

the klosters forum '24

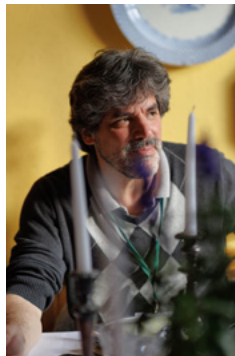
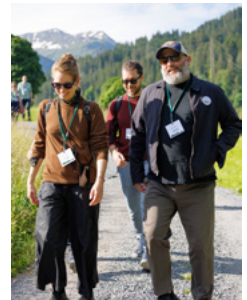


Summer 2024



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“There are many opportunities to talk about change, but few that enable us to make the change. TKF is creating a new recipe to convene, collaborate and commit to making the change happen, across a body of diverse actors with diverse forms of agency. I’m hopeful for what this can enable to expedite improving our world for the better.”

Lara Kinneir,
*Associate Professor,
London Interdisciplinary School*

“It was one of the most challenging, rewarding and eye opening events I have attended. I loved it.”

Prof. Kathryn Moore,
*Professor, Landscape Architecture,
Director, West Midlands National Park*



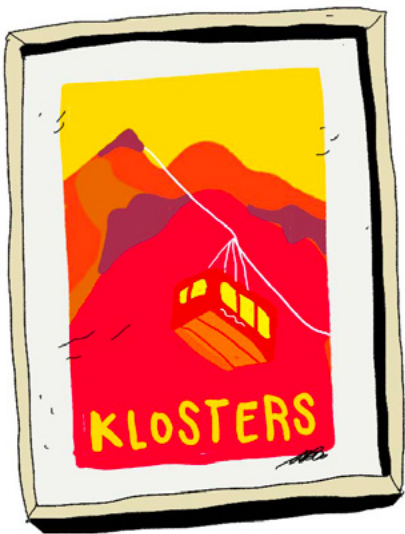
About The Klosters Forum (TKF)

The Klosters Forum aims to create a continuously growing community of leading thinkers and doers who share their passion for collaborative impact and mission for positive environmental change.

Acknowledging the complexity of systemic change, TKF aims to bring together global stakeholders from all sectors, including leading practitioners, innovators, policy makers, NGOs, conservationists, investors and creative minds, to highlight the interdependence of the issues at stake and to encourage cross-pollination of information, ideas and projects.

TKF's annual forum takes place every year during the summer in a large chalet on the Madrisa mountain and private premises in Klosters, Switzerland. The number of invited participants and TKF Friends is limited to 100 in order to maintain and strengthen the intensive community of these changemakers.

In a personal environment, TKF offers participants a neutral, discreet, and carefully curated platform for discussions, expert-led workshops, talks and the time and space for deep thinking and collaboration.



“The power of sensemaking has never been greater, and we need community to achieve it - The Klosters Forum creates the frames to do so brilliantly.”

Ditte Lysgaard Vind, Chief Innovation and Science Officer, Bloxhub

TKF24 New Means of Resilience

How can cities rise to emerging ecological challenges?

Cities are vibrant hubs of diverse, multicultural communities, constantly interacting with their environment. For a long time, they have contributed to, and also suffered from, ecological challenges. As cities expand in size and complexity, and as climate change intensifies, new, unprecedented, and compounding challenges emerge. These include the urban heat island effect, increased rainfall and flooding, and the rising sea levels. To navigate, and thrive amidst, these escalating challenges, cities must forge integrative resilience approaches that surpass traditional adaptability methods.

For 2.5 days, TKF brought together 80 leading architects, designers, scientists, developers, policy makers, environmentalists, investors and TKF Friends and gave them a platform to delve deep into potential strategies and synergies, fostering cross-sector discussions and collaborations, with the aim to helping our community develop innovative methods, practical solutions, and unconventional approaches - from nature-based and community-driven solutions to policy, technological, financial, and creative strategies - to systemically tackle these rising urban ecological challenges, all with the end goal of facilitating a just and regenerative urban transformation.

As the TKF24 community continues to put words into action, TKF will measure its impact by keeping in touch with the TKF24 Participants, learning about their progress and the collaborations that emerged from TKF24, and supporting them in any way we can.

“The Klosters Forum is highly inspirational and highly educational. TKF cast a big net of global experience to create an environment for significant change.”

Kent Jackson, Partner, SOM



TKF24 Participants and Friends

During TKF24 a high calibre, impact-focused, collaborative and inspiring cohort gathered in the Swiss Alps. Please find here the link to the *TKF24 Handbook*, which includes the biographies of all Participants and Friends of TKF24.



“TKF is serious about change, providing an interdisciplinary, multidimensional platform for the exchange of knowledge and ideas.”

Harald Brekke, *Director, Kjaer Global*

TKF24 Partners

Thank you to the TKF24 Partners: *Pictet Group, Stiftung Mercator Schweiz, Bertelsmann Stiftung and Toni Piëch Foundation and KOMPAS* for believing in The Klosters Forum and in the power of collaboration.



| BertelsmannStiftung





Talks

We were delighted to hear the following participants present during TKF24.

a. TKF24 Opening Presentations:

Anne Lise Kjaer,
Futurist, Founder of
Kjaer Global Ltd



Dr. Lewis Akenji,
Managing Director of Hot or Cool Institute

 Links to the talks can be found [here](#).

I can't see you, but I know you're all beautiful.

At Hot or Cool institute, we have a lot of fun doing stupid things to work on difficult topics.

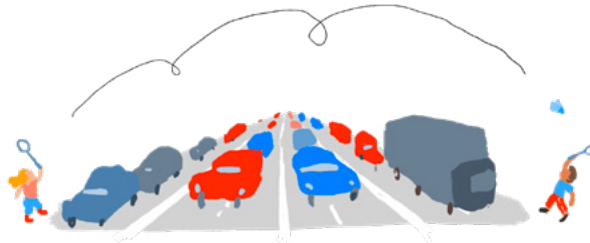
Investing in health would help so much.
NOT for financial gain.

