



CNR EXPO



Ecosystem and biodiversity: the Italian research servicing citizens

Ecologists active in the Italian long-term research on ecosystems (LTER-Italy network) and on biodiversity (Lifewatch-Italy) contribute to EXPO2015 with three trails of scientific dissemination.

Italian ecologists, active in the Italian long-term ecosystem research (LTER-Italy network) and in the study and analysis of biodiversity (Lifewatch-Italy), walk and cycle together with citizens along three trails, intended as events of scientific dissemination on ecosystems, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability at EXPO 2015, endorsed by the National Research Council of Italy (CNR).

These trails represent a sort of “Via Francigena” of ecological research and offer citizens an opportunity to familiarize with the components and conditions of Italian ecosystems, from the sea to alpine tundra, by observing the landscape at the natural speed of human walking, the best way to appreciate the peculiarities of the surrounding environment.

At the LTER sites and along the trails that connect them, researchers will help citizens to identify fauna and flora, evaluate biodiversity and the effects of climate change, and assess the water quality of lakes and marine areas. Citizens will meet researchers at work, on the LTER-sites, join them in the fieldwork, understand the importance of long-term ecological studies and take part in citizen science initiatives, including two BioBlitzes. Three trails will take place from the end of June to the end of August 2015: “Mesothalassia, a cycle relay race from the dunes of Molise to the Gulf of Naples” (June), “Central Apennines, from Velino to Gran Sasso, the adventure of biodiversity” (July), “Pink...blue...green! Eco-relay race across LTER sites, from Monte Rosa to Lago Maggiore”.

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Links:

www.lteritalia.it

www.lifewatch.eu/it