

# FUTURE FORMATS

# FOR THE REGION

local - regional - global

**Monday, 21.03.2022 and Tuesday, 22.03.2022**

**In Hall 12 on the grounds of the UNESCO World Heritage Zollverein**



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Dear Ladies and Gentleman,  
**thank you for your participation in the congress “Future Formats for the region: local -regional – global” and thank you for your support.**

At the beginning of the “green decade” in year 2017, the congress Future Formats took place for the first time. With the Essen Declaration, it was agreed to hold a congress every two years to discuss how future formats contribute to the transformation of our cities and regions against the backdrop of global challenges.

From March 21-22, 2022, there was now the third edition of the “Future Formats”, which was held under the motto “local - regional - global”. The focus this year was on the requirements of the climate change which challenges the cities and regions enormously. In that regard Essen and the Metropolis Ruhr have been setting good examples for years. Examples include the Emscher Park International Building Exhibition, the Emscher Conversion, the RUHR2010 Capital of Culture, the Innovation City Process and the European Green Capital Project Year - Essen 2017. Upcoming milestones in the “green decade” are the Rhine-Ruhr 2025 FISU World University Games and the IGA Metropole Ruhr 2027.

How cities and regions in Europe and worldwide are approaching the challenges of climate change and developing solutions for a sustainable urban future, was the topic of this year's "Future Formats Congress", which provided an opportunity for the international exchange of experts, decision-makers and citizens.

For the first time, the congress was held in a hybrid format. Approximately 220 participants followed the contributions and podiums of the international and regional speakers on site at the UNESCO World Heritage Zollverein and online, discussed with each other and made new contacts. I was inspired by the range of ideas, projects and concepts presented. It has become clear that the sustainability transformation of our cities and regions is a joint effort involving society as a whole and that it is time to act together.

I am pleased to send you the documentation of the third congress "Future Formats" and wish you an enjoyable and inspiring reading.

Yours sincerely



Simone Raskob  
Vice Mayor for Environment, Transport and Sports of the City of Essen





### Future Formats for the region

In 2017, Essen, as the European Green Capital, showed how sustainable change processes of a city in the heart of the Ruhr Region can be successful. The region is a pioneer in the transformation from a mining region to a polycentric and sustainable metropolis. Exemplary for this is the successful conversion of gray industrial landscape to flourishing green and blue infrastructure. The Metropolis Ruhr is a region of possibilities, no space in Europe has experienced integrated planning processes in such a density and sequence and implemented them so successfully. These were closely followed by the Emscher Park International Building Exhibition, the Emscher Conversion, the RUHR2010 Capital of Culture, the Innovation City Process and the European Green Capital - Essen 2017. With the International Garden Exhibition in 2027, a green decade is now unfolding, accompanied by other exciting processes such as the Ruhr conference.

In December 2017 the congress "European Future Formats: results, impacts and similarities – based on the Metropolis Ruhr example" looked at topic-specific formats and conducive and beneficial factors and structures for sustainable urban planning and, with the Essen Declaration, launched an idea for the exchange of experience.

In December 2019, the first follow-up event of the congress took place to discuss the culture of participation under the title "Future Formats for the region" in the Metropolis Ruhr.

At the Zeche Zollverein, where creative people in start-ups, companies, universities stay and work alongside the tourist industry, important actors from citizenship, economy, science, administration and politics had come together.

In March 2022 the third event of the series “Future Formats for the region” has now taken place – the first time in hybrid format, so that international guests could also participate in the event.

How we live and work, how we move and provide for ourselves will be determined by the requirements of the climate protection. Cities and regions are therefore faced with enormous challenges – everywhere in Europe and worldwide the necessary transformation has been initiated; they develop unconventional and exemplary solutions for sustainable urban planning.

The congress "Future Formats for the region" creates an appropriate frame for international exchange of professionals, decision-makers and civils. In order to create lifeworthy, sustainable cities of tomorrow, all steps must be constantly reflected and optimized. That means, to learn from each other - across borders and topics. Only democratic participation makes broad acceptance for the measures possible.

In the evening of 21st March 2022, we followed up on the format RUHR TALKS and discussed with you and our speakers the question: "How do we talk about the future?" With examples from the research project "Scripts for Postindustrial Urban Futures" of the University of Duisburg-Essen and the live poetry slammer Christofer with "f", we discussed the stories about the future of the region from the perspective of researchers and artists that evening.

On Tuesday, March 22, 2022, we began the day with a greeting from Thomas Kufen (Lord Mayor of the City of Essen), Ursula Heinen-Esser (Minister of State a. D.) and professor Dr. Hans-Peter Noll (Chairman of the Board of the Zollverein Foundation) and introduced the upcoming presentation and discussions. In the main part of the congress day, the forces of transformation, the regional perspective and the international challenges were discussed.

Experts reported on different formats and programs that support the processes of transformation. Especially the participation of the citizens of the cities plays a major role hereby. The various ways in which participation and identification with new projects can be strengthened were presented and discussed in the big picture.

## DECLARATION OF ESSEN

### PREAMBLE

The 21st century is the century of cities and metropolises worldwide. Until the year 2050 seventy percent of the world's population will live there. Cities and metropolises are the place for economic development, innovation and education. At the same time, metropolitan areas consume the majority of our resources in the form of food, energy and goods. Europe is consolidating its structures. By greatly planning, optimizing and innovating the existing structures it is creating a current, new and vital model of the city. The "Leipzig Charter on sustainable European cities," which describes the city as dense, socially mixed, compact and open to the public everywhere, underlines the performance of this urban type. The future of our planet will be determined by the sustainability of cities' use of resources. The use of renewable energies, the application of new mobility concepts, sustainable building, environmental protection and the designing of active land- and green scaping are the main points of progressive urbanization. With its future formats, Europe is demonstrating how sustainable development processes are conceived, implemented and incorporated into urban planning for the transformation of existing buildings.

