

LA STRADA DELLA VALLE

TOWARDS AN ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE REGENERATION
OF THE VALLEYS IMPERO AND PRINO IN THE PROVINCE OF IMPERIA, LIGURIA, ITALY.

LA STRADA DELLA VALLE

TOWARDS AN ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE
REGENERATION OF THE VALLEYS IMPERO AND PRINO IN THE PROVINCE
OF IMPERIA, LIGURIA, ITALY.



P2 report

TU Delft

Faculty of Architecture and Built Environment
department of Urbanism

research group	Design of the Urban Fabric
student	Johanna Michaela Pieritz

student number	4628306
----------------	---------

first mentor	L.M. Calabrese
second mentor	M.M. Dabrowski

date	12.01.2018
------	------------

INDEX

INTRODUCTION	07
MOTIVATION	09
PART 1: RESEARCH:	
OVERVIEW	14
THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK	32
ANALYTICAL OVERVIEW	35
LOCATION OF THIS RESEARCH	36
LOCATION WITHIN THE EUROPEAN CONTEXT	38
POLICIES AND RESPONSIBILITY	42
EUROPEAN USED FONDS	44
CURRENT REGIONAL AIMS	48
PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT AIMS	52
SPATIAL ANALYSIS	57
THE WATER	66
THE ROAD	74
ECONOMY HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT	78
INDUSTRIES AND STAKEHOLDER OF THE VALLEYS	85
ENVIRONMENT	93
THE SOCIETY	102
PROBLEM ANALYSIS CONCLUSION	106
HYPOTHESIS AND RESEARCH QUESTION	108
METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK	110
PART 2: DESIGN	
DESIGN	118
EXPECTED OUTCOME	120
LITERATURE	124

“(...) THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE TERRITORY SHOULD BE ABLE TO ABSORB MUTATIONS OF USES AND HABITS WITHOUT LOSING ITS “SOUL”, ITS PECULAR QUALITY THAT REALLY “MAKES THE PLACE”.”.
(KONFERENZ “TERRITORIES. RURAL-URBAN STRATEGIES” 2017:165).

INTRODUCTION

To grow a phenomenon of the globalized world. To prosper and to have a booming economy is a main goal of cities and their regions. But what is about those regions which are badly connected because of their morphologies or because they were originated in the industrialization period and now they haven't had the possibility to change? What is about those areas that can not fit anymore in the current economic framework?

Land abandonment and depopulation a consequence of different factors, a phenomenon that has not only an impact on the environment and the socio-economic aspect but also a consequence on the landscape itself. (T. Lasanta et al. / Catena 149 (2017): 810). “Baldock et al. (1996) conclude that marginalization and land abandonment depend on the interaction between physical, environmental and socioeconomic factors. Therefore, it can happen everywhere, even in areas with a very high potential and in favourable socioeconomic situations in general.” (T. Lasanta et al. / Catena 149 (2017): 816).

So what is the reason of land abandonment in Liguria? Is it the aging population and its population decline or the change of economy? Or is it because of the location itself, being a territory of transit? What are the internal and what the external reasons (T. Lasanta et al. / Catena 149 (2017): 816) for this ongoing abandonment?

In this thesis the values of the rural and the ‘unreachable’ countryside are gathered and **tried** to be **used** for a new model of development which **lies** on the cooperation between different villages in the entity of a valley. By linking spatial, social qualities, structures and characteristics the author gives a new image to the countryside which valorizes and shows by two different designs a new approach.

MOTIVATION

This research has a personal and academic motivation. Coming from a planning background I was always ashamed having a detached house far away from an urban centre, in the Italian countryside. I have been taught that living out of the urban fabric means contributing to sprawl which means damaging the landscape and being unsustainable. Moreover, being grown up in this beautiful Italian landscape made me also sensitive towards the abandonment of those beautiful agricultural land which surrounded my childhood. Depopulation and abandonment in the villages and in the countryside and the pursuit towards being modern, fancy and attractive for tourists at the coastline urban centres, both current developments occurring in Liguria and both sides (countryside and coast) losing their stories and identities while becoming more and more superficial, gave me the motivation to analyse and research about the region Liguria, cultivating and rewriting stories for a future change.

Moreover, I observed that the focus in our planning field, the debates and the way of thinking was since recently always coming from the development of cities, focused on urban growth and prosperity, from an economic perspective, this led me to question: what is about the countryside? Why does it become only a topic if we speak about ecological challenge, lack of resources? What would happen if we turn the debate around and make cities much more dependent **from** the countryside than it is acknowledged today? How does the rural change the urban?

Designing from the countryside and with depopulation as a new tool for a futuristic development of a region, a different approach and a contribution to our current planning discourse. Using the valley as a new entity for a new regional development which starts from the countryside and not from the coast, so bringing back the valley to the coast is my aim.

What if the region Liguria starts to develop coming from the countryside? Are the coastal cities really urban or are they more provincial towns?

SCIENTIFIC RELEVANCE

This thesis is aiming to give some solutions proposals towards the development of rural areas with delicate landscape and complex historical development. By developing new tools to help to improve the link between urban design, planning and natural preconditions. Tools that support farmland in the 21st century to counteract new global changes in a more sustainable way, in such a form that achieves the European goal of sustainability by using the potentiality of the unique place and finding a new way of interrelating it into the coastal cities. Finding a new approach for a redevelopment of a region which comes from the countryside instead coming from the urbanized areas. With my design I would like to find 'niches' of spatial interventions to support the urban-rural relationship. Because cooperation vary according to the geographical context, therefore the valley could become a new relevant entity to understand the current need in this region.

The EU distinguishes between functional and structural relations, as Zonneveld and Stead 2007, if one speak about rural and urban relations. As I could so far see the relation between rural and urban is not every-time mutual. The cooperation are often made from the urban perspective, where the rural part has to compromise and to find its connection to the urban. With this project I could contribute in finding the key of this rural-urban relations regarding the occurring phenomenon of shrinkage.

SOCIETAL - ETHICAL RELEVANCE

Social cohesion between the coast and the 'back', the countryside, with its villages. Creating livable spaces, where the aim is to maintain a certain livability which means creating networks of social services that can be reached equally, where the balance between green-blue ecosystems and the build environment is in equilibrium. Where the economy is not stacked in old systems but renewed and on the current trend. Where digitalization and self-driving cars and other new upcoming changes are integrated in the existing system without destroying the current networks but where it is helping to grow even stronger together and helps to be more sustainable. Ethically this project tries to address people with different

social background and origins. The culture and the traditions of this valleys are respected and at the same time it aims to integrate and use those traditions for a new development. Where people from remote areas are not the ones who are left behind but actually are integrated in the planning system and social network of the valleys.

PART 1: RESEARCH

Methodological framework

Theory paper: Re-thinking Shrinkage. Finding values in shrinking.
Theoretical framework

Analysis (spatial, economic, social-cultural, environment)

Problem statement

Research question

Hypothesis

RESEARCH OVERVIEW

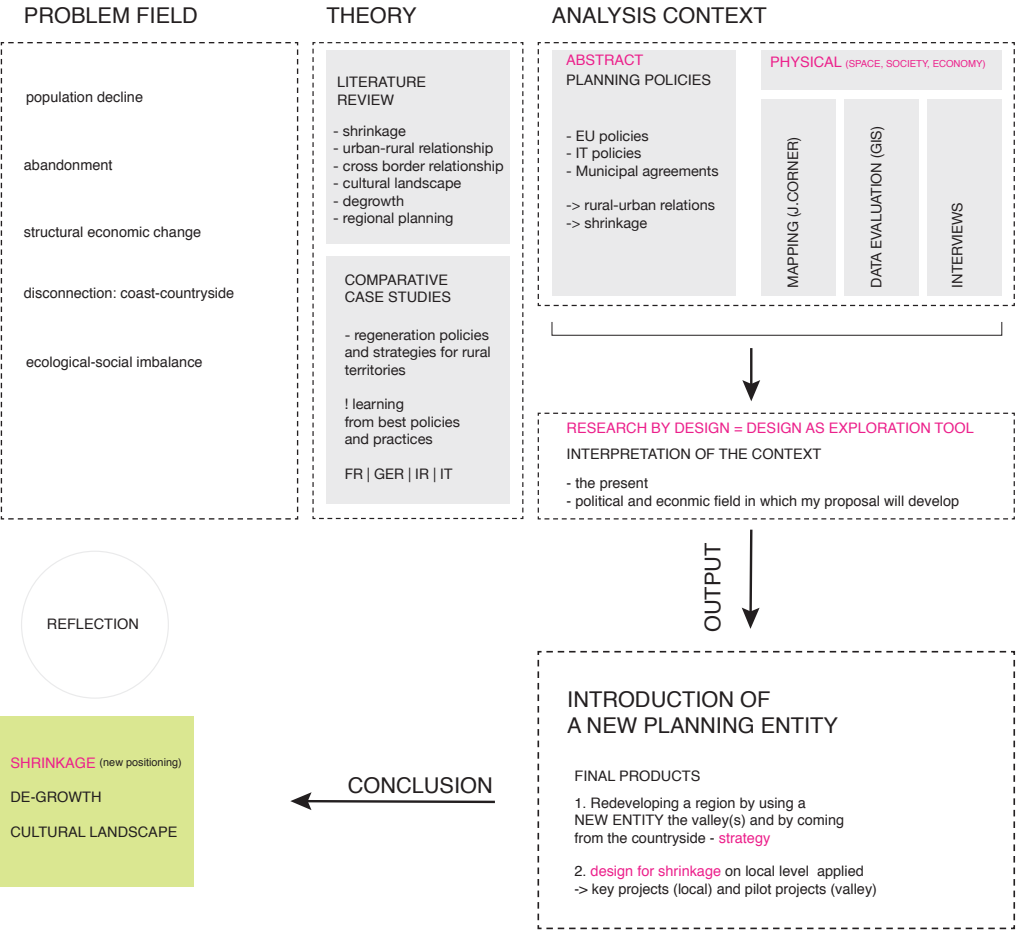


Fig.1: General overview of this research. Source: by author.

RE-THINKING SHRINKING

FINDING VALUES IN SHRINKING?

Pieritz Johanna, December 2017

Abstract

Andrew Copus (2012:1) describes that we presently see cities as engines of growth and rural territories as a spillover beneficiary. The countryside benefits from urban centres only as a trickle-down effect, that means that the countryside profits only from the drops of urban success the countryside profits and therefore the countryside is not seen as an active partner but as a passive one. But what would happen if we see it the other way around? Can cities become the beneficiary of the countryside and the countryside the engineer of growth?

In this essay, we argue that we urgently need to find ‘niches’ of spatial interventions in the countryside to strengthen rural-urban relationships. This research utilizes the notion of cultural landscape as a new tool and as a method to rethink the urban-rural relationship in the Italian context. In the following, the paper tries to combine different key elements that determine the process of shrinking related to the countryside and tries to define potentialities of shrinkage. Finding not only solutions for shrinkage of the countryside but also rethinking the occurring phenomenon from the perspective of degrowth, with acknowledging degrowth as a different approach. This paper concludes with critically questioning if the concept of degrowth can be a way out of the phenomenon of shrinkage. How can regions work independently without isolating themselves from the rest of the world and without losing the benefits of the world market?

