FÖRBUNDET FÖR
EKO
PARKEN

Large Urban Parks
- past, present future

Richard Murray, Ekoparken Association

Henrik Waldenström, WWF Sweden

World Urban Parks/Large Urban Parks committee
Cape Town 2016-09-26

Birkenhead, Liverpool, England opened 1847

Homeless sleeping in Hyde Park, 19th century

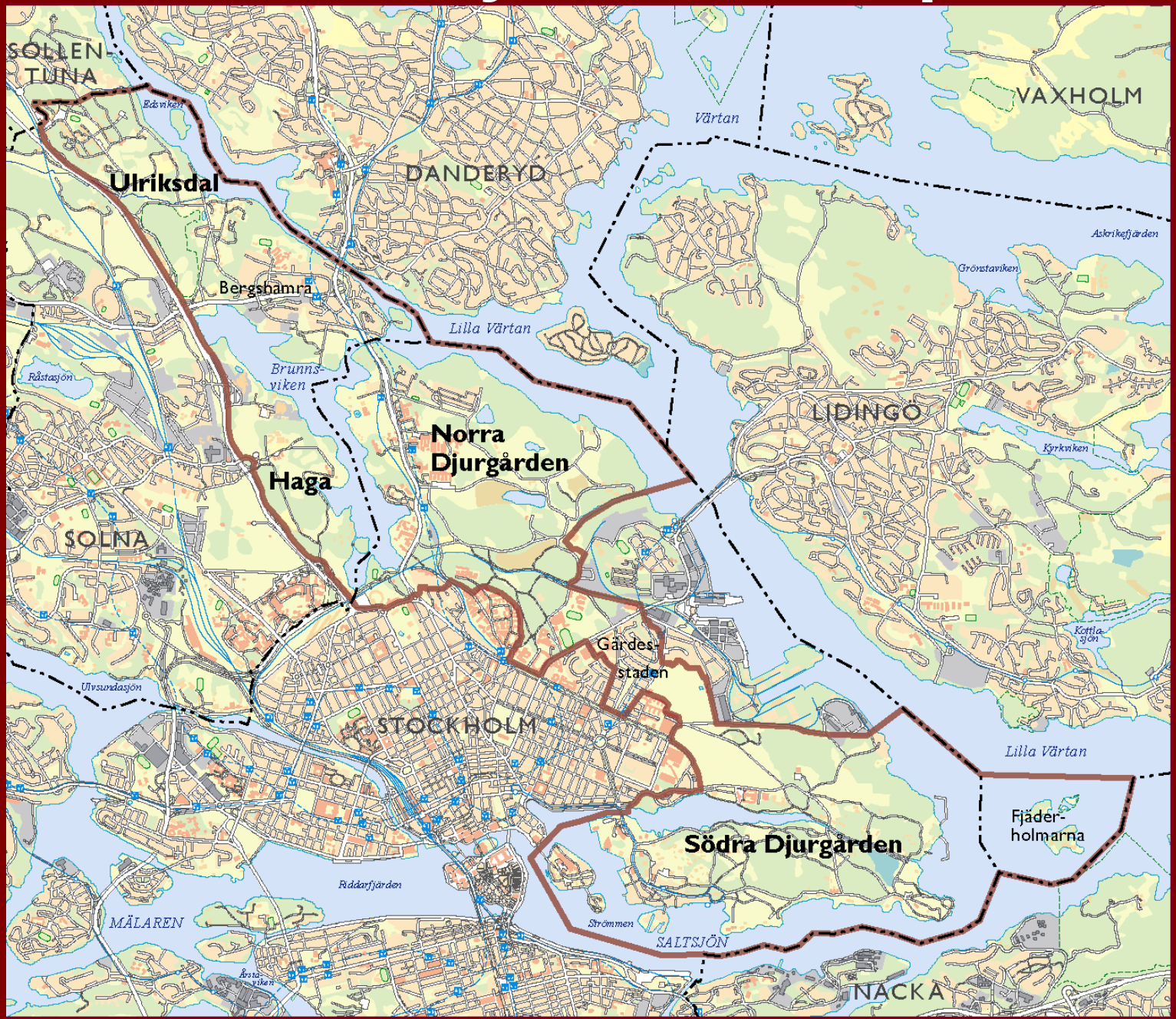
Amsterdamse Bos being built by 20.000 unemployed in the 1930s

< 1,5 km from city center to country-side

Royal Park (Kungsträdgården) in Stockholm, opened up publicly ca 1775

Royal National City Park – Ekoparken

27 sq km



Welcome to the conference 2015 Sept 2-4

Large Parks in Large Cities

Stockholm, SWEDEN

Collserola Park, Barcelona, Spain

Royal National City park bordering tight to the center of Stockholm

At the wetland Isbladskärret we find nesting herons - one of 105 breeding bird species.

