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**'Dancing to the Future'**  
**26-30 April, 2022**



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## Preface

The Emilia-Romagna coast, which extends from Po di Goro to Cattolica, is one of the most well-known coastal attractions in the northern Adriatic Sea in Italy. The coastal area of Emilia-Romagna is characterised by increasing tendencies for densification in existing built-up areas and high levels of development pressure on still open/unbuilt land. This presents threats to the remaining green areas and fragments of semi-natural landscape. At the same time, climate change is putting more pressure, particularly on urban and coastal areas. Summer temperatures are rising, and the area is experiencing longer periods of drought and water shortage. Addressing the wicked problems of our time requires extensive collaboration and a shared commitment of public authorities, academia and civil society to envision democratic landscape transformations across scales and geographies. During the Forum, teams of researchers, teachers, students, and professionals explored with the help of local experts and community members how to promote the sustainable development of this coastal area.

### Regione Emilia-Romagna

The Emilia-Romagna Region, together with the Municipality of Rimini and the LE:NOTRE Institute, strongly wanted this event as an important moment to bring attention to the regional landscape. The landscape, in fact, is a theme that the Emilia-Romagna Region was the first in Italy to deeply develop with the adoption of the **Regional Landscape Plan** on 29 June 1989 and subsequent approval on 28 January 1993. This plan, currently under review with the collaboration of the Ministry of Culture, has the task of submitting the territory to specific regulations for use and enhancement, adapting to the principles and safeguards codified by the **Code of Cultural Heritage and Landscape** (Legislative Decree no. 42/2004 and subsequent amendments) and entrusts the Region and local administrations with the protection of the cultural identity and physical integrity of the entire regional territory, also responding to the more general objective of sustainability, favouring and ensuring integration the environmental and landscape dimension in urban and territorial planning. The concept of landscape expressed in the original document is now given a broader and more innovative meaning, thanks also to the assimilation in the document of the concepts of the **European Landscape Convention** (Florence 20th of October 2000).

The regional territory consists of a very varied landscape, from the Apennine Mountains to the Adriatic coast, passing through the Po Valley, one of the main places of food production in Europe. But it is also a landscape of natural parks that protect precious places from a naturalistic point of view, offering them to the attention and care of citizens, and of widespread cultural heritage (churches, villas, theatres, castles, gardens, villages, marine colonies) that they enrich the quality of the places and tell the stories that these same places have lived.

The organization's interest towards the Rimini area was deemed appropriate because it is here that, with the Romans, the landscape following the end of the last ice age undergoes the first radical changes, some of which are still evident today. In 268 BC the colony of Ariminum (Rimini) was founded as a bridgehead of the Roman expansion that had already reached the northern Adriatic coasts for some years, bringing with it substantial changes in the organization of the territory, first of all the regular order of the Roman Centuriation. Furthermore, the landscape of Rimini is, today, a complex place where nature, economy, tourism, cultural enhancement, agriculture are in very close and reciprocal relationships. The coast with its colonies and the tourism industry, the plain with quality agricultural productions and the hills with fortresses and castles are elements that allow for rich reflections and new ideas for studies and projects. In particular, the marine colonies represent a unique landscape, expression of a past that organized the territory on the basis of social needs different from today and

that now are bearers of historical-cultural values that must weave a dialogue with environmental emergencies and cultural needs.

The Region thanks LE:NOTRE Institute for choosing Rimini and the Regione Emilia-Romagna for its annual Landscape Forum. This event puts into practice what the **Council of Europe Framework Convention on the value of cultural heritage for society** (CETS no. 199) 27th of October 2005, **Faro Convention**, indicates for the knowledge and enhancement of cultural heritage: 1 ) develop synergies of skills between public and private actors in order to enhance the cultural heritage of the territory using all the patrimonial characteristics of the cultural environment, 2) promote an integrated approach to policies regarding cultural, biological, geological and landscape diversity aim to obtain a balance between these elements and 3) encourage interdisciplinary research on cultural heritage, heritage communities, the environment and their correlation. The results of this experience are the proof that demonstrates how much the activities, the surveys, the conferences, the lectures, the exhibitions of these five days have stimulated new territorial analyses and original landscape projects capable of enhancing and spreading the importance that the landscape has from an economic, social, cultural and environmental point of view.

Fabio Falleni

Head of Landscape and Nature Promotion Office

Cultural Heritage Sector – Emilia-Romagna Region

## Municipality of Rimini

On behalf of the Municipality of Rimini, I would like to welcome everyone to share the results of the LE:NOTRE 2022 Landscape Forum, which has been held in Rimini from April 26-30 this year. We are also very happy to see so many students, researchers, scholars, professionals and stakeholders from all landscape-related disciplines participating from different countries to this event, where Rimini and its territory's landscape has been taken as a case study, to compare, discuss and generate ideas, knowledge and projects.

The international student competition has been a first step in this process and has generated fascinating projects by young planning and design talents teams from many countries. Green corridors, forestscapes, electric city, eco-journey are just some of the innovative proposals which deserve great attention by our city in order to face current and future challenges in a sustainable way.

I would like to tell you something about Rimini taking the title 'Rimini - Dancing to the future' as the perfect starting point. An astrological coincidence connects Rimini with the sign of the Cancer that may identify its contradictory identity: whilst being provincial it also has a world view which makes it attractive to a wider range of cultures and people, especially due to its melting pot nature.

From its foundation 2285 years ago, Rimini has changed its face many times. Roman Ariminum, feud of the Malatesta Family, therapeutic and tourist centre with the first bathing establishment of the XIX century; destroyed during the Second World War and then reborn as mass tourism capital and icon of a particular way of living and opening up to human relations; birth place and home of Federico Fellini.

We must certainly continue on this trajectory. However, we must ensure that it becomes a driving force for contributions, investments and ideas from the whole community.

People, businesses, social enterprises, schools and professions need even more trust, support, freedom and participation. With a common future planning, public and private together.

The Faro Convention - the Council of Europe's framework convention on the value of cultural heritage, which also Italy has ratified - has shown us a way that has never before become so dramatically topical: to affirm the role of cultural heritage in the construction of a peaceful and democratic society, in sustainable development processes and in the promotion of cultural diversity.

History has given to Rimini and its territory the role of "exchanger", a meeting point of arrivals and departures, as represented by the two symbolic monuments of the city: the Tiberius Bridge, from which the Via Emilia starts, and the 'Arch of Augustus, where the Via Flaminia ends. Rimini being a land of encounter and relationships, it is the core of the strategic vision which has redefined the city's development trajectories.

The city's strategic planning, starting from the enhancement of Rimini's cultural, historical and social identity, has indeed restored centrality to the historical, artistic and environmental wealth of the city, proposing it as a key lever for development, giving back to the community cultural spaces that have not been used for decades and replacing the driving mechanisms of real estate income with a network of urban cultural containers of international importance.

We need "long thoughts" that bring together knowledge, create connections between the notum that is in our monuments, in our history and the novum that we are asked to invent. In other words, comparing and combining the lessons and the experiences we have gained up to now with the future we demand.

Let's work together to find the best way forward for our citizens, society, the environment and the economy.

Anna Montini

Assessore for Ecological Transition and Blue Economy

Municipality of Rimini

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Aim and process of the Forum

The 10<sup>th</sup> LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum was hosted by the Regione Emilia-Romagna and the municipality of Rimini. The Forum addressed the nexus of climate change, sustainable development, heritage and ecological conservation, foodscapes, and landscape infrastructure. The study area was the complex agglomeration of the Romagna coastline, a conurbation stretching from Riccione to the South to Ravenna, in the north, with a focus on the stretch between Rimini and Cesenatico.

The beautiful coastline of Emilia-Romagna is one of Italy's greatest environmental assets, which is facing a wide range of challenges, from landscape fragmentation to sea-level rise and coastal protection, from heritage conservation, urban redevelopment, reinforcement of green infrastructure to urban sprawl. It has to deal with densification, the contrast of gentrification and landscape democracy. It needs to balance the global, regional and local processes of production and consumption. The landscape along the coast of Emilia-Romagna offers a window into the type of transformations required for coastal regions across Europe to balance ecological, socio-cultural, economic, and environmental justice factors in the face of increased uncertainties.

The Forum builds upon the results of the International Student Competition "Dancing to the Future" in which students developed concepts, visions and spatial plans for addressing the challenges of the coastal landscape in Rimini (Annex D). Forum participants and students provided posters with reference studies (Annex E).

Emilia-Romagna has a low and sandy eastern coastline, which extends for about 130 km between Cattolica to the south and the mouth of the river Po di Goro to the north. It is characterised by long stretches of intense urbanisation, with a concentration in the southern sector, and by more limited natural areas, such as a part of the Po Delta Park, in the northern sector. During the twentieth century, this coastal system underwent profound anthropogenic transformations that led to the disappearance of most of the original landscape-environmental characteristics: the dunes were largely levelled, several valley areas reclaimed, and the wooded and uncultivated areas were heavily reduced in size.

### *Transdisciplinary landscape transformations for wicked problems*

Addressing the wicked problems of our time requires extensive collaboration across paradigms, epistemologies, and knowledge, and a shared commitment to bridge the gap between academia and civil society to envision democratic landscape transformations across scales and geographies. During the Forum, six teams of researchers, teachers, students, and professionals explored with the help of local experts and community members how to promote the sustainable development of this coastal area.

The Regione Emilia-Romagna has a well-defined policy toward sustainability and democracy, addressing issues of climate change, rural development, mobility, and sustainability. The LE:NOTRE Forum aims to support systemic, integrated, and holistic approaches to landscape transformation by elaborating planning and design proposals for the coastal landscape of Emilia-Romagna and its hinterland.

This report presents the outcome statement of the Forum, with more detailed information on the thematic approaches.

## 2. Outcome statement: Towards a Rimini Landscape Observatory

The coastal area of Emilia-Romagna is characterised by increasing tendencies for densification in existing built-up areas and high levels of development pressure on still open/unbuilt land. This presents threats to the remaining green areas and fragments of semi-natural landscape. At the same time, climate change is putting more pressure, particularly on urban and coastal areas. Summer temperatures are rising, and the area is experiencing longer periods of drought and water shortage. In the recent past, the Rimini landscape has been perceived as mundane or of low value. Today, the city is rediscovering the potential and beauty of its urban and coastal landscape.

The 2000 European Landscape Convention (ELC) highlighted the importance of protecting, planning and managing the urban and peri-urban landscape. These landscape elements provide the backbone for sustainable development, based on a potentially effective green infrastructure network with multiple benefits to society, economy and the environment.

The Regione Emilia-Romagna and the Municipality of Rimini are active in developing strategies, projects and plans for the sustainable development of the coastal area, based on participatory processes involving stakeholders, authorities, and residents. Participation and collective action is necessary to the sustainability and future resilience of this unique landscape and it entails, as the [ELC reminds us, rights and responsibilities](#) for all levels of society.

### *Key messages for dancing to the future*

Against this background, the 2022 LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum has been considering the potentials of the coastal landscape resources and makes the following recommendations.

#### **1. Develop an integrated landscape approach (§ 4.1)**

In order to ensure long-term growth, the use of natural systems in which the tourist industry, local businesses, local farmers, multinationals and other stakeholders operate needs to become fully sustainable while stopping exploitation. Competing claims from a large variety of stakeholders converge on a landscape level. When individually addressed, the approaches taken to reach these goals could have negative trade-offs, by conflicts of interest. The idea of landscape approaches is to find cross-sectoral solutions as this will lead to synergies that are better than the sum of each sector-specific solution (Horn, van der & Meijer 2015).

The landscape approach aims to contribute to sustainable development by supporting economic and social development combined with local biodiversity conservation, in which landscape resilience is regarded as a foundation for sustainable growth. A key element of present-day landscape approaches is the involvement of participants in decision-making on how we use the landscape. By involving participants from all concerned interest groups and developing approaches on how to include those who may not be represented or organised as groups, changes can be started that promote common benefits. By a multi-level governance approach that integrates the objectives of different participants into landscape quality objectives a solution may be found for competing claims on a landscape level.

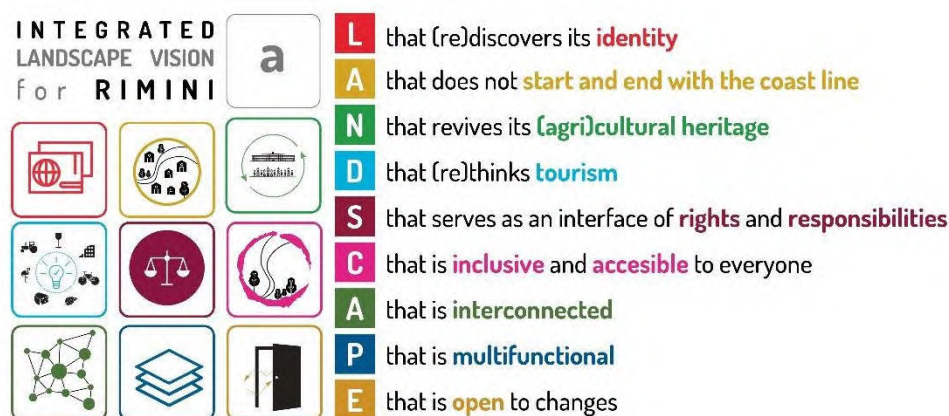


Figure 1. An integrated landscape approach

An integrated landscape vision for Rimini builds upon its identity and (agri)cultural heritage. Tourism needs to be transformed in a way where landscape does not start and end with the coastline and serves as an interface of rights and responsibilities. We envision a landscape for Rimini that will be inclusive, accessible, interconnected, multifunctional and open to changes.

## 2. Building the Rimini Landscape Observatory (§ 3.3)

Establishing a Rimini Landscape Laboratory would provide an innovative platform for locals and tourists to communicate, reflect and experience the Rimini landscape. Locals, especially those with the greatest need (differently-abled, unheard, marginalised), should be offered more accessible and more diffused access to their environment and its ecology to derive delight, health, and spiritual nourishment from it. Tourists should be bound to a covenant of respect, protection, and care as if the landscape of Rimini were their own and asked to continue to exercise this responsibility once they return home, in a true spirit of landscape democracy. The landscape observatory brings different dimensions of local landscape knowledge together: experts, residents and visitors. This creates an innovative framework for knowledge creation and a shared understanding of the values and challenges of Rimini's landscape. If accompanied by a process of collaboration and co-creation, the landscape observatory can simulate not only innovative business models that enhance landscape values. It can also strengthen the local democratic culture and activate community assets for sustainability.

### The Rimini Landscape Observatory

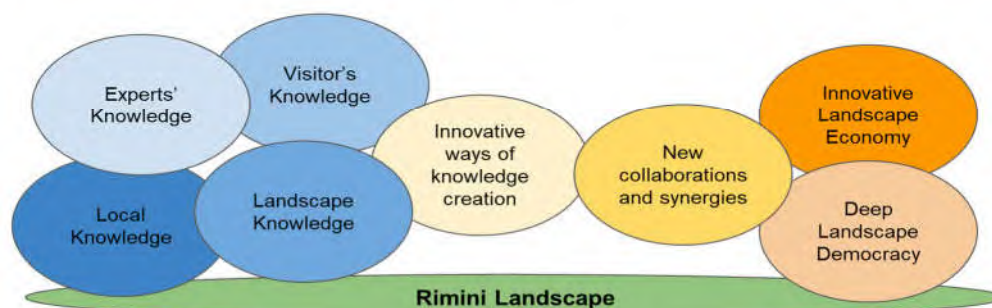


Figure 2. Aspects of the Landscape Observatory

Developing the Landscape Observatory in a bottom-up approach will allow any citizen to participate in the formulation of landscape quality objectives. This could be the heart of a continuous visioning and strategy process on the Rimini Landscape.

### **3. Connecting landscape and democracy (§ 4.2)**

This landscape beauty of Rimini should not be made available to just anyone as a cheap commodity to be consumed. All who use, recreate, live, and are inspired by the beauty of Rimini and its coastal area should recognize that this beauty is a right and a responsibility. At the very lowest level of engagement, tourists should be encouraged to protect its most fragile landscapes and the communities these landscapes support in deeper and more meaningful ways, by treading light as they explore the landscape. They also should learn to appreciate and prefer quality of experience over quantity, and fair price payment over low prices, that encourage reliance on cheap products and demean the landscape and those who dwell in it.

Future policies and investment of resources should be oriented toward slower and more sustainable tourism. This will require saying no to 'hit and run' or "mordi e fuggi" forms of engaging with the landscape or offering highly immersive and respectful forms of interaction that elevate the place, its people, and their identities. This also means giving more agency (and more significant funds) to those who help this landscape thrive, from the non-human members of the ecosystem that help it remain a prosperous and ecologically productive armature for future adaptation to the locals who are true ambassadors and stewards of its long-term resilience. To engage participation in plans and projects new ways of communication are called for to bring forward those voices which are generally not heard in these processes: by using photo voicing, art installations and performances, and other interactive tools of communication for making challenges, dreams, goals visible. A local landscape observatory could offer a platform for these voices, stories and images that represent them.

### **4. Rural change and Foodscapes (§ 4.3)**

Emilia-Romagna is one the most productive landscapes of Italy. A food strategy for the coastal area could be developed with quantitative and qualitative objectives for re-territorialisation of the food system. Elements of this food strategy can be: (1) strengthening the connection between local producers and local consumers by creating short chain networks, for which some of the former colonie can have a function as a food hub. (2) Transforming current agriculture along nature reserves, nature development zones and landscape development areas into multifunctional, inclusive, and organic farms to help to protect and develop green infrastructure corridors. (3) Giving people the opportunity to grow their own food in the (peri) urban landscape for their physical and mental well-being.

Installing a Food Council with participants of various sectors can support the implementation of the food strategy and help to integrate the goals for food system resilience into the Rimini Landscape Observatory.

### **5. Sustainable Tourism (§ 4.4)**

A shift is needed from mass beach tourism to a more diverse range of recreational and touristic activities with a year-round offer of activities. The region and municipalities are developing coastal parks to enhance landscape quality and attractiveness of the coast and branding Rimini as a cultural city. Key messages for sustainable tourism are: (1) to promote and make accessible local authenticity, not only the highlights but also other elements that contribute to the cultural and landscape value such as the arena in Rimini, the areas in and around the former holiday colonie, and historic sites. Connecting these sites and places by green infrastructure and recreational routes helps to diversify the landscape. (2) Make a differentiation of touristic offer in combination with green and cultural narratives about Panzini, the function of the colonie, the Romans, Saracens, green infrastructure (3) improving accessibility by expanding the use of green networks, cycle routes, overcoming barriers of infrastructure and opening up closed areas (such as the fenced in colonie).



The Landscape Observatory can periodically assess the impacts of tourism on landscape and people's life, promote public involvement, communicate findings to the decision-makers and to the public, and play a critical role on the education for landscape.

## **6. Heritage and identity of the former *colonie* (§ 4.5)**

The *colonie* (the former holiday colonies) and their surroundings represent unique, important and interconnected coastal heritage landscapes of Italy. The landscapes of the *colonie* should be cherished and protected against unregulated urban development. The existence of these heritage landscapes should be seen as an opportunity for community building, ecological development and enhancement of landscape quality and not as a problem. Development of the *colonie* should always be approached in relation to the wider landscape context.

The Landscape Observatory can have an important role in mapping existing ecological and landscape qualities as well as societal wishes and needs, related to the heritage landscapes of the *colonie*. Carefully mapping the tangible and intangible landscape of the *colonie* is essential for a better understanding of these landscapes and as a foundation for vision building for future development.

## **7. Landscape Economy (§ 4.6)**

For sustainable development it is essential to link core assets and values with an integrated framework of key topics and proposals by: (1) Transforming existing urban fabrics, through regenerative plans leveraging on diversity, multifunctionality and the local (circular) economy. (2) Mobilising Rimini's social and economic capitals through shared agile and flexible strategies based on community involvement ('activation') for the implementation, as well as on a long-term stewardship (3) Place-making, to reinforce Rimini's 'unique-selling-proposition', its values and local characters (4) Planning and design for flexibility, to face climate change and social ecological challenges through adaptive environments, communities, and economies, and (5) Increasing biodiversity through multifunctional green-blue infrastructure, fostering a green economy.

The transformation of the coastal landscape for a sustainable future will require innovative partnerships between sectors, political entities, societal groups and disciplines. As a consequence, landscape strategies need to be communicated to as many societal groups as possible by means of an integrated approach combined with an educational strategy.

The **landscape observatory** could co-ordinate the collaborative formulating and monitoring of landscape quality objectives related to a multifunctional and interconnected green infrastructure system, integrating all above-mentioned principles.

## **Context of this document**

This outcome statement summarises the main findings of the 11th LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum 'Dancing to the Future' held in Rimini from April 26 – 30, 2012. The forum was organised by the Regione Emilia-Romagna, the city of Rimini in cooperation with the LE:NOTRE Institute.

The ideas presented here may support local and regional stakeholders in shaping more sustainable landscape development processes. The forum outcome statement may also inspire democratic landscape transformation in other coastal areas in Europe and beyond.

Relevant supranational policy documents and agreements supporting a sustainable future of the coastal landscape, all valid or in force in Italy, include the following:

- Sustainable Development Goals 2030 (United Nations)
- New Urban Agenda (UN Habitat)
- New European Bauhaus
- Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (United Nations)
- European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe)
- Communication on Green Infrastructure (European Union)
- Water Framework Directive (European Union)
- European Floods Directive (European Union)
- Common Agricultural Policy (European Union)
- European Biodiversity Strategy (European Union)
- The European Green Deal (European Union)



### Background of the Landscape Forum and the LE:NOTRE Institute

The LE:NOTRE institute has been established under the auspices of ECLAS, the European Council of Landscape Architecture Schools, as an umbrella organisation for interdisciplinary collaboration between education, research and innovative practice in the landscape field. The goal of the Institute is to develop and strengthen the links between landscape education, research and innovative practice, in the public, private and not for profit sectors. It aims to achieve this by furthering and facilitating communication, collaboration and cross-fertilisation of ideas on an interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral basis, to promote the wider and deeper understanding of the cultural, environmental, social and economic role of the landscape for the benefit and well-being of society as a whole.

The Forum is preceded by an international student competition, supported by a series of presentations, which generates ideas, concepts and possible planning and design solutions for the Forum landscape (Annex D).

What makes the LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum different from other European landscape events is the focus on dialogue, debate and discourse. It provides a unique opportunity to interact creatively with colleagues from a range of landscape disciplines in informal workshop and field visit settings. The aim is to create stimulating environment to promote the generation of new ideas and projects for teaching and research and to enhance cross fertilisation between theory and practice. To date, the Forum has been organised ten times: Antalya (2012), Rome (2013), Sarajevo (2014), Bucharest (2015), Paphos (2016), Freising (2017), Gozo (2018), Zagreb (2019), Bratislava (2020), Gdansk (2021), and Rimini (2022). An art exhibition on the Port Island in Gdansk is presented in Annex C.

LE:NOTRE Institute: <http://www.le-notre.org>

Landscape Forum Website: <http://www.forum.ln-institute.org>

International Student Competition with Lectures and Entries:

<https://forum.ln-institute.org/international-student-competition-2021-2022/>

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### 3. A local landscape observatory

#### 3.1. The function and role of landscape observatories

The Recommendation CM/Rec (2008,3) of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention includes the following advice on Landscape Observatories: ‘Landscape protection, management, and planning necessitate continuous observation and a forum for exchanging information. Landscape observatories, centres or institutes would allow observation on the basis of appropriate study protocols employing a range of indicators. They could be independent or part of a broader observation system...could be set up at various levels – local, regional, national, international.’

The main tasks of these observatories could be: (1) describe the condition of landscapes at a given time, (2) exchange information on policies and experiences, (3) use and, if necessary, compile historical documents on landscapes, (3) draw up quantitative and qualitative indicators to assess the effectiveness of landscape policies, and (4) furnish data leading to an understanding of trends and to forecasts or forward-looking scenarios.

They should always be set against the political, social, ecological, and cultural context of the original landscape. The choice of the composition of observatories is a matter for the administrative bodies concerned but should allow for collaboration between scientists, professionals, and technicians from the public authorities and the public.

The Emilia-Romagna Region instituted the Regional Observatory for Landscape Quality as an implementation of the European Landscape Convention. The aim of the Observatory is to disseminate the cultural heritage of landscape in the civil society and in the public administration, in order to increase the social and environmental quality of the regional territory and to listen to the needs of the community that is part of it. Dissemination, Participation, Surveillance, Promotion are the key areas of activities and strategic planning of the Regional Observatory, including the creation and development of local observatories.

#### 3.2 An analysis of landscape observatories

During the Forum in Rimini Juanjo Galan Vivas presented an overview of the existing Landscape Observatories (LOs) in Europe and proposed a set of criteria to analyse the main characteristics affecting their structure and performance. These criteria were defined according to three types of factors: institutional (e.g., legal status, assigned roles, etc.), organisational (e.g., composition, structure, level of political and financial autonomy, etc.), and operational (e.g., spatial scale, thematic coverage, etc.).

The proposed criteria are expected to inform the creation or management of landscape observatories, and their utility was then tested by analysing three specific cases: the Landscape Observatory of Catalonia (a regional case in Spain), and two national landscape observatories in Finland and Italy. Due to the specific character of the Forum, the analysis was focused on the capacity of Landscape Observatories to become centres for the integration of knowledge and for the promotion of integrative planning. In particular, this integrative dimension was evaluated in the three cases by analysing how their goals, composition, methods, agendas, and outcomes foster integration, and how their activity connects the landscape with other Integrative Planning Tools or frameworks.

Landscape Observatories are one of the available tools, and Integrative landscape planning might take place through other tools or structures. Therefore, there is no single solution: landscape observatories need to be designed and operated according to the social, cultural, political, and planning context. Legal recognition and

officially assigned roles seem to guarantee the continuity and activity of Landscapes Observatories (resources, mission, political support, etc.). Landscape planning, management, and protection can benefit from connections to other planning tools, policies, and agendas.

	LANDSCAPE OBSERVATORY OF CATALONIA	LANDSCAPE OBSERVATORY OF FINLAND	OSSERVATORIO NAZIONALE PER LA QUALITÀ DEL PAESAGGIO
<b>Scope</b>	Regional	National	National
<b>Legal status</b>	Associated to the regional government but highly autonomous (2004)	Voluntary organisation (2017)	Associated to a Ministry (2006)
<b>Description</b>	Organised as a <b>consortium</b>	An open consortium without legal personality	Established at the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism by ministerial decree
<b>Goal / tasks</b>	Advisory body of the Government of Catalonia and Catalan society.  Study the landscape, prepare proposals and sensitise Catalan society.  Better protection, management, and planning of the Catalan landscape in the framework of sustainable development.	A platform integrating academic, societal, economic, and governmental organisations.  Supporting research, discussion, participation, and actions.  Assumes that any Finnish landscape can become a positive asset for sustainable development & wellbeing.	Definition of policies for the protection and enhancement of the Italian landscape.  Elaboration and approval of landscape plans.  Joint monitoring system between the State and the Regions.  Compliance with the Code of Cultural Heritage and Landscape Methodologies and guidelines for evaluating and enhancing the landscape.

*Scheme 1. The scope, organisation and goals/tasks of three landscape observatories (Galan Vivas, 2022)*

Different levels of Landscape Observatory seem to have different functions: the national: coordination of lower scales, the regional: development and coordination of actions at the regional scale, and the local: the closest to the people and to the landscape (landscapes are site-and community specific). There is a diversity of actors but with a preponderance of government institutions (especially in LOs constituted by public authorities).

**NATIONAL OBSERVATORY OF RURAL LANDSCAPE OF ITALY**



*Experiences with the National Observatory of Rural Landscape and the Regional Landscape Observatory of Tuscany*

Prof. Mauro Agnietti  
University of Florence - School of Agriculture  
www.landscape.unifi.it  
FB - paesaggio rurale



**Working Group Landscape**  
Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forestry Policies



**Activities developed 2012-2016**

- National Register of Historical Rural Landscapes (123 potential sites, 3 landscapes formally nominated, 101 in the waiting list)
- Development of the monitoring system (120 sites mapped)
- New legislation concerning the restoration of rural landscapes (modification to the forest law)
- Agreement with national UNESCO WHL for cultural landscapes
- UNESCO-sCBD Biocultural Diversity Declaration 2014



*Scheme 2. Activities developed by the National Observatory of Rural Landscapes of Italy*

### 3.3 Conclusions for a local landscape observatory

Landscape Observatories must be able to activate processes and produce outcomes that are useful for society and administrations. They should become meeting platforms and advisory bodies providing integrated information and supporting integrative discussions (the landscape as a common good). They combine top-down and bottom-up initiatives; they are close to landscape communities and help people with different values and worldviews to develop a shared vision.

#### *Conclusions on a local landscape observatory*

In order to be sustainable, Landscape Observatories need continuous support from authorities. To be successful in contributing to integral landscape planning, the partners should represent a wide range of stakeholders from the many sectors involved in landscape and regional planning and management. To be integral, the observatory should include all kinds of landscapes, as the Preamble of the European Landscape Convention states: “in urban areas and in the countryside, in degraded areas as well as in areas of high quality, in areas recognized as being of outstanding beauty as well as everyday areas...” (Council of Europe ed. 2000). In order to have a connection to residents, tourists, and other participants the Landscape Observatory should be local.

The local landscape observatory could build upon the foundations of the process for the development of the Rimini Strategic Plan, and add to the representatives of the NGOs, the voice of a wider range of participants: part of this could be done using interactive means like photo voicing, participation of schoolchildren, and contributions during open laboratories. On the basis of this work, a set of landscape quality objectives can be formulated in order to provide guidance for integrative, inclusive, and collaborative planning.

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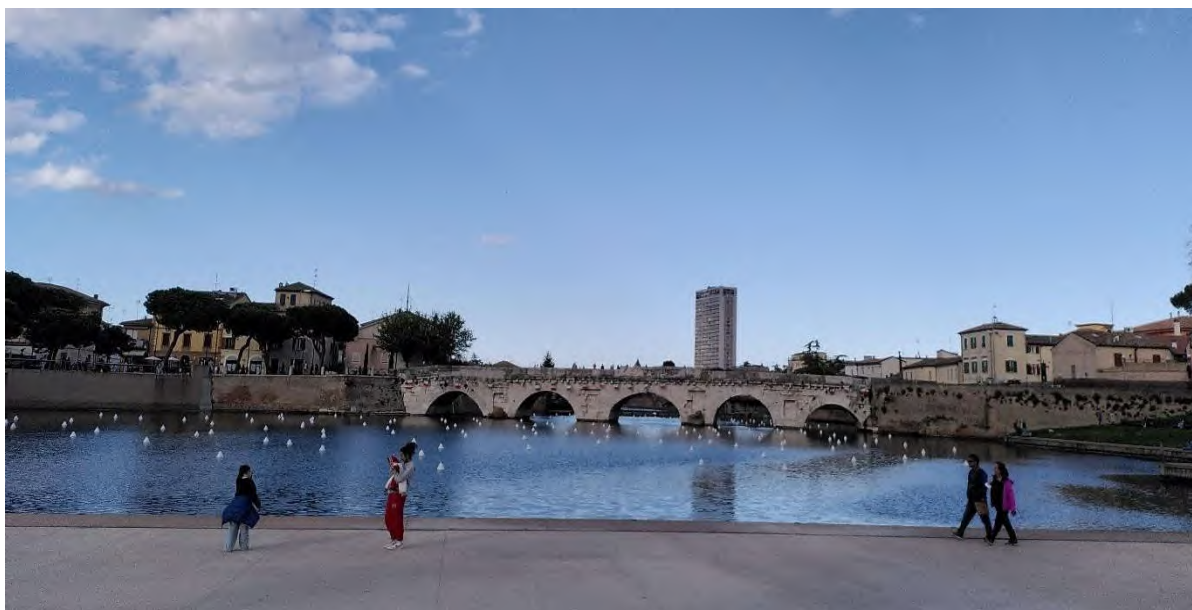
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## 4. Main themes of the Forum

### 4.1 An Integrated Landscape Vision



*View on the Tiberius Bridge in Rimini*

**Lead author:** Attila Tóth. **Co-authors:** Ozge Ogut, Fiorenza Giometti, Weicheng Li, Cecilia Pruccoli, Hongling Qin, Giada Vignali, Aiga Spage, Jeroen de Vries.

#### 4.1.1 The significance of a landscape approach for sustainable development

A growing population and a related growing demand for food and other resources puts an ever-increasing pressure on natural resources and climate. In order to ensure long-term growth, the exploitation of natural systems in which local farmers, multinationals and other parties operate needs to become fully sustainable. Competing claims from a large variety of stakeholders converge on a landscape level.

When individually addressed, the approaches taken to reach these goals could have negative trade-offs. The idea of landscape approaches is to find cross-sectoral solutions as this will lead to synergies that are better than the sum of sector-specific solutions. By integrating the objectives of different stakeholders into landscape management plans, a solution may be found for competing claims on a landscape level.

The landscape approach aims to contribute to sustainable development by supporting economic and social development combined with local biodiversity conservation, in which biodiversity is regarded as a basic element for sustainable growth. A key element of present-day landscape approaches is the involvement of all participants in decision-making on land use. By involving people from all concerned interest groups, a land-use strategy may be developed that considers the objectives of each group, minimising costs and maximising benefits for each, while recognising certain trade-offs.

A landscape approach could be defined as a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way (CBD, 2004). Principles are to connect spatial planning and multi-stakeholder objectives, to perform climate-smart practices at a landscape level, to diversify the land use across the landscape, to manage the land use interactions at a landscape scale

(Horn and Meijer, 2015). Ecosystem services have to be in consideration for each step of developing a landscape approach for any context, as well as the impact of human activities from a multi-sectoral perspective.

In delineation from landscape-scale thinking and cross-sectoral approaches, the Integrated Landscape Approach is framed around multifunctionality and driven by participatory transdisciplinary/cross-sectorial processes to determine change logic and/or clarify objectives (Freeman et al., 2015). In other words, an integrated landscape vision forms an umbrella that covers all other themes such as foodscapes, cultural heritage, sustainable tourism, landscape democracy and landscape economy.

For the Regione Emilia-Romagna and Rimini an impressive series of laws, regulations, strategies, spatial plans and projects are defined. Many of these are successfully implemented and in progress such as the Rimini Strategic Plan that made use of a collaborative process.

The vision is always considered as a framework to integrate policy and practice for different land uses to achieve the goal.

#### 4.1.2. An integrated landscape approach in the framework of sustainability

Sustainability has three different aspects that are environmental, social and economic. When developing a landscape vision is the aim, for any context, the model of 'strong sustainability' should be adapted instead of the usual sustainability scheme that presents all three aspects with an equal weighting and searching for the balance (World Commission on Environment and Development & Brundtland, 1987). Strong sustainability focuses on systems and presents the three themes of sustainability as nested and confers different sizes and weightings to them (Giddings et al, 2002). The strong sustainability principle understands that the economic system is part of the social domain and that the economy, as well as the society, is constrained by the environment. Landscapes are understood as a heterogeneous system coupled with both people and the environment. People and the environment interact with each other and provide the composition and configuration of the landscape elements. The landscape elements ensure four key dynamic relationships between human well-being, economic structure, biodiversity and ecological processes, and governance and organisation (Pedroza-Arceo et al., 2022)

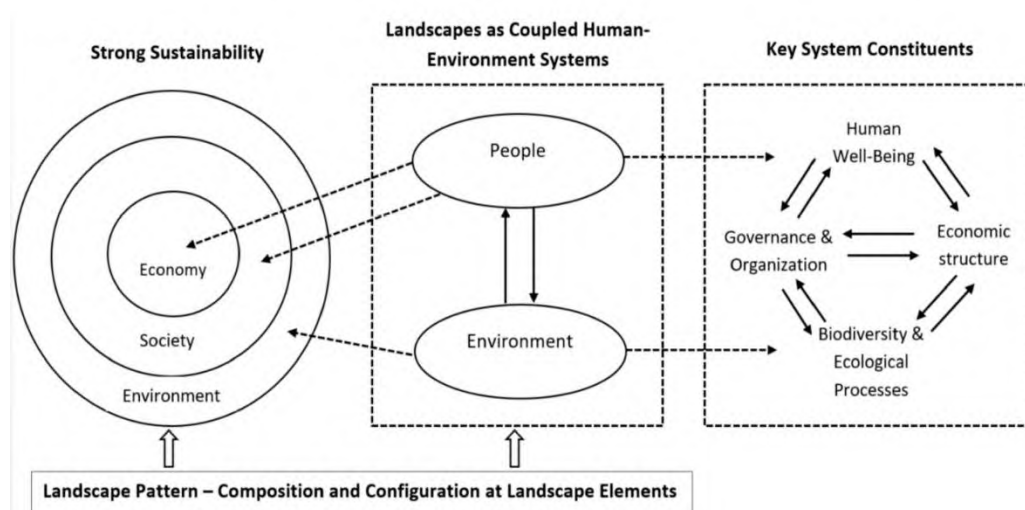


Figure 3. Theoretical framework for holistic sustainable landscapes. (Pedroza-Arceo et al., 2022)



Besides strong sustainability, concept of ‘triple bottom line’, also known as three Ps of sustainability, is a must to consider (Elkington, 1994). Current Integrated Landscape Approaches need to address issues at all three domains of sustainability i.e., people, planet and profit that is shown in figure 4.

