

In June [Naturparif](#) – the Agency for Nature and Biodiversity of the region of Île-de-France, where Paris is located – and [IFORE](#) – the French Institute for the Development of the Environment – organized the **Conference “What Nature in the City?”** in the new venue [Halle Pajol](#). In this event two relevant and urgent themes were addressed Climate Change and Biodiversity and how Urban Ecology can significantly improve the quality of life and build more sustainable and resilient cities. For the first time the event involved two relevant networks that deal with urgent urban issues: [UCCRN](#) – **Urban Climate Change Research Network** and [SURE](#) – **Society for Urban Ecology**. Both networks were represented by [Cecilia P. Herzog](#) that together with Liliane Pays - President of Naturparif, Corinne Rufet - Vice-president of the Île-de-France Region and Olivier Robinet - Director of IFORE welcomed the participants and opened the conference. Cecilia is the president of SURE Brazilian Chapter. She is also a co-leading author together with [Timon McPhearson](#) of the Chapter Urban Ecology, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services of the Second Assessment on Climate Change and Cities – [ARC3-2](#) that is being organized by UCCRN. Dr. Radley Norton represented UCCRN. He spoke about Biodiversity and Climate Change during the General Introduction. The conference gathered about 200 attendees that were limited by the venue’s capacity.

The two day conference was very successful with presenters from different cities representing many countries that brought ecosystem based examples of climate change adaptation and mitigation. They showed how ecosystem services, such as clean waters, fertile and healthy soil, food production and better human health can be offered in cities with strategic and participative landscape urban planning. Most of the presenters showed how their cities plan, design, implement, and monitor multifunctional green infrastructure typologies in different scales – from local to regional. The conference outcome was positive regarding the value of introducing urban biodiversity and the restoration of ecosystems as essential means to give more flexibility to the urban system to face the challenges caused by extreme climatic events. Following the conference there were planned visits in urban areas and in the region, when the participants had a chance to see what is being done in the city of Paris and its surroundings – Grand Paris.



Figure 1 – Books related to the conference theme attracted attention of participants



Figure 2 – A wide range of publications on urban biodiversity was offered by the organizers



Figure 3 – Cecilia P. Herzog address the participants representing SURE and UCCRN in the opening table

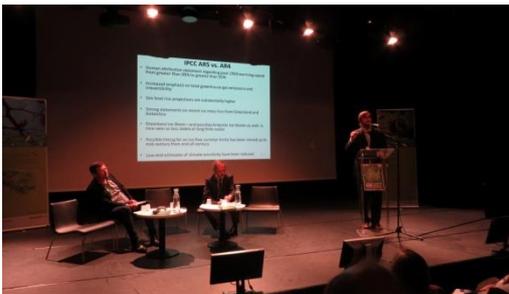


Figure 4 - Radley Norton presenting in the General Introduction on Climate Change and Biodiversity in cities



Figure 5 – the audience at Halle Pajol's venue in Paris