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Committee activity takes off



Dr Digby Whyte, World Urban Parks CEO, Australia

A jump in World Urban Parks member activity occurred over October and early November 2015 with meetings of the Executive, Europe Region, Asia-Pacific Region, and Americas Region Committees, and the Knowledge and Standards Committee (see report below).

Upcoming meetings include the Large Urban Parks Committee meeting scheduled for 12 November, Finance and Audit Committee meeting on 13 November, and a full Board meeting scheduled for the first week of December.

This period also saw two member association conferences. Hortis held its Congress in Marseille and Parks and Leisure Australia held its National Conference in Sydney (see congress reports in this issue).

The Executive Committee met by Skype on 20 October to discuss the 2016 and 2017 World Congresses. The 2016 World Congress will likely be announced in December when the venue is confirmed. The 2017 World Congress is approved to be in Minneapolis-St Paul from 29 July to 2 August 2017 in conjunction with the City Parks Alliance conference.

The 'Twin Cities' have a combined population of 3.8 million and this event is expected to draw up to 800 participants. The Executive also approved World Urban Parks Japan to explore holding a Symposium in Toyama City in conjunction with the G7 Environment Ministers meeting, which could inform the Minister on environmental issues and opportunities related to urban parks.

The Europe Region Committee met by Skype on 6 October to work on an Action Plan, discuss in more detail the combined 2016 Europe Region-Hortis Congress in Albi, France (scheduled for 4-6 October), as well as how to develop greater sharing of information and broaden membership into other countries in Europe through sponsorship and communications.

The Region has created a Facebook Page www.facebook.com/worldurbanparkseurope and a Twitter account @wup_europe. There was also discussion about grouping face to face Large Urban Parks and Knowledge and Standards Committee meetings at a venue in Scandinavia early in 2016. The Committee plans to meet every four to six weeks.

The Asia-Pacific Committee met by Skype on 15 October. As this was the first meeting the committee endorsed the Terms of Reference and discussed a number of activities. Tentative options for Asia-Pacific Region congresses were identified in Singapore and Japan for 2016 and New Zealand in 2017.

Given the geographic spread of the region's members, associating activities with regional congresses was considered the best option for getting together face to face, although the concept of small technical tours to host cities, sharing knowledge through networking, including national

association activity was also identified. The Committee also sought to expand membership into unrepresented countries, key large cities and large urban parks.

The Knowledge and Standards Committee met by Skype on October 28. The committee has a broad mandate from setting standards to research and identified four working parties that would drive activity. These are reported separately in this issue.

The new Americas Region met as World Park News went to press. This meeting will bring North, Central and South America cities, organisations and professionals together to discuss the committee, membership expansion – particularly into unrepresented regions, activities, and a possible 2016 Congress, potentially in Mexico.

The new Large Urban Parks Committee is scheduled to meet on 12 November by Skype. This will bring together a number of academic and practitioner participants from the September 2015 Large Parks in Large Cities Conference, World Urban Parks members managing large urban parks, and others with some of the world's significant urban parks to agree on their objectives and a terms of reference, key activities and communications.

This is an exciting opportunity to work together on issues and opportunities associated with the high level of public use and environmental qualities of large urban parks. The committee will also consider an option to meet face to face in Scandinavia early in 2016.

The Executive sees the October–November quarter as an important period for membership growth with members encouraged to publicise the benefits of membership with colleagues.

World Urban Parks Committees and their working parties, activities and projects, are a great way to become further involved with World Urban Parks. You can get an overview of the Committees under the Projects heading at www.worldurbanparks.org.

Meetings are by internet and in association with congresses. From November internet meetings will be supported by a webinar program accessed by a web link. The program will support up to 25 persons with video, free voice over internet, sharing of the presenter's computer screen, and will provide a stable connection to better support meetings.

Please contact the relevant Committee chair or ceo@worldurbanparks.org if you would like to become involved.

How parks help us stay close to nature

In a recent [interview](#) with the Washington Post, famed US biologist E.O. Wilson spoke of an innate tendency in humans to be in natural environments. What he described was something like a primal instinct, a yearning for environments that resemble those from where we evolved.



With increased urbanisation, it is crucial then that people can continue to have access to parks,

and that towns and cities remain green. This is always going to be a challenge, relying as it does on the priorities set out by urban planners.

Nature is good for us. Hardly a day goes by without a new study pointing to the fact that spending time in natural settings has physical and psychological benefits. Nature helps us relax. It takes us out of ourselves and forces us to slow down, to take a step back from our busy lives.