Recreation

KEY MESSAGE 4: *Maintaining functioning urban ecosystems can significantly improve human health and well-being.*

Green areas and health

- Perceived health, mortality, green space (N = 250 782).
- The percentage of green space inside a three km radius from home had a significant positive relation to perceived general health

Maas J, Verheij RA, Groenewegen PP, et al. 2006.
Green space, urbanity, and health: how strong is the relation? Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health. 60(7)

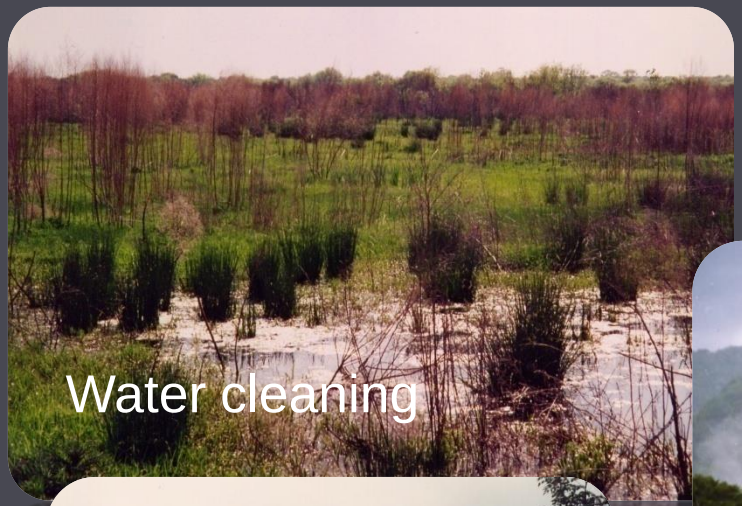
Convention on Biological Diversity

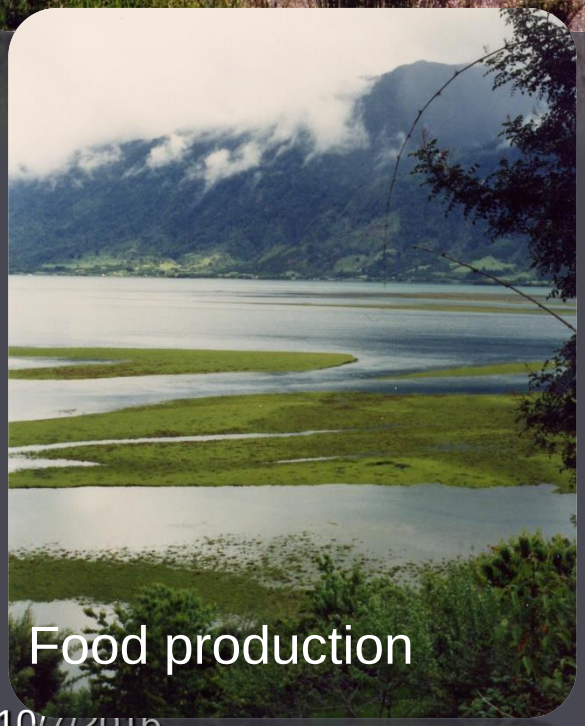
Stockholm Resilience Centre
Research for Governance of Social-Ecological Systems