Degrowth is proposed not as a solution for shrinkage but as a starting point to give another position or attitude towards the phenomenon of shrinkage. What are elements of shrinkage, degrowth and the landscape that can help us to redefine the relation between the countryside and the urban areas in a responsive, resilient and sustainable way?

Key words – shrinkage, cultural landscape, degrowth, European strategies, rural-urban relations

1 Introduction

Europe is facing a time of change in the countryside. The transition from agrarian production and industrial focus towards a knowledge and service based circle of production did not happen smoothly in every part of Europe “(...) where agriculture has become less labour intense and economic and employment growth has become progressively tertiarised, favouring larger urban centres.” (ESPON policy brief 2017:3). There are many places, especially rural regions and industrial cities which did not change in the way of using their potentialities and are therefore left behind.

“(...) There has been a growing concern over the last two decades about conceptualizing the landscape and its changes and expressing through conceptual frameworks the complex interactions between drivers at multiple scales and the resulting patterns and changes in land use and land cover. (...)” (Bürgi, Straub, Gimmi, & Salzmann, 2010; Hersperger, Gennaio, Verburg, & Bürgi, 2010; Paquette & Domon, 2001; Stenseke, Lindborg, Dahlberg, & Slatmo, 2012 In: Pinto-Correia

¹ Cultural landscape is a landscape where economic, ecological, aesthetical and cultural performances and conditions are in a balanced relation. Where the performance and condition can evolve constantly and are able to serve people as their home. (Pieritz, free translation from: Wöbsse: Kulturlandschaften als Objekte des Naturschutzes. In: Koarik, Schmidt, Sigel (Hg.): Naturschutz und Denkmalpflege. Wege zu einem Dialog im Garten. Vdf, Zürich 1998: S. 157-168.)

² “(...) Usually, degrowth is associated with the idea that smaller can be beautiful. Ecological economists define degrowth as an equitable downscaling of production and consumption that will reduce societies’ throughput of energy and raw materials (...)” (Schneider et al. 2010 In: Degrowth: A Vocabulary for a New Era - Research & Degrowth (R&D)”, n.d.). Degrowth is about a new way of production which serves new functions.

and Kristensen, 2013: 249).

Moreover, our consumer behaviour has changed towards more fine-grained sectors with a higher product value than in the past. Innovation and digitalization as well as the complexity of drivers and the different governance structures made a region more complicated to understand. The quick overlapping changes which are interwoven with the past and the different scales are creating a high complexity. We need to see the complexity of relations between global forces (e.g. socio-demographic change, climate change ...) and local factors (e.g. land ownership, planning system) and try to understand it to find connecting points between those two drivers. Is it about finding the right connections and linkages between those two development forces that enable to develop in a more sustainable way?

To find possible answers towards this question we need to examine and understand the main changing trends in Europe. Main drivers of the transformation in Europe are social, demographic changes (aging, shrinking population, migration), technological change (Internet network) and environmental (climate) change. The focus of this essay shed some lights on the phenomenon of shrinkage, one current occurring process in Europe.

According to Silva Sousa and Paulo Pinho (2015: 13), we can distinguish between the concept of forgotten cities as Hoyt and Leroux (2007) described - and the concept of shrinking cities. Forgotten cities are cities that supplied raw materials, engine or products to other regions and global forces. Shrinking cities as Silva Sousa and Paulo Pinho (2015: 13) describe are the cities which are caused by sprawl and which are connected to suburbanization, where they refer to North American cities. As Silva Sousa and Paulo Pinho (2015:15) states, shrinkage in the twenty-first century can be described by a global, structural and a multidimensional phenomenon, this can be revealed in the decrease of: population, economy and a decline of regional and national importance which can cause different problems of decay in the urban texture, ageing population, less employment opportunities and a decline of social services.

Although the discussion about shrinking cities and the issue of shrinkage has been a topic on European policy agenda, the issue of rural shrinkage or shrinkage in its regional, as opposed to only urban dimension, has not been tackled with sufficient depth and, as ESPON policy brief reveals, there is actually no agreement on what regional shrinkage means (ESPON policy brief 2017:3).

In the following, the paper tries to combine different key elements that determine the process of shrinking related to the countryside and tries to define potentialities of shrinkage.

2 Definition of shrinkage

Shrinking might be associated with decline. If we talk about shrinking, we somehow have a comparable entity from the past. This previous condition seems to be more prosperous than it is at the current state. The decline or decrease is mainly related to the depopulation. But shrinking cannot be generalized, it differs from region to region on how it is perceived and how it develops. Not every decline means a loss of opportunities and a loss of human capital. Often the decrease of population is used as indicator of shrinkage. “(...) depopulation is the symptom rather than the cause of shrinkage which results from a complex ‘vicious circle’ of interrelated economic and social factors (...)” (Shrink Smart 2009 in: ESPON policy brief 2017: 3).

3 Key elements of shrinkage

3.1 Abandonment

The decrease of population is caused by several factors such as lack of job opportunities as well as a misbalanced distribution of labour opportunities. People tend to live in the suburbs of prospering regions. The change in work allocation and change towards other sectors of productivity, make people move away from their original environment and creates abandonment.

3.1.2 Accessibility

Proximity to better job opportunities and the flexible society causes displacement, commuting people and dead public spaces in villages.

For companies, it is beneficial to be settled closer to other similar institutions because they profit from spillover effects, the ‘tacit knowledge’ transfer, clients and the shared infrastructure. Is digitalization a paradox to commuting?

However, new technology and digitalization make it possible that the ‘face to face’ contact shifts towards a virtual contact and can mostly be solved via online platforms. The discussion about being close, proximate to others or accessible via infrastructure is more and more obsolete. It is thus a paradox that populations still tend to move towards big cities. **The outcome of being flexible and not being bound to a place is provoking and exacerbating social displacement, but it could be turned around and be a method for people to remain in their inaccessible villages. Why are people still moving out or commuting if the technology is so far developed?**

3.1.3 Social displacement

People may still be living there, but are not socially connected because their social life is related to their – more or less distant – work places. The separation between working and living has an impact on the social network in villages and creates empty spaces. Instead of liveliness and vibrancy on the ‘piazza’, the social place of a village, we are confronted with commuting people and desolate open spaces and streets.

3.2 Vacancy

3.2.1 Decline of built environment

Abandonment of the built environment, an element of shrinkage, can be seen as disadvantage for the appearance of regions and towns. Newcomers or new investors could be discouraged to invest in these areas because abandonment and decay do not look attractive for a future investment. And a so called ‘downward spiral’ occurs to the region.

Abandonment and decline can be seen as an opportunity for new development and can make space for new ideas. The old infrastructure can be used for other purposes what than leads to less money expenses for the new development. As Silva Sousa and Paulo Pinho (2015: 16) are addressing that decline can lead to ‘perforated areas’ which than can become a new possibility for planners (ibid, p.16).

3.2.2 Oversized and underused facilities as consequence

Although opportunities could emerge for a new development, the loss of people means also shrinkage of services and social infrastructures. Public facilities are often in function for a specific amount of people and under it they are not anymore profitable. Municipalities have to pay more for facilities and have a lower return rate due to the lack of residents. Pressure on substantial public budgets, reduced fiscal income, higher social costs and rising cost are on the agenda of shrinking municipalities. (ESPON policy brief 2017:6). High priority infrastructures like schools, medical centres or post offices tend to move towards higher ranged centres or more urbanized areas. And the remaining infrastructure gets underused and unsustainable for the remaining people.

3.3 The remaining society

What about the ‘remaining’ people in the countryside, in the rural villages? Who are they and what do they need?

Mostly the ‘remaining’ people are elderly, some farmers and the ones that cannot afford to move to the suburbs of the urban centres or are otherwise bounded to the rural territory. Additionally, there are foreigners, immigrants seeking for a better life in the ‘idyll of the rural’.

Elderly require the most social infrastructures and they are left in the countryside with a small amount of social infrastructure. It is a paradox because those who need public transport, health care facilities the most is the aging population which remains left in the most inaccessible parts of the countryside. But there are also

possibilities to cope with this phenomenon as we can see in Ireland. As the case study of Deirdre Heenan (2010:478) showed it is very important to address this social class which often suffers from loneliness and social exclusion, isolation. Elderly people are the ones who can contribute, as Deirdre Heenan (2010:489) describes, in strengthening social and local economic networks and are the best sources of knowledge transfer. Moreover, the voluntary work is a part which addresses people who have time and who can dedicate more time to it. Elderly people are always there and have passed a certain time frame in the village, valley, region. This status gives a feeling of trust and reliability which could be a good anchor for further development of those areas. Trust and reliability is a good starting point, a point to dock on for a new development in the countryside. That is confirmed by Jonathan Murdoch's study (Cloke et al., 2006:171-182). In addition, investment in human capital can also lead to a new development as the report of ESPON (2017: 8) claims. "Retaining older people in the workforce and making productivity-enhancing investments in human capital can also boost economic growth and job creation in rural regions." (ESPON policy brief 2017: 8). Fiorenzo Ferlaino (2015:166 and based on a skype discussion) argues that the economic crises in Italy can be an opportunity for the countryside because it encourages people without a job in the urban centres to move back and revitalize the countryside. Not having a job opportunity in cities becomes worse than being in the countryside without a job, where you can have a higher quality of life even without a job. Without concrete planning tools and conducting this movement towards already existing empty spaces in the built environment, we are contributing to the effect of sprawl. If one here could intervene and use this new force and direct it towards the empty houses in the villages, it could be an opportunity for the opening of a new development.

Knowledge transfer as well as collaboration and exchange of information is facilitated where trust and mutual respect is on the agenda (Cloke et al., 2006:176). Jonathan Murdoch (Cloke et al., 2006:176) explains the innovation of rural places and fosters the development of new economic processes. As previously explained,

'trust' and the exchange of information is lost in rural areas. To help each other is well known in the rural areas especially in those which have the most difficulties in terms of accessibility and landscape formation. But networking is not so common in rural areas and we experience it more in urban areas, so newcomers who do not know the place and people are often the ones who are starting to network because of their lack of knowledge. A tight network creates a more resilient and stable environment and gives the local identity. Could the 'newcomers' with their new point of view create different constellations and be the target group to connect the local network with the global?

Moreover, the loss of people and the need of low cost workers for harvesting times, which cannot be anymore done by the greying society. This leads to foreign low cost immigration, which may imply that there are more migrants periodically then there are local people of the village. That affects negatively social coherence and can create segregation through the inhabitants (ESPON policy brief 2017:6). The loss of population can cause social fragmentation and displacement. This, however, if we find the right element to grasp on, can be turned towards a new network with the remaining people and become a new opportunity for external forces to dock on.

The loss of people can often be recognized after years of migration. The result of a loss of population density is vacancy in the built environment. The number of vacant buildings and derelict lands are one of the consequences of shrinking. The increase of vacancy and derelict land causes, as Silva Sousa and Paulo Pinho (2015:14) describes, a "shock" which creates a feeling of shame because of the perception of the remaining – the loss is related towards the perception of failure. This perception creates stigmatization and incites abandonment as well as a loss of a feeling of responsibility towards the environment left.

