

**Meet the Co-Chairs: GEO-6 for Cities**

The Global Environment Outlook assessments are a rich and valuable resource for decision-makers, practitioners and researchers about the current state of the environment with in-depth scientific knowledge. The Global Environment Outlook for Cities is an opportunity to distil this information for the critical urban stakeholder audience. Increasingly cities are recognized as central to the global environmental situation, from climate change to air pollution and while urban residents suffer many consequences of environmental degradation, cities are also sources of innovation and inspiration for tackling these difficult challenges. Through the Global Environment Outlook for Cities, we hope to empower and embolden city leaders, urban experts and everyone interested in cultivating healthy and liveable cities now and for future generations. Building on the scenarios, pathways and findings of the [sixth edition of the Global Environment Outlook](#), the Global Environment Outlook for Cities will cover in depth the environmental issues relevant for cities as well as the urban characteristics that shape environmental solutions within and beyond urban boundaries. Furthermore, the Global Environment Outlook for Cities will examine the potential for transformative pathways tackling socio-economic and environmental issues in the face of climate change and continued urbanization.

Julie Greenwalt has over 10 years' experience in international sustainable development, environment and climate change with a focus on cities. Her main areas of expertise and interest are urban ecosystems, sustainable urban development, climate action in cities, nature-based solutions, climate change mitigation and adaptation in Africa and the intersection of poverty reduction and climate change. She has worked as an Urban Environment Specialist at the Cities Alliance, where she managed a portfolio on climate change, environment and resilience in cities in the Global South and co-chaired the Organizing Committee of the Cities and Climate Change Science conference. Prior to this she worked with the Global Adaptation Network, UN-Habitat in Afghanistan and UN-Habitat/United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) in Bangkok. For five years, she worked for UN Environment on REDD+ with a focus on safeguards, green economy transitions and national programmes in Africa. She started her United Nations career with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) working on biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction. She is currently the Nature-based Solutions Coordinator in the Global Center on Adaptation of Rotterdam, an advisor to the CMAP - Collaborative Media Advocacy Platform in Port Harcourt, Nigeria and is also pursuing her PhD on nature in African cities at the Copernicus Institute for Sustainable Development at Utrecht University. Julie has a Master's degree in Urban Planning from Columbia University (New York) and a Bachelor's degree in International Relations, Philosophy and Spanish from Tulane University (New Orleans).



Diego Martino has worked on environmental issues for over 15 years from a variety of positions, ranging from Non-Governmental Organisations, international organisations, private sector and the academic sector. He has also been an environmental advisor at the national public level. His experience in these positions has included direct work with stakeholders in more than a dozen countries in the Latin America and Caribbean region. Diego has been involved in several State of the Environment Assessments, which include GEOs at the Global, Regional, National and Urban level. He was also part of the team that worked on the adaptation of the Global Environment Outlook DPSIR (drivers, pressures, state, impact and response) methodology for its application at the urban scale. He has a Bachelor's degree in international Affairs, a Masters Degree in Geography (Carleton University), a Ph.D. in Geography (Carleton University) with a Thesis focused on Cities and Protected Areas, and a Post Doctorate (University of Southern California) working on Urban Ecology. He currently teaches Environmental Management at the Faculty of Architecture from the ORT University in Montevideo.

