

## **SURE celebrates 10 years anniversary**

This year is a very special year for SURE. SURE was founded January 18<sup>th</sup> 2009 and thus we celebrate in 2019 our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It developed to a worldwide organization of nearly 400 members, about one third students.

Looking back on the last ten years we can proudly say that we could establish an international network of young and experienced researchers and practitioners being passionate to develop and secure sustainable cities of high living quality such as also recently recommended in the 11<sup>th</sup> Sustainable Development Goal by the United Nations. SURE clearly not only understand research in the field of urban ecology as the ecology in the city but encompasses cities as socio-ecological systems fostering ecology of and for the city.

In the last decade we could establish together with an active board, members and chapters a range of activities and services such as the regular SURE summer schools taking place for instance in China, Germany or Austria and workshops visited by researchers and practitioners such as in Brazil or Romania. A clear target of SURE is to excite young researchers for urban ecology and therefore we provide free memberships for students and offer SURE internships together with our international partners. Already a range of students around the globe could get insights into the field of urban ecology research. SURE then also clearly profits from its chapters and we have now five SURE chapters installed: SURE Latin America, SURE China, SURE South-East Europe, SURE South Asia and SURE Central Europe.

Highlights of the last years were for sure our two SURE World Congresses taking part in Berlin, Germany (2012) and Shanghai, China (2015). We are already looking forward to your third SURE World Congress which will take place 2020 in Poznan, Poland.

We want to celebrate this year with you and therefore we planned a range of activities:

- The anniversary will be celebrated in the course of the SUNRAISE – SURE Summer School, 7-14 July 2019 Salzburg, Austria. The topic of the summer school is *URBAN + MOUNTAINS – Sustainable Natural Resource Use in Arctic and High Mountainous Areas* and will be organized by SURE president Univ.-Prof. Dr. Jürgen Breuste, Chair Urban and Landscape Ecology, Dept. Geography and Geology, University Salzburg in cooperation with SURE and the UNESCO Global Geopark Ore of the Alps, Austria, ERASMUS +, University Salzburg and the National Park Berchtesgaden, Germany.

- In the course of the 10th anniversary the SURE workshop *The challenging urban nature and nature's role in urban challenges* will take place between 5-8 September 2019 at the University of Bucharest (Romania) (register will be open at the end of February on [https://ccmesi.ro/?page\\_id=1216](https://ccmesi.ro/?page_id=1216)). The workshop will be supported by the journal Sustainability (see at [https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special\\_issues/Environmental\\_Conflicts](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special_issues/Environmental_Conflicts)).

- The research highlights of SURE will be presented in the first SURE book to be published for the Springer Cities and Nature Books series. The book will reflect the broad research and geographical background of SURE and its members dealing with topics such as urban gardening, urban agriculture, urban forests, urban waters and wetlands, urban protected areas, urban biodiversity, multi-functional urban green spaces and conflicting nature in cities

We hope to meet you at one of these events and thank all supporters for their efforts to make SURE a lively society making cities fit for the future.

Jürgen Breuste  
President

Martina Artmann  
Secretary General

Cristian Ioja  
Treasurer