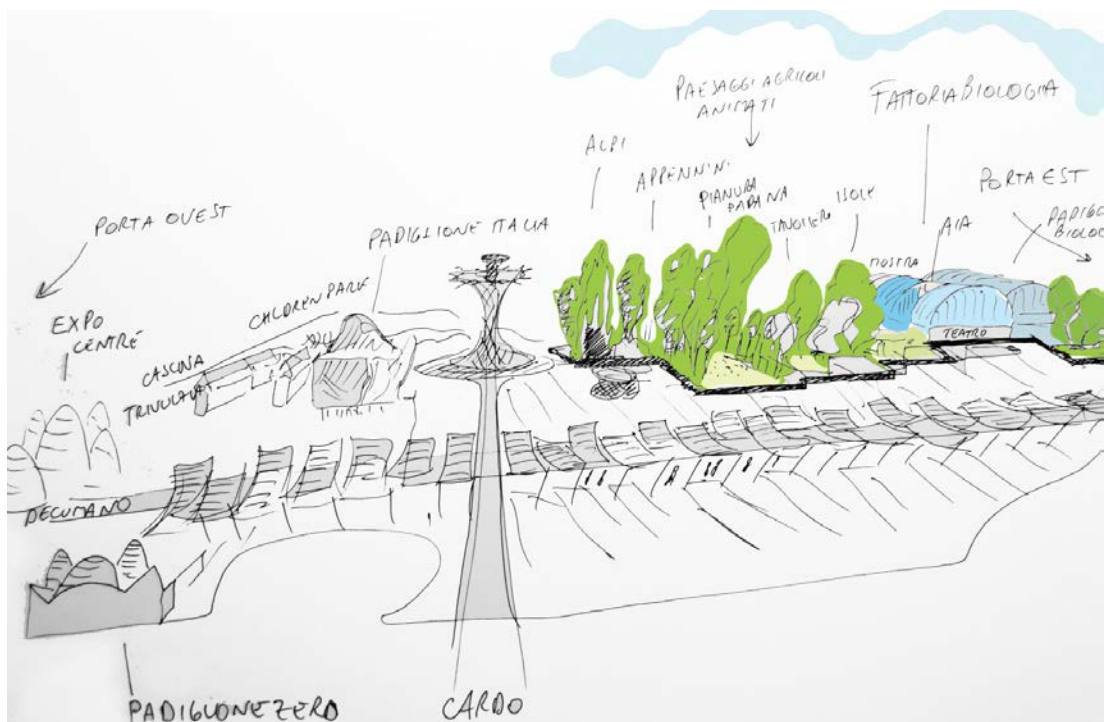


## THE PROJECT: BIODIVERSITY PARK AND THE ORGANIC PAVILION

At the heart of EXPO, from Palazzo Italia and the Tree of Life all the way to the EXPO's Eastern Entrance, Biodiversity Park is a large green space of 8,500m<sup>2</sup>, where visitors can walk through an area of trees, plants and fields that exemplify the diverse forms of Italy's agricultural biodiversity. A trip through the park enables visitors to experience an "Italian organic farm": the natural land and the cultivations of the large ecological zones of the Italian landscape, from the Alpine mountains to the plains of the Po valley, from the Apennines to the highland plateaus and the Mediterranean coast, the park is home to three hundred species of plants, all grown in accordance with the principles of organic cultivation.



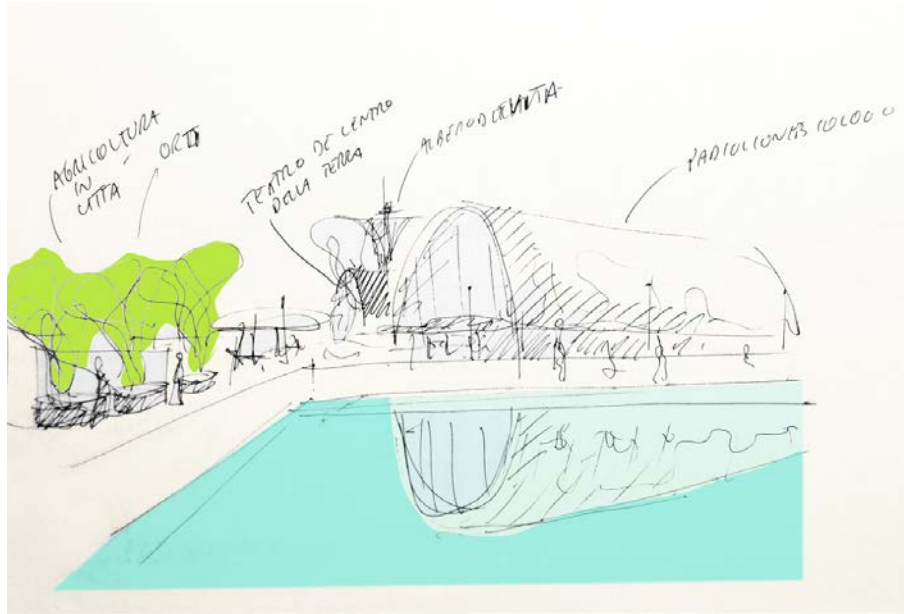
The Park experience has been created to demonstrate and teach the first step towards a new agricultural approach in which the experience of Italian organic farmers can be an example and a model for the rest of the world: the wealth of biodiversity plays a key role for the new forms of organic and innovative sustainable agriculture, while organic agriculture, in turn, serves to preserve and regenerate biodiversity, the fertility of the soil, water security and water resources, the beauty of the landscape and the quality of the climate and the environment.

### The Agricultural Biodiversity Exhibition and the Organic Pavilion, the Earth Theatre

Within the park the organic farm experience is complemented by three pavilions.

**The Biodiversity Exhibition Pavilion**, created by the scientific committee with the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Milan with the collaboration of the Universities of Padua and Bologna, will also host the areas for the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture. The aim is to represent the commitment to research into new agricultural practices and techniques and organic and innovative production: coordinated by the Italian universities for EXPO, the exhibition will involve a number of initiatives and the presence of the Organic

Observatory of Bocconi University, IFOAM - the Global Centre for Organics, and many others. The pavilion is the starting point for guided tours and meetings with experts and key participants who will hold "organic lessons" for the young and old in addition to a programme for school visits to EXPO.



The Italian **Organic Pavilion** is the location for discussions and encounters with a wide range of companies and stakeholders in the sectors of organic food and natural produce for health and wellbeing: visitors will be able to find, try and experience organic produce at BIOMARKET and ORGANIC CUISINE AND PIZZA, which will offer organic food alongside urban gardens and the greenery of urban agriculture at the boundary of the park's organic farm at the Eastern Entrance to EXPO.

The **Earth Theatre**, a Conference Centre for 200 visitors will host the presentation of a number of genuine Italian "custodians of the land", farmers, associations and businesses committed to innovative agriculture, organic production and the related technology. A **schedule** of events is being prepared for the Earth Theatre dedicated to the key themes: these will include meetings with the leaders of the campaign for "**RIGHTS OF THE EARTH AND RIGHTS TO THE EARTH**", international and institutional meetings and events that the associations and the ministries will dedicate to the theme of safeguarding biodiversity and sustainability.

At the entrance (or exit) to the Farm-Park visitors will be able to see examples of vegetable garden cultivation and urban agriculture based on the experiences in Italian cities, beginning with those of Milan and Bologna.