

**Thematic Session
Climate Crisis and Biodiversity**

**Nature in Cities
: An Essential Solutions to the Climate Crisis**

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In July 2022 the United Nations General Assembly recognized a clean, healthy and sustainable environment as a human right. Precipitated by the climate crisis and environmental degradation that together escalate threats to human health and biodiversity, this resolution implicitly acknowledges that human well-being depends upon a healthy environment and the ecosystem services nature provides.

Eighty percent of the world's species are insects, and this keystone group of animals provides vital free ecosystem services (such as pollination, pest control, wildlife nutrition, and dung burial) worth at least \$70 billion in U.S. dollars. Still, until recently, insects have been mostly ignored or even reviled by many societies. However, we are seeing a growing trend of urban residents embracing conservation of pollinators and other insects.

I will discuss innovative case studies from the United States that illustrate conservation of pollinators and their habitats within towns and cities. Case studies will highlight achievable habitat projects, pesticide reduction, and education actions that any city can promote and achieve. Fortuitously, these conservation efforts also hold the promise of helping to mitigate and adapt to climate disruptions.