

System and sustainable Approach to virTuous interaction of Urban and Rural LaNdsapes (SATURN)

BACKGROUND

The future of the world is urban (70% of the world population in cities by 2050) which means that urban sprawl will increasingly affect the rural territories and economies.

Cities need to anticipate these evolutions and to control their expansion. Helping their rural territories remain attractive and developing synergies.

Many cities have set ambitious goals to become less carbon intensive, to adapt to climate change, to contribute to SDGs. These goals cannot be met without involving the natural assets both within and outside the city in their surrounding territories.

Consumers are increasingly in demand for local, high quality and less impactful products, and more sensitive to the quality of the landscapes and livelihoods provided by rural territories.

RATIONALE

Today, the fragmented landscape management governance leads to uncomplete climate strategies where cities are analysed independently from their natural landscape. This leads to a bad management of the city surrounding lands which have good carbon sequestration, food and biomass production and risk mitigation potential.

This project aims to reintegrate the natural assets within urban strategies and to expand its model by creating a wider initiative.

VISION

Our vision is to reconnect the landscape how it is now, and to reimagine it to be consistent with the lessons of the past and the challenges of the future

GOAL

Our aim is to build a framework that will help the citizens to understand the narrative behind their landscapes



Food in the cities: a climate nexus with rural landscape – insight from the project SATURN

Gretter, Alessandro - Fondazione Edmund Mach, Research and Innovation Centre, Italy -Contact: Alessandro.gretter@fmach.it,

Within SATURN are analyzed, and partially supported, initiatives which aims to relocate locally the production of agricultural goods. Most of these initiatives are characterized by personal choice from entrepreneurs and citizens (individuals or groups) which are willing to obtain healthy food. The production is mainly based on organic approaches and tend, wherever possible to utilize abandoned territories or calling for collective growing spaces (namely “vegetable gardens”).

In the Alps, near the City of Trento a couple of recent experiences are of absolute relevance: one is called “*Nutrire Trento*” (Feeding Trento), where the Municipality is supporting a short-distance value chain of production, and the creation of a “*Biodistretto*” (Organic District) with many of the cities’ producers converting to organic methods. The role of private/public involvement and a constantly rising interest from citizens and consumers are supportive for spreading these novel approaches, as «Living Labs» which, beside, are aiming to rise awareness and mitigate climate change.



Images are a courtesy of Michele Brugnara and City of Trento – Agriculture Office and Parks and Green Spaces Office



Do you want to learn more or become a “satellite” of SATURN?

Get more info here and get in touch



SCAN ME

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Hints and suggestions from pilot cases

This project is based on the experience of 3 cities forming the consortium: Trento (Italy), Birmingham (UK) and Gothenburg (Sweden). The activities are organised in different pilot cases, most of them based on generation of sustainable agro-food systems.

Transition in agricultural landscapes.

In Piana Rotaliana local communities reflect on how to move from specialised systems to more eco-integrated models (i.e. “Agricultural Park”)



Starting up a new farmers generation.

In the countryside of Gothenburg local authorities are mobilising public-own land for improving farming activities to feed the city. New farmers are supported with land, infrastructures and accompanied to become more specialised in producing organic food, via education, a model farm and a continuous support towards creating a farm-based business which pairs with local food system and citizens’ networks.

