

IUCN PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE

Nature for Cities

Empowering leaders to drive urban conservation and biodiversity worldwide.

Course overview



Start: 27 August 2026
End: 1 October 2026

Duration: 5 weeks

Mode: Self-paced e-learning
+ live online sessions

Language: English

Learning experience



Online learning modules
Individual and group assignments

Estimated workload:

2 hours live session weekly

3-4 hours self-paced learning weekly

1 individual + 1 group assignment

Live online sessions



Time: 13:00 - 15:00 CET

Session 1	Thursday, August 27
Session 2	Thursday, September 3
Session 3	Thursday, September 10
Session 4	Thursday, September 17
Session 5	Thursday, September 24
Session 6	Thursday, October 1*

**Exceptionally 3 hours long*

Course modules

Module 1: *Why Urban Conservation*

- Learn urban conservation's value, explore Nature-based Solutions, and discover IUCN tools to address challenges and opportunities.

Modules 2 to 7: *The IUCN Urban Nature Indexes*

- Learn to apply the IUCN Urban Nature Indexes to measure urban nature, its benefits for biodiversity and well-being, and guide effective planning and management of city ecosystems.

Module 8: *Getting Started with Urban Nature Indexes*

- Learn how Berlin applies the Urban Nature Indexes to integrate urban ecology and biodiversity management, gain practical insights, and develop an action plan for next steps.

Who should join?

Professionals from all sectors who wish to gain a deeper understanding of how cities affect nature and explore the IUCN Urban Nature Indexes to address today's challenges.

Who is leading the course?

Russell Galt has 20 years of international experience in ecological planning, data systems, and sustainability strategy. As Head of Science & Natural Capital at Nature Broking, he oversees high-integrity carbon and biodiversity projects. Formerly, he directed the IUCN Urban Alliance and was Head of Policy & Science at Earthwatch Europe. An IUCN CEM and CEESP member, he has co-authored frameworks including the Singapore Index on Cities' Biodiversity and the IUCN Urban Nature Indexes. He holds an MBA, LLM, and BSc (Hons) from the University of Edinburgh.

