

# MILAN'S BID TO HOST XV **WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS 2021**

**mipaaf**

ministero delle  
politiche agricole  
alimentari e forestali



## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE COUNTRY'S FORESTRY SECTOR



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Italy's geographical, geomorphologic and climate characteristics are unique in the world, providing the basis for Europe's greatest specific, physiognomic and landscape diversity.

The forest formations underlying the wealth of biodiversity in our country occupy nearly 35% of the national territory (some 11 million hectares, 5% of Europe's forests). In recent decades they have been growing progressively, with a net annual average increase of over 28,000 hectares and over 36 million m<sup>3</sup>.

Italy's forests are distributed among the following biogeographical regions: alpine (32%), continental (16%), and Mediterranean (52%). They contain 117 indigenous tree species.

These forests provide habitat to nearly half of Europe's animal and plant species. For millennia this wealth of genetic material, species and habitats has offered an inestimable range of material assets (wood and non-wood products such as mushrooms, truffles, wild berries, resins, spices, medicinal plants, etc.) and other benefits to local communities and society. These services, a sort of spillover effect of sustainable forest management for the production of commercial goods, now termed "ecosystem services", include erosion, flood and landslide control, rainwater infiltration, purification and retention, local climate regulation and the mitigation of climate change.

Italian forests also represent a trove of spiritual, historical, scientific, educational, recreational and touristic values.

The close bond between mankind and the local natural resources has been indispensable for the survival and development of the populations, societies and civilizations that have existed over the millennia on the Italian peninsula. Italy's current forested landscape is the outcome of profound territorial and socioeconomic transformations taking place over the centuries, the expression of a bio-cultural diversity like no other in the world.

After thousands of years of managing and cultivating forests, this agrosilvopastoral economy has strongly modified and shaped the structure, composition, complexity and diversity of forest ecosystems, introducing new, stable ecological equilibria, now considered to represent some of the most delicate and important ecosystems to protect.

Our country's forestry heritage also represents the economic basis for the development of new local bio-economies, which are increasingly engaged not only in valorizing ecosystem services but also in developing innovative wood and non-wood products and processes.



Gaia



In Italy today, the wood industry (production, industrial conversion, marketing) provides work to some 80,000 businesses and more than half a million people. The Italian wood conversion industry is one of the most important and vigorous economic activities in our country. It is the second largest manufacturing sector with annual revenues of some 40 billion euros, with over 45% of production being exported.

The Italian wood furnishings industry is a recognized international leader, benefiting from the great value added of the Made-in-Italy label. In turn, the Italian cellulose and paper industry numbers some 200 companies with 23,400 employees and an equal number in linked industries, with global revenues of over 7.6 billion euros. The forest-wood-paper production chain is thus one of the major industries in our country, with enormous outcomes in terms of employment opportunities, technological excellence, research and innovation, and a source of income with a strongly positive balance sheet (more than +7 billion euros).

As in many countries around the world, the functions of the forest that society has considered worth safeguarding or improving have progressively changed over time. Italian forests now have an increasing number of users demanding a wide variety of services, oftentimes in conflict with one another and requiring careful management to find acceptable, favourable solutions.

Mediatory action among production interests, social needs and the ineluctable necessity to ensure environmental health is now a dominant theme in forestry policy both globally and in Italy. This mediation cannot be separated from the choices made as regards the economic management of forest resources, which must ensure provisions of raw materials and forest products for the various associated industries, the socioeconomic development of the local communities, the health and conservation of the forest ecosystems and, last but not least, the forest as a resource for tourism.

Forests are a theme of strategic interest across a range of policy arenas in terms of commitments and international obligations regarding the environment, climate, landscape, sustainable development, wood provisioning, as well as the pressing need to enhance social and ecological resilience and ability to adapt to the effects of climate change.

As highlighted in the international scientific literature and affirmed in pan-European and EU policy guidelines, in a context historically marked by strong human influence, the active and sustainable management of the forest is a fundamental instrument for the effective safeguarding and valorization of the landscape and its biodiversity, as well as a response to the abandonment and demographic decline of rural areas.

In this new process of economic development and demographic change, Italy is in many ways a vital workshop and a proving ground for effective bio-economic governance.



## **ITALY SUPPORTS THE UNCCD “LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY”**

In this bio-economic perspective, Italy strongly believes in land based strategy for climate change: healthy lands act as the most natural carbon absorption and storage mechanism and forest land restoration play a key role in climate change mitigation and adaptation.

As both a donor and an affected country within the UNCCD - the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification - and as a country bridging the Northern and Southern shores of the Mediterranean, Italy is directly experiencing all the implications of unhealthy soils – productivity, stability and population movements. But Italy is also focusing on the value of soil protection and recovery as an instrument of empowerment, peace and stability for so many and as a path to general environmental recovery.

That’s the reason why Italy has undertaken over the years a series of actions aimed to revitalize this primeval function of lands and has adhered to the operational approach called “Land Degradation Neutrality”, a vision primarily pursued by UNCCD and included in the new Development Agenda (goal 15.3).

For this purpose Italy has already established a National Working Group on Land Degradation Neutrality, under the coordination of the IMELS (Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea).

## **MILAN: CITY OF REFORESTATION**

Milan has long funded the creation of new green spaces, not just woods but also urban parks, tree rows, hedges, and arboriculture systems to rebuild and expand the area’s heritage of woody plants in keeping with international conventions on climate change and biodiversity.

Milan is a member and signatory to the European Green Surge Project (Green Infrastructure and Urban Biodiversity for Sustainable Urban Development and the Green Economy), which sets forth innovative approaches to planning green infrastructure on the metropolitan scale, facilitating interaction between people and ecosystem services (environmental, social and economic). Coordinated by the University of Copenhagen, the project enjoys the participation of 24 European partners from ten countries: Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Since 1991, some 1,000 hectares of new green areas have been created, providing a home to more than a million trees and plants. The province of Milan has thus become Italy’s seedbed of urban forestation, with major projects such as the Parco Nord Milano, Bosco in Città in Milan and Bosco delle Querce in the area near Seveso contaminated by dioxin in 1976.

The project titled “10,000 hectares of (new) forests and green systems” is nearing completion in Milan and in its immediate surroundings. The project involves the creation of new woods, wetlands, large forests, hedges and tree rows, urban forestation, tree cultivation and bicycle-pedestrian-bridal paths. It has involved both the creation of newly forested areas and the expansion of existing forests. The benefits are manifold: environmental, landscape, productive, ecosystemic, recreational, energy production, culture and employment.