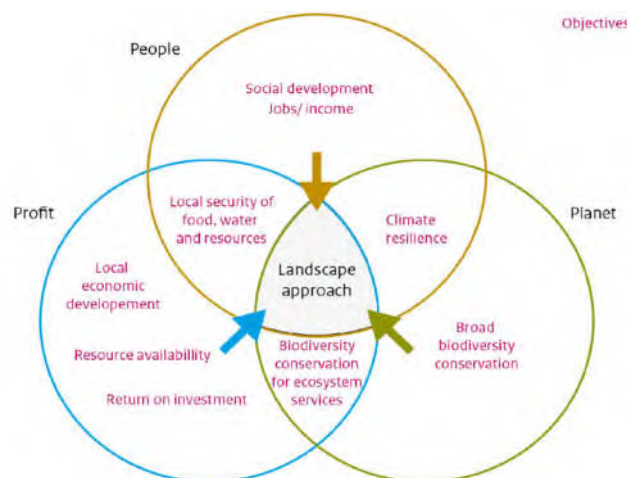


Figure 4. Overview of the different positions of stakeholders, based on their primary interests, and the different objectives pursued in integrated landscape approaches positioned within the PPP scheme.

#### 4.1.3. The framework of Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are defined by UN Agenda 2030 which is a commitment to achieve sustainable development by the year of 2030 world-wide, ensuring that no one is left behind. They are 17 SDGs that include 169 targets. Since the goals refer to a holistic integration and the detailed targets for each goal form a network that address combinations of landscape challenges. The Regione Emilia-Romagna has adopted a strategy and an agenda for sustainable development. The task for the local landscape observatory might include the translation of this strategy into local quality objectives by the participants in the observatory.

#### 4.1.4 Vision and strategy

The integrated landscape vision includes the following aspects:

- **Structure a landscape framework** for the urban fabric, open space, social and ecological systems based on the existing and potential green-blue infrastructure. This system should be a basis for current and future spatial development instead of the other way around, where the green-blue infrastructure is adapted to the development. In places where the landscape framework is fragmented, interventions need to focus on improving connectivity. The investments in landscape development should not only focus on the coastline, but address the linkage of coastline to rural hinterland and foodscapes (including vineyards). Beyond this a poly-town network in the region can assist people to discover surrounding landscapes.
- Improve **landscape accessibility**, by overcoming fragmentation by infrastructure (bridges, tunnels), opening up closed spaces and connecting sites (beach, cultural heritage, city, nature reserves) by a network of routes for pedestrians and bicycles as part of the green-blue infrastructure. Make local landscapes more inclusive to different groups of users, providing spaces also for the less advantaged. Improve local and regional road infrastructure with a focus on walking and cycling (a good example is the coastal park) separating these from car dominated areas. Provide multifunctional green corridors for mobility in the city. Improvement of nodes and links of food system, for instance by making production areas for local food accessible by eco-tourism.

- Further developing the **landscape democracy approach**, that serves as an interface of rights and responsibilities, with equal involvement of local communities and tourists in the landscape experience. Developing and designing shared spaces and landscapes, which are open for use to various groups of people (young/old, various cultures, locals and tourists, well-to-do and less advantaged). Built upon the process of landscape democracy that was started in the Rimini Strategic Plan process by including more social groups, gradually developing a deep democracy approach.
- Strengthening the **landscape ecological functions and ecosystem services** in order to address climate adaptation and resilience (urban microclimate, flood risks, erosion, soil preservation). Use funds and investments for this for multiple functions in order to improve the integral landscape quality.
- Basing the sustainable development strategy for the **reuse of (landscape) architectural heritage** on conservation by development, integrating multiple social, economic and cultural functions and integrating it in the network of green and blue infrastructure. Besides the cultural heritage in and around the city centre and the colonie, the agricultural heritage of local production, small farms and everyday sites with a certain uniqueness and meaning to local people needs to be included in this strategy of development. The strategy should include goals for tangible and intangible history (stories, symbols, meanings) to enhance a sense of belonging and place identity. These tangible and intangible values need to be explained, promoted, and communicated to all groups of people: the residents, the users, the tourists and the other visitors.
- Creating a balance between the demands of tourism and recreation against other social needs by developing a diverse complex of services and products with a **more year-round character** for **various consumer groups**. Link this to **local identity, the meaning of cultural heritage, food-production, and other natural landscape assets in the hinterland** (Saline areas, vineyards, cheese production). Strengthening **collaboration of parties** that contribute to a recreational and touristic complex (hotels, restaurants, local producers, fishermen, rental offices, tourism organisations) to join forces in offering not only single services but combining these in thematic routes, packages. This touristic complex needs to be facilitated by spatial networks of sustainable mobility, such a network of routes that connect the sites that is based on green-blue infrastructure.
- Valorising **the economic aspects of landscapes such as eco-system services** (the balance between public and private benefits). Transforming existing urban fabrics, through regenerative plans leveraging on diversity, multifunctionality and the local (circular) economy. Mobilising Rimini's **social and economic capitals** through shared agile and flexible strategies based on community involvement ('activation') for the implementation, as well as on a long-term stewardship. Using **place-making methods**, to reinforce Rimini's 'unique-selling-proposition', its values and local characters. Planning and design for flexibility, to face climate change and social ecological challenges through adaptive environments, communities, and economies. Increasing biodiversity through multifunctional green-blue infrastructure, fostering a green economy.



Figure 5. Vision for an integrated landscape approach

Geels (2011) presented a multi-level perspective on transitions for sustainable development. It appears that carefully organised planning systems on various levels often do not contribute to real transformations because these are often consolidating the current state of affairs, are slow in connecting. Sustainable development can benefit from niche innovations, which however could have little impact when not streamlined, organised and linked to strategies.

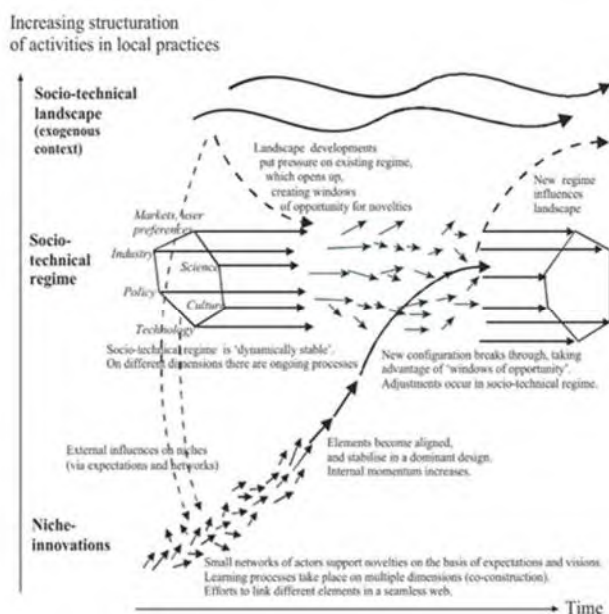


Figure 6. Multi level perspective on transitions (Geels, 2011)

### Integrative multi-level governance

The Regione Emilia-Romagna and the city of Rimini have a strong structure of policies based on sustainable development goals. The content and support for these policies is organised by participatory processes. The challenge is to align private and public interests, cross sectoral interests and make use of local knowledge. A landscape system cannot be transformed as a whole. Geels (2011) points out the importance of making use of niche innovations that can be strengthened by integrating them into a stronger driving force. A local landscape observatory for Rimini could foster communication between niche innovations, make a link to deep democratic processes and strengthen the power of transformative actions by linking these to explicitly defined landscape quality objectives.

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## 4.2 Landscape Democracy



source: <https://padlet.com/druggeri1/mkwov77nnipiffty>

**Lead Author:** Deni Ruggeri. **Co- authors:** Michael Venturelli, Michele Porsia; Arati Uttur; Lara de Souza Renhe.

### 4.2 1. Framing Landscape Democracy as rights and responsibilities

The landscape belongs to everyone, and every person should have equal rights to it and a voice in the dialogue on how it is used, valued and maintained. This right to landscape, when appropriately applied and activated, can lead to many tangible and intangible benefits, in terms of health, well being, spirituality and identity (Makhzoumi, Egoz and Pungetti, 2011). If the right to landscape is the ultimate ambition, how do we achieve it? And what kind of responsibilities are attached to these rights? What forms of social interaction and processes should Rimini privilege in the future?

Landscape Democracy (Egoz, Jørgensen and Ruggeri, 2018) is the term we can use to indicate the many types of landscape practices we can engage in as individuals and communities to enforce the right to landscape. It also refers to a greater principle of participatory justice, which calls for the direct involvement of people in envisioning the futures of their communities and their symbolic and everyday landscapes. Participation refers to the many ways in which this involvement can be leveraged. Co-design, co-creation, bottom-up placemaking, group goal setting, storytelling, art-related methods, and critical gaming are only a few of how we can uncover people's perceptions, feelings and experiences of their landscape, and build upon them to create more resilient, better futures. The European Landscape Convention of 2000 confirms that these perceptions are central to defining what landscapes mean, and indeed what they are (Déjeant-Pons, 2006). The definition set forth in the convention refers to landscapes as physical elements, but it is also inclusive of the meanings, symbolic value, and the emotions we feel for our landscapes. To understand better which narrations, power structures and conflicts are hidden in a landscape, planners and designers need to be trained to see landscape democracy, not only its presence but also its absence and barriers to it. Conflicting interests exist in any landscape. If these conflicting views are integrated into a participatory dialogue, this can lead to better alternatives, if a community-based communication process is designed well and without predefined solutions.



The purpose of the Landscape Democracy group work in Rimini was to illustrate the type of questions that can be asked to uncover landscape democracy and to tap into the experience of the landscape through a visual storytelling approach, which involved using digital photo-journaling to collect data on the types of landscapes where democratic dialogue and shared practices can thrive, where they are lacking, and where they could be potentially activated and strengthened through the work of the remaining working groups. The working group organiser, Prof. Deni Ruggeri, suggested ‘using’ a relational art piece and invited artist Michele Porsia for the purpose, as an experiential method to serve as a *liaison* between Landscape Democracy ideals and actions. As a team, we also have worked to lay out a vision for Landscape Democracy as it relates to the sites the forum has worked on, which would advance the right to landscape. We also suggest that exercising this right should also imply new forms of responsibility and stewardship for its long-term resilience. These responsibilities are currently all in the hands of the local community and actors, while tourists and outsiders are just consumers of landscape resources. Moreover, investments are being made to benefit these particular users, along with a minimal part of the local population. This, in the end, is the most important piece of reflection that emerged out of our work, and we recommend that local and regional decision-makers take this into account in future decision making (Figure 7).

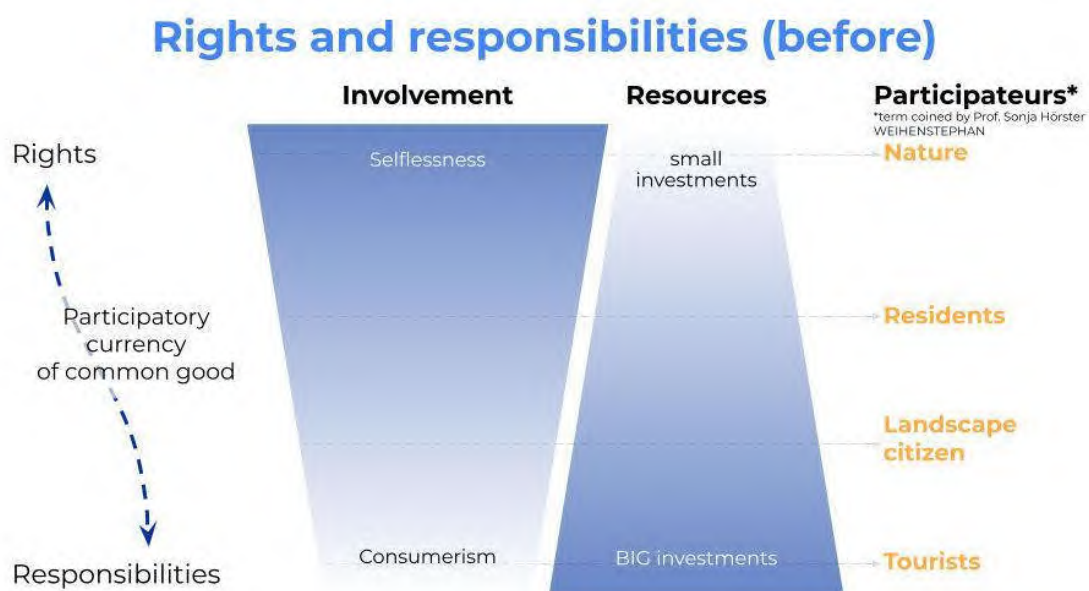


Figure 7: Interpretation of the existing hierarchy in the landscape. Graphic conceptualised by Lara de Souza Renhe

#### 4.2.2. Landscape Democracy and SDGs

The Landscape Democracy group designed its activities as a theory-building exercise on sustainability. At the initial presentation to the working group organisers on April 12, 2022, we highlighted the importance of making the work of all groups accountable to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Figure 8) (O.D.D.S. 2015). In itself, the introduction to the discussion of this theoretical grounding was to move us in the direction of instilling rich and variegated seeds for transformation in all aspects of human life.

To be true to landscape democracy we let the UNSDGs we tackled emerge out of the process. A different approach than the one other groups took, but consistent with the demand to be accountable for more than just goal 11. At the end of our work together, our discussions seemed to converge toward the realisation of the

quality and diversity of partnerships required for the activation of landscape democracy (goal 17), the necessary changes to be made vis-a-vis behaviours and attitudes of consumption toward direct responsibility toward the preservation and stewardship of the landscape (goal 12), and the need to prioritise resources toward creating a better balance between use and preservation and regeneration of the natural environment (goals 15).



Figure 8 The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

#### 4.2.3. Rimini: a place with a clear vision for the future

Rimini is a dynamic community that has for many years embraced a participatory approach to making decisions about the future. The city has a history of engagement and has been often at the cutting edge among medium-sized Italian cities in promoting a people-centric, socially just approach to their policies and decisions. It is also a place with a deep history as a juncture of flows of economics, culture, artistic expression, and multicultural exchange. Since Roman times, it was a place where people from all over Italy and Europe met, a place characterised by a cultural vibrancy that has populated the landscape with beautiful artefacts that provide a sense of continuity and distinction for the identity of the community.

It has also been a place projected toward the dreamy and futuristic, illustrated by the work of Federico Fellini, Rimini's most notable son, whose filmography was inspired by the social life, the landscape, and the qualities of interactions he experienced as a child. His idea of a *Dolce Vita* (sweet life when translated into English) was at the heart of Rimini's modern identity as a place for recreation and the enjoyment of life near the sea. These various identities coexist in a gestalt that makes Rimini a unique place to showcase new forms of co-existence in the landscape for people of all cultures, economic possibilities, and attitudes toward the landscape.

The recent 2007-2027 Strategic Plan document recognized that the image of Rimini has become less focused and clear, and the plan sought to bring focus to a few of the dimensions of Rimini that can serve as the foundation of the future (Figure 9) (Ridolfi, 2022).



## RIMINI VENTURE 2027: 6 STRATEGIC SCOPES AND 64 PROJECT LINES



Figure 9. The strategic plan for Rimini. (Ridolfi, 2022)

In developing these goals, Rimini and its provincial administrations have been guided by the UN Sustainable Development Goal and by an ethos of participation that has led them to engage with over 48 groups of stakeholders and citizens. Yet the process seems to have been driven by the urgency of economics, giving a less than ideal room for the types of dialogue and collective actions that are required for these plans to be translated into new co-created stories of change that all citizens can stand by. While the strategic plan has been useful to allocate resources for change and develop guiding principles for how it should happen, there is a need for governance and direct engagement of citizens. The participatory process it has initiated should be built upon with specific actions at all scales of the landscape and with the involvement of the most diverse populations, especially those segments of the population most at risk of being unheard. This should also be reflected in the allocation of resources, which should invest in all of the strategic goals equitably and by prioritising investment toward lifestyles and ways of living and governing the landscape that is respectful of the landscape, and the human and ecological communities that call it home.

### 4.2.4 The Landscape Democracy working group focus and purpose

LE:NOTRE student competition, held from October 2021 until January 2022, was the forerunner to the Landscape Forum in Rimini. The extent of the landscape that would be explored was defined in the competition brief. As traditionally followed in every LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum, the extent of the landscape defined for the competition is then taken up for further in-depth work during the forum.

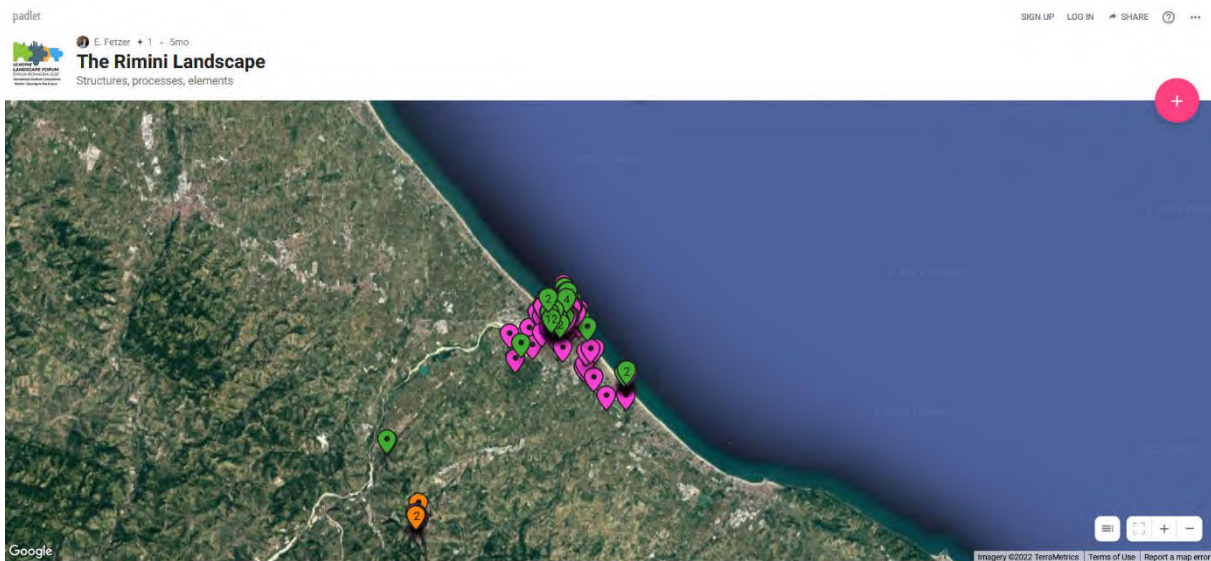


Figure 10. The extent of the Rimini Landscape explored and documented in the form of a Padlet during the site visit and introduction to the LE:NOTRE student competition in October 2021. Image copyright: LE:NOTRE Institute

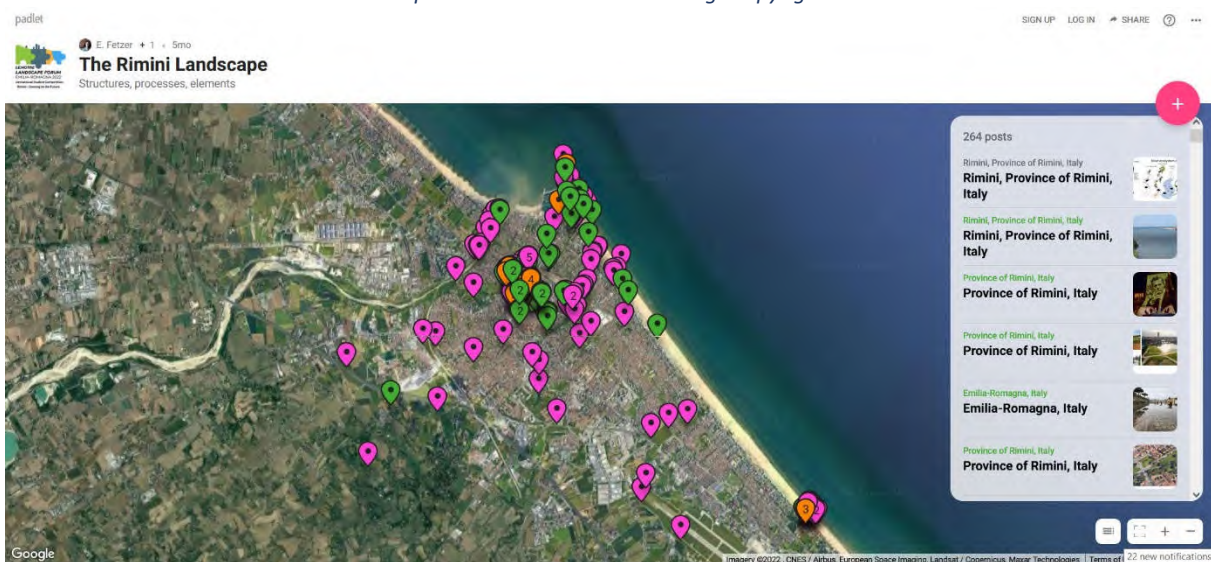


Figure 11. The active research and analysis done during the start of the competition were already categorised into the various working groups that formed a base for further working during the Forum. Image copyright: LE:NOTRE Institute

The landscape democracy group aimed to collect feedback from the other working groups, regarding their way of experiencing the landscape and the experiences they experienced during the surveys. The purpose of this collection and systematisation of the various impressions is to have a general and multidisciplinary reading of the landscape, relying on the sensitivity of the various groups and the interpretation they have given, according to their study theme. The reading of the territory was carried out from the hinterland of Emilia-Romagna, in the municipality of Cesena, passing from the centre of Rimini and moving along the coast, from Bellaria to the north, passing through Rimini itself, Miramare, up to Portoverde. With this objective, the members of the Landscape Democracy group each took on the role of an Ambassador of one of the respective working groups of the Landscape Forum (Integrated Landscape Vision, Rural Change and Foodscapes, Sustainable Tourism, Heritage and Identity). The Ambassadors took part in the activities, excursions and outcomes of their respective working groups and brought in a collected overview of the focus areas distributed among the groups.

As explained in the next chapter, the exercises planned by the Landscape Democracy group bring together an assortment of thoughts, values, observations and experiences from these various transects through the lens of Landscape Democracy.



## 4.2 5. Landscape Democracy working group: visualising social and environmental justice

To collect qualitative data from the working groups, we used digital tools, which helped us ensure that the information gathering process was not only more dynamic and easier but also allowed us to tap into perceptions and sub-conscious readings of the landscape. We used the app Padlet.com to generate a virtual wall where each group could upload some photos with a caption and title attached, at the user's discretion. We asked two questions: (1) Please share your visions, feelings, thoughts of how you see Rimini as an expression of Landscape Democracy, and (2) What does the term Landscape make you think of?

**Question 1, through [Padlet](#), “Share your visions, feelings, thoughts of how you see Rimini as an expression of Landscape Democracy”**

By asking these questions, the respondent would be invited to reflect on the meaning of Landscape Democracy and to convey through the photos describing possibilities and criticalities they see in the landscape (Figure 12).

### Photovoice outcomes



Figure 12. The photovoice outcomes uploaded by the forum participants were sorted into six categories to represent the various aspects highlighted in the definition of Landscape as seen in the European Landscape Convention.

The interactive map and the Padlet with Photovoice can be accessed via the QR-codes in Figure 13.



code for the interactive map of figure 10



code for the Padlet Photovoice answering question 1

Figure 13. QR codes of the interactive tools used during the Forum



#### 4.2.7. Findings: A kaleidoscope of ambitions and perceptions for Rimini's future landscape

During the review, comparison and synthesis of the group results, an interesting trait emerged that characterised the responses. Each group operated in a different context, with a cross-cutting theme and landscape reading, and each identified different actors in their own story. In reporting the data, the groups of tourism, that of the economy, or that concerning agri-food resources, consider positively what concerns people, visitors, and the marketability of goods. Other groups, such as the one on historical identities or the one that proposed an integrated vision of the territory, see values, belonging, and the natural ecosystem better at the centre of attention, fearing an excessive anthropisation.

It should be specified that there is no clear distinction and contrast in these points, each aspect sees the alliance of different groups precisely because they are strictly interconnected realities. However, our observations as on-the-ground participants confirmed the need for an overall vision to guide the regeneration of the Rimini landscape, a large, multifaceted and multi-functional territory. Participation focused on people's experiences and storytelling could help a new shared vision and story to emerge that would consider its pros and cons for the various territorial realities, and integrate their unique identities into a new identity as the core story to guide their actions for the future. Crafting such a story will also require a reflection and re-prioritization of the goals to advance new, deeper and more sustainable connections between people and the landscape, and inform actions consistent with them. For instance, to develop seaside tourism, it will be necessary to create new sustainable public and private means of transport between their residences and hotels and the landscape. Landscape change should begin with existing natural and man-made places that could be re-integrated into the everyday lives of tourists and residents using electric cars, bicycles, and ecological buses. These choices will also require a clear stance against the creation of new, monofunctional, auto-oriented landscapes like roads and parking lots thus opening up opportunities for the creation of new productive landscapes, community spaces, and landscapes where a renewed sense of community will thrive.

#### 4.2.8 Landscape Democracy activation through art

Upholding and activating Landscape Democracy processes is transformative of the relations among individuals, society and the environment. It also implies transformation in the way we engage in landscape planning and design. The landscape democracy group wanted to introduce into their activities at the forum an artistic relational performance open to all people and aimed at uncovering the attendees' willingness and readiness to serve as landscape democracy initiators and 'ambassadors'. Art is both the medium and the message -as suggested by McLuhan- the medium is the message. In 'relational art' the audience is not just active, but it's an integral part of the art piece. The intention of the artist and the reception of his work by the participant become one. Similarly, landscape democracy is both the idea, the ambition, and how the idea is interpreted and metabolised by the participant in its transformations.





*Figure 15. Piazzetta Carlo Zavagli prepared for the performance.*

The Landscape Democracy art performance was conceived by the artist and landscape researcher Michele Porsia in cooperation with Deni Ruggeri. The relational and social-behavioural art piece was entitled "I am an Ambassador of Landscape Democracy", proposed for April 29, 2022, as a performance intended to involve all the participants of the landscape forum. The artist, whose research aims at fertilising landscape design and planning with "poetic reaction artefact" (Porsia, 2019), proposed a site-specific of the relational and social-behavioural art performance. This refers to an art that can only be experienced in a specific time and place but is documented by photographer and artist assistant Maxim Gostyuzhev with live video and pictures to be shared via social media.

Joseph Beuys' 'aktionen', Situationist 'détournemen', Cesare Pietroiusti's performances, and experimental empowerment methodologies such as Anna and Lawrence Halprin's 'RSVP' served as inspiration for this participatory moment, which sought to move beyond the individualism that is often dominant in contemporary society toward a collective expression of commitment to landscape stewardship where each voice would be merged into one as a piece of choral music. Rather than having individuals relate to the art in a solo performance, this activity wanted to be a collective action where the 'aesthetics of the process' would be prioritised over the 'aesthetics of the object' (Porsia, 2019). It aimed to be a moment of deep sharing of the central values that should govern the relationships between individuals, society and the environment: those relationships that materially create the landscape.

The initial idea was to involve not only the Forum participants but also the local population and stakeholders, but a genuine and meaningful involvement of people would have required a longer artist residency, which was logistically impossible. As is often the case in art-works, the limitation can turn into the opportunity to refine ideas and give character to the final result. We thought of our performance as a moment of sharing by the Forum participants. It would also serve as an expression of their willingness to individually commit to the spreading of Landscape Democracy principles. The research performed by the working group members, and a collective digital mapping effort by students in the International Masters' of Landscape Architecture during their visit to the area in the Fall of 2021 provided us with a large database of landscapes, including Carlo Zavagli Square (Figure 15), which was selected as the site of the performance. The small piazza is an intimate public space centred on a ring-

shaped sculpture by artist Mauro Staccioli. The rotating sculpture is linked to the mythical history of Rimini and appeared in Federico Fellini's film *Amarcord*. In the film, a character searches for a precious ring in a deep cesspool, a fitting metaphor for the introspection each person must do to collect and bring out landscape democratic values such as tolerance, listening, and altruism. This reference to the movie director wanted to help deconstruct Rimini's public image of a mass tourism city by introducing contemporary culture and highlighting the remains of the Roman city and those of the Renaissance past as the land of the famed Malatesta family.



Figure 16a. The signing of a landscape Democracy Ambassador statement



the 'seed weapon' delivery during the performance designed by artist Michele Porsia.



Figure 16b. The statement and the 'seed weapon' used during the performance were designed by artist Michele Porsia.

Artist Michele Porsia proposed to structure the event as a director's 'take' in three 'acts': the first phase was the participants' one-to-one relationship with the artist who handed them a specially-made, numbered artwork featuring, in gold, a landscape abstraction. At the back of the art piece, a 'statement' was to be signed - as a provocation of trust - before it would be read aloud by the group (Fig 16.a and b). Upon signing, each person was invited to take a glass jar containing seeds, which had been carefully laid out to form a concentric, ripple-like pattern.





*Figure 17. The 'Choir for Landscape Democracy'.*

The second phase began with a brief introduction by the artist followed by a collective reading of a poetic-political statement (Figure 17). The statement reflected Francis Alÿs' belief that "sometimes doing something poetic can become political and sometimes doing something political can become poetic." (Alÿs, 2007). The Landscape Democracy statement, entitled "I am an Ambassador of Landscape Democracy" was written by Michele Porsia and Deni Ruggeri. From the performance, a "chorus for landscape democracy" emerged where the idea and peaceful action would lead to the fertilisation of this landscape for the production of democratic life.



*Figure 18: Spinning Mauro Staccioli's Corten steel sculpture.*

Even the smallest action can cause unexpectedly large effects. It can trigger mental processes and inner transformations that may influence our daily lives. Through the collective experience of chanting and planting seeds, everyone could increase their awareness that every person is a landscape-builder and take part in landscape transformations. For this collective awareness to emerge, it is important to break "blocks" and envision a new common path. Sometimes this requires opening ourselves to the idea and making space inside of

us to welcome the other. Like in one of Fellini's movies, reading the 'statement' and spinning Mauro Staccioli's Corten steel sculpture took the participants to a landscape halfway between dream and reality, where individual voices merged into a single voice as in the Ancient Greek dramaturgical tradition (Figure 17). After the choir, the artist instructed the participants to do whatever they wanted with this paper. Whether one would choose to frame it as a memento, burn it, or throw it in the trash—Michele Porsia explained—they would have a say in choosing to act toward greater landscape democracy.

A third action wanted to generate a ripple effect, bringing the demands of landscape democracy to the participants' communities, further spreading the idea that we are all landscape builders with rights and responsibilities. The artist suggested that people bring the seeds to a place they would have liked to see landscape democratic change happen. Some of the participants preferred to take the seeds with them, others, with the help of landscape democracy group co-organizer Michael Venturelli, emptied their jars into thin sheets of biodegradable paper to form a "seed weapon", a metaphorical object expressing a peaceful yet unexpressed longing for freedom but also an expression of their potential agency in the making of democratic future landscapes. Everyone after signing and taking the jar had an immediate impulse to read the text, to have a look inside the jar: curiosity was generated. The seed jar is also a provocation vaguely recalling the work of artist Piero Manzoni and his well-known seed bombs, as a metaphorical and peaceful evolution of the guerrilla gardening of the 1970s. A small group of 20 participants walked together towards Parco 25 Aprile, adjacent to the ancient Roman bridge and the Marecchia River where they would launch the seed weapon (Figure 19).



*Figure 19. Launching the seed-weapons.*



#### 4.2.9. Landscape Democracy transformations from the inside-out.

Sometimes small gestures can have a much stronger effect than expected. In this case, the throwing of seeds was a poetic raising of consciousness, a cathartic gesture, and a metaphor for the power we all have to change the landscape with our actions. The landscape means different things to different people, and everyone interprets landscape experiences through their own cultural and mental schemata. The artistic performance elicited a variety of reactions. While many participants were enthusiastic, a few declined to participate and chose to leave to have dinner. Two people voiced their dissent. The activity inspired in people a more intimate, visceral understanding of what landscape democracy meant to them. Reflecting on the immediate reactions, the landscape democracy group reflected that transformations require time for activation. While we did not have a discussion within the forum following the event, there is evidence that participating in the performance sparked a dialogue, both internal and public. Only days after the end of the workshop, there were signs that landscape democracy was taking its course, as participants began sharing pictures of the place where they planted the seeds. The reflections and stories by the members of the Landscape Democracy group shared below, are part of these transformations.



*Figure 20. Participants of the forum with their landscape democracy declarations.*

*"Landscape Democracy needs its traditions and rituals to tell and retell its story. While I was reading the poem aloud, I realised that I am not alone in believing in the need to create landscapes that are closer to the soul of man, and that no technique or technology can do that. The launch of the seeds opened my mind to a "bird's eye view" by linking my here and now to the landscapes where these seeds will be brought, and to the future interactions they will generate. The criticisms I have heard have only convinced me of the goodness of the action and of the work that we must continue to do to communicate both the landscape and democracy, which require action."*

*(Deni Ruggeri)*

*"The art initiative was an interesting experiment to observe, document and a tool to initiate further actions from various angles. The stakeholders of the event can be broadly classified into those who organised and conceptualised the event as a democratic activity, and those who took part in the art performance. The mixed reactions and emotions of the participants, as well as the organisers, are very valuable to observe from two broad contexts:*

*1. As mentioned in Chapter 1: "...Conflicting interests exist in any landscape. If these conflicting views are integrated into a participatory dialogue, this can lead to better alternatives...". The thoughts, emotions and opinions that the art performance aimed to promote, also provoked the reactions it received, without meaning to do so. At the same time, the actions of all participants who took the seed jars and decided to plant the seeds fell exactly into the intended results the performance aimed to bring about. These actions were regardless of what reactions any of the participants had at the end of the performance. As interesting as this observation might be, it is necessary to bring this further into a democratic and participative discussion for us to better understand what democracy means to us.*

*2. As we form a part of the landscape ourselves, it is of high value to include these observations in the Rimini Landscape Observatory to document Landscape Democracy, Participation, conflicts, successes, perceptions, perspectives and so on, in the context of the Landscape Observatory to serve as a part of the knowledge bank that the Observatory intends to provide."*

*(Arati Uttur)*

*"While reading the statement, there was some laughter in the last, people who probably took part in that event unwillingly and considered it just a game to entertain them and that distracted them from other activities. However, at the end, when everyone screamed "I name myself a landscape democracy ambassador", there was a different feeling in the air, as if people got more involved with that last paragraph.*

*Then, I went to the bench to help people prepare their seed bombs; initially, I just went there to help a girl who couldn't find scissors to cut the thread but soon attracted more and more participants. Sitting there, I noticed that several of the more sceptical ones, who may be even mocked the event, wanted to pack their seed bomb; some asked if they could take two, one to throw immediately during the walk and one to take home. We specify that none of the participants was forced to take the jar from the ground, nor to pack the seeds. Almost all the participants went to the bench where the seeds were being packaged, some more or less convinced of the gesture itself, but many also asking for advice on how to best manage it, when they would have returned home.*

*Watching the process a little from the side-lines, gave me the chance to better appreciate the facets of the participants and the variety of behaviours and sensations that were born and evolved. During the launch, in the park, even the timidiest came forward and contributed with a small gesture, a beautiful conclusion to a path and the crowning of the meaning of undertaking and representing the figure of "ambassador of a democratic landscape" daily.*

*At the end of the day and in the general experience, I think we assisted in the paradox of the democratic process. Willing that everyone wants to be involved, and appreciate the initiative; but the joining of all the experiences and expressions of different subjects can define a bigger and richer image of the concept. This explains how anyone can add their contribution, especially if they're given the proper tools to act spontaneously and freely, without too many guidelines, in the full expression of democracy."*

*(Michael Venturelli)*



Now, I close my eyes  
this time, planting a landscape democracy seed in my chest.  
Every seed has to sprout, and I am ready to let it grow.

Democracy is a space. Democracy is a landscape.

There is a landscape outside, and a landscape is inside me.  
"Everything is landscape," said Kroll  
the landscape is no longer a panorama  
landscape is something to experience.

Today's landscape perception is nothing like yesterday's.  
Every perception is going to change.  
I can change myself with my will, and I can do it now; I can do it tomorrow too.  
I can change the landscape as well.  
I am a landscape builder, so I can change the landscape.

Every action I take is producing real changes:  
it's enough to breath, to walk, to talk.  
And every action is led by visions  
so thoughts can also produce changes.  
Visions are going to change, too.  
Every experience will affect my thoughts.  
I am going to change anyway for any reason,  
and tomorrow I will meet a different myself  
my desires will change too.  
Every life has to be respected,  
every idea is a gift.  
Differences across landscapes are a value. The possibility of improving a landscape is the challenge  
Integration protection and enhancement are a must.