4 European approaches

4.1 Integrated rural development

The integrated rural development (IRD) is an approach which aims to connect local

development to national development. It was introduced in the 1980s in Europe as a new planning approach to help the agricultural areas and the challenging rural identities as well as to cope with environmental concerns. It was a territorial approach which addressed coordination between sectors and the different levels of government of the countryside, which was especially used in the UK (Shucksmith, 2010). It was an essential territorial alternative promoting endogenous development which uses local knowhow, from nongovernmental organizations and private actors and at the same time involves governmental strategies and stakeholders. As Shucksmith (ibid 2010:2) explains on EU level the IRD approach is embodied in the LEADER community initiative. This European approach is not only a territorial method but also as Shucksmith (ibid 2010:3) explains, a neo-endogenous development which means a combination of endogenous and exogenous approach. One of the nations that applied the LEADER program quite early (1991) was France. As Henry Buller (2000: 196f) explains the LEADER program or scheme “(...) has been innovative in its initial objectives, particularly those relating to experimental bottom-up approaches, to the establishment of local networks and to endogenous forms of development (...) [they] have provided frameworks for new and cross-sectoral actors-coalitions.’ (Buller, 2000: 196). Moreover, Henry Buller claims that the LEADER development program has the danger that it shifts “(...) towards a more competitive territoriality in which access to funds becomes a major element.” (Buller, 2000: 197). Furthermore, Henry Buller (ibid) claims that ‘LEADER schemes’ are often focusing on the rural whereas the relation between the ‘rural and the urban areas’ should be much more important to stabilize a territorial new development.

4.2 Spatial planning

The planning approach in our 21st century changed more and more towards a place based approach. Spatial planning is related to the social and physical construction of places which is continually produced and challenged. In addition, development is seen as a non- linear process and recognizes the different context

of network society and the multi scalar governance (Shucksmith, 2010: 6). The European spatial planning development perspective as Shucksmith (2010:12) explains is still seeing the rural as leftovers and the rural remains a separate entity from the urban node. Our planning policies are always related to help regions that are in decline to get again on track and to arise a new economic growth. As Andy Pike et al. 2010 claims to improve spatial disparities is less on the policy agenda than a growth orientation and an orientation towards a reinforcement of potentials (Andy Pike et al. 2010:1262). Speaking about regional development we are always thinking in terms of growth and prosperity.

Is there another approach or another perspective to see shrinkage and rural development in Europe?

Can degrowth be an instrument, a method to help shrinking regions? Or are shrinking villages maybe in a way applying degrowth ideas to survive?

5 New way of dealing with shrinkage

5.1 Degrowth a matter of perspective

Many people at the first glance think if we speak about degrowth that it is the opposite of growth, something negative that leads to decline. But it is not it is a new way of thinking about growth. “(.) In the first phase of the degrowth debate in the 1970s, the emphasis was on resource limits. In the second phase, starting in 2001, the driving force was the criticism of the hegemonic idea of ‘sustainable development’. (...) The English term ‘degrowth’ was ‘officially’ used for the first time at the Paris conference [2008 sic!], marking the birth of an international research community. (...) Degrowth signifies, first and foremost, a critique of growth. It calls for the decolonization of public debate from the idiom of economism and for the abolishment of economic growth as a social objective. Beyond that, degrowth signifies also a desired direction, one in which societies will use fewer natural resources and will organize and live differently than today. ‘Sharing’, ‘simplicity’, ‘conviviality’, ‘care’ and the ‘commons’ are primary significations of what this society might look like. (...)” (D’Alisa et al., 2015).

One can say ‘degrowth’ is about finding a different structure which serves new

functions. This part of degrowth could be a first way of rethinking the current structures of a shrinking countryside. We need to see current networks work, on what they are dependent on and where the weak point of it are to start to build up a new 'net' which can as a spider net withstand other forces and can integrate different activities, relations in it. It should be elastic, modifiable but also resistant in its form and function. The philosophy of 'degrowth' seems to fit quite well for small scale planning as the author so far saw. The **new philosophy of growth** could be helpful to stabilize the current network with new forms of jobs and to think society differently. As Murdoch (2000:417) explains if we are speaking about networks they have to be context related and the idea of network helps us to link the exogenous and endogenous forces with each other and important is not the network itself but the linked "(...) objects and relations that flow through them" (Murdoch 2000:417) are the relevant parts of the network. Can economy exist without growth?

The emphasis on sharing, conviviality, care and bottom up initiatives in the concept of degrowth is a valid and interesting approach that in inaccessible villages can be a strength on which one can built upon. The different perspective of degrowth can moreover attract specific communities which want to step out of our economy system. But one can see this approach critical in the aspects of the relationship towards the urban centres. Without taking care about the global systems and closing towards the exogenous forces of development will fostering the separation and division between the countryside and the urban centres. Degrowth could turn aside regions which have problems of abandonment and will not contribute to solve the current problem of decay and aging society. The danger could be that degrowth might easily encapsulate a specific target group from the surrounding, so that means that degrowth is a new way of living, maybe also more sustainable but on long term it does not has any answers of how to embrace change and new upcoming trends and global effects that are a result of the global growth. As J.C.J.M. van den Bergh (2011:889) claims another weak point of degrowth is that the degrowth strategy does "(...) not represent strategies which guarantee

an effective reduction of environmental pressure or a transition to a sustainable economy. (...) gives much weight to the scale of the economy or consumption, and underestimates or even neglects the role of composition and technical change." (J.C.J.M. van den Bergh 2011:889).

The degrowth concept maybe makes spaces more liveable and environmental sustainable but it is not interacting with the rest of the world. These limitations, which the author sees in the concept of degrowth, can be solved from the view of the cultural landscape, a landscape that serves both forces, the urban and the rural.

5.2 Cultural Landscape

Landscape can be seen as the medium between regional and local scales. Landscape can help integrate the different planning approaches and ongoing structural phenomena. As the European Landscape convention declares landscape should become the program under which cooperation **through regions and different scales are established**.

Nature and the landscape itself changes with the change of its use through people and climate change or its environmental change. Both, the natural forces and human activity are always interfering with each other which enhance two qualities "(...) in a cultural landscape: fragility and resilience. (...)" (Farina, 2000: 314).

Cultural landscape is seen as the binding element between the countryside and urban centres. Both approaches, the endogenous as well as the exogenous need current local elements and the specific landscape to be successful. One could argue that at this point the binding role of a cultural landscape rises in its importance. "(...) Cultural landscapes are the result of consecutive reorganizations of the land in order to adapt its use and spatial structure better to changing societal demands. (...)" (Antrop, 2005:22). Because the cultural landscape is "(...) the expression of the dynamic interaction between natural and cultural forces in the environment." (Antrop, 2005: 22) and because "(...) landscapes are a source of essential (barely studied) knowledge about sustainable management techniques."

(Antrop, 2005: 31) we need to see and use its potential.

Cultural landscape gives a connection through all the scales of space. It contains functions from the urban centres and functions from the rural side. Often those two worlds clash and extreme collisions are reminding us how important the use and the interaction between the countryside and the urban centres are.

Cultural landscape is the expression of sustainability, it offers multifunctional landscape which maintains a bunch of cultural and economic diversities as well as it is home for many natural species. The link towards degrowth is that cultural landscape is mostly based on production systems that supply local markets. The more it is used for over dimensioned productions it collapses in its diversity and soon falls out of its own balance. As Almo Farina (2000:317) wrote “Cultural landscapes survive only in isolated regions, where people are distributed sparsely, and they play a major role only in less-developed regions (such as the uplands of Mediterranean basin) and in some developing countries.” (Farina, 2000: 317).

To compare the relation between the economic capital and the natural capital and the change in their relation is explained quite well by Almo Farina (2000:319) who describes the change as following: in the past, the interplay between them was preserved by the cultural capital which then created the cultural landscape but nowadays the global landscape sees the cultural capital only as a filter for the economic capital and the natural capital. Presently, as Almo Farina claims, the natural capital became a source which we use for economic purpose where the exchange between natural forces and human forces is out of balance.

5.3 Form follows function

Form follows function means that the function determines the form. This statement is taken from an article of the Urban studies 2012 which analyses the distinctive approaches between morphological and functional polycentricity which enables a region to a different network density or to take advantage of more remote flows (Burger and Meijers, 2012:1127–1149).

Where the function doesn't change there the form will not change. Transforming this into space we can see that in nature the valley occurs because of the water flow, or because of a specific kind of erosion, because of a natural geological phenomenon. Or a person which wants to cultivate the land and want to create a fertile land, which is safe from geological erosion, forms, builds terraces which are than the form that comes out because of its determined functionality from the human. Translated into theory we could say if we change the perception on the countryside or on a shrinking villages/ town, means that we will establish **a new function** for it and with this **a new form** of development could arise. Nature and the landscape itself changes with the change of its use through people or natural forces as climate change with its following environmental change. Both, the natural forces and human activity are always interfering with each other. (Farina, 2000:314). **Change in society, economy and nature gives us the possibility to adapt or to find a new way of handling with something, so to give it a new function that than creates a new form.**

6 Conclusion

We need to change policy paradigm which is often orientated towards growth, as we can see that the actual financing of the European structural funds 2014-2020 engages in goals of being smart, inclusive and sustainable in growth of regions, cities. (Schlappa 2017:162).

Dealing with shrinkage means accepting it and trying to find a new way of development that could also be to do nothing against it. According to the ESPON policy brief and the EU Shrink Smart project there are three different possibilities how a region can deal with shrinking regions. First is to accept shrinking without any interventions. To see the problem without interfering. Secondly to reverse the trend of decline into growth and thirdly to allow shrinkage but deal with its consequences by redefining policies and investment decisions in a more holistic, spatial differentiated and proactive approach. (ESPON policy brief 2017:7).

Mainly it is about stimulating the endogenous potentialities of a region or the acceptance to turn shrinkage into an opportunity and create new ways of

governance and innovative approaches that can bring results. Networking between public and private, creating partnerships between them to connect the global, exogenous force to the local need. To improve the quality of life for the ones who are left with small interventions. Moreover, in those shrinking regions it is about the governance system and about the visions and aims a region has.

Degrowth can be seen as another approach to address depopulation and as a tool to reinforce identity of villages. Moreover, as far as the author understood the concept of degrowth is only applicable on a small scale and the question if economy can exist without growth is still doubtful. The degrowth concept maybe makes spaces more liveable and environmental sustainable but it is not interacting with the rest of the world. These limitations, can be seen in the concept of degrowth and they might be solved from the view of the cultural landscape, a landscape that serves both forces, the urban and the rural. We need only to find agreements on the collaboration and cooperation between different scales, actors and governance systems. We need to reinterpret the existing human capital in those declining regions and use it in a different way that allows us a new cooperation between the local, space based approach and the governmental, economic outsider view.

New approach of this research paper is that that the limitations which one can find in the concept of degrowth can be tackled and solved by the cultural landscape itself if we **use the appropriate part of it**. Because even those regions are declining where a high human capital is present.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

Cultural landscape is a landscape where economic, ecological, aesthetic and cultural performances and conditions are in a balanced relation. Where the performance and condition can evolve constantly and are able to serve people as their home. (Pieritz, translated from: Wöbsse: Kulturlandschaften als Objekte des Naturschutzes. In: Koarik, Schmidt, Sigel (Hg.), 1998).