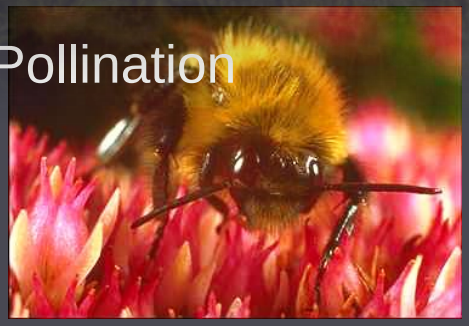
Stockholm University

ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability

Ecosystem-services are now accepted

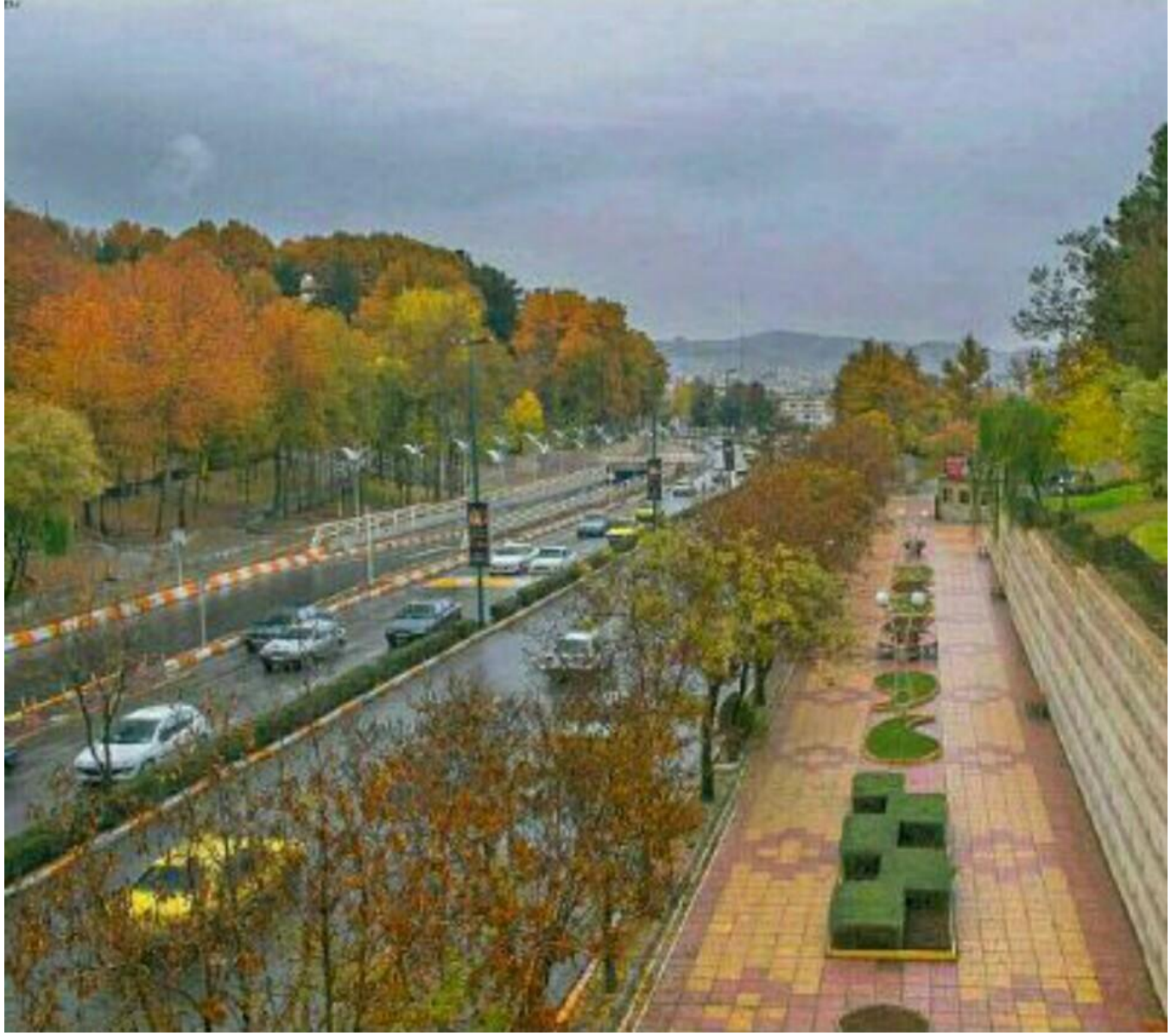






Greener cities with Large Parks is essential for resilience against climate changes like heat waves, rainstorms etc