The problem of climate change is that the richest 10% are responsible for 50% of emissions.

Shifting from private luxury to public luxury

lock-in effect

We're building cities for cars, not for people



b. Scene Setting: Indy Johar, Executive Director of Dark Matter Labs



"Indy, only 1 billion people can survive."

If you got rid of about 800.000 lifestyles, you can save 7.2 billion.

I'm not just being nice, this is existential. Also, it wouldn't just stop at 1 billion, would it?



 Links to the talks can be found [here](#).

“TKF is an important intimate location for weaving relationships for Next Europe & a wider transition.”

Indy Johar,
Co-Founder of Dark Matter Labs

c. Insight Talk: Helle Søholt,
 Founding Partner and CEO of Gehl

I lost my voice at a democracy festival in Denmark last week

I feel that things are going too slow

How do we move from car-dominated cities to cities where people can walk

We're moving towards 70% of the world population living in cities.

Maybe we can dare to think that climate change can bring out the best in cities

You only need 3% of the people to change their behavior to create positive change

Relational Resilience > what is important to people?

hangouts
 hubs
 havens

🌐 Links to the talks can be found [here](#).

d. Insight Talk: Professor Sir Niall Ferguson,
 Historian, Stanford University

Most history is the history of empires. And their nerve centers are cities

Academics forget that empires are a worldwide phenomenon

Russia is still an empire. China is an empire.

Don't think our actions in Europe or America will matter if Asia keeps burning coal.

The US population has grown through migration, not natural increase (birth)

Can I just copy-paste Munich onto San Francisco?

You know New York City reminds me of Venice. One day it will be only a tourist destination and nothing else

I don't know if you've looked ... but BoonYash doesn't exist

what?

you should read SCALE GEDFREY WEST

🌐 Links to the talks can be found [here](#).

Panel Discussions

Panel 1

Can Public Private Partnerships Boost Urban Resilience?

Panellists

- ◇ **Erion Veliaj** - Mayor of Tirana, Albania
- ◇ **Mette Skjold** - CEO of SLA
- ◇ **Ivo Weinöhrl** - Senior Investment Manager in the Thematic Equities, Pictet Asset Management

Chaired by **Lauren Sorkin** - Executive Director for the Resilient Cities Network

🌐 Links to the talks can be found [here](#).



loneliness
is the new
global disease.

“TKF provides the oxygen and innovative sparks that are the necessary ingredients to catalyse change today.”

Lauren Sorkin,
*Executive Director, Resilient Cities Network,
Curatorial Committee*

stop brainstorming.
start try-storming.

Panel 2

Inclusive Resilience: Building Equitable Cities Amidst Ecological Challenges



Panellists

- ◆ **Sheela Patel**
- Founder and Director of SPARC
- ◆ **Dr. Michal Mlynár**
- Acting Executive Director UN-Habitat
- ◆ **Simone Mangili**
- Executive Director of Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance

Chaired by Dr. Jennifer Lenhart -
Global City Lead, WWF, TKF Curatorial Committee

Workshops

Summaries of the TKF24 workshops can be found below.

a. Financing the transition towards sustainable and resilient cities - facilitated by Pictet Asset Management

Names of moderators:

- ◇ **Dr. Steve Freedman**, *Head of Research and Sustainability for Thematic Equities, Pictet Asset Management*
- ◇ **Ivo Weinöhrl**, *Senior Investment Manager in the Thematic Equities, Pictet Asset Management*

Workshop objective:

Every day, the world's urban population swells by 200,000. At that rate, more than two thirds of us will be living in cities by 2050 compared with just over half today*. That will require a significant enlargement of the urban environment, as well as humankind's carbon footprint and energy use. But it needn't be this way. How can investors, working with urban planners, entrepreneurs and developers, contribute to creating smarter, more resilient and regenerative cities? What kind of new technologies, innovative solutions and smart business models can we develop and use to enhance urban resilience against ecological challenges such as extreme heat, droughts and floods?

Workshop approach:

This interactive workshop was designed to explore novel and innovative ways of transforming our cities to be more climate resilient and resourceful that can also represent long-term opportunities for investors.

Key outcomes:

Cities as a template

Urban areas are vulnerable from their own expansion, which throws up a multitude of environmental and resource challenges. Extreme weather events, such as this year's Delhi's searing heatwaves and Dubai's deadly floods, stretch cities' infrastructures beyond breaking point.

Urbanisation is typically considered harmful for the planet. This is especially the case when cities already generate three quarters of greenhouse gas emissions and half of global waste.

Yet properly planned and managed, participants agreed that the expansion of cities has the potential to yield a number of environmental and societal benefits. Cities are more efficient than rural areas – more than five times on a certain measure – as agglomeration increases productivity. This can help create jobs, reduce poverty, provide better health and education and foster culture and innovation.

City planners and builders are already harnessing a number of innovative clean technologies and smart solutions to tackle a number of urban challenges that should in turn become a template for the rest of the world to solve its environmental problems.

Carbon removal

Delegates discussed how the removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere is becoming a viable solution, and potentially commercially attractive too.

There are a number of ways to remove carbon from the air. Traditional solutions include tree planting and using timber and other bio-based materials in construction.

*Source: UN World Urbanisation Prospects

Newer techniques involve directly capturing carbon from the atmosphere. Direct Air Capture (DAC) is a technology which filters CO₂ from the air and stores it in liquid or solid form.

DAC doesn't come cheap. Typical levelised costs are estimated to be around several hundreds of dollars per tonne of captured CO₂, more expensive than nature-based alternatives. Yet investors are betting that this technology will soon scale up.

Biodiver-cities

Participants also discussed less industrialised and tech-heavy methods of solving urban challenges. Specifically, they focused on ways in which cities can incorporate nature and harness ecosystem services – such as pollination, provisioning of clean air, food and fresh water and flood prevention.

These adaptation methods are known as Nature-based solutions (NBS), designed to protect and restore nature, address environmental and societal problems and increase resilience at the same time.