“(...)Cultural landscapes are the result of consecutive reorganization of the land in order to adapt its use and spatial structure better to the changing societal demands. Particularly in Europe, history has recorded many successive and even devastating landscape changes, which have left barely any relics today. (...)” (Antrop, 2005: 21).

“Landmarks and symbols are necessary ancestral roots. Also, they contain many forgotten lessons and landscape structure is crucial for the maintenance of diversity, both biodiversity and cultural diversity. These landscapes are a source of essential (barely studied) knowledge about sustainable management techniques.” (Antrop, 2005: 31).

DEGROWTH:

“(...) Usually, degrowth is associated with the idea that smaller can be beautiful. Ecological economists define degrowth as an equitable downscaling of production and consumption that will reduce societies’ throughput of energy and raw materials (...)” (Schneider et al. 2010 In: Degrowth: A Vocabulary for a New Era’ - Research & Degrowth (R&D),” n.d.).

“(...) Degrowth signifies a society with a smaller metabolism, but more importantly, a society with a metabolism which has a different structure and serves new functions.” (Degrowth: A Vocabulary for a New Era’ - Research &

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

Cultural landscape is a landscape where economic, ecological, aesthetic and cultural performances and conditions are in a balanced relation. Where the performance and condition can evolve constantly and are able to serve people as their home. (Pieritz, translated from: Wöbsse: Kulturlandschaften als Objekte des Naturschutzes. In: Koarik, Schmidt, Sigel (Hg.), 1998).

“(….)Cultural landscapes are the result of consecutive reorganization of the land in order to adapt its use and spatial structure better to the changing societal demands. Particularly in Europe, history has recorded many successive and even devastating landscape changes, which have left barely any relics today. (...)” (Antrop, 2005: 21).

“Landmarks and symbols are necessary ancestral roots. Also, they contain many forgotten lessons and landscape structure is crucial for the maintenance of diversity, both biodiversity and cultural diversity. These landscapes are a source of essential (barely studied) knowledge about sustainable management techniques.” (Antrop, 2005: 31).

DEGROWTH:

“(….) Usually, degrowth is associated with the idea that smaller can be beautiful. Ecological economists define degrowth as an equitable downscaling of production and consumption that will reduce societies’ throughput of energy and raw materials (...)” (Schneider et al. 2010 In: Degrowth: A Vocabulary for a New Era’ - Research & Degrowth (R&D),” n.d.).

“(….) Degrowth signifies a society with a smaller metabolism, but more importantly, a society with a metabolism which has a different structure and serves new functions.” (Degrowth: A Vocabulary for a New Era’ - Research & Degrowth (R&D),” n.d.).

“(….) degrowth signifies also a desired direction, one in which societies will use fewer natural resources and will organize and live differently than today. ‘Sharing’, ‘simplicity’, ‘conviviality’, ‘care’ and the ‘commons’ are primary significations of what this society might look like.(...)” (D’Alisa et al., 2015).

Degrowth is about a new way of production which serves new functions and it is more about “(…) ‘Sharing’, ‘simplicity’, ‘conviviality’, ‘care’ and the ‘commons’(…)”.(D’Alisa et al., 2015).

SHRINKAGE

“(….) Population loss is the indicator of urban shrinkage, the tip of the iceberg which results from underlying complex sets of causes propelling specific problems for urban development, typically listed as economic decline, demographic stagnation, decay, or abandonment.” (Großmann et al., 2013: 221).

“(….) Shrinkage processes unveil that we have to deal in the future with urban regions beyond growth: with cities loosing inhabitants, housing stock falling vacant, residential and commercial areas remain empty and un-used and infrastructures getting under-used. It is mainly demographic change including decreasing birth rates, ageing, and postponement of marriage and childbearing that brings about such developments on the one hand” (Haase et al., 2005 In: Kabisch; Haase; Haase 2006: 2).

“(….) Shrinking is often caused due to a change in economy or a misbalanced or economic inequality in the country itself.” (Großmann et al., 2013: 222).

One can distinguish between shrinking cities and shrinking regions. Shrinking cities emerged in our century. Shrinking cities phenomenon is a spatial manifestation with causes that implies a change in social, economic and environmental configuration. Shrinking is an answer, as Fernandez et al. claims, of global occurring processes and local structures (Martinez-Fernandez et al. 2016: 214).

“(….) The concept of the ‘shrinking region’ is a recent one (the term was coined at the beginning of the current decade), even though this phenomenon goes back many years. What is essentially new here is that in some cases the phenomenon of depopulation has now come to affect entire regions, including urban areas (‘shrinking cities’).” (“Shrinking regions,” n.d. 2008:iii).

“(….) ‘Shrinking regions’ are more numerous in the former Socialist states and in

the Mediterranean countries. However, practically every EU Member State has at least one region that will probably or very probably be in demographic decline during the next 25 years and this phenomenon is to a large degree spatially distributed.” (“Shrinking regions,” n.d. 2008:iv).

RURAL – URBAN RELATIONS

“(…) rural places and experiences are more than the sum of a few statistical measures: demographic and land-use classifications are inherently one dimensional. (...) If policy-makers – and planners – take time to understand the particular needs and challenges that exist in different places (...) then appropriate strategies and policies can be avoided. And second, rural-urban classifications emphasise supposed difference and can suggest separation, whereas, in fact, rural and urban areas are interconnected in terms of economic activity, population movements, leisure, housing markets and a whole host of other issues (...)”. (Hoggart, 2005 In: Gallent, (Ed.), 2008:12).

“To a rural household, however, the landscape of daily life includes both rural and urban elements. Rural-urban linkages are part of the local reality for household members carrying out the diverse tasks of producing income on and off-farm, maintaining a living space in the village, and going to local and even distant towns for shopping, marketing, work, and specialized services.” (Douglass. (1998). A Regional Network Strategy for Reciprocal Rural-Urban Linkages: An Agenda for Policy Research with Reference to Indonesia. Third World Planning Review. 20. Page 2-3).

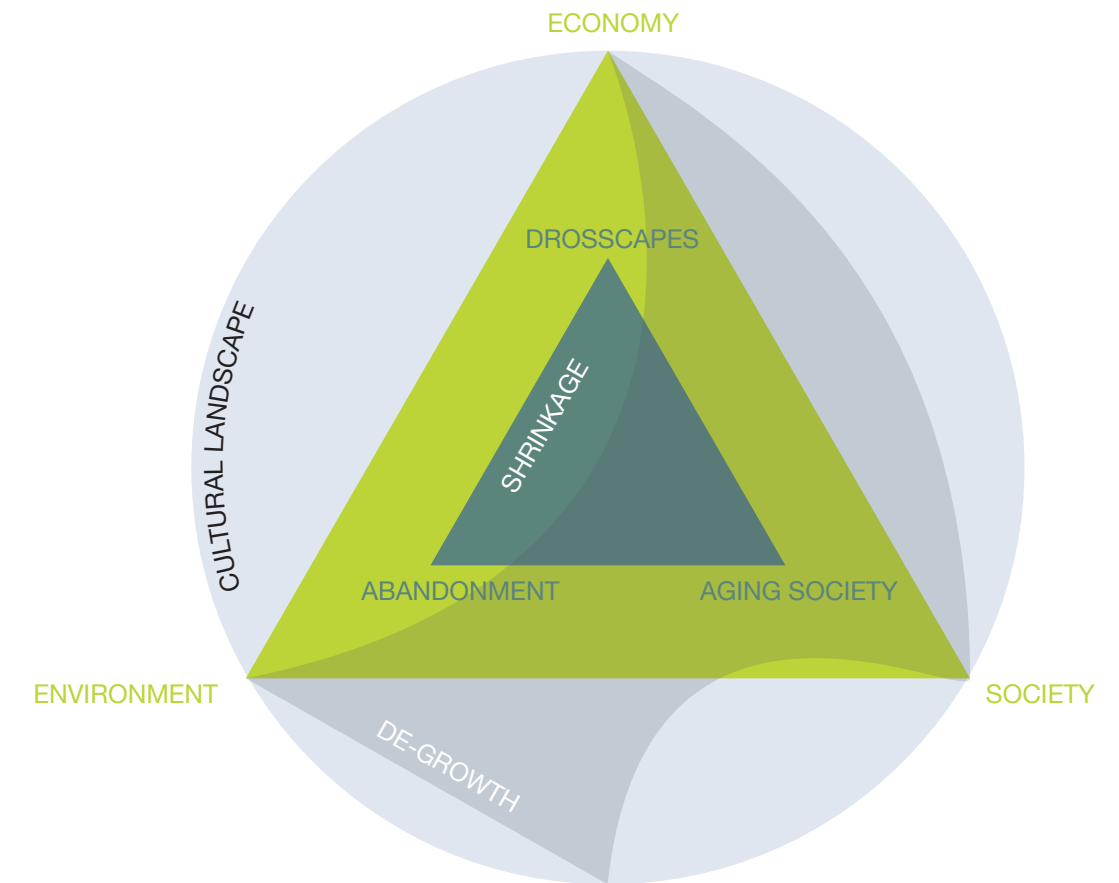


Fig.2: Topic relations. Source: by author.

