## World Urban Parks





the new global representative body for the urban parks, open space and recreation sector

# Urban growth will see 70% of the world's population living in urban areas by 2050

- So it is vital to:
  - share knowledge and
  - provide a collective voice for people and organisations leading urban parks, green city, conservation, recreation, sport, health and related outcomes.
- Together we want to build healthy, livable and sustainable communities.





## Origins







## Strategic Review

- In 2013 Ifpra and Parks for Life conducted a strategic Review that determined a new-model inclusive and sustainable organisation was necessary
- This would compliment the IUCN by focusing on urban parks, open space and recreation where the majority of the world's population lives









# The urban parks, open space and recreation community

- National associations
- Government agencies, City departments
- Non-governmental organisations
- Universities & research institutions
- Businesses
- Community groups
- Professionals and community individuals
- ▶ Allied sectors: health, tourism, & resource management



# World Urban Parks is the new international representative body for the urban parks, open space and recreation sector

Launched May 2015 Portugal - 1<sup>st</sup> World Urban Parks Congress Ponte de Lima - Portugal







### Vision

A World where people value and have easy access to quality urban parks, open space and recreation



## A global voice and a forum for the exchange of ideas on

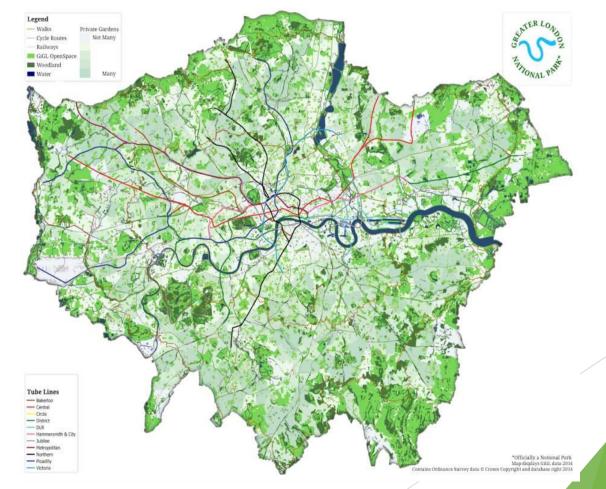
common environmental, social and economic challenges where urban parks, open space and recreation are part of the solution. WUP influences at an international and local level in direct support of its members - whether setting global standards, advocating the benefits of urban parks, open space and recreation, or supporting a funding bid, a campaign, or professional development.



#### Long-term Goals

#### 1. Park Networks

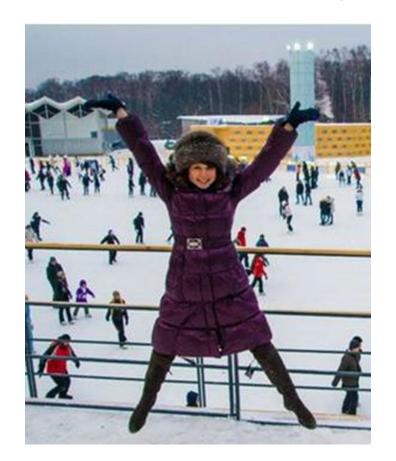
Comprehensive and well managed urban parks and city open space improving the quality of life for urban dwellers and protecting natural and cultural values





#### 2. Park, Open Space and Recreation Benefits

The economic, environmental, cultural and social values of urban parks, open space and recreation are well understood and supported across the world by communities and their governments







"The opportunity to exchange new and historic ideas with experienced professionals around the world mean better professional development and life-long learning for all of our young professionals. World Urban Parks contributes to building the leaders of tomorrow!

-Jenn Halliday, Chair Generate Network

#### 3. People Networks

Urban park, open space and recreation managers and stewards are well connected with ready access to quality information and training to enhance their effectiveness



#### 4. Global Voice

World Urban Parks is recognized as the global unified voice for urban parks, open space and recreation





#### Member benefits

- Advocacy: A global voice supporting the value and benefits of parks and the industry through science and unity
- ▶ Best Practice: World-class communities, organisations, and professionals recognized for high standards and efficiencies through international congresses, benchmarking, awards and certification
- Collaboration: Resolving issues and increasing knowledge and capacity through diverse networks of colleagues and partnerships.









