## URBAN FORESTS AND THE SDGs

SUSTAINABLE CITIES

1 NO POVERTY

Urban forests and trees make significant contributions towards the environmental and socio-economic resilience of cities by helping mitigate climate change and natural disasters; reducing energy costs, poverty and malnutrition; and, providing ecosystem services and public benefits.

AFFORDABLE AND

**CLEAN ENERGY** 

Urban and peri-urban forests create employment, reduce the cost of urban infrastructure and contribute to boost local green economy.

The sustainable management of urban forests and trees can produce renewable energy for use by urban communities particularly in lower-income countries, where woodfuel is often the only available and affordable source of energy.

Urban and peri-urban forests are direct sources of food and contribute to increased nutrition security by providing affordable woodfuel, high-quality water, and improved soil for sustainable agricultural production.

8 DECENT WORK AN ECONOMIC GROW

growth by providing an attractive environment for tourism and business, creating job opportunities, providing materials for housing, and generating savings in the costs

associated with energy and the

maintenance of human health.

Investments in urban forests

and green infrastructure

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

2 ZERO HUNGER

Forests and green spaces in and around cities provide ideal settings for outdoor recreational and relaxing activities, contributing to the prevention and treatment of non-communicable diseases and to the maintenance of mental health.

13 CLIMATE ACTION

15 LIFE ON LAND

Trees and forests in and around cities contribute to climate-change mitigation and adaptation by sequestering carbon, helping saving energy, reducing the urban heat island effect, and mitigating extreme climatic events.

Urban and peri-urban forests are efficient regulators of urban hydrological cycles as they filter drinking water, reduce the risk of floods and erosion, and help reduce water losses.

Urban and peri-urban forests help create and enhance habitats, constitute a pool of biodiversity, significantly improve soil quality, and contribute to land restoration.