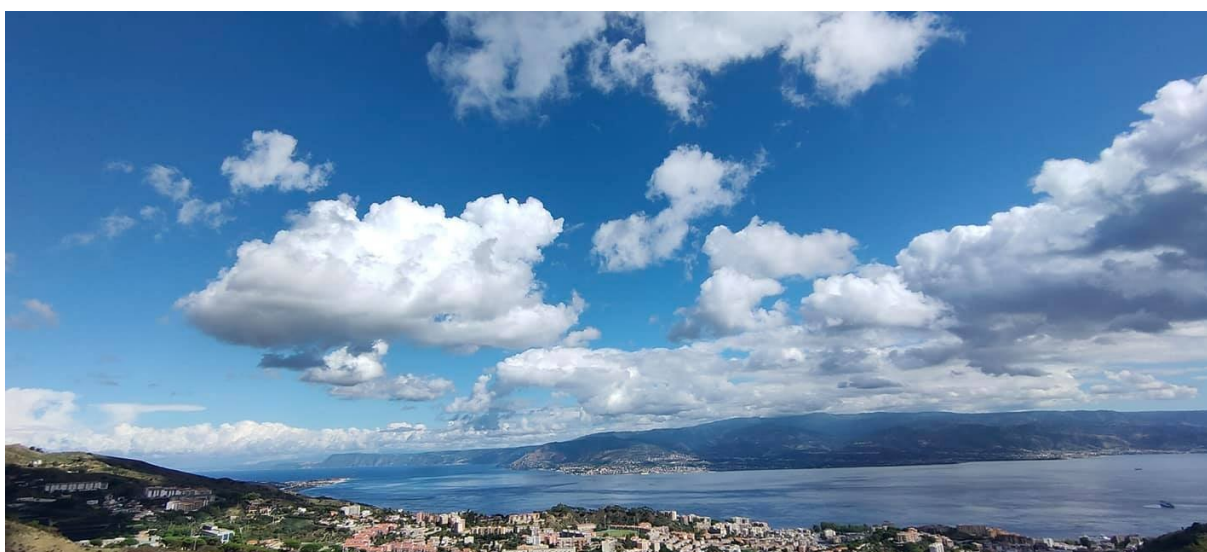




**Città di
Messina**

Municipality of MESSINA

INTEGRATED ACTION PLAN



**HEALTH &
GREENSPACE**

*Greener Cities,
Healthier Communities*



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Initial problem/ Policy challenge

The city of Messina sits between the sea and the Peloritani hills. After the devastating earthquake of 1908, the city rises again with a new, larger urban layout with a low density of inhabitants. For reasons of containment of the seismic risk, the city develops horizontally and widens the urban land occupying a lot of natural land. Over the years the city has grown consistently so now both the centre and the greater area didn't leave almost any space to parks, gardens or green areas.

The entire municipal area on which the intervention is carried out has an orographic structure consisting of very marked elements that characterize it and give it profiles of uniqueness.

This system of singular orographic characters is defined by its superior systems that define and condition the whole orographic and landscape character of the Messina area. They are:

- The ridge of the Peloritani Mountains which represents the highest line of the landscape;
- The coast line which constitutes a direct contact, without solution of continuity, with the Ionian Sea and the Tyrrhenian Sea.

The ridge of the Peloritani Mountains has a highly panoramic value, overlooking its two seas at the same time. It is also called Sparti waters as it originates all the water courses that from its sides reach the waters of the Tyrrhenian Sea to the north and the Ionian Sea to the east.

The coastline is a linear landscape whose extraordinary singularity consists not only in its extension (over 50 km) but in its landscape and cultural heterogeneity. Each stretch has an exclusive relationship with the sea and configures ever-changing seascapes along its development, very influenced by the opposite shore that opens and closes in the stenosis of the Strait or wraps itself in the Isthmus of S. Ranieri. It is not a common coastline that divides the land from the water but an almost impalpable margin that separates the millennial history of the island from the Myth.

The entire territory, so defined at the extremes, is engraved in the body of its vast surface by long river courses that determine a numerous and singular system of linear landscapes.

From this orographic reading it is clear that the entire municipal area is a system of linear landscapes that have an aesthetic heterogeneity, changing perception and a differentiated cultural value that expresses an interesting polysemy.

Existing green area of approximately 78,016,698 square meters;

Most of the green areas are outside the anthropic area and often decentralized with respect to or not very ergonomic.

La superficie forestata



Gran parte della superficie del territorio comunale è coperto da ambiente naturale

Orografia teorica del territorio



L'intero territorio è inciso da un sistema di paesaggi lineari

Vision of the draft IAP

The priority of the Municipality is to reconnect the hills and the sea, increase the connection between the city and nature by using green solutions like green corridors, improving or creating new green urban areas, gardens and parks in order to improve citizens life. These intentions can be achieved through an articulated system of actions that do not conflict with the urban and territorial government, on the contrary, they support it more effectively by improving the quality of urban life and social and psychological well-being.

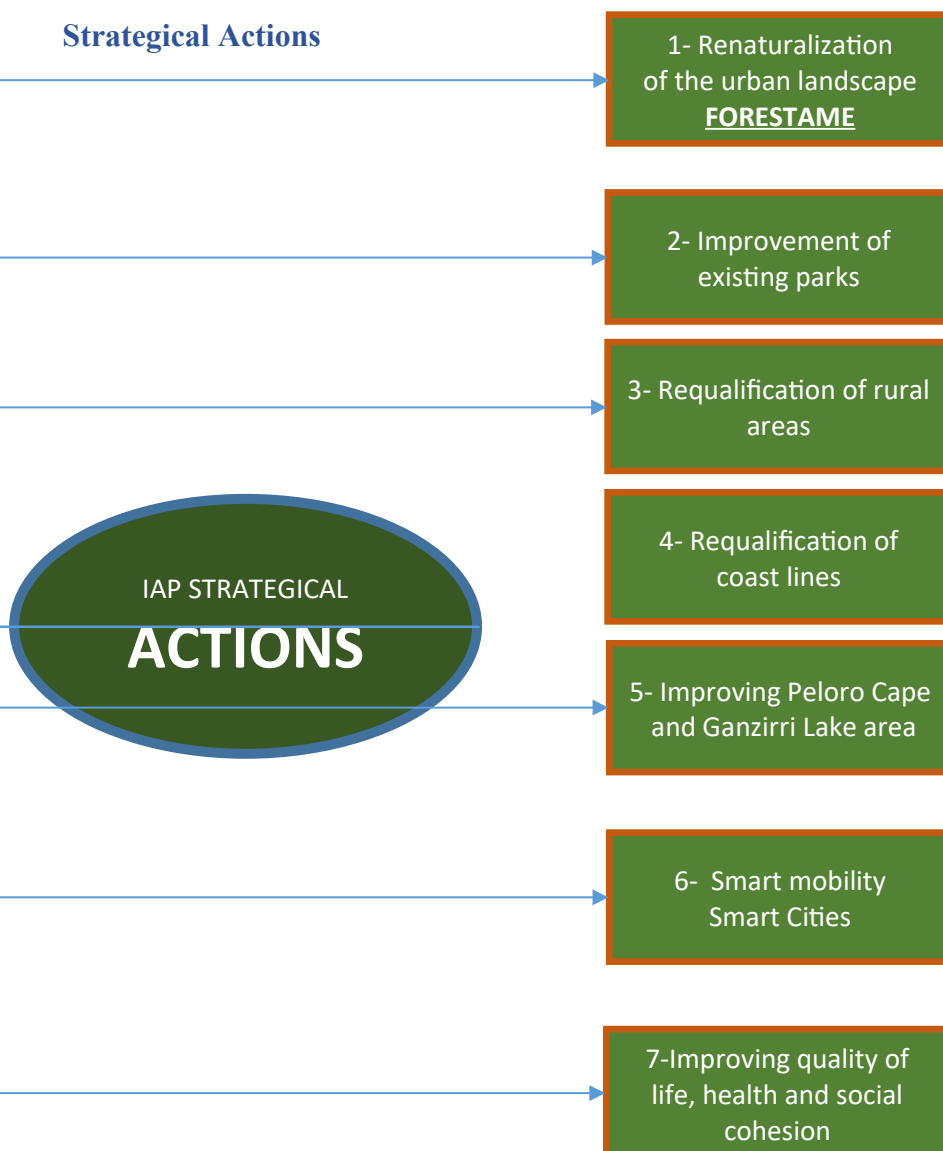
Main focus areas

- Urban greenery
- Connection lines that connect the hills to the sea, crossing the urban area
- Coast line
- Wellbeing and social cohesion

Key objectives

- Increasing and improving urban greenery
- Increasing the arboreal and floral heritage (reforestation) and biodiversity
- Increasing the connection of the city to nature
- Significantly contribute to the Ecological Transition
- Improving wellbeing and social cohesion
- Improve the urban microclimate by reducing the temperature by 2-3 degrees
- Increase spaces for socialisation to produce social and psychic well-being

Strategical Actions





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Planned Action 1: *Renaturalization of the urban landscape - Foresta ME*

“ForestaMe” is the Mediterranean reforestation pilot project through which a series of green and blue infrastructures will be built.

