



5 December 2014 - Winners to meet Mayor Bloomberg and visit UN headquarters in New York. Bernard Caelen's photo of a young girl growing an urban garden was selected from 37,000 entries by an international jury. His photo was judged the best entry in the category dedicated to promoting the work of the United Nations, in the 10th edition of [Metro Photo Challenge](#) (MPC).

Bernard Caelen, also known under his pseudonym [Irving S. T. Garp](#), is a fifty-year-old prosecutor from Belgium. He uses photography to challenge audiences because for him his work is more than just pictures, it tells a story. His winning photo is called "The Seed of Brick" and was selected as the best photo in the 'My Green City' category. In an [interview](#)

, the winner said "climate change and all the problems related to it are particularly close to my heart. I feel [a responsibility], as a father, to bequeath to my daughter, a world where life is good."

The competition was organized by METRO International in partnership with the United Nations on the subject of [climate change](#) and in the framework of the UN Climate Summit which took place in September 2014. The category "My Green City" was added to MPC in order to raise awareness of the role of cities in the fight against climate change and to show that taking climate action in your urban landscape can not only produce cleaner air, but also better health and general wellbeing for everyone.

The annual Metro Photo Challenge aims to connect people around the world through the universal language of photography and to reward outstanding images. This year, participants could submit their photos in three categories: My Green City, My City's Magic, and Urban

Escape. Open to everyone everywhere, the competition received over 25,000 photos from more than 3,700 participants. Brian Wallis, Deputy Director/Chief Curator, International Center of Photography was the Global Jury Member for the UN as part of a seven-person international jury. The winning photos were published worldwide in METRO newspapers.

“The partnership with Metro international was invaluable for sharing the UN’s message on the need for Climate Action. And what better way to communicate than with images. All our gratitude to Metro, to the judges and of course to the thousands of citizens who participated. See you for the 2015 edition.” said Afsane Bassir-Pour, Director of the UN Regional Information Centre in Brussels.

The Global Grand Prize for the three winners, one from each category, will be a trip to New York City where they will meet Michael R. Bloomberg, the United Nations Special Envoy for Cities and Climate Change and visit UN Headquarters.

The winner of the category [My City’s Magic](#) was Jankel Grubman from Brazil

The winner of the category [Urban Escape](#) was Malin Jochumesen from Sweden