## **BRIEF NARRATIVE OF THE HOST COUNTRY AND THE PROPOSED LOCATION OF THE CONGRESS, REFERRING IN PARTICULAR TO THE GEOGRAPHIC, SOCIOECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS**



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### **ITALY: INSTITUTIONAL AND ECONOMIC STABILITY**

Founding member of the EU and of the G7, the Italian Republic is a consolidated parliamentary democracy with a thriving market economy that ranks seventh in the world.

Italy's economic and financial stability, achieved through the concerted efforts of all political and social forces, has enabled it to join the EU Economic and Monetary Union and meet the criteria for balancing the budget deficit against GDP and to adopt the single European currency to minimize the threat of economic and exchange rate volatility.

Meanwhile the country's economic and political stability ensures a high degree of social cohesion and public order. Italy's ability – through the centuries and continuing into modern times – to act as a cultural bridge between Europe and the Mediterranean rim, Africa and the Middle East, has led to fruitful and enduring trade relationships backed by targeted policy. Italy is thus peculiarly suited to share its culture with other peoples and represent universal themes like the ones proposed for Milano WFC2021.

### **ITALY: HOME TO MULTILATERAL AGENCIES**

Italy is home to a number of multilateral agencies (FAO, IFAD, WFP, EFSA) working to fight hunger and poverty, defend the environment, raise farm productivity and improve the living conditions of rural populations, increase food safety and security and spread knowledge about the importance of biodiversity for human health.

### **ITALY: A COMMUNITY HIGHLY COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Italy is a laboratory of macro and micro-ecologies in which communities, companies, associations, schools and millions of individual citizens, through their purchasing decisions, lifestyles and social activities, place Italy at the forefront of world rankings in the use of renewable energy. Eight percent of the electricity generated in Italy comes from photovoltaic systems; Italy has invested over 2 billion euros in royalties from petroleum and natural gas extraction for renewable energy.

Italians are conscious of the urgency to establish rigorous global criteria for environmental, social and economic sustainability and respond to this need in many ways. This is reflected in day-to-day activities such as the creation of urban vegetable gardens, movements to promote the urban and social importance of trees and greenery and workshops on creative recycling. These choices to act responsibly toward the planet can generate a critical mass capable of swaying decision makers. As an affirmation of this renewed commitment to the environment, Earth Day 2016 was celebrated



Expo Milano 2015 - The Decumano

with a grand popular festival of sports, cinema, music and culture up and down the peninsula: from bicycle rides to walking-bus routes to the #Trees4Earth initiative and the adoption of new trees, from the project #1dayon10liters promoted by the Green Cross to the foot races through the woods, Earth Day witnessed the enthusiastic participation of thousands of Italians.

### **MILAN: CITY OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

Milan's urban, agricultural and hydrological territory is a laboratory of sustainable, circular economics defending the biodiversity that makes urbanization processes sustainable.

In 2015 and during the years leading up to EXPO 2015, working closely with FAO, Milan undertook the challenge to communicate and disseminate content relating to sustainability. This is where a unique worldwide network of competencies and experiences open to international partnerships has been created.

With EXPO 2015, Milan has become a node in the international network of diplomacy and multilateral cooperation on the themes of agricultural sustainability, food security, protection of water resources and environmental policy.

Milan wishes to share this experience with the FAO community and all WFC2021 participants.

Milano WFC2021 will help raise awareness and a sense of responsibility among the resident population on the main issues pertaining to sustainable development, environmental protection, biodiversity and the social and economic value of forest ecosystem services.

### **MILAN: EXPERIENCE, SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, REPUTATION**

Milan and Lombardy represent a fine example of balance between labour and economic growth, human relations and nutrition, environment and agrifoods. Milan is an urban area rich in agricultural, forest and water resources capable of promoting projects and partnerships for integrated, sustainable human development.

The years leading up to Milano WFC2021 promise to become a model of balance between technology and ecology, human endeavours and harmonious relations. They will be an engine for radical strategic development that will consolidate the city's newfound international dimension, placing it at the centre of the decision-making process on world governance and giving it a leadership role in instituting and implementing measures and best practices for the benefit of all humanity.

### **MILAN: AGRIFOOD PRODUCTION, EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC INNOVATION**

Lombardy is Italy's second largest agricultural producer, contributing 18% of all Italian food exports. Some 60,000 farms and agricultural enterprises in Lombardy employ more than 220,000 people. The region ranks first in Italy for productivity, at double the national average. The jewel in Lombardy's crown is organic farming, a method of food production using techniques that give priority to safeguarding human health, the environment and animal welfare.

Milan has an important agriculture network composed of 59 farms and has developed its urban waterways into an interconnected system between the city and the surrounding farmlands.

A dynamic labour market, a vigorous entrepreneurial spirit, high employment rate for women as well



Sofia

as men, three technology hubs performing leading work in biotechnology, advanced materials and agrifoods, some 1,000 firms pushing for innovation, and nearly half of all Italian biotech companies all come together to make the Milan area a fertile seedbed for excellence and innovation.

Milan and its surrounding territory boast a number of distinctive geographical, infrastructural, economic, social and cultural features that set it apart from other regions of Italy or Europe.

High standards of excellence in healthcare, from graduate and post-graduate training to basic and applied research in public and private research centres, pharmaceutical laboratories and biomedical firms and broad access to social and healthcare services make Milan Italy's health capital.

Eleven prestigious universities, which attract over half of all foreign students in Italy, place Milan and its Province at the cutting edge of education and research.

### **MILAN: AN ECOSYSTEM OF BIO ARCHITECTURE AND BIOECONOMICS**

Milano WFC2021 will be staged in an incredible ecosystem known around the world for its urban and architectural innovation, a unique showcase for iconic sustainable architecture, green building and bio-energy solutions to environmental, social and economic problems.

The urban project known as the "Vertical Forest" (winner of the International Highrise Award as "the most beautiful and innovative highrise in the world", designed by the Milanese architect Stefano Boeri now working on the "green city" in Shijiazhuang, China), as well as the upcoming "Circular forests" and "Library of the Forests" will be an exceptional living showcase for open debate on innovative development in sustainable architecture in metropolitan areas.

Milano WFC2021 will highlight the latest generation green infrastructure projects, planned networks to create zones with specific environmental objectives (e.g. clean water provisioning, pollution abatement), now the object of international and European policies (such as the European Green Belt Initiative between Germany and Austria).

