

RENATURING CITIES: INTERDISCIPLINARY SUMMER SCHOOL

📍 Malta

📅 30th September – 4th October

Nature-based solutions for landscape management

The ReNature Interdisciplinary Summer School aims to provide participants with an understanding of the features and potential of nature-based solutions in the context of a holistic approach towards landscape sustainability. All participants will have the chance to **interact and share experiences** and activities with **international experts**.

The summer school will include “problem-based” learning sessions, aimed at stimulating professional development and further networking between participants also in the aftermaths.

The participants will investigate **2 case-studies: Birkirkara urban area** and the island of **Comino**. Students will visit the Birkirkara urban area, which in the past has been characterised by heavy flooding, and with the help of practitioners identify nature-based solutions that may reduce surface run-off whilst providing other ecosystem services. The summer school will include a full day visit to the island of Comino, a protected area. Here, too, the participants will have the chance to assess ecosystems and analysing the drivers that may lead to environmental change and degradation. Participants will then assess the potential of application of nature-based solutions in a rural and (semi-)natural environment.



The ReNature project receives funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 809988.



LANGUAGE

- ✿ English

FEE

- ✿ Free of charge including materials and excursion
- ✿ Travel grants available

SOCIAL EVENTS

- ✿ Welcome dinner
- ✿ Team-building activities
- ✿ 1 excursion to the Birkirkara urban area
- ✿ 1 excursion to Comino
- ✿ Get-together dinner

CREDITS

2 ECTS

APPLICATION DEADLINE

10th July 2019

APPLICATION FORM

Download here:
renature-project.eu/show/1783_apply

LEARNING OUTCOMES

**By the end of the school,
participants will be able to:**

1. Identify societal challenges that would benefit from the adoption of nature-based solutions.
2. Describe appropriate nature-based solutions to address societal challenges across a rural-urban gradient.
3. Evaluate the benefits of mainstreaming nature-based solutions through the use of decision support tools and knowledge synthesis.
4. Describe the links between green infrastructure and human health in urbanised environments.
5. Assess the impact of ecosystem structure and function on the delivery of regulating ecosystem services.
6. Understand, through case study applications, how ecosystem service knowledge can be applied in planning and decision-making to support the design of nature-based solutions.
7. Communicate scientific content in an engaging and impactful way.

HIGHLIGHTED TOPICS

- Nature-based solutions for water management
- Nature-based solutions for urban regulating ecosystem services
- Knowledge synthesis for evidence-based policy
- Green infrastructure and human health
- Nature-based solutions and pollinators in an urban-rural gradient
- Assessing ecosystem services in cultural landscapes
- Communicating scientific knowledge

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

*Architect Dimitra Theochari
Prof Dr Christine Fürst
Prof Dr Koos Biesmeijer
Dr Tadhg MacIntyre
Dr Lynn Dicks
Prof Davide Geneletti
Anna Sapundzhieva
Dr Mario Balzan*

CONTACT US

In case of any questions about the ReNature 1st Summer School, feel free to contact:

Dr Mario V Balzan ✉ mario.balzan@mcast.edu.mt

Dr Judita Tomaskinova ✉ judita.tomaskinova@mcast.edu.mt

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“Nature-based solutions in landscape management“

PROGRAMME

Monday 30th September

- ✿ Welcome & introduction (outline of the summer school)
- ✿ Identifying nature-based solutions to societal challenges across a rural-urban gradient
- ✿ Nature-based solutions for water management in a rural-urban gradient
- ✿ Fieldwork: identifying potential nature-based solutions in an urban context
- ✿ Identifying nature-based solutions for the case-study area

Tuesday 1st October

- ✿ Group discussion – Nature-based solutions in an urban setting – potentials and limitations
- ✿ Nature-based solutions for urban regulating services
- ✿ Poster session
- ✿ Using evidence in decision-making for Nature Based Solutions
- ✿ Circular City COST Action

Wednesday 2nd October

- ✿ Fieldwork Day (Comino)

Thursday 3rd October

- ✿ Nature-based solutions for physical and mental health in urban agglomerations
- ✿ Group work – identifying potential nature-based solutions and impact assessment indicators for a case-study area
- ✿ Ecosystem services in cultural landscapes
- ✿ Nature-based solutions for pollinators and pollination ecosystem services
- ✿ Science Communication I.

Friday 4th October

- ✿ Science Communication II: practical session
- ✿ Participant Presentations
- ✿ Certificate Awarding