Mr Wilson also suggested in the interview that we should set aside half of the Earth's land surface, as well as 70 per cent of the ocean, in the form of nature preserves. He pointed out that as a tourism drawcard alone, natural protected areas currently generate billions in revenue.

The correlation between nature and wellbeing is there. But how much do we understand about why that is? How much should we preserve? In our towns and cities, how much space should we set aside for parks? And how do we go about ensuring that urban growth doesn't happen at the expense of these spaces, where people can rejuvenate themselves?

These are important questions: a growing body of research proves it. Readers are invited to share their views on the questions raised in this article – please feel free to join the discussion on the [World Urban Parks LinkedIn page](#).

Knowledge and Standards Committee update

The first meeting of the World Urban Parks Knowledge and Standards Committee was held on 28 October by internet and chaired by Jon Pape of the City of Copenhagen.



As a result, four new working parties, including the development of a World Urban Parks Think Tank of leading academics and practitioners to support advocacy, will be formed to deliver on priorities identified by the Knowledge and Standards Committee.

The Committee brings together a balance of park managers, academics, consultants and businesses interested in the broad outcomes of the Committee.

A Terms of Reference was approved with objectives to:

1. Review, promote and facilitate international/national standards
2. Promote and facilitate benchmarking and best practices activities among World Urban Parks members
3. Promote knowledge exchange by facilitating congresses, conferences, and seminars
4. Promote and coordinate international awards
5. Provide a platform for scientists and practitioners to work together to identify research and

implement findings

6. Provide a sound scientific foundation and argument for urban parks, open space and recreation, including managing better parks for better cities, and park and recreation benefits to urban societies
7. Report on related agreements such as congresses and Yardstick benchmarking

In reviewing priorities the Committee agreed to form four working parties. Members interested in joining these working parties are welcome to contact ceo@worldurbanparks.org.

Working Party 1: A World Urban Parks Think Tank

This concept was recommended as part of the Ifpra strategic review. The working party will develop the objectives, structure and operation for a group of thought leaders in the urban parks, open space and recreation sector to provide comment on issues related to urban parks and communities. Thinking by the group would be used to advocate to international and national decision-makers and the media as part of the collective voice World Urban Parks will bring the sector. The working party would produce a report to the board, which would likely make the appointments.

Working Party 2: Ponte de Lima Declaration on Park Operations Standards

The preparation of these standards was approved by the World Urban Parks board at the first World Urban Parks Congress in Ponte de Lima, Portugal in May 2015. The declaration was an initiative of Manuel Sousa, World Urban Parks' ambassador for Portugal and a co-organiser of the Congress.

The intent is to provide a guideline for minimum standards for park operations that will improve the quality of park maintenance and services, and assist developing park agencies in particular. The working party will bring together park policy and operations specialists. On completion the Declaration will be presented to the Mayor of Ponte de Lima as an outcome of the 2025 Congress and as part of its international launch.

Working Party 3: Benchmarking

This working party will review a range of services designed to improve the standard, effectiveness, and efficiency of park and recreation provision and the liveability and sustainability of cities. This may result in facilitating, endorsing or providing a database of selected services. The potential for guidelines to achieve a common set of core benchmarks across different products will be examined, as well as consulting members about their main needs for standards, benchmarking and best practice. The working party may also examine suitable indexes comparing city liveability or sustainability.

Working Party 4: Applied Research

The Committee identified a need to examine and facilitate research that would advance the understanding of the benefit of parks, open space and recreation and support improved policy and operations. This working party would bring together academics and practitioners to identify existing and required research that would most usefully expand knowledge in the sector. This may be delivered through conference presentations and workshops, World Parks News research

articles, a website database, and potential agency partnership to commission research that will resolve issues or improve services.

The Committee appointed two Vice Chairs to support the Committee's programme: Todd Reichardt, a parks manager with Calgary Parks, Canada, and Professor Giovanni Sanesi of the Dipartimento di Scienze agro-ambientali e territoriali, at the University of Bari, Italy.

For more information, or to express your interest in becoming involved with the Knowledge and Standards Committee, please email ceo@worldurbanparks.org.

Benchmarking data makes the case for sustainable parks funding

In a recent interview with public service broadcaster Radio New Zealand, New Zealand Recreation Association Chief Executive Andrew Leslie used benchmarking data from Yardstick to provide a balanced discussion of sustainable public funding and pressure points for urban green spaces across New Zealand, as well as inspire national discussion of the issues affecting parks.