The project focuses on improving a wide range of areas, existing and newly built, integrated with the protected areas and the ongoing interventions of soft mobility and cycle paths, with the aim of increasing the environmental standards and ecosystem of strategic guidelines and connecting them to an ecological network. A local multifunctional system that implements the ecological corridors and strips of forestation in the urban and greater area integrated with the lakes and the sea.

The idea of operating a renaturalization and / or articulated urban forestation on the territory represents a concrete solution to ecological losses and the recovery of the landscape and the prospect of creating a "Sustainable City" capable of being the paradigmatic interpreter of an advanced and innovative process of ecological transition of the entire territory. A large-scale strategic territorial operation that can restore a new anthropic environment rehabilitated in its ecological dimension that provides a harmonious perception of the landscape through a network of renatularization interventions that puts the sea in contact with the mountains, redeveloping every anthropic area that occupies the territory.

It is a “Strategic Urban Forestry Program” of the city of Messina called “ForestaME”. With it the relative summary forecast of expenditure for the realization of a systemic and complete ecological transaction operated with innovative, advanced and coordinated urban reforestation actions throughout the municipal territory, together with some pilot projects that have a paradigmatic role.



ForestaMe represents the green commitment undertaken for the city aimed at achieving the European Green Deal objectives: an urban forestry project through which, by reducing CO2 emissions in the city center, it will increase the level of naturalness and urban quality, increasing resilience of the urban territory to environmental stresses, hydrogeological instability and the effects of climate change and its ability to absorb and compensate for anthropogenic and natural pressures from outside, including the effects of climate change, in order to increase the beneficial effects of "green" on human health.

The general objective is therefore to increase the arboreal and floral heritage of the city and its resilience through the increase of biodiversity both in the choice of the type of plants to be introduced into the urban fabric and in their mode of positioning, to reconstitute a perspective and landscape vision of the both ideal and physical green connectors, a strategic plan to increase green areas, investing more resources in the redevelopment of greenery, in the planting of shrubs and flowers and above all in the tree renewal plan, as a tool to combat climate change and at the same time make fire prevention and fight actions more effective through specific forest-crop management and better management of fast-growing plantations.

Il verde attuale



Il verde a programma ultimato



The whole of the planned interventions involve an area to be re-naturalized to green and / or to be transformed into new ecosystems of about 20 square kilometers.

From this derives the following scenario:

Existing green area of approximately 78,016,698 square meters;

Green area implemented 19,780,773 square meters;

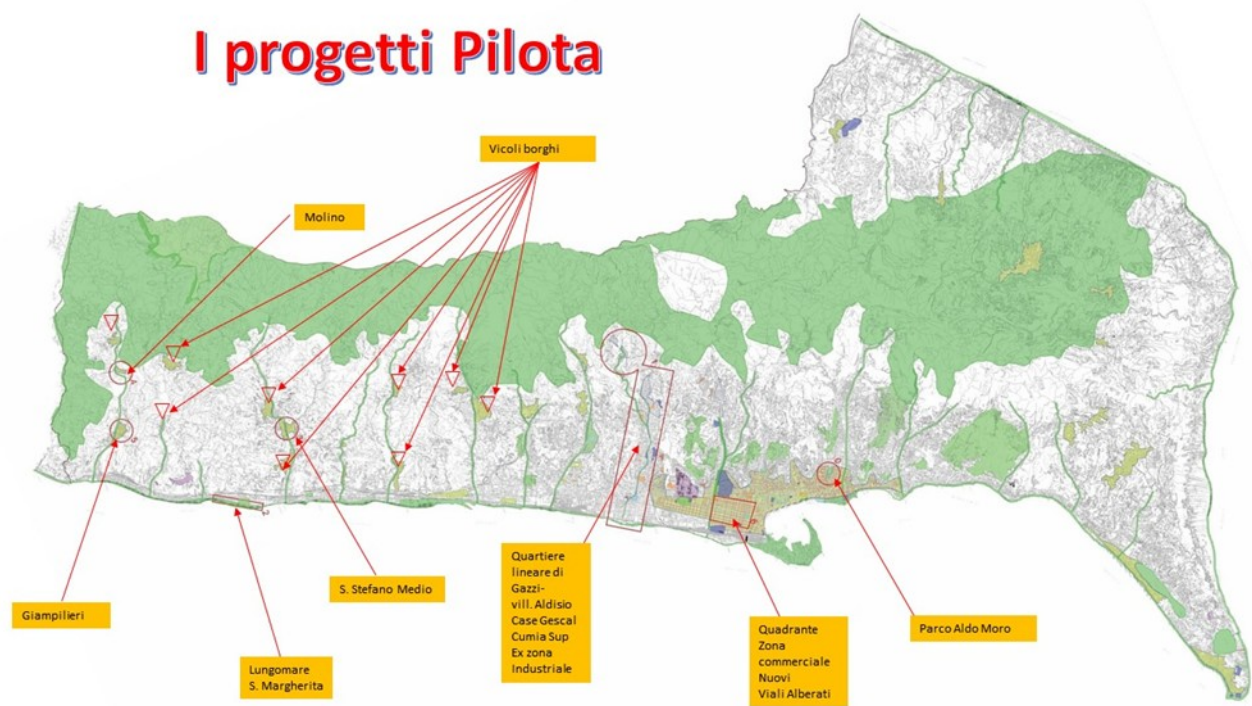
Percentage of increase in green areas compared to existing green areas + 25.65%;

Percentage of new green areas with respect to the anthropized surface + 17.20%;

The source of funding is PON Metro 2014-2020

The entire territorial program is estimated at a cost of 300,000,000 Euros of which 100,000,000 Euros already guarantee a complete ecological transition.

In progress, an advance sum of 20,400,000 Euros has been assigned to complete the first 8 pilot projects referred to in the following card



The 8 pilot projects must be carried out and reported by and no later than 31/12/2023. The executive projects have already been completed and the works are underway. Works that are likely to begin by September 2022.

The actions and interventions envisaged by the Urban Reforestation Strategic Program relating to the rehabilitation of existing parks and gardens and the creation of new green spaces, as well as the recovery of "gray areas" in new urban and extra-urban ecosystems, are also conceived as "areas of urban and social quiet ". In the treatment of the same, checks are therefore provided for the sources and levels of noise perceptible from urban traffic and the implementation of devices for the abatement or mitigation of perceptible decibel levels, in order to create green spaces of quiet and harmony. social work aimed at improving urban quality and public health ".

The Urban Reforestation Strategic Program for the areas of Capo Peloro and Ganzirri and in all the other Areas of High Ecosystemic Value (to be enhanced, promoted or rehabilitated) specific studies are envisaged of all the factors that could threaten their biodiversity by carrying out censuses and periodic checks on alien species and on polluting factors capable of compromising the health of ecosystems and humans.

In the areas of high ecological value and naturalistic interest falling within the municipal territory, the use of IT tools and platforms is envisaged for their enhancement, promotion and use, such as iNATURALIST or other smart green applications. "

The entire program of actions will also be implemented with the aid of pedagogical awareness and social participation practices, especially in the areas of special protection and in the sites of community interest (SPAs and SCIs) included in the Natura 2000 Network.

Planned Action 2: Improvement of existing parks

A plan for the enhancement and rehabilitation of the existing green spaces is envisaged throughout the territory, which is already underway called the parks of Beauty which sees redevelopment of the ancient municipal villa "villla Mazzini", of the largest green center of the city "Villa Dante" and a series of new parks to be used for outdoor sports activities.