### EUROPEAN FUTURE FORMATS

Different formats, such as the World's Fairs (Expo), the International Building Exhibitions (IBA) and the International Garden Exhibitions (IGA), the European Competition Formats of the European Capitals of Culture and the Green Capitals of Europe, as well as the formats of the Climate Expo.NRW introduced in NRW, the Regionals NRW and the Emscher Conversion can exemplify how those can be designed, implemented and communicated with citizens in order to be successful and achieve effective results in the transformation of cities. The procedures and public relations in many formats are designed to make citizens the protagonists of the content, to enable them to participate and to inform them about the successes and the new issues. The cooperation and dialog are of special importance for the impact of all these formats. No metropolis has implemented various EUROPEAN FUTURE FORMATS in regional cooperation in such close succession as the Metropolis Ruhr. With the current formats, starting from the European Green Capital - Essen 2017, the Emscher Conversion, the KlimaExpo. NRW to the International Garden Exhibition 2027, we are at the beginning of a green decade, which is also accompanied by the master plan Green Infrastructure Ruhr.

This region – Metropolis Ruhr – can be an internationally pioneering idol for many growing and transformative metropolitan areas in Europe and moreover. Here, in the center of Germany and Europe, models, typologies and results of this kind of formats can be observed and evaluated.

### THE METROPOLIS RUHR AS A SOURCE OF IMPETUS FOR EUROPE

A platform that is carried by an effective network can offer the following services in the future with the appropriate personnel and budget:

- The platform to be formed plans and organizes a conference every two years in the Metropolis Ruhr.
- If possible, this platform will participate in further international conferences or organize congresses to strengthen the communication and cooperation between the formats.
- Visiting programs to exemplary planning and implemented projects of the formats will be designed and offered.
- A digital network of existing information and knowledge resources will bundle the various approaches and international campaigns and make them accessible.
- The platform offers exchange for cities, metropolises and regions that are working towards applying for one of the formats or are developing their own formats.
- The evaluation procedures on the impact of the different formats in the sense of a joint reflection are brought together. This will initiate a discourse on quality standards and support the ongoing monitoring of the formats itself.

### CONCLUSION

The Essen Declaration aims at the tasks of the 21st century as well as the question of how we can answer them with international urbanization and urban development processes. It becomes clear that large-scale integrated development concepts of the EU, national states or regional institutions are variously used. There is an opportunity to constitute an interdisciplinary platform that offers space to organize a dialog on common goals, to exchange experiences and generate knowledge for everyone, to create the transformation of cities and metropolises into future – oriented places for a future worth living in.

# RUHR TALKS –

# HOW DO WE TALK

# ABOUT THE FUTURE?

Monday, 21.03.2022





How do we talk about the future? Different narratives and presentations have a considerable influence on our behavior. The RUHR TALKS give researchers and artists the opportunity to present stories about the future for the region from their point of view and to discuss them with the citizens.



### **Simone Raskob**

Vice Mayor for Environment, Transport and Sports of the City of Essen

### **Prof. Dr. Barbara Buchenau**

Speaker of the UAR Research College  
„Scripts for Postindustrial Urban Futures:  
American Models, Transatlantic  
Intervention"  
University of Duisburg-Essen

### **Christofer Rott**

Poetry Slammer – Christofer with „f“

#### **Simone Raskob, Welcome**

"No place in Europe has experienced more formative development processes in such density and diversity like the Metropolis Ruhr. Many exemplary processes show the conversion from gray to green that has been well achieved by the City of Essen: European Capital of Culture 2010, European Green Capital 2017, Emscher Conversion, IGA 2027 - International Horticultural Exhibition."

#### **Prof. Dr. Barbara Buchenau, Future Narratives of Metropolitan Regions**

"Script-like narrative forms are currently making increasing inroads into urban design - this is a problem, but also an opportunity." In a world that is becoming increasingly urbanized and where the new media create a new orality, scripts are gaining more meaning: they act to create meaning, community-building, and identity-building, providing us with blueprints that we can fall back on and apply to urban design.

#### **Christofer with "f", live poetry**

There are many steps that go into the right direction - and fatally at least twice as many that go in the wrong direction. Environmental protection and climate policy are not activities that can be "handled" along the way - but far too often, empty promises are made and changes are feigned, postponed or refused.

**Dr. Julia Sattler**  
TU Dortmund



**Chris Katzenberg**  
Ruhr University Bochum



**Hanna Rodewald**  
TU Dortmund



**Dr. Julia Sattler, City Scripts: Transatlantic Future Scenarios of Postindustrial Cities**

Both the Ruhr Area and Detroit are two industrial regions subject to constant change, industrial regions that have undergone similar processes of industrialization and deindustrialization throughout history. For both regions, the question is: What future is being constructed for the period after traditional large-scale industry, after steel, coal and automobiles?

**Chris Katzenberg, City Scripts: Transatlantic Future Scenarios of Postindustrial Cities**

Another future narrative describes increased collaboration at the intersection of education and social life as the key to a socially fair, educated, and high-performing urban region of the future. One of the origins of this scenario for the Ruhr Region lies in an American policy model.

