





CHAMBÉRY

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URBABIO, BIODIVERSITY FROM TOWN TO TOWN

UrbaBio is another way of thinking and looking at towns: looking for bees in small cracks, searching for native plants in parcs and gardens, rejoicing in wild grasses and poppies on roadside embankments, reinventing the link between citizens and wild nature and dreaming or even daring to free graveyards of pesticides. Urbanity and Biodiversity – two words that often conflict, but which, with UrbaBio, make only one for the “Alpine Town of the Year” association. UrbaBio visited Belluno, Trento, Chambéry and Annecy and revealed all the initiatives by which cities make room for plants, insects, small animals and sometimes even large ones, between paving stones, buildings, railways and roads. Together, the cities explored a wide range of actions, from innovative green space management to citizen engagement and the use of social media to promote biodiversity in the city. Bees, rivers and the passion and generous sharing of the cities’ employees and elected officials, as well as their many partners, were the red threads woven from one city to the next. The UrbaBio project received financial support from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and was made possible by the financial and human commitment of the cities of Annecy, Chambéry, Trento and Belluno.

URBABIO, LA BIODIVERSITÉ DE VILLE EN VILLE

UrbaBio, c'est une autre façon de penser et de regarder la ville : y chercher les abeilles dans les interstices, scruter les plantes indigènes dans les espaces verts, se réjouir des herbes folles et des coquelicots sur les talus des bords de route, réinventer le lien entre les citadins et la nature sauvage et rêver ou même oser des cimetières sans pesticides. Urbanité et Biodiversité – deux mots qui souvent s'opposent, mais qui, avec UrbaBio, n'en font qu'un pour l'association « Ville des Alpes de l'Année ». Les visites UrbaBio à Belluno, à Trente, à Chambéry et à Annecy ont révélé toutes les astuces grâce auxquelles les villes redonnent de la place aux plantes, aux insectes, aux petits, et parfois même aux gros animaux, entre les pavés, les immeubles, les voies ferrées et les routes. Ensemble, les villes ont exploré une vaste palette d'actions, allant de la gestion des espaces verts à l'implication des citoyens, en passant par l'utilisation des médias sociaux pour promouvoir la biodiversité en ville. Les abeilles, les cours d'eau mais aussi la passion et le partage généreux des agents des villes, des élus et de leurs nombreux partenaires étaient les fils rouges tissés d'une ville à l'autre. Le projet UrbaBio a reçu un soutien financier du Ministère fédéral allemand pour l'environnement et la sûreté nucléaire (BMU) et a été rendu possible par l'engagement financier et humain des villes d'Annecy, de Chambéry, de Trento et de Belluno.





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URBABIO, LA BIODIVERSITÀ DI CITTÀ IN CITTÀ

UrbaBio è un altro modo di pensare e guardare la città: osservare le api negli interstizi, scrutare le piante autoctone nelle aree verdi, scoprire erbe selvatiche e papaveri sui pendii a bordo strada, ricreare il legame tra i cittadini e la natura selvatica e sognare e a togliere i pesticidi dai cimiteri. Urbanità e Biodiversità – due parole che spesso si contrappongono, ma che grazie ad UrbaBio, si sono unite per l'associazione "Città Alpina dell'Anno". Gli incontri UrbaBio a Belluno, Trento, Chambéry e Annecy hanno rivelato tutte le iniziative grazie alle quali le città restituiscono spazio alle piante, agli insetti, ai piccoli e, a volte grandi animali, tra il lastricati, gli edifici, le linee ferroviarie e le strade. Insieme, le città hanno sperimentato una vasta gamma di azioni, che vanno dalla gestione innovativa delle aree verdi al coinvolgimento dei cittadini, passando dall'utilizzo dei social media per promuovere la biodiversità in città. Le api, i corsi d'acqua, ma anche la passione e la condivisione generosa da parte dei servizi, degli assessori e dei dipendenti comunali, degli amministratori e delle associazioni coinvolte sono il filo conduttore che unisce una città all'altra. Il progetto UrbaBio ha ricevuto il sostegno economico del Ministero Federale tedesco per l'Ambiente e la sicurezza nucleare (BMU) e è stato reso possibile grazie al supporto finanziario e umano delle città di Annecy, Belluno, Chambéry e Trento.