In Milan it will be possible to see a true, extended circular city economy in operation with new modes of recycling and reusing waste and the generation of large amounts of bio-energy.

### **MILAN: A COSMOPOLITAN AND CULTURAL CITY**

Milan boasts an enviable wealth of artistic and cultural assets. The city's urban makeup bears the signs of a long heritage dating back to Roman times. From the Romanesque architecture of the Basilica of Sant'Ambrogio, the Gothic grandeur of the Cathedral, the Renaissance splendour of the Sforza Castle and Santa Maria delle Grazie and the Neo-classical Palazzo Reale to the contemporary architecture of CityLife and Porta Nuova, Milan offers stunning examples across a broad spectrum of artistic styles.

Milan has a decidedly cosmopolitan character. Here culture has always meant dialogue and an exchange of ideas between different worlds. Music, theatre, museums and contemporary art form a hugely rich and varied tapestry of cultural offerings for the benefit of locals and visitors alike. It is also home to nearly 259,000 foreign residents (19% of the total population) from over 150 ethnic groups representing every region of the world.

With 97 consulates, Milan is, after New York, the non-capital city with the highest density of consular



representation in the world.

Milan has 38 theatres (more than 14,000 seats), including the celebrated Teatro alla Scala, world temple of opera, more than 30 museums such as the renowned Pinacoteca di Brera, Sforza Castle, and the Leonardo da Vinci National Museum of Science and Technology, and features Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper, offering visitors an incommensurable wealth of cultural assets and stunning examples of a wide spectrum of artistic styles.

Milan is also home to the Triennale, one of the most influential exhibition venues for architecture, urban planning, decorative arts, industrial design, crafts, manufacturing, fashion, and audio-visual communication.

Milan marks the centre of a metropolitan area with 4 million inhabitants and draws in 10 million tourists a year.

Milano WFC2021 promises to be a memorable experience for all participants who can easily arrive from any corner of the world to enjoy the highlife of culture and fashion, visit historic locations and lodge in a wide range of competitively priced hotels.

### **WHY ITALY AND MILAN TO HOST WORLD FORESTRY CONGRESS 2021**

Milano WFC2021 will be organized to offer FAO member States and governing bodies an opportunity to meet with representatives of institutions and scientific and academic communities to discuss the main issues in forestry, biodiversity, wood security, access to water, soil protection, climate change and ecosystem services for the ever growing human communities living together in large metropolitan areas.

Milano WFC2021 will carry forward the legacy of EXPO 2015 and relaunch the action plans discussed and underwritten there by the UN, FAO, IFAD, WFP and over 100 heads of state in 7,000 encounters before an audience of over 21 million visitors from every corner of the world. It will take place in the same physical venue where the international community gathered to define and agree on the responsibilities of cities in becoming workshops for the sustainable management of geographical communities and their natural resources ("Milan Charter", Milan, 16 October 2015 – "Milan Urban Food Policy Pact", Milan, 15 October 2015).

Milano WFC2021 will represent an arena for discussing the strategic role of cities in global sustainable development accounting for the growing value of ecosystems in new and evolving social-environmental equilibria. Among the goals of Agenda 2030 is that of making these cities "inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" (Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Development Programme, 25 September 2015 – Declaration by mayors, Sustainable Development Summit, New York, 24 September 2015).

Milano WFC2021 will be a milestone event in a 6-year discussion, implementing action plans and best-practice projects initiated at the WFC2015 in Durban ("Durban declaration: Vision 2050 for Forests and Forestry") that will bring national forestry policies into a new, innovative global dimension.





Milano WFC2021 can be preceded in the years ahead of FWC2021 by a series of events, encounters, best-practice sharing and public discussions on “flagship projects”. These “flagship projects” will use the open “wiki” platform created with EXPO 2015 to keep discussion alive and shared across an international network of 140 universities and research centres engaged with “Laboratorio EXPO” to work on agricultural and food sustainability, safeguard of biodiversity, conservation and valorization of forest and water resources and on the many ecosystem services that these resources offer for the reduction of poverty, economic growth and environmental sustainability.

Milano WFC2021 will capitalize on the scientific and technological developments generated by the new research centre Human Technopole, and by the university science centre that will be built on the EXPO 2015 site. Supported by the efforts of 1,500 Italian and international researchers, these institutes will engage in advanced research on the medical and scientific correlation between nutrition, genetics, health and pharmaceuticals and on new-generation data collection and data analysis technologies.

### **MILANO WFC2021: THE LEGACY**

Milano WFC2021 can be planned and developed in collaboration with FAO to generate a tangible and sustainable political, scientific, educational, cultural, and communicational legacy. This can be accomplished by leveraging its many technical and organizational competencies and offering a proven platform for developing, starting in 2021, the best opportunities to highlight and enhance the value of forest ecosystem services as a public asset.

Milano WFC2021 is inspired by its central role in sustainability policies, linking issues of metropolitan development (water, food, energy and environmental quality) to the protection, regeneration and management of the surrounding farmlands and forests. It will benefit from a close and fruitful agreement with the Milan Center for Food Policy and Law and with the global project WE – Women for EXPO. From EXPO Milano 2015 to EXPO Dubai 2020, these initiatives will develop ideas, projects, action plans and international protocols on rights to food and water, defence against land-grabbing, the overcoming of gender inequality in agriculture, and women’s right to land, working to launch a worldwide “Zero Illegality Campaign”.

Milan will champion the Agenda 2030 and could leave as a legacy an “Urban Biodiversity Index”, presently under discussion, and a global partnership among institutions, universities, foundations and NGOs active in the Milan area to support and promote sustainable urban development.

Milano WFC2021 will gather and assimilate the experience and results from Human Technopole so that this well developed scientific platform with its big-data analysis capabilities can be made available, after the WFC in 2021, to support FAO and forestry policymakers in the fields of research in life sciences, health, nutrition and species biodiversity. This will be the context for the creation of a biobank for plant phenotyping, plant biotech & genome editing, a model of transformational innovation in production, farm-to-plate value chains and future intensification of forest protection.

In the lead-up to Milano WFC2021, the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research will continue to develop new forms of inter-university cooperation for agricultural, forestry and environmental training, facilitate new small and medium forestry-based startups, promote flexible and distance learning for forest managers, and support the creation of green jobs. This effort may be boosted by public-private



partnerships for environmental education.

