



## Professor Debra C. Roberts

IPCC Co-Chair Working Group II Sixth Assessment Cycle  
Sustainable and Resilient City Initiatives Unit, eThekweni Municipality.  
Durban, South Africa.

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### Profile

Debra is natural scientist who has spent the last three decades working at the science-policy-practice interface in the fields of biodiversity planning and management; climate change adaptation and mitigation; and sustainable development and resilience at both the local and international levels. Adopting a transdisciplinary approach, she has used the in-depth knowledge and experience gained in helping to plan and manage the city of Durban (South Africa) to provide insights relevant to biodiversity, sustainability and climate change issues in the urban context. Through her ongoing documentation of these in-the-field experiences and related cross-sectoral research in the peer-reviewed literature, she has provided a practitioner-scientist's viewpoint on environmental and climate change governance which has contributed to and influenced the environmental and development debate at multiple scales.

### Education

**Watson International Scholars of the Environment Programme.** Watson Institute for International Studies, Brown University - Providence, Rhode Island (USA). UNEP endorsed certification. 2004

**Post-Doctoral research with English Nature** (now Natural England - the statutory body responsible for nature conservation in England). 1993

**PhD (Urban Biogeography), University of Natal.** 1991

Described by external examiner, Professor Jared Diamond (University of California – Los Angeles, USA) as: "*a massive effort of outstanding, breadth, vision and quality. The author has reviewed and mastered a database that ranges from politics and history to geology and botany*", an "*outstanding, comprehensive and imaginative study*".

**B.Sc. Hons, (Terrestrial Ecology and Biogeography) University of Natal *Cum laude*.** 1983

**B.Sc. (Environmental Biology, Cell Biology, Organic Chemistry and Analytical Chemistry) University of Natal.** 1982

### Professional Registration

**Registered as a Professional Natural Scientist** in the field of practice of Ecological Science (27-01-2016). Registration number 400020/16.

## Appointments

**President of the AXA Research Fund Scientific Board.** AXA is one of the largest global insurers. The AXA Research Fund seeks to support scientists of the highest calibre and potential whose research projects are innovative and transformative. The Scientific Board is responsible for the transparency and the integrity of the selection process. 2023

**Member of the Advisory Board of Resilience Rising.** Resilience Rising is a global consortium of NGOs and initiatives working together to build systemic resilience to some of the world's most pressing challenges. 2022 – ongoing

**Honorary Professor:** School of Life Sciences, University of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. 2016 – ongoing

**Member of the AXA Research Fund Scientific Board.** 2016-2022

## Employment and related responsibilities

- Established and managed the *Durban office of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group II Technical Support Unit.* 2018 - 2023 (voluntary).
- *Acting Head: Sustainable and Resilient City Initiatives Unit.* Core responsibilities include overseeing, leading and co-ordinating the development of eThekweni Municipality's (Durban, South Africa) first sustainability and resilience work programme and related institutional structures. 2016 - ongoing
- *Established and led the Environmental Planning and Climate Protection Department* of eThekweni Municipality. Core responsibilities included overseeing local level biodiversity and climate adaptation planning and development of the city's first resilience programme. 1994 - 2016
- Appointed as eThekweni Municipality's (Durban, South Africa) *first Chief Resilience Officer.* Core responsibility related to the development and implementation of the city's first Resilience Strategy. 2013 - onwards
- *Lecturer and researcher* at the (then) University of Natal (Durban, South Africa) in the departments of Biological Sciences (part-time:1983 -1990) and Geographical and Environmental Sciences (full-time:1991-1993).

## Professional Service

- *Member of the Scientific Steering Committee* of the IPCC Workshop on the Use of Scenarios in AR6 and Subsequent Assessments. 2022 - 2023
- *Member of the Scientific Steering Committee* "What Works Global Summit on Climate Solutions" organised jointly by Evidence Synthesis International, the Campbell Collaboration - Coordinating Group on Climate Solutions as well as the Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change. 2022 – 2024
- *Member of the core team* responsible for the Summary for Urban Policymakers (SUP) of the IPCC's sixth assessment report (AR6) initiative. 2021- 2022
- *Member of the Scientific Steering Committee* of UNEP's Adaptation Gap Report 2022. 2021 - 2022
- *Co-Chair of the Scientific and Innovation Steering Committee* of the IPCC/UN-Habitat/GCoM co-sponsored Innovate4Cities conference. 2021 - 2022
- *Member of the IPCC's Gender Action Team.* 2021 - ongoing