SWEDEN summer 2014



Didgah park, Sanandaj, Iran – cut in two by highway

Ecoduct in Kawabate park, Brisbane, Australia

Cities without end – nature far off

A little green – is that enough? – Beijing –

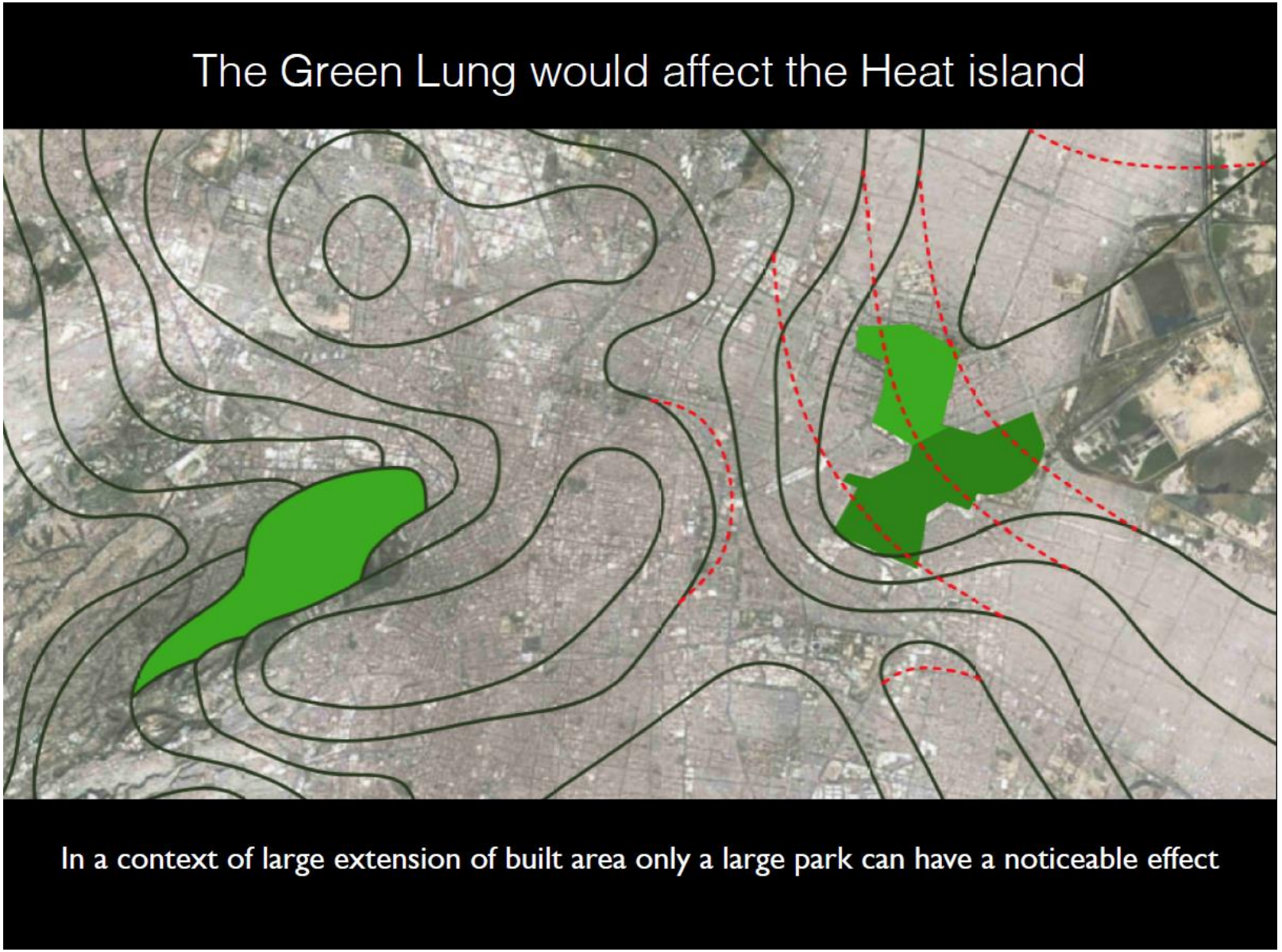
WWF

GRÖNARE STÄDER

GRÖNARE STÄDER
– FRAMTIDENS STÄDER

Agodi park, Ibadan, Nigeria, recently restored

Fresh Kills, NY – from landfill to landscape park



Mexico City, proposed plan for a 840 ha park on old airport

Will these conventions change the course?

- EU Green Infrastructure Strategy
- European Landscape convention
- Biodiversity convention
- Sustainable Development Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- UN Habitat New Urban Agenda
- Paris agreement on Climate Change