What was democratic yesterday is not so today.  
What was meant for landscape yesterday doesn't mean landscape today  
Democracy has to grow, and I am going to make space for it.  
I am inside the landscape, and I am outside the landscape.  
I sew landscape on my body, and the landscape is shaping me.  
The landscape is soaked in democratic social relations  
democracy is visible in the landscape  
so now it is time to build democratic relations  
among individuals, society, and the environment

Stakeholder often sounds like a bad word, but I am a stakeholder too  
and the power won't cloud my mind  
I'll split my slice of power but will ensure that everyone's slice will be equal:  
It is the timeless miracle of democracy.  
I will defend democracy from every form of totalitarianism and ochlocracy,  
I will remember to represent the interests of those who are invisible,  
of those who are absent because they do not have enough power to be seen  
for those tortured by a life that takes away their inside landscape.  
I will give voice to the river, the tree, the beach, a mountain, insects, birds,  
and all the animals living in a landscape.  
My voice has become a democratic and ecological choir.  
The differences among landscapes are a value  
the possibility of improving a landscape is the challenge.  
Integrating protection and enhancement is a must.  
If we are not on the same wave,  
I am aware that every wave has to dissolve.  
I am going to be ready to open my heart to different ideas,  
I am prepared to open my mind and spirit to a higher purpose than my selfish interest.  
I name myself an ambassador of landscape democracy.

#### 4.2.10 Toward a new Landscape Democracy citizenry for Rimini and its landscape

A vision of landscape democracy should be as diverse and multifaceted as the landscape and people who engage with it. In the context of our work within the Landscape Democracy cross-cutting group, this vision is a gestalt of the ideas of landscape and democracy we tried to introduce through the idea of the right to landscape, the European landscape convention definition of landscapes as both generated by the interaction of natural and human factors, and as generative of processes and transformations at the scale of the individual, the community, and the region. The vision we have in mind is one of a landscape where resources and access are prioritised to bring those who have been historically unheard, distanced, or disconnected from the landscape and its resources. This means giving more space, priority, and agency to nature and ecology, residents, and new forms of sustainable tourism over the consumption-driven forms of landscape use promoted by past tourism. The disruption of the massive flow of tourists that used to affect the beautiful landscape of Rimini and the other coastal cities of Emilia-Romagna as a result of COVID-19 is an opportunity to switch from the fast time of macro-economics of business to the time of nature, which is slower and uncertain. Valentina Ridolfi, Coordinator of Rimini's strategic plan, pointed out the need to give time to participatory processes, something that is often challenging in the world of business and economics. For landscape democracy to thrive, we need to give time for conflicts to emerge, visions to be imagined, and stories to be told and passed on so that others can share them and embrace them.

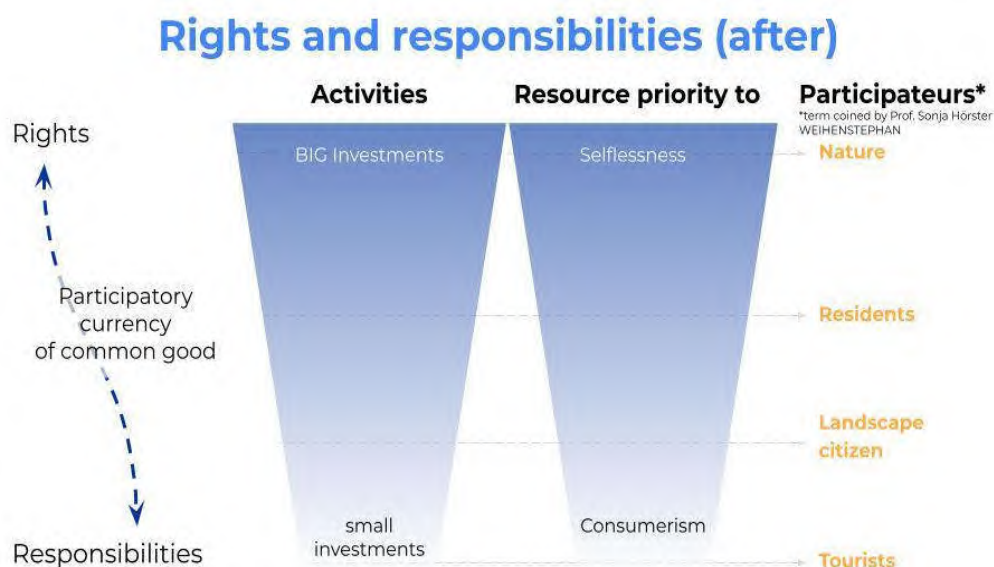


Figure 21. Envisioned scenario of a sustainable hierarchy in the landscape. Graphic conceptualised by Lara de Souza Renhe

#### *Landscape Democracy and Heritage and Identities*

The Heritage and Identities group investigated the reuse of the summer 'colonie' located at the border between Rimini and Riccione. The site visits and our encounters with local community members, the administrations and associations active in the landscape, revealed that these architectural artefacts represent a little appreciated historical parenthesis in the fast-paced landscape of the urbanized landscape, and could be seen as great resources for the future. Their abandonment and neglect by the public administration neglect to consider the great potential their landscapes have for residents and tourists. Their careful reintegration could also serve to remind us of the values that informed their creation during past regimes and open up a healthy reflection on their distance from what we consider valuable in our society. These areas hold great potential not only in terms



of what can happen inside the buildings but also because of what is taking place around them. The Colonie marine of the past has gained over the years great value from an environmental perspective. Their biodiversity should be recognized and preserved. Turning them into engines of landscape democracy could inspire guerrilla-like, subversive use as artistic and cultural hubs, de-couple them from the flows of consumption and production and enhance their transformative potential for the benefit of people, the community and nature In a landscape untouched and far from automobile traffic and the bustling city centre. The future of these landscapes should be decided in partnership with communities and individuals who currently claim them as their own, including the homeless, thus making these landscapes part of the revival of the Rimini landscape from the point of view of 'social integration.

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## 4.3 Rural Change and Foodscapes



*Images of agricultural production in the region*

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### 4.3.1. Outline of the theme

One of the most productive landscapes of Italy is the territory represented by Emilia-Romagna. In this region the Via Emilia forms an important infrastructure. Since Roman times the area was developed as a productive area.

This coastal area with its hinterland can be seen as a spatial system that connects cultural landscapes and food systems. However, the current production system produces mainly for the national and global market and has hardly any connection with the region and local communities. The future Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) aims among other things to ensure a fair income to farmers, to rebalance the power in the food chain, to act upon climate change action, to preserve landscapes and biodiversity, and to support vibrant rural areas. Multifunctional local and regional foodscapes can contribute to the integration of traditional and recreational agricultural areas. Agriculture may have an important contribution for accessibility and security of food. It can also favour the local economy and strengthen the identity of the tourism complex. For local inhabitants it can foster social cohesion.

*Foodscapes are understood as all those areas that contribute to food production such as arable land and farms, orchards, allotments, and vegetable gardens in combination with the social capital they build. Food and its production may help us connect and find shared interests across cultures. Food production could be re-envisioned as a partnership between consumer associations, foundations guiding the overall goals and corporate partnership of farmers. This would provide opportunities for jobs for disadvantaged groups like migrants and refugees. The connection between people and food should be strengthened to attract children to spend time outdoors, rather than in front of a computer screen. The landscape should give people the opportunity to grow their own food for their physical and mental well-being. Multifunctional, inclusive, and organic farms can help to protect and develop green corridors consisting of nature reserves, nature development zones and landscape development areas. Therefore foodscapes should be well connected to the networks of recreation and nature protection to trigger mutual benefits.*

**Source:** Brief for the foodscapes theme of the LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum 2020

Emilia-Romagna defined "marginal agriculture areas" that coincided with the agricultural areas adjacent to urban centres. Here, new agricultural constructions could be built; however, their realisation should be contained to prevent contrasts with the prevailing residential function of the consolidated urban fabric and close to peri-urban agricultural areas (Valentina, 2020).

In the region there is an increase of organic farming and integrated production aimed to have a low environmental impact: reducing the use of water and energy, while promoting circular economy.

This is fully inline with the policies of the Regione Emilia-Romagna aim for an increase of organic and integrated production and strengthening the regional food systems. But it is important to understand the relationship between past and present how landscape has been evolved across time and what are the actors in the food system. From mainland Emilia-Romagna to the Cesenatico how food system flow works from coast to inland, who are the stakeholders, how the productivity in the region can be safeguarded will be evaluated in the foodscape framework.

#### 4.3.2. Study and planning area

The foodscape study focuses on the transect of Cesenatico and its connections from coastline to the inland production areas. The study area will be the complex agglomeration of the Adriatic sea coast, inland colonia, coastal plain, farming lands and the foot of hilly areas. The landscape relations were studied by exploring transects that run from the coast to the inland area and also from north to south in order to analyse variation in landscape use and agricultural systems (Figure 22).

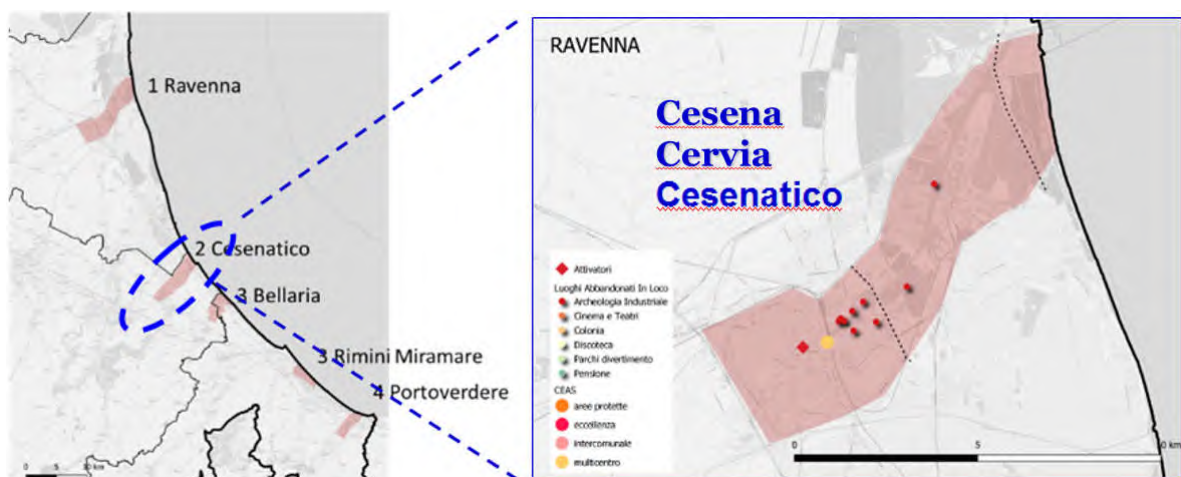


Figure 22. Location of the study area

The study and field visits included one transect from inland Cesena to coastal Cervia and Cesenatico (Figure 23) with a focus on the concept of farming and the related food system. The team met with the association of the fishermen, agricultural producers around Cesenatico, an organisation that relate to community supported agriculture and some social NGOs that support the less economically strong part of the population.



Figure 23. Focus Area: Cesena to Cesenatico (Transect made by architecture students of University of Bologna: C. Corradini, Zini, M. Lampati, G. Martini, N. Petracci, G. Quaranta, L. Taddia; Corso di Tecnica Urbanistica 2020/2021 Prof. S. Tondelli)

The study was based on an overview of Emilia-Romagna on regional and Rimini on more local level. After the field visit analyses were made on spatial changes in the region landscape, using the DPSiR-method (Table 1) and SWOT analysis (Table 2). Main challenges for foodscapes were evaluated in the light of dynamics, impacts and potential food system interactions between producers, retailer, consumer as well as different sectors (Figure 24).



Figure 24. Local food initiatives on the way to foodscapes

#### 4.3.3.Spatial Changes in the Regional Landscape

The background information on the characteristics and development of the coastal landscape of Emilia-Romagna is presented in Annex A.

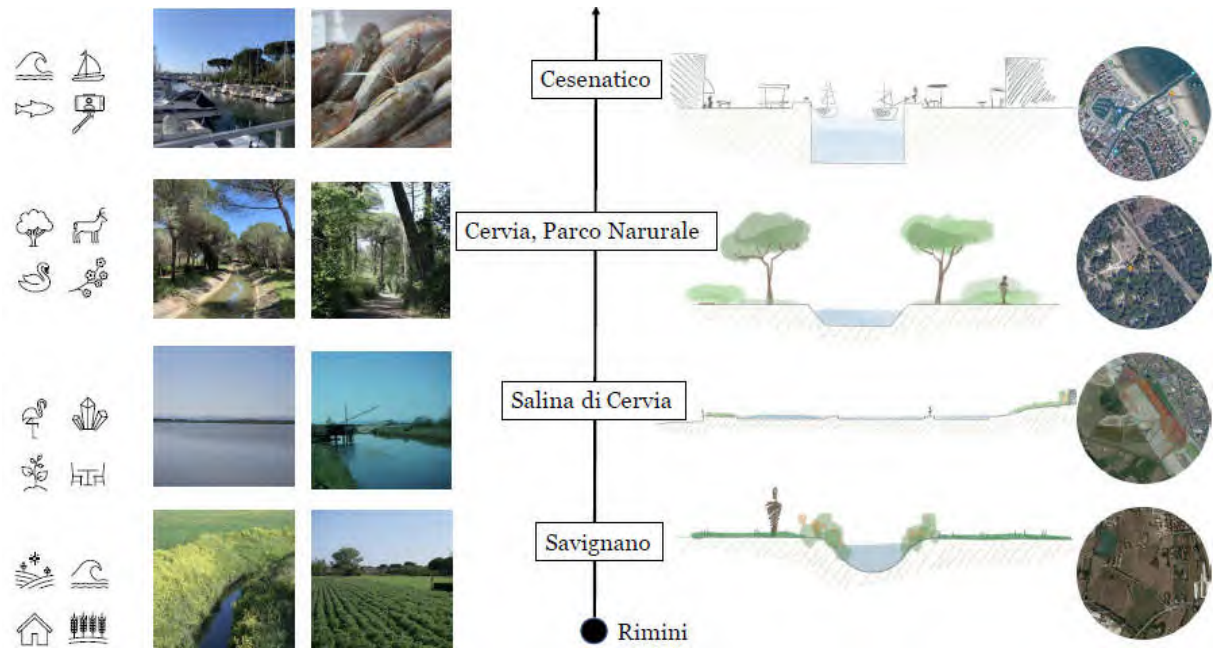


Figure 25. Spatial changes in the regional landscape (Arina PAUTOVA, 2022)



**Table 1. DPSiR Landscape Analysis – Rimini (Emilia-Romagna)**

Driving Forces	Trends	Pressures	State	Impacts
*Urbanization	*Unstructured urban growth along an urban-rural continuum (e.g. highway: fragmentation agricultural land)	*Growing demand and degradation of natural resources (land, water, ecosystem services)	*Land fragmentation Higher land costs (plain) and abandonment (Mountains / Hills)Limited participation on decision making *Lack of common good	Loss of local food identity and know-how  Public health  Creation of social disparities and vulnerabilities  Degradation of ecosystem services
*Tourism	*Growing dependency on tourism	*Commoditization (Economic, cultural, social) Transition from agriculture to tourism	*Seasonality (employment, use of resources) *High Concentration of people flows and consumption *Generational and migration transition * Lack of food system strategy (biodiversity, agricultural, nutrition, etc.)	
*Climate Change	*Water scarcity	*Climate Risks	*Water shortage	
*Global/Regional Economic Development	*Economies of scale Pollution from inland to coast and sea	*Concentration of power Water and soil pollution	*Food identity oriented to export/globalization *Fragile ecosystems	
*Regional Crisis	*Social, economic, energetic uncertainty	*High input costs	*Lower income of farmers	
S P E C T R U M O F R E S P O N S E S				
- Resilience - Reterritorialization - Democracy - Participation - Inclusion	→ Multilevel cooperation – Horizontal-Vertical – Intersectoral – transdisciplinary *Green Deal *CAP, COP *PNRR *MUFPP *One-Health	Building awareness & evidence-based decision making *Landscape Observatories *Living Labs *Participatory Action Research *Grounded Research	* Integrated and Inclusive Food System Strategies * Integrating Food in the (urban) political agenda *Circular economy policy of Emilia-Romagna *Integrated Landscape structure of the region	CILS Social Food  Popular kitchens  Food hubs (e.g. in Colonia)

*Scheme made by Sebastian BURGOS GUERRERO , 2022*

**Table 2. Rural Change and Foodscape SWOT Analysis**

#### STRENGTHS

- Family enterprise's identity
- Pride of local people to share their story and identity about local food system
- Quality and diversity of products
- Transmission of values
- Links between producers and consumers
- Local food system gives social dignity
- Agricultural diversity
- High certification of local products

#### OPPORTUNITIES

- Social media strategy to announce local actors
- Saline: integrated preservation of bio-diversity
- Technological development improves efficiency
- Bring awareness to younger generation about the heritage value of local food system
- Improve the quality and standards of local raw materials
- Provide training to develop specialized skills
- Food system stimulates local job market
- Forestry
- Connection with other sectors and diverse urban agricultural typologies
- Sustainable tourism becomes driving force and provides a potential market



#### WEAKNESSES

- Lack of integration of policies into local food system
- Lack of awareness by the clients and customers on how local food system works
- Lack of financial support
- High dependence on tourism

#### THREATS

- International pressure on local food system
- High price and additional fees to ensure high quality
- Pollution
- Social problems for people with aid need or vulnerable people
- Transportation and delivery (cost, efficiency, sustainability)
- Unstructured management of tourism
- Climate change

*Scheme made by Jiaqi YANG, Kelan Li, 2022)*

## Cesenatico from Fishing to Tourism Town

Cesenatico is a renowned seaside town on the coast of Romagna, located between Ravenna and Rimini. In the picturesque historical centre, which resides harmoniously among modern urban structures, people can still get a sense of the atmosphere of the old fishermen's village. The soft sandy beach which stretches out towards the sea, with its well-equipped beach centres, and the hinterland, with two big parks, are only a few of the distinctive

features of Cesenatico. Its "Giardini al Mare" is a lively place, a long green area where people can sunbathe while walking peacefully.

Cesenatico's gastronomy, based on fresh fish, offers the best of the traditional fish dishes in the characteristic restaurants located along the Canal Harbour, to be tasted with the typical piadina bread. However, seems to be on the transition from a small fishing town to one of the popular tourism spot in Emilia-Romagna (Figure 26).



Figure 26. Cesenatico: from Fishing Town to Tourism Town

#### 4.3.4. Policy Framework Related to Food Systems

##### *Handling Foodscape in Spatial Planning*

All these territorial transformations are governed through the adoption of regional laws and plans. These acts promote spatial urban-rural equilibrium and include specific measures for the agro-environmental balance and urban regeneration in the urban fringes. Unlike other regions, Emilia-Romagna have experimented with more accurate spatial delimitations of their regional territory (Valentina, 2020).

Recently, Emilia-Romagna has approved a new regional planning law, the Law no.24/2017, which repealed entirely the previous one, the Law no.20/2000. The new law is inspired by the same principles which are the basis of the previous one and specifically on subsidiarity and cooperation. As such, it delegates large competences to the municipalities and creates some collegial organisms, such as Comitati urbanistici (Town planning committee) with the specific tasks to coordinate and integrate advice from various public institutions (Region, provinces, metropolitan cities) on the subject of participation, environment and any other matter required by law. However, it is important to seek for an integration and adaptation of the sectoral and provincial plans along with the Piano di sviluppo rurale (Rural Development Programme, RDP) (Valentina, 2020).

##### *Peri-urban governance in Emilia-Romagna*

For years Emilia-Romagna has been working on defining peri-urban areas and governing them through urban-rural development plans. By approving the Law no.20/2000, this region was one of the first ones to define peri-urban areas and more specifically the "peri-urban agricultural areas". These areas were defined as territories adjacent to urban centres or enclosed between urbanised and contiguous settlements (Valentina, 2020).

The region could promote the realisation of agritourism and organic farming techniques, and barriers to protect not-infrastructure areas. As such, farms could maintain their agricultural vocation and promote activities to supplement agricultural income (Valentina, 2020).

Most of the farms are directly managed by the owner-farmer (95%), even if the importance of direct farm management using exclusive family labour decreases, as farm size increases. Over 90% of the farms are smaller than 0.2 hectares while just 12% of the farms are larger than 10 hectares (Gatti, Incerti and Ravagli, 2002).



#### 4.3.5. Foodscapes and Sustainable Regional Development

The realisation of integrated projects between viticulture and tourism sectors (such as the wine routes) in vineyard areas like Emilia-Romagna can offer an interesting solution for those winemakers who intend to launch the promotion of their own products and create development opportunities as, for instance, new job opportunities for young people. In the tourism sector, it might be possible to integrate traditional activities – such as beach, thermal and mountain tourism – with the yet non-existent thematic tourism in the Emilia-Romagna region (Gatti, Incerti and Ravagli, 2002). Important challenges for a sustainable food system are:

- organising short chain collaborations between local producers, retailers, restaurants, cafes, hotels and tourism operators, and providing a space for this in the form of food hubs (e.g. in one or some of the colonia),
- adapting the produce and crops in the coastal area to climate change and local production in order to make the production less global oriented and answering to the demands of food in the region.
- access to good quality and local food for the less advantaged calls for strengthening the networks of local producers with consumers and developing possibilities for growing food in and around the city.
- bridging the gap between consumers, producers and governance by organising participants in collaborative platforms such as Food Councils with representatives of local farmer organisations, NGO's, and retailers.
- strengthen branding of local products to help local producers have a strong place in the market linking that to cultural heritage, traditional crafts and produce, and fostering traditional landscape patterns.
- supporting social entrepreneurship in the food branch to make the industry more inclusive by providing work and activities for the less advantaged.
- providing a spatial network that is linked to local production with gastronomic thematic routes making use of networks of green infrastructure.

#### 4.3.6. Landscape Vision and Strategy for Foodscapes and Food Systems

##### *Stakeholder Engagement*

Actors in the food system are multidimensional and multi-sectoral. The system includes producers (farmers, market gardeners, fishermen, aqua-farmers), processors (mills, cheese makers, food & drinks processors and packagers), distributors (wholesale, retail, markets) that deliver products and services to consumers. These are influenced and supported by policies, processes and projects (Figure 27).

Food system actors represent the largest group of natural resource managers. They are critical in both creating the problems and implementing the solutions. Identifying actors along the food chain as well as where and how power is located enables policy makers to develop management approaches targeted towards those actors with influence. In addition to those directly involved in food chain activities, governments and civil society are also important as they set the wider policy and societal context. Installing a platform like a food council can help to make the system more equitable and just.



Figure 27. Potential policies, projects and processes that support food systems and food governance in the Region

The Crop Production Research Centre (PRPV [www.crpv.it](http://www.crpv.it)) is a cooperative company located in Cesena (Po Valley, Northern Italy), operating in the development of research on crop production, through four main topics: (1) fruit, vegetables, seeds, floriculture; (2) viticulture, oenology and olive oil; (3) cereals, beets and oilseed crops; and (4) bio-energy. It could act as a platform for the exchange of knowledge among actors and organisations of the local food system, enhancing their collaboration and building strategic capacities in the system.

### Local Branding

Local branding and strengthening sustainable food systems through local products and geographical indications are considered as key tools for a sustainable rural development. Origin-linked products can be part of a virtuous circle of sustainable quality based on the preservation of local resources and other factors described in the FAO-SINERGI guide “Linking people, places and products” (Vandecastelaere et al, 2010).

Dairy producers of Squacquerone di Romagna (Protected Denomination of Origin) are one of the key local food associations in the region (Figure 28 and 29). During our research, we found the cheesemaker, Caseificio Pascoli, a family run-business and producer of two traditional local cheeses, Fossa (PDO) and Squacquerone di Romagna (PDO) that is using raw material from the local farmers and milk producers.



Figure 28. Visiting Squacquerone di Romagna

### Local Food Initiatives



Figure 29. Social Food Initiative ‘Well Done’

### Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUPP)

By signing the MUPP, cities commit to “work to develop sustainable food systems that are inclusive, resilient, safe and diverse, that provide healthy and affordable food to all people in a human rights-based framework that minimise waste and conserve biodiversity while adapting to and mitigating impacts of climate change”. This has been the most visible recent expression of a movement that has developed in recent years to make cities, which

group around half of world population, major actors of the emergence of more sustainable food systems. It is also part of a larger movement that has been aiming at developing local sustainable food systems (Milan Urban Food Policy Pact). The city of Rimini could be part of this pact to strengthen the role of integrated food policies in regional and urban development strategies.

### *Educational Farms URBACT Project*

Environmental Farms represent one of the possible choices that farmers have when moving away from the single idea of agricultural production, adopting an innovative approach to cope with the negative aspects of productivity or the agro-industrial paradigm (URBACT Project, 2018).

Amongst the partner cities of educational farms URBACT (Figure 30), six farm states from Cesena actively participated in the project.



Figure 30. URBACT Project and Cesena

### *Rimini Strategic Plan and Food Systems*

Limiting land consumption is a strategic aspect in order to affirm a new vision of territorial development centred on the reuse of existing urban systems and the protection of agricultural land, the landscape and the environment. However, to respond to the question of which spatial strategies can support the development of a sustainable food system will require a broader discussion of the scope and opportunities for an integrated role of food in the Rimini Strategic Plan.



Figure 31. Scopes in Rimini Strategic Plan (Ridolfi 2022)



## Conclusions

Emilia-Romagna is one the most productive landscapes of Italy. The Regione Emilia-Romagna and the city of Rimini have a strong structure of policies based on sustainable development goals. The content and support for these policies is organised by participatory processes. For the foodscape along the coast a food strategy could be developed with quantitative and qualitative objectives for re-territorialisation of the Food System. A food strategy for the coastal area could be developed with quantitative and qualitative objectives for re-territorialisation of the food system. Elements of this food strategy can be: (1) strengthening the connection between local producers and local consumers by creating short chain networks, for which some of the former colonie can have a function as a food hub. (2) Transforming current agriculture along nature reserves, nature development zones and landscape development areas into multifunctional, inclusive, and organic farms to help to protect and develop green infrastructure corridors. (3) Giving people the opportunity to grow their own food in the (peri) urban landscape for their physical and mental well-being

### *Integrate the food system resilience into the Rimini Landscape Observatory*

The challenge is to align private and public interests, cross sectoral interests and make use of local knowledge. A landscape system cannot be transformed as a whole. Geels (2011) points out the importance of making use of niche innovations that can be strengthened by integrating them into a stronger driving force. By a multi-level governance approach that integrates the objectives of different participants into landscape quality objectives a solution may be found for competing claims on a landscape level. Goals that are formulated in a collaborative way, can set a future agenda for the foodscape in the coastal area.

The implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, 2000) proposes the formulation of landscape quality objectives and monitoring these by landscape observatories. Landscape observatories act as communication platforms that give joint responsibilities to all parties who use, protect, manage and maintain the landscape; provide cooperation opportunity between institutions and disciplines and enable public awareness about the importance and protection of the landscape. A local landscape observatory for Rimini could foster communication between niche innovations, make a link to deep democratic processes and strengthen the power of transformative actions by linking these to explicitly defined landscape quality objectives.

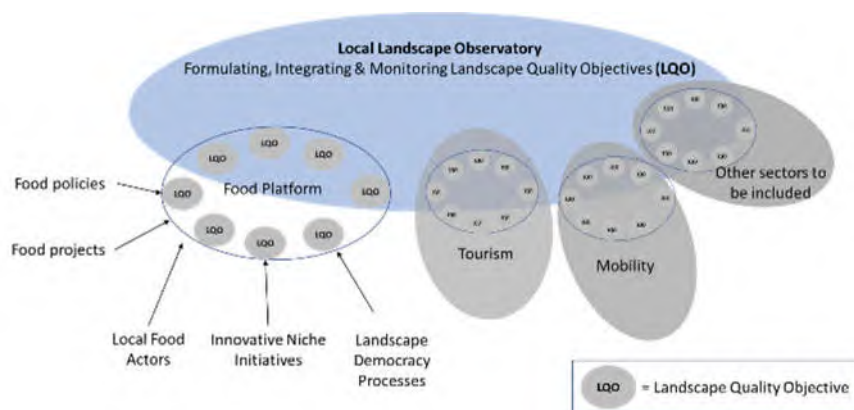


Figure 32. A local landscape observatory integrates goals for sustainable foodscapes and food systems

Recognising the physical reality of the area and the different ways in which it is perceived leads to due consideration being given to the views of farmers and other stakeholders, including the local population. These could be represented in a Food Platform. Landscape observatories can be a useful tool in strengthening the integrated landscape approach particularly in the planning and management of foodscapes in Rimini.

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## Websites

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URBACT project: <https://urbact.eu>

## 4.4 Sustainable Tourism



*Viewpoint to the coastline on Piazzale Kennedy in Rimini*

**Lead-author:** Oana Emilia Budau. **Co-Authors:** Julia Georgi, Frederico Meireles Rodrigues, Quying Wang, Letizia Cremonini, Angkita Hawlader.

### 4.4.1 The concept of sustainable tourism

The UN Environment Program and UN World Tourism Organization defined Sustainable tourism as “tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment, and host communities.”

“Sustainable tourism” refers to the sustainability of the tourism industry as a whole. On the other hand, the term “Responsible tourism”, indicates individual actions that people, businesses, and destinations take to create a sustainable tourism industry.

Sustainable tourism can be considered the ‘strategy’ and responsible tourism the ‘tactics’ to be followed for local-level development. In this sense, we practice responsible tourism when we take responsibility for our actions and acquire the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to address the social, environmental, and economic challenges we face in the tourism industry. This, in turn, contributes to the advancement of sustainable tourism.

To ensure long-term sustainability, the three main principles of sustainable tourism are a suitable balance in three dimensions of development (environmental, economic, and social-cultural factors). Therefore, the tourism sector of a city should: (1) Make optimal use of environmental resources that constitute a key element in tourism development, maintaining essential ecological processes and helping to conserve natural heritage and biodiversity; (2) Respect the socio-cultural authenticity of host communities, conserve their built and living cultural heritage and traditional values, and contribute to inter-cultural understanding and tolerance; (3) Ensure viable, long-term economic operations, providing socio-economic benefits to all stakeholders that are fairly distributed, including stable employment and income-earning opportunities and social services to host communities, and contributing to poverty alleviation.

In 2019 travel abruptly came to an end, and global economic activity collapsed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, a global calamity unlike any other in contemporary history. Tourism is a significant economic engine, contributing to more than 10% of the global economy and a significant portion of exports and foreign exchange revenues in many nations. Also the industry is very integrated; the success of one sector affects several other industries. The pandemic state has severely affected the intricate global tourist supply chain, endangering



millions of employment in the industry. The lack of access to social safety nets and limited job prospects have disproportionately harmed informal and migratory workers, especially women and young people. This has exacerbated poverty and slowed progress toward the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Many of the economies in the Emilia-Romagna region that depend on tourism, notably small cities, entered the pandemic with insufficient external buffers, little fiscal room, and a high concentration of tourist-related foreign exchange income. The empirical research uses an enhanced gravity model to learn from prior epidemics and concludes that infectious illnesses have a far bigger influence on tourism flows in underdeveloped nations than in affluent economies. Given the unusual nature of the COVID-19 crisis, simulation results from forward-looking models for economies dependent on tourism suggest possibility for a quicker recovery, with potential for profound and long-lasting scarring effects to magnify existing vulnerabilities.

This chapter focuses on examining the characteristics of the tourism sector of the coastal landscape of the Emilia-Romagna region, particularly presenting the case of the municipality of Bellaria Igea Marina.

#### 4.4.2 Tourism in the Emilia-Romagna Region

Emilia-Romagna is a popular tourist destination in Europe, with over 11.5 million visitors and 50 million overnight stays annually (Regione Emilia-Romagna, 2022), it has been ranked fourth among the most visited Italian Regions by the Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (CDP). Its historical, cultural, artistic, gastronomic, and wine-making traditions have been attracting people worldwide. As an important but not the only form of economy, in 2007 tourist expenditure made up 12.6% of total Emilia-Romagna regional domestic consumption.

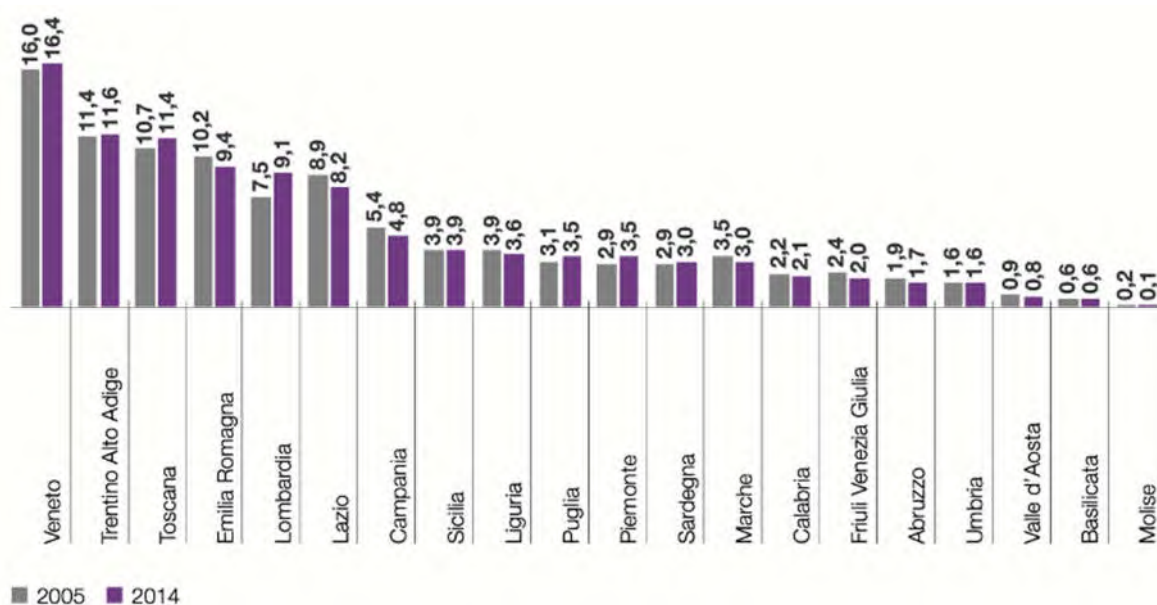


Figure 33. Tourist presences by destination region, 2005 and 2014 (%) (retrieved from: [www.cdp.it](http://www.cdp.it))

The regional territory has been divided into five tourist territorial areas: Riviera; Capital Cities; Spa Resorts; Appennino (mountains); Other locations, places and itineraries outside the traditional tourist circuits: for example, the municipalities of Carpi and Maranello, etc. They are localities that aim to promote arts-and-craft products, services, niche events, or other events and products that represent the peculiarity of an area, which is recognized and sought after by the tourists. This division is currently under review.

Arrivals (tourists entering the Region) in 2017 had increased by 7% compared to the previous year, for a total of 12.8 million.

**Table 3. Arrivals and overnight stays in Emilia-Romagna Region, 2017DPSiR Landscape Analysis – Rimini (Emilia-Romagna)**

Tourist territorial areas	Arrivals			Overnight stays		
	2016	2017	Var.	2016	2017	Var.
<b>Riviera</b>	6.510.000	6.939.000	6.6%	39.844.000	41.924.000	5.2%
<b>Città d'arte</b>	2.973.000	3.165.000	6.5%	6.412.000	7.087.000	10.5%
<b>Appennino</b>	477.000	494.000	3.6%	1.972.000	2.060.000	4.5%
<b>Terme</b>	405.000	399.000	-1.5%	1.336.000	1.242.000	-7.0%
<b>Total</b>	10.365.000	10.997.000	6.1%	49.564.000	52.313.000	5.5%
<b>Other locations</b>	1.603.000	1.815.000	13.2%	3.986.000	4.636.000	16.3%
<b>Total</b>	11.968.000	12.812.000	7.1%	53.550.000	56.949.000	6.3%

*Source: Osservatorio del Turismo Emilia-Romagna*

In the Summer season, which runs from May to September, there is a growing turnout that has its peak for foreign tourists in July, while for the Italians the maximum turnout is distributed between June and August.

Its regional capital, Rimini, is characterised by the biggest concentration of tourists, welcoming 43% of regional presences, mainly due to the seaside offer and congress locations.

### *The coast of Emilia-Romagna*

The Emilia-Romagna coast, which extends from Po di Goro to Cattolica, is one of the most well-known coastal attractions in the northern Adriatic Sea in Italy. Emilia-coastal Romagna's towns are the heartland of the region's and the North Adriatic Sea's nautical traditions. They were important trade hubs between Italy and the East. Bellaria-Igea Marina, Borgo San Giuliano, Cattolica, Cervia, Cesenatico, and Comacchio are the six Emilia-Romagna coastal towns where the art of fishing, the knowledge of the sea, and marine navigation have been highly developed. Today, summer tourism shapes the coastal landscape. The beach and supporting business are the most referenced asset of this territory, and almost the entire sand surface is exploited with the homogeneous spatial distributed beach establishments.