This [15 minute radio interview](#) with Association of International Broadcasters International Radio Personality of the Year 2015 Kathryn Ryan is an example of advocacy for parks, supported with the credibility of Yardstick's benchmarking information drawn from the many Councils using Yardstick across New Zealand.

World Urban Parks endorses Yardstick benchmarking as a high-quality tool for providing impartial data, and these long-term comparative trends can provide vital information to support advocacy for parks around the world, help parks agencies identify, plan and improve their strategic goals and direction, or identify service improvements or efficiencies.

[To find out more about Yardstick benchmarking services, visit the Yardstick Global website>>](#)

Hortis National Congress Report

Daniel Boulens, France, World Urban Parks Board Director

The annual conference of HORTIS was held in Marseille from 1–3 October 2015.

The theme was “ecological transition and territorial reforms: new inter-communal dynamics”. This subject is very important at this time in France. France is divided into 36,000 local authorities (cities), each managed by a Mayor and a council.



Every city has its own policy and its own operating budget regarding green spaces, parks and gardens. Therefore it is essential to address environmental issues and to reduce operating costs. The solutions proposed by the French government is to merge territories (13 large regions instead of 22), and create a different level of organisation for 10 large cities: the metropolitan areas.

This change is not insignificant. On a large scales, the environment issues could be better taken in account to create efficient green and blue networks, but at the human scale, the citizens want more “green” in the cities. The levels of decisions are not the same. Decision power making is better when the connections are limited as it is the case in smaller cities. But on another point, the costs could be reduced by pooling their thoughts and efforts towards better economic results.

We had very fruitful discussions at different levels. The Congress was attended by politicians including the Deputy Mayor of Marseille and Director of the Ministry of Environment, as well as managers of metropolitan areas and directors of gardens from many different French cities and abroad.

The right balance between local authorities and metropolitan areas is subtle and it is a new challenge for many of us. Especially during a time of scarce resources, this change will be difficult to achieve. But one major trend indicates there is ever-increasing demand of the population for a better quality of life including more green spaces for a daily use. It is very rewarding and gives us prospects to build a greener and more promising future.

This annual Congress was a great success. More than 250 participants were very active in the debates. This year, we had a special involvement of students and people in training in this event, and 50 students from a national landscaping school and more than 80 people in training attended the lectures.

We have been very happy to host colleagues from abroad, with delegates from Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Belgium and Germany in attendance. Dr Anna Steidle from Germany explained the structure and goals of World Urban Parks, making a persuasive argument on the benefits of sharing our knowledge – and efforts to promote parks in our country – with the world.

For the second year, Jean Pierre Gueneau was elected President of HORTIS and Elisabeth Fournier, General Secretary. Elisabeth is correspondent for World Urban Parks Europe (her first mission is to undertake is the establishment of a network of professional institutes/associations throughout Europe). She presented World Urban Parks and explained also the interest of the Certified Park Professional (CPP) accreditation and the creation of a CPPF certification for France for the end of the year.

Ms Fournier explained that the next HORTIS Congress will be held in Albi (Southwestern France) and will be concurrent with the World Urban Parks Europe Region Congress. The theme will be “Heritage and culture, the contribution of green and natural spaces in the city (economy, social, landscape)”.

The Episcopal city of Albi is listed as a Unesco World Heritage site. It is the second-largest conurbation in the Midi-Pyrenees Region, with more than 3,000 companies. Albi is known as a city of art and culture, and has international partnerships with 77 universities and 1,000 companies worldwide. For more information on Albi, please visit the following website:<http://www.albi-tourisme.fr/>.

Please mark the dates in your diaries (from the 4 to the 7 of October 2016). Everyone is invited to attend this congress, even if you are from Asia or Americas.

A call for papers is also underway for the Hortis magazine "de ville en ville" (3-4 publications per a year). For your complete information the HORTIS website (now including English pages) is: http://www.hortis.fr/hortis_infos.php?lang=en.

Photos

Cover image: Left to right, Anna Steidle (Germany) representing World Urban Parks Europe, Jean Pierre Gueneau, President of Hortis, Elisabeth Fournier, General Secretary of Hortis and delegate for World Urban Parks Europe, Harold Grandjean from Belgium.