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ANNECY AND THE BIODIVERSITY: THE ART OF SNEAKING IN BETWEEN THE COBBLE-STONES, ALONG THE STREETS AND EVEN IN OUR MINDS

Anney is a tourist town in the middle of a region that has strong economic and demographic growth. Pressure on the agricultural land and on nature is high. The desire of culture, beauty and nature is high as well. The town is experiencing a possible balance between these requests that seem divergent and is searching how to push the walls and the concrete to make room for biodiversity. In the middle of internationally known art installations as "Annecy Paysages", local initiatives are finding and enhancing the biodiversity all around the town. In the Cabinet of Curiosities of the Haras Apiary, the "Petit Chaperon Rouge" urban farm, the facade interstices of the Bonlieu cultural centre, the renaturalised Thiou riverbanks, the town's flowerpots and in the new municipal greenhouses, we can discover thousands of shapes of biodiversity in the town. If we open the door, nature is sneaking in everywhere, in the minds of inhabitants, civil servants, town representatives, visitors, you and me.

ANNECY ET LA BIODIVERSITÉ : L'ART DE SE FAUFILER ENTRE LES PAVÉS, LE LONG DES RUES ET JUSQUE DANS NOS TÊTES

Anney est une ville touristique au cœur d'une région en très forte croissance économique et démographique. La pression sur les terres agricoles et sur la nature y est forte. L'envie de culture, de beauté et de nature tout autant. La ville expérimente les équilibres possibles entre ces demandes a priori divergentes et cherche comment pousser les murs, le béton pour faire place à plus de biodiversité. Au milieu des installations artistiques de renommée internationale comme « Annecy Paysages », des initiatives locales dénichent et font croître la biodiversité dans les recoins de la ville. Au Cabinet de curiosité du Rucher du Haras, dans la ferme urbaine du « Petit Chaperon Rouge », dans les interstices de la façade du centre culturel de Bonlieu, sur les berges renaturées du Thiou, dans les jardinières fleuries de la ville ou dans les nouvelles serres municipales, on découvre mille et une facettes de la biodiversité en ville. Si on lui ouvre la porte, la nature se faufile un peu partout, dans les têtes des habitants, des agents municipaux, des élus, des visiteurs, de vous, de moi.

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CHAMBÉRY CHANGES: THE SEED, THE GARDENERS, THE BEES AND THE RIVER LEYSSE

At the beginning, there was the seed: the gardeners of the city of Chambéry sow primarily indigenous seeds, rather than mixtures of seeds from all over the world, but the path is full of pitfalls. Step by step, the process takes place. The town also promotes the appropriation of public orchards and gardens by residents, for example in partnership with the Incredible Edible groups. The bees and pollinators find refuge there and are cared for by the "Apiary of Allobroges" association. A vast renaturation programme restores the Leysse to a river-like atmosphere; along this river that crosses the densely developed part of the city, plants and animals begin to migrate again. In the Vetrotex eco-neighbourhood, the city of Chambéry is also trying to develop in reverse: first by creating green spaces, then by constructing the buildings in the middle. Change the seed, turn citizens into gardeners, change the canal into a river, change the usual order of urban development. Change in small steps to give back a strong place to nature in the city.

CHAMBÉRY CHANGE : LA GRAINE, LES JARDINIERS, L'ABEILLE ET LA LEYSSE

Au commencement, il y eut la graine : les « jardiniers » de la ville de Chambéry sèment en priorité des semences indigènes, plutôt que les mélanges de graines venues du monde entier, mais le parcours est semé d'embûche. Pas à pas, la démarche prend. La ville promeut aussi une appropriation des vergers, des jardins par les habitants, en partenariat avec les Incroyables Comestibles, par exemple. L'abeille et les polliniseurs y trouvent refuge et sont soignés par l'association du ruchers des Allobroges. Un vaste programme de renaturation redonne à la Leysse un air de rivière ; le long de ce cours d'eau qui traverse la partie densément aménagée de la ville, plantes et animaux se remettent à migrer. Dans l'écoquartier Vetrotex, la ville de Chambéry tente aussi d'aménager à l'envers : en créant d'abord les espaces verts, avant de bâtir les immeubles au milieu. Changer la graine, changer les urbains en jardiniers, changer le canal en rivière, changer l'ordre habituel des aménagements. Changer à petits pas pour redonner une place forte à la nature en ville.