*Figure 34 . Rimini beach (R/oddlysatisfying, 2017)*

#### 4.4.3 Tourism policy framework

In the last decade, the Emilia-Romagna Region has been committed to distributing tourism presences throughout the overall regional territory, organizing proposals, itineraries, and touristic packages that can respond to different targets of tourists, including slow tourism, and "green or sustainable" tourism.

The Region has elaborated several guides to convey to tourists the main itineraries available for each one of the 5 territorial tourist areas, but also, for each province, highlighting the existing roads, food and wine routes "Roads of wines and flavours" with the selection of typical IGP and D.O.P. products. It also identifies, for each city and area, the nature sites, historical and art, entertainment, spa resorts, ski resorts, and monuments. The Region has set up a constantly updated tourist information site with all the main routes divided by category of interest or means of travel: for campers, on horseback, historical and cultural itineraries, by bike, on foot in the countryside, spiritual itineraries, and so on.

This policy adopted by the Region had the objective of expanding the touristic offer during the year through the implementation of the connections between the coastal areas and the hinterland. Two parallel objectives that contextualize this input are <sup>1</sup>:

- SDG'S No. 12 - developing sustainable purchases in particular in the public sector, enhancing excellence and investing in the vocations that the Emilia-Romagna territories express, qualifying tourism in harmony with the environment, communities and local cultures.
- SDG'S No. 8 - Creating new, safe and quality employment, which contributes to and results from the transition itself, is not only possible but also necessary. Supporting the cultural and creative industry, the tertiary sector, trade, tourism and the agri-food sector, distinctive factors of the Emilia-Romagna region, its quality and its excellence.

Regarding the "Tourism of the Cammini" (the ways, or routes), from February 2018, the Region, in collaboration with Azienda di Promozione Turistica Emilia-Romagna (regional tourism promotion body), the ministry of culture and tourism assets and activities, and the referents of each Cammini, established a site dedicated to the Cammini (routes) of Emilia-Romagna that connects with the First official atlas of the Cammini of Italy, of which 11 green routes fall in the region. This network of routes will be integrated with the hiking tracks network of the Region.

Emilia-Romagna is the first Italian region for the diffusion of cycle paths, and it is the hub of the Del Sole e Vento national cycling routes. It has launched an innovative law on the cycling of the territory - In the region there are thousands of holiday opportunities for cyclists, thanks to a selected circuit of Bike Hotels, 8000 km of trails, Bike Park in the Apennines and bike-friendly places. According to the data of Unioncamere, in 2016 Italy has counted 42 million bicycle touring presences with an economic impact of almost 5 billion euros.

In order to allow residents and city users to live cities that are more and more on a human scale and to encourage biking tourism, the Emilia-Romagna Region has launched the first law on cycling, unanimously approved by the Regional Council. The law provides for the construction of the first network of regional cycleways, from Piacenza to Rimini, new cycle and bicycle paths, new tourist cycle tracks, and, in urban areas, new '30 zones' with reduced speed and traffic.

With regard to hiking, there are 14 paths and pilgrims' roads that cross the region connecting it to the European ones and to Rome in over 2000 km of itineraries. Three of these historical tracks are European and very ancient: the Via Francigena (which in the Middle Ages connected Canterbury to Rome and the ports of Puglia), the Romea Germanica (which connected Stade, in Lower Saxony, to Rome), and the Via Romea Strata (from the north and from east Europe to Rome). This network between January and September 2017 recorded an average of 5,800 monthly transits, with 19,000 overnight stays and an average stay of 2-4 nights per person.

As for the infrastructural reorganisation, the Emilia-Romagna Region has carried out a requalification of the exchange and interchange railway nodes, intersecting them with the existing infrastructures and arranging adaptation measures where necessary.

The Region has also drawn up a Regional Plan for the development of electric mobility, which was created to implement an integrated approach, on a regional scale, aimed at guaranteeing the interoperability of the charging network and reducing the impact of the transport sector on air pollution. The Region has signed

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.regione.emilia-romagna.it/agenda2030/obiettivi&sa=D&source=docs&ust=1658142045722620&usg=AOvVaw27BaxfLgz-khyRa50dBQYt>

important agreements with the main electricity distributors (Enel, Hera and Iren) and with the main Municipalities, thus creating an innovative charging infrastructure operating in all the provinces, as well as the possibility for the user to recharge their own cars at charging points of different distributors. The access of electric vehicles in the city-centres has been facilitated by allowing them to park in the toll parking lots for free.

The Region has also developed an integrated tariff system that allows citizens of Emilia-Romagna to use different modes of transport (urban and suburban buses, regional and local trains), with the same travel ticket, with the ticket price being based on the route travelled and not the means used.

The implementation of this integrated planning with the development of tourism marketing, currently underway, gives new opportunities to all the territories of the Region, triggering a positive development and requalification trend.

Parallel to the new capillary tourist approach, the Region has adopted a new urban planning law (Regional Law n° 24/2017), in line with the SDG'S n° 11 and 13, which aims to:

- Increase the attractiveness and liveability of cities through urban regeneration policies, enriching services and strategic functions, environmental quality, resilience to climate change;
- Increase the competitiveness of the regional system with the simplification of the plan system and with greater flexibility of their contents with procedural mechanisms adapted to the enterprises needs and the resources of the PA.

#### 4.4.4. Bellaria Igea Marina Municipality

The municipality of Bellaria Igea Marina is located in the northern corner of the Province of Rimini, is located 35 km south of Ravenna and 14 km north of Rimini.



Figure 35. Localization of Bellaria Igea Marina





Figure 36. Neighbourhoods in Bellaria Igea Marina

The municipality is divided into multiple neighbourhoods: Bellaria Monte, Cagnona and Bellaria are part of “Bellaria”, whilst Igea and Bordonchio make up “Igea Marina”. The river “Uso” represents the natural border between the two areas.

The seaside resorts of Bellaria and Igea Marina joined the municipalities under the same name in 1956, following the detachment from that of Rimini. They took on their current appearance after the Second World War, when the great tourist flows completely changed the ancient villages of fishermen and farmers, which, since the end of the nineteenth century, had begun to host vacationers eager for peace and fresh air. From that moment, the synergy between tourism, marine activity, and agriculture started cracking and the balance was completely tipped in favour of the first sector.

The decades 1950-1970 were marked by the transition "from tourism to the tourist industry" with the emergence of the first generation of holiday entrepreneurs who seized the opportunities offered by the post-war economic recovery and the boom in mass consumption, encouraged by the appearance of new protagonists and new classes on the social scene. Between 1970 and 1990, the growth of accommodation facilities reached its peak, with over 420 units, and at the same time, a process of restructuring and requalification of the tourism sector began to face the new challenges of the international market.

Since the establishment of the municipality, the population has undergone a sharp increase. The families employed in marine and tourism-related activities were joined by citizens from other Italian and non-EU regions who found work in the construction sector. The latest demographic survey published in 2020 registers a total of 19.580 citizens, including 1866 foreigners.

Currently, the marine sector has about 100 employees, gathered in the Marinara Cooperative Society, while about 20 other employees are not associated. Seaside tourism is favoured by the seven km of beach and the shallow sea near the beach, with numerous bathing establishments. The accommodation facilities and the offers of activities and leisure are numerous but active almost exclusively in the summer season. For about twenty years there was also an aquatic park, the Aquabell, now closed since 2008. Most of the commercial activities are located in the northern part of the municipality, beyond the Uso river, while the southern part, except the coastal area consisting of hotels (open only in summer) and former colonies, hosts new residential complexes.

In both Bellaria and Igea Marina the central areas, only a few steps away from the beach, are tree-lined pedestrian zones. From the "Cagnona" area, on the northern border, where the writer Alfredo Panzini's "La Casa Rossa" stands, up to the Pavese Park, to the south, it is possible to almost follow a pedestrian path seamlessly among gardens, trees, shops for shopping, bars and restaurants.

The recovery of green, natural areas, the enhancement of historic buildings, and the qualification of spaces and furnishings in urban areas, such as the pedestrian "Isola dei Platani", and the pedestrian areas of Igea Marina, Viale Panzini, and the furnishings of the beach, are part of the most recent choices made by the city in compliance with its idea of touristic and eco-friendly development.

The municipality has numerous unvalued historical, cultural and natural assets building its heritage. Below the main sites are described.



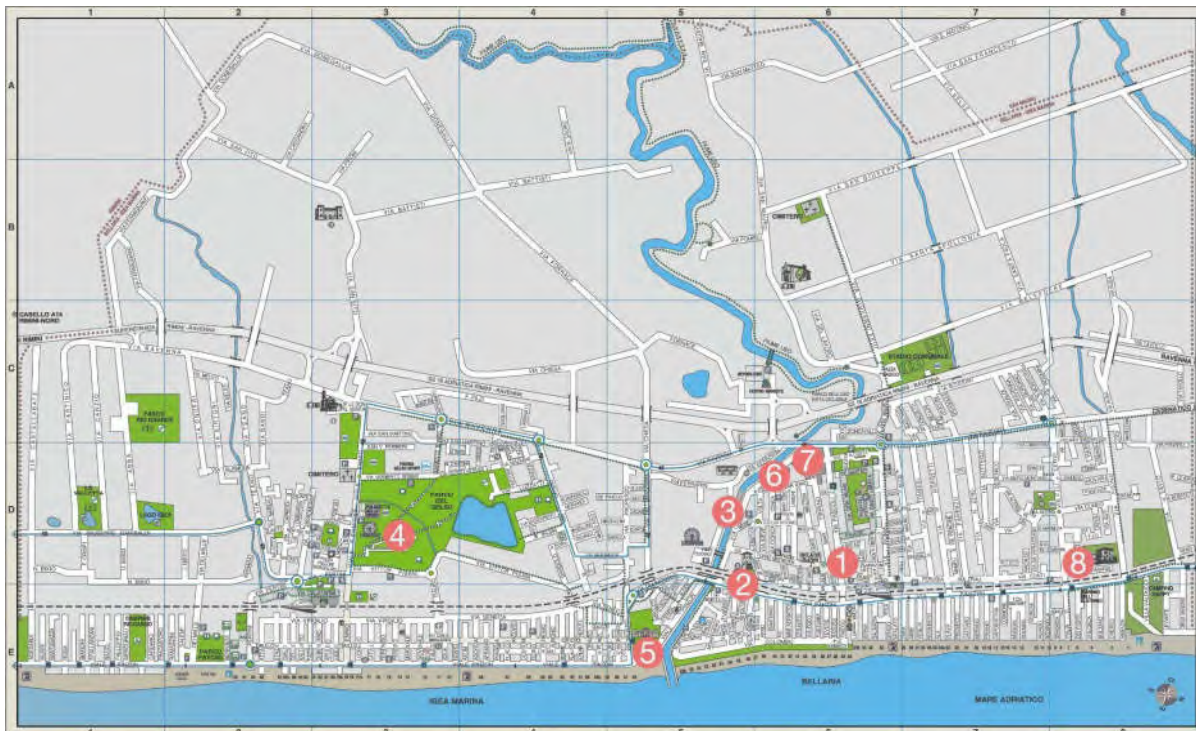


Figure 37. Bellaria Igea Marina, touristic poles



#### ISOLA DEI PLATANI

The central area of Bellaria took shape over the years around the main square. After WWII, the network of commercial establishments began to develop, to subsequently extend, with the tourist boom of the 1960s, seamlessly to the railway station. A moment of radical transformation occurred in 1986 with the construction of the "Isola dei Platani" urban furniture work, which redesigned the layout of the city, closing the entire area to traffic, enriching it with greenery.



#### RIVER "USO"

The "Path along the Uso" is a 6 km walk along the banks of the Uso River, to San Mauro Pasco. The river course has been redeveloped through a cycle /pedestrian path and equipped areas that can be used for tourist and educational -environmental purposes.



#### *TORRE SARACENA*

The 17th century Saracen Tower, built to combat the constant invasions of Turkish pirates, is now home to the Shell Museum and temporary exhibitions, with a park around it equipped for summer events, on which an old man carries on the tradition of the coloured sails of the fishermen of Bellaria, re-painting and displaying them every year.



#### *"GELSO" PARK*

One of the largest green spaces that can be found in the urban areas of the Adriatic coast. It unfolds around the lake of the same name to reach, to the south, the centre of Igua Marina.



#### *FORMER COLONIA*

With the advent of the fascist regime, a new chapter began in the construction of the "tourist city" on the Romagna coast. One of the initiatives taken by the new city government in the late 1920s was the location in the southern part of Igua of a new settlement area for marine colonies with the aim of launching thousands of young talent for their first marine experience.



#### *PALACONGRESSI*

A building which, consistently with the strategy applied also in Rimini for the reduction of tourist seasonality and the expansion of the offer, represents one of the reference points for hosting national and international congresses in the Romagna region. Strategically located not far from the Rimini Nord motorway exit and the centre of Bellaria.





#### *BORGATA VECCHIA - old city centre*

The nucleus was born in medieval times as a post office along the Via Romea. It later remained a point of reference for the city's craftsmanship and fishermen's, experiencing a period of decline in the years of the tourism and building boom, during which the areas of tourist interest along the coast were enhanced. It was revalued starting in the 90s thanks to numerous structural and furnishing interventions, and manifestations.



#### *ALFREDO PANZINI HOUSE AND PARK*

The Museum and cultural park "The Red House of Alfredo Panzini", the summer residence of the Italian writer Alfredo Panzini, which has recently been restored. It represents one of the examples of small villas that the city bourgeoisie built from the last two decades of the 19th century to the 1940s. Each summer, the park surrounding the villa hosts various cultural events and meetings with writers.

### 4.4.5 Characteristics of the tourism sector

Despite these important assets, the municipality of Bellaria Igea Marina remains a location characterized by mass summer beach tourism, following the pattern of similar neighbouring regions, with a local tourist catchment area that covers ca. 75% of the overall stays registered, whilst the remaining 25% is divided between Russia, Germany, USA, UK and Australia, leaving the landscape of the urban centre almost completely deserted in the other seasons. The hosting services focuses on family accommodation and commercial business, small hotels and second house owners.

The character of the urban landscape is much related with the type of tourist demand, and can be summarized into five units:

- Flat beach (very conditioned by the concession holders, visually blocked).
- Facilities line (commercially controlled by the concession holders, limiting walking, confusing access, lacking open and clear access).
- Beach urban front (diverse and dense, facing the beach and the commercial promenades).
- Commercial promenade (boulevard like walking street, comfortable but intermittent).
- Urban inland (sparse housing, car parking, parkland, mixed fragmented use).

The coastal landscape shows stratification parallel to the beach, revealing much less variation on any other direction.



Figure 38. Impressions of the beach and facility area

The tourism sector has multiple impacts, both on the surrounding landscape as well as on citizens' lifestyle, that can be summarized as follows:

Impacts on landscape	Lifestyle impacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of green connectivity;</li> <li>- Neglected / abandoned / underused areas during the low season;</li> <li>- Public space care and maintenance varies along the year;</li> <li>- Lack of cultural itineraries/routes offered as a tourist product;</li> <li>- Blocked views towards the sea;</li> <li>- Fast growing construction and urban design standardization, incoherent styles;</li> <li>- Lack of identity of places (genius loci).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contrasting lifestyles between the summer and the cold seasons;</li> <li>- Environmental impacts effects people's well-being on high pressure season;</li> <li>- Accessibility restrictions during the summer period;</li> <li>- Lack of work in cold season;</li> <li>- Nothing to do in winter;</li> </ul>

Constraints and opportunities of the Bellaria Igea Marina municipality tourism sector are presented in the SWOT overview hereafter.

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Location</li> <li>- Quality of the beach/ water</li> <li>- Local products</li> <li>- Local traditions/ historical richness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mono-sectoral economy</li> <li>- Limited flexibility/ adaptability</li> <li>- Local production poorly integrated into the tourism system</li> <li>- Lack of internal as well as external connectivity (mobility/ green infrastructure)</li> <li>- Lack of accessibility</li> <li>- Lack of green buffer to the beach</li> </ul>
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Un-used/ Under-used areas/ buildings</li> <li>- Presence of green areas outside the city for local production</li> <li>- Promotion through film industry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Unpredictable environmental/ health events/ crisis</li> <li>- Loss of local identity</li> <li>- Residents' unemployment</li> <li>- Environmental effects of massive tourism</li> <li>- Privatization of beaches</li> </ul>



#### 4.4.5. General approach (Vision and Strategy)

Resilience for locals and of the tourism system can be improved by:

- Preserving and promoting local authenticity - finding a “lighthouse” for branding the area;
- Differentiation of touristic offer which is linked to green and cultural narratives, such as Panzini, former colonia, Roman Empire, Saracens, green infrastructure;
- Sustainable local economy in combination with temporary and events programmes (differentiation of businesses).

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## 4.5 Heritage and Identities



*Panoramic view from the Colonia Novarese*

**Lead-authors:** Maria Stella Lux, Adrian Noortman. **Co-authors:** Agnieszka Durejko, Dominika Golebiewska, Dorota Wojtowicz-Jankowska, Ingrid Schegk, Karl-Heinz Einberger, Mahashta Mahfouzi, Minghui Chen. **Local experts:** Silvia Capelli, Il Palloncino Rosso and the municipality of Rimini.

### 4.5.1 Outline of the theme

Italy is one of the richest and most complex countries in terms of cultural heritage. Out of the 1154 sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List, Italy has the largest number of sites (Patrimonio Mondiale | UNESCO Italia: 58 sites, including 5 natural sites and 8 cultural landscapes). In addition to the officially recognised heritage, the Italian territory offers an extraordinary diversity and complexity due to the historical stratifications that have occurred over the centuries.

The area of Rimini, which was chosen as a case study by the Working Group “Heritage & Identities” (WG-H&I), clearly shows this layering of different ages and cultures. Indeed, heritage along the coast consists of multiple layers of landscape patterns, buildings, infrastructure dating from the Roman times, the Malatesta period (between 1295 and 1500), the 19th century development of seaside and wellness resorts, to modern times the development of social housing, the holiday camps for children in the first half of the 20th century and modern extensions of towns. These different layers can be seen in the actual landscape, the street patterns of the cities, the historic and modernistic buildings. They are part of our collective memory, the stories of our communities, families and youth. These stories are important for the connection of local communities to place, for the sense of identity and belonging and even to rethink the touristic exploitation of the coast in a more sustainable way.

In the framework of the 11th LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum, this working group focused on a particular category of heritage, namely the system of abandoned holiday camps for children (in Italian: *colonie*, pl.) built in the early decades of the 20th century. Today these structures represent an important challenge as they offer the opportunity to reflect on relevant questions:

- How can modern heritage be redeveloped while offering benefits to the city and the community?
- How can the *Colonie* and the areas around them strengthen a sustainable landscape framework along the coast?
- Which functions can contribute to a sustainable development of the *colonie* and make them resilient to changes in conjuncture?

The Forum has been an opportunity to approach the topic in a landscape perspective, joining the expertise, backgrounds and points of view of many students, researchers and scholars from all Europe. As this was an intensive work of a short duration, the result of this forum is intended as an overview that complements experiences and considerations developed over time by local experts and actors.

The main outputs provided by the working group Heritage & Identities are:

- A concept for the development of the heritage of the Colonia and their landscape context that contribute to landscape quality and social inclusion.
- A vision and strategy of how the Colonia can be developed in an economically feasible, that is resilient to changes in conjuncture, in a way that also contributes to the collective history, identity of the region and links to the personal stories of the inhabitants and visitors.
- A set of objectives that can be used for guidance of spatial development of the Colonia and their surrounding landscape.

#### 4.5.2 Study and planning area

The theme of the reuse of holiday camps and large abandoned tourist infrastructures concerns various places in Europe, but in particular those places that have been configured as summer locations since the end of the 19th century. The phenomenon of villeggiatura concerns various seaside or mountain locations, selected on the basis of their climatic and environmental characteristics, healthiness, but also ease of reaching the main urban centres. The case study of Rimini fully meets all the requirements: the Romagna coast has a wide stretch of sandy beach, easily exploitable for tourist infrastructures, and overlooks the Adriatic Sea, which is a calm sea accessible to all. Above all, Rimini is easily accessible from the entire Adriatic region, but also from the large cities of northern Italy and the production centres of the Po Valley. In the 11th LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum, the area investigated more in-depth by the WG-H&I is the southern part of the Rimini coast to the border with the municipality of Riccione.



Figure 39. The study area (Sources: LLF2022, WG-H&I)

Travelling along the coast from the centre of Rimini southwards, a progressive transformation of the character of the landscape is clearly perceived, moving from the densely built-up urban centre to the marginal fringes of the city, to an intermediate part between Rimini and Riccione (where many of the colonie examined are located) that represents an area with a decidedly more natural character and almost constitutes a green corridor connecting the coast and inland areas (Figure 39).

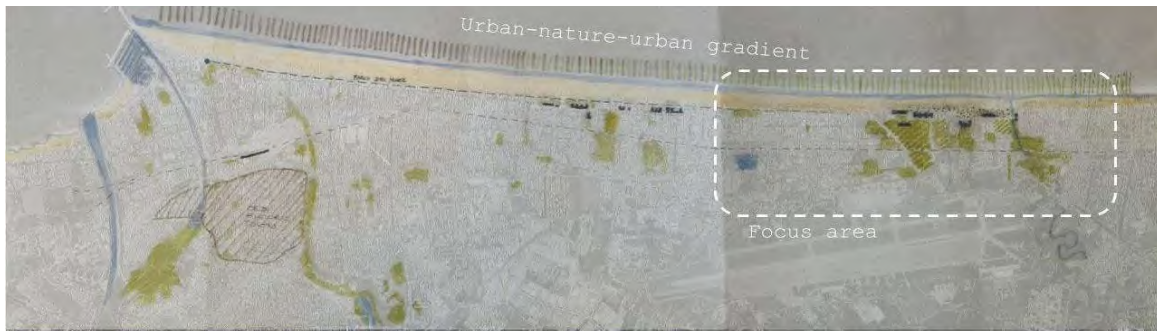


Figure 40. The urban-nature-urban gradient identified along the coast of Rimini and Riccione and the focus area (Sources: LLF2022, WG-H&I)

This last part was chosen as the focus area (Figure 40), as it is particularly interesting when reasoning on the reuse of soil and land. It comprises three important colonie (Bolognese, Murri, Novarese) and many other abandoned structures, whose huge dimensions make it difficult to create economically and socially sustainable projects. Moreover, there is a social problem of integration between this area as a suburb and the adjacent centres of Rimini and Riccione. These preliminary considerations link the research topic of this working group with the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and in particular with SDG11 “Sustainable Cities and Communities”.

#### 4.5.3. History of the Colonie



Figure 41. The Tourism Institute of Rimini in the former Colonia Forlivese, previously named Colonia degli Industriali di Bologna (Sources: left image - Il Palloncino Rosso; right image - Maria Stella Lux)

Following the coastline from the centre of Rimini southwards, in the direction of Riccione, many colonie from different historical periods are located along the way. The oldest buildings dating back to the first decades of the 20th century can still be found in the urban area of Rimini. Some of these have been given a new function and were reintegrated into the urban fabric, such as the former *Colonia Forlivese* transformed into a Tourism Institute in 1978 (Figure 41), while others are now abandoned.





Figure 42. Colonia Murri, Rimini (Source: Maria Stella Lux)

In this first group of “urban colonie”, the most monumental building is undoubtedly the *Colonia Murri* (Figure 42), also known as the Provincial Marine Hospice of Bologna. Built by the architect Giulio Marcovigi in 1911 and named after the famous pathologist Augusto Murri of Bologna University, it was used between the two World Wars to house and treat children suffering from tuberculosis, later simply housing poor children. The structure of the Murri colony represents the late application of a hospital architectural typology based on the medical theories of the late 19th century, according to which the different medical and surgical specialities, the rooms for administration and staff, the dormitories and the services had to be clearly separated. The complex consists of a central body and four two- to three-storey pavilions arranged perpendicularly to the beach. The orientation of the pavilions allows maximising the exposure to sunlight, increasing the benefit for the health of the hosted children. The pavilions are connected by shallow corridors characterised on both sides by sequences of arcades. These connecting structures, which today have no windows, represent an extraordinary opportunity to restore permeability between the city and the seafront. The building is made of load-bearing masonry, but recent consolidation works have included the construction of concrete anti-seismic reinforcements and the remaking of the roof. Currently the structure is completely neglected and abandoned. The surrounding area is closed by a high fence which represents a strong division with the city, but at the same time protects a space for wild vegetation to grow freely.

Continuing along the coast, on the border between the municipalities of Rimini and Riccione, there is another area densely dotted with ‘colonia’ buildings. Here most colonie are in a state of abandonment and the overall character of the area is deeply different. The dense urbanised fabric gives way to an area of undecided character, barely urbanised, with a decidedly prevailing natural component but nevertheless with several infrastructural elements that constitute strong divisions in the landscape. The *colonie* in this area date mainly from the years of Fascism.



Figure 43. Colonia Bolognese, Rimini (Source: FAI - Fondo Ambiente Italiano)

The *Colonia Bolognese* (full name: Colonia del Fascio Bolognese) was designed by the Italian engineer Ildebrando Tabarroni between 1931 and 1932, repeating the pavilion model used twenty years earlier for the colonia Murri. The use of a largely outdated architectural language is made even more evident by a direct comparison with the colonia Novarese, situated nearby. It is a monumental building with a built surface of 4.232 square metres and a surrounding green area of 18.348 m<sup>2</sup>. The complex consists of four pavilions arranged perpendicular to the beach, which housed the dormitories and refectories in the basement, and three smaller buildings used as offices, services and staff rooms. The pavilions are crossed by a connecting corridor 169 metres long, which allows access from each pavilion to the outside areas. The late nineteenth-century inspired layout corresponds to the treatment of the façades, still marked by eclectic elements referring to the Bolognese tradition, with string courses, decorative cornices in terracotta underlining the openings and pictorial decorations in the crowning strip of the service buildings. The façades are clad in brick and are characterised by the alternation of rectangular openings on the first floor, ribbed on the second floor and twin on the short sides of the dormitories, while the corridor is pierced on both sides by a double row of arches, separated by pilasters on the upper floor. The structure is currently owned by a private real estate company, although attempts are being made to sell it at auction. In recent years, there have been several proposals for new functions and ideas for reuse. In addition, the Association Il Palloncino Rosso has promoted a temporary reuse experience for the summer period, which was very successful although short-lived. The temporary reuse involved around 10,000 people in a series of concerts, workshops and other activities and raised political and media attention to the unexpressed potential of these places.



Figure 44. Colonia Novarese, Rimini (Source: Spazi Indecisi - Lorenzo Mini 2014)



Not far from the Colonia Bolognese, there is another building, the *Colonia Novarese* (Figure 44) from the same years but radically different. The colonia of the Fascist Federation of Novara was built between 1933 and 1934, designed by engineer Peverelli. The building is an example of a single-block heliotherapy colony. The elongated volume develops horizontally, parallel to the beach, and is defined at the two sides by rounded heads, recalling in plan and elevations, the shape of a ship. The formal reference is that of futurism and Italian avant-garde movement. The two symmetrical, four-storey wings, raised by another floor with a terraced roof, housed the dormitories and refectories, while the services occupied the central part of the building and the basement, where a small theatre was also built. The continuous bands of windows and the large open-plan rooms, crossed by two rows of pillars and without internal partitions, make the most of the possibilities of the reinforced concrete structure to allow maximum air circulation and natural light. The building is currently owned by Regione Emilia-Romagna and has been abandoned for years. The local association Spazi Indecisi is active in pointing out the interest of the building and in engaging local people to push for its reuse.

Nearby, just after the border of Riccione municipality, there is the Colonia Amos Maramotti, also known as *Colonia Reggiana* (Figure 45). It was built in 1934, in just three months, to a design by engineer Costantini. It consists of three buildings, arranged diagonally with respect to the coastline, so that the main elevations face east and west. The two pavilions used as dormitories have large horizontal windows corresponding to the large dormitories, with balconies facing the sea, while the service rooms, located on the short sides, have circular windows in a naval style. The Reggiana's architecture is given a strictly functional interpretation, which makes an extreme simplification and reduction of rationalist compositional elements. Built of anti-seismic reinforced concrete, the building's plan allows it to be enlarged by simply adding new parts of the building without upsetting the overall design. This colony is located right on the beach and in one of the few remaining areas with natural sand dunes that host protected bird species.



Figure 45 - Colonia Reggiana, Riccione (Source: Maria Stella Lux)

In addition to the coastal strip, also the inland strip, separated from the coast by a major road, is full of mostly abandoned former colonies. The biggest is probably the Colonia Dalmine. It was one of the most important buildings that have marked the history of Riccione (Figure 46). The Dalmine Company (now Tenaris) was a steel industry founded in the early twentieth century in Milan, also active in the promotion of social welfare initiatives. The company has always invested in this coastal area, starting with the construction in 1936 of the colonia marina in Riccione. The building was designed by the architect Giovanni Greppi. The inauguration was a huge event, strongly emphasised by regime propaganda because of the presence of the Duce himself. In 1940, like other holiday camps, it was temporarily converted into a military hospital. At the end of the Second World War, the colony intensively resumed its activities and it had to be further enlarged in order to accommodate an increasing number of children. Subsequently, from the 1960s, the advent of mass tourism and the economic boom, together with a considerable demographic drop, led to the closure of the colonia. In the 1980s, it was transformed into a conference hotel and then abandoned again. Two of the three service rooms were demolished and replaced by a discotheque, also closed, while the other was converted into a private medical facility.



*Figure 46. Colonia Dalmine, Riccione (Source: Fiorenza Giometti)*

In addition to the specific history of each colony, the on-field visit, the discussion with experts and the dialogue with the local population made it possible to understand the complexity and multiplicity of levels of interpretation of these buildings. The connection of many of the buildings with fascist propaganda certainly makes this architectural legacy heavier and more unpleasant. Moreover, the large dimensions have severely complicated the processes of sale and reuse, causing in many cases the bankruptcy of private actors who have embarked on the enterprise. If the mass tourism of the 1970s-1990s could find interest in these huge structures, the new tourism of recent decades has more than anything else struggled to find proposals compatible with these buildings. At the same time, tourism is not the only option and, as underlined by the activities of local associations, the first users should be the local citizens. The younger generation, however, has never seen these buildings in function and is basically used to considering them inactive and abandoned.

#### 4.5.4 Methodology

The methodological approach adopted by WG-H&I is based on the framework for geospatial design theorised by Carl Steinitz over a period of thirty years, from the first version in 1995 that referred to landscape planning to the updated version of 2012. The method is based on the use of six models (Representation - Process - Evaluation - Change - Impact - Decision Models) to understand, describe and design the complexity of landscape and spatial systems. The original method involves reiterating the six questions three times with different levels of detail (Figure 47). In the 11th LLF2022, Steinitz's method was adopted as a flexible framework and each question was addressed only once.



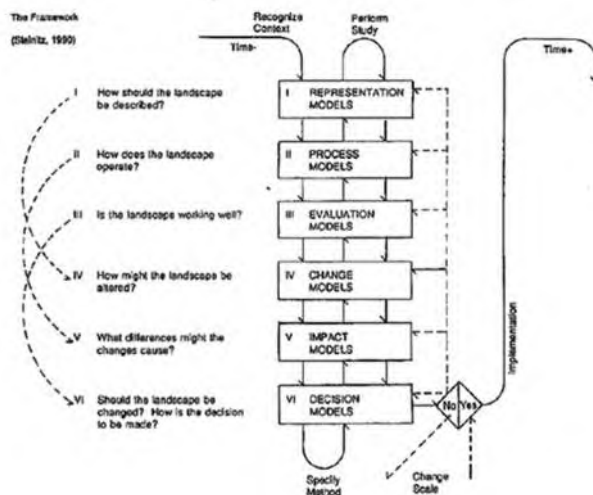


Figure 47 - Steinitz Framework for geospatial design (Source: Carl Steinitz, 1990)

The different steps were also associated with different experiences and external inputs. The first two questions were addressed with the contribution of two local experts, namely Silvia Capelli, architect of the association Il Palloncino Rosso, and Fabio Falleni, representative of the Emilia-Romagna region. The third and fourth models were associated with on-field exploration, which in turn was structured into four main aspects: physical landscape, social landscape, sensory landscape and the relationship of the colonie with the context. Finally, the last two steps were developed through the reporting of the experiences gathered up to that point and through collective discussion.

Going further into the details of the central phase, i.e. the on-field exploration carried out in the focus area, it is important to highlight that the four lines of investigation developed in parallel returned complementary and consistent results; the analysis of the physical, sensory, social landscape and the relations of the colonia with the context.

The analysis of the *physical landscape* highlighted the naturalistic and environmental interest of the area in which uncultivated and wild areas abound, but at the same time found extreme physical fragmentation of the landscape due to heavy infrastructure, differences in land use and the abundant presence of fences (Figure 48).



Figure 48. The physical landscape: barriers in the focus area (Source: LLF2022, WG-H&I)

The analysis of the *sensory landscape* confirmed the impact of the infrastructure especially with regard to noise pollution and also traced the oscillation of sensations when travelling along the coast, highlighting strengths and weaknesses (Figure 49).



Figure 49. The sensory landscape: mood fluctuations along the coast (Source: LLF2022, WG-H&I)

The analysis of the *social landscape* mapped through 7 interviews with randomly selected local people (individuals and small groups that were encountered on-site) the sensations most commonly associated with the theme of abandoned colonie and related issues/actions (Figure 50).



Figure 50. The social landscape: feelings (left side) and related topics (right side) reported by seven interviewed people (Source: LLF2022, WG-H&I)

The analysis of the *relations between the colonie and the context* once again underlined the lack of integration due above all to anthropic barriers (Figure 51).



Figure 51 Relations: view from the terrace of Colonia Novarese (Source: Ingrid SCHEGK)

#### 4.5. 5. Vision and strategy

In conclusion, a general strategy was developed for the enhancement of the natural and cultural heritage linked to the colony system along the Rimini coastline.

All the previous considerations and the results of the different analysis were summarised in a SWOT analysis (Figure 52), which was the base for the definition of the overall vision and future development strategy for the area.

<b>STRENGTHS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Many unbuilt green spaces</li> <li>- Colonie are landmarks</li> <li>- Views to the hinterland/hills</li> <li>- River Marano with natural banks</li> <li>- Historic relation Colonie with landscape (beach and green areas)</li> <li>- Airport blocks city development</li> <li>- Situation at distance from city centre</li> <li>- Open public beach area without commerce.</li> <li>- Recreational opportunities for neighbours</li> </ul>	<b>WEAKNESSES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Many undefined areas</li> <li>- No coherent routing structure</li> <li>- Main infrastructure obstruct landscape relations</li> <li>- Fences obstruct views and hinder access</li> <li>- Colonie are neglected</li> <li>- Airport and closed functions obstruct landscape relations</li> <li>- Many different landowners/ no over-all plan or vision</li> <li>- Insecurity for residents</li> <li>- Lack of facilities and services</li> </ul>
<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Colonie and open spaces are almost connected</li> <li>- Nature development coast and hinterland (vegetation, birds, dunes, wetland)</li> <li>- Connect fragmented green structure</li> <li>- Colonie as trigger(s) for development</li> <li>- Landscape development as trigger for redevelopment Colonie</li> <li>- Possibilities for connected paths/routes</li> <li>- Marano as a gate to hinterland.</li> <li>- Link of Colonie with cities/areas in Italy</li> </ul>	<b>THREATS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Further urban extension (urban sprawl)</li> <li>- Location in two different Municipalities</li> <li>- Development of uniform 'Parco del Mare'</li> <li>- No relation of the Colonie and landscape – no landscape embrace</li> <li>- No clear identity</li> <li>- Management of the ruined building, lost grey energy</li> <li>- Expensive/impossible renovation for use</li> <li>- Homeless people, uncontrolled uses</li> </ul>

Figure 52. SWOT analysis (Source: LLF2022, WG-H&I)

The general vision is linked to ongoing projects such as the Parco del Mare (realised in the first stretch of Rimini's seafront near the centre). The hypothesis of continuing the project southwards must consider the evolution of the urban-nature gradient and adapt accordingly to leave space for a more naturalistic linear park. The proposed strategy also distinguishes two areas with distinct characteristics (Figure 53):

- the group of older colonie (with Colonia Murri at the centre) located in the urban area of Bellariva and suitable for reintegration into the surrounding urban fabric
- the group of more recent colonie (after the 1930s) which are located in the transition area of Miramare between Rimini and Riccione and whose abandonment has helped to preserve the surrounding natural space.