More than 250 people attended the Hortis Congress in Marseille



A view of Marseille with the New Museum (MUCEM), designed by Rudi Ricciotti, Fort St Jean, and the old city



The old harbor and the church "la Bonne Mère"

[Hortis to offer Certified Parks Professional - France \(CPPF\)](#)

At its recent national congress in Marseilles, the Hortis Board of Directors and the General Assembly approved a national version of the World Parks Academy's Certified Parks

Professional accreditation, to be offered by Hortis to its members. A number of members at the congress indicated they would be interested in professional certification.

Details of the agreement will be considered by the Hortis Board in December with a view to signing approved versions in French and English, appointing a board member to the World Parks Academy, and preparing to offer certification to members early in 2016.



The World Parks Academy offers a partnership with national associations to provide a national version of CPP, the international credential for parks and recreation professionals. This allows national associations to offer a relevant new service to their members that encourages and recognises their standards, and at a discounted price from CPP. Further, the administration is provided by the Academy's administration at Indiana University's Epley Institute.

The main difference from CPP is that the applicant must be a Hortis member and will likely be required to have attended a Hortis congress or other significant programme. Hortis can also provide professional development opportunities that help CPPF holders maintain their certification, provide advice to applicants on their eligibility, and French translations of the online assessment to smooth the application process.

The assigned Hortis Board member will join the World Urban Parks Academy Board of Regents, whenever they consider CPPF applications, to ensure the French professional context is understood as well as joint approval. CPPF certificates will contain the logos and signatures of Hortis, the World Parks Academy, Indiana University and the Epley Institute.

A number of national associations are currently considering or working towards offering the national version of CPP, as it is both aligned to the international standard and significantly removes the cost of administration, a key barrier to offering certification.

As the first association to approve a national version of CPP, Hortis has addressed and resolved several process details regarding how non-English speaking professionals can achieve the international credential via their national association.

[For more information on CPP and CIPP accreditation, visit the World Parks Academy website>>](#)

Parks and Leisure Australia National Conference Report

Dr Digby Whyte, Australia, World Urban Parks CEO

This report provides a brief overview of the Parks and Leisure Australia (PLA) National Conference, 'Inspire: Create the Future Together', held in Sydney from 25-28 October.



The conference attracted 490 attendees over two days of presentations with a very large trade exhibition, a day of technical tours, and two dinners including the gala dinner with the PLA's Awards of Excellence.

The conference was opened by the Lord Mayor of the City of Sydney, Clover Moore, who demonstrated a clear understanding of the benefits of parks and the need for a green and sustainable city.

Conference keynote speakers included journalist Indira Naidoo, who presented on her book *The Edible City* and techniques for growing city vegetables, including roof-top gardens for food sustainability; Peter

Baines on Crisis Leadership, illustrated with a high-impact natural disaster in Thailand; Stuart O'Grady, an Olympic gold medal cyclist sharing a long sports career; Dr Karl Kruszelnicki, popular radio talkback scientist and author; Adam Williams, Director, Planning, Design and Development for AECOM, currently working on the Masterplan for Rio de Janeiro's 2016 Olympic Park after acting as senior lead for London's Olympic Park Masterplan, and Ben Peacock, architect of 2020 Vision, the campaign to create 20 percent more green space in urban areas by the year 2020.

World Urban Parks had three directors at the Conference. Vice Chair Neil McCarthy presented on the role of World Urban Parks, Chair of the Membership and Partnerships Committee and the Generate Network, Jenn Halliday crossed the Tasman to join with Australian Generate Network's Eve Craker in a presentation on project-based mentoring, and PLA's representative and former Chair of the World Urban Parks Task Force, John Senior also attended.

PLA instated their new President, Kristen Jackson, Manager of Parks and Open Space for World Urban Parks' member the City of Whittlesea. There was also a strong relationship with the New Zealand Recreation Association (NZRA) with President Kiri Pope and CEO Andrew Leslie leading a panel discussion on leadership in turbulent times.

Other presentations ranged from topics as diverse as 'Can Sports Tackle the Climate Challenge?', a presentation from John Connor, CEO of the Climate Institute; Active Communities, with Rayoni Nelson of Victoria Health, the impact of Auckland's Super City reforms on its parks and sports fields with Auckland Council's Mark Bowater, the UN Global Cities Program and the contribution of parks and leisure in measuring city sustainability with Professor Paul James; and Sustainable Sydney with Fred Tilden of the City of Sydney. There were a number of presentations and workshops under the headings Parks, Environment, Biodiversity and Conservation; Community and Urban Planning, Management and Leadership, and Sport and Physical Activity; including presentations by national awards finalists.

