



Italy



Finland



Germany



Belgium



Slovenia



France

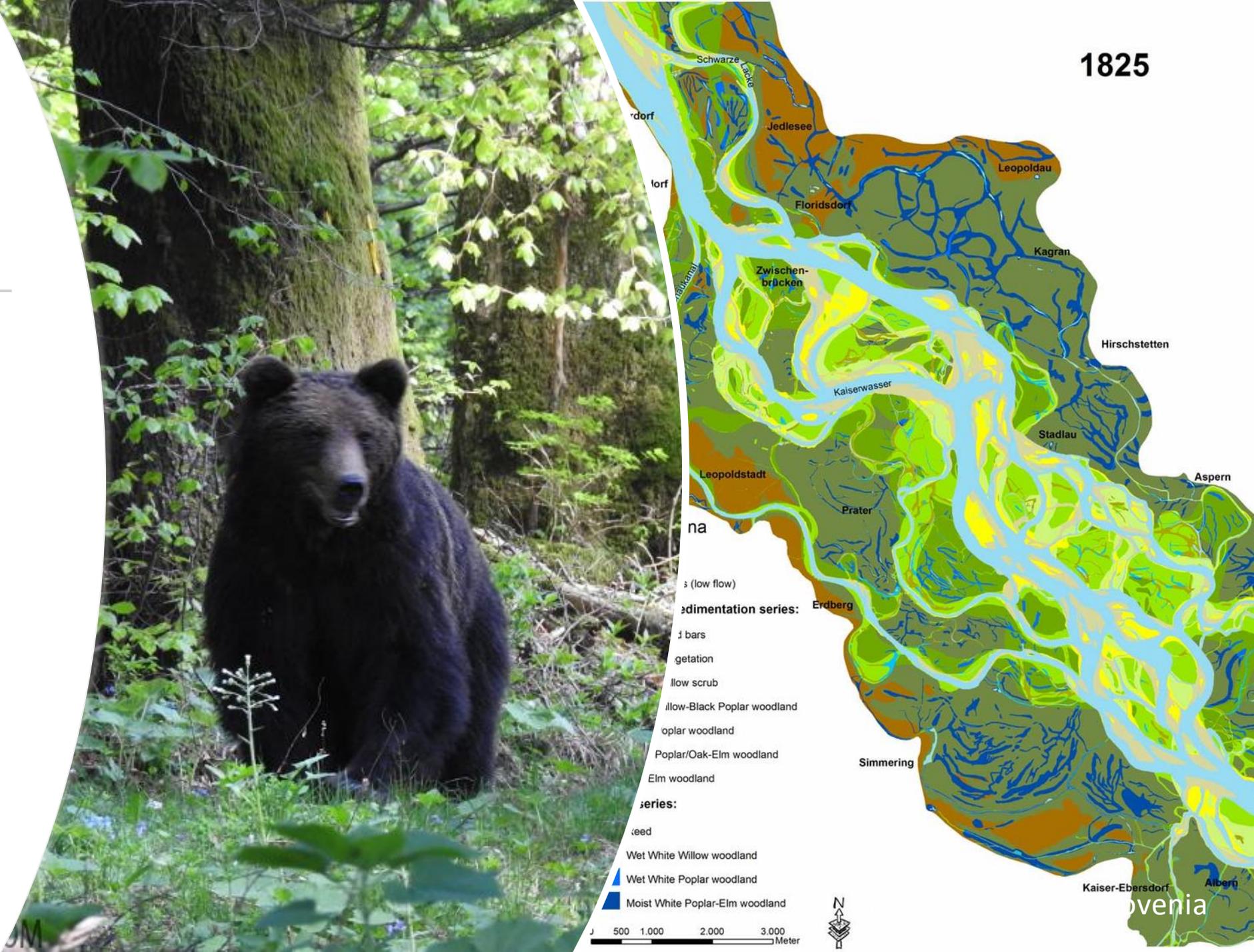
*The evolution  
of urban  
forestry in  
Europe over  
the last 25  
years*

Clive Davies



A brief European history from wild forests to city forests to urban forests.

*Europe is a naturally wooded continent but only fragments of the indigenous wildwood is left - usually in inaccessible mountain valleys and estuaries.*



A European history from wild forests to city forests to urban forests.

