



MEDIOBANCA



PRESS NOTE

MEDIOBANCA DONATES A THOUSAND TREES TO THE MADONIE REGIONAL NATURAL PARK IN PALERMO

The **Mediobanca Group** has donated a thousand trees to the Madonie regional natural park in the province of Palermo, which was devastated by wildfires in the summer of 2021. Several Mediobanca staff have played an active part in the initiative, which has been developed in conjunction with social enterprise **Rete Clima**, who have spent today, 18 October 2022, planting trees in the park.

The reforestation has been developed as part of the "Foresta Italia" campaign, a series of activities that involve planting trees throughout Italy and looking after them after they have been planted.

The effects of reforesting the area will translate to a quantity of emissions being offset that is equivalent to a single person travelling approximately 10,714,000 km by train, or the amount of CO2 generated during the entire lifecycle of 6,522 iPhones, or the CO2 generated by 6,338,028 hours of web browsing.

*"With this project to reforest the Madonie regional natural, we have once again confirmed our commitment to cutting our direct emissions with the objective of helping to address climate change at global level", said **Giovanna Giusti del Giardino, Head of Group Sustainability at Mediobanca.** "The initiative has also further strengthened our company volunteering programmes, with an increasing number of Group colleagues taking part actively in the projects we sponsor."*

The Madonie regional natural park project will help to re-establish the natural capital of this area, which is launching the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) schemes process. The activities consist primarily of replanting beech trees, oaks, and native conifers, plus environmental engineering work in order to mitigate the risk of hydrogeological instability situations developing.

Milan, 18 October 2022



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“Foresta Italia” campaign

Rete Clima has been operating as a non-profit organization for over ten years, developing new national urban forestation activities open to financing by companies. The “Foresta Italia” campaign activities consist of reforesting areas which generate multiple environmental and social benefits, improving health and raising awareness among the people involved. The “Foresta Italia” campaign involves reintroducing native plants of various kinds, trees and bushes, that are appropriate to the areas concerned. The plants are cultivated in local nurseries and have their own phytosanitary passports to ensure that the planted areas remain free from any diseases that could cause serious economic and environmental damage if they were to spread.

Madonie regional natural park project

The project consists of reforesting areas affected by the wildfires which broke out in the summer of 2021 in the Madonie Regional Natural Park, in the province of Palermo in Sicily. It involves planting native species to renaturalize the areas affected, in accordance with the entity responsible for managing the park area. The Madonie regional natural park comprises 15 different municipalities of the metropolitan city of Palermo, and in 2015 was included in the UNESCO list of Global Geoparks, for its geological characteristics. Almost two thousand hectares of woodland were burned in the 2021 fires, devastating an area with its own unusual biodiversity.

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