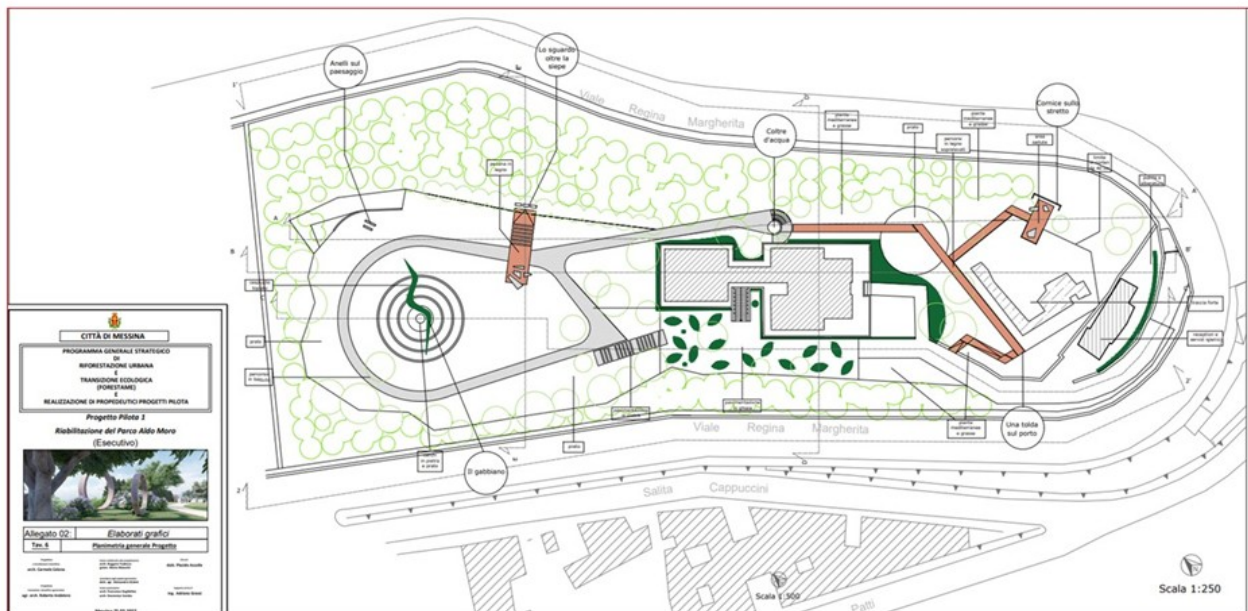
Work will soon begin for the redevelopment of the Aldo Moro Park

A project that is part of the strategic actions of "Rehabilitation of the existing urban green".

It is a park belonging to a scientific research structure of the INGV (National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology) left in abandonment and full of spontaneous vegetation for about 70 years, access to which was forbidden to citizens. Within the area there is also the vestige of a small fortification (Forte Vivonne) dating back to the sixteenth century.

The intervention upgrades a green area of 14,000 square meters, equipping it as a public park for relaxation and socialization. A park that will make up for the obvious lack of a public garden and space for relations in the neighborhood. The park will be equipped with topiary structures, benches and structures that enhance the panoramic views. Elements that provide added value to the park and enhance the traces of a prestigious monument together with temporary artistic installations. The permeable surfaces will all be made permeable and there will be a corresponding increase in the leaf surface. For in-depth knowledge of the specific articulation, please refer to the executive project.

PARCO ALDO MORO **Planimetria di Progetto**



Parco Aldo Moro



The safety measures of Villa Mazzini, the oldest public garden in the city center, are currently underway.

The intervention provides for the safety of the area, recovery of the flooring, restoration and enlargement of the flower beds (with the construction of the relative walls), arrangement of the entrance gates and the fence of the entire perimeter, renovation of the bathrooms and the system irrigation, addition of a wi-fi network and construction of a video surveillance system. In particular, the enlargement of the flower beds is due to the characteristics of the trees present inside the Villa Mazzini: the monumental *Ficus macrophylla* or *magnolioides*, which need to plant the roots hanging from the branches in the ground.

The intervention, currently underway, for an amount of approximately € 300,000.00 to be paid from the municipal budget, will be completed by summer 2022.

Instead, the renovation works of Villa Dante are about to start. It is the largest public villa in the city, and its construction dates back to the second half of the twentieth century.



Villa Dante is a real green lung for the city, as it hosts a vast presence of trees, also considering its extension (about five and a half hectares); inside there is a large auditorium for shows, a swimming pool, a recreational center, and play equipment for children, as well as sports equipment. The villa is therefore of strategic importance for holding events and events.

The project stems from the need to redevelop the large green space, so that it can maintain its importance as a reference for the surrounding urban landscape, and make it increasingly usable through facilities equipped for sport, play, socializing and free time.

The project, for a total amount of approximately € 1,000,000.00, is funded by the PON Metro and the works are expected to be completed by 2023.

Among the activities already carried out on the existing green areas, it is necessary to mention the redevelopment works of the "Forest of Camaro", completed in November 2021. The works concerned the environmental redevelopment of the forest, consisting mainly of a pine forest, and the restoration and enhancement of forest roads, as well as the recovery of fire-break strips. The "Camaro" wood, located beyond the built-up area of the village of Camaro sui Peloritani, between the "four roads" and Pizzo Chiarino, covers an area of about 100 hectares of municipal property, representing a real green lung for the city of Messina. The area, which was found to be free from forest fires, falls within the SIC and the SPA.

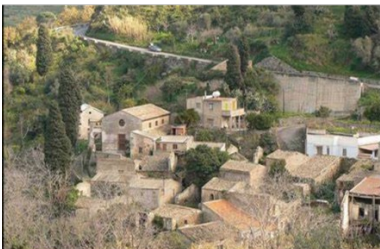
The intervention was funded for € 1,050,000.00 under the Pact for the Development of the Metropolitan City.

Among the planned activities it should be noted that the Municipality of Messina has adhered to the public notice relating to the presentation of project proposals aimed at carrying out urban, peri-urban and extra-urban forestry interventions in the territorial context of the fourteen metropolitan cities within the PNRR, Mission 2, Component 4, Investment 3.1 "Protection and enhancement of urban and extra-urban green", funded by the European Union - Next Generation EU. The intervention involves the planting of forest species and subsequent maintenance for five years; the selected species will be native, typical of the Mediterranean ecosystem and taking into account the indications of the Forest Plan for the reference area.

Considering the definition of Urban Forest, the identification of the areas on which to intervene did not affect the entire extension of the municipal territory but was limited to considering the inhabited

area characterized by dense urban fabric and the semi-peripheral areas that surround the urban and those of the outlying villages. Therefore, it was possible to identify areas of intensive green and areas of extensive green; in particular, two areas of intensive green located in the center of the city and five areas of extensive green falling in the immediate vicinity of the towns. The areas of intensive green with a surface greater than two hectares coincide with the two largest urban parks: Villa Dante and the Monumental cemetery. These are two neighboring areas that reach a total area of about 25 hectares characterized by arboreal component articulated in a dominant plan with considerable tree density including elements of considerable botanical and historical value on which no action is taken and lower floor composed of shrubs and vegetation herbaceous that can be integrated with the planting of hedges in such a way as to increase the existing biodiversity. The extensive green areas coincide with the areas belonging to the Burgensatico di Pezzolo, which covers a total of approximately 200 hectares. It is foreseen the planting of deciduous plants.

Planned Action 3: *Requalification of rural areas*

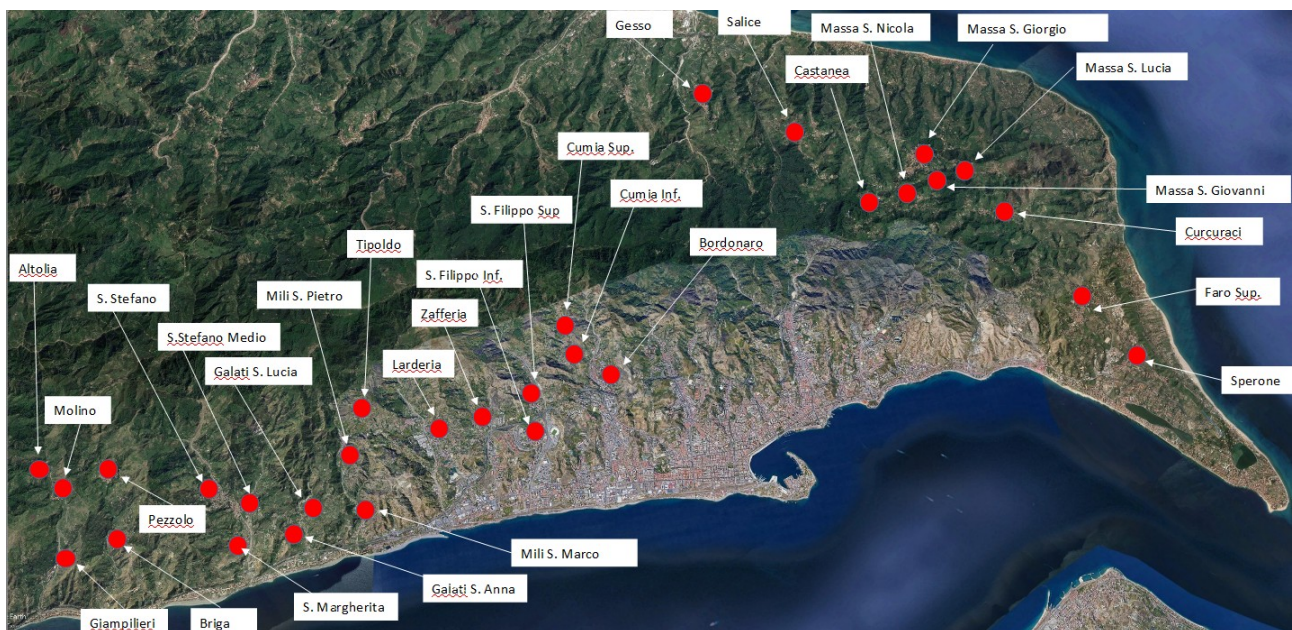


Along the river courses a millenary historical process of multiple residential settlements has settled which has generated a constellation of extra-urban anthropic nuclei that have sprung up near and along the aforementioned river courses which are elements that characterize the individual linear landscapes providing, each with its own singular architectural mass, with its exclusive uses and traditions, with its specific ethno-anthropological dimension that determines a cultural archipelago