## World Community Benefits

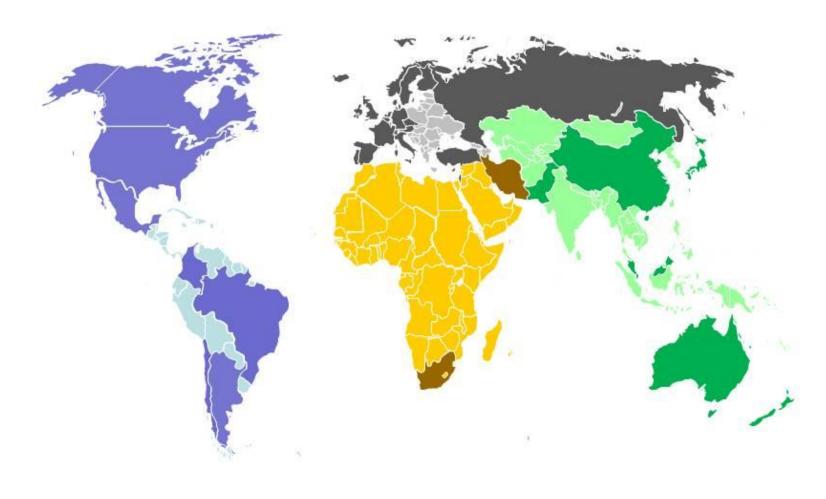


Advocating for access to urban parks, open space and recreation; researching and demonstrating the health and social benefits of urban parks; and promoting conservation and effective management of natural and cultural values to create healthy, liveable and sustainable communities and a healthy planet





#### World Urban Parks Membership





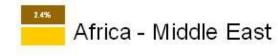
#### Dark shaded countries are members



Americas



Europe

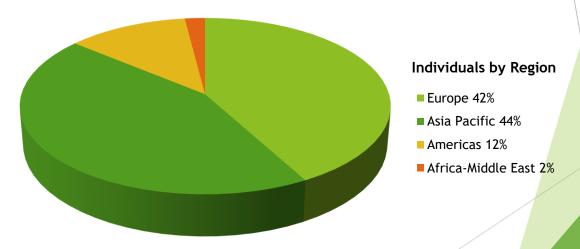




Asia - Pacific

## Membership

Category	Organisations	Individuals
Africa	3	4
Americas	12	24
Asia-Pacific	20	88
Europe	31	84
	66	200





## Cities Represented

#### Organisation member

- Europe: Copenhagen, Berlin, Zurich, Basel, Helsinki, Malmo, Stavanger, Aalborg, Aarhuse, Odense, Moscow, Gaziantep, Zaragoza, Monaco, Dublin, Oslo, Bergen, Antwerp, Luxemburg, Karlsruhe, Ponte de Lima
- Asia Pacific: Melbourne, Hume, Macau, Auckland, Christchurch, Rotorua, Invercargill
- Americas: Washington DC, Pittsburgh, Minneapolis, Mexico City, Vancouver, Calgary, Victoria, Lethbridge
- Africa: Johannesburg

#### **Agency Manager**

- ► Europe: Vienna, Paris, Lyon, Nantes, Poitiers, Bergen, Reykjavik, Den Haag, Turin, Antwerp, Stuttgart, Nieuwport, Barcelona, Monaco, Albury, Dublin, Lelystad
- Asia Pacific: Hong Kong, Singapore, Penang, Brisbane, Queanbeyan, Albury, Hastings, Putrajaya, Timaru
- Americas: Eugene, Buenos Aires, Coquitlam
- Africa: Cape Town, Ekurhuleni



#### National Recreation and Park Associations

- ► Europe: France, Spain, Ireland, Belgium, Switzerland, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Denmark, UK\*
- Asia Pacific: Japan, China, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia
- ► Americas: USA, Canada
- Africa: South Africa



"As the peak professional association for Parks and Leisure Professionals in Australia, representation on the global stage is crucial. The new World Urban Parks body strengthens our relationships with international agencies, ensures we remain involved with global issues and trends, and provides a stronger, united voice for the benefits of parks and leisure to all levels of government across the globe.