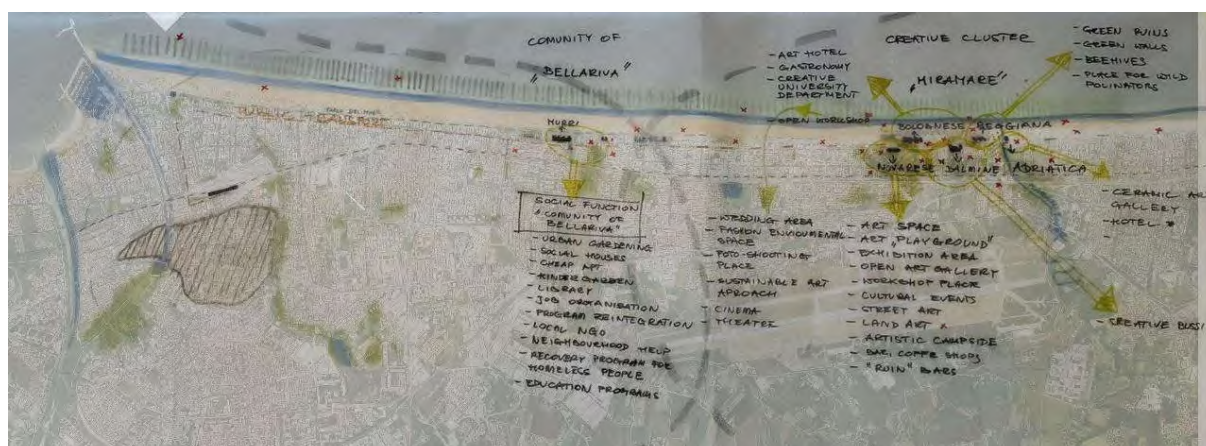


Figure 53. The overall vision and the two clusters (Source: LLF2022, WG-H&I)



For the first group, the creation of a social cluster is suggested through the reuse of the structures with new social and collective functions, such as urban gardening, educational activities and social integration, also through the adaptation of the structures and their division into multiple functions. This would make it possible to reconnect the urban fabric, currently interrupted by the presence of large disused structures, and to foster social cohesion around the cultural heritage.

For the second group, on the other hand, a *creative cluster* was hypothesised, characterised by softer and more temporary functions related to the world of art and creativity. In this case, the aim is to reactivate the area and bring the attention and interest of the local community back to it, without, however, inducing a radical transformation that would risk threatening the natural values that also represent important heritage of this area. In this second area, in fact, in addition to the new functions, the importance of strengthening the ecological and landscape connections and spatial relations (such as views and sight lines), especially along the coast and between the coast and the hinterland through the rethinking of the road infrastructures and cycle and footpath systems is emphasised (Figure 54).



Figure 54. The ecological enhancement of the focus area/creative cluster (Source: LLF2022, WG H&I)

#### 4.5.6 References

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## 4.6. Landscape Economy



*The Marecchia river mouth near Rivabella, Rimini (Source: CC)*

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### 4.6.1 Introduction to the Landscape Economy theme

*“The [landscape economy] is acquiring growing importance and stronger links in the complex cultural configuration process that both determines and is determined by human behaviour. Understanding the complexity of this process is the starting point in the analysis of the economic dimension of the landscape.”*  
(Romano, Council of Europe, 2015)

In urban areas, the elements of the natural environment providing multi-functional ecosystem services are referred to as green infrastructure, into the perspective of leisure, education, health and well-being, reconnection to biodiversity, cultural and heritage landscapes, resilience-building. Numerous tools have been developed to explore multiple benefits of green infrastructure, adapting methodologies, and designing new frameworks, especially in the emerging research area of the ‘landscape economy’.

The concept of a ‘landscape economy’ focuses on the relevance of the socio-economic values of the multiple ecosystem services provided by urban green infrastructure, which are increasingly calling researchers, policy makers and practitioners’ attention from new perspectives, mirroring the needs and claims of the growing population of urban dwellers.

The often-conflicting socio-economic implications of the urban green infrastructure are presented in the following sections, introducing findings and reflections on the Rimini’s landscape, with specific reference to a transect across the Marecchia river.

The experience developed by the participants to the Working Group landscape Economy during the 11th LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum in Rimini suggests how a better understanding of urban green infrastructure’s economic values would enable decision makers to successfully engage in trade-off analysis, promoting dialogue among stakeholders, ultimately helping them identify strategies for improved governance.

#### 4.6.2. Study area

In the framework of the 11th LE:NOTRE Landscape Forum, the Working Group Landscape Economy focused on the Marecchia river. Marecchia is the ancient *Ariminus* that gave its name to Rimini. To date, its short stretch of plain and mouth are conventionally used to delimit the end of the Po Valley and the whole of northern Italy. The river originates in the municipality of Badia Tedalda, in Tuscany, from Alpe della Luna (Mount Zucca 1,263 m), near the town of Pratigghi, on the Appennine mountains.

Its 70 km course develops in Tuscany and Romagna along the Valmarecchia (which takes its name from the river), receiving the contribution of several tributaries, and debouch into the Adriatic Sea, at Rimini. Between 1924 and 1930, an artificial riverbed was built to prevent flooding. Following this detour, the current mouth is located near San Giuliano Mare and Rivabella.

Thirty-three percent of the Marecchia river basin is forested: woodlands are common in the upper parts and are characterised by xerophilous and mesic deciduous forests; in the middle section of the river basin the landscape is more heterogeneous, and characterised by a combination of agricultural areas, natural and semi-natural grasslands, and patches of European hop hornbeam woodlands (*Ostrya carpinifolia*), or riparian forests (*Salix* spp.) along the rivers. The lower section of the basin is characterised by settlements and intensive cropland (Santolini et al. 2014).

The Marecchia river basin offers important opportunities and resources to local and touristic communities for the following reasons (Santolini et al. 2014):

- 1) There is a great availability of groundwater (over 100 million m<sup>3</sup>) (Severi 2001, also cited by Santolini et al. 2014) to match an equally significant water demand, essentially for drinking, during the summer season, when the water demand reaches its highest peak (37 million m<sup>3</sup>, in 3 months), because of massive tourist flows along the Rimini coast (about 5.7 million tourists against 200,000 residents).
- 2) Its wetlands and natural areas are classified as Sites of Community Importance, as defined in the European Commission Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).
- 3) There are important bird areas for migration, as defined by the Institute for Protection and Environmental Research (ISPRA) (Prot. n. 3589/T-A60 del 15.7.94).
- 4) The presence of protected fauna, as defined in the European Directive 409/79/EEC and in the European Directive 43/92/EEC includes: 5 fish species (out of 15 present); 3 amphibian species (out of 13); 8 reptile species (out of 14); 20 bird species (out of 116 nesting species, and 245 present), and 5 mammal species (out of 38).
- 5) The existence of historical sites of international importance (i.e., St. Leo Castle, or the UNESCO site of San Marino).
- 6) It nurtures typical agricultural products, such as wine and cheese, and agri-eco-tourism activities.
- 7) It offers several opportunities for sports and recreation.

This territory has been characterised over time by significant land-use changes, due to urbanisation pressure, car traffic, industry (mainly quarry), hunting activities, intensive agriculture, and regulated water abstraction (civil 21 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y, agriculture 4 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y, industry, and hydroelectric power plants 181 Mm<sup>3</sup>/y). Massive anthropogenic activities have unfortunately led to the continuous loss of functions related to the Marecchia riparian ecosystems (Santolini et al. 2014).



Figure 55. The Marecchia river and valley (Source: fiumemarecchia.it)

### *Valmarecchia Valley Strategic Plan / Marecchia River Contract*

With the Strategic Plan 2007-2027, Rimini made its consolidated image available to its hinterland so that the whole territory could benefit from it, while Valmarecchia put in relation with Rimini its heritage and its wealth to complete an overall very attractive tourist offer.

Valmarecchia has a very substantial natural heritage that ranges from the great water resources to the geomorphological characteristics with the calcareous formations on which the different castles and geological 'monuments' stand, from the Wildlife Protection Oases to the large SICs (siti d'importanza comunitaria) and ZPSs (zone a protezione speciale), to get to the Interregional Park of Sasso Simone and Simoncello, which offers one of the largest *Quercus cerris* oak forests in Europe.

Similar importance is represented by the cultural heritage: from the system of fortresses and castle to the churches, from museums to the testimonies of rural culture, from the Franciscan tradition to the Renaissance landscapes of Piero della Francesca and Leonardo da Vinci, to the "world" of Tonino Guerra.

In the framework of a more general process of strategic planning of a vast area that involves the Municipality of Rimini and the ten Municipalities of Valmarecchia, the "Contratto di Fiume del Marecchia" (Marecchia River Contract) was signed in 2015. In light of the entry of seven new municipalities in the valley and in reference to the new sustainability policy launched by Rimini also to renew its tourist attractiveness, the perspective of the project is to develop an innovative approach of collaboration between Rimini and the hinterland, starting from the recognition of the river as an aggregating element, and to set up new strategies and practices of integrated and shared programming and planning.



Figure 56. The Marecchia river (Source: fiumemarecchia.it)

#### 4.6.3. Exploring Landscape Economy Dimensions and Value Drivers

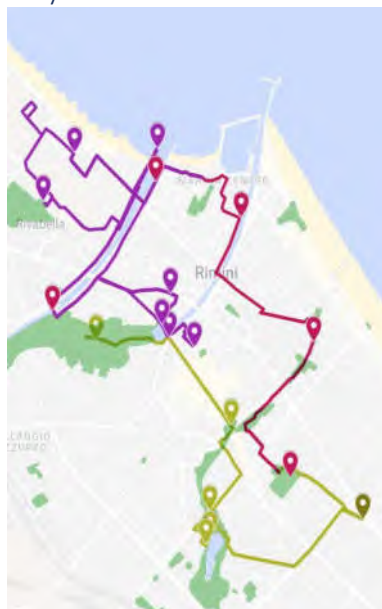


Figure 57. The excursion on the study site through a transect crossing the Marecchia river.

During the 20 km walking excursion, the participants of the working group have been looking (through “Economic lenses”) for Economy Dimensions and Value Drivers of the Rimini urban landscape. Among the various aspects of the landscape that polarised the attention during the field trip, generating observations and animated discussions among the participants, the following were particularly meaningful for the subsequent phases of the Rimini Landscape Forum:



- The diversity of the observed landscape characteristics;
- The presence of risks & opportunities in relation to the landscape on-going dynamics as well as planned developments.

Our observations and reflections were put in relation to the Rimini Strategy and the Rimini Spatial Plan, focusing on the identification of consistencies and conflicts among the different goals, strategic lines, and on-going trends.

In order to assess synergies and trade-offs between complex anthropocentric systems, some key research questions were formulated:

- How can we use economic principles to combine dynamic social and ecological goals?
- What are the opportunities and trade-offs in between these complex systems?
- How can decision makers effectively generate multiple values?



Figure 58. Snapshots along the walking itinerary.

In order to challenge the formulated research questions, a step-by-step interactive methodology was developed in sub-groups by the EG-LE participants:

#### a) Scenario Building

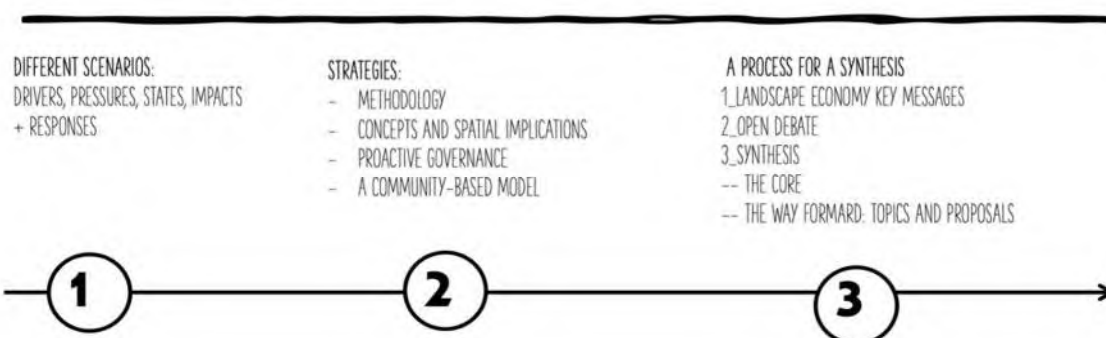


Figure 59. WG-LE Scenario building.

In this phase, different scenarios were identified on the basis of drivers (e.g. expected post-COVID economic growth), pressures (e.g. increasing poverty), states (e.g., unstable political scenario), impacts (e.g. land-use change), and responses (e.g. social activism).

On the strategic side, the methodology encompassed: the formulation of different possible concepts, and related spatial implications; and the necessity of a proactive (with a ‘vision’) governance inspired and ‘steered’ by a community-based model.

#### b) Elaboration of Landscape Economy strategies for the different scenarios

The process of synthesis articulated by the participants of the working group led to identification of key messages, highlighting the relevance of the landscape economy for the “Future of Rimini” that were then included and presented in the final LE:NOTRE Rimini Landscape Forum 2022 “Outcome Statement”

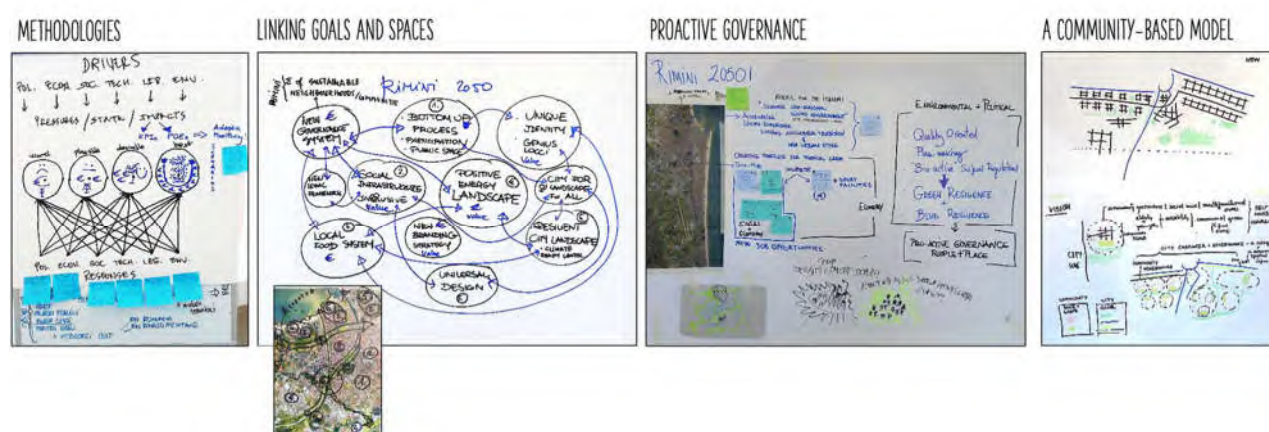


Figure 60. Snapshots taken by the participants during the elaboration of Landscape Economy strategies for the different scenarios.

Planned results of the adopted methodology include:

- An integrated concept of how a landscape economy approach can contribute to urban and landscape sustainable development.
- A vision and strategies of how sound economic principles can be integrated in policies and plans.
- A set of inclusive goals for the landscape economy that can be used for guidance of spatial development.

#### 4.6.4 Positioning the Rimini Landscape Economy as a “force for good”

Starting from the consideration of a dynamic and uncertain future, the participants of the working group approached Landscape Economy (the word ‘economy’ comes from two Greek words, ‘eco’ meaning home and ‘nomos’ meaning accounts) as a positive ecosystem transformative force towards local sustainability, climate adaptation, and community resilience (a “force for good”, Andreucci 2019).

Key topics and forward-looking proposals were elaborated, keeping at the core the health and well-being of the local communities, and the ‘regenerative cultivation’ of the multiple values (ecological, environmental, social, and economic, at multiple scales) of the landscape, in an integrated approach towards a “Sustainable Rimini”.



Figure 61. WG-LW key topics, and forward-looking proposals.

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## Acknowledgments

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On behalf of the LE:NOTRE Institute,

Attila Tóth, chair of the board.



## ANNEXES

## Annex A. Background to the coast of Emilia-Romagna

### Characteristic from Regional to Local

Natural characteristics of the Emilia-Romagna landscapes diversify from sea and coastline to inland flatlands, hilly interior countryside to mountainous farmlands and forest.

Crapolicchio (2020) articulated that having a strategic geographical position, Rimini is located at the point where the Apennine system meets the Adriatic Sea, this position determines a hinging point which represented, on the one hand, the end of the Apennine mountain ranges and on the other the passage of the coastal road leading to the Po valley.

The town of Rimini lies on the top of fluvial, transitional, and marine deposits, in the floodplain area, the main morphogenetic agents are the outflows from rivers Uso, Marecchia and Ausa starting from the north (Guerra, Guerra and Nesci, 2020).

### *Alluvial plain of the Apennines Rivers*

This includes the inter-valley sectors of the Apennines, valley mouths along the Apennine margin and the large plain stretching all the way to the river Po and the coast. The landscape owes its primary characteristics to the dynamics of the Apennine Rivers which, after an inter-valley course during which they form small ribbon-like deposits, they flow into the plain (upper plain), depositing their coarse load of gravel and sand and forming sedimentary bodies: the alluvial fans, characterised by a system of fluvial channels.

### *Po River and the Plain*

Regular water discharge is currently guaranteed by land reclamation works. The Po plain has been a fully anthropized territory for over 3000 years. Many of the distributaries have shaped the landscape through a combination of artificial embanking and rectification of rivers, reclamation of valleys and intensive urbanisation. Today the plain is fully farmed and presents a level of industrialization (Ambiente Regione Emilia-Romagna, 2015).

Po Plain is occupied by the corridor of the great Po River, by the mouths of its various branches and ancient deposits. The river corridor marks the northern boundary of Emilia-Romagna and defines a twisting fluvial meander of Po plain. Ancient branches of the Po di Primaro, Po di Volano and other minor branches and the delta valleys as the traces of past marshland or lagoons characterise the lower plain (Ambiente Regione Emilia-Romagna, 2015).

### *Coastal plain*

This strip of land lies parallel to the coast, running alongside the sea. Low-lying elevations of coastal plain between 2-1 metres are characterised by an ancient system of north-south facing elongated dunes, clear evidence of ancient shorelines with bodies of palustrine water and river levees.

The beaches widen out back to the coastal dunes, formed by the onshore wind sweeping the grains of sand. Inland, traces of fossil dunes are virtually on the edge of extinction. Massenzatica dunes, in the regional nature reserve protected area, marks the Copper Age shoreline with regard to natural history (Figure 4).

The large wetlands near the coast present important ancient delta lagoons and marshes, like the Comacchio Valleys and the Bertuzzi Valley, or landforms which indicate moments of rapid accretion of the shoreline towards the sea. Over the last fifty years the area has been highly urbanised, beachfront bathing establishments, ports, wharfs, and coastal defence works (breakwaters, piers) have been built, altering the natural characteristics of the beach (Ambiente Regione Emilia-Romagna, 2015).



Figure A.1. Alluvial plain of the Apennines rivers (a), Po River (b) and coastal plain (c) (Ambiente Regione Emilia-Romagna, 2015).

Romagna is an historical-geographic region of about 6,000 square kilometres under the administration of the Emilia-Romagna region. It includes the administrative provinces of Ravenna, Forlì and Rimini. Geographically, the Romagna area is delimited by the Sillaro and Reno river valleys to the North-West and North, by the Adriatic Sea to the East, by the Conca valley to the South and by the Apennines to the West and South-West (Gatti, Incerti and Ravagli, 2002).

#### History Development of Land – Agri – Culture / Foodscapes

Resting on Marecchia and Ausa alluvial sediments Rimini's geography and geomorphology mainly depend on fluvial dynamics and, secondly, on marine processes (Guerra, Guerra and Nesci, 2020).

Speaking about the Po Valley is relevant and paradigmatic in the discourse of rural heritage-led development (Montanari and Marasmi, 2012). The Valconca territory is a fertile valley behind the city of Rimini. This landscape has been occupied since prehistory (Cirelli, 2011).

The first traces of human presence in the area can be set at 800,000 years BP, with Palaeolithic tools and testimonies found in the Covignano hills 2 km inland. The Villanovian people - early stages of the Etruscan culture – thrived in what is now Verucchio (Guerra, Guerra and Nesci, 2020).

Rimini became a Roman colony in 268 BC. This resulted in a major demographic increase, with the town and its surrounding countryside undergoing a huge reorganisation. Via Flaminia (220 BC), Via Aemilia (187 BC) and Via Popilia (132 BC) were built, the territories from the Cesena plains to the River Conca valley (south of Rimini) were reclaimed from the swamps, and the Roman centuriation grid covered these lands almost entirely (Guerra, Guerra and Nesci, 2020).

The two parts distinguish the coastal city from the historical Roman one. For these characteristics, it seems to be an introductory case study to perform a morphological-type reading through time (Crapolicchio, 2020).

A different way of rural organisation connected the many small farms that continued to occupy this valley during the early Middle Age, when much more of the settlements of this territory gave tributes to the Archbishop of Ravenna (Cirelli, 2011).

Following the death of Frederick II, Rimini manages to maintain control over the countryside also thanks to the presence of feudal lords. Among these lords there were the Malatesta family, who consolidated power over the countryside and increased their real estate possessions within the walls. Between 1288 and 1295 was the Malatesta hegemony and by the mid-thirteenth century, the Malatesta's became vicars of Rimini carrying out a policy of capillary control of local power, providing for the urbanisation of rural areas entrusting them to feudal families loyal to them and carrying out a strategy of dynastic alliances with illustrious families of other cities (Crapolicchio, 2020).

After the Second World War, Rimini suffered severe consequences of damage. The reconstruction, hastily ignored Rimini's history, accelerated the construction of the new image of mass tourism. More than a century of expansion towards the coast ends up with specific projects for the tourism sector, and the port on the Marecchia river (Crapolicchio, 2020).

Historically, main roads guarantee the marketing of the products towards urban centres therefore rural\urban communications followed in many cases prehistoric paths. The most important street that crossed this territory was a ramification of the Flaminia coming from the south through Acqualagna, Urbino, Tavoleto, Montefiore in

Conca, Coriano, connecting the Piana di San Pietro with Rimini (Enrico Cirelli, 2011 ).

The coastline by the Adriatic is considered a Quaternary coastal area due to sedimentation processes, while rias, cliffs or rocky coastal landforms connected to Holocene marine transgression are absent. Thanks to this geomorphology and to the large availability of land and beaches, sun & sea tourism grew (Piastra, 2011).

### Territorial Dynamics and Landscape Change

Rimini, from the Latin Ariminum, was chosen as a settlement area because of environmental factors such as access to the Adriatic Sea and an abundance of water springs. Climate variations in historical times have played a significant role in shaping the town's environment: the Marecchia River has been known for its torrential temper since ancient times causing floods, cut-offs, and hydraulic instability (Guerra, Guerra and Nesci, 2020).

The manifold small and medium-size cities that insist in both regions have also been affected by urbanisation, which have impacted the conversion of rural areas in peri-urban fringes and generated a peri-urban multi-polarized continuum in Emilia-Romagna. Here, urban extension has converted large rural areas around the urban fringes into peri-urban ones (Valentina, 2020). Today Rimini represents the densest city on the northern border of the coastal strip.

The wine grape growing sector of the Emilia-Romagna region is one of the most relevant at national level, as it produces 12 % of the total Italian production. In relative terms, 15 % of the Italian wine growing farms and 30 % of the land allotted to grape growing are located in the Emilia-Romagna, which is characterised by a high record of 63 % of grape growing in the plain (Gatti, Incerti and Ravagli, 2002).

In Italy and Southern Europe in general, the “valorisation” of rural areas through a tourism activity strictly linked to wine culture and especially its promotion by opening cellars and vineyards to visitors, is more recent (Gatti, Incerti and Ravagli, 2002).

Recently the population moved towards the urban centres firstly and then beyond urban boundaries and closed rural centres at an impressive rate. Almost half of the municipalities that grew more than 160% are in these regions. Part of the population shifts going to smaller municipalities, or to the countryside which appears more urbanised. These displacements are ordered, and the population does not result sparsely distributed in all considered municipalities. This in turn implies high values of soil consumption, which grows more than the population in most of the considered municipalities (Valentina, 2020).

Tourism is the main driving force in regional landscapes. The Rimini-Bellaria coast is one of the main tourist resorts of the Northern Adriatic Coastline. Large marinas and minor harbours are present along the coast, while one large industrial port is located in Ravenna, serving the oil and chemical industry (Ciavola, Corbau, Cibi and Perini,). The province of Rimini boasts some 15 million hotel presences a year (7% of the national total), and is considered to be the seaside holiday capital of Italy, as well as being home to numerous manufacturing industries (Battilani and Fauri, 2009).

Moreover, this sector was dominated by sharecropping and smallholdings, and as such had shown little propensity towards change (crop rotation with forage was still unheard of, and cash crops were still a rare occurrence), and had failed to stimulate the creation of any food-processing companies (Battilani and Fauri, 2009).

The Adriatic coast including five Italian regions of Veneto, Emilia-Romagna, Marche, Abruzzo and Molise looks like a world in which buildings, interchanges, single-family houses, vegetable gardens, avenues to the sea, bathing establishments, discos, hotels, shop windows appear in abundant quantities. These coastal agglomerations are set around the survival systems: energy, economy, mobility (Crapolicchio, 2020).

Examples of orthophotography mosaic (1943-1982-2005) of Rimini city in different time periods display the great transformation particularly in the coastal plain (Figure A.2). The Emilia-Romagna region as part of the project Nature Network 2000 is viewable at <http://www.regione.emiliaromagna.it/natura2000>.



Figure A.2. Rimini city in 1943, 1982 and 2005 (Regione Emilia-Romagna, 2008).



Industry in the Rimini area subsequently consolidated its position independently of local tourist demand, and proved capable of developing into a valid labour market during the crisis years of the seaside holiday model. In conclusion, in the Fifties and Sixties the tourist district widened its base through a demand induced growth of local industrial producers and in the eighties a new autonomous industrial district was finally able to grow on its own. This is how tourism has fostered local industrial development in the case of Rimini (Battilani and Fauri, 2009).

The stability of the Romagna coastal profile is especially sensitive to natural land subsidence and anthropogenic land subsidence caused by both groundwater pumping and gas withdrawal and to the expected mean sea level (msl) rise due to global climate change (Gambolati, Teatini and Tomasi, 1999).

Regarding human factors, in the last 150 years man has altered the regime of the watercourses. A significant intervention must be identified in hydraulic land-reclamation: wetlands and lowlands, located in depressions (Piastra, 2011).

However, the oldest useful representation on coastal change is Flaminia (Latin name, as well as Romània, of Romagna), drafted by Egnazio Danti (1536–1586), professor at the University of Bologna between 1580 and 1582 under Pope Gregorius XIII. A sector of Flaminia represents the coastline north of Ravenna. From the Adriatic Sea towards the inland, three »belts« are visible: sandy beaches, pine-woods and wetlands.

Sandy beaches are related to river sedimentation while pine-woods here date to the Mediaeval Age: it is an artificial forest mainly composed of stone pines (*Pinus pinea*) which monks from Ravenna seeded in order to fix old dunes and to provide timber for building and heating as well as resins for pharmacopoeia (Fabbri, Missiroli, 1998 in Piastra, 2011).

In Danti's Flaminia, pine-woods are depicted in their original surface, without any interruption between the mouth of the Po di Primaro river to the north (a senescent arm of Po river, currently renamed Reno river) and Cervia to the south. Wetlands, in this region known as »valli«, (sing. »valle«, from the Latin word »vallum«: wall, in this case a dune-bar) are located in depressions below the sea level, due to subsidence phenomenon (Piastra, 2011).

Another sector of Flaminia, south of Ravenna, shows two salt-pans: Cervia and Cesenatico. Marine salt production (in the Late Medieval-Early Modern Age sources called »White Gold« held an important role in the regional economy because as opposed to Austria or Germany, northern Italy is bereft of fossil salt deposits (Halite).

The Cervia salt-pan dates back to the Early-Mediaeval Age and it has been preserved up till now; even the toponym »Cervia« is linked to salt production, deriving from Latin word »Acervus«, that is »heap«, in this case made of salt. The Cesenatico salt-pan was smaller and was closed during the 18th century (Tassinari, 1969 in Piastra, 2011).

Both of the salt-pans were settled here because along the Romagna Coastal Zone marine water salinity is high, as the inflow of fresh waters from the Apennines rivers is negligible between Cervia and Cesenatico, the salt-pans are also represented.

During the 18th century, a decrease of the riverine solid transport to the sea; in the inland regular division of land is connected with hydraulic land-reclamations; north and south the river arm are visible some fresh and brackish water wetlands; next to the shoreline, coastal woods and several dune-bars are represented. Human settlements are very rare; just some fortifications facing the sea are depicted (Piastra, 2011).

Moreover, the Carta Topografica dello Stato Pontificio e del Granducato di Toscana was a kind of testimony that the total disappearance of Cesenatico salt-pan occurred in 1851, converted to new agrarian fields.

Groundwater and gas have been progressively withdrawn from the subsurface starting from the early 1950s. Land settlement caused by groundwater pumping has exceeded 1 m in some coastal areas (e.g., the industrial zone of Ravenna and the city of Cesenatico) (Gambolati, Teatini and Tomasi, 1999).

The reduction in surface of pine-woods and wetlands is another long-term trend rising from the maps to be linked to the overexploitation of forests, to population growth and to the necessity to create new lands for agriculture (Piastra, 2011).

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## Annex B. Policies and plans of Emilia-Romagna and Rimini

Based on the introduction presentation in December 2021 of Laura Punzo (Regione Emilia-Romagna) for the international student competition and the key note by Valentina Ridolfi at the start of the Landscape Forum.

### Context: the strategic process

#### Landscape in laws, regulations, and policies

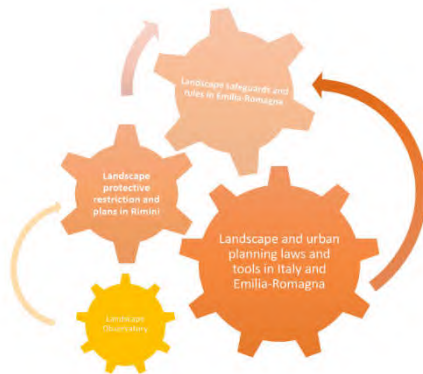


Figure B.1. Instruments for landscape development and protection in Emilia-Romagna

Source: Laura Punzo, introduction lecture for the international student competition, December 2021.

The Regional Law no 24/2017 of Emilia-Romagna stipulates the following:

- To stop land consumption by 2050,
- Strengthen policies on environmental issues
- Adaption to climate change
- Regeneration of urban spaces and existing buildings
- Stronger accent for the role of green spaces in cities
- The improvement of ecosystem services.

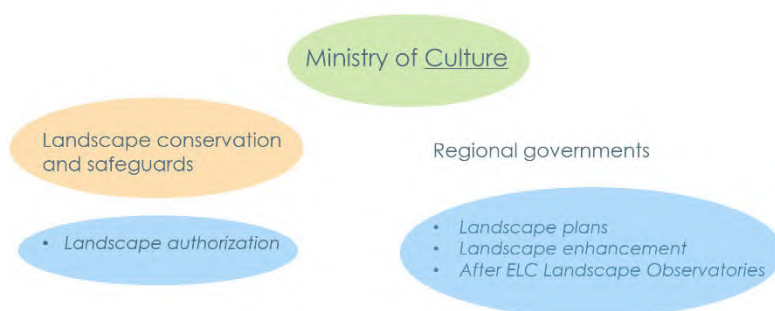
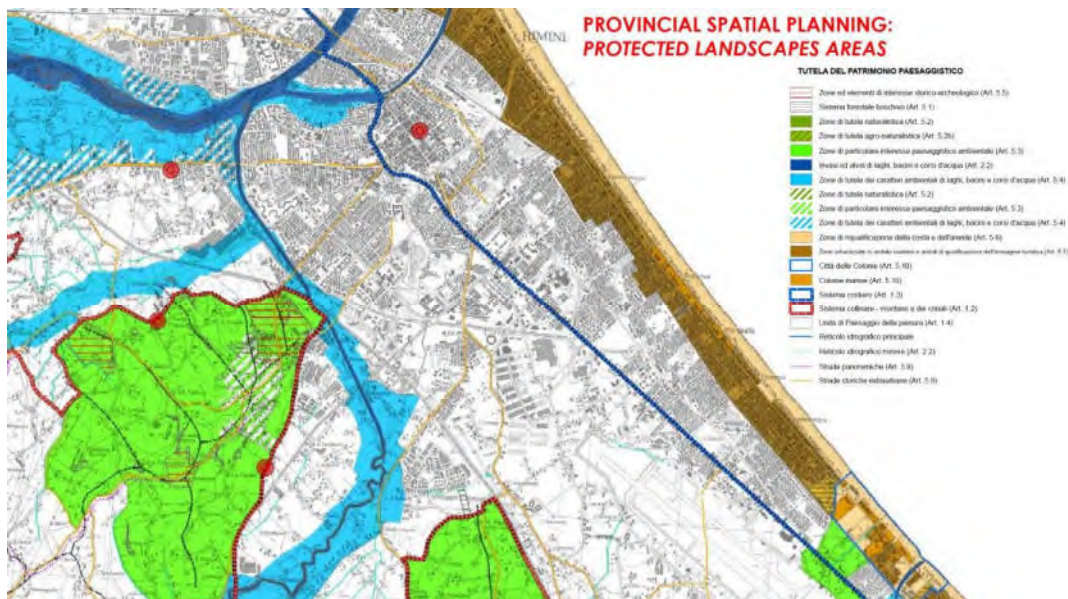


Figure B.2. Instruments of the Ministry of Culture and Regional Governments for landscape development and protection.

The Region applies are two kinds of landscape protective restrictions. Firstly the ministerial safeguards which concern general categories (such as the 150 m zone from the banks of rivers, the first 300 meters from the coastline, mountain areas higher than 1200 meters) and other areas of high value. Secondly the objects, safeguards, and rules of the regional and provincial plans.

As an example parts of the provincial spatial plan of Rimini are shown below in the Figures B.3 until B.7.



- Article 5.4 Areas for the protection of the environmental characteristics of lakes, reservoir and waterways
- Article 5.6 Coastal and beach regeneration areas
- Article 5.7 Urbanized coastal areas and areas for the increasing of the “city of tourist” appeal
- Article 5.10 Marine summer-camp facilities (“Colonie marine”)

Figure B.3. Section of Rimini in the Provincial Spatial Plan

#### Article 5.4 Areas for the protection of the environmental characteristics of lakes, reservoir and waterways

##### Goals:

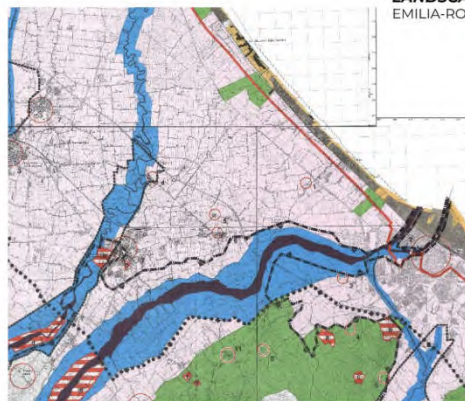
- ✓ To maintain and enhance these areas which represent the backbone of the provincial ecological network.

##### Allowed uses:

- Parks, ecological corridors, paths, rest areas and green spaces for leisure time activities;
- No soil consumption is admitted in the area but kiosks and buildings that are removable and not firmly fixed to the ground are permitted;

##### Admitted building works

- Maintenance of the existing buildings;
- Retrofitting and maintenance of the existing campsites;
- Agriculture and cattle breeding enterprises (farming);
- Retrofitting and maintenance of the existing factories;
- New infrastructures if needed and planned in national, regional and local plans.



December the 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 | Laura Punzo

Figure B.4. Section of Rimini in the Provincial Spatial Plan: Areas for the protection of environmental characteristics of lakes, reservoirs and waterways.



#### Article 5.6 Coastal and beach regeneration areas

##### Goals:

- ✓ environmental improvement of the coastal areas;
- ✓ increasing of the "tourist city" appeal;
- ✓ enhancement of environmental, urban and architectural quality of the coastal areas;
- ✓ conservation of endangered habitats.

##### Rules:

- the buildings "standing" in this area have to be transferred, and moved away from the shoreline;
- in this transferring, the volumes should be combined, aiming to a better design result;
- to gain a general reorganization of the facilities for bathing, with the aim to improve the tourist accommodation facility;
- new buildings are allowed only in the rearmost spaces behind the beaches;
- To protect and enhance existing views to the shoreline and the sea;
- To promote a new concept in beach facilities, including buildings relocation;
- To minimize the height of buildings and merge small volumes into a single building;
- To use a range of eco-friendly and landscape appropriate building materials.



December the 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 | Laura Funzo

Figure B. 5. Section of Rimini in the Provincial Spatial Plan: Coastal and beach regeneration areas.

#### Article 5.7 Urbanized coastal areas and areas for the increasing of the "city of tourists" appeal

##### Goals:

To

- ✓ reduce the built up areas, even with descaling interventions;
- ✓ enhance non-urbanized areas as public spaces and leisure;
- ✓ design and build connected free spaces and pedestrian paths;
- ✓ retrofit two or more old hotels in a single complex, gaining spaces for other services (swimming pools, spas, sun deks, open air restaurants...).

##### Rules:

- Vacant lots in this area cannot be built if they measure less than 8,000 square meters and can be used as:
- wooded and green spaces: urban parks, public gardens, playgrounds;
  - public uses and facilities for citizens and tourists, in particular for tourists' recreation and leisure.