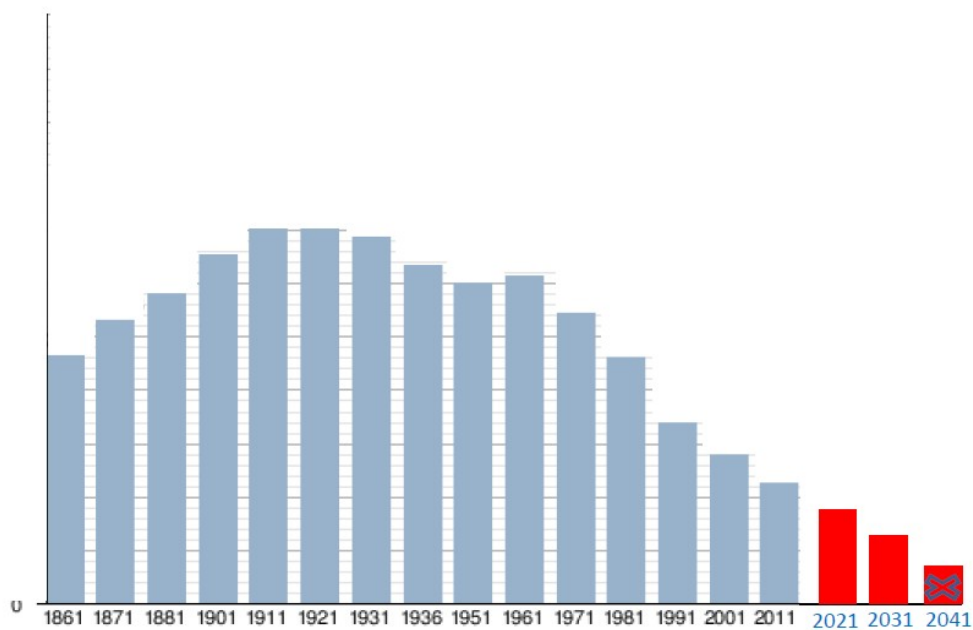
that has the linearity of the valleys as a common denominator. These linear landscapes are the only systems that connect the ridge to the coast.

This cultural geography must be re-semanticized and mended in a sustainable way by recovering all the lost ecological balances and fragmented cultural identities.

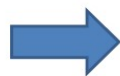
This system will be re-naturalized and new differentiated urban functions will be established that act as anthropic attractors in order to determine a polycentric city. A city consisting of a primary inhabited area surrounded by many small towns that contain all the services and functions inside to be autonomous anthropic areas.



Demographic perspectives



The reuse of villages for social rehabilitation





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Healthier Communities*

Places where new sustainable lifestyles can be born where it is possible to live in conditions of energy sovereignty (derived from non-fossil renewable sources) and food sovereignty through virtuous and strategic management of agricultural activities.

A pilot project of this program is the rehabilitation of the ghost town of Massa S.Nicola.



IL RITORNO AL CENOBIO

Ri- Antropizzazione consapevole di Nuovi Gruppi Sociali

Per un nuovo stile di vita sostenibile



il **Ri.U.So.**

di **Borgo Massa San Nicola - Messina**
(dal progetto al processo)

La Struttura Funzionale



Requisiti strategici essenziali



Arch. Carmelo Celona



Planned Action 4: Requalification of coast line

50 kilometers of coastline to be redeveloped with green-equipped water fronts, gardens, pedestrian and cycle paths.

The project is part of the strategic actions classified as "Green upgrading of the coast line".

This is a redevelopment program for the entire coast of the Messina area which, as already reported, is about 50 km long.

A margin of high ecological and cultural value and at the same time fragile and very exposed to pernicious contamination due to its ecological balance and its scenic beauty.

Therefore, a series of typical interventions are foreseen on this coast, which is always changing in the landscape but characterized by an important biodiversity.

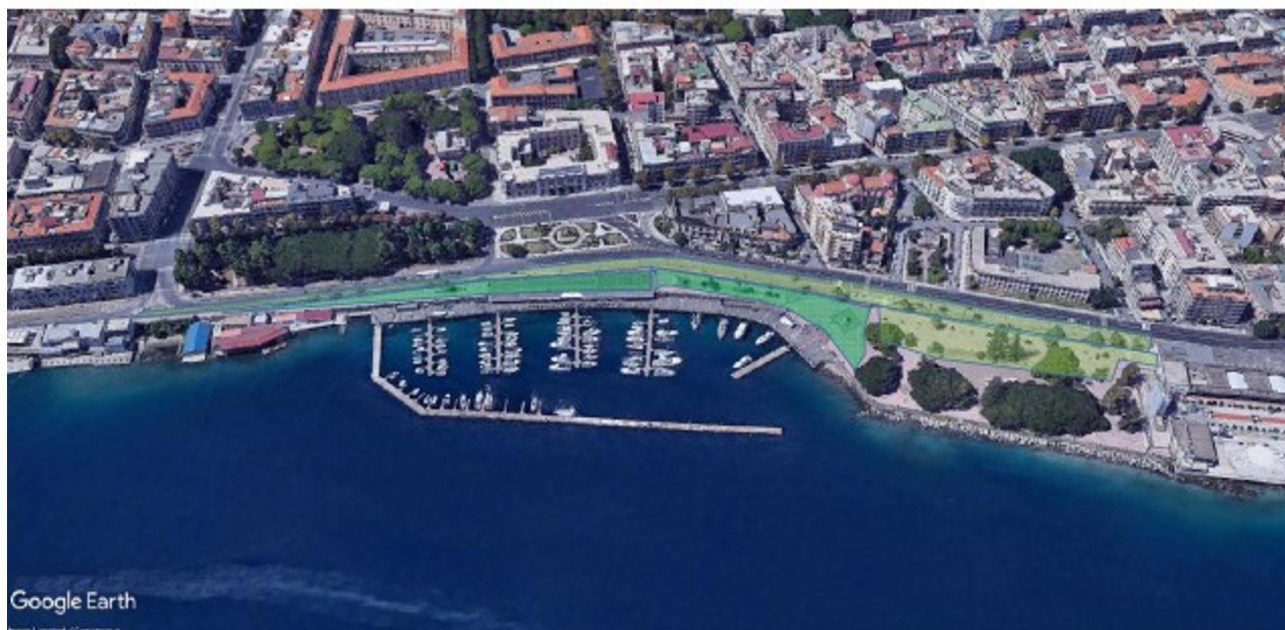
In this regard, the design of the first pilot project has already been carried out, which will be contracted out by December 2022 and the works will be completed by 31.12.2023.

The intervention involves a green redevelopment and a re-functionalization of a stretch of the coast line that in the locality of S. Margherita remains in open contact with the sea and represents a lack of tourist bathing relations. It is divided into 9 executive lots. The promenade presents considerable conditions of decay and the simplification of its articulation distinguishes it as a permanent anthropic non-attraction, relegating the inhabitants of the place within the urban core and depriving them of the emotionality of a suggestive Promenade. To this end, the new redevelopment tends to structure a new green system that tends to sew the relationship between the town and the sea by solving a series of ergonomic pathologies and transforming this space into a multifunctional space with a prevalent use of the sea that is not exclusively seasonal.

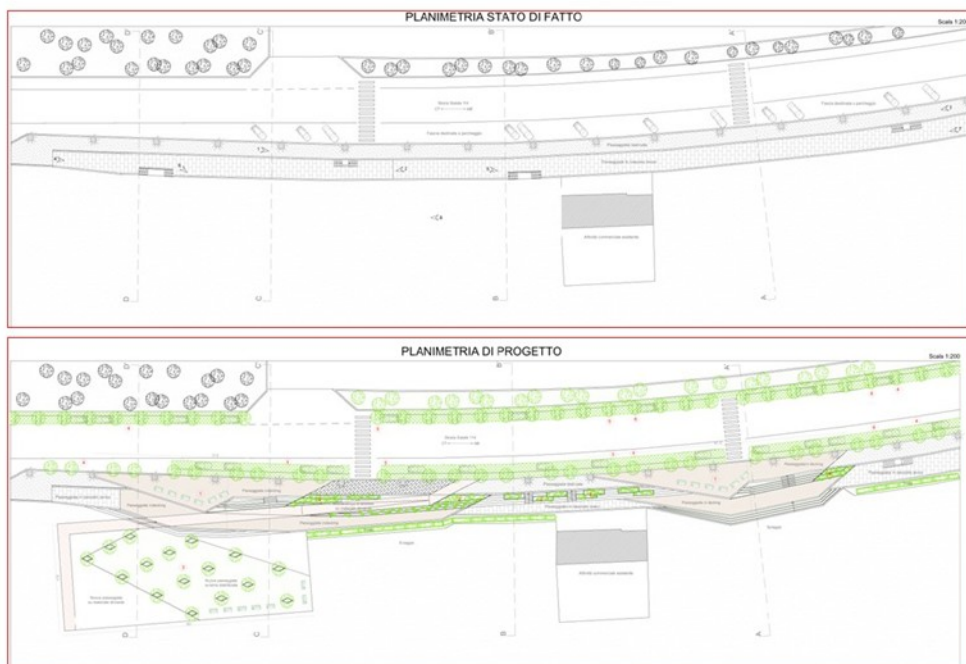
Gazzi - Portalegna



City Water Front



Portalegna - Annunziata





Planned Action 5: Improving Peloro Cape and Ganzirri Lake area



The Metropolitan City of Messina has launched a "Design Competition for the redevelopment of Capo Peloro Protected Area". Furthermore with a project called "Balconies overlooking the lakes", the Ganzirri lakesides have been requalified.