Lastly, Milan's great technical and professional capabilities will be dedicated to the creation of a new digital narrative of the forests as an integral element in sustainable development, the design of multimedia platforms for sharing best practices, and the development of new languages and applications for transparency and utilization of forestry databases and registries.

### **ITALIAN AND MILANESE DIPLOMACY FOR WFC2021**

Italy's role in international cooperation, especially in the Mediterranean region, and its role as an institutional, political and diplomatic liaison between Europe and Africa make it a natural venue for global discussion on forestry policy and policies regarding agricultural, food and environmental sustainability.

Furthermore, Italy's excellent institutional and diplomatic relations with the international community of FAO member countries make it the ideal host for WFC2021.

With EXPO 2015 and its active and intense collaboration with FAO, Milan has assumed a strategic role in agricultural and food cooperation and has become, by all rights, a frontier for international diplomatic relations, recognized universally as a flagship city for best practices in sustainability.

Italy's role in the framework of international cooperation policies has always been linked to the idea that the protection of a sustainable environment would greatly benefit society and people. Cooperation and assistance would go firstly to the defence of weak ecosystem services: in the Mediterranean rim – where Italy acts as an institutional, political and diplomatic link between Europe and Africa, making it a natural interface in the forestry and agro-food sustainability debate – as well as in the mountain regions, in the green landscapes of Africa, Latin America, Asia and Oceania. A specific effort has been aimed at the safeguard and valorization of islands forestry resources threatened by the consequences of climate changes.

The Milan Urban Policy Act, undersigned by the mayors and representatives of the sustainable cities the C40 Network and delivered to the UN Secretary-General on World Food Day, 16 October 2015, commits Milan, at the forefront of global cities, to the fundamental questions of balanced urban development, the organization of water, sewer and waste disposal services and the effort to prevent food wastage.

# Carta di Milano dei bambini



## DESCRIPTION OF THE HOST INSTITUTION AND THE RESOURCES WHICH CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE

**mipaaf**

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alimentari e forestali

### THE HOST INSTITUTION

The Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies (Ministero delle Politiche Agricole Alimentari e Forestali – MIPAAF) develops and coordinates the guidelines of agriculture, forests, food and fisheries policies at the national level. Furthermore it contributes to the definition of European and international policies on these issues.

### THE AVAILABLE RESOURCES

MIPAAF will cooperate closely on design and organization of Milano WFC2021 with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Ministry of the Environment and Protection of Land and Sea, the Ministry of Education, Universities and Research, and the Ministry of Health.

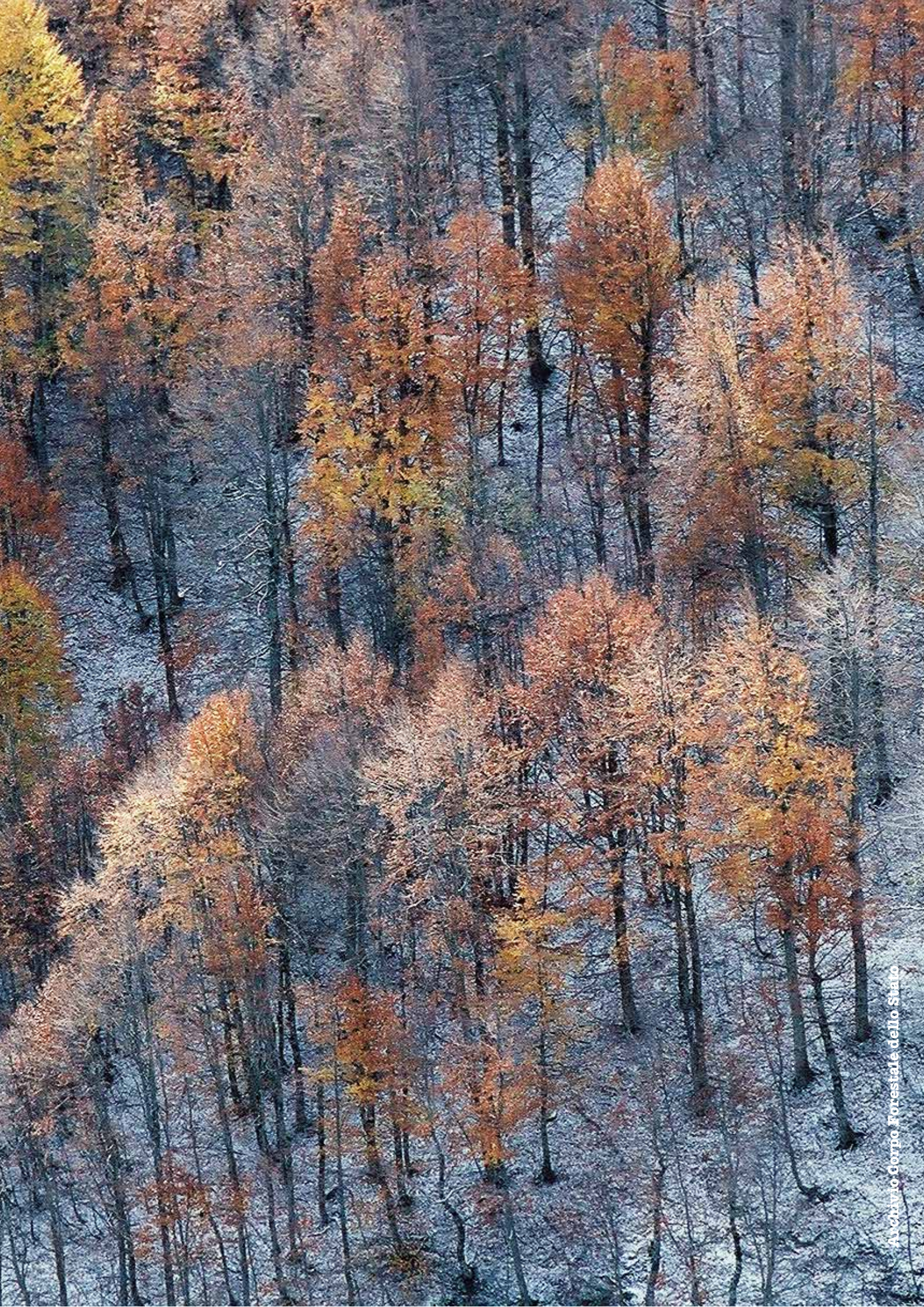
In organizing and managing WFC2021, MIPAAF will deploy a full range of competencies and technical resources, both its own and those of associated agencies:

- Department for the Coordination of European and International Policies and Rural Development (DIPEISR);
- Department of Competitive, Agrifood Quality, Hippic and Fishery Policies (DIQPI);
- Department of the Central Inspection Authority for Safeguarding Quality and Combating Fraud in Agrifood Products (ICQRF);
- State Forestry Corps (CFS);
- Agricultural and Food Policy Division of the Carabinieri;
- Fishery Department of Capitanerie di Porto.