If non-urbanized areas are bigger than 8,000 square meters, new buildings are permitted.



December the 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 | Laura Funzo

Figure B.6. Section of Rimini in the Provincial Spatial Plan: Urbanised coastal areas and areas for the increasing of the 'city of tourists' appeal.

#### Article 5.10 Marine summer-camp facilities ("Colonie marine")

##### Goals:

To

- ✓ preserve the historical-architectural characters of the most valuable buildings;
- ✓ consolidate, redevelop and re-open the ways to the sea and the beach to the public.

Marine summer-camp centres ("Colonie marine") are classified into:

- summer-camp buildings with historical and high architectural value;
- summer-camp buildings with historical and low architectural value
- summer-camp centres without historical value

In Rimini there are various summer-camp centres with historical and high architectural value:

- Muri,
- Patronato scolastico,
- Forlivese,
- Novarese,
- Bolognese, (NOT meat sauce!)

##### Rules:

- The transformation and restoration projects of these facilities must consider both the building and its surrounding area, according to a homogeneous concept;
- All architectural elements with an historical value must be conserved and restored.

##### Allowed uses :

- o a) "One firm" accommodation facilities: hotels, summer centres, boarding schools, student residences, residences for the disabled or the elderly people;
- o b) Cultural, educational and leisure facilities;
- o c) gyms, wellness centers, shopping centers, spas, exhibition halls...



December the 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 | Laura Funzo

Figure B.7. Section of Rimini in the Provincial Spatial Plan: Maritime summer camp facilities (Colonia).

The landscape policies aim to (1) strengthen the green infrastructure from inland to the coast, (2) the development of green belts around urbanised areas, (3) the regeneration and naturalisation of the seafront and pedestrian area along the sea and (4) the development of sustainable tourism.

### *Process and content of the Rimini strategic plan.*

There was an urgent need to develop the Rimini Strategic Plan because: 'Not only was Rimini's image blurring in the eyes of the world but also in the eyes of the Rimini citizens...' There were specific signs of mistrust because of ( 1) Very short-term investments, (2) Lower incomes (3) Decline of real estate income, and (4) Absence of creative investments.

The 'Institutional Promoting Committee' signed the protocol for starting the Strategic Plan Process: Municipality of Rimini, Province of Rimini, Chamber of Commerce, Local Bank Foundation, Emilia-Romagna Region (2012) University of Bologna (2019). The contents of the Protocol defined the Plan as: (1) A pact among all those who have responsibilities (2) A voluntary act (3) A long-term path (4) A process having a participatory character and (5) A cultural and political act, but super partes and not partisan.

All the intermediate bodies (69 economic, social, cultural, professional, environmental associations) constituted the Strategic Plan Forum and subscribed to the following basic principles:

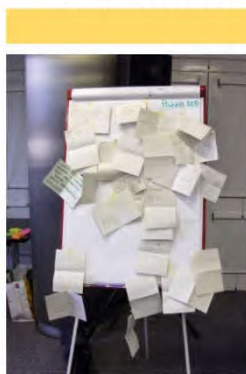
- Contrast land rent by favouring development and renewal
- To break free from pessimism, inspire hope and confidence, create points of attraction
- To create shared leadership among executives, politicians, economists and financiers chosen from among those who envision opportunities where others see only problems
- To enhance investors' confidence, citizens' self-esteem, long time strategizing
- To intervene on the existing, giving it new uses and a new dynamism
- To research the style and identity of the city

## **PARTICIPATORY APPROACH IN THE STRATEGIC PLAN**



### **2008-2010**

- **INTERVIEWS**
- **SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**
- **SECTOR EXPERTS**
- **WORKING GROUPS WITH MORE THAN 600 STAKEHOLDERS**



An important part is the project of the Sea Park, which stretches along almost 15 km of coastline. This is being implemented in successive functional sections, with public, private and mixed interventions, and also includes the redevelopment of the northern seafront.

The Sea Park project in its various stretches has been submitted to several ministerial/regional calls for proposals for public funding to finance the implementation of the interventions. Seafront SOUTH received public funding of a total of over 43 million Euros from the: (1) Emilia-Romagna ROP ESRF 2014-2020; (2) Emilia-Romagna Region's Call for proposals for Urban Regeneration pursuant to Article 1 of Regional Law 20 December 2018, no. 20; (3) Operational Plan of the Infrastructure Development and Cohesion Fund 2014-2020; (4) Government's Call for proposals "Italy City Branding 2020"; and (5) Next Generation EU- PNRR Italia - urban regeneration call. Seafront NORTH received public funding of EUR 18 million from the Government's Call for proposal on «suburbs» and a further EUR 12 million have been financed by Ferrovie dello Stato to upgrade the road system.



## Implementation of work involving private actors

The financial plan of the Sea park project assumes that the cost of public works are covered by the sums that private economic operators will have to pay to acquire the surface rights to the areas where they intend to insert the new functions. To date, a few pre-agreements have already been signed with economic operators for sections 1,2,3 and 8 of the project.

Another part of the strategic plan is an action plan on Tourism. The weaknesses and the action plan are presented below.



The committee decided to extend the planning area in collaboration with other municipalities and proposed a transition of the Alta Valmarecchia from Marche to Emilia-Romagna. The valley, divided into 10 municipalities, has a population of about 200,000 inhabitants of which about 145,000 are concentrated in the municipality of Rimini. The Marecchia river stretches for 70 km in a valley area of 328 km and 55.5 inhabitants per square

kilometre. The Marecchia River is perceived as the identity element of the valley. The plan includes a strategic planning process of the valley and new territorial realities and new co-planning tools.

### *Strengths of the Rimini Strategic Plan and Process*

Main strengths are:

- We consider landscape and territory as a common heritage of the community.
- We approach the whole process by engaging people in expressing their aspirations about the future in their living environment and co-design it (Ref. European Landscape Convention and Faro Communique).
- We base our processes on a multilevel governance to tackle the challenges of the present and the future.
- We recognise urban regeneration as a leverage of landscape quality both urban and non-urban.
- We adopt an integrated and holistic approach in designing projects, both material and immaterial.
- We consider the historical identity and the genius loci of places in planning their future.
- We consider the community as a fundamental co-responsible actor for the valorisation of landscape and the enhancement and management of common goods.

### *Weaknesses of the Rimini Strategic Plan and Process*

The voluntariness of the strategic plan process, or of the river contract, or similar instruments that are not legally binding, sometimes risk being a point of weakness to the advantage of other more “regulated” instruments. Incentive rewards, regulatory and normative integrations, etcetera would be needed.

In order to deploy the full potential of these tools, it would be necessary at the same time to increase the awareness and knowledge of the population on issues of land, environment and landscape through a broad and ongoing programme of education and training (territorial, environment and landscape literacy).







Other weaknesses are:

- Struggles to ensure the same degree of participation in the implementation phase of projects due to the ‘hurried’ timing of politics versus timing necessary to make collaborative choices.
- Persistence of a polarisation between those who see urban policies as top-down mechanisms and the demand of public participation (boomerang risk at the time of final choices, if aspirations are not respected).
- Conflict between the instances of protection and conservation in restricted areas and those of community landscapes (urban and otherwise) as considered by the European Landscape Convention.
- Great difficulty in actively involving the younger segments of the population in territorial choices.



## Annex C. Exhibition 'Genius Loci' at the Museo della Città in Rimini

**LE:NOTRE Institute**  
Leading landscape education, research and innovative thinking

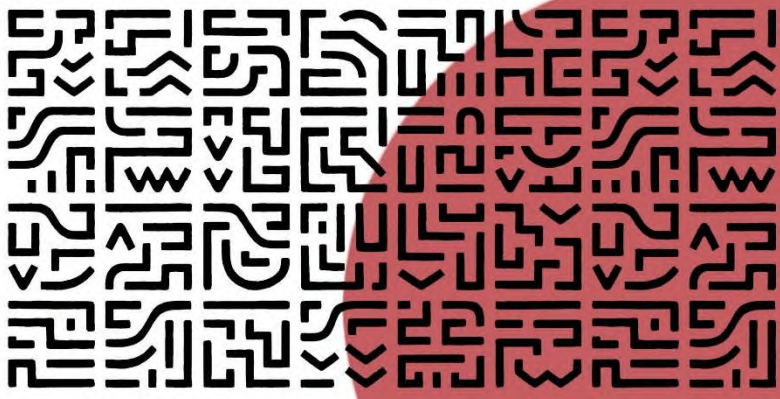
# GENIUS LOCI

art exhibition  
by Polish artists



Prof. Marta Branicka  
Prof. Mariusz Waras  
Dr. Dominika Gołębiewska  
Dr. Marek Barański  
Dr. Rafał Setlak

Curator: Dr. Silvia Moni

Museo della Città, Rimini  
26.04 – 6.05.2022  
opening 27.04.2022 – 1.30 pm



with the patronage and collaboration of the Municipality of Rimini

The exhibition 'genius loci' focuses on the idea place and local and regional contexts. The region of Gdańsk Bay and the city of Gdańsk itself present a variety of art or design inspirations. Sprawling on the southern Baltic coast, the thousand-year old city of Gdańsk shines at the edge of the alluvial delta area of the Vistula River and post-glacial moraines with streams and extensive forest complexes. It is the capital and largest city of the Pomeranian Voivodeship and – together with the nearby cities of Sopot and Gdynia – one of the most prominent urban areas within the cultural and geographical region of Kashubia in Poland. Nature and culture are inextricably connected to each other here, constituting an important characteristic of the local landscape/cityscape.

Genius loci by the scientific literature is described as a sense of place, i.e. an ability to grasp the features of a given place by people, to react emotionally and intellectually to certain places. In such an approach, the spirit/sense of place is based on how people experiencing their surroundings and constitutes an important issue within humanistic geography. The sensationally enabled right reading of the spirit of place is treated here as a condition for ethical action, both on the part of artist, designer and users of a place.

Inspiring of both natural and cultural heritage and landscapes of Gdańsk Bay region artists from the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk created their reinterpretations and visions, same time changing landscapes into artsapes. The exhibition is going to take the audience for imaginary tour through different interpretations of natural and cultural heritage. The exhibition is a suggestion on how genius loci – the spirit of a given place, will be speculates and presented by the different tools and art techniques.

The exhibition is supposed to pose questions like - what are meanings of a regional/local contexts? What is the role of genius loci in art and design? How the character of given space reflects on people/artists?

# GENIUS LOCI



dominika gołębiewska



Museo della Città, Rimini  
26.04 – 6.05.2022

with the patronage and collaboration of the Municipality of Rimini



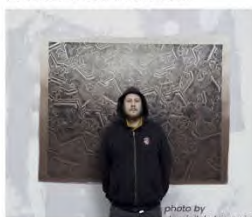
DOMINIKA is a lecturer at the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk, interdisciplinary designer and artist. Dominika is landscape architect and spatial planner. In 2018 she defended doctoral thesis in the field of protection and shaping of the environment. She is dedicated social activist, coordinator and participant of many national and international projects and grants related to the protection of natural and cultural heritage, such as Le Notre Landscape Forum or Learning Landscapes. Since 2014 she started working with Dr. Beata Kolakowska in field of art. They both were co-creators of a block of design and art classes at University of Warmia and Masuria in Olsztyn. Thanks to this project, Dominika enriched her workshop with tools and techniques related to printmaking and graphic design. She has been improving her skills until today, which results in exhibitions and graphic works presented

in Poland and abroad. Lately, under the watchful eye of her friend and teacher in the field of printmaking, she has been focusing her art-way and interest mainly on drypoint, linocut as well as on mixed and experimental methods. Through printmaking I try to combine my two passions – art and science. That is why the subject I usually dedicate my work is a reinterpretation of the surrounding world, especially the problems of degradation and devastation of the environment and landscape. Nature and its protection are my priority task – this is what my thoughts and actions focus on when I design and create. Privately – I live in my beloved hometown Gdańsk. I have a dog named Kuska and I love Red Hot Chili Peppers. ;)

# GENIUS LOCI



mariusz waras



Museo della Città, Rimini  
26.04 – 6.05.2022

with the patronage and collaboration of the Municipality of Rimini



MARIUSZ WARAS, born in 1978 in Gdynia, Poland. An Associate Professor at the Academy of Art in Gdańsk, Poland, where he runs a Studio of Street Art as part of the Faculty of Architecture and Design. MA and Ph.D. defended at the Academy of Fine Art in Gdańsk, Poland, between 2008–2014 he was an assistant professor at the Studio of Painting run by Prof. Jerzy Ostrogórski, between 2010–2013 he ran a Studio of Graphic Design at the Faculty of Sculpture, Department of Intermedia, then between 2013–2014 he was an assistant professor at the Studio of Painting run by Prof. Henryk Czapnik. Except for his academic work, he does graphic design, creates installations and large-scale painting. As a muralist, especially as an "m-city", whose style has become his characteristic, Mariusz Waras is recognized as one of the world

best-known street artists. From the very beginning, he has created his works around the urban aesthetics, used the elements of architecture or industrial infrastructure – including the shipyards and means of transportation. His style, even though it evolves, remains modest and strong. Among the dehumanized landscapes and machines painted during the process of production or destruction. In his play with the limitless possibilities of compositions in an ever-broadening lexicon of elements, he started to find place to express his personal reflections, manifestos, sometimes laconic comments on actual events – a wink towards one of the sources of street-art. He is also a curator of exhibitions and art events.

# GENIUS LOCI



marek barański



Museo della Città, Rimini  
26.04 – 6.05.2022

with the patronage and collaboration of the Municipality of Rimini



MAREK Z. BARAŃSKI was born in 1979 in Gdańsk, architect and archaeologist dedicated to strengthening local identities and protecting and popularising tangible and intangible cultural heritage; initiator and active participant of many revitalisation projects, in particular in Gdańsk, Poland, board member of the non-governmental organization The Storytellers which fights for civil consciousness and sustainable local development by collecting, promoting and reintroducing in a creative way living memories and past histories of people and places of the Lower Town in Gdańsk. Long-term researcher and author of scientific articles on ancient architecture at UNESCO sites in Qatar, Egypt and Turkey, including the archaeological sites of Götterhüyük and Göbeklitepe, which are widely regarded as the symbols of the Neolithic of the Near East, one of the expert consultants in building archaeology and conservation architecture in a workshop-based educational project Stewards of

Cultural Heritage led by German Archaeological Institute and awarded with an European Heritage/Europa Nostra Award in 2019. This international and collaborative project addressed some of the complex issues raised in the hosting of a skilled, displaced, Syrian population in Europe and attempted to enhance their ability to integrate into the existing mechanisms that promote the safeguarding and re-use of cultural heritage assets. Associate Professor at the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk at the Faculty of Architecture and Design where he conducts classes on the basics of the theory and methodology of architectural design and runs a studio of revitalisation; head of the Department of Architecture of Cultural Spaces / marek.barański@asp.gda.pl



# GENIUS LOCI

mariusz waras

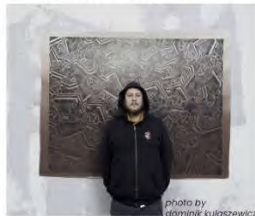


photo by  
dominik kulaczewicz

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# GENIUS LOCI

rafal setlak

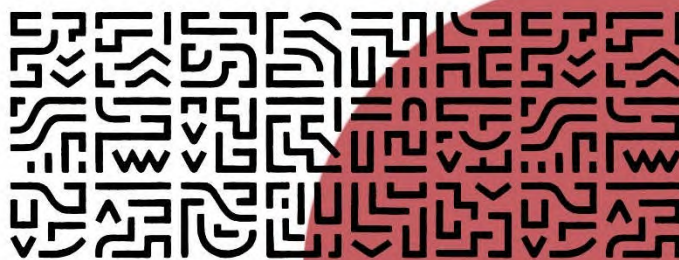


Museo della Città, Rimini  
26.04 – 6.05.2022

with the patronage and collaboration of the Municipality of Rimini



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RAFAŁ SETLAK interior architect, designer, academic lecturer with a doctorate degree, winner of many awards and distinctions. Graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk, professionally associated with the Academy since 2004 as an assistant in Professor Andrzej Priewski's Interior Design Studio. In 2009 nominated for the City of Gdańsk Award for Young Creators, four years later defended his doctoral thesis and from 2019 leads the Landscape Structures Basics Studio for Architecture of Cultural Spaces course. Since 2020 holds the position of Vice-Dean at the Faculty of Architecture and Design. Combines his work as a lecturer with running the Detail Design Studio. Author of numerous realizations of public and private interiors in Poland and abroad, participant of many competitions and exhibitions. In his creative work related to architecture on many levels, he draws inspiration from simple, natural forms, structures based on experiences related to the natural surroundings.

The amalgamation of forms with different characters, opposites, contrasts but also complementary ones, create narratives of the stories of the designed interiors and the surrounding external space, visible through transparent door and window openings. He draws strength and motivation to design from the observation of the transient nature that draws various stories through a lens that can later be transferred to paper and reality. The designed spaces reflect numerous observations of the environment, creating a natural harmony with its everyday users or temporary visitors. That is why its means of expression are combinations of compositions based on the surrounding planes, i.e. wall, floor, ceiling. And the main role is played by transient daylight, or artificial light in various forms.

# GENIUS LOCI

marta branicka

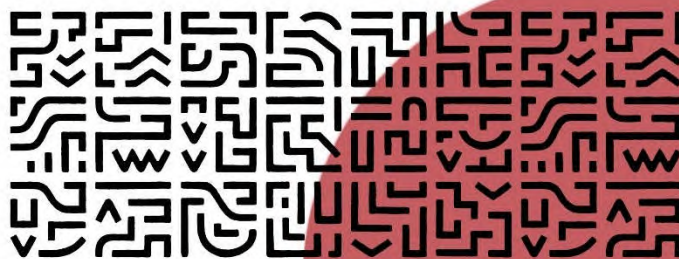


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MARTA was born in 1988 in Gdańsk. A graduate of the Faculty of Sculpture of the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk, diploma in the studio of Professor Stanisław Radwański in 1992. Since 1993, she has been associated with the Faculty of Architecture and Design of the home university. Currently, she runs the Studio of Sculptural and Architectural Forms, assistant professor. She deals with sculpture, open-air projects, and small sculptural forms. She has had many group and individual exhibitions as well as realizations in Poland and abroad.

"React for a fleeting moment, feel its taste and carefully separate it from the world, peel it and get lost in time... And then the tensions contained in autonomously conceived objects fuel them by placing them in a group, in the interior... It is interesting to observe how the dynamics of their mutual relations are built, complex tensions of oppression and harmony. The whole event becomes sculpture, its private space, an arrangement in a group, a place it has taken for itself, but also a moment when, as in a garden, it meets a man..."

## Annex D. International student competition

This International Student Competition is part of the 11th Landscape Forum of the LE:NOTRE Institute (to be held in April, 2022), hosted by the Italian Region Emilia-Romagna in cooperation with its local partner institutions. The competition 'Dancing to the future' took place from 01.10.2021 – 31.01.2022.

A total of 157 teams registered from 23 countries and the organising committee received 46 submissions from 13 countries, all were complete and valid. The entire competition including the blind jury review has been managed via the LNI-ECLAS Collaboration Platform on ILIAS. An accompanying lecture series was held from October to November with the support of the competition's scientific partners.

### *Composition of the competition jury*

The jury was composed of local and international experts in the fields of landscape architecture, landscape planning, urban design and architecture. The jury was moderated by Dr Ellen Fetzer and was composed as follows:

- Frederico Meireles, Portugal, Universidad Tras Montes a Alto Douro, Landscape Architecture
- Cristina Imbroglini, Italy, La Sapienza, ECLAS Exco Landscape and urban planning
- Elke Mertens, Germany Hochschule Neubrandenburg, LNI Board, Landscape Architecture
- Angela Santangelo, Italy, University of Bologna, Urban Planning
- Kristina Hill, USA, University of Berkeley, Landscape Architecture
- Silvia Capelli, Italy, City of Rimini, Architecture
- Stefanie Schur, USA/Germany, Landscape Architecture
- Romina D'Ascanio, Italy La Sapienza Landscape and urban planning

The LE:NOTRE Institute Board wishes to express their gratitude to the careful and profound work of the competition jury.

### *Evaluation method and process*

All projects were submitted anonymously bearing an identification code only. Each project was made available online to the evaluators via the ILIAS platform. The jury evaluated in two rounds the submission making use of the following criteria: (1) The degree of connection of the proposed vision to the actual landscape context, (2) Methodological clarity and consistency, (3) Conceptual expression and clarity, (4) Landscape Democracy principles (5) Innovation and creativity, and (6) Visual communication.

### *Prize winning teams*

First Prize:

**Dancing with Fellini** - Hana Gačnik, Zala Janežič, Magda Merhar, Kristina Oražem of the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Second Prize:

**Motioning towards Eco-Journey** - Angkita Hawlader, Mahasta Mahfouzi, Isat Jahan Nishat, Maximilian Stauch of HSWT Weihenstephan-Triesdorf & HfWU Nürtingen-Geislingen, Germany

Honorable Mentions:

**Rimini Electri-City** - Ena Grgur, Luka Jaušovec, Manca Šega, Vid Stropnik, Alen Ternik of the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

**Rimini - Do you know your neighbourhood?** - Jakob Authenrieth, Jonas Kania, Luise Lonnemann, Pauline Sachs, Sarah Schuster of HfWU Nürtingen-Geislingen, Germany

**In between Forests** - Pauline Borremans, Marie Cornoedus, Jaron Rop, Yuri Schillewaert of Hogent Kask & Conservatorium, Belgium.



The Municipality of Rimini gave the following commentary on the outcomes of the international student competition.

### *Premesse*

Gli autori dei progetti hanno analizzato il contesto di Rimini focalizzando su alcuni aspetti del paesaggio costiero e dell'entroterra e partendo da diverse prospettive (sociale, economica ed ecologica) hanno fatto emergere in particolare le criticità e le potenzialità del territorio.

In tutti i progetti si riscontra una grande abilità nella lettura della complessità urbana, che si traduce in visioni strategiche articolate e coerenti con l'analisi del territorio. I progetti che derivano da queste complesse visioni strategiche aggiungono spesso nuove dimensioni alla riflessione sullo spazio urbano, sia che si tratti del paesaggio costiero che dell'entroterra. In tutte i progetti Rimini compare come un paesaggio complesso che si compone di diversi strati: turismo, industria, piccola impresa e agricoltura e dalla lettura nascono soluzioni strategiche lungimiranti e dense di significati.

### *Soluzioni proposte*

In particolare, si apprezza l'interesse comune a quasi tutti i progetti a sviluppare soluzioni progettuali tese a trovare soluzioni per affrontare i cambiamenti climatici e il conseguente innalzamento del livello del mare, sul quale la città di Rimini sta lavorando da tempo, in particolare con il progetto strategico del Parco del Mare. Molti progetti sottolineano la necessità di una maggiore coesione tra la costa e l'entroterra e propongono soluzioni di forte impatto dal punto di vista ecologico: partendo dalla rinaturalizzazione dei corsi d'acqua si possono generare corridoi verdi per pedoni e ciclisti per favorire la mobilità dolce e il collegamento tra l'entroterra e il mare, ampliando la rete di collegamenti verdi esistenti, migliorando l'accessibilità, stimolando la comunità e l'interesse dei turisti a scoprire anche l'entroterra oltre alla costa a favore di un turismo sostenibile, energie rinnovabili e crescita agricola.

E' alto l'interesse di molti autori sulla trasformazione energetica della città, che spinge a riflettere su cambiamenti radicali che coinvolgono tutti, nessuno escluso. Impianti fotovoltaici e parchi eolici sono soluzioni accattivanti che aprono verso

### *The entries of the competition*

The authors of the proposals analysed the Rimini context by focusing on various aspects of the coastal landscape and the hinterland. Starting from different perspectives (social, economic and ecological), they highlighted in particular the criticalities and potential of the area.

All proposals show a great ability to interpret urban complexity, which translates into strategic visions that are articulated and consistent with the analysis of the territory. The projects that derive from these complex strategic visions often add new dimensions to the reflection on urban space, whether it is the coastal landscape or the hinterland.

In all the entries Rimini appears as a complex landscape that is made up of different layers: tourism, industry, small business and agriculture, and from the interpretation of this landscape visionary and meaningful strategic solutions are born.

### *Proposed solutions*

In particular, we appreciate the common interest of almost all projects in developing design solutions aimed at finding solutions to deal with climate change and the rise in sea level that results from that, on which the city of Rimini has been working for some time, in particular with the strategic project of the Parco del Mare.

Many projects underline the need for greater cohesion between the coast and the hinterland and propose solutions with a strong impact from an ecological point of view: starting from the renaturalisation of waterways, green corridors can be generated for pedestrians and cyclists to promote soft mobility and the connection between the hinterland and the sea. Thus expanding the network of existing green connections, improving accessibility, stimulating the community and the interest of tourists to discover the hinterland as well as the coast in favour of sustainable tourism, renewable energy and agricultural growth.

The interest of many authors on the energy transformation of the city is high, which prompts us to reflect on radical changes that involve everyone, without exception. Photovoltaic systems and wind farms are captivating solutions that open to a

una riflessione più ampia di conversione ecologica delle nostre città e del nostro entroterra.

broader reflection of ecological conversion of our cities and our hinterland.

Le sfide legate alla trasformazione ecologica di Rimini sono molteplici. La maggior parte, propongono nuovi corridoi verdi che estendono le strutture verdi esistenti, altri sottolineano la necessità di decentralizzare le aree turistiche per rivitalizzare altre parti della città in estate e le zone balneari in inverno. Comune a molti è la proposta di ridurre e trasformare il traffico verso un trasporto urban friendly sia promuovendo una rete di autobus più efficace, sia immaginando una città "a breve distanza" che riduca al minimo le lunghe distanze attraverso una buona distribuzione e diversità di usi.

The challenges related to the ecological transformation of Rimini are manifold. Most propose new green corridors that extend existing green structures, others underline the need to decentralise tourist areas to revitalize other parts of the city in summer and seaside areas in winter. Common to many is the proposal to reduce and transform traffic towards urban friendly transport both by promoting a more effective bus network and by imagining a "short distance" city that minimizes long distances through good distribution and diversity of uses.

E' comune a molti progetti la visione di un entroterra strategico rispetto alla riqualificazione della costa in chiave ecologica e la sfida sta proprio nell'affrontare la fragilità di entrambi i paesaggi quello costiero e quello agricolo, entrambi trasformati ed impoveriti dalla mano dell'uomo.

Many projects share the vision of a hinterland which is strategically important in relation to the ecological redevelopment of the coast, and the challenge is to address the fragility of both the coastal and agricultural landscapes, both transformed and impoverished by the hand of man.

Il tema più sfidante per la città pare proprio la rinaturalizzazione e un rinnovato collegamento tra il centro e la periferia, la costa e l'entroterra, tra un'economia prettamente fondata sul turismo balneare ad una che valorizza anche un turismo più amorevole verso il territorio meno urbanizzato ma ugualmente ricco di paesaggi attrattivi.

The most challenging theme for Rimini seems to be bringing nature back in the city and renewing connections between the centre and the periphery, the coast and the hinterland. Balancing an economy purely based on seaside tourism with one that also enhances types of tourism which are more caring about the territory. Producing less urbanised but equally rich and attractive landscapes.

Green corridors, forestscapes, electric city, eco-journey sono solo alcune delle proposte innovative e degne di grande attenzione da parte della città di Rimini per poter affrontare in maniera sostenibile le sfide attuali e future.

Green corridors, forestscapes, electric city, eco-journey are just some of the innovative proposals which deserve great attention by the city of Rimini in order to face current and future challenges in a sustainable way.

The jury report and the submissions of the winning teams are presented on the LE:NOTRE Forum website:  
<https://forum.ln-institute.org/international-student-competition-2021-2022/>

## Annex E. Posters of the Landscape Forum

Eleven posters of academics and professionals provide ideas and approaches to sustainable landscape development. Nine students of the Politecnico di Milano show their project work on green infrastructure for the development of a pedestrian street in the city of Piraeus in Greece. The poster by student Weicheng Li shares the case studies of the agricultural landscape heritage of the Valtellina region along the rivers Ticino and Po in Italy.

Frederico Meireles Rodrigues, Angela Silva, Catarina Silva, and Sofia Tomé, present the Masterplan of Penha Mountain Protected Area that enhances biodiversity and strengthens the ecological network while taking into account the cultural heritage values.

Meryem Atik, Elif Parlak and Sila Balta discuss the Role of Water Corridors in Antalya in the poster 'Relating Land and the Sea in a Mediterranean City'. The natural water features offer a potential to provide an ecological backbone of blue systems which can facilitate connectivity between green infrastructure components in the peri-urban landscape. Frederico Meireles Rodrigues, Angela Silva, Catarina Silva, and Sofia Tomé enlighten us on the Landscape Planning of the Douro Quintas – Production, Recreation and Visual Quality which is relevant for the development of sustainable foodscapes. A diverse landscape is proposed with a patchwork of productive elements such as vineyards, olive groves, fruit orchards that is connected to the riparian landscape.

Frederico Meireles Rodrigues, Angela Silva, Catarina Silva, Sara Terroso, and Carlos Ribeiro show the development of landscape corridors in a poster on the Large-scale Design of Ave and Selho Greenway Trails, a linear park system that brings benefits to cities.

Cristian Marzoli relates directly to the aspect of Landscape Democracy in the Rimini Context with the poster 'The School I'd like', with a wooden structure in the John Paul II Park. The aim of the project is to create an iconic, zoomorphic treehouse-like building that facilitates contact between users of the space and its surrounding nature. Gabriela Rembarz shows how interventions in Ilawa Warmia/ Poland can contribute to the debate on landscape democracy in the poster 'Mentoring in the county town' by working with a living lab to strengthen the local democracy in the debate over public space and urban landscape.

Ozge Ogut presents an example of a Participatory Process in the Framework of an Integrated Landscape Approach with two orchards as case studies from the Istanbul agricultural landscape.

Sofia Tomé, Rui Cortes, Simone Varandas, Catarina Silva, and Federico Meireles dive into sustainable tourism by a poster on River Landscape Reclamation: Combining Ecological Conservation and People's Use.

Federico Meireles and António Belém Lima present the integration of heritage into urban renewal by the poster 'Translating Historical Knowledge to the Design of the Urban Centre of Vila Real'. The objectives were to create a depurated place, sustainable in its management, with a strong identity based on history, culture and inclusiveness. Maria Stella Lux Today, presents the abandoned greenhouses dotting the Ligurian mountains which represent a forgotten heritage both from a material perspective, with the structures progressively invaded by weeds, and from an intangible point of view, as the main vocation of the area is gradually disappearing in the poster 'The greenhouse system on the Flower Riviera'.

Magdalena Rembeza and Agnieszka Durejko show how painted murals in the public landscape of a city can manifest and contribute to the democratic debate, in this case the support for Ukraine and the protest against the war in the poster 'Public landscape as a place for public speech and representation'.





## Masterplan of Penha Mountain Protected Area

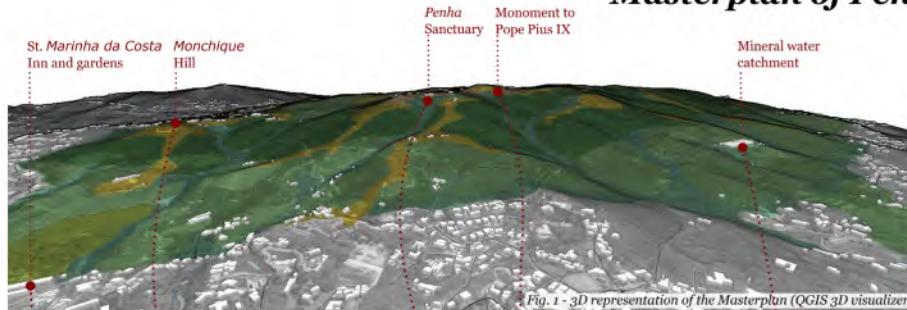


Fig. 1 - 3D representation of the Masterplan (QGIS 3D visualizer)

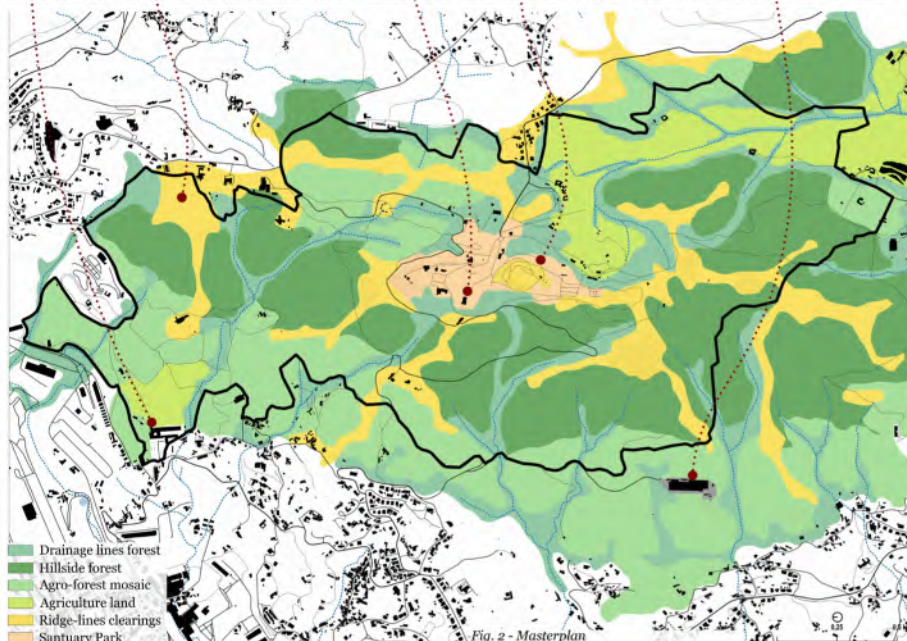


Fig. 2 - Masterplan

### Introduction

The Penha Mountain is one of the most important areas of Guimarães' natural heritage. It is home to a range of fauna, flora, geology, geomorphology, culture and landscape factors that make this place unique. Although it is recognised that its history began long before the urban settlement of Guimarães, material evidence of human occupation of the Penha Mountain remains scarce and disperse. This landscape, resulting from this relationship between man and the mountainous territory, presents today a rich aesthetic and cultural value, based on an ecology in which natural values are an essential part of the landscape pattern. The mountain rises to the southeast of the city of Guimarães as a large granite block, reaching a maximum height of 613m.

This Masterplan is a critical document for the classification of the Penha mountain as a Protected Area. The total area to be classified occupies approximately 350 ha, and it is located entirely in the municipality of Guimarães partially covering 4 parishes.



Fig. 3 - View from the Guimarães castle towards Penha mountain

### General methodology

The methodology was organised into four phases: data collection and survey, data analysis, programme synthesis and plan proposal. The process of survey and analysis was long and complex, and produced the syntheses of natural and cultural values, and the synthesis of landscape units.



Fig. 4 - Aerial view over the Pius IX monument and the Penha park

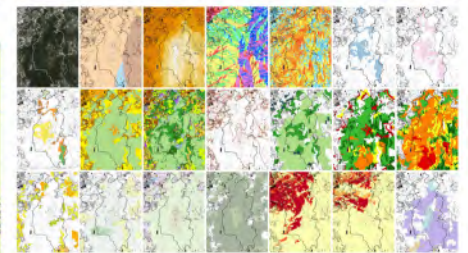


Fig. 5 - (above) Illustration of some maps of the cartographic analysis

Fig. 6 - (below) Map of landscape units

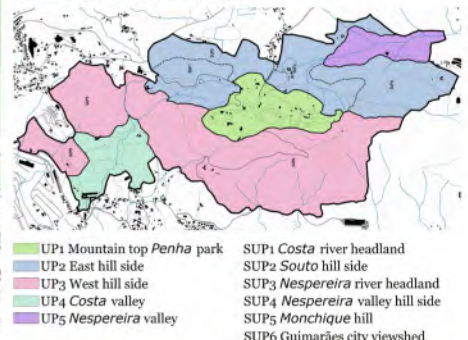


Fig. 7 - Penha Park typical pathways and rocky character



Fig. 8 - Viewpoint in Penha park - stay area diversity of trees

### Landscape Pattern

The proposed landscape pattern is represented in Figures 1 and 2. The major differences from the existing pattern consist in the opening of ridge-line clearings (which intent to function as open pastures and firebreaks), and the design of a conservation forests' network, overlapping the natural drainage lines (which enhance biodiversity and forest discontinuities in accordance with the physiographic lines of the landscape).





## Role of Water Corridors in Relating Land and the Sea in a Mediterranean City

Meryem Atik

Elif PARLAK

Sıla BALTA



Akdeniz University Faculty of Architecture Department of Landscape Architecture 07070 Antalya-TURKEY

Blue elements stands for the water features in the landscape. They are ecological links that provide connectivity for hydrological systems as well for species, habitats and also for people. The multifunctional nature of water corridors requires an integrated approach, especially for cities, with regard to storm water management, water safety, surface water drainage and flood management and also provided water related recreational opportunities for city inhabitants.

