

# Research Center in Urban Environment for Agriculture and Biodiversity

Alma Mater Studiorum –  
Bologna University





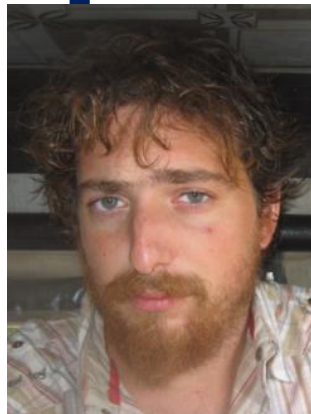


# The Research Group



*Full professor, Director of the RESCUE-AB, Chair ISHS commission Landscape and Urban Horticulture*

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*Researcher, Chair ISHS Working Group on Urban Horticulture*



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*Researcher, Entomology and agroecology*



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Giuseppina Pennisi



Nicola Michelin



Francesca Magrefi



# Research topics

- **Rooftop farming:** food production capacity, growing systems
- **Indoor cultivation:** LED lighting, Small scale hydroponics, Green walls
- **Urban Biodiversity:** Green corridors, organic pest control, low-input farming
- **Simplified hydroponics:** plant nutrition, water use efficiency, remote sensing
- **Pollution:** heavy metal contamination, physiology of heavy metal response
- **Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), Social-LCA, Ecosystem service provision**
- **Education and training, lifelong learning**







# Sustainability assessment

- **SustUrbanFoods** - Integrated sustainability assessment of social and technological innovations towards urban food systems – funded by EC MSCA
- Coordinated by UniBo (2016 – 2018)
- **Aims:** to compare the sustainability of different urban horticulture models across Europe



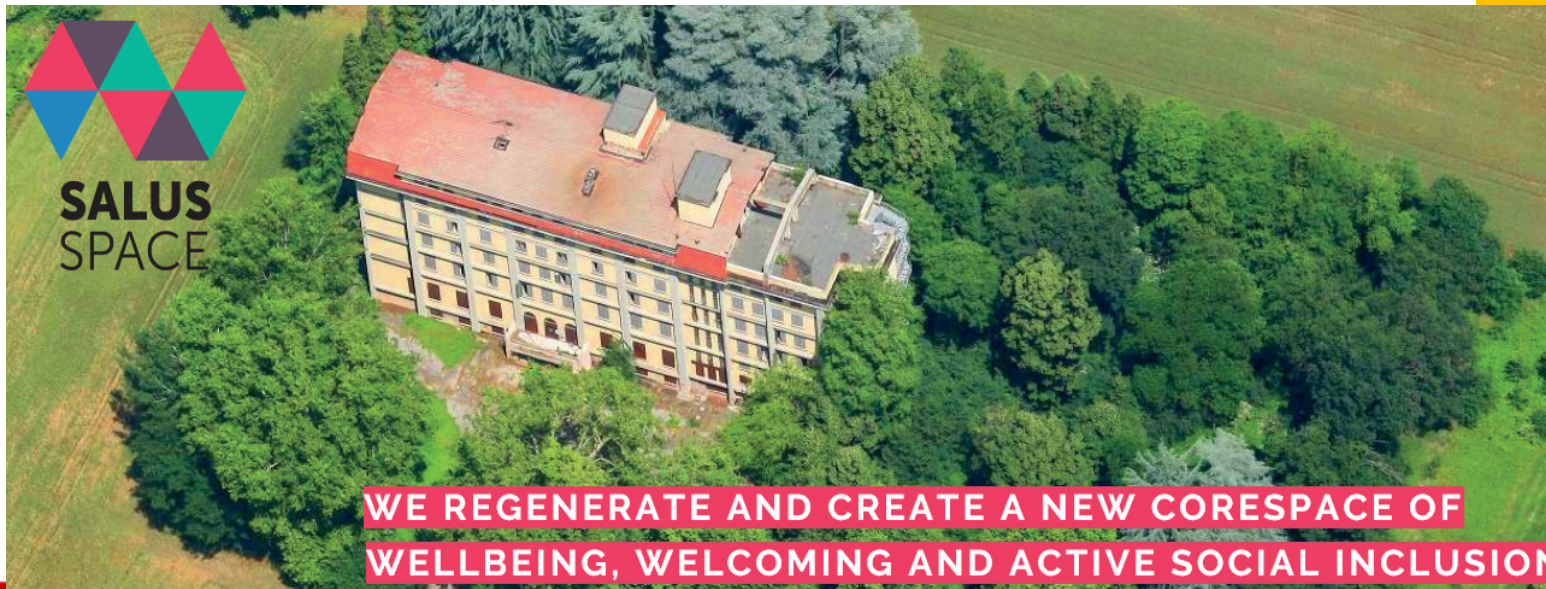
<https://susturbanfoods.com/>





# Social inclusion

- **S.A.L.U.S. W SPACE** project won the first European call for proposal of Urban Innovative Actions (started in March 2017)
- Coordinated by the Municipality of Bologna (UniBo is partner)
- **Aims:** to use UA as a tool for revitalisation of abandoned urban spaces and promotion of social inclusion and capacity building among communities of political refugees and immigrants [www.saluspace.eu](http://www.saluspace.eu)







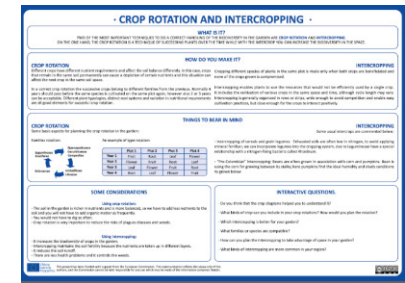
# Lifelong learning

- The **HORTIS** project (Horticulture in Towns for inclusion and socialisation): run in 2013-2014 with the support of the EC within the Lifelong Learning Programme (adult education)
- Coordinated by the **UniBo** with partners from IT, ES, DE and HU
- **Aims:** to fight social exclusion and to promote lifelong learning among adults through community and urban gardening
- **Results:** Methodology, Course Model, Training Gardens and Educational materials: eBooks, Educational Cards, Videos



[www.hortis-europe.net](http://www.hortis-europe.net)

<https://site.unibo.it/hortis>





# Children education



- The **GARDENStoGROW** project (Urban Horticulture for Innovative and Inclusive Early Childhood Education) started in September 2017 with the support of the Erasmus+ Programme within the Strategic Partnership in School Education
- Coordinated by the **Explora – Childrens museum of Rome** (UniBo is partner)
- **Aims:** to develop training material and methodology on how to design and implement inclusive, affordable and open gardens in primary schools





- **URBAN GREEN TRAIN - URBAN GReen Education for ENTteRprising Agricultural Innovation** – funded with the support of the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union
- Coordinated by **UniBo** with partners from IT, FR, DE, NL (2014-2017)  
[www.urbangreentrain.eu](http://www.urbangreentrain.eu)  
<https://site.unibo.it/urbangreentrain>
- **Aims:** to promote pioneering business oriented initiatives on UA based on knowledge exchange and mutual cooperation among SMEs, policy makers and HEIs
- **Results:** inventory of UA entrepreneurships, educational resources (available in 5 languages), model and recommendations for an **UA ENTREPRENEURSHIP CURRICULUM** including modelling, recognition and validation





# Higher education



- **BUGI** project - Western Balkans Urban Agriculture Initiative

**TO BE  
CONTINUED....**

**TODAY**

Univerzitet u Sarajevu



University of Sarajevo

Univerza v Ljubljani

Fachhochschule  
Südwestfalen  
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