Some of the real-life NBS examples given included tree canopy, timber buildings, green walls, municipal farms and pocket parks – all of which are proven to reduce emissions and pollution, provide cooling, water retention and flood prevention, while improving social well-being and enhancing urban resilience.

NBS for infrastructure are estimated to be 50 per cent cheaper than traditional man-made infrastructure and provide 28 per cent added value – including decarbonisation of the built environment, climate resilience, land value capture and job creation.

The UN estimates that investing in nature-related targets – such as nature restoration, the efficient use of resources and reducing water and air pollution – will help plug an estimated USD7.4 trillion gap in natural capital by 2030 and have the potential to deliver more than 20 times return on investment.

Rethinking resource use

Participants agreed the need to fundamentally reform the way in which cities draw on natural resources. For example, many thought the current degenerative, take-make-dispose approach where energy and resources only flow one way, was unsustainable.

As the built environment, such as homes, offices, roads and bridges, expands to accommodate a growing urban population, humans have tripled their use of natural resources in the past decades. Resource extraction is expected to rise by a further 60 per cent by 2060.

To consume more sustainably, participants called for a drastic reappraisal of resource value, as well as developing new business and contractual models which incentivise more businesses, investors and residents to make sustainable choices.



Notable quotations from the workshop:

“Cities are a magnifying glass of all the problems the world is facing. Problems show up in cities first because of density - with so many people living in a small space, you get an amplifier effect because we have air and noise pollution, congestion and the heat island effect.”

Ivo Weinöhrl, Senior Investment Manager in Thematic Equities, Pictet Asset Management

“On the path towards a net-zero economy, we will create an industry the size of the oil and gas sector today. The Carbon Economy is an economy that captures, stores and utilises CO2 and constitutes a trillion-dollar market opportunity.”

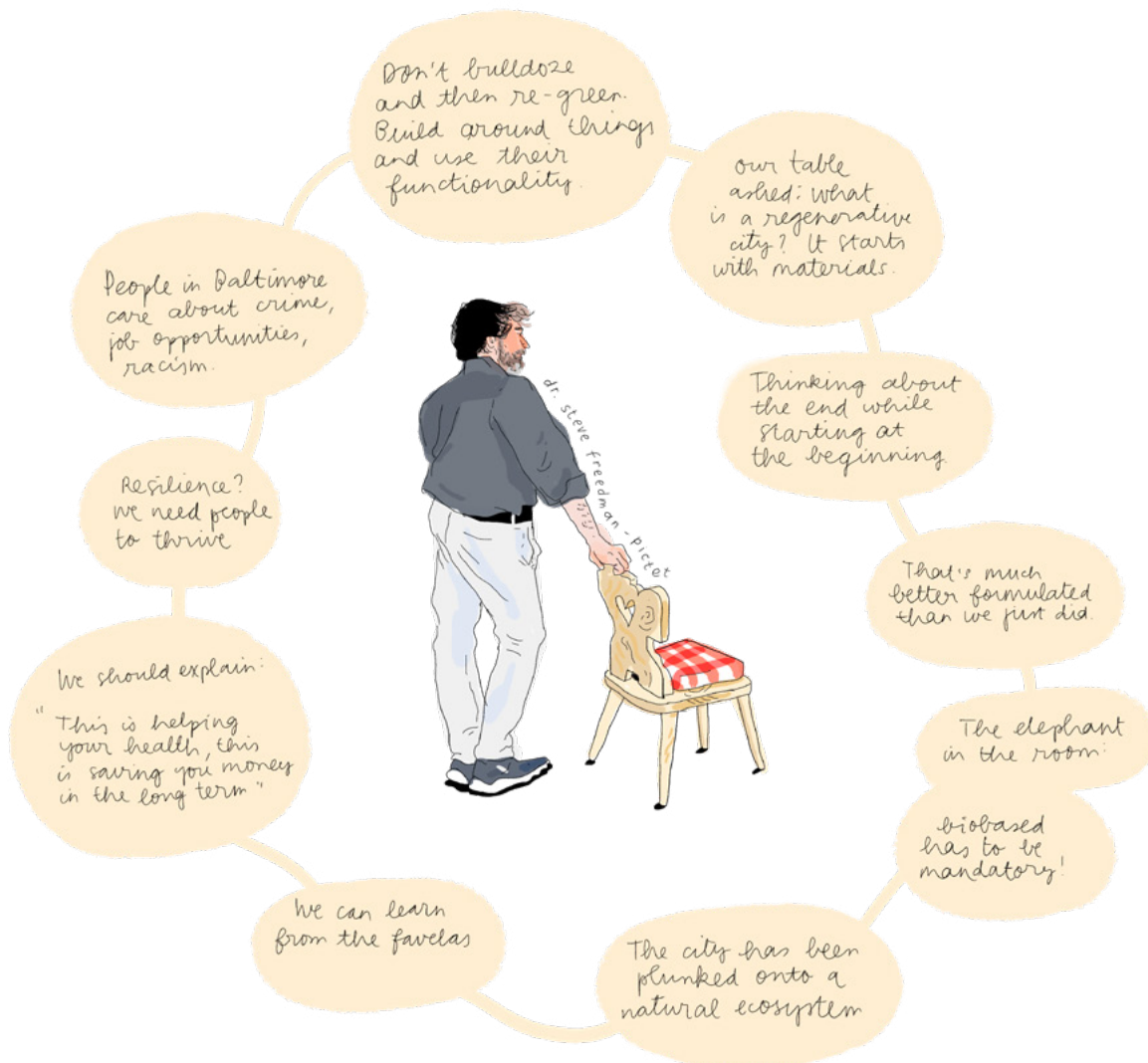
Max Zeller, founding partner of Carbon Removal Partners.

“We need to start thinking about sustainable net zero but also moving into a regenerative, net positive view of the world which is needed if you want to repair some of the damages.”

Dr. Steve Freedman, Head of Research and Sustainability of Thematic Equities, Pictet Asset Management

“We’re extracting resources that are high-value materials, and transforming into what we call waste, or low-value materials. We need a circular metabolism of cities in energy flows, not linear.”