MIPAAF also enjoys support from the following organizations: Agency for the distribution of European agricultural funding (AGEA), the Council for Agricultural Research and Economics (CREA), the Service Institute of the Agrifoods Market (ISMEA), the National Rice Authority.

### EXPERTISE IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

In the recent past Italy has successfully hosted several very high profile international events (World Athletics Championships in Rome 1987, the Football World Cup in 1990, the Jubilee in 2000 and 2015, the Winter Olympics in Turin in 2006, EXPO Milano 2015) demonstrating that it has the organizational,



technical and professional capability to prepare and stage events attended by millions of people.

The professional skills and experience acquired by all those involved in organizing and managing these events will make the city and its local territory a benchmark for the WFC.

After its significant contribution to the 2nd FAO International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2), MIPAAF was appointed by the Italian government to coordinate EXPO Milano 2015, helping to make the event and its theme a global showcase for Italy and Milan.

With EXPO Milano 2015, MIPAAF contributed to the creation of the Milan Charter. This multi-party, participatory document, drafted in 19 languages, represents the cultural heritage of the 2015 Universal Exposition on the themes of nutrition, environment, health and agricultural sustainability. Bearing the signatures of 1.5 million Expo visitors, it was presented to the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon during World Food Day on 16 October 2015.

The Milan Charter is universally recognized as a fundamental contribution to the implementation of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, engaging broad swaths of multi-stakeholders among individuals, communities, businesses, governments and international institutions.

MIPAAF has acted as a catalyst for international best practices in the realms of agrifoods, energy, health and environment, all presented and discussed at EXPO 2015.

Within the context of EXPO 2015, MIPAAF acted as liaison and coordinator with the Office of the President of the Italian Republic, the Office of the Prime Minister, other Ministers, national and international organizations (UN, FAO, IFAD, WFP), civil society and the business communities. Via the EXPO Milano 2015 Technical Committees, it coordinated engagement of the industrial system.

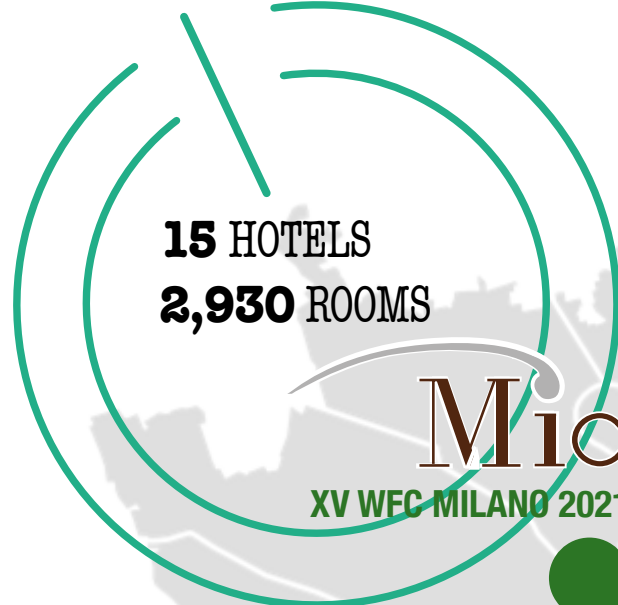
With EXPO Milano 2015, MIPAAF created a model for success, an international reference point and an invaluable legacy for the organization and management of upcoming major events, positioning Italy and Milan at the centre of a network of international best practices in terms of innovative design, knowledge sharing and cooperation on the issues of nutrition and sustainable development.

Boasting two environmental management certifications and with average source-separated waste collection participation of 70%, EXPO 2015 stands at the head of world rankings for major environmentally friendly events ranking ahead of the 2012 London Summer Olympic Games.

As one of the main players in EXPO Milano 2015, where it organized and led over 50,000 meetings between businesses and international delegations, 7,000 substantive discussions on major issues with 5,000 experts from all parts of the world and 21 million visitors, including over 2 million students, MIPAAF can ensure a close mesh between educational mission and sustainable quality in event organization and management.

# MILAN CONVENTION CENTER AND HOTELS ACCOMMODATION

NORTH WEST



NORTH



**MiCo**  
XV WFC MILANO 2021 VENUE



TRAIN  
STATION  
AREA



CITY  
CENTER  
**24 HOTELS**  
**3,026 ROOMS**

WEST



SOUTH



## **CONGRESS FACILITIES, ACCOMMODATION, AMENITIES, TRANSPORTATION, POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS AND STUDY TOURS**



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### **MICO: THE LARGEST CONVENTION CENTRE IN EUROPE**

Milan has one of the largest conference facilities in Europe and the world, the MICO Milano Congressi. Managed by Fiera Milano Congressi (FMC), MICO offers 54,000 sqm of exhibition spaces, two plenary rooms and an auditorium (seating from 1,500 to 4,000 people) and 70 fully appointed breakout rooms (from 50 to 500 people) all with a full technological complement. MICO facilities include 2 registration areas, 4 cloakrooms, a storage area, a prayer room, nursery, ATM, a business centre, food outlets and restaurants and parking for up to 1,100 vehicles. MICO has long-term institutional competence and experience in organizing international events, such as COP 2003 (10,000 delegates), Italian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, ASEM 2014 (20,000 delegates).

### **MICO: A SUSTAINABLE VENUE IN THE GREEN HEART OF MILAN**

MICO is situated in the green heart of Milan with its wealth of urban parks and forests (15.2 km<sup>2</sup> / 1,982 km<sup>2</sup> total). The convention venue is located along the 11.5 km “Raggio Verde” (green spoke) no. 7, which connects the urban parks in the city centre to the extensive green areas to the north. A major urban regeneration project is planned for this area, giving birth to “Milano Alta”, featuring a rooftop garden helping to preserve biodiversity and a 1 kilometre elevated cycle-pedestrian path at a height of 7 metres. MICO and Fiera Milano Congressi provide world class facilities and services in accordance with sustainability policies, using green materials and sustainable products, highly biodegradable and recyclable carpets, managing source-separated waste collection and recovering untouched, leftover food.