- Mark Band, Chief Executive Officer, Parks and Leisure Australia



#### Portfolio Structure 2016

Portfolios	VC Advocacy Neil McCarthy	VC Membership Torgeir Sørensen	VC Alliances Elisabeth Fournier	VC Governance Dr David Cochrane
Committees	<ul> <li>Large Urban Parks</li> <li>Knowledge &amp; Standards</li> <li>Green Infrastructure</li> <li>Children &amp; Nature</li> <li>Aging &amp; Parks</li> <li>Healthy Parks Healthy</li> <li>People</li> </ul>	•Membership	•Alliances •World Parks Academy	•Finance & Audit
Regions		<ul><li>Europe Region</li><li>Asia-Pacific Region</li><li>Americas Region</li><li>Africa-Middle East Region</li></ul>		
Working Groups	•Good Practices •Advocacy & Events •Knowledge & Research •Operational Standards •Benchmarking •Applied Research •Think Tank	<ul> <li>Marketing &amp; Communications</li> <li>Awards Panel</li> <li>LivCom Awards?</li> <li>World Congress</li> <li>Regional Congresses</li> <li>World Parks Week</li> </ul>	•MOUs - IFLA, Academy •Sponsorship? •Green Flag?	•Policy
Themes	•Rethinking Parks, •Climate Change etc.			



\*Green type = Europe Chairs

#### World Urban Parks Executive



Gil Penalosa Chair gpenalosa@880cities.org Canada



Neil McCarthy Vice Chair Advocacy gpenalosa@880cities.org Founder and Chair 8 80 Cities CEO NE Catchment Mgt Authority Australia



Torgeir Sørensen Vice Chair Membership torgeir.sorensen@stavanger.kommune.no Head of Parks and Streets, City of Stavanger Secretary General, Hortis Norway



Elisabeth Fournier Vice Chair Alliances elisabeth.fournier@hortis. France



Dr David Cochrane Vice Chair Governance cloudstreeteco@gmail.co Consultant Australia



Dr Anna Steidle Chair Europe Region steidle@posteo.de Consultant Germany



Martha Fajardo Co-Chair Americas Region steidle@posteo.de Principal Grupo Verde Columbia



Chris Rutherford Chair Asia Pacific Region chris@xyst.biz Director Xvst Ltd New Zealand



## Advocacy - Large Urban Parks Committee







Margaret Gormley Co-Chair



Amanda O'Rourke Exec Officer

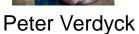
Large urban parks have their own issues related to their size, role, high level of use, climate change and other factors.

The committee fosters a network of large urban park managers and stakeholders, advancing park management, sharing good practices, research, advocacy and events.



## LUP - Good Practices Working Group







Lilia Haua

#### **Current Projects:**

- Good Practices Database
- Large Urban Parks Database
- Social media professional group site
- •Good Practice Workshop at WUP Europe Region/Hortis Congress, Albi, France, October 2016



## LUP - Advocacy and Events Working Group





Chris Hardman

Henrik Waldenström

#### **Current Projects:**

- •Habitat III advocacy and side events Barcelona, Quito
- Congress Declarations at WUP/IERM World Congress, Cape Town
- Park Benefits Handbook
- World Parks Week





## LUP - Knowledge & Research Working Group







Hooshmand Alizadeh

#### **Current Projects:**

Collating research into a Knowledge and Research Database



## Advocacy - Knowledge & Standards Committe



Jon Pape

Services including international standards, benchmarking, best practice, world congresses, awards, and research. The Committee brings together a balance of park managers, academics, consultants and businesses



## K&S Applied Research Working Group



Giovanni Sanesi

#### **Current Projects:**

- •Identify existing and required research to expand knowledge in the sector.
- Survey on Member research needs
- •Publish recommended research articles in World Parks News



## **K&S Benchmarking Working Group**



Todd Reichardt

#### Projects:

- •Review services designed to improve the standard, effectiveness, and efficiency of park and recreation provision
- Endorsing or providing a database of selected benchmarking services
- •WUP Key Indicators online benchmarking
- Yardstick benchmarking





## K&S Park Operating Standards Developing Countries Working Group



Manuel Sousa

#### Project:

•developing a guideline for minimum standards for park operations that will improve the quality of park maintenance and services, and assist developing park agencies in particular.

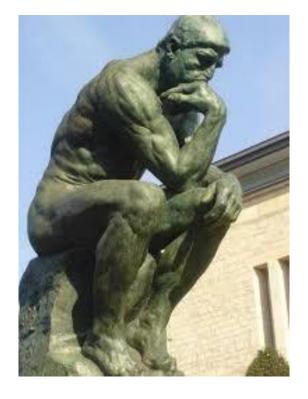


## **K&S Think Tank Working Group**

#### **Project**

•Create a model for WUP thought leaders to form a 'think tank' to make formal comment and submissions on key issues relating to urban parks

and recreation





## Membership - Membership Committee



Jenn Halliday

Membership strategy and growth, marketing and communications, regional engagement, congresses and awards