*Medieval Europe exploited Forests for essential products, many also became enclosed for hunting and some found themselves adjacent to newly growing cities such as Epping Forest, London.*

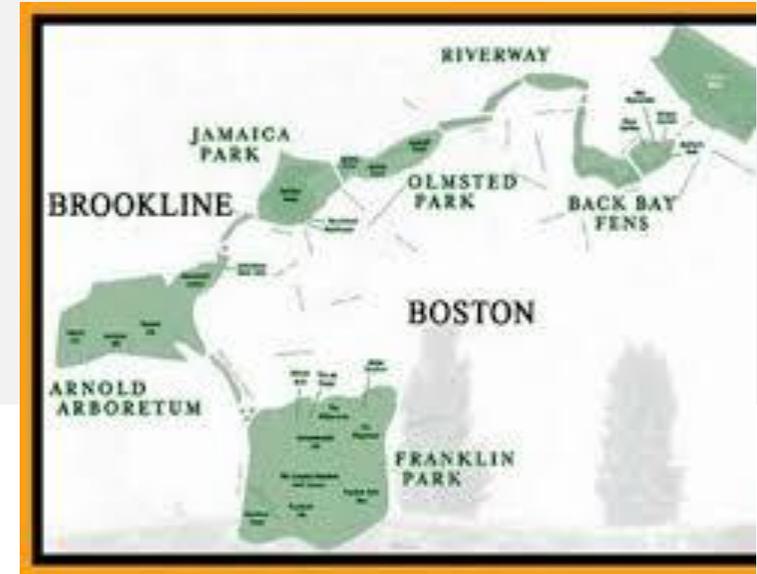




A European history from wild forests to city forests to urban forests.

*The modern day concept of Urban Forestry in Europe owes much to developments in America in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.*

Image credit: Time Out, Wikipedia

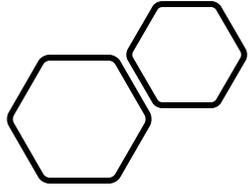


# Urban Forests in the modern era

*In Europe today we recognise 'Urban Forests' as wooded areas ranging from groups of single trees to major forests that are within (truly Urban) or influenced by urbanisation (Peri-urban).*

Boscoincitta, Milan (lower) and  
Kottenforst, Bonn (upper)





## Urban Forests in the modern era

*Linguistically we think of the urban forest as a 'collective noun' - referring to the collection of trees and associated habitats taken as a whole and urban forestry as a 'verb' that describes the management of the urban forest.*

River Rhine peri-urban forest (upper), Lumiere Festival, Durham, UK (lower)





EFUF 2014 held in Lausanne, Switzerland



# Networking

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*Whilst there are other European networks that are involved with urban trees the longest established (since 1998) is the European Forum on Urban Forestry EFUF).*

*It meets annually and attracts representatives from across Europe and much of the rest of the world.*

*Its role is knowledge exchange.*

*It is a non-incorporated association with a mailing list of over 1,000 urban foresters across Europe.*

1998 – Wuppertal, Germany  
1999 – Aarhus, Denmark  
2000 – Budapest, Hungary  
2001 – Durham, England  
2002 – Trondheim, Norway  
2003 – Arnhem, The Netherlands & Brussels, Belgium  
2004 – Stockholm, Sweden  
2005 – Celje, Slovenia  
2006 – Florence, Italy  
2007 – Gelsenkirchen, Germany  
2008 – Hämeenlinna, Finland  
2009 – Arnhem, The Netherlands  
2010 – Tulln, Austria  
2011 – Glasgow, Scotland  
2012 – Leipzig, Germany  
2013 – Milano, Italy  
2014 – Lausanne, Switzerland  
2015 – Brussels, Belgium  
2016 – Ljubljana, Slovenia  
2017 – Barcelona, Spain  
2018 – Helsinki & Vantaa, Finland  
2019 – Cologne, Germany