- **Co-Chair of the Scientific Steering Committee** of the IPCC/ICOMOS/UNESCO International Co-sponsored Meeting on Culture, Heritage and Climate Change. 2020 - 2022
- **Member of the Scientific Steering Committee** for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) and Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) co-sponsored workshop on biodiversity and climate change. 2020 - 2021
- High-Level Advisory Group member for **OECD project on Losses and Damages from climate change**. 2020 - 2021
- Scientific Advisory Group member of UNEP's "**Making Peace with Nature: A scientific blueprint to tackle the climate, biodiversity and pollution emergencies**". 2019 - 2021
- **Member of the Steering Committee of the United Nations Secretary General's Climate Summit**. 2019
- **Member of the Adhoc Global Assessments Dialogue (AGAD)** convened by UNEP. AGAD is an informal process that brings together the Heads of Secretariats, Co-Chairs and selected experts of major global assessments with the main objective of exploring possible areas of synergy. 2018 - ongoing
- **Advisor to the Global Commission on Adaptation** - under the leadership of Ban Ki-moon, Bill Gates and Kristalina Georgieva, the Commission aimed to forge a bold strategic vision for adaptation and to catalyse large-scale, transformative action and partnerships to help vulnerable countries and communities to become more resilient, tackle extreme poverty, and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. 2018 - 2020
- **Member of the UCLG-UBUNTU Advisory Group** providing advice to the international Presidency of UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments) on how best to navigate international development processes in order to optimize the localization of the SDGs. 2018 - ongoing
- **Member of the Scientific Steering Committee** for the IPCC, Cities Alliance, C40, Future Earth, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) co-sponsored international conference on Cities and Climate Change Science held in Edmonton, Canada. 2017 - 2018
- Member of the **Integrated Assessment Modelling Consortium (IAMC)** Advisory Council. The Integrated Assessment Modelling Consortium (IAMC) is an organization of scientific research institutions that pursues scientific understanding of issues associated with integrated assessment modelling and analysis. 2017- ongoing
- Member of the **International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)-South African National Member Organization (NMO)**. 2017-2019
- **Co-Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) Working Group II** (Impacts, adaptation and vulnerability) for the Sixth Assessment (AR6) cycle. This is the first time a South African scientist and a local government official has been elected to a Working Group Co-Chair position within the IPCC. Prof. Roberts is also the first female scientist from the developing world and Africa to be elected as an IPCC Working Group Co-Chair. Together with Professor Hans-Otto Pörtner of the Alfred Wegener Institute in Germany, Prof. Roberts has successfully led the preparation of all the Working Group II products in the AR6 cycle. This has included three Special Reports and the Working Group II main assessment. She was also a member of the Core Writing Team and Scientific Steering Committee for the AR6 Synthesis Report. Prof. Roberts has been and continues to be involved in numerous global outreach activities linked to these

reports<sup>1</sup>. Under Prof. Roberts's leadership the Durban office of the Working Group II has hosted IPCC review training workshops to improve the awareness and contribution of experts from the Global South to the IPCC assessments and oversaw the development of the first dedicated regional IPCC outreach material focused on the Africa relevant findings of the special and main assessment reports. 2015- 2023

- A member of the Interim Engagement Committee and *Engagement Committee of Future Earth* - an international initiative to advance Global Sustainability Science and provide an international research agenda to guide natural and social scientists around the world, where she also co-led the development of the Urban Knowledge Action Network. 2014 - 2017
- Member of the international *National Adaptation Plan Global Network Steering Committee*. 2014-2019
- *Member of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network* Thematic Group on Sustainable Cities, that worked towards the establishment of an urban SDG as part of the post-2015 development regime. 2013 - 2015
- Has done *extensive outreach globally* on behalf of the IPCC. 2014 - ongoing
- *Lead author of Chapter 8 (Urban Areas)* and a contributing author to Chapter 12 (Africa) of Working Group II of the IPCC's Fifth Assessment Report. Participated in the preparation of Working Group II's outreach video and in outreach events in both South Africa and Australia. (2011-2013)
- Member of the *South African United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) negotiating team* – in the Adaptation and Loss and Damage streams. 2011-2015
- *Special advisor to ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability Global Executive Committee* on the Durban Adaptation Charter, climate change and resilience issues. Also led the development of the Durban Adaptation Charter at Local Government Convention at the UNFCCC's COP17-CMP7 and subsequent implementation. 2011-2015
- Member of *various international advisory bodies* focused on climate change issues in cities e.g.: the Rockefeller Foundation's Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (2008 – 2012) and vice-chair of UN-Habitat's HS-NET Advisory Board (2009-2013) which oversaw the production of the 2011 "Cities and Climate Change" Global Report.
- *Written widely* in the fields of urban open space planning, urban environmental management, urban climate protection and urban resilience.
- Invited to sit on the *editorial/advisory boards* of international urban journals such as: Urbanisation; International Journal of Sustainable Urban Development and Local Environment – The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability.

