

CONSTRUCTING SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



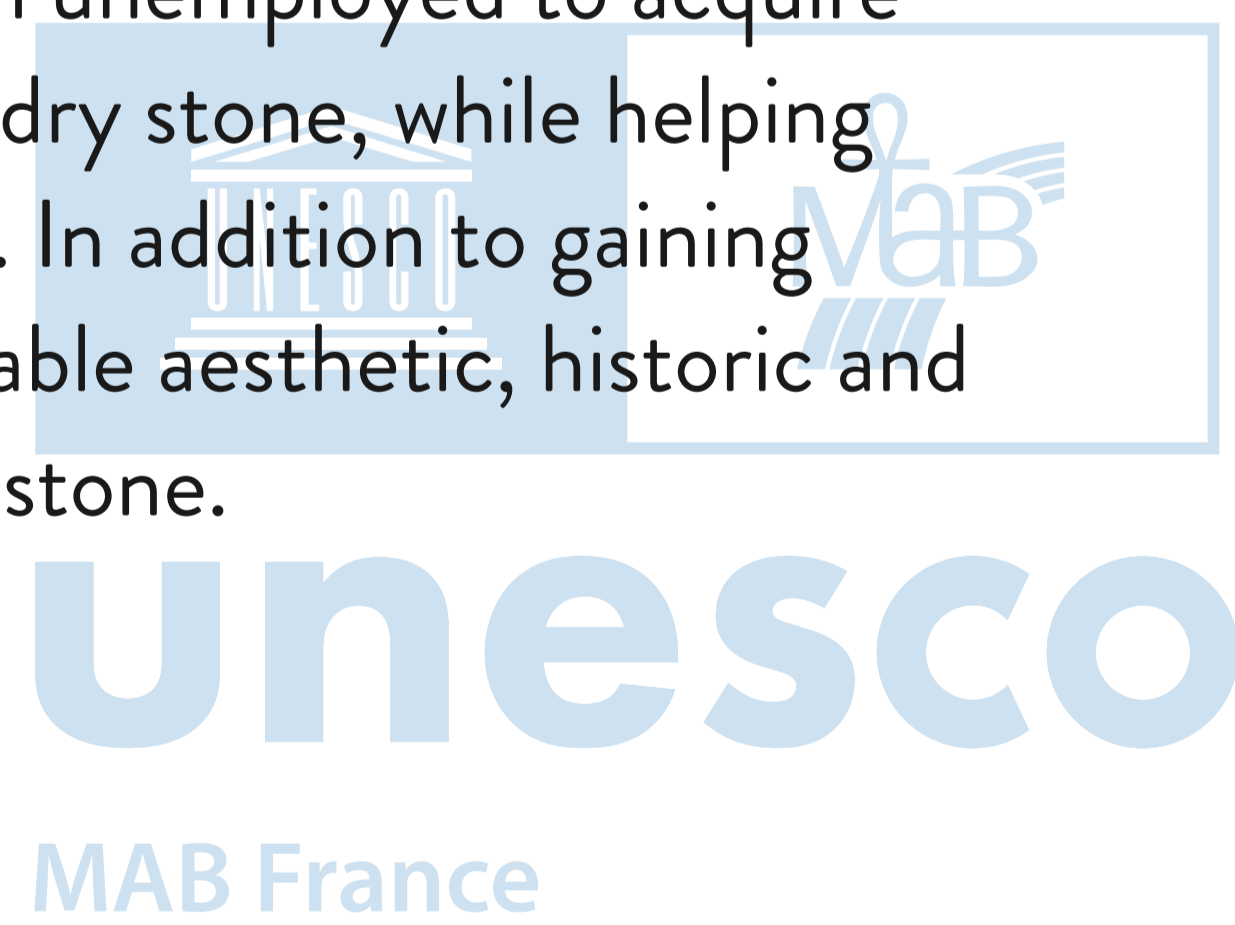
Half of humanity lives in cities, and in 2050, it will be two thirds. Making these cities more secure, inclusive, resilient and sustainable is a matter of urgency. Cities within biosphere reserves have protected areas nearby, which provide fresh air and recreation, as well as a number of other ecosystem services (e.g. pollination, water quality, CO2 storage, etc.). They also mean additional economic opportunities, in ecotourism for example.



DRY STONES FOR REPAIRING WALLS AND PEOPLE

GORGES DU GARDON BIOSPHERE RESERVE

Preserving a technique classified by Unesco as intangible cultural heritage, conserving natural heritage and vernacular architecture central to the local identity... These projects with social value assist the long-term unemployed to acquire precious skills and knowledge about dry stone, while helping restore and enhance minor heritage. In addition to gaining new skills, participants discover valuable aesthetic, historic and cultural aspects of working with dry stone.



GARDEN CEMETERIES

MONT VENTOUX BIOSPHERE RESERVE

Cemeteries are a public space where the Zérophyto pesticide ban remains problematic. It is rather difficult to ask bereaved families to accept spontaneous vegetation, so flowers need to take the place of weeds. Over two thousand plants were thus planted in the cemeteries of four pilot communes within the biosphere reserve as part of participatory projects. Cemeteries are also like the pages of a history book, to anyone who cares to read them, where wars follow epidemics, and artists lay beside soldiers. They have a special symbolism, where everything has meaning, a poppy representing eternal sleep, and a lyre a musician... Before the replanting, participatory inventories were made of local heritage, which are now being showcased in a travelling exhibition.

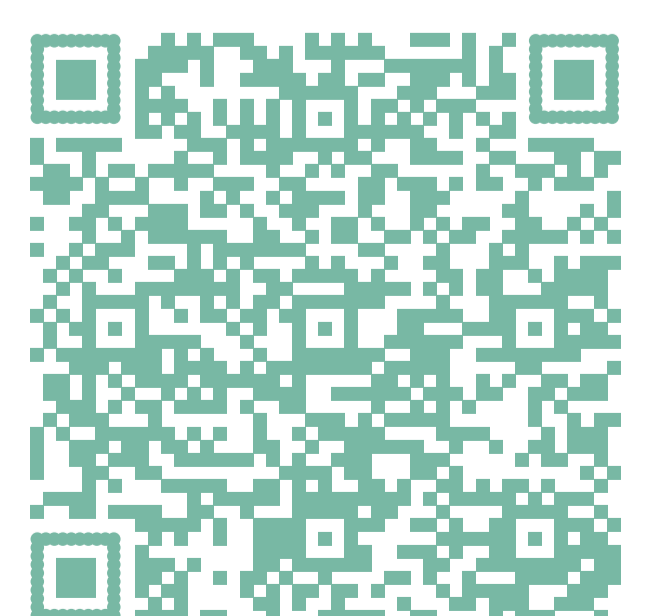


AND WORLDWIDE?

AUSTRIA

Mobility is a means to an end and thus serves a worthwhile purpose. The question is whether travelling in your own vehicle is always the best way. The Nockmobil programme was launched by Salzburger Lungau & Kärntner Nockberge Biosphere Reserve to offer annual regional mobility to clients and inhabitants of the region. This form of flexible, demand-focused mobility provides an alternative to cars. It is basically a call-and-collect taxi service operated by regional taxi companies that complements the public transport system.

MORE INFO HERE:



SCAN ME!