**Hanna Rodewald, City Scripts: Transatlantic Future Scenarios of Postindustrial Cities**

If we look at creative approaches to urban development from a literary and cultural studies perspective, we can identify similar scripts and narratives for the Ruhr Region and the American Rust Belt. Within the local contexts, these express themselves in characteristically written and visual language.



HOST

**Kai Lipsius**City of Essen, Management Green Capital  
Agency

Since 2012, Kai Lipsius is a climate advisor, responsible for the City of Essen. He also leads the „Green Capital Agency“ of the City of Essen since 2018, as a staff unit of the Department for Environment, Traffic and Sports. He studied Geoecology in Braunschweig and holds a Master’s Degree in Environmental Sciences (University of Nottingham). From 2012 to 2017 he led the project „Climate Initiative Essen – Acting in a new climate culture“, initiated by The Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). Before that, he gained 5 years experience working in the department Climate and Energy of the Federal Environment Agency.



**Prof. Dr. Barbara Buchenau, Speaker of the UAR Research College Scripts for Postindustrial Urban Futures: American Models, Transatlantic Intervention, University of Duisburg-Essen**

The problem with well-tuned narratives of the future is that it always depends on who is narrating them. For the green revolution we need to start looking at humans not as the enemy of nature, but as a symbiotic relationship.

**Christofer Rott, Live Poetry Slammer - Christofer with "f"**

Our consumption is an inevitable cause of the assumption that society must have a reason to get up in the morning and go to work.

**Dr. Julia Sattler, TU Dortmund University**

Utopian communities in Detroit are joining forces to create a better world. But how do these communities integrate into the existing social systems?

**Hanna Rodewald, TU Dortmund University**

You have to deal with the complexity created by the crises. The "now" should be co-negotiated so that we can create a way on which we can move forward.

**Chris Katzenberg, Ruhr University Bochum**

Socially unequal educational opportunities are a known challenge. The future narratives of reform projects almost always include this issue, but they have not yet been able to solve the problem so far.

# „RUHR-TALKS“

Willkommen

UMBAU VON GRAU zu GRÜN



NICHT NUR VERGANGENHEIT  
ZUKUNFT



GRENOBLE  
ZUSAMMEN-  
ARBEIT



CITY SCRIPTS



! HÄLTE DER GRÜNEN  
DEKADE

KRISE VERHINDERN

③ SMART RHINO

DIE Urbane Frontier

„NEUE“  
FRONTIER



BUFFALO  
BILL  
ZIVILISATION  
(TURNER)



WILDNIS  
FRONTIER  
GRENZE  
„DORT ENTSTEHEN“

THE NEW  
URBAN



SM  
RH  
• ESS

# CITY SCRIPTS

TRANSATLANTISCHE  
ZUKUNFTSSZENARIEN 2021

21.03.2022

LIVE VOR ORT + HYBRID

# Wie reden wir über die Zukunft?

## „ZUKUNFTSNARRATIVE FÜR METROPOLREGIONEN“





**FUTURE FORMATS**

**FOR THE REGION: LOCAL -**

**REGIONAL - GLOBAL**

Tuesday, 22.03.2022



The congress series "Future Formats for the Region" highlights the possibilities of a region's transformation through large formats such as the IBA Emscherpark, the European Capital of Culture RUHR.2010 or the European Green Capital City 2017. The congress in 2022 was marked by the challenges of climate change. Local, regional and international actors presented innovative approaches to meet the challenges.



## WELCOME

“Not only just the minds of the Metropolis Ruhr should come together to join the conference "Future Formats for the Region" to talk about our future, but also friends from all over the world should be given a forum to exchange ideas.”

**Thomas Kufen**  
Lord Mayor of the City of Essen

It is not easy to think in future formats, as we live in the here and now - nevertheless, the political agenda must be consciously dedicated to climate and environmental protection. It is the task of our time to professionally and collectively work on the conflicts of our society and the protection of our world. This also raises the question of the priorities of the political triangle - a good exchange with our international partners is inevitable for this purpose.

Thereby it was also a concern to remain in constant exchange with the twin city of Grenoble. The City of Grenoble, like the City of Essen before it, was awarded as "The Green Capital of Europe". It has become clear what opportunities are offered by international cooperation, because we can learn a lot from each other. It has been shown that many partners want to work with the City of Essen, because they are inspired by the way in which the administration, politics and the citizens' movement in our city interact with each other. It should always be kept in mind that this would not work without the citizens and the city administration.

## WELCOME

"Essen is the first major city with 500,000 inhabitants in NRW to actually implement such a strategy in a participatory process"

**Ursula Heinen-Esser**  
Former Minister of State



In the past few years, we have had to face three main crises: on the one hand, the health crisis caused by corona and, on the other, the humanitarian crisis due to external political conflicts. This also revealed the deficits that we had to deal with: keyword "digitalization". We now find ourselves in a third crisis: the climate crisis.

Clearly, climate change has arrived right in front of us - in the years 2018 to 2020 we struggled with drought and dry years. The groundwater levels could not recover and in addition, we had to deal with heavy rainfalls in the previous year. Climate is not only a matter for global organizations (UN), but a direct responsibility on the ground as well. In this regard, the City of Essen is considered a role model due to its successful sustainability strategies and developments as a sustainable community: local goals have been successfully implemented in line with the UN goals. Essen will continue to pursue ambitious goals in this regard, is to become a resilient city. Further strategies in form of climate adaptation should also be developed.