Water features such as lakes, ponds, lagoons, rivers and streams in particular have been subject to different planning approaches. Corridor ecology, ecological linkage, blue – green infrastructure are based on the network of water features in the landscape. They are critical ecological components for the cities and urban ecosystems. The role of water corridors in the Mediterranean city of Antalya was evaluated in this study with regard to ecological, biophysical and cultural linkages between the land and the sea.

### Study Area – Antalya City

Antalya city was chosen for the study. The urban development largely extended in the 1980's by the tourism development in the region. City morphology extends east to–the west end by two important water elements. Most of the urban agglomeration developed in coastal lowlands and inland natural areas. River courses of **Boğaçay** and **Sarısu** have help to the formation of coastal plains on the west part, where **Düden** was rather a kind of evidence of the time line of natural history of the city. **Aksu** on the very east defines the border of city periphery.



### Sarısu and Boğaçay the foundation of Konyaaltı Plain

At the very west end of Antalya city, Sarısu **yellow water** represents a stream corridor hosting a small sized reed bed and some remnants of wetland surfaces



Just on to the opening mouth to the sea. Sarısu is an essential coastal recreation site of the city.

Referring to **bull stream** to the wild and turbulent flow Boğaçay is the largest river crossing Antalya city from north to south. Fed by small local streams Boğaçay functions as an important natural corridor in the city core starting from high mountains, passing through pine forests (*Pinus brutia*) and finally flows into Mediterranean creating a large coastal plain.

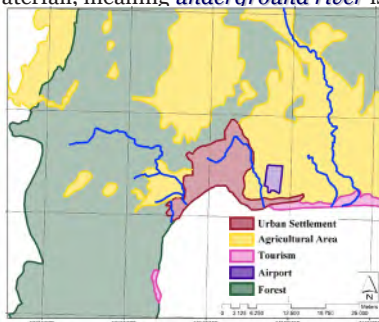


### Düden Waterfall

Due to karstic geology of the region, there were a lot of either small or large waterways running surface waters all the way from Taurus Mountains to the Mediterranean in Antalya city even until 1950 and 1960's.

However, the Düden waterfall, meaning **underground river** is the only one remaining of seven streams that once conveyed water from Taurus Mountains down to the city and finally to the Mediterranean. Düden is an attractive visiting site for people of the city as a well for tourists.

### An Evidence of Seven Stream



### Aksu Stream

Aksu stream, referring **white water** dedicated literary to River God Kestros in the ancient times constitutes the east end of Antalya city.

### East End of the City

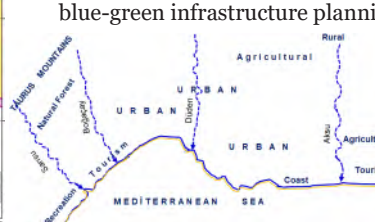


Mountains, rural settlements, agricultural grounds, tourism sites line up along the transect of Aksu stream. While it is a source of irrigation for the

agriculture in the inland and coastal strip is allocated to tourism.

### Conclusion

Natural water features in Antalya offer a potential to anticipate a blue-green infrastructure planning for the city. Sarısu and Boğaçay on the West, Düden in the centre and Aksu on the east initially provide an ecological backbone of blue systems which can facilitate connectivity between green infrastructure components in and on the periphery urban landscape.







## Rural change and Foodscapes

### Landscape Planning of the Douro Quintas: Production, Recreation and Visual Quality

Demarcated in 1756, the Douro Wine Region is the oldest regulated wine region in the world. Port wine is produced within this boundary, in the landscape of higher river Douro vineyards, which has been honoured UNESCO's World Heritage, since 2001, recognized as cultural, evolving and living landscape.

Its integrity and authenticity are well revealed in its landscape pattern, which includes a distinctive mosaic composed of extensive vineyards, Mediterranean forests, green network of corridors, vernacular stone walls, villages, and Quintas.



Fig. 1 - Masterplan

#### Objectives and landscape character

This work focuses on the landscape planning of Plaina Quinta, situated in between the cities of Vila Real and Peso da Régua, along the valley of river Aguihão. This river is a tributary of river Corgo which, in turn, makes one of the most important valleys of the Douro Wine Region for its outstanding landscape quality.

The simple manor house (fig.2) is on a plateau - "plaina" - over at the bottom of a wide ridgeline, facing west.



Fig. 2

The viewshed from Plaina manor reveals a very steep and visually impressive landscape, composed mostly by a mosaic of vineyards, olive orchards, and dense woods. The productive and recreational quality of this Quinta, as "cell" of landscape change, is the object of this project. Since Plaina, as many others along this region, isn't solely associated with wine production, but stands out as landscape of delight, it is seen as place of recreation, where the testimony of Douro Landscape can be recognised.

#### Planning principles

The planning principles prioritised a diverse landscape pattern, although with some dominance of vineyard patches. Mediterranean woodlands, olive groves and other orchards connect with the landscape corridors, consisting mainly of the riparian gallery, the olive tree borders, along the physiographic lines, and the horizontal



Fig. 3 - View towards the manor house



Fig. 4 - View from the house towards south



Fig. 5 - View from the house towards east

cypress corridors, marking the hypsometric structure of the land. The recreation programme follows that pattern and the Quinta's overall strategy, generating various visitation routes, notable points to stay and contemplate, and some finishing touches along the passage through the productive areas.



Fig. 6 - Model of the Masterplan (in progress)





## Large-scale Design of Ave and Selho Greenway Trails

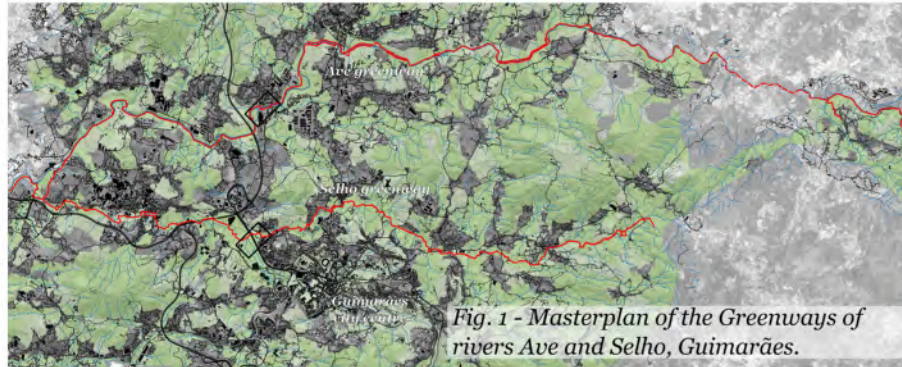


Fig. 1 - Masterplan of the Greenways of rivers Ave and Selho, Guimarães.

### Introduction

River greenways are landscape corridors of high ecological, aesthetical and social value. Design projects such as linear or riverside parks, river landscapes reclamation, naturalization and rewilding, cycling and walking ways are amongst the most common planning strategies and design approaches. Many are large-scale designs, which cover substantial areas of river system, and provide people's extensive access to these landscapes.

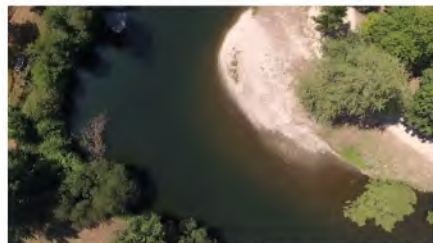


Fig. 2 - Natural bend of river Ave. Showing one of the pre-existing pathways (right side of the image).

This poster emphasises why cities invest in large-scale greenway parks and what are the resulting design challenges. The authors pinpoint and discuss the case study of the greenway trail design of the blue infrastructure of Guimarães, in Portugal. The design objectives were set to value blue and green infrastructure, river landscapes and heritage; and to promote access to nature, learning about biodiversity, and a salutogenic lifestyle.

### Design process

The design process started with extensive data collection, the landscape character assessment, creating a geographic information system and preparing field work; Field maps were used to register and analyse the most relevant issues and critical path of design decisions; Next was the synthesis of the design programme, with large-scale layout and classification into levels of intervention (from most to least intrusive); Stakeholders and public consultation took place, according to a cocreation approach;



Fig. 3 - Rural character of river Selho. The river is used to move the mills and to irrigate the neighbouring fields.

Last stage was specifications design, presented across scales, reviewed several times, taking into account the different inputs.



Fig. 4 - Fieldwork - the river landscape, the water, people's use, and the diversity of vegetation.

This network of trails is an alternative to the typical urban scenery, a channel to walk through the city, a repository of rural ethnography, and a linear approach to meandrization, connectivity and universal access to green space.



Fig. 5 - Example of a general plan section of the river Ave Greenway

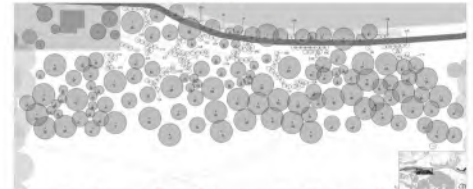


Fig. 6 - Example of the vegetation and plant material design of the river Selho

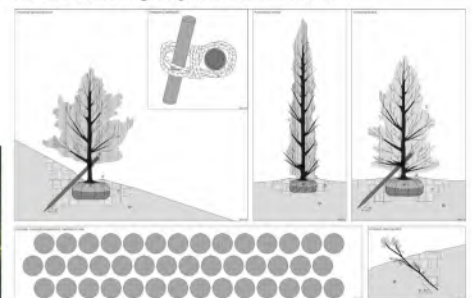


Fig. 7 - Example details' page of vegetation.

### Lessons learned

The most important challenges were related with managing ecosystems' impacts, establishing links to the urban settings and the existing cultural heritage managing public opinion, balancing the intervention across parishes and construction cost control.



Fig. 8 - Construction of the new pathway, along river Ave.





# The School I'd Like: Learning immersed in nature.

A project proposal for a miniarchitectural structure in Rimini's John Paul II Park.

My name is  
B.O.B.



1) The B.O.B. (Beast or Building) project is part of a policy

of urban development which has been in progress for some time in the city of Rimini. This Strategic Plan ratifies the importance of cultural and creative production as an element of stimulation and innovation of the economic sectors already established in the territory, considering them as being instruments of information and social involvement.

2) The Strategic Laboratory, designed to involve artists and other creative people in the planning process, has been most useful in defining a wide-ranging project focussed on the theme of temporary arts, and its value has been confirmed by its being maintained as an instrument of governance of the plan itself.

3) The former cinema Teatro Astoria has been identified as a possible site in order to test the development of the project. Situated about 350 meters from the intervention site, it is imagined as a center of research and production of temporary arts with a low architectural profile -- more a network of places and spaces than a single container.

4) The Park of the Sea project, dedicated to a general realignment of Rimini's seafront, has further proposed, in support of these recommendations, the addition of creative didactic laboratories distributed along its development, small structures no larger than 100 square metres: categories of potentially interested users include children, youth, the elderly and tourists. The guidelines of such a project foresee that the seafront could be re-connected with the Green Ring made up of the city's public parks, including John Paul II Park, and along which Rimini Commune is working towards expanding bicycle paths.

5) Thus B.O.B., in line with these indications, has been collocated in a publicly-owned area within John Paul II Park characterized by forest trees and close to both Bertola Middle School and the former Astoria cinema: the intention is to facilitate contact between users of the space and its surrounding nature, attempting insofar as is possible to recreate the environment of a treehouse.



Aerial photograph of Rimini highlighting the Green Ring



Aerial photograph of Rimini's John Paul II Park



Planimetry of the project



Site of the proposed intervention



Position of the structure within the park



Internal view



Plan of the building



Section of the building

6) This proposal has been formulated by the Misticanza Association that is a social promotion association that has been present in the Rimini area for over 10 years and deals with pedagogy, childhood and the environment. Misticanza normally engaged in managing summer schools for children, in order to extend its activities timewise by using a permanent multifunctional, versatile space which is open to the public. The concept is to construct a wooden building, accessible by a raised itinerary among the trees, which can be used both as a classroom during the academic year and an artists' residence in summer. Classes would be held in the open air under the building's raised body, and the enclosed space would be used when the weather rendered it necessary.

7) The main problem to be faced is to involve Rimini Commune so that it grants the area for the construction and initiates an urban-planning procedure deviating from the building norms presently in force. This would be possible only in the light of recognition of the public utility of the entire project, privately financed and yielding its management to the local administration.

8) The building is characterized by a unified ambient of two levels raised above the ground. Access is gained by a ramp meandering among the trunks of existing cypresses and pines. A central area is set apart for teaching, beside a visible kitchen designed as cookery laboratories and an enclosed area including toilet facilities. There are skylights in the northward-facing roof pitch allowing a view of the trees' foliage, whereas the larger southward-facing openings are equipped with mobile screens.

9) The aim of the project is to create an iconic, zoomorphic building capable of substituting in users' imaginations the old locomotive which in the 1980s was situated in the park close to the area chosen. At the same time, B.O.B. could ideally be reproduced and colonise other parts of the city within existing public green areas having the characteristics of its habitat: it could decline forms and dimensions responding to needs which can become manifest from time to time.





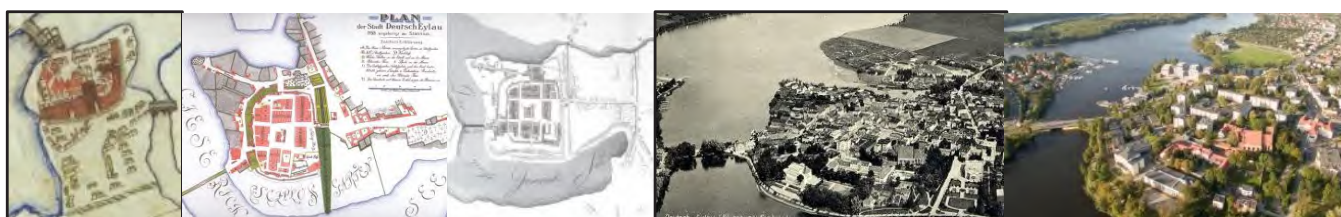
Image source: KOMMA PLAN/Anita Glinzki

Ilawa Warmia/ Poland

## Urban (Planning) Mentoring in the county town

Strengthening the local democracy in the debate over public space and urban landscape.

Ilawa is a county-town in northern Poland, situated at Jeziorak, the longest Polish lake (32.19 km<sup>2</sup>), part of the Elbląg-Canal waterways system connecting agricultural Warmia-Mazury region with the Baltic Sea. This local center (31717 inh.), dominated by car traffic, doesn't draw adequately from its natural potentials. Permanent structural regional underdevelopment and broken continuum within local community tradition back outdated urban policy, disregarding unique landscape. Shortcomings in democratic practices like community planning, limit development progress.



Historic city in Ilawa, then and today: 1620\_1753\_1810\_1935\_2018 (source: City of Ilawa)

Dilemmas arose around former market square renovation, revealed within local authorities the need for planning know-how to support public investments (2018). Year later, cooperation with the Gdansk University of Technology (AF\_GUT) was established. The research, based on urban mentoring format, addressed issue of public space quality and general city image.

In 2021, this mode of knowledge-transfer actively involved students of 4 design studios. 28 draft-masterplans present results concerning city center urban landscape systems and several concepts transforming area of the former old town (1305-1945). In 60's, on archeological remains, modern housing estate has been build. Some shopping-options highlight former market place. In the 90's further challenges for local identity and a general urban image were introduced. Transit streets and random waterfront developments (shopping mall, parking lots) perpetuated reduction of landscape consistency.



Selected Results of the Design Studios Masterplan Ilawa Old City AF\_GUT 2021-2022\_Authors: S.Skrzykowski/M.Śliwska/K.Tamul/A. Wyrzykowska\_K. Bartos/A. Bednarz/ Z. Janus/ M. Olszewska\_P. Gąsiewska/V. Kavalevskaya/ D. Zalewska/ S. Ziolkowska\_R. Baranowski/ K. Klas/ S. Kłosowska/ A. Kozłowska

Ilawa remains the living-lab for monitoring of the social response to the actions undertaken in a wake of the research project. Optional solution systemically presented in masterplans, are studied here. Local authorities have opened up on alternative thinking and they became to estimate importance of the planning tools escalating efficient change. Hypothetic concepts upgrading number of well-known places are like fuel stoking the public debate. It is still an open question if research activity serves as the initial step towards change of existing political modus operandi - departing from ad hoc modernization tactics, in favor of the participatory strategic planning.



Selected Results of the Design Studios Placemaking Ilawa & Image of Ilawa City AF\_GUT 2020-2021\_Authors: J. Depka/ N. Jarosz/ K. Tatarata/ M. Świat\_N. Serban/ M. Sokolnicka/ J. Kruszczyńska/ A. Rudnicka/ M. Draheim/Z. Gowin/ T. Martin/ D. Imperadice\_Maria Drożdżicka/ Nicolas Destanne de Bernis / Szymon Mańkowski



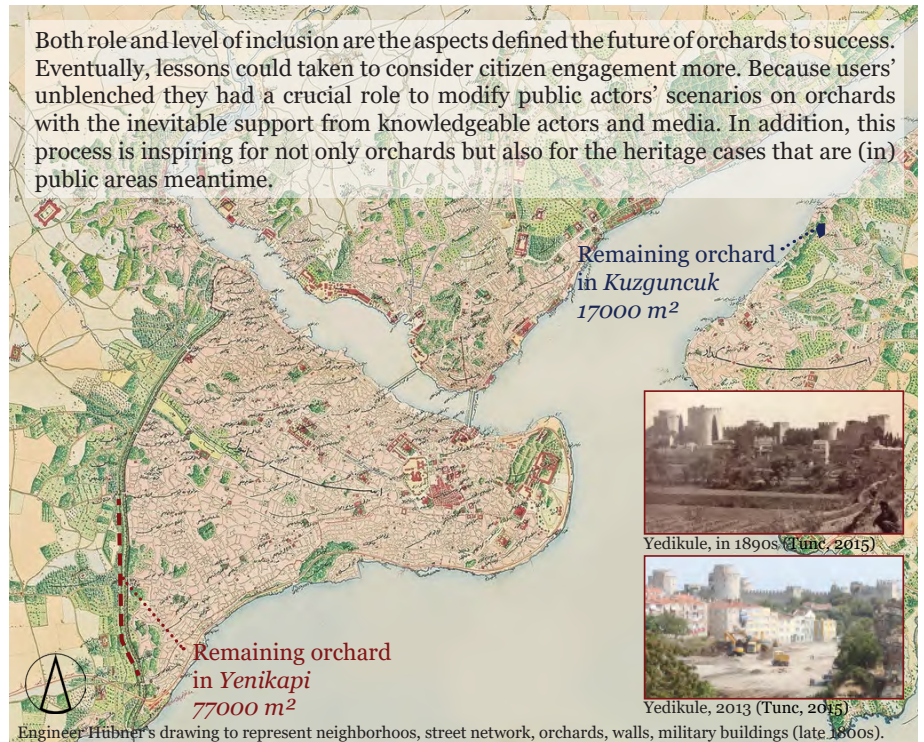




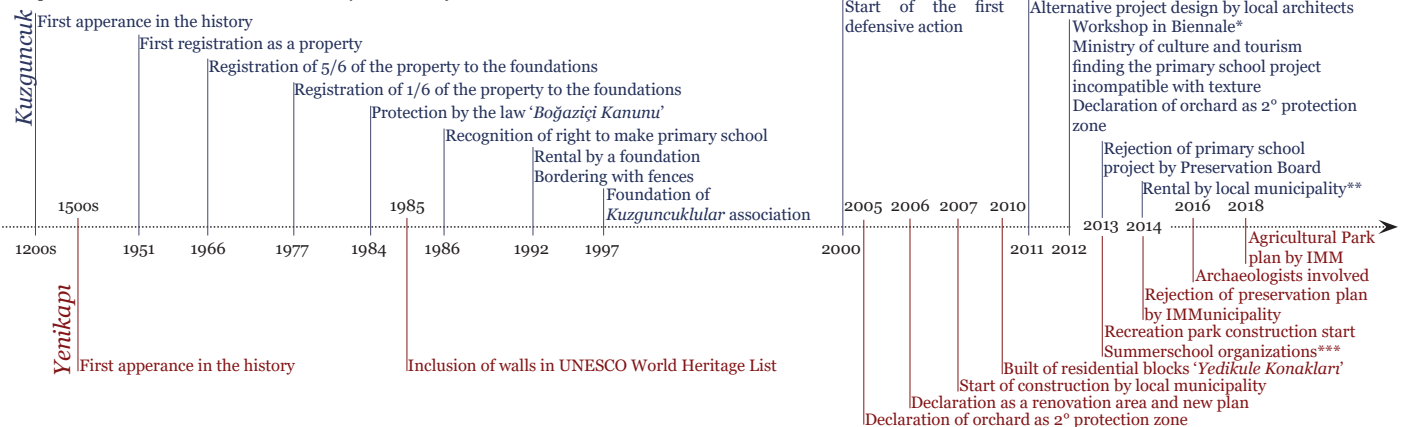
## Participatory Process in Framework of Integrated Landscape Approach: Two orchards as case studies from Istanbul agricultural landscape

Integrated Landscape Approach (ILA) could be defined as framed around multifunctionality and driven by participatory transdisciplinary, cross sectorial processes to determine change logic and/or clarify objectives (Pedroza-Arceo et al., 2022). **Istanbul**, as a metropolis, and fastly transforming dense urban area, has been facing the stress on the historical **orchards**. Two critical cases are **Yedikule** and **Kuzguncuk** orchards that turned into the source of government annuities, have been fighting against political power. This stress emerged through fast urbanism activities and well as improper urban planning policies. However, the residents/users of the area showed a significant concern to **protect** these orchards with following their original functions. Eventually, it became an example of participation of many stakeholders from different disciplines through integration of **policy and practice**. As a result, these two orchards turned into part of urban landscape by supplying **food** as an open public space, protecting **architectural heritage** and **cultural identity**, and supporting **sustainable community**.

Both role and level of inclusion are the aspects defined the future of orchards to success. Eventually, lessons could taken to consider citizen engagement more. Because users' unblenched they had a crucial role to modify public actors' scenarios on orchards with the inevitable support from knowledgeable actors and media. In addition, this process is inspiring for not only orchards but also for the heritage cases that are (in) public areas meantime.



### Timeline of orchards' struggle for existence and actors involved (produced after Ricci, 2008; Baser & Tuncay, 2010; Kaldjian, 2014; Tunc, 2015; Kocan and Balik, 2021)



\* Public Design Support Kuzguncuk by HFBK Hamburg. Istanbul Design Biennial. Ph: Dundaralp, 2012



\*\* The project after Üsküdar Municipality rental with hobby gardens, orchards, agricultural areas, recreation area, amphitheatre, walking paths, playground, medicinal and aromatic plant areas, basketball court. (Ph: Lubbock, 2017)



\*\*\* Summer School by RWTH Aachen University, Okan University, Kadir Has University, Istanbul TU and Bilkent University (Ph: urbanlabistanbul, 2013)



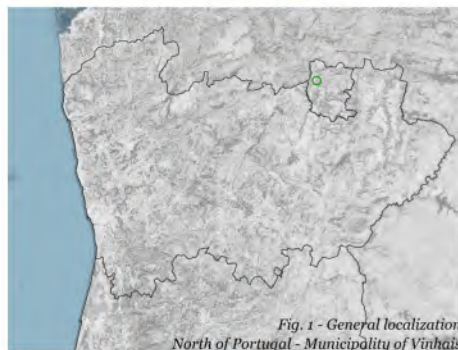


Fig. 1 - General localization  
North of Portugal - Municipality of Vinhais



Fig. 2 - Masterplan of the Rabaçal river; Fig. 3 - Master plan of the Tuela river Riparian Gallery; Fig. 4 - Tuela River Riparian Gallery; Fig. 5 - Rabaçal River Riparian Gallery

## Introduction

River requalification projects when in rural riparian areas must consider the natural character of the landscape. In other words, promoting the regulated and educational use of these areas for the preservation of aquatic and riparian environments; directing the strategy towards planning that prioritizes ecosystem services and biodiversity conservation [1]. Currently, society is placing increasing value on the conservation of rivers and other water lines. Blue infrastructure promotes biodiversity. Many studies and projects are being developed, showing different forms of action, which aim to overcome the fragilities of these ecosystems. At the same time, there is an ever growing in demand for nature tourism and the exploitation of these river landscapes. Therefore, sustainable tourism and good practices should be guided by well thought out and designed interventions, so that conservation and people's use can coexist. This poster presents two projects located in the municipality of Vinhais, in the north of Portugal. Both areas of intervention are in the Douro river basin.

Table 1 - Landscape and sensory interest throughout the year of native and ornamental species.

## Objectives

The objectives of the interventions are to minimize the erosion of river bank and to contain the depletion of the riparian gallery, by encouraging the development of native vegetation. The landscape architecture projects also intend to make use of vegetation to provide shade, produce and increasing the aesthetic value of landscape throughout the seasons.



Fig. 6 - Above: Intervention area in Rabaçal river; Below: weir and surrounding area of the Tuela river

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Betula celtiberica</i>	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Celtis australis</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Corpus arvensis</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Prunus avium</i>	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Quercus pyrenaica</i>	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Salix atrocinerea</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Taxus Baccata</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

\* Flowering • Fertilization + Leaf fall + Sensory interest of the logs

## Sustainable Tourism

## River landscape reclamation: combining ecological conservation and people's use



The river mussel, *M. margaritifera*, is protected internationally by the European Commission's Habitats Directive and the Bern Convention. This species is also listed as 'Endangered' at a global level and as 'Critically Endangered' in Europe, on the Red List of Threatened Species of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). [2]



Fig. 7 - Flood plain on the right bank of river Rabaçal.

## Design principles

The proposal involves using low visual impact material to the layout of circulation corridors and the use of natural engineering techniques to rehabilitate the most damaged areas of the river. The platforms provides access to the river and in some places, along pathways, it helps soften slopes and contain excess use of the river banks, allowing vegetation to naturally colonize and thrive.

1 Shepherd, Gill. (2004). *The Ecosystem Approach: Five Steps to Implementation*. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK. vi + 30 pp.  
2 Cuttelod A., Seddon M. & Neubert E. (2011). *European Red List of Non-marine Molluscs*. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union.



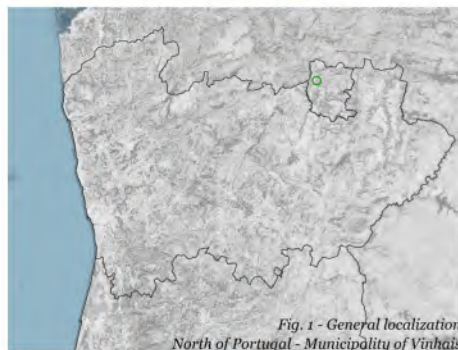


Fig. 1 - General localization  
North of Portugal - Municipality of Vinhais



Fig. 2 - Masterplan of the Rabaçal river; Fig. 3 - Master plan of the Tuela river Riparian Gallery; Fig. 4 - Tuela River Riparian Gallery; Fig. 5 - Rabaçal River Riparian Gallery

## Introduction

River requalification projects when in rural riparian areas must consider the natural character of the landscape. In other words, promoting the regulated and educational use of these areas for the preservation of aquatic and riparian environments; directing the strategy towards planning that prioritizes ecosystem services and biodiversity conservation [1]. Currently, society is placing increasing value on the conservation of rivers and other water lines. Blue infrastructure promotes biodiversity. Many studies and projects are being developed, showing different forms of action, which aim to overcome the fragilities of these ecosystems. At the same time, there is an ever growing in demand for nature tourism and the exploitation of these river landscapes. Therefore, sustainable tourism and good practices should be guided by well thought out and designed interventions, so that conservation and people's use can coexist. This poster presents two projects located in the municipality of Vinhais, in the north of Portugal. Both areas of intervention are in the Douro river basin.

Table 1 - Landscape and sensory interest throughout the year of native and ornamental species.

## Objectives

The objectives of the interventions are to minimize the erosion of river bank and to contain the depletion of the riparian gallery, by encouraging the development of native vegetation. The landscape architecture projects also intend to make use of vegetation to provide shade, produce and increasing the aesthetic value of landscape throughout the seasons.



Fig. 6 - Above: Intervention area in Rabaçal river; Below: weir and surrounding area of the Tuela river

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Betula celtiberica</i>	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Castanea sativa</i>	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Celtis australis</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Corpus arvensis</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Prunus avium</i>	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Quercus pyrenaica</i>	+	+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Salix atrocinerea</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<i>Taxus Baccata</i>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

\* Flowering • Fertilization + Leaf fall + Sensory interest of the logs

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## Heritage and Identities

### Translating historical knowledge to the design of the urban centre of Vila Real,

#### Introduction

The "Carvalho Araújo" Avenue becomes the main public stage of Vila Real still in the XV century, right after the expansion of the town to the outside the primitive walled settlement. It was a common dirt ground called "Tabulado".



Fig. 1 - Great Tabulado fountain (blt. 1532); the city of the horse, and the charriot; St. Claire Convent (blt. 1187); barracks (XIX cent.)

Already in the XIX century (1860), "Tabulado" expands a few meters south, as a result of the demolition of some buildings that limited this common. Remained only one last quarter, demolished in 1919 and finally forming the current open platform.



Fig. 2 - Marquise's Palace (XV cent.); the city of beaux arts and the automobile (1933)

It was the first glance of a field with about 350 metres long and 30 metres wide. Although the alignment with the side buildings was not perfect, the visual field was already impressive and extensive. It was laid out in dirt, with sycamores and palm trees quite big in size.

#### Preliminary studies

Besides the historic evaluation, other analysis were carried out: physiographic, mobility, circulation, comfort, vegetation, materials, façades, heritage, infrastructures network, observation and mapping of behaviours, interviews...



Fig. 3 - Extract from the occupancy evaluation: pattern of occupation, behaviour mapping, people's preferences and needs

To summarize, it was necessary to significantly improve the place, adjusting its functions, assuming its role of great civic square, designed for people, for accessible, aesthetically and promoting the historical value.



Fig. 4 - Sketches

#### Design principles

The design generates another urban landscape transformation, determined by new realities, uses, and demands. It is the opportunity to adjust people's relations with the place and to take advantage from the rich history of this place. The landscape design objectives were to create a depurated place, sustainable in its management, supported by functions of great attractiveness, for recreational use, with a strong identity based on history, integration and cult. The intervention also follows conceptual principles of spatial, seasonal and formal diversity. The intervention seeks to give dominance to the elements of grandeur and simultaneously offer simplicity to the place. It seeks a narrative in all its elements, from the selection of materials, the design with the vegetation and the subtle historical references in its layout.

Fig. 5 - 3D model of the design proposal: At the far end is the south municipality square; followed by the promenade and small garden area, much more diverse and covered with vegetation; then the central open square, paved with large granitstones only punctuated with a sculptural Araucaria, the old fountain and the Carvalho Araújo statue; in front of the post office palace there is the big lawn, planted with two lines of Ginkgos and the pre-existing linden tree; at the closest end, there's the little theatre, facing the court house and creating a veranda over the whole avenue.

#### Contruction work

Although the construction work is still not yet completed, the place is already open to use. The new design provoques, inquires and shows wide views, good finishing, great accustics and monumental buildings.





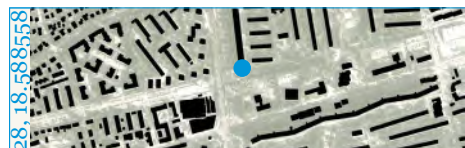


## Heritage and Identities

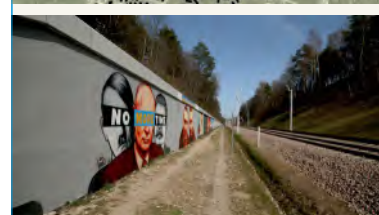
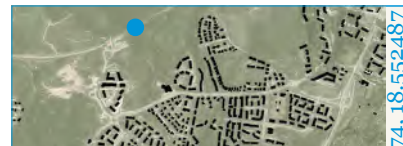
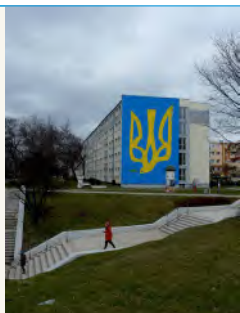
# Public landscape as a place for public speech and representation

Gdańsk, Poland case study

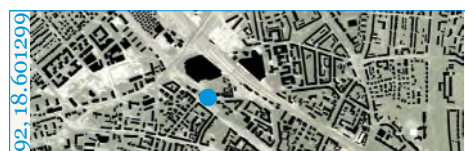
Places are the centers of community and in that sense they are being shaped by the community. Public landscape becomes a place for public speech and representation. Murals are not only "lipstick on a pig". Paint is strong enough to battle the outside factors. Moreover in many cases art and cultural activities are the effective tools in urban revitalization as it is proven by creative placemaking practice. Gdańsk – city of Solidarity movement one of the first cities in Poland and Europe that became a place of representation of the free world & shared values. In the face of Russian aggression in Ukraine, artists of Gdańsk painted murals in the public landscape of a city to manifest the support and the protest against the war.



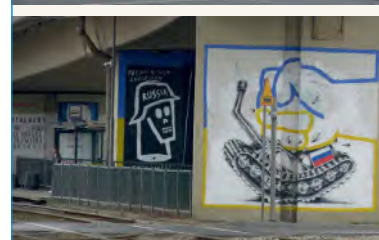
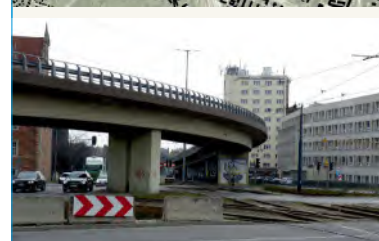
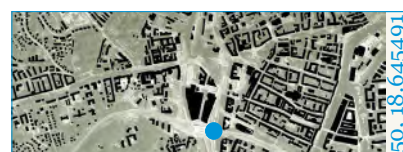
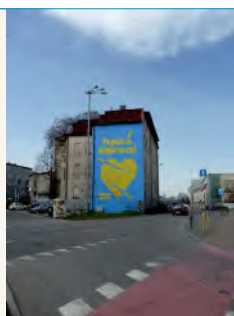
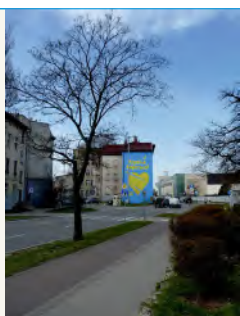
The mural that was created on the wall of a block of flats at Chłopska 34 street in Przymorze district, was designed by Jakub Sobczak, and performed by a team known as WakeUpTime. In this symbolic way, artists want to support Ukrainians in the fight for their independence.



"Solidarity with Ukraine" by students of the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk.

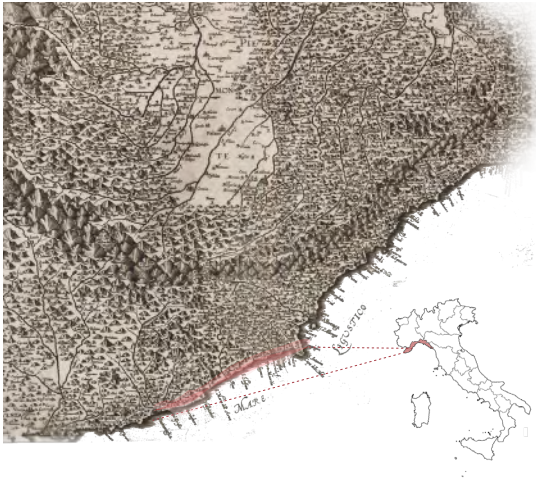


"Ukraina Walczy!" (Ukraine is fighting!) by Mariusz Waras is located on the wall of the building at Grunwaldzka Street in Gdańsk Wrzeszcz. It is the main artery of Gdańsk, and the mural itself can be seen from the perspective of the pedestrian, driver or cyclist.



Murals referring to the ongoing war were also created on the pillars of Okopowa street in the center of Gdańsk (mural by "klub2020").