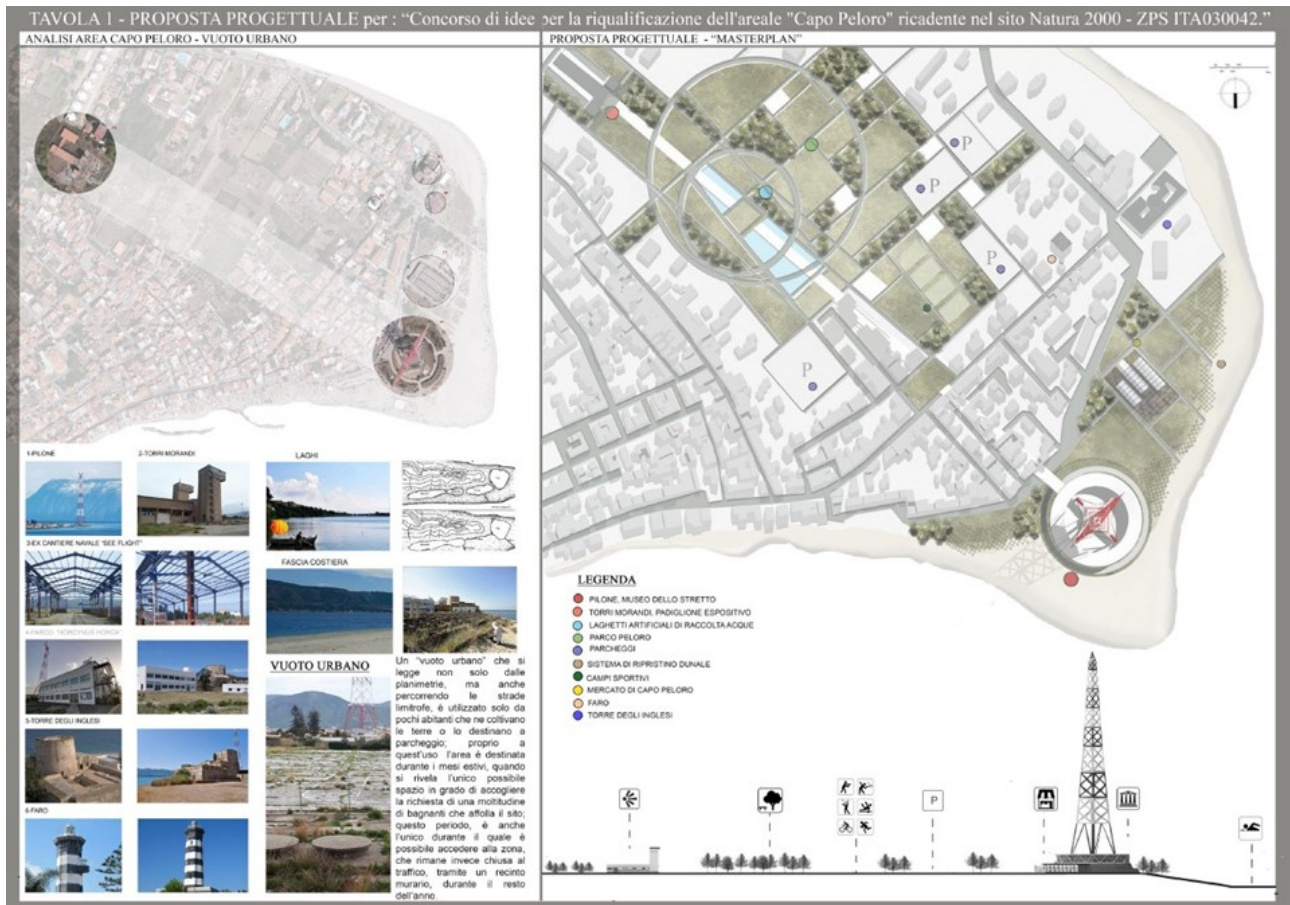
The area in question is represented by the extreme tip of Sicily identified by the territory of Capo Peloro falling within the villages of Ganzirri and Torre Faro in the municipality of Messina. In particular, it falls within the Natura 2000 Site - SPA ITA030042 called “Monti Peloritani, Dorsale Curcuraci, Antennamare and Marine Area of the Strait”, with an extension of 28,050.675 hectares.

The management plan of the Natura 2000 SPA Site ITA030042 is the main strategic tool for directing, managing and planning SCIs and SPAs and has the aim of guaranteeing the maintenance of the delicate ecological balance underlying the protection of habitats and species and identifying models management innovations that allow the conservation and enhancement of these areas.

The "Capo Peloro" area laps the R.N.O. "Lagoon of Capo Peloro" established in 2001 by the Sicilian Region and managed by the Metropolitan City of Messina. The protected natural area is identified with zone "A" (Reserve) of the two brackish coastal ponds "Pantano Grande" and "Pantano Piccolo" which represent an aquatic environmental ecosystem of particular ecological importance and with zone "B" (Pre- Riserva), made up of the “Margi” canal and the various canals connecting the brackish lakes with the Tyrrhenian and Ionian seas as well as the related beach extended up to the dune formation. In order to carry out a global project aimed at a significant restoration of the landscape and an enhancement of the natural heritage of the "Capo Peloro" area, the Metropolitan City of Messina launched a design competition in 2021.

The macro objectives of the Project Idea are as follows:

- a) enhance the different components of the territory (greenery, landscape, productive activities, etc.);
- b) enhance the areas of intervention also through innovative eco-sustainable technologies;
- c) redevelopment of the "Capo Peloro" area, making the project a factor of social, cultural, environmental, tourist and economic growth for the entire city;
- d) characterize the area through the redevelopment of degraded artifacts, of the elements of urban furniture present, of a more appropriate signage to the context of the "Capo Peloro" area (also in several languages) capable of effectively conveying information on the peculiarities of the protected natural area (Eastern Natural Reserve "Laguna di Capo Peloro").



The competition was awarded and an intervention for € 10,000,000.00 was extrapolated from the global project, presented as an integrated and financed Urban Plan under the PNRR 30 June 2026.

In the course of 2021, the intervention called "Balconies on the lakes" was carried out, for an amount of € 500,000.00.

The intervention involved the remaking of the wooden boundary fences, the arrangement of the twelve lakefront views and the recovery of existing artifacts, the cladding with natural stone facings, the placement of street furniture and benches, the creation of palisades and the installation of gabions close to them, the recovery of the area used for the landing of the boats by means of delimitation with wooden poles driven into the water.



In 2022, however, the demolition and environmental remediation of the former "Sea Flight" area, located right in Capo Peloro, began for an amount of approximately € 125,000.00. These are the ruins of an abandoned shipyard for decades.

Planned Action 6: *Smart mobility – Smart cities*

The Municipality of Messina is currently preparing the Urban Sustainable Mobility Plan (PUMS). The PUMS is a strategic plan that was created to meet the mobility needs of individuals to improve the quality of life in the city.

The purpose of the PUMS is to guide the policies and planning of urban mobility in the short, medium and long term with a 10-year horizon.



According to the European guidelines (Eltis guidelines) and national legislation, urban mobility planning includes a correlated set of actions that are developed and coordinated with the urban and environmental plans of the municipal area, to meet the mobility needs of who lives the city, with the aim of "developing a new concept of plan capable of addressing the challenges and problems connected with transport in urban areas in a more sustainable and integrated way".

Compared to previous plans, the PUMS introduces a fundamental innovation: it puts people at the center rather than car traffic management. For this reason, the PUMS is inspired by and promotes the principles of active participation, integration, planning / coordination, monitoring and evaluation; guiding principles that thus make citizens and the territory the main protagonists in the construction of the plan and its implementation.

The PUMS provides an integrated approach on all forms of transport useful for urban mobility, public and private, passengers and goods, motorized and non-motorized, circulation and parking.

