

International Urban Health Summit 2025 (IUHS2025)

Over 4.4 billion people globally live in urban areas and the urban population is predicted to reach 6.7 billion by 2050, accounting for 70 percent of the world's population. This poses social and environmental challenges that will have disproportionate impacts on the health and wellbeing of citizens, especially of socially and economically disadvantaged communities. The varied and complex nature of urban life can complicate the development and introduction of plans and policies to promote urban health in a holistic manner.

The "International Urban Health Summit" aims to bring together researchers and practitioners to address key issues of urban health through the lens of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The conference will foster interdisciplinary collaboration and knowledge exchange on various aspects of urban health.

The "International Urban Health Summit" is part of the Herrenhausen Conference Series initiated by the Volkswagen Foundation. There is no fee for attendance, but registration is essential.

Please visit the conference website for more information:

<https://www.volkswagenstiftung.de/en/events/international-urban-health-summit>

Or follow our page on the social media platform LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-urban-health-project/>

Venue: Herrenhausen Palace, Hanover

Dates: April 9 - 11, 2025

Program

Day 1: April 9, 2025

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Registration for Early Career Researchers ONLY

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Workshop for Early Career Researchers ONLY

Focus on urban health research methodologies and networking opportunities.

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Registration and Light Lunch

Opportunity for attendees to network and engage informally before the main sessions.

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Welcome & Introductory Keynote



Speakers:

- Georg Schütte, Secretary General, VolkswagenStiftung
- Jo Ivey Boufford, Dean, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, NYU
- Detlev Ganten, Founder, Virchow Foundation for Global Health
- Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, WHO
- Nathalie Röbbel, Lead for Urban Health, WHO, Geneva
- Peggy Hamburg, Co-President, InterAcademy Partnership (IAP)

3:30 PM - 4:00 PM

Coffee & Networking

An opportunity for participants to connect over refreshments.

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Plenary Session 1: Urban Planning & Governance

Chair: Rainer Fehr, Sustainable Environmental Health Sciences Group, University of Bielefeld, Germany

- Series of 5 Presentations (7 minutes each, followed by brief Q&A):

- Jo Ivey Boufford, IAP, NYU, USA
- Remy Sietchiping, UN-Habitat
- Ole Petter Ottersen, former President, Karolinska Institutet
- Representative, WHO
- Marcus Grant, Senior Researcher and Practitioner, Environmental Stewardship for Health
- Heike Köckler, Academy for Territorial Development in the Leibniz Association, Hanover, Germany

5:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Coffee & Grotto

Networking opportunity in a relaxed setting with light refreshments.

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

Breakout Groups: Urban Planning & Governance

Parallel Sessions with interactive discussions:

- Workshop A: Urban Planning for Equity and Cities 'Resilience

Chairs: Heike Köckler and WHO Representative

Participants include: Planning experts from TU Dortmund, ISUH staff, Global Health Hub representatives.

- Workshop B: Addressing Implementation Gaps

Chairs: UN-Habitat Representative

Focus on local strategies like "Health in All Policies" and presentations from Utrecht experts, LZG.NRW, and the Healthy Cities Network.

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM



Postersession and Moving Dinner
Early Career Researchers present their work to attendees.

9:00 PM
End of the first day

Day 2: April 10, 2025

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM
Coffee Available

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Officially opening the day with welcoming remarks

- Belit Onay, Mayor, City of Hanover
- Christoph Marksches, President, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities

Plenary Session 2: Built Environment & Urban Health

Speakers:

- Richard Burdett, Urban Studies, London School of Economics
- Graham Alabaster, Officer in Charge, UN-Habitat
- Meredith Glaser, University of Amsterdam
- Stefany Matthys, CEO, European Network Architecture for Health
- Blessing Mberu, APHRC, Kenya
- Giselle Sebag, Managing Director, International Society of Urban Health

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Coffee Break and Poster Session

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Breakout Groups: Built Environment & Urban Health

Parallel Workshops focusing on various aspects of the built environment's impact on health.

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Lunch and Walk & Talk

An informal lunch promoting discussions in a walking format.

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Plenary Session 3: Natural Environment, Climate Change & Urban Health

Speaker: Victor Dzau, President, United States National Academy of Medicine

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Breakout Groups: Natural Environment & Climate Change



Focused discussions on the interrelation of climate change and health outcomes.

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Coffee Break

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Plenary Session 4: Public Engagement and Urban Decision Making

Chair: Christopher Bailey, President, United States National Academy of Medicine

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Breakout Groups: Public Engagement & Urban Decision Making

Exploring effective strategies for public involvement in urban planning.

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Networking Activities

Opportunities for networking over dinner.

9:00 PM

End of the second day

Day 3: April 11, 2025

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Coffee Available

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Plenary Session 5: Public Engagement in Urban Decision Making

Speaker: Tollulah Oni, University of Cambridge

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Breakout Groups: Public Engagement in Urban Decision Making

In-depth discussions and strategies for enhancing public participation.

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Coffee Break

11:30 PM - 12:30 PM

Plenary Session 6: Education & Social Determinants of Health

Speakers:

- Annette Grüters-Kieslich, Former Dean, Berlin University Hospital
- Olaf Kaltenborn, ETH Zurich Foundation

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

Breakout Groups: Education & Social Determinants of Health



1:30 PM - 2:00 PM

Final Wrap-Up and Closing Remarks

Speakers:

- Jo Ivey Boufford, NYU
- Detlev Ganten, Virchow Foundation
- Christoph Marksches, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities
- Giselle Sebag, International Society of Urban Health

2:00 PM

Lunch

3:00 PM

End of the Summit