# Networking

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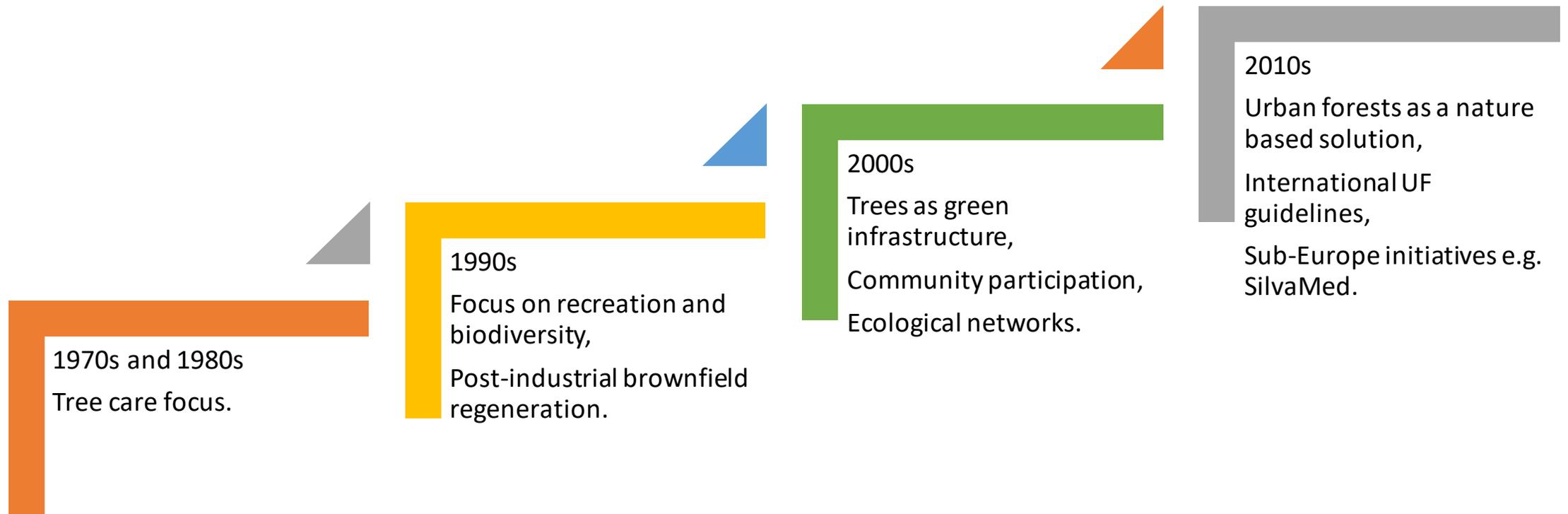


*In 2018 EFUF and EFI agreed to work together and a memorandum of understanding was signed.*

*Future EFUF are already in Development:*

- *2020 Manchester*
- *2021 Belgrade*
- *2022 Croatia*
- *2023 Poland*
- *2024 France*

# Recent European Urban Forestry timeline



European  
Urban  
Forestry road  
map for the  
2020s





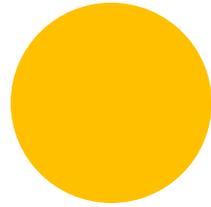
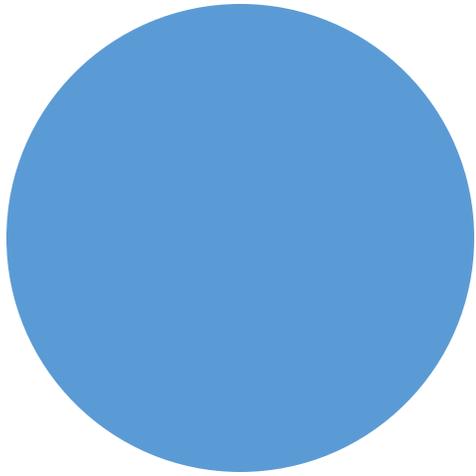
## Why an EFI led Urban Forest Facility is important

- There are big issues that Urban Forestry can help solve – *urban resilience, spiraling health and well being costs, maintaining quality of life in growing cities, urban trees as a resource not a cost, bioeconomic contributions, tackling biodiversity losses.*
- An EFI ‘urban forest’ facility working closely with EFIs bioeconomy, governance and resilience programmes will bring cumulative benefits to tackle these BIG issues. EFI is uniquely placed in Europe.

# Italy

- From an EFUF perspective Italy has been amongst the most active in moving forward the urban forestry agenda over the past 25 years.
- Italy has a strong base of projects, and researchers already in place, many are attending today.
- There are few places better suited to such a facility in Europe.





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