Stefan Schurig, managing director of Tony Piech Foundation



b. Harnessing the Power of Urban Planning to Deliver Climate Resilient Cities - facilitated by C40

Moderators:

- ◇ **Helene Chartier**, *C40 Director of Urban Planning & Design*
- ◇ **Emma Goddard**, *C40 Manager for Urban Planning & Adaptation*

Workshop Objective

The objective of the workshop was to prompt participants to recognise the critical role of urban planning as a cross-cutting tool to create cities that are resilient to the impacts of flooding and extreme heat, as well as to encourage reflections on how participants and their organisations can play a role in climate-responsive urban planning.

Workshop Description

The workshop began by illustrating and explaining how poor urban planning is a key factor exacerbating climate risk, using the examples of recent catastrophic flooding in southern Brazil and record-breaking heat in Phoenix, USA. Participants were then asked to form groups to undertake a map-based exercise. This exercise used a zoning map of a hypothetical city facing landslide and flooding risks, as well as demographic pressures and widespread informal settlements. Participants were asked (1) to think through what types of planning policies could be introduced and where in order to reduce risk and (2) to identify where they would accommodate the growing population, taking account of climate risks. The presenters then showcased a series of real-world policy solutions from cities globally to address heat and flooding risk.

Next, the discussion moved to the barriers that cities face in doing “good”, climate-responsive urban planning. Groups were invited to identify and assess the importance of barriers city authorities face, as well as to reflect on how these

might differ across Global North and Global South cities. Finally, participants were invited to envisage ways in which their organisation could support city authorities in overcoming these barriers.

Key Outcomes

Increased awareness and understanding of urban planning as a critical tool for delivering emissions reductions and increased climate resilience. The negative impact of poor urban planning was illustrated using examples of extreme heat in Phoenix, Arizona and devastating flooding in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. The positive impact was highlighted through a variety of policy solutions, spanning “green corridors” in Medellín, Colombia through to cool roofs in New York City and rezoning coastal neighbourhoods in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

Key message: Good urban planners are key climate activists.

- ◇ **Putting theory into practice: understanding trade-offs in urban planning.** Participants were encouraged through a map-based exercise to confront the trade-offs that characterise decisions about land use. For example, when thinking about where to accommodate a growing population, planners will need to evaluate whether to develop on previously undeveloped land (“greenfield”) or instead increase density in existing neighbourhoods. Both have consequences for the climate crisis; developing on greenfield will result in the loss of natural carbon sinks and may consume land that acts as a floodplain buffer. On the other hand, increasing density may exacerbate the urban heat island effect. There is no easy solution to rationalising trade-offs - the most appropriate policy solutions will be determined by a city’s

unique geographic, environmental and socio-economic characteristics.

Key message: Well-designed planning policy solutions will account for a given location's unique context in evaluating inevitable trade-offs.

There are multiple barriers facing city authorities doing climate-responsive urban planning. Through the small-group discussions, participants discussed and evaluated the most relevant barriers faced by city governments. Discussions touched on financial constraints, political and administrative challenges, regulatory and legal barriers, social resistance, technical and expertise limitations, economic and market forces, environmental and geographical constraints, amongst others. The scale and severity of these barriers is markedly different across "Global North" and "Global South" authorities. Participants

reflected on their own, non-city organisations and how they could play a role in alleviating barriers.

Key message: Non-city actors, from businesses to NGOs, have a role to play in supporting climate-responsive urban planning. This might be through lobbying, providing non-profit technical assistance or making data and tools freely available.

- ◆ **Increased awareness of the value of city-to-city cooperation** through knowledge sharing as a way to replicate good practices. Examples included a recent C40 workshop on urban planning for climate resilience attended by Directors of Urban Planning from 8 African cities.

Key message: Cities have much to learn from the successes and failures experienced by other cities in tackling the climate crisis.

“Good urban planners are key climate activists”

Helene Chartier, C40 Director of Urban Planning & Design



c. Public and Private Data as an Opportunity to Increase Urban Resilience - facilitated by Bertelsmann Foundation

Moderators:

- ◇ **Martin Hullin**, *Director, Digitalisation and the Common Good, Bertelsmann Foundation*
- ◇ **Dr. Kirsten Witte**, *Director, Center for Sustainable Communities, Bertelsmann Foundation*
- ◇ **Cathryn Clüver-Ashbrook**, *Executive Vice President, Bertelsmann Foundation*

Objective

The objective is to explore digitalisation opportunities to strengthen urban resilience. Data – from sensor data on heat and transportation, to public health data, to emergency and public waste management – large data sets improve the basis for anticipation, planning processes and evidence-based decision-making while digital applications offer innovative approaches to controlling and scaling measures, while often putting data gathering and reporting back into the public's hands. But how can cities make different platform architectures interoperable, guarantee urban data privacy and prevent data harvesting, as cyberattacks and malign actors increasingly target disaggregated urban data spaces. We'll look at how digital platforms can help to systematically process data, develop planning scenarios and identify courses of action.

Workshop Process

- ◇ Opening Remarks with Cathryn Clüver-Ashbrook
- ◇ Overview of Workshop with Martin Hullin
- ◇ Ice-Breaker Activity
- ◇ The SDG Platform: Resilience, Sustainability & the Benefits of Data with Kirsten Witte
- ◇ Insights into the Public and Private Data Paradigm with Martin Hullin