## WELCOME

"Let yourself be animated by this fantastic place, be inspired by this unique place"

### **Prof. Dr. Hans-Peter Noll**

Chairman of the Board of the Zollverein Foundation

Transformation should be about inspiration, but also about the principle of "preservation through repurposing". Transformation is possible, you just have to create a vision. This poses the question: How can you make a place sustainable?

One connecting point and, at the same time, a challenge is to construct and maintain real estate and buildings in an environmentally friendly manner. This is especially feasible for new construction projects, only for existing buildings there is a challenge. It is important to set an example - producing sustainable products is also an important aspect. The goal is to become a future location, by advancing climate-neutral projects.

HOST

**Sebastian Schlecht**  
Architect AKNW



Sebastian Schlecht is an architect with a focus on urban planning and worked for the City of Essen in the Environment, Transport and Sports Division until April 2022. From 2015 to 2019, he was responsible for the management and implementation of the European Green Capital project. He then strategically coordinated the leading themes in climate protection, climate adaptation and the intersection with mobility and green and blue urban development that emerged with the European Green Capital.

He has been the representative of the City of Essen in the Urban Transitions Alliance city network since 2017 and is a representative of the network Citymakers-Europe-China. He is also the founder of the regional initiative lala.ruhr - the laboratory for the landscape of the Ruhr Metropolis, and from April 2022, he will be in charge of the green cities and regions theme for the State Initiative Baukultur NRW.



## INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

"The motto of the Green Capital was from green to grey, from grey to green"

### **Simone Raskob**

Vice Mayor for Environment, Transport and Sports of the City of Essen

Especially nowadays, it is notable that the interaction of human and nature shapes our living conditions. The main characteristics of this interplay are found in the way we approach climate change - jobs that are sustainable and secure are to be created to develop a sustainable homeland. These are both a goal and a challenge. An identification between people and region must be present in order to shape a common future in this form. We can positively look back on the fact that we have already been able to achieve many successes in this regard.

It is among others the responsibility of the Green Capital Agency to advance the issues of climate protection, sustainability, mobility, energy and city administration. In addition, citizens are also interested in participating, and impulses have been set to demonstrate concrete opportunities for participation in everyday life. The council has decided to implement the concept of the 4x25 percent target. Furthermore, the 12 themes of the European Green Capital are to be pursued and the SECAP action plan is to be conducted.



FUTURE FORMATS FOR THE REGION



PEOPLE SHAPE THE CITY -  
LOCALLY, CREATIVELY, LIVELY

"Urban renewal lives from  
participation"

**Svenja Noltemeyer**  
die Urbanisten e.V.

The project "Transurban", which was realized with 16 cooperation partners in Dortmund in summer of 2021, symbolically illustrates how transformation of public space can be implemented with the people on the ground. Where once an unused space existed, a multifunctional space was created within the art residence, with a skateboard ramp as a stage and an exhibition which draws attention to the urban development projects in the adjoining neighborhoods, thus making the invisible visible. Within four weeks a place was completely changed and a new togetherness was established. This example shows a successful collaboration of artistic intervention, transformation and partnership.

Participation is required in order to enable transformations for the common good. Education is the basis and the gateway, but administrations must also approach such a project in an open and structured way. Furthermore, the mutual exchange of networks, knowledge and information is necessary. Spatial possibilities and financial resources cannot be missing. It is important that participatory projects receive any attention at all, and that "do-it-yourself" becomes part of strategic urban development.

## TRANSFORMATION TO BECOME A GREEN INDUSTRIAL REGION – PIONEERS POTENTIALS OF THE RUHR REGION

"Among the challenges, there are also  
many, many opportunities"

**Prof Dr.-Ing. Manfred Fishedick**  
Wuppertal Institute for Climate,  
Environment and Energy GmbH



Nowadays, we are faced with the challenge of having to implement profound industrial structural changes worldwide: How can industrial regions become climate neutral? How can we counteract the increase in greenhouse gases? How can we adapt to climate change and the associated weather extremes?

Securing the supply of raw materials and energy is an additional major challenge. How can we become less dependent on imports and diversify supply structures? In the future, successful industrial regions will have to become more resilient and more adaptable. The corona crisis and current geopolitical events clearly demonstrate this to us. We must therefore have the courage to detach ourselves from outdated and out-moded ways of thinking and to see the new as an opportunity. The Ruhr Region is well positioned for this, due to decades of experience and transformations.



## RR2025: A SUSTAINABLE SIGNAL FOR THE MEGACITY

"We don't just want to celebrate our sports, we want to create enthusiasm for exercise throughout the Rhine - Ruhr - Region"

**Stefan Kürten**

Rhine-Ruhr 2025 FISU Games gGmbH

The World University Games present future plans for the Ruhr region in a highly goal-oriented way. The World University Games are considered to be the world's third-largest event for multi-sport events. The event is meant to bring joy, enthusiasm and fascination and to achieve intercultural exchange. But not only sportsmen and athletes can contribute, also people who would like to contribute in forms other than sports (e.g., IT-enthusiasts) are welcome. After all, the ultimate goal is to transport education, social diversity and participation should be part of the event.

Another goal is the involvement of local citizens, especially young people and students. It is not about building a virtual reality, but about relying on already existing infrastructures and shaping them in a sustainable and collaborative way in order to achieve sustainable goals. This also encompasses mobility - the focus on "public transport" is designed to achieve mobility and connectivity.