ANALYTICAL OVERVIEW

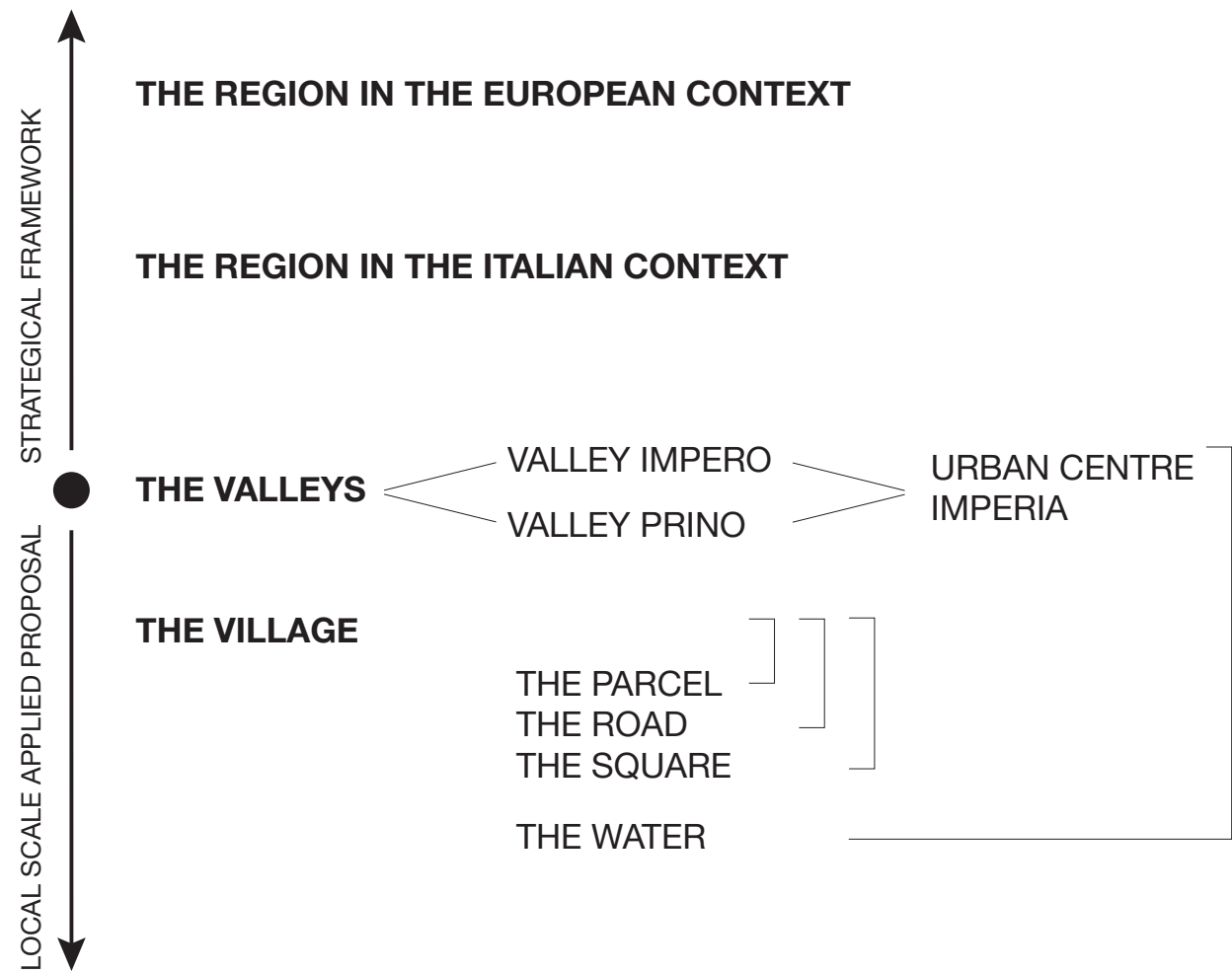


Fig.3: General overview of this research. Source: by author.

LOCATION OF THIS RESEARCH

This research is about Liguria, an Italian region, located in the north-western part of Italy (see Fig.3). The place of interest is the region between the Mediterranean sea in the south and the extensions of the Western Alps and the Apennines in the north-eastern part (Fig.4). This region is confronted with narrow space for development which can only involve at the coast where the topographie allows it (see topographical map Fig.4). The coast is packed with all kind of different activities moreover, the pressure from global forces are pushing the coastal cities more and more towards a similar development neglecting the own identity. The prevailing landscape is formed by the typical stone terraces which made it possible for agriculture usage and which prevent it from huge hydrological disasters.

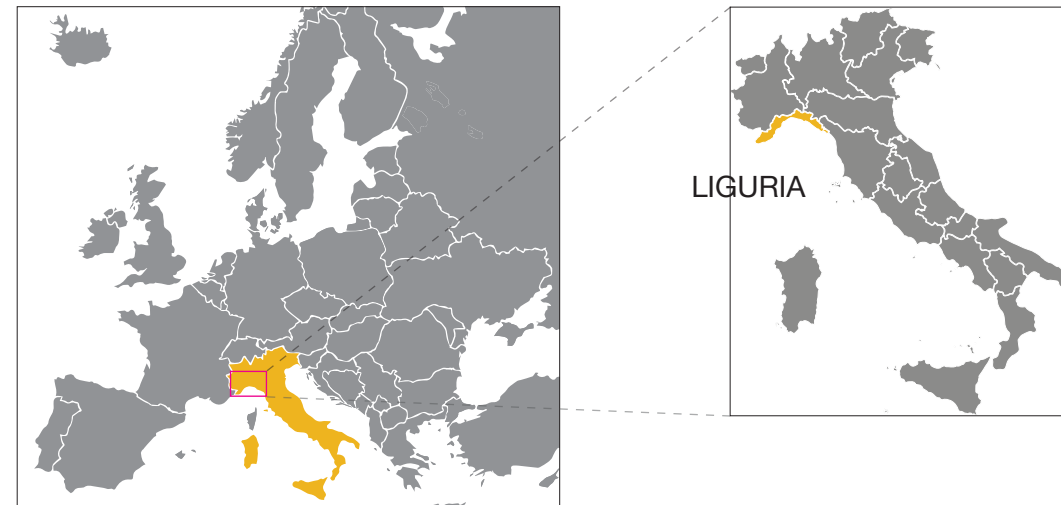


Fig.4: Location of this research within Europe. Source: by author



Fig.5: Topographical map of Liguria. Source: by author with data from: Estri, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodatastyrelsen, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap and the GIS user community

The region (Fig.4) is formed from 3 provinces (Imperia, Savona and La Spezia) and one metropol Region (Genova)

LOCATION WITHIN THE EUROPEAN CONTEXT

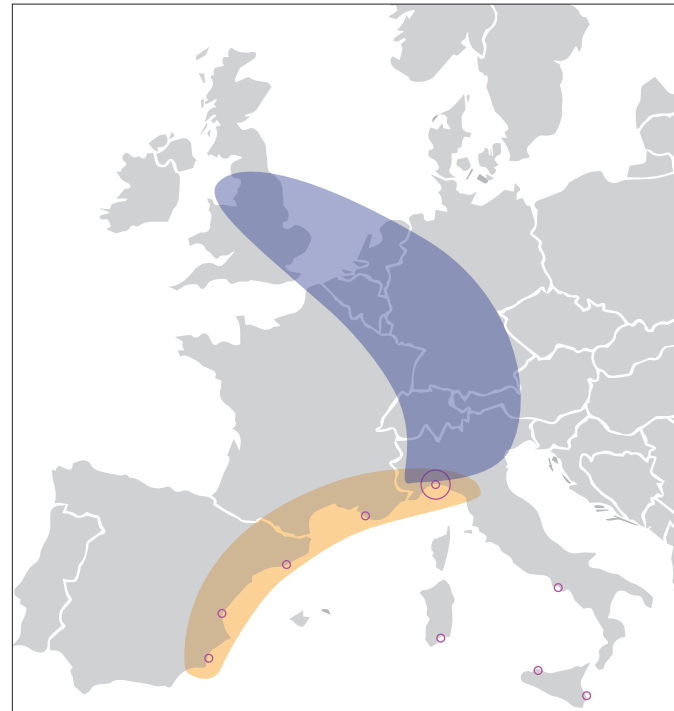


Fig.6: Source: by author

- "Blue Banana"
- "Sunbelt"
- Main Mediterranean ports

"(...) Some suppose that the Blue Banana eventually must give way to the "Sunbelt" an arch-shaped axis in the southern part of Europe along the Mediterranean coast from Milan to Valencia (...)" (Hospers, 2003:76). Liguria is situated at the edge of the economic core zone network of Europe, the so called Blue Banana, and it is part of the European Sunbelt, the south European coastal area, which is because of its presence high soft location factors seen as a future high-tech industry zone in Europe, in this zone the presence of tourism and agriculture as well as high-tech industries are seen mostly situated.

Hospers, 2003. Beyond the Blue Banana? Intereconomics 38, p.76-85.

Since World War two and at least until the 1980s, Genova was the activator for the development of the so called "productive triangle", the area between Milano, Torino, and Genova, which stands for the most productive area of Italy since the country's unification in 1860. Due to its particular geographical Situation Genova is situated within a precipitous and narrow steep coast between the Apennine and the Mediterranean sea. Therefor the city itself is shaped by dense urban structure and interwoven by infrastructures like tunnels, bridges, and railway bridges or stairs and elevators to connect the various parts of the city and its surroundings. The harbor of Genova represents one of the oldest ports of Europe. The crisis of the 1980s caused by the reorganization and outsourcing of the production to lower cost countries caused a radical transformation of Genova's harbor. Today it is Italians largest harbor and the most important container shipping point. To facilitate the circulation of goods and men across Europe nine infrastructural routes have been strengthened and implemented of the European Union in 2014. One of the most significant of those interconnections is the Alps-Rhine corridor which links the Northern sea harbors of Antwerp - Rotterdam - Zeebrugge with the Mediterranean port



Fig.7: Source: by author



Connection to the North Sea from the Mediterranean Sea (from port Genova to port Rotterdam via train)

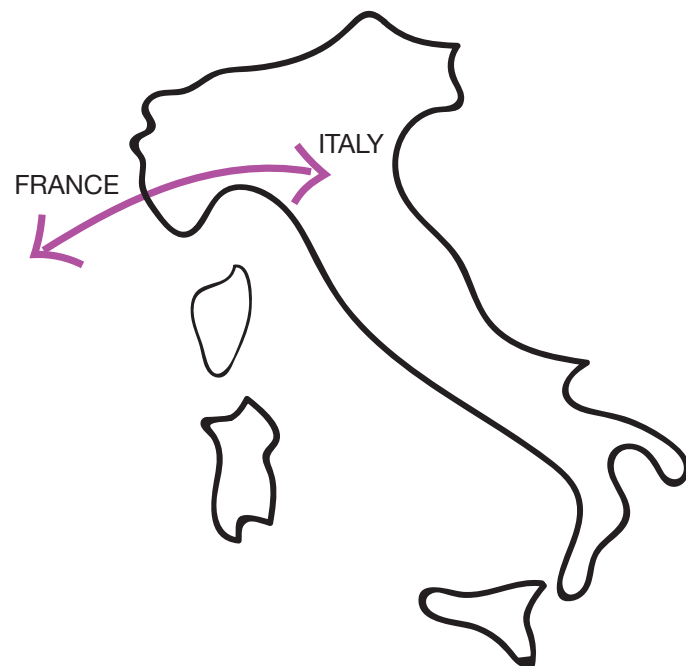


Fig.8: Liguria transnational context. Source: by author

of Genova. Interconnecting them with the productive regions of the Milano-Hinterland, Switzerland and the Rhur-Gebiet. The aim of this significant strategic plan is to enlarge and expand the infrastructural system of railway and freight traffic on rivers with the aim to relieve the road traffic of this highly frequented north-south corridor.

The implementation of the northern part between the Netherlands and the Gotthard-Basis tunnel which connects the Switzerland to Italy has been completed in 2016.

The southern part of the Project is the weakness in this high interconnection plan.

Although the harbor of Genova has been augmenting its container shipping there is still missing a strong connectivity, to the inland especially regarding the railroads.

The connection between Genova's harbor and the productive areas between Novara, Milano and Alessandria have to be urgently developed. With the realization of this last part of infrastructural connection and with the increasing importance of the Mediterranean central hub and the relations to middle east and far eastern countries connected through the Suez Canal, the Alps-Rhine corridor might have significant importance for the European infrastructural planning of the future. ("Janus, Djalali," n.d. or, the Long Harbour. A project for the land and sea of Genoa. Rotterdamse Academievereniging Bouwkunst 2015. URL: <http://www.amirdjalali.com/?teaching/Janus/>).

Liguria is located at the border to France and is

the region of Italy through which cooperations on economic level and transnational level are made where Ventimiglia is the city on the border from the Italian side. (Fig.7).

