

**Question for written answer E-001788/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Ignazio Corrao** (Verts/ALE)

**Subject:** National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP): challenges of urban reforestation in Italy and possible failure to meet 2026 targets

In its conclusions of 16 March 2023 (8/2023/CCC)<sup>1</sup>, the Court of Auditors highlighted a number of serious problems regarding implementation of the reforestation requirements contained in the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP), which provides for the planting of 6.6 million trees by 2026.

In the meantime, according to the findings of the Carabinieri, most reforestation activities are in the early stages or still being planned. In the city of Messina for example, although the project has not yet progressed beyond the feasibility study, as far as the Italian government is concerned the targets have been met<sup>2</sup>.

Furthermore, given the lack of native plants, the Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security has opted for cultivation in Italian nurseries, rather than direct planting, in order to achieve reforestation objectives, maintaining that this approach has met with Commission approval<sup>3</sup>.

Given that nursery cultivation takes at least four or five years before plants can be transplanted into urban soil, and in view of the considerable difficulties encountered by the authorities in keeping track of progress:

1. Can the Commission say how it will ensure that the headway made by reforestation activity is properly monitored?
2. Does it still consider that the original urban reforestation target can be met?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.corteconti.en/Download?id=063b635c-4f44-4715-b94f-96947b0a8397>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.messinatoday.it/cronaca/fondi-pnrr-alberi-citta-metropolitana-progetti-reportage-.html>.

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.corriere.it/economia/aziende/23\\_aprile\\_03/alberi-citta-300-milioni-pnrr-sono-rischio-piante-semi-controlli-risposte-ministero-402f940c-d18e-11ed-a203-085ce722273a.shtml](https://www.corriere.it/economia/aziende/23_aprile_03/alberi-citta-300-milioni-pnrr-sono-rischio-piante-semi-controlli-risposte-ministero-402f940c-d18e-11ed-a203-085ce722273a.shtml).