



Urban sustainability mission

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Urban sustainability

- Over 50% of the world's population lives in urban areas
- Predicted to increase to more than two-third by 2050
- The advance of urbanization has coincided with global land degradation
- Rapid urbanization increasing pressure on the natural environment and causing loss in biodiversity

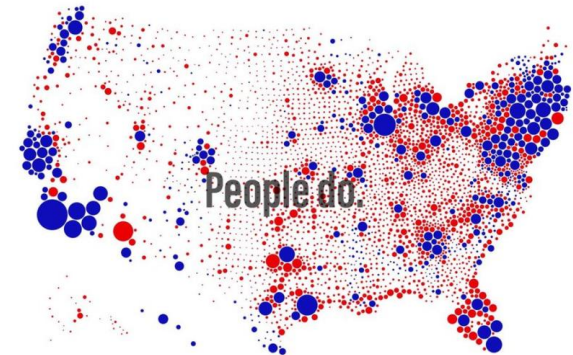


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The importance of urban areas increasing

- Urbanization creates convenience, better housing and jobs
- Urban economies perform better than rural ones.
- Better education, entertainment, social life and healthcare
- More Security and police availability
- More tourist attractions and shopping places

Important challenge: sustaining the development of economy and infrastructure but at the same time sustaining a liveable environment in the cities



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What are urban green spaces?

- Urban parks and meadows
- Roadsides and vegetation barriers along rail tracks
- Small gardens, pocket-parks and playgrounds
- Green roofs and facades
- Coastal, riverside and lakeside trails
- Recreational and urban gardening facilities
- Urban woodlands, forests and wildlife areas



Why are these areas important?

- Important recreation areas (especially in pandemic situation)
- Have an aesthetic value and improve social cohesion.
- Forms and integral part of our cultural heritage
- Help to mitigate air pollution (dust and smog) and decrease runoff waters and mitigate temperature extremities.
- They can act as stepping stones or green corridors for sustaining wild flora and fauna



Direct benefits of urban greenspaces

- City improvements can be more „eco-friendly”
- Urban greenspaces successfully weave together the needs of diverse groups of people and wildlife
- Helps to reconnect urban people with nature, which leads to additional benefits including health effects and social well-being
- Can be a tool of environmental education: help people to value nature and understand its functioning



Urban sustainability – organised events

- **The 2nd Hungarian Urban Ecological Conference** was held on October 14 and 15, 2021, at the Management Campus of Széchenyi István University in Győr, Hungary. Opening plenary of Dr Valentin Klaus (ETH Zurich) with the title: “*Using the Biodiversity Potential of Urban Grasslands: Options and Limitations of Nature Conservation Efforts in Cities*” was sponsored by AE HUB
- **ECCOMAS Multibody Dynamics Conference 2021**, the plenary was delivered by Dr. Gergely Röst, Department Chair of Applied and Numerical Mathematics at the University of Szeged about the first agent-based model of COVID-19 spread developed for the city of Szeged. His talk was sponsored by AE Hub

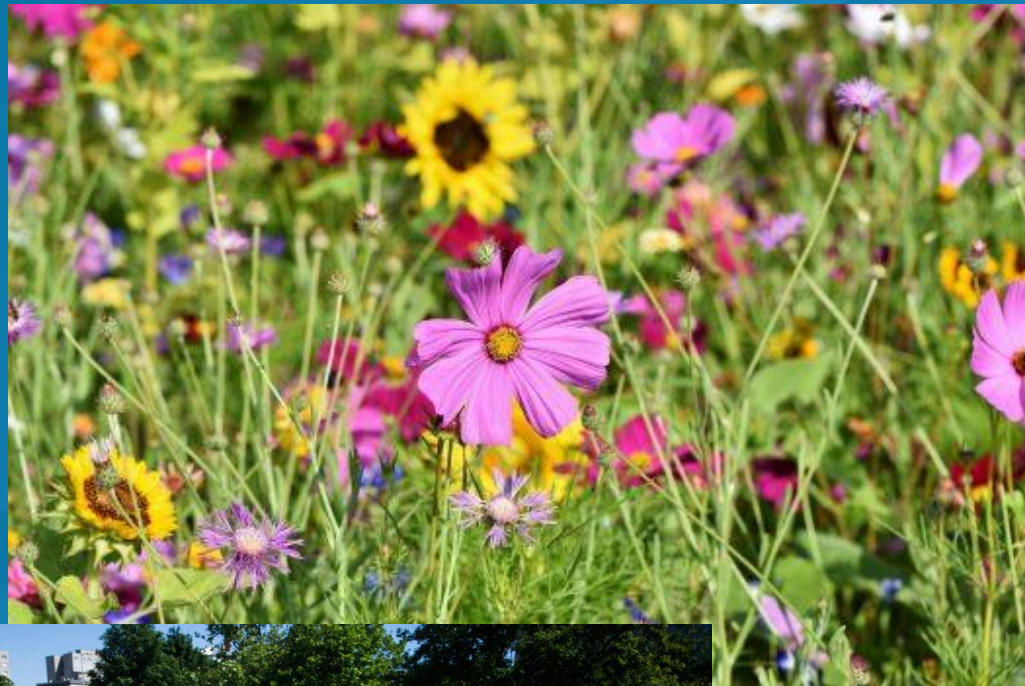


Urban sustainability: Broad key areas for cooperation

- **Urban biodiversity and possibilities of its conservation**
- **Historical drivers, special opportunities and challenges of urban sustainability** in the Visegrád countries and other parts of Central Europe;
- **Possible synergies and unavoidable trade-offs** while entering the era of **smart cities, digital transportation systems, and clean energy**;
- **Organisation of thematic regional workshops** and public lectures in **urban sustainability**;
- **European-wide knowledge exchange and transfer in urban sustainability** with the involvement of other AE Hubs.



We are open for joint work!



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