#### Awards and acknowledgements

Awarded a **Doctor of Laws (*honoris causa*) (LLD) (*hc*) by Rhodes University (South Africa)** for her climate change and environmental work at the local and international level. 2023

Awarded a **Doctor of Science (*honoris causa*) (DSc) (*hc*) by the University of Cape Town (South Africa)** for her climate change and environmental work at the local and international level. 2023

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<sup>1</sup> E.g. activities at COP27 <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/environment/green-pulse-podcast-at-cop27-is-there-a-limit-to-adapting-to-climate-change> and <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=udJfx-9frpQ>

Awarded a **Doctorate (*honoris causa*)** (PhD) (*hc*) by the **University of Twente (Netherlands)** for her climate change and environmental work at the local and international level. 2022 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3inWkAsEcY>

Included in *Apolitical's* inaugural list of the **World's 100 Most Influential People in Climate Policy**. 2019

Delivered the **2016 Barbara Ward Lecture** (hosted by the International Institute for Environment and Development- London, UK) aimed at honouring outstanding women in development. 2016

Received several awards for her biodiversity and climate change work at the local (municipal), provincial, national and international level e.g.:

- **City Stars: Woman Achiever**. Municipal - 2015
- **AfriCan Climate Research Award**. International - 2014
- Selected as one of South Africa's "**Climate Change Leaders**" by the Mail and Guardian newspaper. National - 2014
- Led the development of the Buffelsdraai Landfill Site Community Reforestation project which was awarded the **Gold Level for Exceptional Climate Change Adaptation Benefits and Community Benefits** as specified by the requirements of the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Project Design Standards. International – 2014
- Directed Durban's "COP17-CMP7 Greening" programme which received the Mail and Guardian '**Greening the Future Award**' in the Government category. National – 2012
- Established the Buffelsdraai Community Reforestation Project which was selected at one of the **10 global lighthouse projects** at the launch of the United Nation's Framework Convention on Climate Change "Momentum for Change" programme at COP17/CMP7. International – 2011
- Directed Durban's "Greening Durban 2010 Programme" which received the Mail and Guardian '**Greening the Future Award**' in the Energy Efficiency and Carbon Management category and a Gold Award from the **Impumelelo Innovations Award Trust** (for the greening of the Moses Mabhida Stadium). The Green Roof Pilot Project also received a Star Award from the Impumelelo Innovations Award Trust. National – 2010
- Wildlife and Environment Society's (KwaZulu-Natal Branch) '**Conservationist of the Year**' Award. Provincial – 2002
- Leader of the Durban team awarded the national Mail and Guardian '**Greening the Future Award**' as a winner in the Investing in the Environment Category for Durban Metropolitan Council's Local Agenda 21 Programme. National – 1998
- **Foundation for Research and Development (FRD) Postdoctoral Scholarship** for postdoctoral research in Europe and the United Kingdom. National – 1993
- Awarded one of the 1993 FOYSA (**Four Outstanding Young South African**) Awards. National - 1993
- The '**Don Smith Award**' for the achievement of excellence in environmental quality. Municipal – 1990
- **CSIR Special Merit Bursary** for outstanding academic achievement. National – 1985