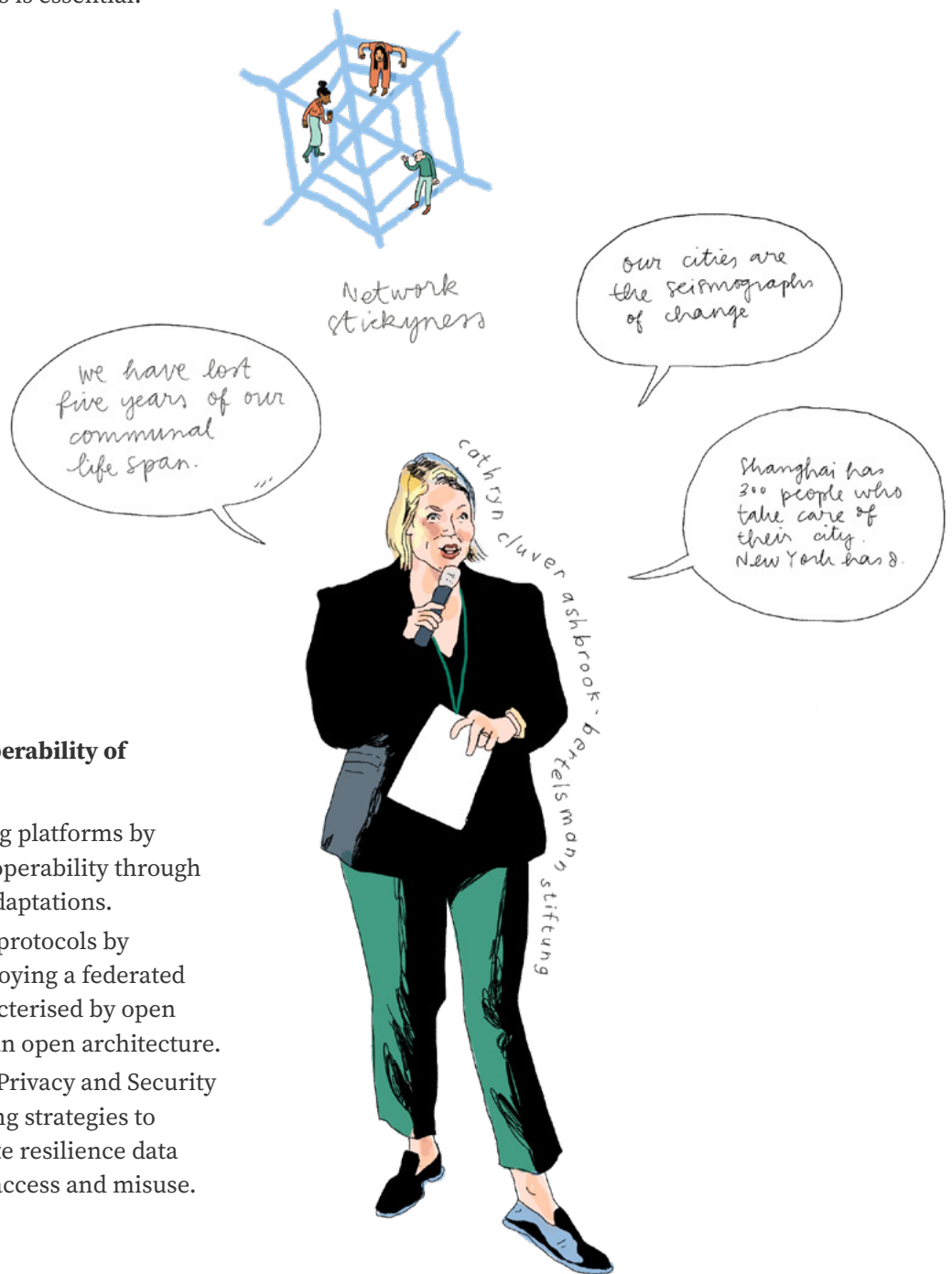
- ◇ Agreeing on a Vision for Climate Resilience Data Interoperability - System Thinking Activity with Martin Hullin
- ◇ Insights & Reflections
- ◇ Our Next Steps & Wrap Up
- ◇ Closing Remarks with Cathryn Clüver-Ashbrook

Outcomes

Important Insights

- ◇ **Data:** particularly in the urban context, is fundamentally human.
- ◇ **Two Levels of Approach:** there is a strategic meta-level and a ground-level perspective. Both must be addressed simultaneously in a coordinated manner.
- ◇ **Courage and Vision:** we need “courage and vision” to enable the shared use of public and private data in the context of urban climate resilience.
- ◇ **Governance and Coordination Dilemma:** this is a key aspect that must be resolved. It is directly related to the issue of personnel at the urban level regarding aggregation, dissemination, and comparability.
- ◇ **Importance of Data Interoperability:** the seamless integration of various digital platforms that provide access to proprietary data is crucial for effective urban climate resilience planning.

- ◇ **Data Privacy and Security:** ensuring the privacy and security of urban data is paramount to prevent cyber threats, completed crimes (data theft), and misuse.
- ◇ **Stakeholder Collaboration:** effective urban climate resilience requires collaboration among various stakeholders, including civil society, politics, administration, the private sector, and academia. Leveraging exciting networks and initiatives is essential.
- ◇ **Innovative Digital Solutions:** the use of AI and innovative approaches for accessing public/private data sources (data sandboxes, new stack for data sharing for climate resilience) can create significant opportunities in urban planning, transportation, environment, and other areas.



Next Steps

- ◇ **Improving the Interoperability of Existing Platforms:**
 - ◇ Streamlining existing platforms by strengthening interoperability through APIs and standard adaptations.
 - ◇ Creating federation protocols by developing and deploying a federated data structure characterised by open data standards and an open architecture.
 - ◇ Strengthening Data Privacy and Security Measures: Developing strategies to protect urban climate resilience data from unauthorised access and misuse.

◇ **Promoting Continuous Collaboration:**

- ◇ Engaging stakeholders further to promote a cooperative approach to urban resilience.
- ◇ Planning regular follow-up meetings to track progress and address challenges.

◇ **Implementing Practical Solutions:**

- ◇ Determining practical benefits to ensure that the initiatives' practical benefits are clear to the participants.
- ◇ Initiating pilot projects to test and refine solutions for data interoperability and resilience.