Technical tours included sustainable sports programmes, aquatic facilities, community gardens, Sydney Park, heritage trees, Sydney's Open Museum and several development projects.

The final Awards of Excellence Gala Dinner included the prestigious Frank Stewart Distinguished Service Award, awarded to Andy Smith. PLA automatically nominates that award winner for the World Urban Parks Distinguished Individual Award at the annual World Congress.

The conference had a 'good buzz' amongst engaged attendees with a mix of social events, workshops, presentations, lunches and tea breaks with exhibitors and a steady flow of Tweets on conference highlights.

Photos

Cover photo: Jenn Halliday, World Urban Parks Director and Chair of Membership and Partnerships Committee, also Chair of the Generate Network; Kiri Pope, Board Chair of NZRA, Eve Craker, Generate Network Australia; and Kristen Jackson, new President of PLA and Manager Parks and Open Space with World Urban Parks member, City of Whittlesea.



John Senior (2nd left), World Urban Parks Director for PLA at a networking dinner on the Sydney harbour front



Indira Naidoo, Journalist, presenting on the Edible City in the main Auditorium



Cathy Kiss 2014 PLA Frank Stewart Award holder and nominee for the 2015 World Urban Parks Distinguished Individual Award in Ponte de Lima, presenting the 2015 Frank Stewart Award to Andy Smith



Ben Peacock presenting 2020 Vision



Exhibition stands

For more photos from the event, visit the [Parks and Leisure Australia Flickr gallery](#)>>

My Park Rules competition launched

The Australian Institute of Landscape Architects and the 2020 Vision initiative are working in collaboration to present My Park Rules – a competition encouraging Australian children to re-envision their public spaces.



Launched last month, the My Park Rules competition aims to ensure every school in Australia offers quality outdoor spaces for their community.

This competition is an example of how organisations can inspire their communities to reconsider the value of their parks and green spaces.

[For more information, visit the competition website>>](#)

[Introducing our national associations: World Urban Parks Japan](#)

Over the next few months we will introduce many of the national association members of World Urban Parks. National associations advance the industry through, knowledge exchange and professional development and it is a key role of World Urban Parks to act as an umbrella association that unites and supports them.

World Urban Parks ジャパン

World Urban Parks Japan is the unincorporated organisation that consists of World Urban Parks members in Japan, originally known as IFPRA Japan.

Memberships consists of more than 20 organisations and 40 individuals concerned with the provision and management of urban parks and recreation, and also issues relating to administration, planning, education, research or private enterprise relating to the provision of urban parks and recreation. Prominent members include World Urban Parks Directors Kenzo Oguchi and Professor Yoritaka Tashiro.

Since its foundation in 1990, World Urban Parks Japan has created a cooperative network of members within Japan and contributed to improving park use and management both domestically and internationally.

The main services are:

- Providing opportunities for sharing information and knowledge on park management around the world, including good practice information
- networking through seminars and e-newsletters
- Making reports of World Urban Parks Congress Report in Japanese
- Maintaining contact with World Urban Parks Headquarters and regions

- Taking care of paperwork such as submission of membership application to World Urban Parks Headquarters

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Next seminar will be held in Autumn 2016, including reports about World Urban Parks Congresses in 2016.

[Introducing our national associations: NZRA, New Zealand](#)

The mission of the New Zealand Recreation Association (NZRA) is to champion high quality recreation for the benefit of New Zealand.



This is achieved through professional development as well as standards and benchmarking services, designed to develop individuals and organisations, and to advocate on behalf of the sector to affirm recognition of recreation and sport as essential public services.

NZRA supports five sectors of recreation, including parks and open spaces, aquatics, facilities, community recreation and outdoor recreation.

Many of NZRA's members own or operate recreational and sporting facilities like swimming pools, playgrounds, skate parks, track networks, botanic gardens, sports fields, sport and events centres, recreation centres, community halls, cemeteries and crematoriums, open spaces including parks and forests, national and regional parks, harbours, beaches, rivers and lakes (in terms of recreational use).

Many members facilitate community recreation through the delivery of programmes and events. These help create environments which enhance community wellbeing, including after school programmes (OSCAR), programmes for people with disabilities, older adult programmes, holiday programmes and therapeutic rehabilitation programmes.

