

# 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 promotes 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 and provide insights into planning and implementing interventions that can promote health and health equity in cities.

## PLENARY 6: EDUCATION & URBAN HEALTH

(tbd)

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)*

**Anacláudia Rossbach (VIDEO MESSAGE)**

*Executive Director, UN-Habitat, Brazil*

**Peggy Hamburg**

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

**Jeff L. Sturchio**

*Chair of the Board, International Society of Urban Health (ISUH),  
Washington, DC, USA*

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

2.00 SETTING THE SCENE

**Jo Ivey Boufford**

*New York University, IAP Urban Health Working Group, 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 & VISIT OF THE GROTTA OF NIKI DE SAINT PHALLE IN  
THE HERRENHAUSEN GARDENS

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*

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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: SAMUEL GACHOHI NJUGUNA, UN-Habitat, Nairobi, Kenya*

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

**JULIUS FREYMÜLLER**, *University Bielefeld, Germany*

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

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

**FRANZ GATZWEILER**, *Bonn University, Germany*

**KOLJA LANGE**, *City of Hanover, Germany*

## Breakout C

Good Practices – small interventions and huge outcomes

*Moderator: THOMAS WILLEMEIT, GRAFT Architects, Berlin, Germany*

## Breakout D

Governance

*Moderator: THOMAS GÖTZ, former State Secretary, City of Berlin, 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 BALRAJ KAUR GROß, Yoga Therapist, Berlin, Germany*

## ART goes Urban Health

ART goes Urban Health: discover a medium of interdisciplinary research, reflection, and storytelling!

*The maximum number of participants is 12.*

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

7.00 POSTERSESSION AND MOVING DINNER

Early Career Researchers present their research.

9.00 END OF THE FIRST DAY

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APRIL 10, 2025

8.30 COFFEE AVAILABLE

9.00 OFFICIALLY OPENING THE DAY WITH WELCOMING REMARKS

**CHRISTOPH MARKSCHIES**

*President, Berlin Brandenburg Academy of Sciences*

**BELIT ONAY**

*Mayor, City of Hanover*

**ELLEN HAUßDÖRFER**

*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*

**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 of 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*

**Breakout B**

*Informal settlements*

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

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

**BLESSING MBERU**, *Urbanization and Wellbeing, 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*

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## Breakout C

tbd

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

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12.00 LUNCH

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

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## 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**, **UWE SCHNEIDER***

**GEORG GUGGENBERGER**, *University of Hannover, Germany*  
**MARTIN KAUPENJOHANN**, *Technical University 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 VAATTOVARA**, *University of Helsinki, Finland*

### 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

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## 3.30 PLENARY 4 : PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & URBAN DECISION MAKING

**CHRISTOPHER BAILEY**

*Arts and Health 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**

*interac, University of Helsinki, Finland*

*Chair: BLESSING MBERU, Urbanization and Wellbeing, 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*

### Breakout B

Community Engagement through Arts

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

**CHRISTOPHER BAILEY**, *Arts and Health WHO, Geneva, Switzerland*

**ALEKSANDAR STEVANOVIC**, *University of Belgrade., Serbia et al.*

### 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*

**AKINYINKA OMIGBODUN**, *University of Ibadan, Nigerian Academy of  
Sciences, Nigeria*

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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 HASSOON**

*John Hopkins University 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: **ALJOSCHA BURCHARDT**, AI and Language Technology, German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI), Berlin, Germany*

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*

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## Breakout Session D

Initiative18

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

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11.00 COFFEE BREAK

11.30 SESSION 6 : EDUCATION & URBAN HEALTH

### **CAMILLE MAADJHOU BERJAULINE**

*University of Yaounde, Cameroon*

### **ESTHER PRESILLA DANQUAH**

*Health Service, Kpone Katamanso Municipality, Ghana*

### **ALAWI LUETZ**

*Critical Care Charité University Hospital Berlin, Germany*

### **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*

# PROGRAM

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

Wrap-up of the Plenaries

**JO IVEY BOUFFORD**

*Global Health and Paediatrics, New York University, IAP Urban Health Working Group, New York, USA*

**PEGGY HAMBURG**

*InterAcademy Partnership (IAP), Washington DC, USA*

**CHRISTOPH MARKSCHIES**

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

*Chair: **JEFF L. STURCHIO**, International Society of Urban Health (ISUH), Washington, DC, USA*

## 2.00 LUNCH

## 3.00 END OF SUMMIT