

Chairs: Mahito Kamada & Charles H. Nilon

Chantal van Ham – Aims of the project URBES (Urban Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services)

<http://www.urbesproject.org>

Goals: Mobilize and share IUCN scientific knowledge and experience

- Link with scientists
- Tools and guidelines
- Best Practices
- Partnerships for action
- Nature Based Solutions

URBES Project – led by resilience center at U Stockholm + Research Institutes Across Europe, ICLEI. Focus on bridging knowledge gap on biodiversity and ecosystem services

- Build capacity of cities to climate change, reduce ecological footprint
- Awareness of biodiversity by local governments

Clusters for work – Perhaps a Model for URBIO?

1. Biodiversity and ecosystem services and landuse change
2. Tools and methods for monetary and non-monetary evaluation
3. How to integrate Into planning and management
4. knowledge translated into local action

Focus on case studying cities cities.

- Individual research projects and some applied elements

Links to URBES to policy

- EU now has an urban environments program,
- EU Biodiversity Strategy;
- 7th Environmental Action Program, EU Green Infrastructure Strategy, EU Horizon 2020 (European Research Agenda)

Challenges (issues making it difficult for adoption of knowledge): science policy gap; integration of biodiversity knowledge in urban planning and management; needs of decision makers; climate change receives all the attention; political decision making cycle; economic perspective drives everything

Stakeholder engagement: URBES fact Sheets; Target other groups from cities who might be relevant; direct interaction with governments; network of URBES partners

Keys to integrating research results into policy making (other source)

- strategic dialogue
- recognize that this is resource intensive
- science-policy platform
- no one-size fits all policy/science interface
- identify areas of research needing long term research
- frame issue in broader policy context
- involve policy makers in all phases of research
- integrate stakeholders among other projects

Questions:

How to apply outside of European and North American context?

Why are cities not directly involved in design of URBES questions? - Making cities real partner?

- Online group IUCN urban biodiversity forum – Chantel has started

What are the ecological foundations? Clear facts and data – relevant format; scientists values do not match what cities need

Financial support for research to address these questions? - HOW to develop funding source to get this information?

- From David Maddox - Rockefeller Foundation Resilient's Cities Program – Resilience officer in 100 cities, potential links to work grounded in cities and based on their needs?

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Rio Biodiversity Conference – “bad experience” tied to world cup and olympic games , research questions and research results but not a good fit with planning framework in Rio – **Andre had a follow up to this question.**

Maria Ignatieva – How do we translate our scientific results on urban biodiversity to the needs of landscape architects?

LA as “umbrella discipline”

urban ecology, art, social sciences, econ, architecture, urban planning

LA work at different scales: regional to city to lot

LA Based on

practice (design)

research

management

example is work done by U Sheffield on Pictorial Meadows

New Paradigm for LA

revisiting existing practices in design and management –climate change and economic crisis driving this revisiting, focus on sustainable paradigm, biodiversity is viewed as key /crucial component

Examples of how biodiversity research may be incorporated into LA practice – biodiversity as a driver of practice

Olympic Park, London – meadows, bioswales, etc. associated with SE England

Need for data to evaluate this

(my question: outlet for publication, etc. scholarhip that benefits ecologists/researchers)

Butterfly World

Anney, France – incorporated local plants in design of main plaza.

How to translate results

Researchers - role of consultant; participate in design process for entire project and part of team

– LA and planners are used to working as teams

Devyatkino Project , St. Petersburg, Russia

Role as researcher

Participate in LA university subjects, lectures, studio critiques, masters projects

(ex. Claus Forberg at SLU – local knowledge)

Role in Master Planning process

part of team

be involved in local projects at different scales.

Challenges in developing countries

Need examples

Get involved in practice

work with international teams

include biodiversity work to social research

include social components and methods to urban biodiversity research – perceptions of place, etc. that might relate to choice and management decisions.

Biodiversity via demonstration

gardens, university campus, etc

do things in real places

private garden examples

Popular literature, education, etc.

Publications, writings (Similar to extension program materials I US)

Book Maria wrote: urban biodiversity chapter in The Gardens of All the New World (published in Russian)

TV

Websites www.natureofcities.com; (CN added some diverse ones: Outdoor Afro, Urban Environmental Education Collaborative (on Facebook))

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Garden Shows - Chelsea Flower Show , U Leeds and others

Use common methodology - what is good multidisciplinary research , ex from lawn study in Sweden

Questions

How to address mainstream LA practice - what are typical projects and what is done. Shift of LA from ecology to strictly design (in Germany)

tension of design field vs. applied ecology field with plant materials

(questions from Mark McDonnell about this)

David Maddox - Let's create a biophilic urban ethos at all levels of public dialog

values

participation

sharing

"value driven useful knowledge and cities that are resilient sustainable and livable"

Biophilia - aware of nature around us

appreciation (but what does this mean)

awareness (?)

(what do we know about this) - VanVelsor and Nilon

Celebrating = contributing to decision making

Communicate ecosystem services

Value

ecological

ecosystem service

economic

design

social

How do people engage around this?

What is it that people want and how does two way process work?

Useful Knowledge

Values as part of city planning

Importance of Incorporating people

participants

users

Practitioners are not good at articulating needs

often really need assessment and evaluation

Researchers rarely care about practitioners needs

What things work

small grants to grad students (CN but doesn't work in an applied dept.)

researcher-practitioner charrettes

joint fundraising for big projects

work best in big cities (which may not be a model for smaller cities)

Example of tree data and how these relates to values

Storm water capture researcher

bioswale research, mixing lab and field measures

but need information on ecological, social, etc benefits of these (if there are)

research not incorporated into large scale restoration and resilience project in NYC green

infrastructure plan

How to engage people

organizations and how they interact

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Key point: values around cities we want to create
how does biodiversity connect to all of this.
Knowledge and value driven
Engage all communities
Share information

Power point slide Session 2/Keywords

- Practitioners
- Best Practice
- Informed by Science
- Relevant Research
- Appropriate Scale