◇ **Promoting Innovative Approaches:**

- ◇ Fostering open-mindedness to encourage an innovative and collaborative mindset among all participants.
- ◇ Introducing new technologies and data sources to enhance the resilience of cities.



d. Challenge-Driven Innovation: Catalysing Cross-Sector Collaborations for Ecologically Resilient Urban Transformation - facilitated by UN-Habitat

Moderated by

- ◇ **Michal Mlynár**, *Acting Executive Director, UN-Habitat*
- ◇ **Namrata Mehta**, *Urban Innovation Specialist, UN-Habitat*

Workshop Objective

UN-Habitat has been collaborating with cities around the world on Challenge-Driven Innovation to foster cross-sectoral collaborations towards sustainable urbanisation. Within the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, the objective of the workshop was to showcase UN-Habitat's Challenge-Driven Innovation approach with examples in order to

1. Demonstrate the potential of challenge-driven innovation in enabling urban ecological resilience
2. Share lessons and solutions for real-world applications from across contexts
3. Propose opportunities for replicating and scaling solutions through partnerships with workshop participants and the cities they support

Workshop Description

Sparked by UN-Habitat's work on urban resilience and challenge-driven innovation, the workshop was structured around three key thematics essential to achieving urban resilience in cities - cross-sectoral collaboration, unlocking finance and local leadership. Through a presentation and series of three exercises participants were invited to explore these thematics from their own work and share back with the wider group.

The workshop began with participants being invited to reflect on their own resilience superpowers - strengths, techniques and strategies

that are essential to people working in urban resilience. This was followed by a framing of UN-Habitat's work and presentation on its approach to urban resilience and challenge-driven innovation. Through the example of the Climate Smart Cities Challenge, an open innovation initiative to identify and develop system transforming solutions for urban climate action, UN-Habitat shared an example of how challenge-driven innovation has resulted in a new viability model for zero-carbon affordable housing in Bristol, UK. The workshop was punctuated with engaging participant discussions and reflections.

The workshop concluded with an invitation from UN-Habitat to join efforts to expand the network of cities adopting challenge-driven innovation to set ambitious goals and inviting cross-sectoral collaboration to identify, develop, implement and maintain solutions to urban resilience.

Key Outcomes

An early outcome of the workshop participants identified their resilience superpowers - including learning from others, being persistent, recognising your own limits and functioning on limited amounts of sleep. This set the stage for further discussions.

1. Enabling local leadership

UN-Habitat's challenge-driven innovation approach invites local and city governments to own their challenges and set ambitious and tangible goals. Workshop participants shared their experiences of working with local leadership with specific examples of strategies that they had used in their own work. In one instance a participant stressed the importance of breaking down larger problems into more tangible smaller problems to collaborate on. A challenge that was also pointed out was the

obstacles or limitations posed by government organisations and officials, creating the space for local leadership outside of government to bypass official channels to enable creativity in problem solving efforts. Finally, an example of cross-cultural exchange between Nordic and North American practitioners demonstrated the opportunity to create safe spaces, with trust and openness, to have difficult conversations such as on homelessness.

2. Fostering cross-sectoral collaboration

A strength of the challenge-driven innovation approach is fostering cross-sectoral collaboration. Participants highlighted examples from their own work related to hurricanes, flooding, overfishing and farming to highlight what works and what doesn't when facilitating cross-sectoral collaboration. Mapping all stakeholders, especially decision makers was seen as a critical first step in cross-sectoral collaboration. A well defined brief was also highlighted as important to defining shared goals. In one example, creating the space for interdisciplinary dialogue resulted in greater value than simply focusing efforts on a solution. In other instances the importance of drawing on and involving local social infrastructure and knowledge to respond to urban crises was essential. Giving careful consideration to when to involve external experts was suggested, especially for issues of local urban resilience. Finally, the speed of decision

making was seen as important to cross-sectoral collaboration towards urban resilience including trusting executives when tough and quick decisions have to be made on behalf of a larger group, or iteratively testing to make quick progress.

3. Unlocking finance for urban resilience

An argument for adopting a challenge-driven innovation approach, is to unlock further funding. Participants shared specific examples from cities they live and work in about models that have helped cities build urban resilience. In one example, a participant shared, private real estate developers were mandated to contribute to the city's urban resilience by building green spaces, freeing up the city's investments to be directed elsewhere. The creative use of existing spaces was also highlighted as an approach to financial efficiencies - schools in one example were categorised as public spaces, opening up their use beyond school hours and for audiences beyond teachers and students.

Apart from the three key outcomes discussed above, multi-level governance emerged as an important thematic when considering urban climate action. In closing the workshop, UN-Habitat invited participants to join forces on encouraging cities to adopt a challenge-driven approach to their urban resilience concerns.



“It is indeed critical to have local and regional governments on the table”

Michal Mlynár,
Acting Executive Director, UN-Habitat

e. Transforming Cities with Nature-based Solutions: Collaborative Approaches - facilitated by The Nature Based Solutions Institute

Moderated by

Workshop host:

Prof. Cecil Konijnendijk,

Director, The Nature Based Solutions Institute

Workshop co-hosts:

- ◇ Dr. Jennifer Lenhart, *Global Lead, WWF Cities*
- ◇ Elise Van Middeltem, *Founder & CEO, SUGi*
- ◇ Rob McDonald, *Lead Scientist for the Global Cities program, The Nature Conservancy*

Workshop Objective

Nature-based solutions (NBS), ranging from urban forests and green roofs to new wetlands and large-scale green-blue networks, can make a real difference when it comes to making cities and other human settlements more resilient, healthy, and vibrant. However, NBS implementation often runs into challenges such as lack of space and capacity, limited private sector funding and competition with non-green solutions. This workshop set out to identify innovations and good practices that can inspire the larger-scale implementation of NBS for greater impact.

Workshop Description:

This interactive workshop featured brief inspirational 'flash talks' from the four workshop hosts, all leading NBS-experts, that highlighted some of the ways in which we can make a real difference with NBS. After this, participants were able to share their own experiences in interactive small-group discussions on themes and questions such as:

- ◇ For people and for nature: How can NBS be used for fostering stronger people-nature connection? In which ways can NBS also benefit nature and support a 'nature-based thinking approach'?
- ◇ Longer-term impact: What can be done to ensure the longer-term success of NBS, beyond the excitement of initial establishment? How can proper management be set up and community engagement be continued?
- ◇ Governance and partnerships: How can an integrated vision for NBS be implemented, for example at the city level? In which ways can we shape meaningful partnerships and collaboration for NBS?
- ◇ Financing: What can we do to diversify funding of NBS? What is the role of public, private, and non-profit partners? Why is green infrastructure treated so differently from grey infrastructure when it comes to funding?

