14:00
PAOLA VIGANÒ
Habitat Research Center, EPFL
Introduction: HABITAT, a future-oriented and transdisciplinary design and research platform

14:10
NICOLA CANTOREGGI
Institute of Global Health, University of Geneva
Salutogenesis of cities

14:30
EMANUELE MASSARO
Human Environment Relations in Urban Systems (HERUS), EPFL
Modelling mosquito borne-diseases in urban environments

14:50
YVES DELACRÉTAZ
School of Management and Engineering Vaud
Le piéton au coeur de la mobilité urbaine: quel aménagement?

15:10
STÉPHANE JOOST
Geographic Information Systems Laboratory, EPFL
Use of medical cohort data to assess quality of life in urban environments

15:30
OLA SÖDERSTRÖM
Institute of Geography, University of Neuchâtel
Urban living and psychosis: from 'co-laborative' research to living lab

15:45 – 16:00
Coffee Break

II.

16:00
CARLOS DORA
World Health Organisation, Geneva
Health research and practice in the construction of healthy urban futures

16:45
Discussion Panel “Walking Saves Lives” Research perspectives and new synergies
Habitat Research Center is a new transdisciplinary platform at EPFL, aiming at exploring urban phenomena and producing visions, strategies and projects to address emerging questions related to the ongoing urbanisation of the world. The launch of the Healthy Habitats Initiative coincides with the launch of the activities of the center on the topic of health and well-being in cities. Healthy Habitats is one of the center’s four Interdisciplinary Research Clusters aiming at federating specific EPFL research excellences related to the urban phenomena (the others are Digital Habitats, Landscape Habitats, Productive Habitats).

The preservation and pursuit of “quality of life” in cities represents a fundamental challenge for the future. Urban space will need to guarantee healthy, secure and comfortable places to live/work, where clean air and water, access to fertile soils and healthy food, social/territorial connectedness, accessible public transportation systems, and the use of sustainable and safe building materials are secured. Today, the relation between urban form and health stands open to investigation. Developing visionary and innovative solutions requires an understanding of various socio-spatial, economic and environmental determinants of well-being in cities, and calls for an integrated, interdisciplinary research agenda.

The Habitat Research Center is launching its activities on this theme by bringing together researchers in Switzerland working on various aspects of health in urban contexts with the ambition of fostering collaboration, exploring future perspectives, and creating new research synergies. On 7 November 2018, following the presentations in the first part, a panel discussion in the second part of the afternoon will invite the researchers to exchange their views about the validity and potential of an ambitious interdisciplinary research on the theme of walking, as a fundamental component of a healthy city.