"Cross-border cooperation operational programme: Italy – Maritime France" for Community assistance from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) under the European Territorial Cooperation objective in Italy and maritime France. (...) improving cooperation between border areas in the fields of accessibility, innovation, making the best use of natural and cultural resources, and the sharing of infrastructure and integrated services, so as to increase competitiveness at the Mediterranean, southern European and world levels. This strategy also seeks to ensure the cohesion of the geographical areas in question and encourage job creation and sustainable development. Particular effort will be given to improving telecommunications in mountainous or peripheral parts of the region, with the aim of bolstering the information society (...)" (Operational Programme "Italy – Maritime France" [WWW Document], n.d. URL http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/atlas/programmes/2007-2013/crossborder/operational-programme-italy-maritime-france (accessed 10.27.17)).

Genova is positioned within the "productive triangle", economical triangle of Italy (Fig.8). This gives high opportunities for the region Liguria, in terms of new economic development and relations.



Fig.9: Liguria trans-regional context. Source: by author

POLICIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Since 2014 the region has been restructured and they reshuffled it into three provinces (Imperia, Savona and La Spezia) and one metropolitan Region (Genova). So the provinces get less power attributed. The provinces has to develop only the PTC, which is the provincial urbanistic coordination plan. The Municipalities have to provide every seven years a PUC which is a urban development plan which has to be approved from the region and the national department.

Furthermore there are the GAL a private-public local association where in Liguria exist five: GAL “Riviera dei Fiori”, which is located in Imperia, GAL “Valli Savonesi”, in province of Savona, GAL “Agenzia di sviluppo Genovese”, in the countryside of Genova, GAL “Verdemare Liguria”, which focuses on two mountain areas in the countryside of Genova, and the GAL “Provincia della Spezia, located in La Spezia. All five local associations are developing the SSL, a local development strategy, which are related to the specific location. Those action groups are half private and half public and are under the LEADER program of Europe. The infrastructure is managed from a separate institution which makes the cooperation more complex. (see detailed structure in Fig.9).

Conclusion:

As I could see that municipalities have not updated their development plans and each of them works with a different old version, for example Imperia is still working with a plan which has been approved in the year 1999, so at the momet they are all busy with constructing their development plans, which than have to be proved from the region. Each municipality also lack of people who have the knowledge and capacity to develop such a plan. As we have 67 municipalities in Imperia one can imagine how this projected to the whole reagon Liguria means, also bureaucratically. This slows down the development. The proposal of this thesis is therefore to focus on each valley which contains different sized villages within different municipalities. The junction of the municipalities within a valley will help those municipalities with less capacities and knowledge and will bring more capacities in development to all of them. The same is for the water system and the vegetation within a valley. The overall context of both elements seems also more understandable if we consider the scale of a whole valley.



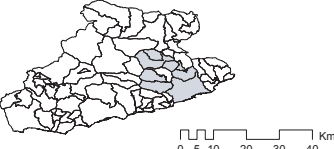
EU	Interreg FSR FESR FEASR
NATION	Piano integrato del parco (PIDP) - gestione del SIC (Alpi Liguri, Beigua, Antola, Aseto) SIC (Natura 2000) ZPS Parco Alpi Liguri (in corso di approvazione)
REGION	<div><div></div><div><div>Piano territoriale di coordinamento paesistico (PTCP) settlement Piano Territoriale regionale (PTR) - indirizzo geomorphology Programma sviluppo rurale (PSR) - AGRICOLTURA vegetation Piano Regionale generale (PRG) Piano dell'ambiente (Piano di Bacino) + Valutazione Ambientale Strategica (VAS) Piano territoriale delle acque (PTA) 5 X Gruppo Azione locale (GAL) — Strategia di sviluppo locale (SSL)</div></div></div>
PROVINCE	<div><div></div><div><div>Piano territoriale di coordinamento urbanistico provinciale (PTC)</div></div></div>
MUNICIPALITIES	<div><div></div><div><div>Piano Urbanistico Comunale (PUC) unione di comuni della valle Impero e Moro unione di comuni della valle Prino Gruppo Azione locale (GAL Riviera dei Fiori) — Strategia di sviluppo locale (SSL)</div></div></div>

Fig.10: Different policies and planning tools ordered to the different level of power. Source: by author

EUROPEAN FUNDS

The European used funds in Liguria are the followings:

- Por feso, 2014-2020
- Fondo sociale Europeo
- Interreg A, 2014-2020
 - France and Italy marittimo
 - Alcotra
- Interreg B, 2014-2020
 - Mediterranean sea
 - Spazio Alpino
 - Central Europe
- par fsc 2007-2013: Fondo sviluppo & coesion
- forum mosaico: communication platform to exchange experience of public services and national help from the 'Accordo di paternariato'.

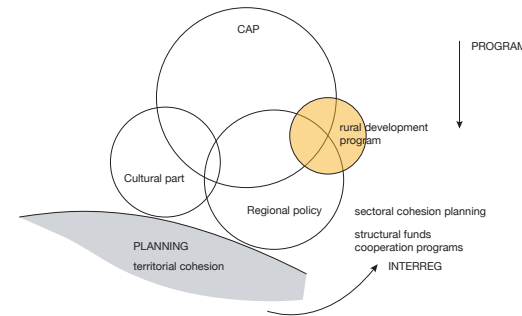


Fig.11: The European structure and its programs. Source: by author

Interviews about the current situation:

„If someone wants to start, he has to start from the scratch/the bottom because there was no maintainance in the recent years.” (65 years old man, former employee of Municipality Prelá).

“(…) No specialisation and valorization(…)” (Director of confindustria, Imperia).

“Small interpreneurs or farmers struggle with the complicated burocratical structures.” (employee of the regional department of agriculture, PSR, Imperia).

“(…) Because of ereditation there is a lot of parcellation and the property is sparse and not all compact, this affects the production.” (Mayor Ventimiglia).

“(…) Farmers are mostly retired people who are doing the hobby as farmer as their second money font, income.” (Couple 53-55 years old, both selfemployed, inhabitant Tavole).

“(…) EU requests new standards that are not affordable for a small interpreneur.” (35 old farmer, Valloria).

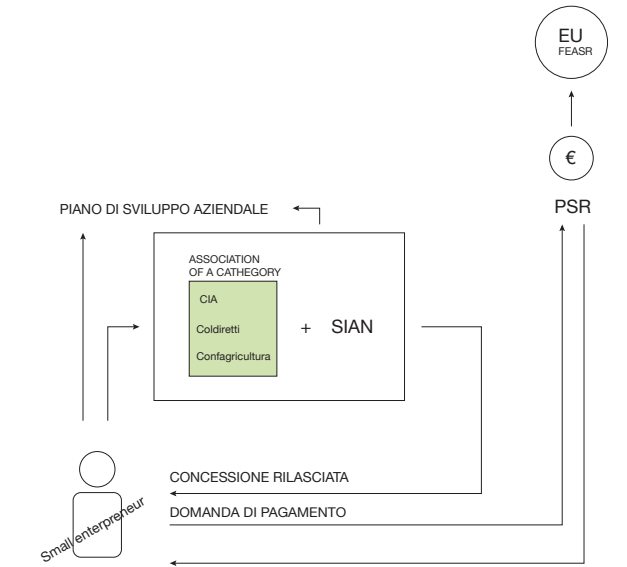


Fig.12: Scheme of young farmer who wants to start a small business. Source: by author

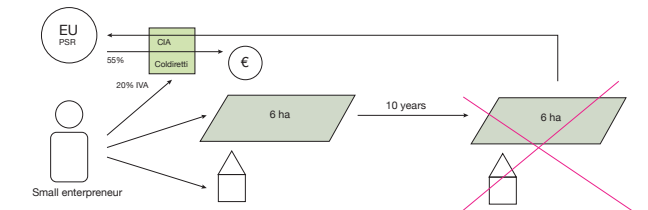


Fig.13: How much money does a small farmer in the end really get and what if it doesn't work and he/she has to quit? Source: by author

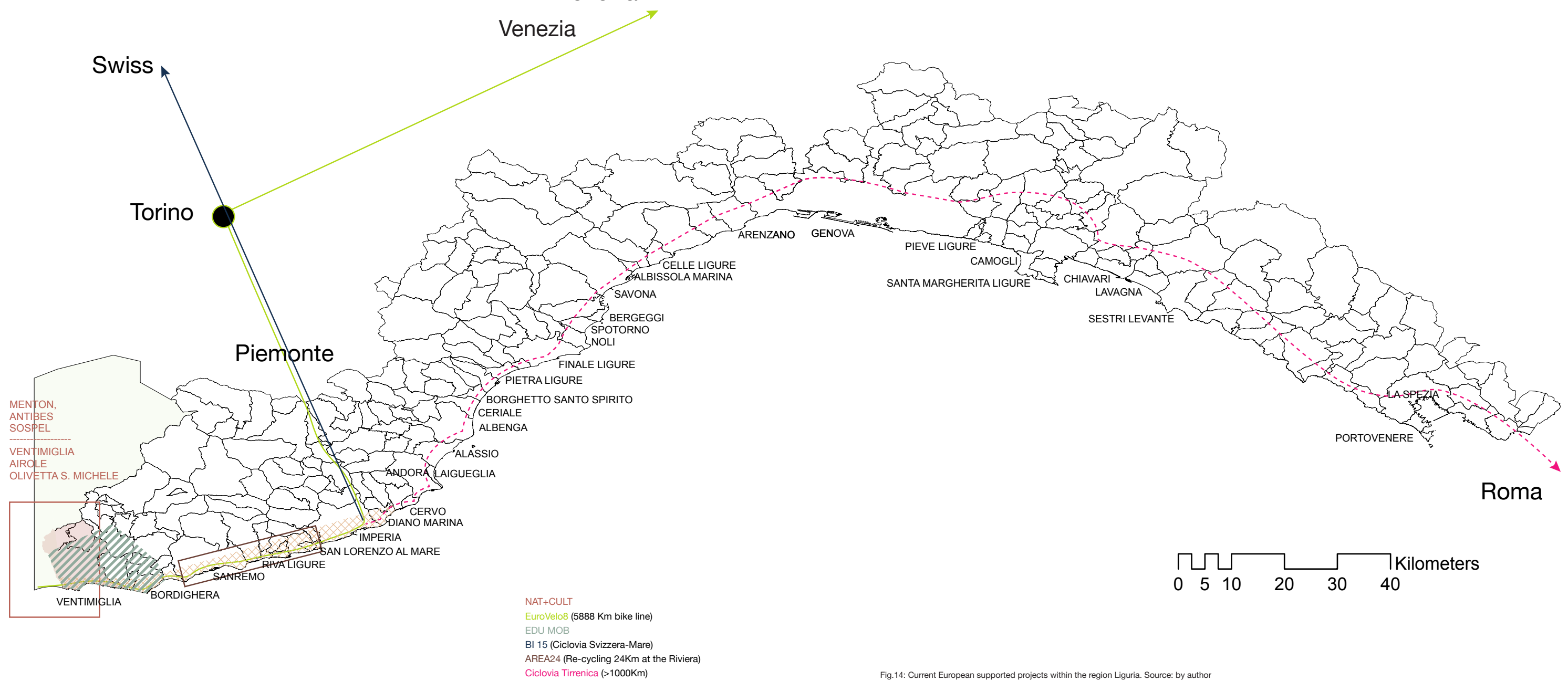


Fig.14: Current European supported projects within the region Liguria. Source: by author