Key Outcomes:

Cecil Konijnendijk began by referring to the work of Stefano Mancuso, inviting us to think about cities that are structured more like plants, with trees as our co-habitants. Most of our cities do not have enough trees, raising the need for rewilding projects and re-naturalization of our domesticated trees. Not only is this beneficial for our mental health and overall wellbeing, in many cases it is a matter of life or death. By increasing tree cover you can create natural shelter, mitigate urban heat island effect and reduce the number of people who die in a heatwave by one third.

Cecil then proceeded to invite fellow participants to present their respective nature-based solutions projects. Elise Van Middeltem from SUGi astounded with a series of pocket forest initiatives across London. Once again reinforcing the overarching theme that the bottom-up acupuncture approach may just be as effective as large infrastructures. Jennifer Lenhart from WWF Cities presented successful and scalable stories of urban revitalisation and nature restoration, assessing them according to economic, technical, and legal

feasibility. Robert McDonald from The Nature Conservancy spoke about the role of trees and nature in making cities into more humane places to be. He highlighted the social injustice that manifests in unequal access to trees and greenery in the city. It is a matter of social infrastructure and public commons, rather than luxury for the riches.

Several key points and recommendations emerged from the subsequent small-group discussions:

- ◇ The so-called **3+30+300 rule** introduced by Cecil was seen as a useful instrument for green planning and implementation. As a rule of thumb, everyone in the city should be able to see at least 3 trees of a decent size from their home, school, or workplace. We should all live in a neighbourhood with at least 30% tree canopy cover and have a high-quality public green space within 300 metres.
- ◇ We need more **public advocacy and education**, get people to understand the importance of soil health and trees as a public infrastructure.
- ◇ Good governance, policies, and visions for NBS are needed, and **NBS need to be fully integrated into other policy domains**.
- ◇ **Long-term maintenance of NBS is key to their**

success. Moreover, we need to build strong connections between people and their local nature as well to **foster stewardship**.

- ◇ **Better business and funding models for NBS** are needed, recognising the importance of natural capital.
- ◇ Salaries in nature-related professions (ecologist, horticulturist, etc), and especially for maintenance jobs, are often low. This serves as a barrier to **attracting talent and innovation** in this space.
- ◇ NBS approaches need to be **sensitive to local context and community**. A wealthy suburb is very different from an informal settlement.
- ◇ We need to **build on opportunities** that emerge when urban landscapes change, for example due to the mobility transition and a different priority for 'car habitat'.

“We need to move from ‘tree loss’ to ‘tree love’ in our cities.”

*Prof. Cecil Konijnendijk,
Director, The Nature Based
Solutions Institute*





Warm Data Lab

Workshop hosts

- ◇ **Joséphine von Mitschke-Collande**, *Eco-Sufficiency Lead at Stiftung Mercator Switzerland*
- ◇ **Heiko Specking**, *Founder of specking+partners*

Workshop objective

Providing and holding the space to meet people differently and to be able to exchange personal stories. An open question is reflected upon through the lenses of various contexts. Participants are encouraged to move around freely from context to context.

Workshop overview

A Warm Data Lab is a group practice, which highlights interdependency and generates an understanding of systemic patterns for people with no previous exposure to systems theory. It is a play for revealing relationships that are integral and woven into the complex fabric of the issues we are working on. The Warm Data Lab process allows participants to see new patterns and causations, as well as to respond to them with a broader comprehension. In this way, the Warm Data Lab enables new responses to complex challenges. It also allows for mutual learning and new relationships to build.

Participating in a Warm Data Lab is like the best after-dinner conversations you have ever had, with people you may have never met. Participants share their stories and observations about a common question, moving between small groups to explore the day's topic from different viewpoints such as family, health, economy, and more. What is possible when people meet people as people, not as roles, titles, or experts, to discuss the changes we're living through together?

After two short introductory stories were shared, the question asked for the Warm Data Lab at TKF24 was:

What is nourishing in a changing world?

what is
nourishing
in a
changing
world
?

Key outcomes

The Warm Data Lab process isn't designed for outcomes. Rather, as an experiment, an explorative roam.

The session encourages a different way of noticing what happened during the conversations and how individual perceptions of telling one's stories change when moving through different contexts and meeting different people and their stories.

These experiences were described as a "kaleidoscope of conversation", packed with enriching stories, laughter, and insight. They nourish the soul, transform the way we approach work, life, and our communities, and ultimately, create space for new relationships to flourish. They allow for 2nd or nth order learning and can even plant new seeds for community projects to renew and revitalise community life in the context of cities.

During the final sharing, observations were exchanged. People realised that their perspectives changed during the process. "I was surprised how deeply I trusted the people when I shared my very personal story". "I realised that when I changed contexts, I took parts of a previous context into a new one." From experience, this can lead to a more reflective approach in formulating concept notes as well as to anticipating a broader range of possibilities in meeting some of our daily challenges.

The word 'nourishment' immediately took me into my body and out of my head.

I love Talking shop, but this way we instantly connect on a deeper level.

With us, the conversation came down to care.

warm data lab

How do we come out of preaching to the choir?

Let's be **BOLD** and vulnerable



The policy is happening here, but the action is happening locally.