- **Zero Carbon City International Forum 2023.** 1 March 2023. IGES (the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies) organised by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE), Japan and the Office of Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, the United States of America.
- **Post-graduate Research and Innovation Symposium 2022.** 8-9 December 2022. University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, South Africa. <https://youtu.be/ml44h1etwVY> (15 mins 43 secs)
- **Ministerial Meeting on Urbanization and Climate Change** hosted by the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt and supported by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme. 17th November 2022. UNFCCC COP27, Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5kr5jIXFye0> (2 mins 18 secs)
- **Science-based choices for climate action: Insights from the IPCC 6<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report Symposium.** 24-26 October 2022. Dickinson College, Carlisle PA, USA. [www.youtube.com/watch?v=vo-bvmmvddM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vo-bvmmvddM)
- **Harvard Radcliffe Institute 2022 Science Symposium.** 20-21 October 2022. Harvard Radcliffe Institute, Cambridge MA, USA. [A Pale Blue Dot under Pressure: Climate Change, Justice, and Resilience in Our Rapidly Warming World | Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University](https://www.harvard.edu/radcliffe-institute/advanced-study-at-harvard-university)
- **Daring Cities 2022 - The Global Virtual Forum for Urban Leaders Taking on the Climate Emergency.** 3-7 October 2022. (Virtual)
- **Tyndall Centre Annual Assembly 2022 – Local climate action in cities.** 15 September 2022. Newcastle University, United Kingdom (virtual).
- **African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) Expert Group and Ministerial meeting.** 13 and 15 September 2022. Dakar, Senegal (virtual). <https://youtu.be/13eZrLHsYrY>
- **22nd World Congress of Soil Science.** 31 July - 5 August 2020. Scottish Event Campus, Glasgow, Scotland. <https://portalapp.speakeasy.eventsair.com/VirtualAttendeePortal/wcss-2022/wcss2022/>
- **Environment Protection Agency - Annual Climate Change Conference 2022: Creating Ireland's Climate Future.** 1 June 2022. Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin, Ireland & Online (virtual). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2yLi4Ci7oBE>
- **Singapore International Water Week 2022.** 17-21 April 2022. Sands Expo & Convention Centre Marina Bay Sands, Singapore. <https://www.siww.com.sg/siwwplus/siww2022-on-demand>
- **The Royal Society - Climate change: science, responses and research needs. A conference to reflect on the implications for the UK of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report and urgent policy and research needs.** 11-12 April 2022. The Royal Society, London, United Kingdom. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2I9QPWWk\\_zQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2I9QPWWk_zQ) (6h 14 mins)
- **American Society of Civil Engineers - International Conference on Sustainable Infrastructure Leading Resilient Communities Through the 21st Century.** 6-9 November 2019. Millennium Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles, USA.
- **Ecocity World Summit 2019.** 7-11 October 2019. Vancouver Convention Centre, Vancouver, Canada. <https://vimeo.com/375355263> <https://ecocitybuilders.org/ecocity-2019-keynote-recordings/>
- **International Conference on Climate Action.** 22-23 May 2019. Kongresshaus Stadthalle Heidelberg, Germany.



- **International Cities and Climate Change Science Conference.** 5-7 March 2018. Shaw Convention Centre. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.  
<http://www.gowebcasting.com/events/citiesipcc/2018/03/05/theme-2-plenary-urban-emissions-impacts-and-vulnerabilities/play/stream/24472>
- **Ecocity World Summit 2017.** 12-14 July 2017. Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Melbourne, Australia.
- **2016 Barbara Ward Lecture** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-vFIedmeBIA> (full session) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dW830DbRrEM&t=325s> (presentation only). 11 October 2016, London, United Kingdom.
- **The Stern Review +10: new opportunities for growth and development.** 28 October 2016. The Royal Society, London, United Kingdom.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g\\_oYKYVXomQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g_oYKYVXomQ)
- **Realising Just Cities: coproduction in action.** Mistra Urban Futures Annual International Conference. 19-20 September 2016. Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Lq2eCLnwu4&t=3351s>
- **Programme on Ecosystem Change and Society (PECS) 2015 Conference: Socio-ecological dynamics in the Anthropocene.** 2-5 November 2015. Spier Wine Farm and Conference Centre, Stellenbosch, South Africa.  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=In\\_mdxHf3eE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=In_mdxHf3eE)
- **Climate Adaptation 2014: Future Challenges Conference.** 30 September - 2 October 2014. Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre Gold Coast, Australia.
- **Community Based Adaptation: Mainstreaming CBA into national and local planning 7th International Conference.** 18 - 25 April 2013. Ruposhi Bangla Hotel, Dhaka, Bangladesh. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PbxARI8GynM>
- **Transformation in a changing climate International Conference.** 19-21 June 2013. University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway.