### **SECURITY PLAN**

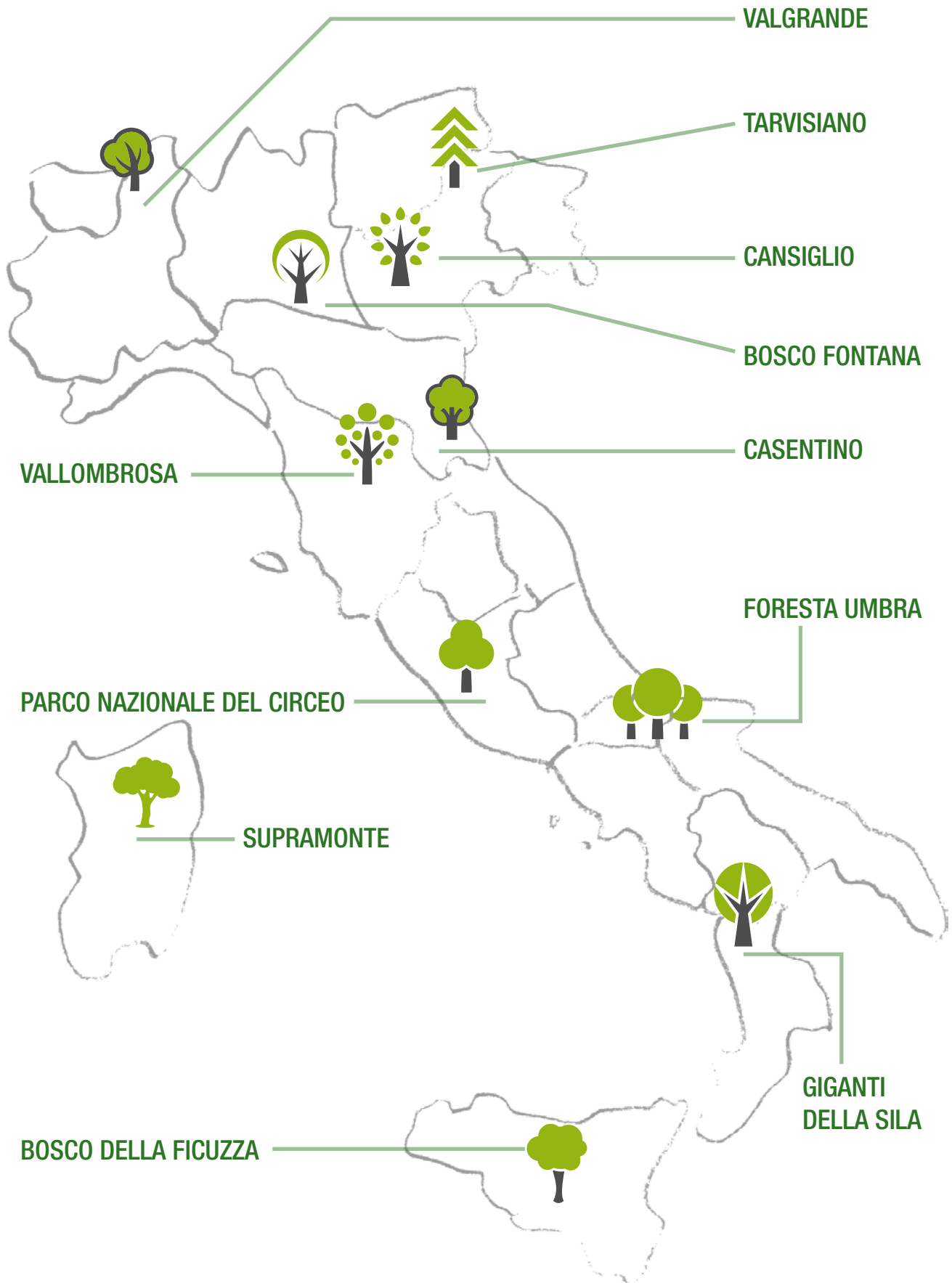
One of the important features of the XV WFC will be its high standards of security. The procedures for the security of government officials will be established by the Foreign Ministry in conjunction with the Interior Ministry based on the political, security and policing situation and the country of origin and position of the visiting officials. Various measures may be taken including bodyguards, airborne surveillance, metal detection, reconnaissance inspections and policing of the areas to be visited.

### **MILAN: A HUGE ATTRACTION FOR TOURISTS WITH ACCOMMODATION FOR ALL NEEDS**

Milan stands in the centre of Europe’s fourth largest metropolitan conurbation, an area of 12,000 km<sup>2</sup> drawing in than 10 million tourists each year. The city and the neighbouring provinces possess a well structured accommodation system with over 500,000 hotel beds evenly distributed across all categories of quality and price. Milan is already a major international destination attracting travellers from all cultures and all corners of the world and meeting their each and every need. The city boasts a broad range of hotels offering a total of 30,000 rooms, of which 4,000 fall into the low-cost category. Thanks partly to EXPO Milano 2015, fifteen new hotels have been added in recent years, from 3-star to luxury 5-star, many of them built according to strict sustainability and energy efficiency standards as recognized by their LEED certification.

No fewer than 23 hotels offering a total of 2,771 rooms (1,288 five-star, 750 four-star, 393 three-star, and

# ESCURSIONS AND STUDY TOURS



340 two-star) are located within a few minutes' walking distance from MICO, ensuring easy and pleasant access to the convention centre by all guests. Joining them by 2021 will be the brand new hotel in the Milano Alta project, built to the most exacting standards of environmental sustainability.

### **MILAN AT THE CENTRE OF THE EUROPEAN TRANSPORT NETWORK**

The existing transport infrastructure in the greater Milan area is modern, highly advanced and functional and puts Milan in the middle of an efficient transport network. The airport system: 3 airports, Milan Malpensa (intercontinental hub), Milan Linate (city airport with national and European connections), Bergamo Orio al Serio (charter and low cost flights) handle more than 38 million passengers a year. The railways: Milan has more than 100 train connections to Europe every day, including the new High Speed/High Capacity lines. Roads and highways: Milan lies at the centre of Lombardy's road network which comprises 560 km of motorways and 900 km of national roads.

