSGN).

Andreas Littkopf, Environmental Agency, Austria

Since 2007 he is leading a European Topic Centre for the European Environment Agency (EEA), doing integrated assessments and developing spatial reference data. He also collaborated in various EU research projects (FP6, FP7, H2020). Currently he coordinates the ETC/ULS, the European Topic Centre on Urban, Land and Soil systems, which is supporting the EEA by developing various indicators and reports on European scale, based on satellite imagery and supports the land monitoring component of the Copernicus program.

Jennifer Senick, Rutgers Center for Green Building, USA

Executive Director of the Rutgers Center for Green Building at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Urban Planning and Policy Development, Rutgers University, and an instructor in the department. An experienced urban planner, Dr. Senick's areas of expertise include sustainable development, green building, and environmental behaviour, trends in technology adoption/use and multi-method approaches to field inquiry and building performance evaluation.

Kate Reilly, IUCN-International Union for Conservation of Nature, Belgium

IUCN EU Programme Officer, Reilly coordinates IUCN's contributions to H2020 project Aquacross on ecosystem-based management of aquatic ecosystems, H2020 project GrowGreen on nature-based solutions for water and climate resilience in cities. She also contributes to other components of IUCN's nature-based solutions and urban nature programs as necessary.

Siobhan McQuaid, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Innovation specialist working with academic, industry and support bodies to catalyse innovation and entrepreneurship across many sectors from environment to ICT. Siobhan led on the preparation, negotiation and management of 30+ EU projects with responsibility for leading WPs on dissemination, exploitation and project management in the majority of projects

Jean-Marc Tacnet, IRSTEA, France

Senior researcher at IRSTEA- National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture. His activities focus on integrated risk management and expert assessment processes applied to natural phenomena in mountains. He is involved in applied research dealing with decision support systems for hazard, risk assessment but also risk reduction measures effectiveness analysis in a context of imperfect information and uncertainty. His disciplinary fields concern multi-criteria decision-making, information fusion, artificial intelligence (fuzzy sets, possibility, belief function theories), uncertainty analysis, software engineering. In that context, he also manages a research team called DARE (Decision-Aid, Risk and Expertise- ADRET in French).

Niki Frantzeskaki, DRIFT, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Netherlands

Niki is coordinating research on environmental governance, and urban sustainability transitions at the Dutch Research Institute for Transitions since 2010, where she researches contemporary sustainability transitions and their governance across Europe, USA, Brazil and in developing countries like Vanuatu, and Ghana. She contributed as a lead expert in international dialogues and projects, being the lead expert in the European Union and Brazil platform of science exchange and co-production under the theme of innovating cities with nature-based solutions, with a good grasp on global environmental governance knowledge and processes in 2015-2016.

Alice Reil, ICLEI-Europe, Germany

M.Sc. Applied Geography and B.A. Cultural Geography and Area Studies, joined ICLEI Europe in June 2014 as an officer in the “Sustainable Resources, Climate and Resilience” team. She is involved in a project promoting urban green infrastructure for sustainable urban and supporting cities in putting nature-based solutions into practice (GREEN SURGE – FP7); assisting European cities in protecting their critical infrastructure and adapting to climate change impacts (RESIN – H2020).

Katrien van de Sijpe, Genk city council, Belgium

Head of the environmental department at the City of Genk. Educated as a biologist and environmental scientist, she is responsible for policy making on environment/nature, strategic green projects and for environmental/nature education and awareness-raising in Genk. More specifically she is also project leader of the project ‘valley of the Stiemerbeek’, the development of a blue/green urban park and through that project actively involved in the research programs Ecoplan and Green4Grey

Marino Cavallo, Metropolitan City of Bologna, Italy

Head of the Department Research, Innovation and Management of EU Projects in the Metropolitan City of Bologna (Italy). He has worked for over 20 years in Local and Territorial Authorities in Italy, being involved in a number of European Projects and Programmes of interregional cooperation between the different countries of EU. As economist, he was Adjunct professor in the University of Bologna (IT) and University of Ferrara. He delivered courses in Business administration, Economy, Sociology, Communication methodologies. He also collaborates with newspaper and academic and professional reviews and he has authored several books and articles on sustainability practices in the SMEs, among other topics.

José Juan Díaz Trillo, Spanish Parliament, Spain.

Current President of the Spanish Parliament Commission for Climate Change, Mr Díaz Trillo was the Head of the Environment Department at the regional Government of Andalucía (2008-2014). He is also a well-known Spanish writer and poet.

Jose Manuel Silva Rodríguez, Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness, Spain.

Jose Manuel Silva Rodríguez has led the Directorate General for Agriculture and rural development from the European Commission. At present, he is senior consultant for the State Secretariat for Research, Development and Innovation, Spanish Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness.

María García Gómez, A Coruña City Council, Spain

Head of the environmental division at the Council of A Coruña. She has worked as an environmental educator in different programs in diverse countries. She has been Environmental Technician in the town of Carnota, where she managed the *Prestige* oil spill's mitigation program. She developed European projects at the Cultural Centre UfaFabrik (Best- Practice, from the Habitat United Nations program), regarding knowledge transfer with schools from Galicia, Portugal, Germany, Denmark, France and Latvia. She participates in collectives of environmental defence and citizen activism.

ORGANIZERS

Event Coordinators: **Dr. ADINA DUMITRU** and **Dr. RICARDO GARCÍA MIRA**

Technical Secretariat: **ISABEL LEMA BLANCO**

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