## CULTURE

"We want to become a cross-border region"

**Daniel Codello**  
Cultural Capital Esch 2022



Due to its size and centrality, Esch-Alzette is a city which has always played an important role in industry. With the ongoing development of the city, the question of how to convert the industrial areas came up. In the process of developments in the industrial sectors, we look back on a far-reaching history. For example, in the 1970s, during the oil crisis, there was the decentralization of the University in Luxembourg. Also, the changes in immigration patterns in recent years have led to cultural diversity in the city - today, more than 125 nationalities live in one community. The urbanistic developments contribute to the transformation of urban populations, for example, students enrich the cityscape and professors are bringing a different sociological image of the society.

These days, Esch cooperates across borders with 19 different municipalities and realizes almost 2000 projects like "we mix art" or "we mix culture". The goal is to not only be a cross-border labor market, but a cross-border region.



HOST

**Prof. Dr. Oliver Scheytt**  
KULTUREXPERTEN Dr. Scheytt GmbH

From 1993 to 2009, Oliver Scheytt was head of the Department of Culture of the City of Essen and for many years also Vice Mayor for Education and Youth as well as for the department „Grün und Gruga“. As moderator, from 2004 he steered the successful application „Essen for the Ruhr Area. European Capital of Culture 2010“ and was managing director of RUHR.2010 GmbH from 2006 to 2012. Subsequently, he founded KULTUREXPERTEN and KULTURPERSONAL, two companies that specialize in personnel consulting for the arts and culture and have since become leaders in the field.

Since 2007, Oliver Scheytt has been Professor of Cultural Policy and Cultural Infrastructure at the Institute for Culture and Media Management at the Hamburg University of Music and Theatre. He provides his expertise and cultural knowledge to numerous institutions of art and culture, such as the Enquete Commission „Culture in Germany“ of the German Bundestag (2003-2007).

From 1997 to 2018, he was president of the Kulturpolitische Gesellschaft e.V. and has been a member of the presidium of the Goethe-Institut since 2017. He is the author of more than 150 publications on cultural policy and cultural management.





## DISCUSSION PANEL: FORCES OF TRANSFORMATION

Host: Dr. Oliver Scheytt

Three topics will be addressed in this roundtable: How do we create identification with change? What is the level of ambition? What do we learn from each other?

**Svenja Noltemyer**

Die Urbanisten e.V

People must be involved in the transformation process! Changes should be made visible and tangible for everyone involved in order to stimulate the identification process. The ambition to change something comes from the population.

**Daniel Codello**

Cultural Capital Esch 2022

We are using the Capital of Culture as a springboard to take this step forward politically. We are now becoming a participatory municipality that involves its population in such cultural, sporting decisions. In Luxembourg it is traditional at the municipal level to only work participatively when a major construction project is presented.

**Prof. Dr.-Ing. Manfred Fishedick**

Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy GmbH

We are in the middle of the implementation decade. What do we need in order to take people along? We need a positive narrative to motivate people to participate. Together with the people, solutions must be explored and developed in our real-world laboratories. Both the personal benefit and the social benefits must not be neglected in the development of solutions.

**Stefan Kürten**

Rhine-Ruhr 2025 FISU Games gGmbH

We want to include citizens in the design of the FISU Games when it comes to far-reaching issues. Whether in the design of the logo or in communicating the values of the Ruhr Region. Our theme is energy, that means the connection between energy and performance, and also the success of each individual within the scope of his or her individual possibilities - we want energy to be understood as joy. Without energy there would be no education, without energy there would be no achievement and no success.







## IGA 2027 – TRANSFER OF IMAGE, INVESTMENT AND INNOVATION

"Image transfer must also go into the areas"

**Horst Fischer**  
IGA Ruhr Metropole 2027

2010-IBA Emscher Park - European Green Capital 2017 - 2027 IGA: It's all about continuous development. Thus, the next project encounters three levels dedicated to the theme of "gardens". First of all, the level "My Garden": this focuses on civic engagement in the form of parks and initiative projects. The next level, "Our Gardens", aims to promote (inter-)municipal projects that specialise in particular in green infrastructure, urban development and tourism. The last level represents the section "Future Gardens", which is particularly dedicated to the environmental sector and internationality. Future Gardens are intended to serve as a presentation area for future topics such as climate resilience and digitalisation. These levels also reflect the sustainability triad of economy, ecology and social issues. The IGA project also focuses, among other things, on creating suitable cycle paths that provide connections to the gardens and parks. A total of 39 first-star projects are planned. Three main characteristics have been defined for the thematic framework: image transfer, investment, innovation. Investment projects primarily mark sustainable transformations, as is already the case with the future realisation of the garden concepts.

## GREENTECH.RUHR – NETWORK OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMY OF THE METROPOLIS RUHR

"Our concern is that this is the only way innovation can happen, when different industries network with each other"

**Alisa Schuler**  
Greentech.Ruhr



As a regional economic development agency, the Business Metropole Ruhr is committed to jobs, location marketing, support for companies and the development of lead markets. The Greentech.Ruhr project is a network of innovative companies, research and educational institutions as well as various public institutions in the environmental industry with over 200 partners. Greentech.Ruhr is supported by European funds and the State of NRW. In 2020, Greentech.Ruhr was awarded the European Business Promotion Prize in the category: Promoting the development of green markets and resource efficiency.

In supporting various industries in the sectors of energy efficiency, energy supply, waste disposal, water management, raw materials and mobility, the aim is not to look at these industries individually, but to make the best possible use of their network character. To do this, networks must be established and opportunities for exchange created. These are arranged with the help of workshops and trade fairs - at regional, national and also international level.



