



GREEN CITY NETWORK

2017-2021



Promoted by the Italian Sustainable Development Foundation to galvanize Italian cities to go green by performing improvements in their ecological quality, moving towards the carbon neutrality, using resources more efficiently.

**MORE THAN
200 ITALIAN
CITIES
INVOLVED**

**80 EXPERTS FROM
ACADEMIA AND
NATIONAL
RESEARCH
CENTRES**

THE GREEN CITY APPROACH

The Green City Approach is an integrated and multisectoral approach to well-being, social inclusion and sustainable development of cities, based on high environmental quality, efficiency and circularity of resources, mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

4 General Objectives

1. Ensuring high environmental quality
2. Using resources in an efficient, circular way
3. Adopting measures to fight climate change
4. Promoting eco-innovation and the green economy and improving governance

...and 15 guidelines

GREEN CITY GUIDELINES



Focusing on the architectural and planning quality of cities



Ensuring adequate urban and periurban green infrastructure



Focusing on urban regeneration and strengthening land protection



Expanding the redevelopment, renovation and maintenance of the existing built environment



Cutting greenhouse gas emissions



Reducing energy consumption



Promoting eco-innovation



Developing the green economy



Ensuring good air quality



Improving the sustainability of urban mobility



Developing waste recycling and preventing, in a move towards a circular economy



Managing water as a strategic resource



Expanding the production and use of energy from renewable fuels



Adopting climate change adaptation measures



Improving governance

Guidelines were elaborated by the activation of a huge participatory process involving all relevant stakeholders.

From Rio's 1992 Agenda 21 to the goals of the United Nations' Agenda 2030 of 2015, many approaches have been put forward for improving the sustainability of cities. These approaches have, however, produced unsatisfactory results, either because the aims were too many and the indication of now inescapable environmental priorities was missing or because the choices made were mainly based on IT developments or other important, yet insufficient, aspects. What was needed was an approach that would relaunch priorities such as the ecological quality, sustainability and resilience of cities more forcefully, in the light of more recent developments in the green economy and the circular economy in the era of climate crisis.



These needs have produced analyses and reports that, particularly at a European level, have led to a 'green city approach': a multi-sectorial, integrated approach to the well-being, social inclusion and long-term development of cities, based on aspects that are now essential, such as the environmental quality, efficiency and circularity of resources and climate change mitigation and adaptation. This integrated approach to green cities was adopted as

early as 2010 by the European Commission for its European Green Capital Award, given to selected European cities on the basis of indicators that have helped define green city policies and measures.

This new approach has seen significant contributions in Italy as well. In 2017, the relationship between the green economy, architecture and town planning was placed at the heart of the Manifesto for the City of the future, put forward by a group of lecturers from around 20 universities both in Italy and abroad as part of initiatives launched by the States General of the Green Economy. This group of lecturers continued its work by drafting recommendations for the guidelines.



The Green City Network put this work to good use and combined it with the work of other European organizations, creating a first draft of guidelines. This draft was then subjected to a thorough process of consultation that involved experts from a number of National and European Universities and research centres, as well as government ministries, town councillors and ministers from two regional governments (Emilia Romagna and Friuli Venezia Giulia), as well as companies organizations belonging to the National council of the green economy. The final draft of these guidelines, produced by the Green City Network, provides a succinct, detailed and up-to-date overview of the green city vision – covering the main issues incorporated in a consistent, unified model – and the policies and measures that can be put in place to bring about a transition towards sustainability in Italian cities.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF GREEN CITIES



Every year the Green City Network promotes the National Conference of Green Cities focusing on topical issues for the greening of Italian cities. The Conference involves local, regional and national decision makers and international and national experts.

In each Conference a strategic policy platform on a specific topic is presented with the adhesion of Italian cities who share the vision.

4 National Conferences have been held to date:



Rome 2017/04/05 | **The Manifesto for the City of the Future**



Bologna 2018/09/28 | **The Green City Guidelines**



Milan 2019/07/16 | **Declaration on Climate Adaptation for the Green Cities**



Web Conference 2020/07/09 | **Charter for the Green City Urban Regeneration**

In 2021 the National Conference will be held
on 8th July

Focus

The Carbon Neutrality of Green Cities

**On this occasion a Charter for the carbon neutrality of green city
will be presented with the adhesion of Italian cities**

Each year numerous initiatives are carried out
with the participation of Italian cities.

Green City Network Annual Meeting promoting the
discussion on selected topical topics with the
participation of Italian cities, National government
representatives and experts from Universities and Research
Centres. The output of the discussion is incorporated in the
strategic policy documents subscribed by cities.

Regional Green City Strategies with the activation of participatory processes on the territory involving Regional governments and cities to define a strategic framework for getting cities at regional level more green.

Collaboration with Emilia-Romagna Region, Friuli Venezia Giulia Region and Campania Region



Circular economy and the waste management. Support to Italian cities to boost recycling activities and share of good practices.

Collaboration with CONAI - Nation Packaging Consortium



Sustainable Development Award for cities. In 2019, a special section was created within the Sustainable Development Award to award Italian cities moving towards green on the basis of the green city guidelines.

Promoted by the Sustainable Development Foundation, the Italian Ministry of the Environment and IEG - Italian Exhibition Group. Since 2009 the Award receives the Adhesion of the President of the Republic.

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