# **Book of Abstracts**

# World Forum on Urban Forests



Promitor



















# PS\_1.1: Green Cities - Chaired by Alan Simson

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### **MODENA** from green to forest city

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2. President Italian Association "Healthy Cities" OMS

Modena (185,000 inhabitants) is one of the Italian cities with the largest number of trees and green areas. The public green system, organized in four macro typologies, consists of over 9 million m2, of which 58% of parks and green recreation areas, 30% of areas with natural evolution (urban forestation), 8% of road-side green and 4% of natural areas. The arboreal heritage is about 200,000 trees of which 84% of parks and green recreation areas and 14% of road-side green. In addition to these data, there is the private green particularly widespread in the city that creates an extensive ecological network and a green system in a continuous way throughout the urban area. The urban forestation areas are mainly concentrated along the main road and railway infrastructures. It is foreseen that, in the next three years, the realization of additional 180,000 m<sup>2</sup> of urban forests, with the planting of 16,000 plants alongside the ring road. Many other urban forests are being identified in the new urban plan that is being elaborated. Also there are studies and actions aimed at the implementation of urban regeneration hand-in-hand with nature. Urban forests, like "carbon absorption deposits", in our cities fulfil the difficult task of countering climate change, increasing resilience and adaptability; but also improve the environment (reducing pollution). heat island, energy consumption, etc. making cities safer, more pleasant and healthier to live. The experimental data collected and the analyses carried out in terms of environmental and microclimatic improvement, thanks to the enhancement of the green infrastructure, are enlightening and will be available by November 2018. That is why Modena could become a national leader in its commitment to act on urban forestation matters and, in general, the sustainability of the city.

Key words: Urban forests, sustainability, green system, resilience, adaptability

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