## GREEN AS A MISSION

"Currently, construction is characterised as the biggest producer of waste and CO2. It urgently needs a paradigm change"

**Peter Köddermann**  
Baukultur Nordrhein-Westfalen e.V.

The Ruhr Region has been characterised by inter-municipal action for decades. This applies in particular to large-scale joint projects such as the IBA Emscher Park, the Capital of Culture and certainly also to the IGA 2027. However, everyday planning still has a lot of potential at intermunicipal and municipal level. This applies in particular to the topic of green in cities. But it is precisely this development that is important as a factor in improving the quality of life as well as preparing cities for the foreseeable consequences of climate change.

It still seems that too little importance is attached to the multifunctional potentials of landscape architecture in the context of urban design. Thus, green development does not play the first role in the existing competition for space in inner cities. Rather, the expected costs for maintenance management, complex planning processes for the connection of blue and green infrastructures or the priority of purely economic uses lead to the renunciation of green. It should be a timely goal for cities to set up new collaborative processes to link the tasks of urban infrastructures. This requires the development of an attitude that allows for new planning choreographies, that sees the green of the city and that involves all actors in urban design at an early stage.

## LALA.RUHR – BIENNIAL FESTIVAL OF THE RUHR METROPOLIS LANDSCAPE

"To create the green city of the future,  
it needs many perspectives"

**Melanie Kemner**  
lala.ruhr



lala.ruhr stands for laboratory for the landscape of the Metropolis Ruhr, for creative and open exchange and for the development of sustainable solutions for the urban landscape. #thinklandscape

The conviction: The quality of the region in the future will be the landscape, an urban nature. A landscape that is functional and productive, ecologically and aesthetically valuable, available to everyone, and thus resilient and lovable. The perspective: landscape starts at home, on the balcony, in the garden, at the front door, on the pavement.

### **"Motivated people of all disciplines unite!"**

Designing a city that we like to live in and that works really well is anything but easy. That's why no one can solve it alone. Shaping the green city of the future is a joint task. It requires new alliances and a new understanding of the roles of actors and professions.

The BIENNALE of the Urban Landscape provides the framework for this and will take place in September 2022 as a festival format with workshops, expeditions, cooperations, exhibitions and so much more in Gelsenkirchen.



HOST

**Markus Pließnig**  
EWG –  
Essen Economic Development Agency  
GmbH

Markus Pließnig is Head of Communications and International Affairs at the EWG - Essen Economic Development Agency. The native of Essen was, among other things, responsible for the Communication of the European Green Capital - Essen 2017. Markus Pließnig completed his studies in communication at the University of Duisburg-Essen and at the University of Lyon in France.





## DISCUSSION PANEL: REGIONAL FORMATS

Host: Markus Pließnig

### **Horst Fischer**

IGA Ruhr Metropole 2027

The local level, the citizen participation level, the regional level with the municipalities and other partners and likewise the international level make our project so appealing, as it also goes beyond the horticultural purpose.

**Peter Köddermann**

Baukultur Nordrhein-Westfalen e.V.

We have to reinterpret the European urban typology because all the framework conditions are changing. Urban design is an absolute community task - this requires on the one hand to consider what is functionally necessary and possible, but on the other hand also the openness to produce different results than originally planned. Placing green does not simply mean making something more beautiful.

**Melanie Kemner**

lala.ruhr

The Biennale of the Urban Landscape will be a place where an atmosphere can be created together that inspires, that invites exchange and that brings together diverse actors. Different formats can be tried out and shared here. Discourse also plays a major role here - where people with different disciplines from different fields come together, there must be communication.

**Alisa Schuler**

Greentech.Ruhr

There are many environmental networks in Germany - but one like the one offered here in the Ruhr Region outside the state level is unique in Germany. The closeness to home is what distinguishes the Ruhr Region. That is probably the reason why it is possible to build up such a network here, in which everyone pursues the same goals and intentions.





IMPRESSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE



## TRANSATLANTIC TRANSFER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT CONCEPTS: OPPORTUNITIES AND LIMITATIONS

"The exchange of best practices between cities is important - but the adaptation of concepts to local conditions often falls by the wayside"

**Prof. Dr. Jens Martin Gurr**  
University Alliance Ruhr

A comparison of community gardens in North America and Europe is used to show where the opportunities and difficulties lie in the exchange of urban development concepts: Community gardens fulfil rather different functions in North America: the production of food in poorly supplied areas is much more important there, whereas in Germany it is more about more "green" in the city and sustainability. In addition, community gardens in the USA often function more like allotment gardens here - there are often waiting lists, fences and firmly allocated areas. Initial evaluations also indicate that the importance of community gardens is greater in very segregated cities in North America than in less segregated cities. However, since the spatial patterns of social segregation as well as the functions of community gardens are quite different in the USA than in German cities, the concept of "community gardens" cannot be transferred so easily - many expectations are therefore not fulfilled.

## COP 26 GLASGOW

"We are the hotspots of the world because we have industrial heritage and we need to change"

**Councillor Susan Aitken**  
City of Glasgow



Between the different partnerships, there is a commonality of industrial history, especially between the industrial regions of Essen and Glasgow, which characterises the common change through art and culture. In particular, the turnaround in the 1990s emphasises the change from an industrial location to a post-coal and post-steel future. New narratives emerged that were primarily supported by the climate change conference. This has changed the structures of places, as can be seen in Glasgow, Pittsburgh and Essen. In the face of opposition to the Paris Agreement, we have managed to motivate people and members to continue to support the agreement. However, there are big changes and challenges ahead. Glasgow was the first city in Scotland to signal its intention to go zero emission - this will be a big challenge. However, the global pandemic presented the opportunity to make large events and conferences virtual for the first time and so new connections could be made.