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BELLUNO, A TOWN SURROUNDED BY NATURE

Belluno is a small jewel in a crown of mountain reliefs, between the Nevegal Pre-Alps and the Belluno Dolomites, a UNESCO World Heritage site. The biodiversity is present in the urban parks, along watercourses and on the slopes from the mountains to the town. Within the years, mowed and cultivated fields reduce, leaving room for the forest. The city is transforming, even without the voluntary intervention of humankind, and the processes of spontaneous reforestation and evolution have pros and cons. Should cities be allowed to evolve or should we intervene? Belluno is now questioning: how to find the balance between open spaces and the woods, between the agricultural biodiversity and the natural wilderness? How to include ecological corridors in the planning of infrastructure projects? Belluno has already made determined choices in favour of biodiversity, such as joining the European Network of Pesticide-Free Cities, the green area of the Lambioi Park, strongly desired by the inhabitants, or the renaturalisation works on the Ardo river to strengthen its function as an ecological corridor.

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BELLUNO, UNA CITTÀ IMMERSA NELLA NATURA

Belluno è un piccolo gioiello incastonato in una corona di rilievi montuosi, tra le Prealpi del Nevegal e le Dolomiti Bellunesi, riconosciuti Patrimonio dell'Umanità dall'Unesco. La biodiversità è presente nei parchi urbani, lungo i corsi d'acqua e sui pendii, dai monti alla città. Con il passare degli anni, i campi falciati e coltivati diminuiscono lasciando spazio al bosco. La città si trasforma, anche senza l'intervento volontario dell'uomo, e i processi di rimboschimento spontaneo e di evoluzione rappresentano dei pro e contra. Le città vanno lasciate evolvere o si deve intervenire? Belluno si chiede: come trovare un equilibrio tra gli spazi aperti e i boschi, tra la biodiversità agricola e la natura più selvaggia? Come inserire dei corridori ecologici nella pianificazione dei progetti di infrastruttura? Belluno ha già preso delle scelte determinate in favore alla biodiversità, come per esempio l'adesione alle Rete Europea delle Città Libere dai Pesticidi, l'area verde attrezzata del Parco di Lambioi, fortemente voluta dagli abitanti o ancora dei lavori di rinaturalizzazione sul fiume Ardo per potenziare la sua funzione di corridoio ecologico.

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TRENTO: PLANNING THE TERRITORY AND PROTECTING NATURE TODAY

Trento is a university city rich in history. The Muse (Science Museum) is an incubator of ideas to give back to nature the space and strength that belong to it. Ideas abound in Trento: the principles of urban planning of the 1960s, the consumption of natural soil and the quantity and quality of greenery for every citizen are being questioned. Shouldn't urban planning today provide that every inhabitant lives less than 500 metres from a green area?

New approaches to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity are being studied and tested in Trento: the measurement of ecosystem services, the construction and protection of ecological corridors between green areas, the promotion of urban agriculture and the implementation of sustainable development objectives on a local scale. Tourism is also part of this experimentation with a particular attention to the environment, the balance with the resident population and the monitoring of the ecological footprint.

TRENTO: PIANIFICARE IL TERRITORIO E PROTEGGERE LA NATURA OGGI

Trento è una città universitaria ricca di storia. Il Muse (Museo delle Scienze) è un incubatore di idee per restituire alla natura lo spazio e la forza che le appartengono. A Trento le idee abbondano: si rimettono in discussione i principi dell'urbanistica degli anni '60, il consumo di suolo naturale e la quantità e qualità di verde per ogni cittadino: oggi non si dovrebbe prevedere nei piani urbanistici che ogni abitante risieda a meno di 500 metri da un'area verde?

A Trento si studiano e sperimentano nuovi approcci alla protezione e valorizzazione della biodiversità: la misurazione dei servizi ecosistemici, la costruzione e la tutela dei corridoi ecologici tra aree verdi, la promozione dell'agricoltura urbana e la concretizzazione a scala locale di obiettivi di sviluppo sostenibile. Anche il turismo è parte di questa sperimentazione con una particolare attenzione all'ambiente, all'equilibrio con la popolazione residente e con il monitoraggio dell'impronta ecologica.