

SPEAKERS PLANETARY HEALTH CONGRESS

5-6-7 July 2023 | ARTIS Amsterdam Royal Zoo

Setting the stage for Planetary Health



Josep Maria Antó - Professor Emeritus of Medicine at Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona) and Research Professor and Former Scientific Director of the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal).

"To protect human health in the Anthropocene epoch, we must act on the urgency, the scale, and the interconnectivity between us and our home, planet Earth."

Keynote: Planetary Health - A new paradigm that combines the health of the people and the planet



Alexandre Robert - Co-founder of the Alliance Santé Planétaire

"We need a new world health governance based on Planetary Health solidarity if we want to solve the issues on the Anthropocene together."

Keynote: From global health security to planetary health solidarity

Theme Earth



Matty Berg - Professor of Animal Ecology, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

"What spurs me on is the question what determines the diversity, composition, functioning and adaptation of soil fauna communities."

Keynote: A novel perspective on agroecological transitions



Koen Arts - lecturer at the Forest and Nature Conservation Policy group, Wageningen University and Research

"Rewilding is often understood as a form of ecological management in which humans are merely bystanders. Rewilding should include humans too. Not only will it make ecological restoration more successful, but it is also essential to address a root cause of global environmental crises; the disconnect between humans and their natural environment."

Keynote: Two sides of the rewilding coin: on the necessity of ecological and human rewilding

Theme Water



Hans Slabbekoorn - Professor of Acoustic Ecology and Behaviour, Leiden University

"Humans and fish have the same hair cells in their ears to pick up sound waves. Yet, hearing works very differently under water. This is only one aspect of underwater acoustics in the life of a fish that we need to understand to grasp the possible impact for fish of an altered shipping route or pile-driving for wind farms."

Keynote: Listen to the oceans



Jef Huisman - Professor of Aquatic Ecology, University of Amsterdam

"In the current era, the Anthropocene, climate change will impact most life on Earth. Despite their tiny size, microorganisms support the existence of all higher life forms. To understand how life on Earth will respond to climate change, it is therefore vital to incorporate knowledge of the microbial unseen majority."

Keynote: Climate change and the aquatic microorganisms of lakes and oceans



Jessica den Outer - MSc International Environmental Law

"I want to inspire people to see law as a transformative tool. I believe ecosystems such as rivers, mountains and forests should have legal rights and people should be able to stand up for their interests."

Keynote: Rights for the Wadden Sea

Theme Food



Jaap Seidell - Professor of Nutrition and Health, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

"Getting fat is a normal response to this abnormal environment."

Keynote: The Planetary Health win-win diet



Frederike Praasterink - Professor Future Food Systems at HAS University of Applied Sciences, 's Hertogenbosch

"Ultimately, you want the sustainable products to be the cheapest."

Keynote: The transition to a sustainable food system



Marian Stuiver - Head of Program Green Cities, Wageningen University and Research

"It is my vision that in 2040 all major cities in the world are healthy places for humans and non-humans to live in symbiosis with each other. Urban Food Hubs are a tremendous step forward to these symbiotic cities as they produce a range of benefits such as healthy food and the restoration of urban biodiversity."

Keynote: Urban Food Hubs as catalysts for healthy cities for humans and non-humans - Worldwide examples, principles and challenges

Theme Humans



Marleen Stikker - Director and Founder of Waag Futurelab

"The European project More-than-Planet researches with earth observations, satellite data, art, culture and philosophy how we can create new forms of knowledge, planetary imaginaries and narratives on how to envision our planet. This is very urgent, since 75 percent of the planet's land surface is experiencing measurable human pressure, and the way people imagine the planet substantially impacts the environment itself. Even if earth observations are open source available, the raw data often remains inaccessible for the wider audience. How to interpret it, how to make it into a meaningful narrative? One that also takes into account the more-than-human life, public concerns, and climate justice?"

Keynote: More-than-Planet



Joyeeta Gupta - Professor of environment and development in the global south at the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research of the University of Amsterdam

"In the context of the Anthropocene, we are facing Earth system boundaries from local to global level. Such boundaries should not only prevent the Earth system from crossing tipping points but should also minimize significant harm to humans and other species. Meeting the minimum needs of all may however lead to crossing such boundaries at local to global level. Living within such boundaries limits our 'ecospace' (environmental utilization space) and this implies redistribution of this ecospace between actors. An Earth system justice approach is thereby needed, not just from a normative perspective, but because without such an approach, living within such boundaries will not be possible."

Keynote: The need for safe and just Earth System Boundaries



Pim Martens - Professor of Planetary Health, University of Maastricht

"For me, Planetary Health has always been the foundation of sustainable development. However, the sustainability debate has been hijacked in recent years by industry and governments. Their view regarding sustainable development significantly has been subordinate to the dogma of economic growth with little regard for planetary health. How shortsighted this is, has been illustrated by the various outbreaks of zoonotic diseases (with corona as one of the latest examples), our current climate crises and the global decline of biodiversity. These are just some examples, but it is increasingly clear that our own well-being is closely connected with the health of the planet on which we live."

Keynote: An entangled life with animals and the planet