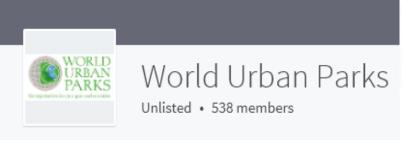
## Marketing & Communications Working Group



**Brett Cheatley** 



Marketing and Communications Plan, social media development and members group site co-development









## Membership - World Urban Parks Regions

#### Europe



Chair: Dr Anna Steidle Secretary: Dr Christy Boylan

- •WUP-Hortis Congress
- Action Plan
- Facebook
- Europe Awards

#### Americas



Co-Chair Martha Fajardo Co-Chair Keith Anderson

- •Ifla Americas Congress
- •Latin America brochure
- Sub-regions

#### Asia-Pacific



Chair: Chris Rutherford Secretary: Nico Crous

- Awaji Symposium
- •IPRS Congress

Africa Middle-East



Oversight: Prof. Willie Nel

Facilitate face to face and region-flavoured activity, including partnered Region Congresses



## Membership - Awards

#### Projects:

Jury to select the Annual
 Distinguished Individual Award



•Europe Region Committee creating a Europe Region Park Award relevant to a number of national awards



## Membership - World Congresses

The membership committee has oversight of World Urban Parks World Congresses

2015 Pont de Lima, Portugal (with Ibero American Congress)

2016 Cape Town, South Africa (with IERM Convention)

2017 Minneapolis, USA (International Forum with City Parks Alliance)

2018 Melbourne, Australia (with PLA Conference)







## Membership - World Parks Week

Held annually in May to:

- •Communicate the critical importance of parks in a global context
- Promote best practice by learning from other parks services
- •Encourage people to enjoy their local park and appreciate the importance of green space

Any organisation can participate with branding and registration of events by WUP





#### Alliances - Alliances Committee



Elisabeth Fournier

Relationships and MOUs, external policy and sponsorship

MOUs with other sector organisations (eg Ifla), national associations (eg NZRA), service partnerships (eg Indiana University)



John Senior (Deputy)

Potential partnership with Keep Britain Tidy and national associations to internationalise Green Flag Awards



## Alliances - World Parks Academy



Dr Christy Boylan Chair: Academy Board



Steve Wolter Exec. Director IU Eppley Institute

A partnership between World Urban Parks and Indiana University the World Parks Academy provides:

- national and international certification of professionals
  - Certified Parks Professional (direct or with national associations)
  - Certified Parks Professional International
- training and webinars
- program evaluation and endorsement





#### Governance - Finance & Audit Committee



Dr David Cochrane

Governance Portfolio responsible for budget and financial performance, risk, internal policies, secretariat

Finance & Audit Committee prepares the budget and advises the board on financial performance and sustainability



#### World Urban Parks Secretariat













Dr Digby Whyte	Kusum Nathu	Fraser May	Dr Christy Boylan	Nico Crous	Amanda O'Rourke
CEO	Administrator	Communications	Secretary Europe	Secretary Asia-Pacific	Large Urban Parks Executive Officer

Contracted to the New Zealand Recreation Association. Services included governance, standing committee, working group, conference and member support; with executive, communications and administrative roles.



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"The membership and network of World Urban Parks gives my staff and myself valuable and cost-effective opportunities to learn and get adaptable ideas from all over the world - to enhance the services of our department.

- Torgeir Esig Sørensen, Head of Parks and Streets Department, City of Stavanger, Norway



www.worldurbanparks.org

#### **World Parks Academy Workshop**

- 1. <u>Introduction-5 (10)minutes</u>: **Digby** Objectives. Colleagues
- 2. <u>Problem Identification-10 minutes</u>: **South African Speaker** (option) orientation to park issues
- 3. <u>Problem Clarification-8 (10) minutes</u>: **Steve** Process. Attendees to independently write, one sentence statements of the *problem* on a single piece of paper.
- 4. <u>Group Process-12 (15) minutes</u>: Attendees post them on a wall or board. Steve, Digby group similar statements together.
- 5. <u>Discussion- 10 (20) minutes</u>: Problem Solving: **Steve** Small group(s) discuss the problems and begin to explore solutions to the problems from their perspectives, countries.
- 6. <u>Problem Solutions-8 (10) minutes</u>: **Steve** Attendees write independently, one sentence statements of *solutions* to specific problems (**ID by number**) on a one piece of paper.
- 7. <u>Solution Sharing and Wrap Up-7 20 minutes</u>: **Steve** Individuals to turn in their solution idea papers; **Digby** Group to share some ideas; **Digby** Results will be written and distributed via email, WUP and WPA website. Close.