The plan must pursue the following general objectives:

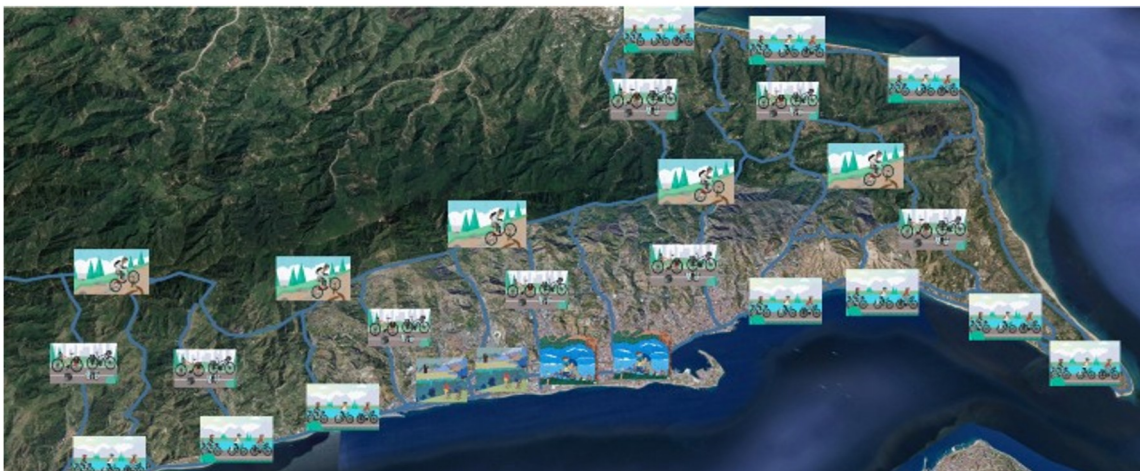
effectiveness and efficiency of the mobility system;

energy and environmental sustainability;

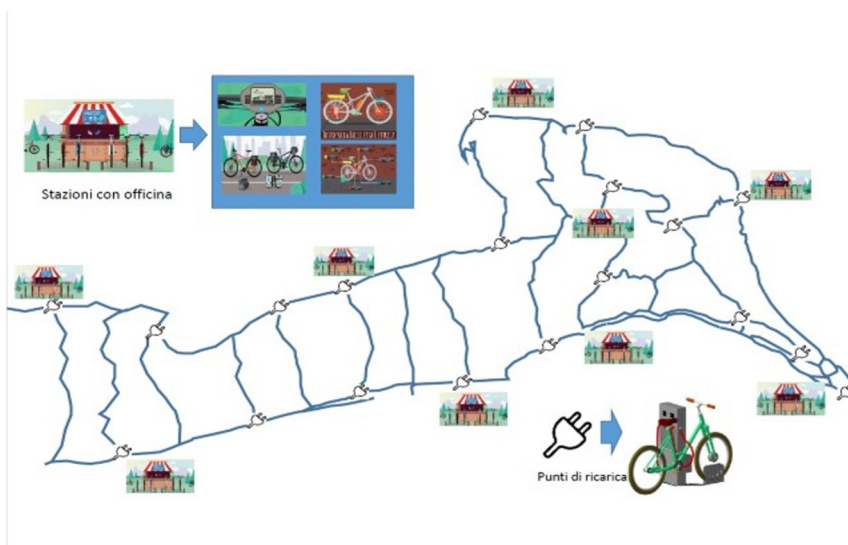
road mobility safety;

socio-economic sustainability.

Cycling Paths



Available services along routes



Territorial system of green cycle routes



Planned Action 7: Improving quality of life, health and social cohesion

Public health and social cohesion strategies

- Shared gardens
- Inclusive playgrounds
- Social composters



Shared gardens

With resolution of the City Council n. 456 of 27/09/2021 the Municipality of Messina has adopted the “Regulations of the Urban Gardens of the City of Messina”.

A census is underway of all municipal agricultural land and all agricultural land located close to the privately owned inhabited areas that are uncultivated and unused.

The project involves the construction of large social gardens especially in suburban neighborhoods in order to provide food support to families by reducing the costs for food relating to horticultural and fruit species. With a scientific nutrition education program.

The drafting of a regulation that governs the activities and a series of agreements with the owners of abandoned agricultural land is envisaged who, in the face of tax relief, would temporarily sell the land in order to be able to increase the areas intended for urban gardens in a suitable manner. to satisfy the needs of the neighborhoods.

Urban Gardner



Inclusive playgrounds

A universally designed, sensory-rich environment that enables children to develop physically, socially and emotionally. An engaging place that provides the just-right level of challenge and

offers opportunities to succeed. A place that goes beyond minimum accessibility to create play experiences that meet a variety of needs and interests.

Social composters

The project involves the strategic location of small green areas within which a smart composter and a storage area will be installed. A sort of ecological area where citizens can bring their wet and produce compost. The weight will be detected and the reductions on the waste tax will be applied on the basis of what has been granted.



THE ROLE OF THE ULG

The research activity of local stakeholders has been quite easy from the beginning. In a short time it was possible to gather the support of a substantial number of participants, both public institutions and spontaneous associations of citizens. The presence on average of 10 different stakeholders at each meeting, however, entailed considerable difficulties in managing and coordinating the meetings.

In particular, in phase 1 of the project there was an interest of the stakeholders mainly towards the realization of the SSA and not towards the construction of a strategic vision for the purposes of drafting the IAP.

The management of the ULG resulted in a level of difficulty higher than expected in terms of optimizing working times and selecting the numerous proposals put forward by the stakeholders. In particular, divergent visions often emerged among the participants and various proposals for the implementation of SSA were rejected as they were deemed not viable.

The difficulties encountered have actually led to a natural process of selection among the stakeholders with the gradual disappearance of those with a low level of motivation. Moreover, paradoxically, these difficulties have tempered over time the group which, especially in the second phase, found a stable balance with the constant and profitable participation of the stakeholders.



It should be emphasized that, in order to allow the activities of the ULG to continue even beyond the conclusion of the Health & Greenspace project, a memorandum of understanding has been signed between all the participants which commits them to participate in other European and national programs of projects dedicated to the protection and environment protection. Finally, precisely in order to consolidate the links between the stakeholders, some dissemination events in the area have been planned in the next months of September and October which will be useful, among other things, to consolidate the relationships created between the components of the ULG.



SSA - Small Scale Actions

PROMOTING BIRD WATCHING ON THE PELORITANI MOUNTAINS



DETAILS OF THE ACTIVITY

	<u>PELORITANI MOUNTAINS BIRD WATCHING</u>
<i>Place</i>	<i>Peloritani Hills - Messina</i>
<i>Period</i>	<i>Spring and autumn 2021</i>
<i>Context</i>	The city of Messina sits between the sea and the Peloritani hills. After the devastating earthquake of 1908, the city rises again with a new, larger urban layout with a low density of inhabitants. For reasons of containment of the seismic risk, the city develops horizontally and widens the urban land occupying a lot of natural land. Over the years the city has grown consistently so now both the centre and the greater area didn't leave almost any space to parks, gardens or green areas.
<i>Description of the SSA</i>	Peloritani Mountains bird watching The Municipality of Messina together with the MAN (Mediterranean Association for Nature) has promoted birdwatching in order to enhance the natural areas present in our territory. The city of Messina is an important crossroads for migratory bird flows. It is possible with the advice of

	ornithologists and specialists in the sector, to observe this very unique phenomenon.
Main Goals	The priority of the Municipality is to reconnect the hills and the sea, increase the connection between the city and nature by using green solutions like green corridors, improving or creating new green urban areas, gardens and parks in order to improve citizens life. These intentions can be achieved through an articulated system of actions that do not conflict with the urban and territorial government, on the contrary, they support it more effectively by improving the quality of urban life and social and psychological well-being
Target Group	Pupils of Primary School, Citizens.
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Urban greenery ● Connection lines that connect the hills to the sea, crossing the urban area ● Coast line ● Wellbeing and social cohesion <p>The action was aimed at attracting the attention of the citizens of Messina to the natural heritage of the Peloritani Mountains. Paradoxically, the phenomenon of the migration of birds of prey, a living spectacle, substantially affects people who come specifically from Northern Europe and to a lesser extent the citizens of Messina.</p>
Expected results	The results attended are among the main positive impacts of an environmental, economic and socio-cultural nature, resulting from its execution, and which deviate from the usual consequences associated with the mass tourism, the following can be briefly mentioned: 1. the enhancement of located naturalistic areas outside the tourist itineraries traditional;

- | | |
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| | <p>2. the creation of new tourism products capable of strengthening the image of destination with the increase in economic benefits in favor of the populations residing nearby of the naturalistic areas dedicated to the practice Birdwatching;</p> <p>3. the incentive for a return to nature e to carry out activities strictly connected to the environment, with strong consequences positive on the psychophysical health of individuals.</p> |
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“A TREE FOR THE FUTURE” ACTION