### **MILAN: WORKSHOP OF SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY**

With four metropolitan rail lines, 79 urban bus lines and 19 tram lines, Milan's public transportation system efficiently interconnects the entire city in an environmentally sustainable manner. In order to improve conditions for those who live, work or study in Milan or are just visiting, the municipality has introduced the Congestion Charge (Area C) and promotes many forms of soft mobility and mobility sharing, including the GUIDAMI car sharing system with hybrid or electric vehicles and BikeMi, the world's first integrated bike sharing system. To favour use of local public transport and grant sustainable mobility during XV WFC, FMC will draw up agreements with the municipal transport company to offer weekly tickets and tickets at special prices for both employees and congress delegates.

### **POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS AND STUDY TOURS: THE DISCOVERY OF ITALY'S FORESTRY**

Working together with universities and research centres, the Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies, the Ministry of the Environment and the State Forestry Corps, dedicated excursions and study tours to discover the features of the Lombard and Italian forestry assets will be organised for the participants in the XVWFC will be provided dedicated excursions and study tours to discover the features of the Lombard and Italian forestry assets. The study tours will consist of discussions of theory, workshops, round-table discussions and field tours, with a particular emphasis on: naturalistic aspects (Italy's forested landscapes); flora, fauna and biodiversity (Italy's wealth of nature reserves); forestry industry (wood for construction and furnishings, paper, biomass, energy, forestry products); the human presence (people and stories of the woods); fires and natural disasters (defending the forests); Italian best practices in forest management. The educational field trips may be taken in some of the 20 Lombardy regional forests, a 23,000-hectare mosaic of natural ecosystems providing habitat to an extraordinary variety of flora and fauna. The range can also be extended to include a true tour of Italy, visiting the country's most outstanding forests:

VALGRANDE - the most extensive wilderness area in the Alps and in Italy; TARVISIANO - a forest with abundant red spruce providing the world's finest tonewood for violins; CANSIGLIO - with huge old-growth trees; BOSCO FONTANA a rare example of plains forest along the Mincio river with huge penduculate oaks (*Quercus robur*) and lindens; SASSO FRATINO - the mountains in the Casentino area of Tuscany feature Italy's oldest nature reserve; VALLOMBROSA - a mixed conifer/hardwood forest; PARCO NAZIONALE DEL CIRCEO - conserves the vestiges of a typical woodland ecosystem; SELVA UMBRA - in the heart of the Gargano, it hosts populations of the Italian roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus italicus*) among monumental stands of beech, maple and Austrian oak (*Quercus cerris*); GIGANTI DELLA SILA - featuring Italy's tallest larches; BOSCO DELLA FICUZZA - a lush forest between Palermo and Corleone; SUPRAMONTE - an impenetrable thicket of holm oak (*Quercus ilex*) laid out across deep rocky gullies.



# **FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO BE MADE AVAILABLE, POSSIBLE SPONSORS AND COLLABORATING INSTITUTIONS, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO DESERVING PARTICIPANTS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**



ministero delle  
politiche agricole  
alimentari e forestali

## **STRONG INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT**

The full support for Milan's bid to host WFC2021 has been pledged at the national and local institutional levels, guaranteeing that the necessary financial, technical and human resources will be made available to ensure that the event enjoys optimal preparation and organization.

## **ENDORSEMENT BY FIERA MILANO**

Fiera Milano Congressi (FMC) will ensure close collaboration with FAO offering most advantageous conditions for rental of the main venue and of the facilities for side events as well of the technical spaces and organizational bureau, the availability of security personnel, means of transportation from the hotels to the Convention Centre. FMC will also act as an efficient convention bureau to provide FAO advantageous hotel rates in Milan.

## **SPONSORSHIP: PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INDUSTRIAL AND FINANCIAL COMPANIES**

Sponsorship to cover a significant share of operating and organizational costs will firstly come from Italian public corporations and local public utilities active in the energy sector with strong interest in renewable energy production and sustainable management of energy resources.

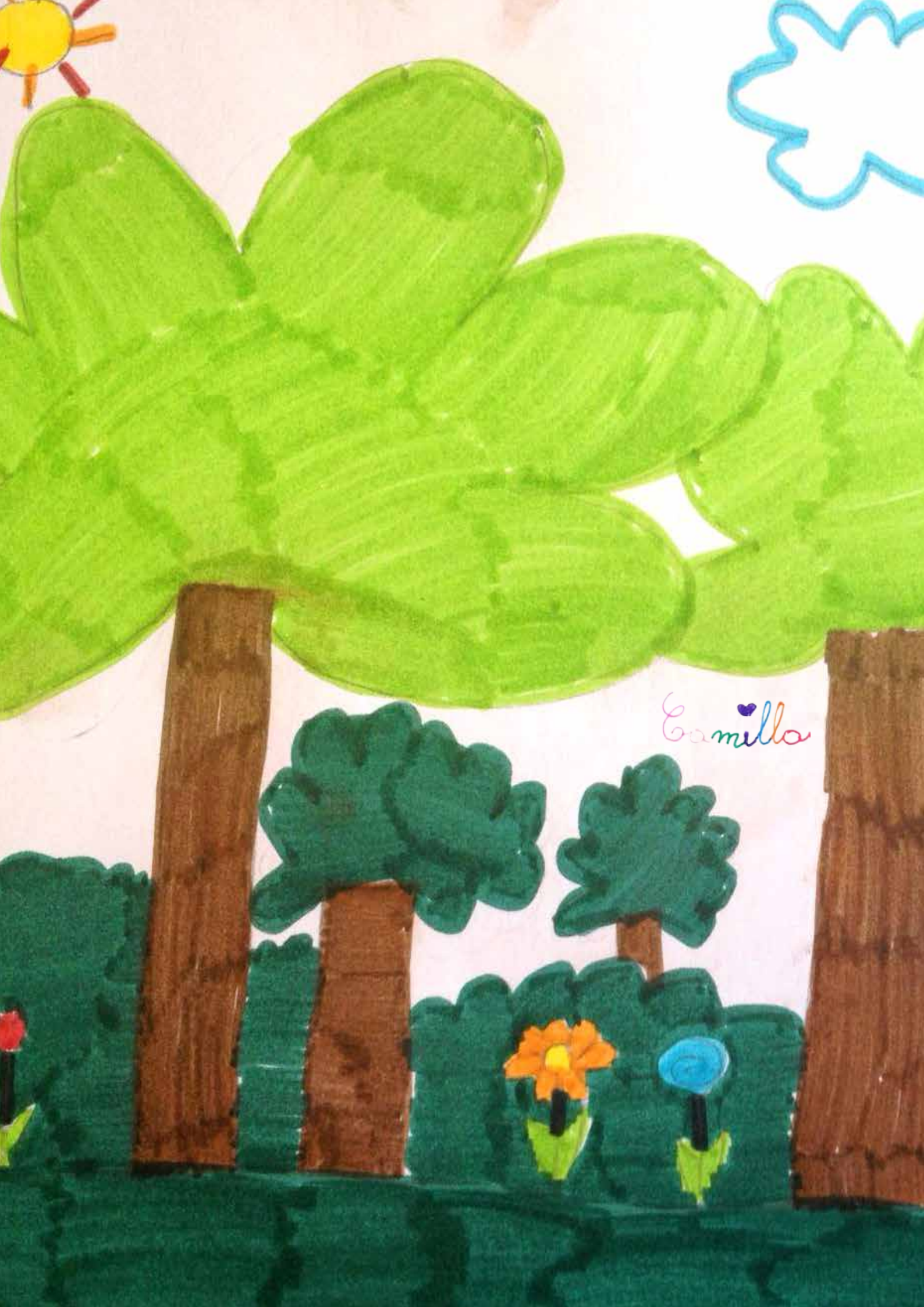
Fundraising will also be carried out amongst the many Italian private companies operating in the bio-plastics, packaging, textiles, green chemicals, renewable energy and food sectors, with strong interest in promoting their industrial, technological and commercial brands and reputation.

