Half of humanity lives in cities, and in 2050, it will be two thirds. Making these cities more secure, inclusive, resilient and sustainable is a matter of urgency. Cities within biosphere reserves have protected areas nearby, which provide fresh air and recreation, as well as a number of other ecosystem services (e.g. pollination, water quality, CO2 storage, etc.). They also mean additional economic opportunities, in ecotourism for example.

**GARDEN CEMETERIES**

**MONT VENTOUX BIOSPHERE RESERVE**

Cemeteries are a public space where the Zérophyto pesticide ban remains problematic. It is rather difficult to ask bereaved families to accept spontaneous vegetation, so flowers need to take the place of weeds. Over two thousand plants were thus planted in the cemeteries of four pilot communes within the biosphere reserve as part of participatory projects. Cemeteries are also like the pages of a history book, to anyone who cares to read them, where wars follow epidemics, and artists lay beside soldiers. They have a special symbolism, where everything has meaning, a poppy representing eternal sleep, and a lyre a musician… Before the replanting, participatory inventories were made of local heritage, which are now being showcased in a travelling exhibition.

**AND WORLDWIDE?**

Mobility is a means to an end and thus serves a worthwhile purpose. The question is whether travelling in your own vehicle is always the best way. The Nockmobil programme was launched by Salzburger Lungau & Kärntner Nockberge Biosphere Reserve to offer annual regional mobility to clients and inhabitants of the region. This form of flexible, demand-focused mobility provides an alternative to cars. It is basically a call-and-collect taxi service operated by regional taxi companies that complements the public transport system.