DETAILS OF THE ACTIVITY

	<u>"A TREE FOR THE FUTURE"</u>
Place	<i>Forte San Jachiddu – Messina</i>
Date	<i>04/02/2022</i>
Context	<p>One of the particular characteristics of the territory of the city of Messina is the presence on the hills that surround it of numerous military fortifications created in the nineteenth century. Some of these are still today in poor condition and in a state of neglect. The military fortress of San Jachiddu was the subject of a redevelopment project in 1994 and subsequently entrusted to the Amici del Fortino Association, led by the charismatic figure of Father Mario Albano. In all these years the area has been the subject of numerous environmental education initiatives. The goal of Mario Albano and the association that manages the structure is to raise awareness among</p>

	<p>the citizens of Messina and to convey to them the sense that this place belongs to the entire community and therefore must be safeguarded. Due to the damage caused in recent years by repeated fires in the San Jachiddu Ecological Park, the ULG decided to help the regeneration of the natural habitat of the area in question, but above all to raise awareness of the citizenship regarding the importance of preserving the natural areas that persist in our territory.</p>
<p>Description of the SSA</p>	<p>The action aimed to demonstrate how results can be achieved through the participation of various stakeholders. In the first place, the University Orthobotanic of Messina was asked to indicate, through a scientific study on the site, which were the most suitable trees to plant. Subsequently, the Messina Forestry Company was involved and made the trees to be planted available free of charge. Finally, the students of the Cuppari Agricultural Institute of Messina were involved and with great enthusiasm they participated in the initiative by physically proceeding with the planting of trees.</p> <p>These are the trees planted by the students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↗ 12 cypresses; ↗ n. 10 oaks; ↗ n. 10 myrtles; ↗ n. 12 strawberry trees.
<p>Main Goals</p>	<p>The purpose is a direct and long-term involvement of the younger generations to fight against the climate change. Trees are the best allies against climate change. Also in this case, to defend our cities from torrential rains or disastrous meteoric events, it is necessary to develop green infrastructures capable of filtering rain and hail and mitigating the effects of heating in cities, or the urban heat island. A dense and green canopy of a large tree manages to intercept the heavy rain and retain the drops of water which are then released into the ground gradually through dripping. In the world, the only remedy for the climate disaster is to plant and grow billions</p>

	of trees which, by capturing carbon dioxide and creating new forests, can gradually lower temperatures.
Target Group	Students, Citizens, University, public bodies.
Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Urban greenery ● Connection lines that connect the hills to the sea, crossing the urban area ● Wellbeing and social cohesion
Results expected	<p>One of the results expected of the SSA was to increase the awareness of the local population, especially young people, towards the issue of climate change and the need to preserve the native natural species of the Peloritani Mountains.</p> <p>In order to make the students more responsible, at the end of the initiative the Deputy Mayor Carlotta Previti gave each of the participating students a diploma of adoption of the tree</p> <p>The students of the hotel management school “Antonello da Messina” also took part and prepared and offered the participants a lunch with the culinary specialties of the local tradition. Finally, a special video was created that describes the initiative and which can be viewed using the following link:</p> <p>https://comune.messina.it/ufficio-stampa/oggi-al-parco-ecologico-san-jachiddu-levento-un-albero-per-il-futuro/</p>



Information Panels and QR Code

DETAILS OF THE ACTIVITY

	<u>Information PANELS and QR Code</u>
Place	<i>Peloritani Hills - Messina</i>
Period	<i>February - April 2022</i>
Context	<p>The city of Messina is a seaside city. Its history, its traditions, its culture and its economy are closely linked to the sea. However, the uniqueness of the Messina area is the presence, together with the sea, of the Peloritani Mountains, a natural context of immense size easily accessible from the city and rich in native botanical and fauna species. As already highlighted in other parts of this document, the paradox of Messina is that the great majority of the population continues to be interested in the sea and very little frequent the area of the Peloritani Mountains. The Messina Forestry Company has created an interesting structure in the Peloritani Mountains in a place that allows people to see the splendid panorama of the Strait of Messina. In this area, accessible to the public, hundreds of Mediterranean botanical species are cultivated and cared for, many of which are indigenous. Paradoxically, a large part of the population of Messina does not know this place and has never visited it</p>
Description of the SSA	<p><u>Information PANELS and QR Code</u></p> <p>This SSA saw the direct participation of many members of the ULG. In the first place, the botanist Chiara Rando, in collaboration with the Orthobotanical University Institute of Messina, carried out a census of all the botanical species cultivated in the area and proceeded to organize and classify the collected data. Subsequently, Alma Digit, a spin off of the Department of Computer Sciences of the University of Messina, created a website and uploaded all the data collected by botanist Chiara Rando to the pages of the site. Furthermore, Alma Digit has created QR codes for each</p>

	<p>different space of the area. New wooden information panels were created in which QR codes were inserted. In this way, visitors have the possibility, using a simple smart phone, to connect to the site and obtain any type of information.</p> <p>In order to make this SSA known to the citizens of Messina, but above all to promote the Peloritani area, as part of the dissemination activities in the month of September there will be a public day of inauguration of the structure with the participation of the local press.</p>
Main Goals	<p>The area of the Peloritani Mountains has for years been the subject of a public debate regarding the opportunity to establish a special Monti Peloritani Park Authority. The objective of the Municipality of Messina is to push the attention of the citizens of Messina and tourists from the sea to the Peloritani Mountains more and more.</p>
Target Group	<p>University, School, Experts and Citizens.</p>
Focus Areas	<p>The enhancement of the area of the Peloritani Mountains is one of the actions promoted by the Municipality of Messina and accepted by the ULG of Messina. Among other things, the idea of creating natural corridors was received, through the reforestation of large parts of the urban territory, through which to facilitate the flow of fresh area from the Peloritani Mountains to the city. The activities that are currently carried out by the citizens of Messina on the Peloritani Mountains, such as trekking, birdwatching, mountain biking and others, up to now attract a small minority of the population.</p>
Results expected	<p>The site https://cloud.comune.messina.it/healthandgreenspace/ that was created specifically within this SSA represents the result of the work patiently carried out by the Messina ULG. The expected result is to be able to involve the citizens of Messina more actively in the care and protection of this immense green lung represented by the Peloritani Mountains.</p>



Plaques in Braille language

DETAILS OF THE ACTIVITY

	<u><i>Plaques in Braille at the University Orthobotanical Garden of Messina</i></u>
<i>Place</i>	<u><i>University Orthobotanical Garden of Messina</i></u>
<i>Period</i>	<u><i>June 2022</i></u>
<i>Context</i>	<p>The University Orthobotanist Garden of Messina has long been an active structure of the cultural and scientific life of the city of Messina. The actions it promotes aim not to be limited only to the conservation and care of the thousands of botanical species that it preserves within it. The activity carried out by the staff who work in this structure is largely dynamic and has always aimed at a direct involvement of local citizens on the issues of safeguarding our natural habitat and spreading a greater civil awareness on the issue of climate change.</p>

<p><i>Description of the SSA</i></p>	<p><u>Plaques in Braille language</u></p> <p>This small-scale action is promoted by the Municipality of Messina in cooperation and thanks to the support of the University Orthobotanic Garden of Messina, it consists in a multisensory path for the blind and visually impaired.</p> <p>The SSA was the Official inauguration of a path of 65 panels in Braille at the University Orthobotanic Garden of Messina, created with the aim of accelerating the accessible tourism by offering a wide range of targeted services able to meet expectations and create a welcoming environment and functional for all guests.</p> <p>Thanks to the support provided by the local ULG, the University Orthobotanic Garden of Messina now is able to provide an additional service for a category of users in order to expand its offer with structured multisensory paths mainly dedicated to those suffering from visual pathologies. The paths were created thanks to the synergy between the ULG of Messina and the University Orthobotanic Garden of Messina which, acknowledging the guidelines for overcoming architectural barriers in places of public interest culturally, made the Garden as more accessible and usable.</p>
<p><i>Main Goals</i></p>	<p>The small-scale action, which consists in the creation of specially adapted multisensory paths, intended to bring blind or visually impaired visitors closer to the richness of the plant world that the Messina Botanical Garden hosts and at the same time, stimulate forms of knowledge not only visual in every type of visitor through touch, taste, smell and hearing. A total of 65 plaques were placed, which run throughout the garden. People, in particular those with visual</p>

	<p>impairments, can take advantage of the route that will wind through the Garden and will stop at the individual species. The route can be enjoyed almost in full autonomy.</p>
<i>Target Group</i>	<p>University, School, Association for the blind and visually impaired, Experts and Citizens.</p>
<i>Focus Areas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Urban greenery ● Wellbeing and social cohesion ● Social Inclusion ● Fight against marginalization
<i>Results expected</i>	<p>The results attended are related to a path dedicated to the blind, so that they too can learn about the natural resources, present inside the garden, through the sense of smell, touch and reading in Braille.</p> <p>Thanks to this, after having listened to the necessary explanations, visitors will be able to move freely, touch and smell the plants present and read the information of each individual plant thanks to the Braille tags.</p> <p>The action is an opportunity to remember, once again, the importance and relevance of a code, the Braille one, that has always been synonymous with inclusion.</p>