These sponsors groups are composed by large and medium companies, many of which have a strong interest in supporting brand-building initiatives in the international markets and by several innovative local start-ups seeking international investors to upscale operations and upgrade their technological capital.

Finally, Milan's financial district, is home to some of Europe's most important banks and financial institutions which will find in sponsoring WFC2021 an opportunity to communicate and promote their long-standing codes of ethics and corporate social responsibility.

## **THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT**

As the host organization, the Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies (MIPAAF) pledges to cover a fair part of travel and lodging costs for delegations from developing countries and for the experts chosen by FAO to participate in Milan WFC2021.



Camilla

Furthermore, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the swift and efficient processing of temporary visas will be ensured for members of official delegations making request.

As undertaken by the Italian Government on the occasion of EXPO Milano 2015, the participation costs for developing countries and their official delegations will be covered to allow their participation to WFC2021.

Lastly, a certain number of foreign students and researchers chosen by FAO to take part in Milan WFC2021 will be offered the possibility of student fellowship grants to help defray the costs of participation.

FOREST

WOOD

ENVIRONMENT

GREEN

WATER

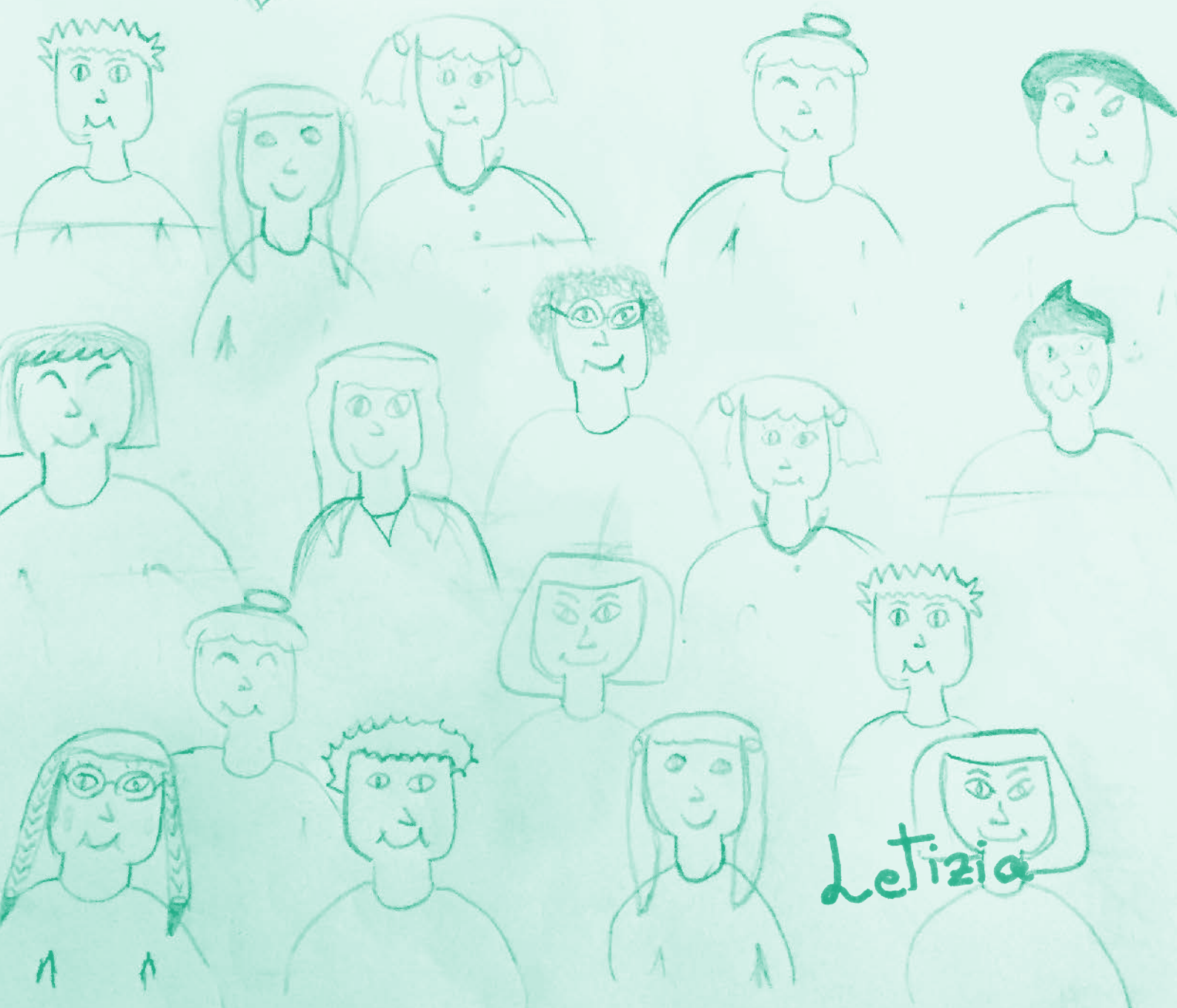
ENERGY

LANDSCAPE

SUSTAINABLE

BIOMASSES

FORESTRY



Letizia