



May 31 - June 2, Barcelona

Urban Forest Boundaries

Within, between and beyond the city

The European Forum on Urban Forestry (EFUF) celebrates its 20th anniversary in the metropolis of Barcelona. The congress is open to researchers and professionals from Europe who are interested in reflecting on the urban forest fringe areas as spaces of opportunities that can be connected with and contribute to the territory.

Twenty-first century cities have transformed their way of thinking: they have abandoned the idea of a central city with peripheral areas to now view the metropolis as a territorial mosaic of spaces, corridors and flows; a biophysical matrix where green infrastructure structures the territory to the detriment of the role of large transport infrastructure, and where spaces at the edge, on the limit, stop being administrative lines and begin to be seen as strategic spaces for ecology, leisure and production.

Under the title: "Urban Forest Boundaries. Within, between and beyond the city" we raise the importance of urban and peri-urban forests in building a sustainable and healthy landscape. We address issues such as ecological connectivity, compatibility of ecosystem services, biodiversity and disturbances, and the social aspects of forest management and planning those fringe areas in collaboration with the new culture of leisure. For all the above, we invite you to participate in our Congress, so that together we can address the latent problems in the contact and interaction between two realities destined to coexist: the city and open spaces.

Preliminary programme:

May 30th

Welcome

Meet the organisation and EFUF delegates in a welcome cocktail party.

May 31st

Connectivity and ecological value

The urban forest, especially the boundaries, can play a fundamental role in improving environmental conditions and in preserving biodiversity (regulation of erosion and hydrology, ecological connectivity, neo-ecosystems, etc.)

Keywords: *connectivity, biodiversity, new ecosystems, canopy, climate change, resilience*

June 1st

Social and economic values

Urban forest has many different social and economic functions, ranging from the provision of population with opportunities for leisure, health and welfare, to the contribution to energy savings in heating and cooling. Due to its nearness to urban zones, forest boundaries are also strategic metropolitan spaces.

Keywords: *health, leisure, social inclusion, equity, circular economy, local economy, economic valuation of ecosystemic services, cultural landscape*

June 2nd

Towards a comprehensive approach

We need a comprehensive understanding of the benefits and multiple uses of the urban forest. The planning, design and management of the fringe areas should integrate in their approaches both the ecological and the socio-economic perspectives.

Keywords: *nature based solutions, adaptive management, citizen participation*

Communication challenges

Communication plays a key role in decision making. Regarding urban forests, we should face the triple challenge of a highly changing ecological environment, a particular social perception of the agroforestry areas and a lack of technical references for the evaluation of environmental disturbances due to its proximity to urban spaces.

Keywords: *decision-making, communication strategies, governance, participatory practices, resilience*

June 3rd

Metropolis Barcelona trip

For those who have time, we would like to invite you to an activity organised specially for participants. We will visit different emblematic spots in order to discover the green metropolitan infrastructure.

Please contact us for further information
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Organized by



Supporting organisations