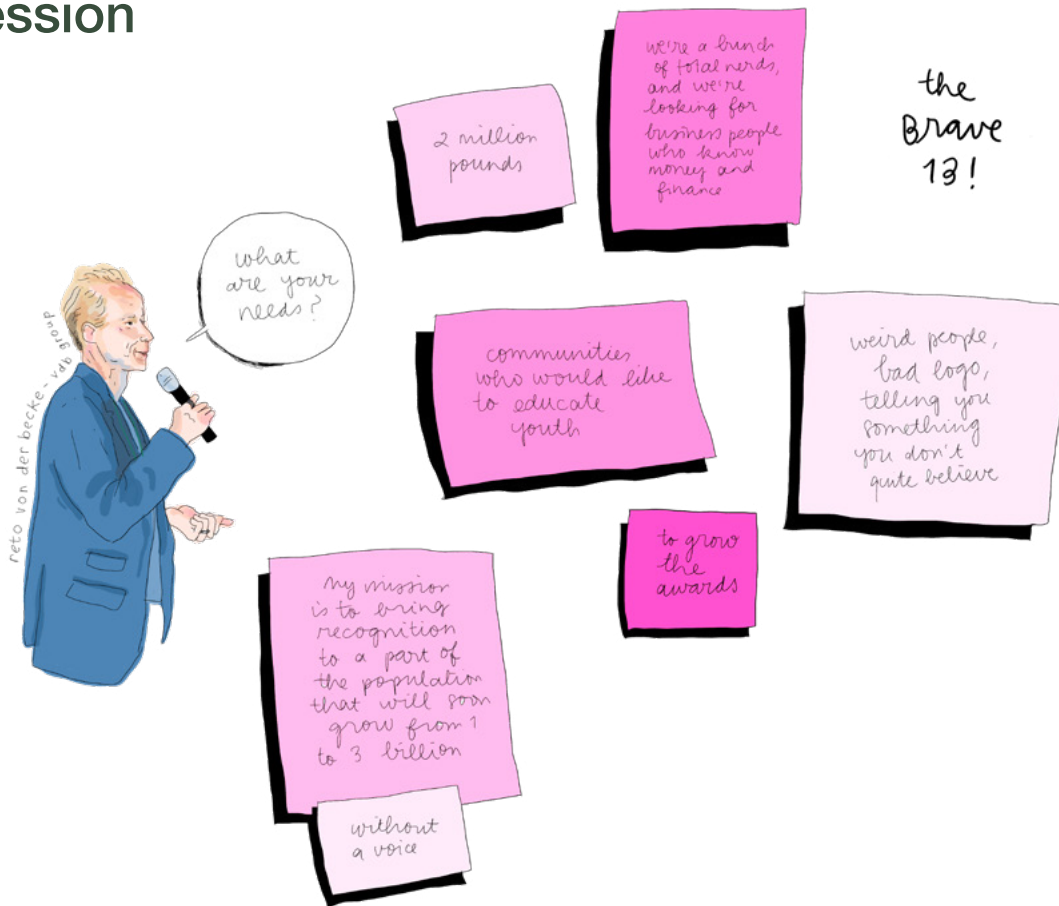
I can see things in Chili that the natives there don't see. Like how they treat street dogs!

It's definitely my partner. I wouldn't survive without him.

I was preaching water, and drinking wine.

trust the process

Needs & Leads Session

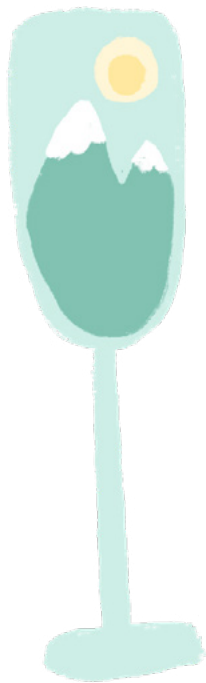


Facilitated by Reto von der Becke,
Chairman and CEO, VDB Group

At TKF24 the “TKF Needs & Leads” session returned to great effect. TKF again offered TKF Participants the opportunity to present their “needs” to the group in two-minute pitches: 12 people did so. Any audience members who knew of “leads” that could be promising for those who presented their needs, shared these. TKF Participants were encouraged to follow up on these connections within 48 hours of the Forum.

The TKF community is strongly connected by a sense of common purpose, a mutual desire to help each other, and the shared determination to make real progress on the important topics they convene at TKF to tackle. This session gives TKF Participants the chance to ask each other directly for support in a confidential and trusting environment, as well as the opportunity to channel their resources and their willingness to help, into real collaborations with their new contacts. It allows TKF Participants to leave the Forum with more than a stack of business cards and a sense of hope. We connect specific individuals around specific projects and challenge them to make plans right away.

Thank You



TKF24 would not have been possible without the help of our partners, supporters, advisors, TKF Patrons and Friends, moderators, curatorial committee, team and volunteers. A BIG THANK YOU to you all!

We would also like to thank the Gemeinde Klosters for supporting our endeavours in Klosters.

TKF24's Carbon Footprint has been calculated via *Climeet*. TKF's Carbon Reduction Plan will be available to view on TKF's website.

We were thrilled to welcome Menah Wellen as our illustrator, Magnus Arrevaad as our photographer and our filmmaker Marie Alice Wolfszahn.

“From up on the mountains, the view is clearer, the mind sharper, and the heart is open. Up in the Alps, the Klosters Forum dares us to build a world of love and laughter for all. What an inspiring week!”

Dr. Lewis Akenji,
Managing Director of Hot or Cool Institute



TKF25

TKF25 will take place on 17-19 June 2025.

We will convene a selected group of key stakeholders to continue the important conversations of TKF24; to discuss and collaborate on new innovative methods, practical solutions, and unconventional approaches - from nature-based and community-driven solutions to policy, technological, financial, and creative strategies - to systemically tackle the rising urban ecological challenges and facilitate a just and regenerative urban transformation.

We continue to maintain and promote the TKF Community of the previous topics after they cease to be the biannual focus topic through a number of channels, including the *TKF Talks* and the *TKF Podcast Series*.

At the next TKF,
let's get to
work even more!

Time is running,
and we can achieve
a lot!





“The Klosters Forum provided an intimate, connected, thoughtful, and highly curated expert community that took my thinking and social impact work to the next level.”

Jennifer Giroux, Social Impact Strategist





the
Klosters '24
Forum