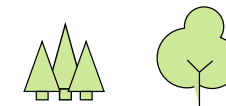
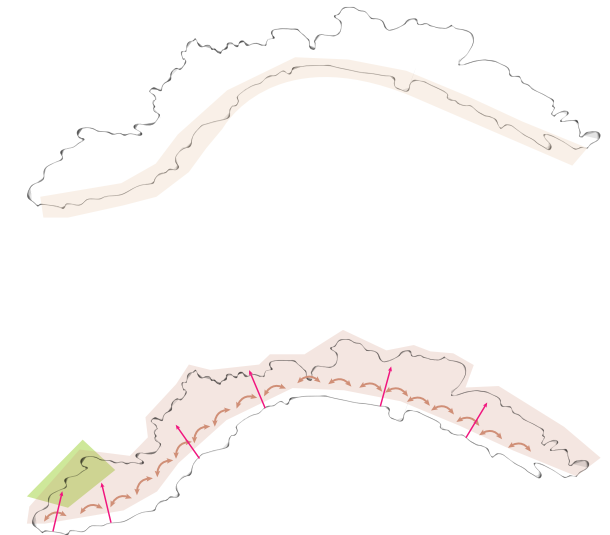
CURRENT REGIONAL AIMS

The region divides the territory into two parts, the coast and the countryside. Aims are to diminish the **cancellation of** the past at the coast and to create better conditions for the social texture and the competitiveness of the countryside. The region tries to attract tourists to the countryside, by promoting diffused green tourism. Moreover, the region wants to give subsidies for the maintenance and economy of forest and green energy, which should contrast the phenomenon of abandonment and should help with the current hydrological problems, aridity and erosion or landslides. Furthermore, they want to renovate the urban fabric of the region, which is still 40% of the buildings are still on the energy standard of the first years after World War 2 (PTR n.32 November 2014), regarding actual European energy standards.

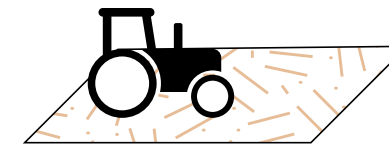
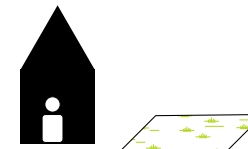
Fig.15: Main aims of the region Liguria. Source: by author.

Fig.16: Figures explaining the aims on local scale. Source: by author.

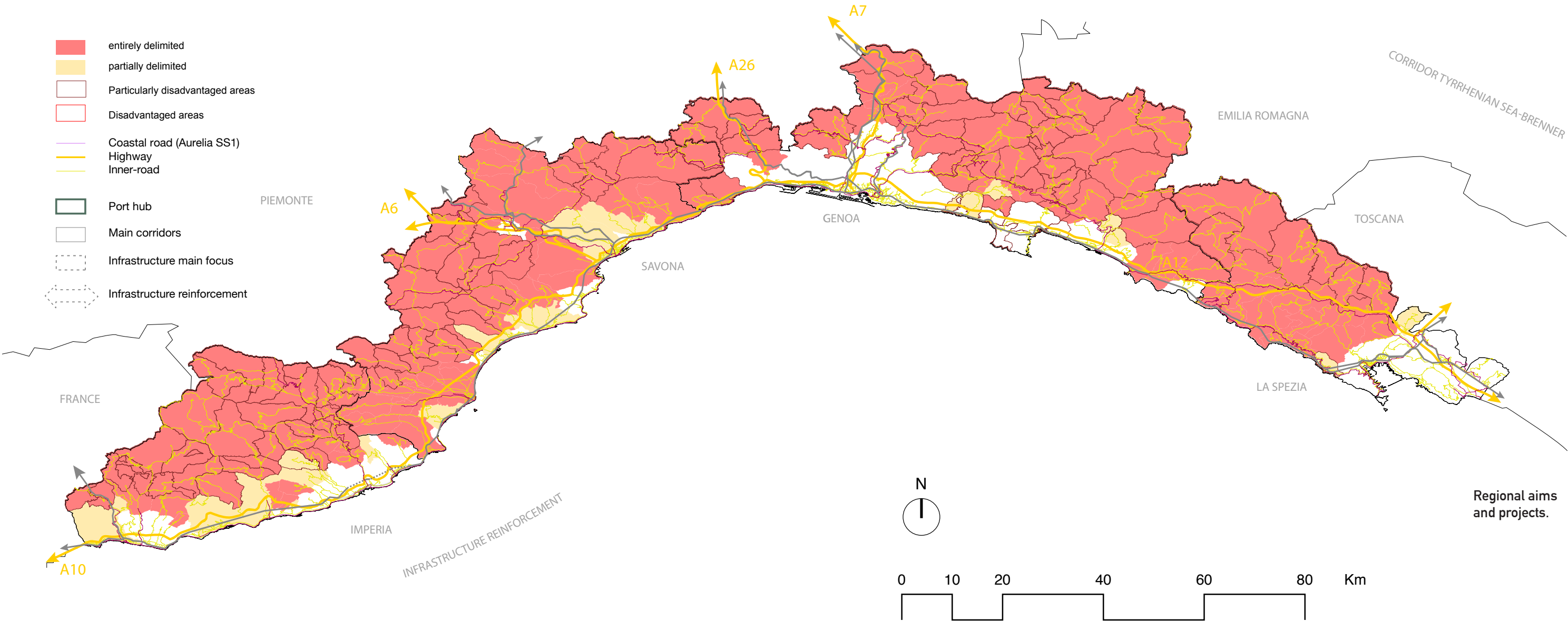
- ← soft green tourism
- ↔ coastline connection through coastal road (Aurelia SS1) and bikeline
- Countryside
- Coast
- Alpine parc



The wood land of Liguria is been promoted more for maintenance and a productive use that opposes the phenomenon of abandonment



Maintenance
Riqualification
Potentialisation of productive areas



PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT AIMS

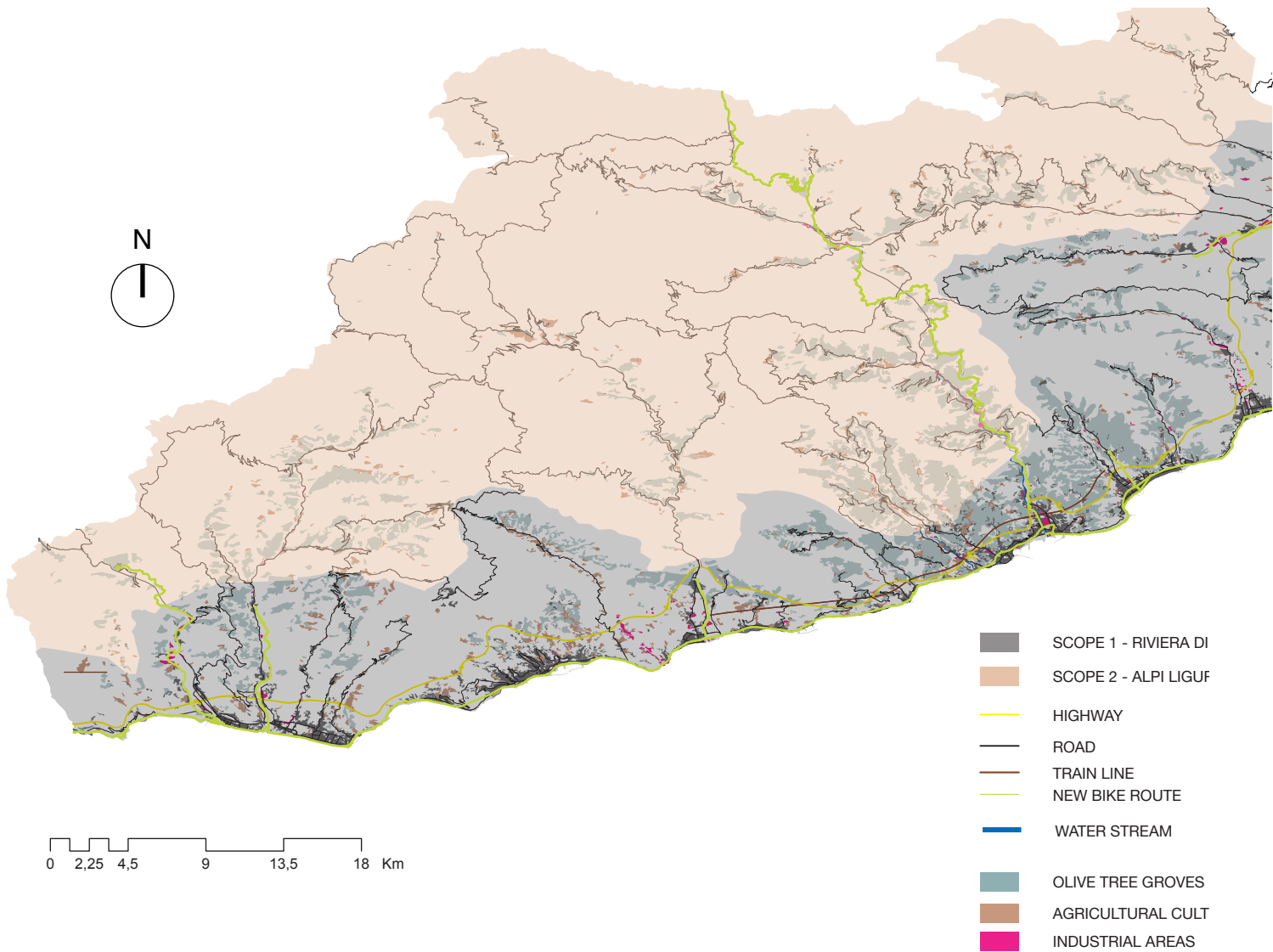
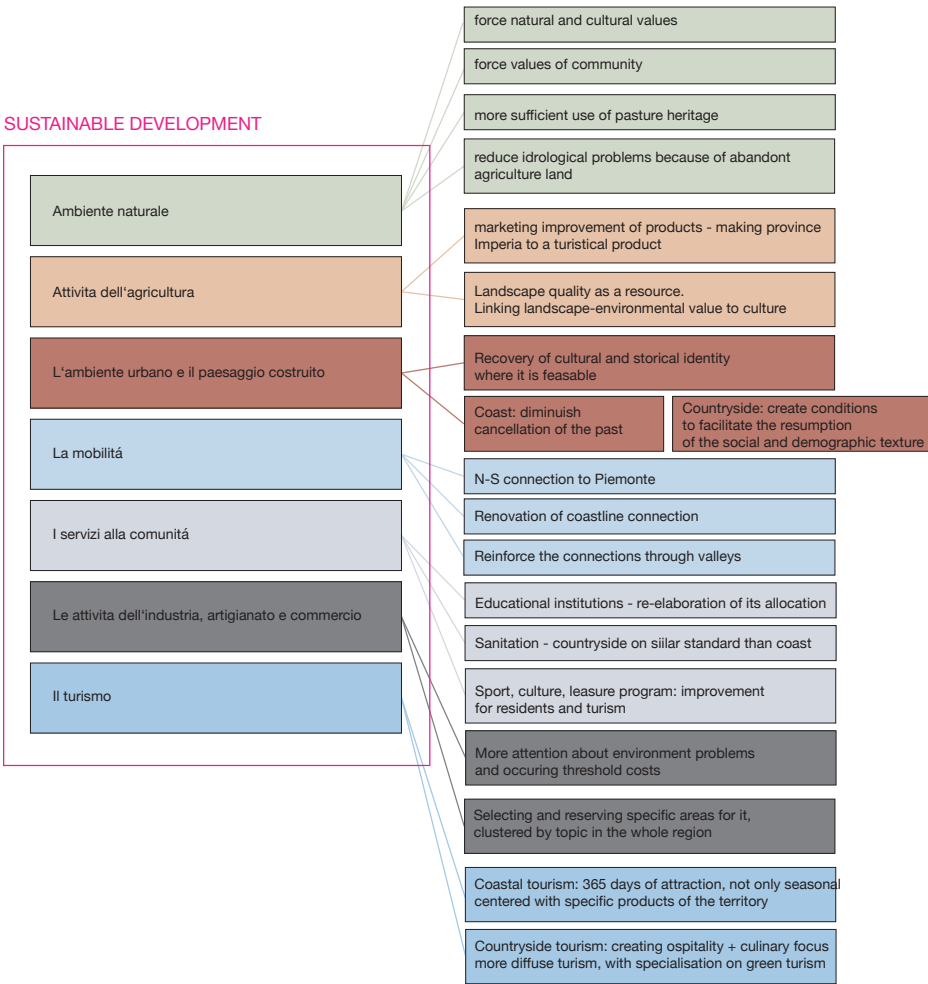


Fig. 17: Source: by author based on data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 02.10.17).

