

Nature is Good Medicine

Cross-sector strategies to improve health, wellbeing and quality of life
15th World Congress on Public Health 2017

Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

Tuesday 4 April 2017



World Leadership Dialogue 4.00pm to 6.00pm

Sprawling urbanisation and shrinking natural spaces are disconnecting society from the natural world. The loss of biodiversity, green space and the ecosystem services provided by nature has been associated with decline in population health, including the acceleration of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, depression and cardiovascular diseases. As we grapple with the challenge of rising demand and funding pricier health care systems, the case for innovative nature-based healthcare strategies is compelling. World leaders will explore how biodiversity and nature can benefit human health and how change makers can leverage new policies, programs and funding in the health, environment and urbanisation sectors.

Panellists



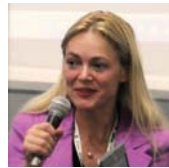
Dr Maria Neira
Director Public Health and Environment, World Health Organisation



Mr Zhang Xinsheng
President, International Union for Conservation of Nature



Daniel Buss
Advisor on Global Environmental Challenges, Pan American Health Organization



Cristina Romanelli
Scientific and Policy Division Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity



Matthew Jackson
CEO, Parks Victoria



Kevin Lafferty
National Policy Advisor, Forestry Commission Scotland



Jerril Rechter
CEO, VicHealth



Clare Shine
Vice President and Chief Program Officer, Salzburg Global Seminar

MC

Facilitator



Workshop 11.00am to 12.30pm

Evidence demonstrates that nature provides many benefits to human health and wellbeing. The case for innovative nature-based healthcare strategies is compelling, given the escalating costs and impacts worldwide of non-communicable diseases and the decline of biodiversity and ecosystem services. This workshop will deliver case study examples that demonstrate the health benefits of nature through the development of successful programs by both the health and environment sectors. An interactive breakout session will follow, exploring innovative ways for the public health and environment sectors to partner on programs that influence policy and practice.

Case Study Presenters

Kay Booth
Deputy DG, Department of Conservation, New Zealand

Kevin Lafferty
National Policy Advisor, Forestry Commission Scotland

Sandy Pitcher
CEO, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, South Australia

Dr Paul Burgess
Public Health Physician, Northern Territory Department of Health

Melika Yassin Sheik-Elden
International and Community Development Manager, AMES, Australia

Denise Laughlin
Acting Senior Public Health Advisor, Dept. of Health and Human Services, VIC

Facilitator
Peter Cochrane
Councillor, IUCN

Facilitator
Selina Lo Senior Editor, The Lancet

How to participate

Day registrations are open and available for \$440 on www.wcph2017.com/registration.php