**HEALTH &
GREENSPACE**
*Greener Cities,
Healthier Communities*





Health&Greenspace
Messina Peer Exchange Workshop
8-10 November 2021



8th November 2021

8.30 pm Unofficial welcome dinner

Day 1 – 9th November 2021

Palazzo della Cultura (PalaAntonello) Viale Bocchetta, 373, 1st floor

<https://goo.gl/maps/cvgaUUB4xSM5SLeJA>

09:00 – 09:10 am Welcome Messina

09:10 – 09:20 am Introduction to the Peer Exchange exercise

09:20 – 10:40 am Presentation of the draft IAP of Messina

10:40 – 11:30 am Messina: Table discussions on the draft IAP

11:30 – 12:00 am Brunch

Messina: Reflections

The main reviewer (Breda):

- 12:00 – 12:20 am**
- *reflects on the draft IAP*
 - *summarizes the results of table discussions*

Messina reflects on presented results and messages

12:20 – 12:40 am Presentation of the draft IAP of Breda

12:40 – 1:30 pm Breda: Table discussions on the draft IAP

1:30 – 2:30 pm Lunch

2:30 – 2:50 pm Presentation of the draft IAP of Tartu

2:50 – 3:40 pm Tartu: Table discussions on the draft IAP

3:40 – 4:00 pm Coffee break

4:00 – 4:20 pm Breda: Reflections - the main reviewer is Espoo

4:20 – 4:40 pm Tartu: Reflections - the main reviewer is Messina

4:40 – 5:00 pm Introduction to Day 2

5:00 – 5:10 pm Closing

8:30 pm Official dinner

Day 2 – 10th November 2021

Urban Study Walk

09:00 – 09:30 am	Institutional greetings from the Mayor of Messina <i>Town hall Piazza Unione Europea</i>
09:30 – 11:30 am	Visit by bus to the Forestry Agency Multifunctional Center
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Visit by bus to the “Wildlife recovery center” <i>Mediterranean Association Nature</i>
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Lunch at the San Jachiddu fort
3:30 pm	Visit by bus to Taormina
8:30 pm	Official Dinner at Taormina



Health&Greenspace

Messina – Breda Peer Exchange Visit

11 November 2021

Agenda



11 November 2021

08:30	Partners meeting point - Palacultura
09:00 - 11:00	Visit to the Botanical Garden
11:30 - 13:00	Visit to the Horcynus Orca Foundation and Capo Peloro Natural Reserve Area
13:30	Lunch at Ganzirri Lakes
15:30	Visit to the rural village Massa S.Nicola, an area included in the seven main actions of Messina "green strategic plan"

The meeting held in Messina in November 2021 contributed to the direct exchange of good practices between the European cities that are partners in the project. In particular, the meeting was an excellent opportunity to study and directly view the status of the IAPs of the Project Partners.

The general objective of the meeting set by the team of the European Policy Service of the Municipality of Messina was however to give a direct opportunity to the participants to perceive and experience the uniqueness of the municipal territory of Messina: a city closely linked to the sea with over 60 km of coastline and, at the same time, in close contact with the natural context of the Peloritani Mountains.

Within the limits of the time available, an attempt was made to place the participants in the meeting in close contact with some particular natural sites usually excluded from mass tourism circuits.

We wanted to highlight a reality, that of associations and spontaneous movements of citizens, which for a long time has been working for the protection and at the same time for the enhancement of the natural territory.

There was therefore the practical demonstration of the paradox in which the city of Messina has lived for a long time. That is, precisely in light of the fact that it is essentially a seaside city, the inhabitants of Messina know little and do not frequent the immense natural habitat they have available, that of the Peloritani Mountains.

In particular, during the second day of the meeting, the participants were led to the Multifunctional Center of the Peloritani Mountains managed by the Forestry Company of Messina.

It is a structure created in a unique natural context, with a breathtaking view that allows people to admire both the Strait of Messina and the Etna volcano. The Center managed by one of the members of the Messina ULG preserves an immense series of botanical species, many of which are indigenous. As described extensively elsewhere in this document, the Center was the subject of a specific SSA created with the collaboration of all members of the ULG.



Later, on the same day, thanks to the guidance of agronomist Giuseppe Ristagno, the participants were able to admire the results of the recent redevelopment work that involved one of the historic lungs of the city of Messina, namely the Camaro pine forest.



In addition, in the same area, the meeting participants visited the Wildlife Recovery Center run by another member of the Messina ULG, the MAN association.



We had the opportunity to directly observe the patient work of care and assistance that the members of this association carry out daily for animals such as wild cats, foxes, buzzards, hawks, etc. The work of this and other local associations, carried out consistently over the last 40 years, has resulted in the almost disappearance of the phenomenon of illegal hunting and poaching.

The territory of Messina is an important crossroads for the migrations of hundreds of bird species, in particular of birds of prey, and the Peloritani Mountains offer a unique opportunity for birdwatching.

Precisely with the aim of obtaining a greater interest on the part of the citizens of Messina in this activity, paradoxically practiced in the majority by groups that come specifically to the Peloritani Mountains from Northern Europe and substantially snubbed instead by the Messina people, it was decided to create another SSA: the days of birdwatching extensively described in another part of the document.



It should also be remembered the visit that the entire Health & Greenspace delegation paid a visit to Fort San Jachiddu, one of the many military fortresses built during the nineteenth century and which rests on one of the hills overlooking the Messina area. The structure is cared for and safeguarded by a local association, the Amici del Fortino, a member of the Messina ULG whose leader is the charismatic person of Father Mario Albano.



Also in this case the patient and tiring work carried out by this association is aimed at attracting the attention of the citizens of Messina to the immense natural and historical heritage that they, unwittingly, have at their disposal.

This place was also the subject of an SSA: "A tree as a friend". With the collaboration of the various components of the ULG, in particular the Cuppari Agricultural Institute, various species of Mediterranean scrub trees were planted.



On the morning of 11 November, the delegations of Breda, Poznań and Espoo had the opportunity to visit the "Pietro Castelli" University Orthobotanic Garden of Messina, also this object of a SSA of the Messina ULG that is the creation of a path with indications in Braille for blind people.

On the same day, the delegations from Breda and Poznań were able to participate in a guided tour inside the Horcynus Orca Literary Park, located in one of the most evocative natural settings of the city, namely the Capo Peloro nature reserve. Finally, on the afternoon of 11 November, the delegation from Breda was taken to the rural village of Massa San Nicola for some time totally uninhabited. The architect Celona, member of the local ULG, was the guide of the place and illustrated the redevelopment project of this ancient village.



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Al via il Piano di forestazione urbana

La vicesindaca Previti: «Il nostro obiettivo far di Messina la città più "ambientalista" del Sud. E inviteremo Greta Thunberg...». Polmoni verdi per far abbassare di 3 gradi la temperatura

Luigi Previti
Il piano di forestazione urbana di Messina è stato approvato dalla giunta comunale. L'obiettivo è piantare 100 mila alberi entro il 2030, per abbassare di 3 gradi la temperatura della città e migliorare la qualità dell'aria. La vicesindaca, Maria Previti, ha sottolineato che il piano è un impegno concreto per rendere la città più verde e sana.

Realizzazione del Piano
Il piano di forestazione urbana di Messina è stato approvato dalla giunta comunale. L'obiettivo è piantare 100 mila alberi entro il 2030, per abbassare di 3 gradi la temperatura della città e migliorare la qualità dell'aria. La vicesindaca, Maria Previti, ha sottolineato che il piano è un impegno concreto per rendere la città più verde e sana.

Intervista alla vicesindaca
Maria Previti ha sottolineato che il piano di forestazione urbana è un impegno concreto per rendere la città più verde e sana. L'obiettivo è piantare 100 mila alberi entro il 2030, per abbassare di 3 gradi la temperatura della città e migliorare la qualità dell'aria.

Il progetto ambizioso
Il progetto ambizioso di rendere la città più verde e sana è stato approvato dalla giunta comunale. L'obiettivo è piantare 100 mila alberi entro il 2030, per abbassare di 3 gradi la temperatura della città e migliorare la qualità dell'aria.

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Torna a risplendere la Foresta

Il sindaco: «È il nostro polmone verde». E dichiara guerra a chi sporca i Colli

Luigi Previti
Il sindaco di Messina, Luigi Previti, ha dichiarato guerra a chi sporca i Colli. Ha sottolineato che la Foresta è il polmone verde della città e che è importante mantenerla pulita e sana. Ha anche sottolineato che il piano di forestazione urbana è un impegno concreto per rendere la città più verde e sana.

Intervista al sindaco
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