**GRENOBLE:  
EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL 2022**

"(...) that we continue to move forward here, sharing what works here and there, inspiring each other, even if our geographical, social, economic and political conditions are not always identical, but we can build bridges in this way and tackle these challenges together."

**Eric Piolle**  
Mayor of the City of Grenoble

Grenoble and the City of Essen have been working together for 43 years. Since 2017, Essen has been considered a green capital and since then it has also accompanied Grenoble's candidacy to this end. The aim is to work together to combat climate change. This still shows how vulnerable nature is: In the Alps, we see a decrease in snow, the glaciers are melting and the summer is characterised by extreme heat waves. Grenoble is made up of a collective dynamic due to various companies, universities and institutions that have to face the challenges of mobility, housing and environmental protection. The City of Essen has shown us what can be done in 5 years and we want to do the same in Grenoble. Our geographical, social, economic and political conditions are not identical, but we must inspire each other and tackle these challenges together. The car must be banned from the city, so the challenge is mobility, but it is also about eating better and breathing cleaner air.

## GRENOBLE: EUROPEAN GREEN CAPITAL 2022

"We hope that this momentum will go far beyond Grenoble, from local to regional, then maybe to international level"

### **Guillaume Thieriot**

Directeur, Agence Grenoble Capitale Verte  
Européenne 2022



Grenoble was designated a green capital this year 2022. This was about an ecological transformation and this has become a very big project for the whole region. However, it is not only about Grenoble as a city, but also about the outer districts. The Isère district has many more inhabitants than Grenoble. Cooperation has not always been easy, because the Isère district has a rather conservative majority, while the metropolis is social-democratic and the Mayor of Grenoble belongs to the Green Party. The different positions sometimes lead to clashes on specific issues and topics. Nevertheless, it was decided to tackle climate change together. The title of Green Capital is not only about being a regional hotspot, but also about promoting change beyond the borders of Grenoble. To support this, the national government is promoting and funding these projects. It is important that as many people as possible get involved in ecological change. The whole year is based on two strategies, one is a programme of participation and the other is a challenge at the regional level.



## PITTSBURGH AS A PARTNER OF THE URBAN TRANSITIONS ALLIANCE

"If we are going to be successful in transforming our region, and ensuring that Pittsburgh is a welcoming, thriving, and safe city for everyone, then we need to continue to work together as partners with the Urban Transitions Alliance. The Alliance has helped us learn how a city with an industrial legacy like ours can redefine our paths forward and build a new, vibrant, sustainable economy that protects our environment and uplifts all of our residents"

**Ed Gainey**  
Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh

The congress acts as a platform for international exchange between decision-makers and cities and is accordingly the cooperation that is needed to be able to develop together. Through the mutual exchange of experiences, we lay the foundation for development and growth. But a decline in industry followed, evidenced by high unemployment rates, and Pittsburgh was no longer the largest employer of coal and steel. Instead, Pittsburgh presents itself through large medical manufacturing facilities, universities, cybersecurity and modern technology.

These developments also presented a difficulty, as the goal is for every person living in Pittsburgh to benefit from this progress. For this, the partnership with Urban Transition Alliance should continue. Because it has shown us that industrial sites can be restructured and developed into a sustainable economy and city. For this reason, urban planning has incorporated numerous sustainability goals into the planning concepts.

## SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION BETWEEN CITIES

"Every city that is added results in us having a stronger weight in international negotiation processes"

**Dr. Magash Naidoo**  
ICLEI World Secretariat



ICLEI is guided by 5 pathways that revolve around sustainable urban development. These pathways are interlinked and include: low emissions development, nature-based development, equitable and people-centered development, resilient development, and circular development. Each of these pathways are equally prioritized as they interlink and complement each other. The Urban Transition Alliance (UTA) is a program supported by the Mercator Foundation that connects industrial legacy cities across three continents to advance their green and just transitions.

The Circular Development Pathway intricately incorporates social equity. The social equity focus, as developed through the UTA program, revolves around three key dimensions: access, participation and opportunity. In addition, the Circular City Actions Framework consists of the 5R model. These are: reduce, reuse, rethink, regenerate and recover. These R's can be thought of as strategies or entry points for cities to participate in the journey towards a circular future.



## HOST

**Dr. Lars Grotewold**  
Foundation Mercator GmbH

Dr. Lars Grotewold heads the Climate Protection Division of Stiftung Mercator, which he established in 2009. He is responsible for the strategic development of the funding portfolio, in which the foundation Mercator has since invested well over 100 million euros. With its work, it primarily supports projects for effective climate protection in Germany and uses international cooperation to generate impetus for ambitious global climate protection. Grotewold is co-initiator of a number of renowned institutions, such as Agora Energiewende, Agora Verkehrswende, Clean Energy Wire and the Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change. He is a member of various advisory bodies on climate protection activities at the federal, state and local levels, and a lecturer at the German Foundation Academy. Previously, the molecular biologist, who holds a PhD, worked at the office of the German Science Council after research stays in Germany and abroad.





## DISCUSSION PANEL: INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Host: Dr. Lars Grotewald

### **Susan Aitken**

Leader of Glasgow City Council

Cities are important for two reasons: First of all, they are the places where most people live, where people are active and creative. Of course, they are also the places where CO2 savings must and can be made as quickly as possible. The next decade is the important decade to keep 1.5 degrees as the maximum limit for global warming. In a city like Glasgow, we need to make sure that the heating systems in our homes are changed. We need to move towards renewable district heating systems. But we also need to reduce emissions in the industrial sector, for example in transport.