*Peer-reviewed articles*

1. Okem, A.E., Bisimwa, M., Mkanishe, T.B., Myeni, S.L., Roberts, D.C. and Zungu, S. (2022). A Scoping Review of COVID-19 in the context of informal settlements. *Urbanisation* 1-16 DOI:10.1177/24557471221129058
2. Hunter, N.B., Roberts, D.C., Sutherland, C. and Slotow, R. (2022). Co-creation between cities and climate change science achieves research and action agenda. *Current Research in Environmental Sustainability* 4 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.crsust.2022.100189>
3. Keith, M., Birch, E., Buchoud, N.J.A., Cardama, M., Cobbett, W., Cohen, M., Elmqvist, T., Espey, J., Hajer, M., Hartmann, G., Matsumoto, T., Parnell, S., Revi, A., Roberts, D.C., Saiz, E., Schwanen, T., Seto, K.C., Tuts, R., and van der Pütten, M. (2022). A new urban narrative for sustainable development. *Nature Sustainability* <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-022-00979-5>
4. North, M.A., Hunter, N.B., Roberts, D.C. and Slotow, R. (2022) Science for implementation: the roles, experiences, and perceptions of practitioners involved in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. *Climate Action* (2022) 1:25 <https://doi.org/10.1007/s44168-022-00025-2>
5. Fioramonti, L., Coscieme, L., Costanza, R., Kubiszewski, I., Trebeck, K., Wallis, S., Roberts, D., Mortensen, L.F., Pickett, K.E., Wilkinson, R., Ragnarsdóttir, K.V., McGlade, J., Lovins, H., and De Vogli, R. (2022). Wellbeing economy: An effective paradigm to mainstream post-growth policies? *Ecological Economics* 192 (2022) 107261. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2021.107261>
6. Birkmann, J., Jamshed, A., McMillan, J.M., Feldmeyer, D., Totin, E., Solecki, W., Zaiton Ibrahim, Z., Roberts, D., Bezner Kerr, R., Portner, H-O., Pelling, M., Djalante, R., Garschagen, M., Leal Filho, W., Guha Sapir, D., and Alegría, A. (2022). Understanding human vulnerability to climate change: A global perspective on index validation for adaptation planning. *Science of The Total Environment*, Volume 803, 150065, ISSN 0048-9697. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2021.150065>
7. Lobo, J., Alberti, M., Allen-Dumas, M., Bettencourt, L.M.A., Beukes, A., Bojórquez Tapia, L.A., Chen, W-Q., Dodge, A., Neal, Z., Perreira, A., Pfeiffer, D., Revi, A., Roberts, D., Rozenblat, C., Shutters, S., Smith M.E., Stokes, E., Strumsky, D., and Wu, J. (2021). A convergence research perspective on graduate education for sustainable urban systems science. *npj Urban Sustainability* 1:39. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s42949-021-00044-8>
8. Birkmann, J., Feldmeyer, D., McMillan, J.M., Solecki, W., Totin, E., Roberts, D., Trisos, C., Jamshed, A., Boyd, E., Wrathall, D. (2021). Regional clusters of vulnerability show the need for transboundary cooperation. *Environmental Research Letters*, 16 094052. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/ac1f43>.
9. Simpson, N.P., Mach, K.J., Constable, A., Hess, J., Hogarth, R., Howden, M., Lawrence, J., Lempert, R.J., Muccione, V., Mackey, B., New, M.G., O'Neill, B., Otto, F., Portner, H-O., Reisinger, A., Roberts, D., Schmidt, D.N., Seneviratne, S., Strongin, S., van Aalst, M., Totin, E., and Trisos, C.H. (2021). A framework for complex climate change risk assessment. *One Earth* 4, April 23, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oneear.2021.03.005>
10. Solecki, W., Delgado, G.C., Roberts, D., Rosenzweig, C. and Walsh, B. (2021). Accelerating climate research and action in cities through advanced science-policy-practice partnerships. *NPJ Urban Sustainability* 1, 3, doi:10.1038/s42949-021-00015-z.