Founded in 1992, NZRA has gone from strength to strength, and is currently over 2,000 members strong and growing. The association is structured with a Board, a Regional Advisory Group

representing six Region Committees and an Accreditation Board – as one of the few national associations that provide professional certification – the Accredited Recreation Professional.

Internationally NZRA currently provides the secretariat for World Urban Parks and owns the Yardstick benchmarking service utilised by over 130 organisations worldwide

Publication: Australasian Parks and Leisure Journal

The Australasian Parks and Leisure journal is a quarterly publication, published jointly between the New Zealand Recreation Association and Parks and Leisure Australia. The journal is in electronic and printed form, and the latest edition is [available online](#).

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Events

NZRA holds a three-day Annual Conference and awards, two-day sector conferences, topical seminars, master classes, study tours, and many other events throughout the year, providing professional development opportunities for the different sectors throughout the year, providing professional development opportunities for the different sectors of the recreation industry.

[See the NZRA events calendar for more information on NZRA events>>](#)

Article: Summer Branch Drop (SBD) concepto y características

This article reproduces an item from the October edition of the AEPJP publication PARJAP. [The article](#) includes a detailed discussion of the phenomenon of summer branch drop, encompassing several academic studies.



This article is available in its original language to ensure it retains its original meaning. If you would like to read a translated version, you may wish to use an online translation tool such as [Google Translate](#).

[Read more>>](#)

Event: NZRA National Conference

New Zealand's premier recreation sector event – the New Zealand Recreation Association National Conference– will be held at Te Papa in Wellington from 18 to 20 November 2015.

NZRA embraces urban parks as a major part of their role, and National Conference features many fantastic speakers, including world-renowned landscape architect Thomas Woltz.



World Urban Parks CEO Dr Digby Whyte will also provide a presentation on the formation and goals of World Urban Parks.

[To register or find out more, visit the conference website>>](#)

Event: Paysalia

The biannual event 'Paysalia' will be held in Lyon, France from 1–3 December. This trade expo focuses on parks, gardens and sports fields, and is a great opportunity to discover innovations from across the disciplines that support our parks, open spaces and sportsfields.



It includes presentations, demonstrations, awards for innovation, themed days for public authorities, gala evenings, guided tours and the “Carré des Jardiniers” competition.

[For more information, visit the event website>>](#)

Event: Lyon Festival of Lights



For four nights from 5-8 December a variety of different artists will light up buildings, streets squares, and parks all over the city of Lyon in the Fête des Lumières (Festival of Lights). Over 70 lights installations create a magical atmosphere. Three to four million visitors from France and abroad enjoy the friendly and joyful spirit of this unique annual event.

Event: Second International Conference on Urban Tree Diversity

Held in Melbourne, Australia, from 22–24 February 2016, this conference will bring together leading researchers and practitioners to discuss aspects of urban tree diversity from around the world. This event is organised by the University of Melbourne, City of Melbourne and the International Society of Arboriculture.



The aim of this biannual event is to assess the state-of-art of research and promote the development of good practice and innovative approaches to urban tree planning and management for more diverse urban forests. Keynote speakers include World Urban Parks member Professor Cecil Konijnendijk Van Den Bosch, Associate Professor Susan Day, Associate Professor Diane Pataki, Professor C Y Jim and Anne Jaluzot.

[For more information, visit the event website>>](#)

Upcoming events

We have an exciting schedule of events planned in fascinating locations all over the world. For information about all upcoming World Urban Parks conferences and events, visit our website.

[Visit the Congresses & Events section of our website>>](#)

Call for contributions

We welcome your contributions to keep the World Park News interesting, vibrant and relevant. Contributed articles of up to 1,000 words in length are preferred, and each should ideally be accompanied by at least one photo or image.

If you have a news article, research summary, event report or photo to share with the Ifpra community, please email CEO Digby Whyte at ceo@worldurbanparks.org or James Heffield, Communications, at office@worldurbanparks.org.

Please note: Member associations are welcome to forward selected articles from their e-newsletters and e-magazines for publication.

Join World Urban Parks

Organisations and individuals interested in connecting internationally for advocacy, best practice and collaboration are invited to [join World Urban Parks](#).

Members of World Urban Parks are invited to share the one-page 'Pocket Prospectus' with colleagues who they believe will benefit and add value to the organisation.

Members can now join online at worldurbanparks.org/join-us and pay by secure credit card or separately by bank transfer. Individual annual membership is \$50 USD while organisations pay on a scale relative to their size.