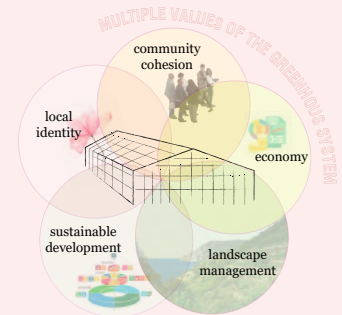
## The greenhouse system on the Flower Riviera

A landscape perspective on the lost of material and immaterial heritage  
 Maria Stella Lux, Ph.D. student - Department ABC Architecture, Built environment and Construction engineering | Politecnico di Milano

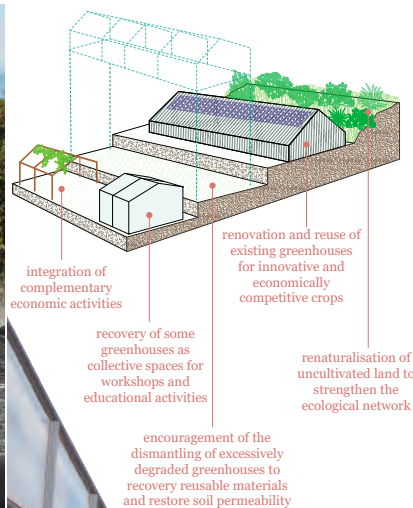
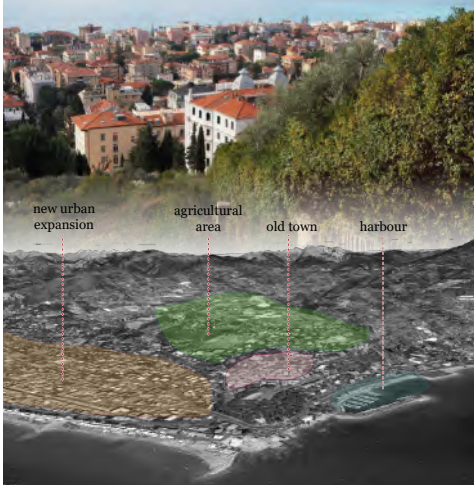
The Flowers Riviera is the western stretch of the Liguria coastline and takes its name from the practice of floriculture, which for centuries has been the main and most distinctive economic activity in the area. It is a narrow strip of land where the landscape changes very quickly from sea to hillside, where the mild climate provides ideal conditions for the cultivation of different botanical varieties, particularly roses, carnations and buttercups. The Flowers Riviera has long been an outstanding area for the production and export of flowers in Europe. In recent decades, however, the globalisation of markets has opened up to foreign competition (particularly from Morocco) and then the economic crisis of 2008 progressively undermined the competitiveness of local production and the economic sustainability of flower cultivation, leading to the closing of many activities and the abandonment of several greenhouses.



Today, the abandoned greenhouses dotting the Ligurian mountains represent a **forgotten heritage** both from a **material** perspective, with the structures progressively invaded by weeds, and from an **intangible** point of view, as the main vocation of the area is gradually disappearing.



**FOCUS AREA**  
 Bordighera, Imperia, Italy  
 43.788294, 7.670768



Today, the problem of abandoned greenhouses requires a broad vision at the landscape scale, despite the extreme fragmentation of the properties and interests involved. The conservation and restoration approach is not enough on its own. Indeed, the decay of some structures appears irremediable and it must be considered that the presence of closed greenhouses also has negative impacts on the environment such as permeability and salinisation of the soil due to the prolonged use of chemicals. According to an integrated approach, a solution could include the following actions: **1)** the selection of recoverable structures and their reuse through modernisation and efficiency improvements; **2)** the removal of unrecoverable greenhouses, the recovery of reusable materials and the reclamation of the underlying soil; **3)** the reuse of some greenhouses for collective projects aimed at increasing knowledge of local history and agricultural practices; **4)** the integration of complementary economic activities such as a market for the sale of local products or small restoration activities to encourage tourism and the rediscovery of the area.



**Landscape Forum 2022**

26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2022 | Hosted by LE:NOTRE Institute, Regione Emilia Romagna, Comune di Rimini, University of Bologna

Poster exhibition



**Heritage and Identities**

### *Student work on the Marie Curie Project and the Foodscape in the Valtellina region*

The posters with student work were sent in by students of the Politecnico di Milano. They presented their work of the course 'Theories Of Architecture, City and Landscape' which is part of the MSc 'Sustainable Architecture and Landscape Design' in the School of Architecture, School of Architecture Urban Planning Construction Engineering, Politecnico di Milano. The group of teachers consisted of Julia Nerantzia Tzortzi, Ozge Ogut, and Cristina Musacchio.

Posters are presented of plans made by Lorenzo Prestini, Javid Kianisadr & Chiara Impembo; Seyederfan Masoumzadeh; Giorgia Piva & Cecilia Gruzza, Yvonne Fantacone & Elisabeth Unger; Seyedeh Azita Mirbozorgi; Jeevan Kumar Balasubramanian; Silvia Caremoli & Erika Franzosi.

As a part of this course, a collaborative design activity is organized with the aims of regenerating a pedestrian street in the city of Piraeus (Greece), and specifically the Marie Curie Street, which currently has abandoned rails due to former tram road infrastructure. This area is also one of the pilot areas of the ProGlrreg project which is funded from the European Union's Horizon 2020 innovation action programme for development of green infrastructure.

The course addresses the topics of sustainability, collaborative design and green - blue infrastructure, biodiversity, nature-based solutions, as well as sustainable development. Students are asked to consider all the parameters of sustainable design, open public areas, urban spaces, people engagement and landscape design. The first step included several analyses e.g., background analysis (the history of the area and urban fabric, and bibliographic research), climate analysis (temperature, sun exposition, wind conditions etc.) and sensory mapping exercises. Synthesis followed analysis process where students defined their concept sustainability strategies based on their critical understanding of the area.

As final outcome, students presented their project with masterplan, section, views, 3D visuals as well as detailed presentation of some local intervention that depends on each project.

The poster by student Weicheng Li shares the case studies of the agricultural landscape heritage of the Valtellina region along the rivers Ticino and Po in Italy.





## Chiara Impembo, Lorenzo Prestini, Javid Kianisadr An integrated landscape vision

Re-Greenation  
green regeneration of Marie Curie street abandoned railway - Piraeus region



Politecnico di Milano  
Msc Sustainable Architecture and Landscape Design  
Chiara Impembo - Lorenzo Prestini - Javid Kianisadr

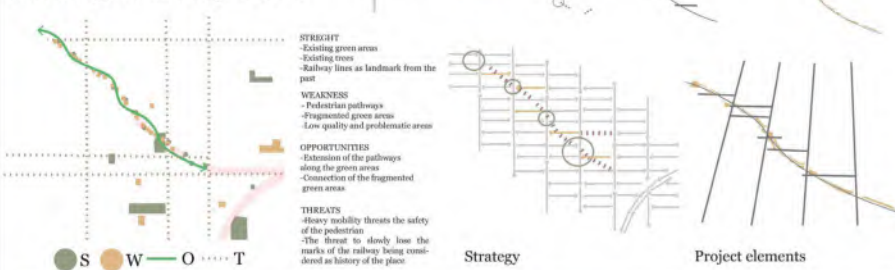
### Context / Piraeus region framework



### Context / project area - Marie Curie Street



### Strategy / following the railway traces



The project area is located between the Piraeus and Keratzini municipalities. The site correspond to MariasKiouri, formerly hosting a tram line connecting Piraeus with the port. As today, the railway tracks have been unused, so one of the goals is to redevelop them, making them a landmark of the area around which the whole project revolves.

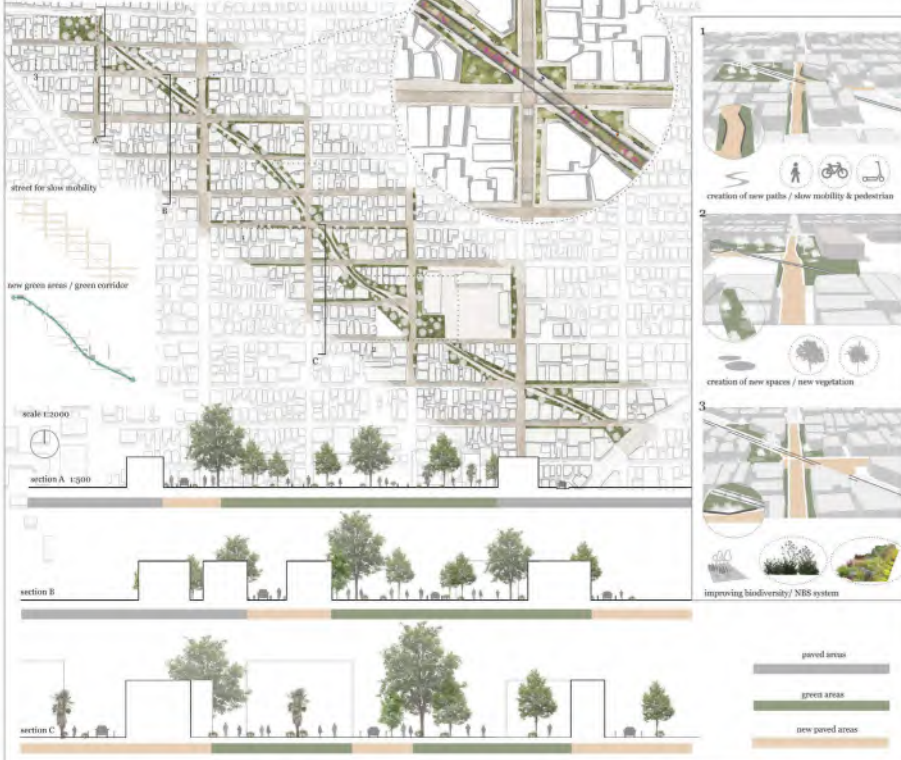
**First step,** we analyzed the area by focusing on the different materials present, the green areas, main services, the roads, the unused spaces.

**Second step,** swot analysis was carried out in which the existing green areas and the tracks as strengths and opportunities, high road traffic and little space for slow mobility as threats and weaknesses.

**Third step,** following the analyzes we developed a strategy that combines the redevelopment of disused tracks with an enhancement of pedestrian areas. We re-organized the road system, transforming the areas adjacent to the tracks into restricted traffic areas.

As regard project, since the tracks are the main element, we have developed a buffer zone that extends for about 50 m on both sides, within which, we have rethought the viability by resizing the size of the carriageway and changing the pavement, this has made possible to dedicate more space to the pedestrian and has also made it possible to create pitches at the intersections between the tracks and the main roads. The new public areas are equipped with urban furniture combined with new vegetation and increased biodiversity with NBS systems.

### Project / plan, sections & diagrams



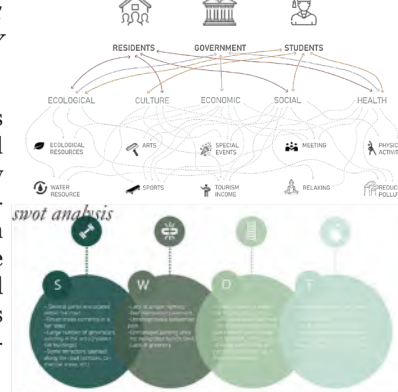




## "RE-GREENATION, GREEN RE-GENERATION OF MARIE CURIE STREET ABANDONED RAILWAY - PIRAEUS REGION"

In this project the main focus was on regenerating the abandoned railway to change it as a mobility element which can serve to pedestrians and cyclists. Moreover, in some points, new functions were proposed based on the analysis and the users needs. Furthermore, it is an effort to increase the social participation in society.

### Stakeholders

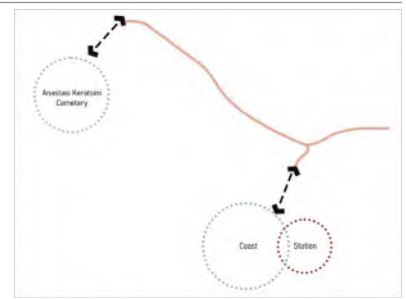


### Analysis



### STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

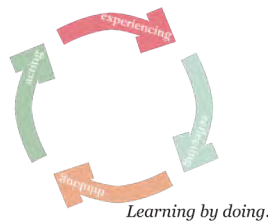
This abandoned railway not only makes possible to connect several green spaces within its line, but also could create a connection between historical cemetery, coast, metro and train station through soft and green mobility. Moreover this strategy also applies to several SDG goals:



Based on the wind and solar analysis created with an environmental analysis tool, the possibility to develop better design ideas was given. The conclusion gave way to the proposal of different nature based solutions such as: urban farming, pollinator garden, and several parks which can serve to students and residents. It is notable that this road allows for the connection of these new functions which creates a safe place for residents.



To improve the social participation there is an implementation of co-working and co-design methods in order to put into practice the learning by doing process acknowledging the fact of it being an area from the residents to the residents.



### Masterplan



1. Urban garden
2. Cycle & pedestrian path
3. Umbrella shape structures
4. Park for students
5. Pollinators garden
6. Park for residents

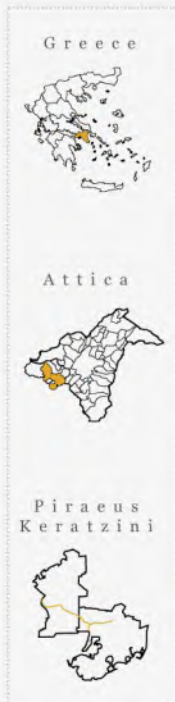




Giorgia Piva and Cecilia Gruzza  
**An integrated landscape vision**

**MODULife**

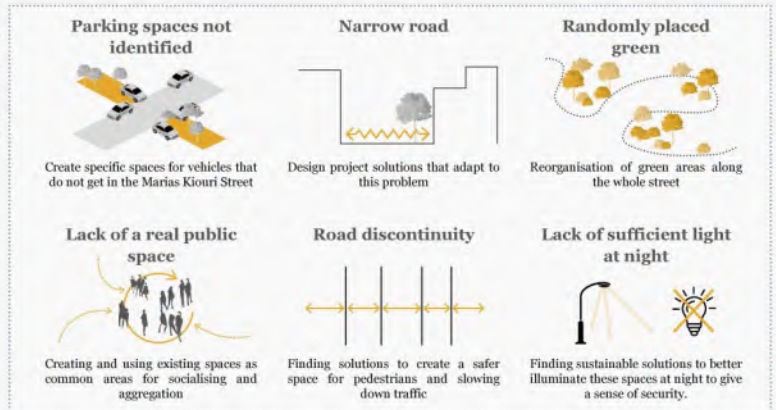
*Reconnection of the Marias Kiouri street tramway track to the main green corridors and systems in Piraeus*



The Piraeus area is still fundamental for Athens since it is a big hub of economic exchange. But there are still instances of underuse or even neglect, such as Marias Kiouri Street, an old road part of the tramway network connecting the port to the city.

The goal of our concept is the creation of a new green corridor that implements the existing ones connecting the two main parks of the area by creating a new system, that can become the starting point for a systematic redevelopment of the surrounding context.

**Big Scale Strategy**

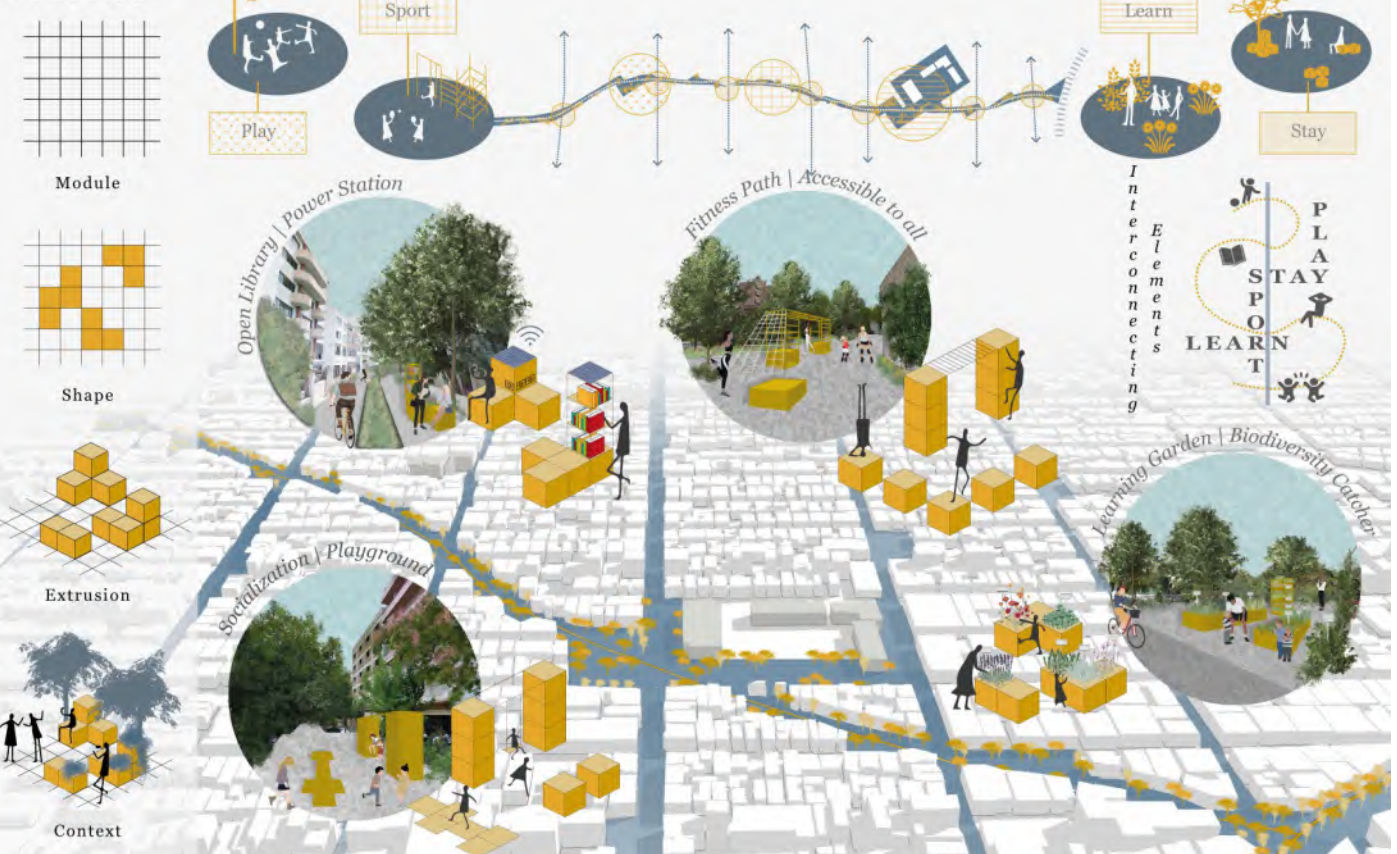


To do this, from the analysis of the problems along the street, a number of replicable **actions** of minimum impact have been designed in several points to encourage the regeneration of the area in an interweaving of functions involving all the community.

There will be spaces for recreation, sports, playing and learning. The positioning choice of these functions depended on the existing surrounding activities but also the size of the spaces.

To give continuity of form along the road, we designed a **prototype** made of simple modules that can be adapted according to different needs, activities and spaces.

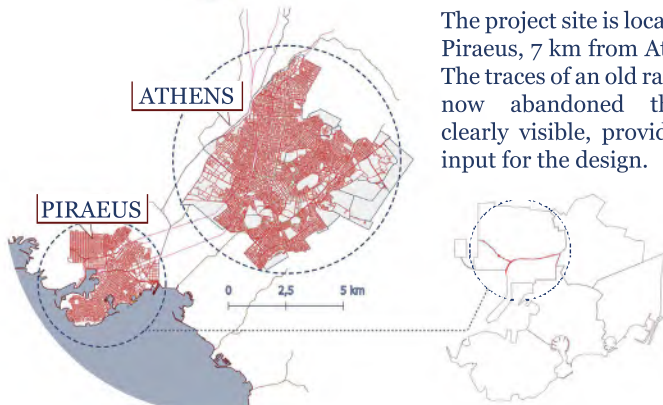
**Prototype**



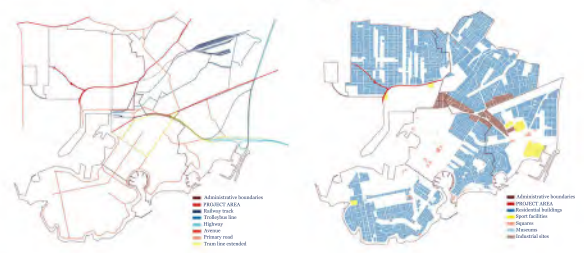


# PIRAEUS PERI-URBAN GREEN CORRIDOR

LOCALIZATION

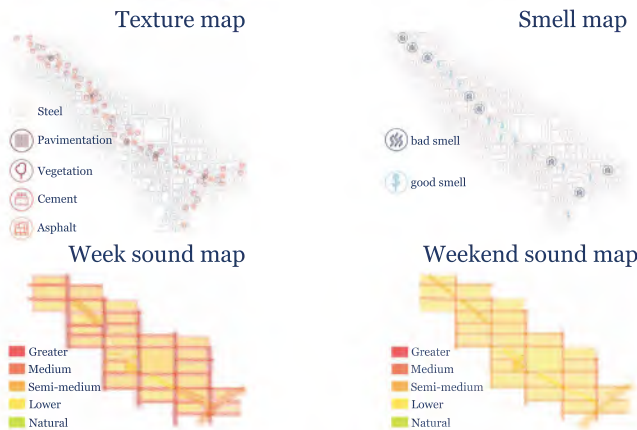


The project site is located in Piraeus, 7 km from Athens. The traces of an old railway, now abandoned though clearly visible, provide the input for the design.

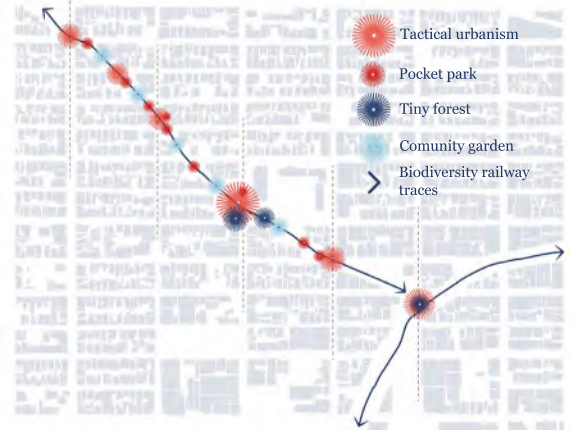


From the large-scale analysis it is clear that the location of the project area is well served by public transport infrastructure. At the same time, the area almost exclusively passes through residential buildings and therefore lends itself to become an appropriate public space to serve them.

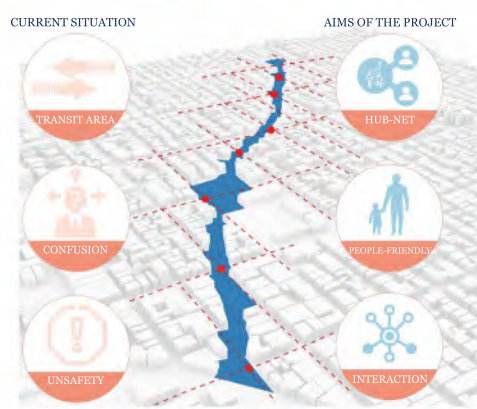
FOCUS AREA ANALYSIS



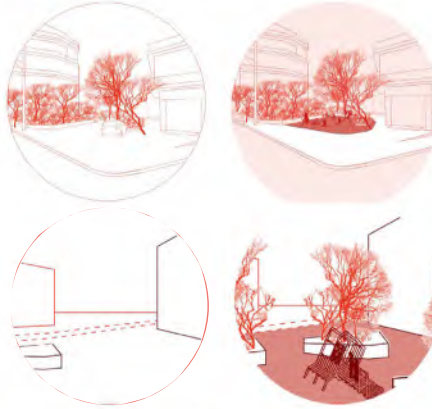
STRATEGY MAP



TACTICAL URBANISM



Pocket park  
Urban furniture



Urban interventions are divided into two:

1- **pocket parks** serve to make small areas that are currently 'waste space' usable as open and public spaces.

2- **tactical urbanism** interventions, such as urban supply, make the parts of the route cut off from vehicular traffic **LIVEABLE** and **SAFE**; allowing the citizen to re-appropriate the space.

GREEN CORRIDOR



The creation of the green corridor is possible thanks to a network of interventions based on the NBS method: easy to implement and with a low impact, these interventions make it possible to re-green the project area, creating paths and oases useful for pollinating insects and small and medium-sized animals. In this way, biodiversity is protected and encouraged.

Landscape Forum 2022

26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2022 | Hosted by LE:NOTRE Institute, Regione Emilia Romagna, Comune di Rimini, University of Bologna

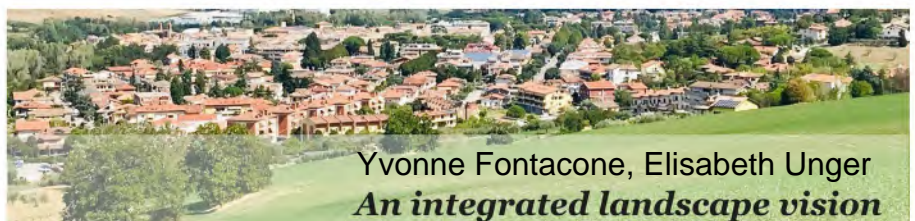
Poster exhibition

Regione Emilia Romagna

POLITECNICO MILANO 1863

LE:NOTRE Institute  
Linking Landscape Education, Research and Innovative Practice

ECLAS  
EUROPEAN COUNCIL OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE SCHOOLS



Yvonne Fontacone, Elisabeth Unger  
*An integrated landscape vision*



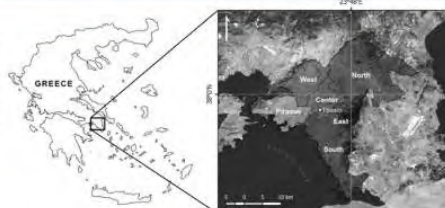


## Seyedeh Azita Mirbozorgi Sustainable Tourism



### location

Piraeus is a port city within the Athens urban area in the Attica region of Greece. It is located in the Athens Riviera.



## Redesign Abandoned Railway



### Design area



### Local vegetables and animals



Travel Resource  
this city is located in a very special geographical location that is people around the world come and visit. we decide to use the

### Railway Status Map



### Green area and boundary



The line was finally shut down in 1977. At present, most of the right of way of the light railway was finally paved over and became a pedestrianised street. At Thermopylon street, near the church of Ayios Dionysios (St. Demis) in Piraeus, the tracks survive intact. At several level crossings, the rails were never removed and are still visible today.

A tram car survives in Perama on the old right of way, albeit in a dilapidated condition. Between Tsorpatzoglou Square in Perama (where civilians should alight)

S

### STRENGTHS

1. It has rich landscape heritage such as legacy railway, green area, etc.
2. Rich tourism resources
3. Close to the port

W

### WEAKNESSES

1. Lack of room, space around the site
2. The surrounding landscape needs to be improved
3. The surrounding business is not better

O

### OPPORTUNITIES

1. There is a lot of space around the site, which can be used to improve the site.
2. The surrounding landscape needs to be improved
3. The surrounding business is not better

T

### THREATS

1. Some abandoned railways have not been reconstructed, and there are potential safety hazards in traffic.
2. The abandoned railway is located around the school, and the safety measures are not fully taken.



Impact: through the design of this section, combined with the original legacy railway and landscape heritage, new functions are implanted to provide a green resting place for surrounding tourists, residents and students, so as to reactivate the site.



## CONCEPT

The venue is close to the port. Can create some space for a coffee bar. Green space renovation. Activate the vitality of the venue. Restoring part of history. Reactivate the market growing the vegetables to increase multi-ecological



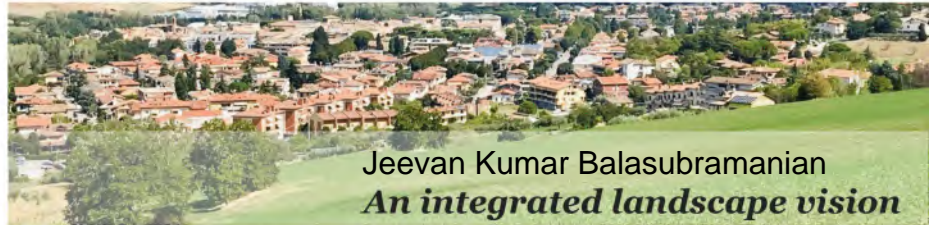
In ancient Greece, bazaars were the open gathering spaces of great thinkers, the center of art, politics, and religion. In English, the word still has a sublime connotation. In modern Greece, however, the word has come to denote an actual market



1. Farming land
2. Open Market
3. Green Garden
4. Coffee Bar





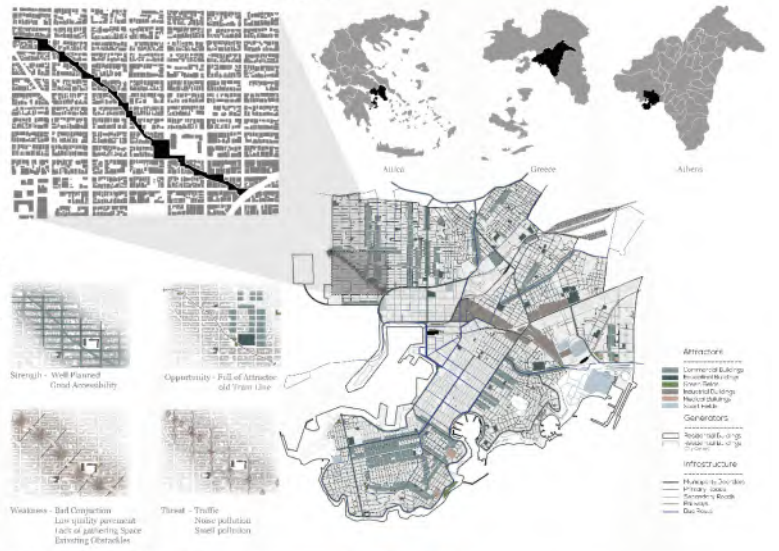


## The Project Area and Analysis



## REVIVING NATURE

The project is based in Athens, Greece, with an emphasis on the Diagonal Road and its connection to the school. The Design Proposals are based on the study, and our design concept is a sustainable, nature-based solution that will revitalize the space and draw people in. We have a market, a playground, bike sharing, and a community garden. Every space has its own unique sustainable characteristics, such as a green wall in the Market area and a roof top garden above the school that can be reached by the public by new stairways on both sides. This project's major purpose is to Revive nature in an environmentally sustainable and cost-effective manner.



### Roof Top Garden Childrens Playground Cubic Landscape



Develop Sustainable Resilient and inclusive infrastructure

Affordable and sustainable Transport System

Reduce the environmental impact of cities

Conserve and restore terrestrial and freshwater

End Deforestation and restore Degraded Forests

Integrate Ecosystem and biodiversity in governmental planning

Pollination - Community Garden and set aside areas of natural habitat.

Water Regulation - Plant Trees / Hedges/ Perennial Grass Strip.

Health - Make Green space recreation Attracting to peoples to do physical activities.



Master Plan  
Scale : 1 : 2000

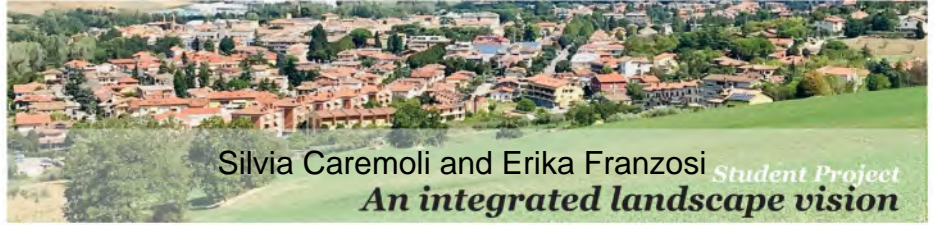


Market Space

Community Garden

Going below Ground





## A NEW LIFE AT MARIAS KIOURI

*a redevelopment project for an abandoned tramway line*



Our area of intervention is Marias Kiouri street, and it's located between the Piraeus and Keratzini municipalities, in Greece. Along this road, there was a tram line which over time has fallen into disuse, and at the moment remains unused. The light rail track (from Piraeus to Perama), discontinued since 1977, has been with time reclaimed by nature, which continued to grow up in that abandoned area until recent times. That tramway connected also Piraeus to the port, and it was a strong presence and important link for the neighborhood, since it connected two very important parts of the city of Athens.

Our main intent, throughout our intervention, is to restore the relevance of this path, modifying its viability but keeping it as an important fil rouge associated with soft urban mobility.

The proposal involves proGireg and Piraeus to regenerate the path with **Green Infrastructures and Nature Based Solutions**.



The main proposal is to involve local entities and citizens to create and live a total new urban space, developing on a green line that follows the whole tram line path. Its potential is strongly linked to urban gardening and to the creation of a green corridor along the path, which can host a slow mobility corridor for bicycles and pedestrians.

Another important point in the generation of this green corridor consists in the creation of a fertile ground for pollinating insects, which are an important resource for ensuring the implementation of the ecosystem and biodiversity in the urban environment.

Regarding the vegetation, we consider to insert species that are native of the place and suitable for the climate of the city of Athens, with particular attention to those that can best 'bear' the urban environment, also helping to create visual and sound barriers, and to reduce environmental pollution.







Student Project

## Rural change and Foodscapes

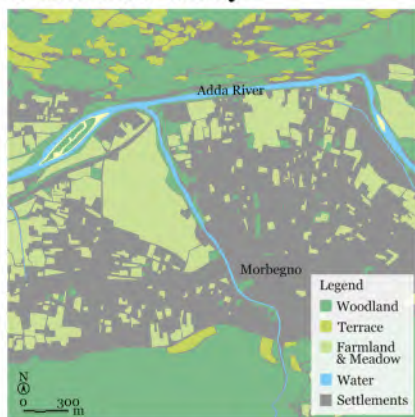
### Conservation Status and Enlightenment of Agricultural Landscape Heritage in Po River Basin, Italy: Case Studies of Valtellina Region and Ticino River Basin

Weicheng Li Politecnico di Milano, Italy

The Po River Basin in Italy has a variety of agricultural landscape heritage forms because of its vast coverage. This poster selects the representative Valtellina region and the Ticino River Basin as the research objects, focusing on the terraced and meadow landscapes of Valtellina, and the agricultural landscape of Ticino based on the irrigation system. The characteristics and values of these several agricultural landscapes, as well as the current management status are analyzed. It shows that despite the threats to agricultural landscapes posed by urbanization and shifts in production patterns, the local landscape heritage survives and serves as a mirror on local history.



#### 1. Valtellina Valley



Valtellina is located in the upper reaches of Lake Como in Lombardy, Italy, at the southern foot of the Alps. The Adda River, a tributary of the Po River, passes through the valley, dividing the valley into two parts, north and south. Taking Morbegno, a town in Valtellina as an example, more agricultural green space is distributed along the water system. In flat areas, farmers often use meadows to build fences for livestock, raising livestock such as goats, cows, and donkeys. On the hillside, terraced fields are the main productive agricultural landscape and also represent the local history of farming.



Photos of Different Terraces in Morbegno,  
From Left to Right: Well-maintained Terrace,  
Terrace & Settlements, Abandoned Terrace



Photos of Meadows in Morbegno,  
From Left to Right: Meadows & Terraces,  
Large Meadow Patches, Stacked Hay Rolls

By observing the well-maintained terraces, it can be seen that the vines are neatly planted on it, and there are bamboo pieces and iron wires between the plants for fixing. The dry stone walls rely on the gravity and friction of the stones themselves to stack together, and while still requiring regular maintenance, have become a feature that cannot be ignored in the terraced landscape of the region. At the same time, there are also many abandoned terraces that represent a stage in the history of the local landscape. Meadow is the most important type of green space in the plain area between valleys. From the current situation of Morbegno, it can be seen that fragmentation is the main feature of meadow distribution, which is manifested in the fact that meadow patches are interspersed in urban units, and this trend will become more pronounced in the future.

#### 2. Ticino River Basin

The Ticino River flows through Lake Maggiore in the southern foothills of the Alps and the vast plains of Lombardy, and eventually joins the Po River, providing sufficient irrigation water for plain agriculture in the west of Milan. Taking Abbiategrasso as an example, the canal leads from the Ticino River, ditches and farmland are widely distributed, and settlements and small forests are fragmented in the farmland matrix.

The unique system of water meadows has become an indelible landscape heritage in the Ticino Valley. According to historical data, its canals can be roughly classified into four categories: Zigzag, Stray, Male-female, Recovery. Today the water meadow is both a cutting-edge teaching site for traditional agricultural activities and a habitat for a variety of species. During the same period, we can often see the coexistence of various forms of farmland, forming a patchy landscape texture. Meanwhile, the land has left traces of changes in history, becoming a landscape that can be read.



Water Meadow Types Illustration,  
From Left to Right: Zigzag, Stray, Male-female, Recovery



The 4 Mains Types of Farmland in March, 2022



#### References

- Puleo, T.J., 2013. Parasitizing landscape for UNESCO world heritage. *Geoforum*, 45, pp.337-345.
- Monteiro, A.T., Fava, F., Hiltbrunner, E., Della Marianna, G. and Bocchi, S., 2011. Assessment of land cover changes and spatial drivers behind loss of permanent meadows in the lowlands of Italian Alps. *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 100(3), pp.287-294.
- Bove, M., Branduini, P., Molina, G., 2020. *La Marcita. Storia di un'antica invenzione contadina che parla di futuro all'agricoltura italiana*. Magenta (MI)

#### 3. Conclusion

From the above research, we can see that the agricultural system in the Po River Basin shows great regional differences. The improvement principles could be: 1. Reduce the fragmentation process of agricultural spaces and reconnect green patches. 2. Strengthen the heritage properties of agricultural land, whether well-maintained or abandoned, as a readable historic landscape. 3. Rebalance the human needs and agricultural land functions, and maintain the dynamic evolution of the relationship between people and land.