**Guillaume Thieriot**

Directeur, Agence Grenoble Capitale Verte Européene 2022

It has already been mentioned that Grenoble has had a great influence locally and regionally on different political parties and administrations, leading to the depoliticisation of climate issues. In historical terms, there will be a before and after 2022, but it is not only about acting as a pioneer of Europe, we still have a lot to learn. We want to use this year as an example to grow further, to imply transitions, to let more people participate in this movement, that is the central idea that comes out of it.

**Prof. Dr. Jens Martin Gurr**

University Alliance Ruhr

One aspect that needs to be brought out is the need for local contexts and what role funding plays in this. When we look at the Green Capital, it seems that the priority is to draw attention to the problems, to change mindsets and to gain visibility. Because when you see how the money is distributed in the context of the Green Capital, it is very limited.

**Dr. Magash Naidoo**

ICLEI World Secreteriat

Comprehensive understanding of a situation enables us to identify the correct leverage points. When activating these leverage points, we can achieve considerable success with limited resources. One way to realize this is to develop methodologies that are easily accessible, verified by cities and can be implemented in various world regions. When local governments utilize these methodologies and adapt them to local nuances, they shorten learning time frames and prevent reinventing the wheel. This is an example of scaling power.



#### KEY LISTENER - SELECTED IMPRESSIONS FROM THE CONFERENCE

"If you can crack the problem here, you can crack it anywhere"

#### **Prof. Dr. Barbara Buchenau**

Speaker of the UAR Research Group  
"Scripts for Postindustrial Urban Futures:  
American Models, Transatlantic  
Intervention", University Duisburg-Essen

Dr. Barbara Buchenau raises two important questions at the end of the day. Firstly, what happens if we do not manage to implement the planned transformations? The other is to question whether we are only putting on "contact lenses", i.e. taking a hypocritical approach? In this way, she refers to the poetry slam, which reflects social fears and problems in an artistic way, making us aware of them. In doing so, she also falls back on the fact, as previous speakers have already made clear, that one must always keep the failure of projects in mind. It should be borne in mind that it may not be possible to implement everything as planned, but we still have to try.

## FAREWELL CEREMONY, OUTLOOK

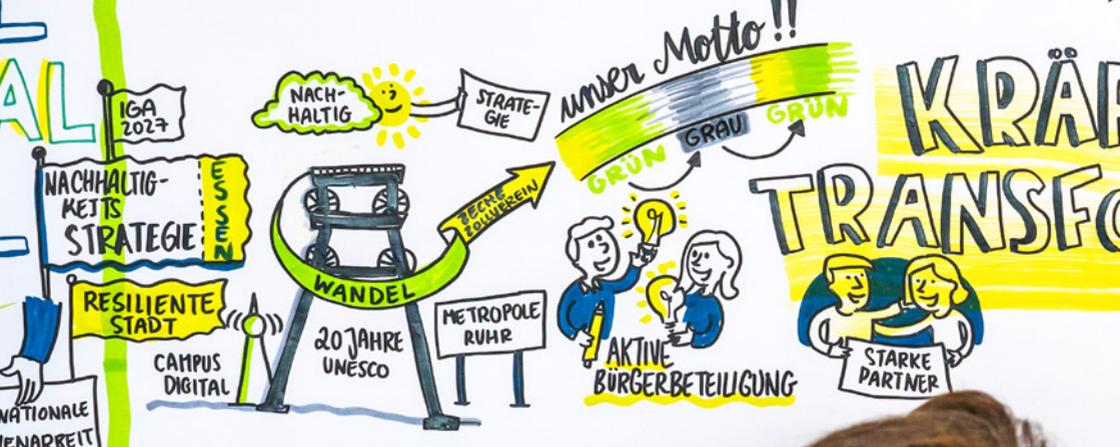
**Simone Raskob**

Vice Mayor of the City of Essen for  
Environmental Affairs, Traffic and Sports



I would like to thank all the presenters, speakers - especially the colleagues from our partner city Grenoble who travelled especially for our event - the staff of the Green Capital Agency, the Blue Moon Agency and all the volunteers.

It was a promise of the Green Capital with the Essen Declaration that we would get together every two years with new themes from the formats. In two years at the latest, there will be the fourth event, which we are already very much looking forward to!



# REGIONALISATION

GLOBAL



INTERNATIONAL DENKEN

Nicht nur Erde

KULTUR-HAUPTSTADT



FRÜHER

STADT ESCH

DEZENTRAUSIERUNG

HEUTE

FORSCHUNG

WISSENSCHAFT

KULTUR

GRENZE ZU FRANKREICH



STUDIENDE



AMBITIONS-NIVEAU

# TE DER INFORMATION

POSITIVE NARRATIVE



Weitblick



GRÜNE ERHALTUNGS-ORTE

FORSCHUNG HOCHSCHULE

TRANSFORMATION ZU GRÜNEN INDUSTRIE-REGION-VORREITER

RESILIENT REGION

RUHR GEBIET

VORBILD-FUNKTION

STUDIE

WAS IST EINE GRÜNE INDUSTRIE-STRUKTUR?

GEWACHSENE STRUKTUR

- 1 TRENDUMKEHR
- 2 IST-SITUATION
- 3 VORAUSSETZUNG
- 4 GESCHÄTZTE ENTWICKLUNG



METROPOLE RUHR TREIBHAUS GAS

FORMATE 2022 LOKAL REGIONAL GLOBAL

KRÄFTE DER TRANSFORMATION

REGIONALE FORMATE



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