



URBAN PLANNING ACTIONS	
	C1 Urban Design Solutions Catalog
	C2 Strategic Plan for Ecological Infrastructures: Special Biodynamic Plan
	C3 Detailed Planning of Residential Climate Comfort Zones (ZCCR)
DEMONSTRATIVE ACTIONS	
	C4 Hardwoods
	C5 Energy Crops
	C6 Souto. Chestnut trees of traditional varieties
	C7 Wetland Restoration - ENIL (Natural Area of Local Interest)
	C8 Arboretum
	C9 Urban Agriculture
	C11 Impulso Verde Building



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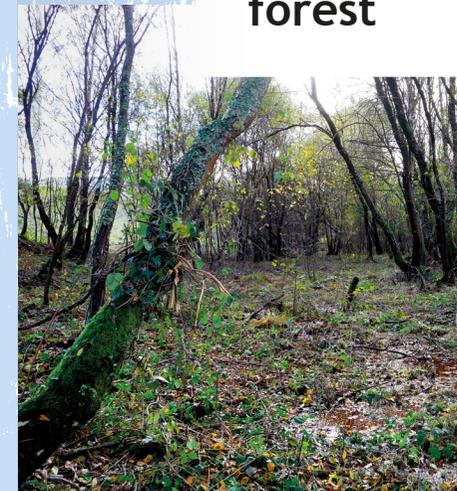
Project partners:



# LIFE Lugo + Biodinámico

At the forefront of sustainable urbanism

## Recovery and enhancement of a riverbank forest



lugobiodinamico.eu



**LIFE Lugo + Biodinámico** is a European project promoted by the Concello de Lugo, pioneer in eco-sustainable planning in medium-sized cities, taking advantage of the use of own natural resources and boosting the green economy. Among the measures to be developed are the construction of the first public building built with Galician wood, the design of the first multi-ecological neighbourhood in Spain and the elaboration of a catalogue of sustainable urban solutions, exportable to other European cities.

In addition, informative spaces will be created for the scientific community and society in general with plantations of tree species and autochthonous shrubs that demonstrate their potential for the development of sustainable urbanism.



**Riverbank forest:** deciduous forest that grows on both sides of a river, stream, or wetland on soils that are often temporarily or permanently flooded with water.

In the industrial estate of As Gándaras (Lugo), there is an autochthonous riverbank forest located at the headwaters of the river Fervedoira/Rato.

The riverbank forests are of great ecological importance: they regulate the temperature of the waters, support the land, provide shelter and food to aquatic animals, amphibians and terrestrial, are green filters...



Area permanently flooded with domain of alders and willows

## The flora of the forest

Zoning:

- ① Area permanently flooded with alders and willows.
- ② Riverbank forest with alders, willows and other trees.
- ③ Meadows.
- ④ Artificial lagoon, with abundance of simplestem bur-reed (*Sparganium erectum*).
- ⑤ Scrub.



In the central part of this forest, the constant presence of water throughout the year favours the establishment of the alder (*Alnus lusitanica*), a tree that likes to have its roots always in contact with the water. In other areas, willows (*Salix atrocinerea*) are abundant.



In areas where there is no more water and alders cannot grow, we find birches (*Betula pubescens*), hazelnuts (*Corylus avellana*), cherry trees (*Prunus avium*), elder trees (*Sambucus nigra*), ash trees (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and oaks (*Quercus robur*), among others.

Accompanying the trees are climbing shrubs such as ivy (*Hedera hibernica*) and honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*) and other species such as brambles (*Rubus* spp.), gorse (*Ulex* spp.) and brooms (*Cytisus* spp.). Alders (Habitat 91E0\*) and hay meadows (Habitat 6510) are protected habitats under the Natura 2000 Network.



## Other forest dwellers

The riverbank forests, due to their characteristics of moisture and shade, provide refuge and food to many species of mammals such as the fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), bats (Murciélagos rabudo-*Tadarida teniotis*), reptiles such as the smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*), the western three-toed skink (*Chalcides striatus*) and birds such as the woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*), the dunnock (*Prunella modularis*), the common stonechat (*Saxicola rubicola*), the serin (*Serinus serinus*), the blackbird (*Turdus merula*), the common starling (*Sturnus unicolor*), the blackcap (*Sylvia atricapilla*), etc.



Dunnock (*Prunella modularis*)