11. Hunter, N.B., North, M.A., Roberts, D.C. and Slotow, R. (2020) A systematic map of responses to climate impacts in urban Africa. *Environmental Research Letters*. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/ab9d00>
12. Roberts, D., Douwes, J., Sutherland, C. and Sim, V. (2020) Durban's 100 Resilient Cities journey: governing resilience from within. *Environment and Urbanisation*. DOI: 10.1177/0956247820946555
13. Bai, X., Colbert, M., McPhearson, T., Roberts, D., Siri, J., Walsh, B. and Webb, B. (2019). Networking urban, science, policy and practice for sustainability. *Current opinion in environmental sustainability* 39: 114-122. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cosust.2019.08.002>
14. Sutherland, C., Roberts, D. and Douwes, J. (2019). Constructing resilience at three scales: The 100 Resilient Cities programme, Durban's resilience journey and water resilience in the Palmiet Catchment. *Human Geography* 12 (1) 33-49.
15. Davids, R., Rouget, M., Boon, R. and Roberts, D. (2018), Spatial analyses of threats to ecosystem service hotspots in Greater Durban, South Africa. *PeerJ* 6: e5723; DOI 10.7717/peerj.5723
16. Singh, R.K., Arrighi, J., Coughlan de Perez, E., Warrick, O., Suarez, P., Koelle, B., Jjemba, E., van Aalst, M/K., Roberts, D.C., Pörtner H.O and Jones, R.G. (2018). International Conference on Climate Risk Management, inputs for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Sixth Assessment Report. *Climate and Development*, DOI: 10.1080/17565529.2018.1521331
17. Bai, X., Dawson, R.J., Ürge-Vorsatz, D., Delgado, G.C., Barau, A.S., Dhakal, S., Dodman, D., Leonardsen, L., Masson-Delmotte, V., Roberts, D.C. and Schultz, S. (2018). Six research priorities for cities and climate change. *Nature* 555: 23-25. doi: 10.1038/d41586-018-02409-z
18. Solecki, W., Rosenzweig, C., Dhakal, S., Roberts, D., Barau, A.S., Schultz, S. and Ürge-Vorsatz, D. (2018). City transformations in a 1.5 °C warmer world. *Nature Climate Change* 8 (March): 174–185. doi:10.1038/s41558-018-0101-5
19. Nilon, C.H., Aronson, M. F. J., Cilliers, S.S., Dobbs, C., Frazee, L.J., Goddard, M.A., O'Neill, K.M., Roberts, D., Stander, E.K., Werner, P., Winter, M., and K.P. Yocom (2017). Planning for the Future of Urban Biodiversity: A Global Review of City-Scale Initiatives. *BioScience*, 67: 332–342.
20. Chu, E., Anguelovski, I. and Roberts, D. (2017) Climate adaptation as strategic urbanism: assessing opportunities and uncertainties for equity and inclusive development in cities. *Cities*, 60: 378–387.
21. McPhearson, T., Parnell, S., Simon, D., Gaffney, O., Elmqvist, T., Bai, X., Roberts, D. and Revi, A. (2016). Scientists must have a say in the future of cities. *Nature*, 538: 165-166.
22. Friend, R.M., Anwar, N.H., Dixit, A., Hutauwatr, K., Jayaraman, T., McGregor, J.A., Menon, M.R., Moench, M., Pelling, M. and Roberts, D. (2016). Re-imagining Inclusive Urban Futures for Transformation. *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability* 20:67–72. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cosust.2016.06.001>
23. Rouget, M., O'Donoghue, S., Taylor, C., Roberts, D. and Slotow, R. (2016). Improving the management of threatened ecosystems in an urban biodiversity hotspot through the Durban Research Action Partnership. *Bothalia* 46(2):1-3, a2199. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4102/abc.v46i2.2199>.
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25. Taylor, C., Cockburn, J., Rouget, M., Ray-Mukherjee, J., Mukherjee, S., Slotow, R., Roberts, D., Boon, R., O'Donoghue, S. and Douwes, E. (2016). Evaluating the outcomes

- and processes of a research-action partnership: The need for continuous reflective evaluation. *Bothalia* 46(2); 80-95, a2154. [http:// x.doi.org/10.4102/abc.v46i2.2154](http://x.doi.org/10.4102/abc.v46i2.2154)
26. Boon, R., Cockburn, J., Douwes, E., Govender, N., Ground, L., Mclean, C., Roberts, D., Rouget, M. and Slotow, R. (2016). Managing a threatened savanna ecosystem (KwaZulu-Natal Sandstone Sourveld) in an urban biodiversity hotspot: Durban, South Africa. *Bothalia* 46(2):13-24, a2112. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4102/abc.v46i2.2112>
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  29. Diederichs, N. and Roberts, D. (2016). Climate protection in mega-event greening: the 2010 FIFA™ World Cup and COP17-CMP7 experiences in Durban, South Africa. *Climate and Development*, 8 (4): 376-384 DOI: 10.1080/17565529.2015.1085361
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### Opinion pieces

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