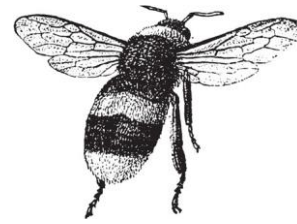


Second Call

CITIES FOR BIODIVERSITY



Nordic and Baltic Cities as providers and promoters of global biodiversity

Stockholm 5th-7th of October 2023

Swedish Museum of Natural History, Frescativägen 40, Stockholm,
subway station Universitetet



White-tailed eagle, giant oak and eagle owl in the Royal National City Park in Stockholm, Sweden

We call you to a conference focused on biodiversity in northern cities – assessing biodiversity and the potential to strengthen it and how to go about it.

The conference is supported by the **Nordic Council of Ministers** and arranged by **Ekoparken Association** in cooperation with **World Wildlife Foundation in Sweden** and the **Swedish Museum of Natural History**.

Research supports the contention that cities are harbors for many species. What responsibility do we have to save and strengthen the biodiversity of our urban areas?

The aim of the conference is to learn and exchange experiences from Nordic and Baltic cities that have adopted strategies for biodiversity. This is done against a background of scientific knowledge.

Welcome!

Richard Murray
President
Ekoparken
Association



Gustaf Lind
Secretary general
World Wildlife
Foundation, Sweden



Lisa Månsson
Director General
Swedish Museum
of Natural History



 Nordic Council
of Ministers

Program

4th of October

6 PM **Informal get-together** – Mornington hotel, Nybrogatan 53,
Subway stop Östermalmstorg

5th of October

What do we know about biodiversity in cities?

The first day explores the scientific knowledge about biodiversity in cities. What potential is there to promote biodiversity in big cities? What is cities' contribution to biodiversity? What co-benefits and conflicts with other values in cities are there? How to evaluate urban ecosystems? What can be done in built up, hard-surface areas to promote biodiversity? What changes of behavior are needed – residents, businesses, planners, and politicians? Are the United Nations and European Union programs for biodiversity relevant for cities? How are international conventions and national legal regulations implemented?

09 00 **Welcome**

Richard Murray, president Ekoparken Association
Sebastian Kvist, Swedish Museum of Natural History
Representative for World Wildlife Foundation, Sweden

09 15 Alexandre Antonelli, professor, director of research Kew Gardens

Think globally, act locally – why urban biodiversity matters

10 15 Thomas Elmqvist, professor in natural resource management, Stockholm university **Urban ecosystems – characteristics and potentials**

10 55 Refreshments

11 25 Johanna Alkan Olsson, researcher, dept of biology, Lund University

UN Convention on biodiversity and EU Green deal – are these binding for cities?

12 05 Lunch

13 25 Camilla Sandström, professor, political science, Umeå University

Governance challenges and suggested policy instruments to achieve environmental objectives

14 05 Marcus Hedblom, professor, Swedish University of Agriculture

Managing the urban green for biodiversity and human recreation

14 45 Anton Stahl Olafsson, ass.professor, Copenhagen University

Conflicts and dilemmas of biodiversity in multifunctional green spaces: reflections from Copenhagen

15 25 Arild Vatn, professor em., Norwegian University of Life Sciences

How to bring nature values into local decision-making

16 05 General discussion - Comment on previous talks, forgotten issues

17 00 End of first day

19 00 Dinner at your own expense. Mornington hotel or some other place



6th of October

Experiences from Nordic and Baltic cities in promoting biodiversity.

The second day is devoted to examples and good practices of green urban planning. **Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosch** starts the day by giving a broad international overview of the greening of cities and **Henrik Sjöman** talks about the role of trees in cities.

Topics for the day are strategies for biodiversity, mainstreaming of green infrastructure in regional and city planning, nature based solutions, pollinating friendly measures in built up areas, the role of trees, aquatic biodiversity, capitalizing on co-benefits and solving conflicts with other values.

This is done with the help of city planners, urban ecologists and politicians from Copenhagen, Oslo, Reykjavik, Helsinki, Stockholm, Vilnius, Riga and other cities.

As well as practical, hands-on measures strategic issues like needed competence, political support and long-term commitments will be discussed.

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| 09 00 | Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosch, director of Nature Based Solutions Institute, Barcelona-Stockholm Greening cities around the world |
| 09 40 | Panels with city representatives across the Nordic and Baltic countries How to ensure that biodiversity is treated on par with other forms of infrastructure in regional and city planning |
| 11 40 | Refreshments |
| 12 10 | Henrik Sjöman, Scientific curator at Gothenburg botanic garden and researcher at Kew Garden, London. Trees for future challenges – opportunities and limitations |
| 12 50 | Lunch |
| 14 00 | Panels with city representatives across the Nordic and Baltic countries Planting, caring and developing green infrastructure and biodiversity in cities |
| 16 00 | Refreshments |
| 16 30 | General discussion. Summing up |
| 17 30 | End of day two |
| 18 30 | Åsa Lindhagen, Vice mayor for environment and Climate, City of Stockholm Reception at the City Hall of Stockholm (not confirmed) |

7th of October

Excursion

Visits to projects aiming at increasing biodiversity in the Royal National City Park and other parts of the Stockholm region.

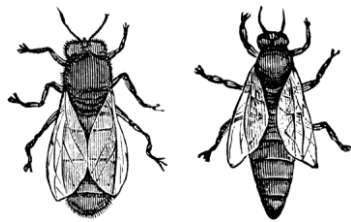
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| 09 00 | Henrik Waldenström, WWF and Sebastian Kvist, Swedish Museum of Natural History – Visit to the Royal National City Park |
| 12 00 | Lunch |
| 13 00 | N.N. – Wildlife corridors in metropolitan Stockholm |
| 16 00 | End of guided tour and conference |

Meeting and mingling is important!

With the conference we seek to achieve a meeting of researchers, planners and park professionals that will lecture and discuss issues pertinent to the over-all problem of assessing and promoting biodiversity in Nordic and Baltic cities. The program will mix key-note speeches, panels and general discussions.

We are keen to make room for informal meetings at coffee-breaks and lunches. We are planning both an informal get-together on the eve before the conference, i.e. on the 4th of October, and hopefully a reception on the evening of the 6th of October.

We aim at, with your help, to write a full report of the findings during the conference, to be disseminated broadly.



Practical

Conference venue: the Swedish Museum of Natural History in the Royal National City Park, Frescativägen 40, 114 18 Stockholm, subway station Universitetet.

Conference fee: SEK 1000 per day includes coffees and lunch all three days plus a guided excursion the third day.

Accommodation: We recommend Mornington Hotel Stockholm City, Nybrogatan 53. Subway station: Östermalmstorg. Easy access to the conference venue by subway. You are granted 10 percent discount by using a link supplied when you have registered.

Registration:

<https://www.trippus.net/Cities-for-biodiversity-registration>

Cancellations: will be accepted until September 25th with a refund minus a handling fee of SEK 400. In order to cancel, please email to info@ekoparken.org.

Inquires: Please email to info@ekoparken.org. Check Ekoparken Association website www.ekoparken.org.

Welcome!