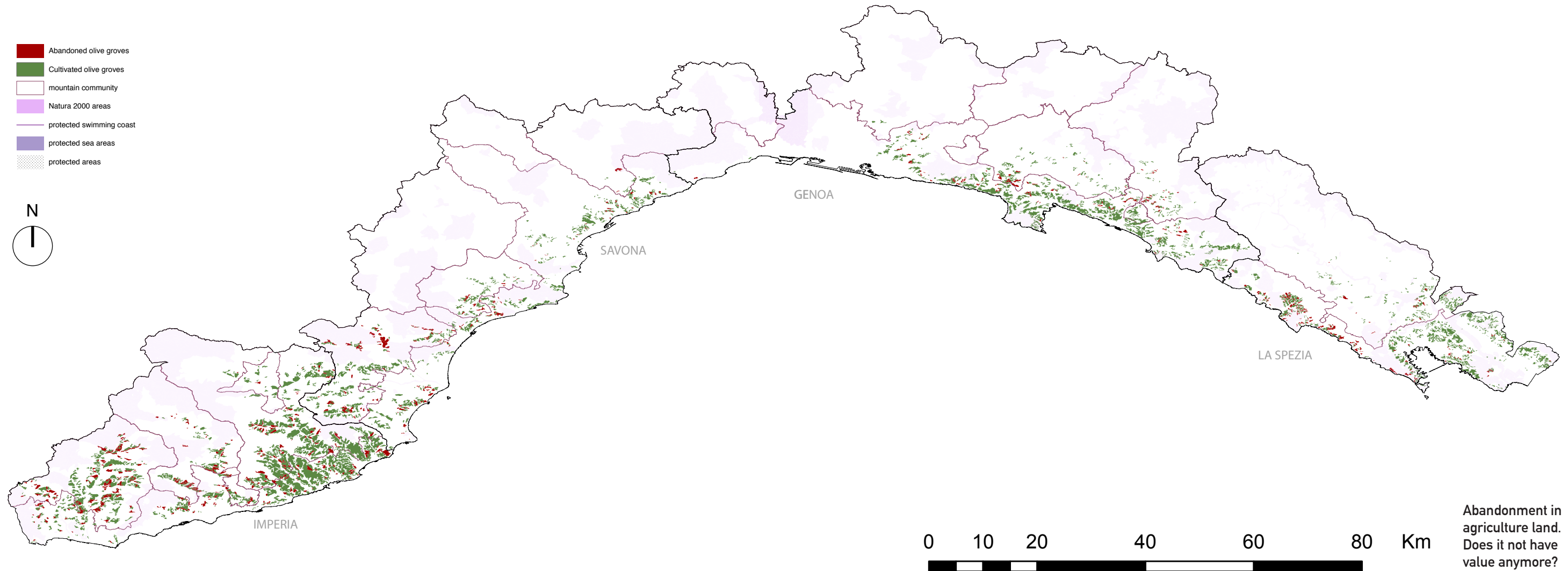
PART 1: SPATIAL ANALYSIS

Analysis (spatial, economic, social-cultural, environment)

Problem statement

Research question

Hypothesis

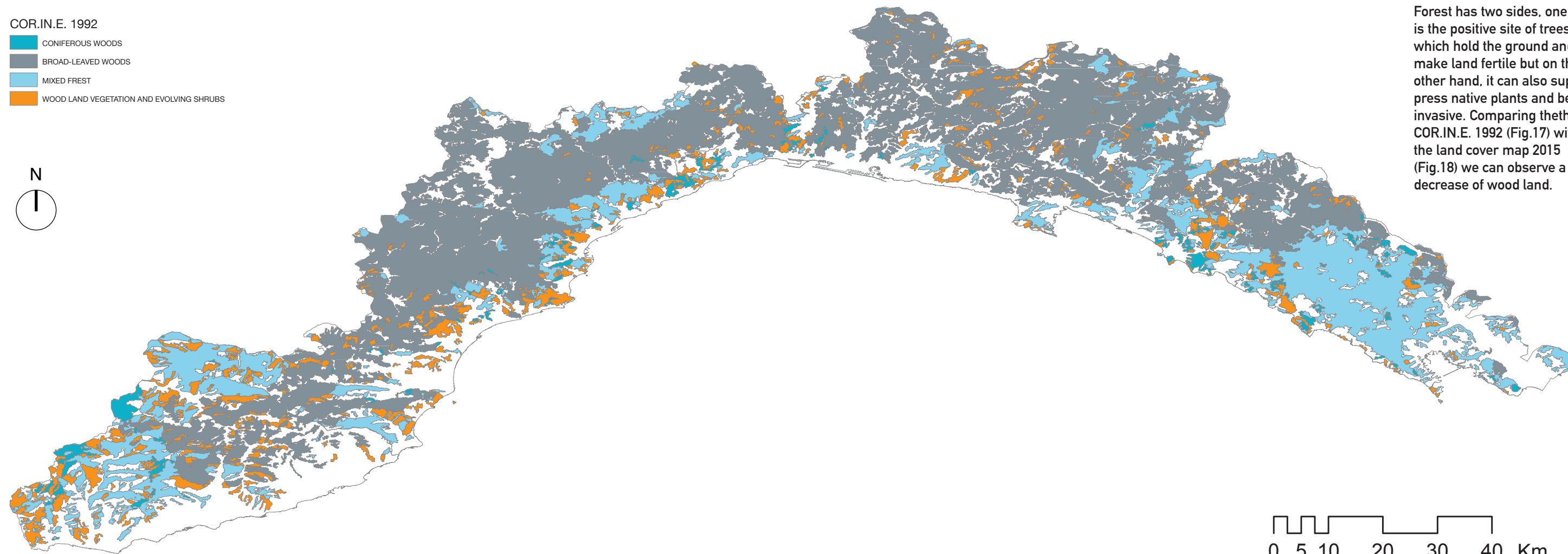
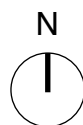


Abandonment in agriculture land. Does it not have value anymore? Where is the worth today in the countryside?

Fig.18: Source: by author with data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 02.10.17).

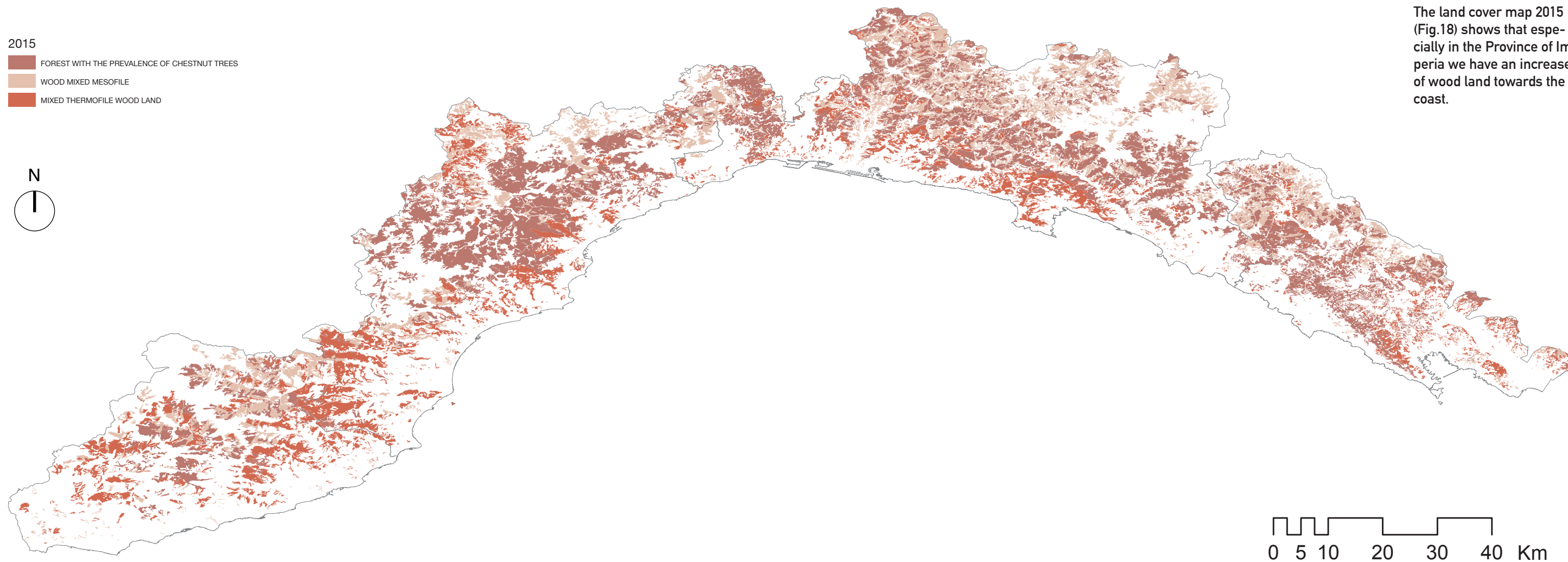
COR.IN.E. 1992

- CONIFEROUS WOODS
- BROAD-LEAVED WOODS
- MIXED FREST
- WOOD LAND VEGETATION AND EVOLVING SHRUBS



Forest has two sides, one is the positive site of trees, which hold the ground and make land fertile but on the other hand, it can also suppress native plants and be invasive. Comparing the COR.IN.E. 1992 (Fig.17) with the land cover map 2015 (Fig.18) we can observe a decrease of wood land.

Fig.19: Source: by author with data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 02.10.17).



The land cover map 2015 (Fig.18) shows that especially in the Province of Imperia we have an increase of wood land towards the coast.

Fig.20: Source: by author with data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 02.10.17).

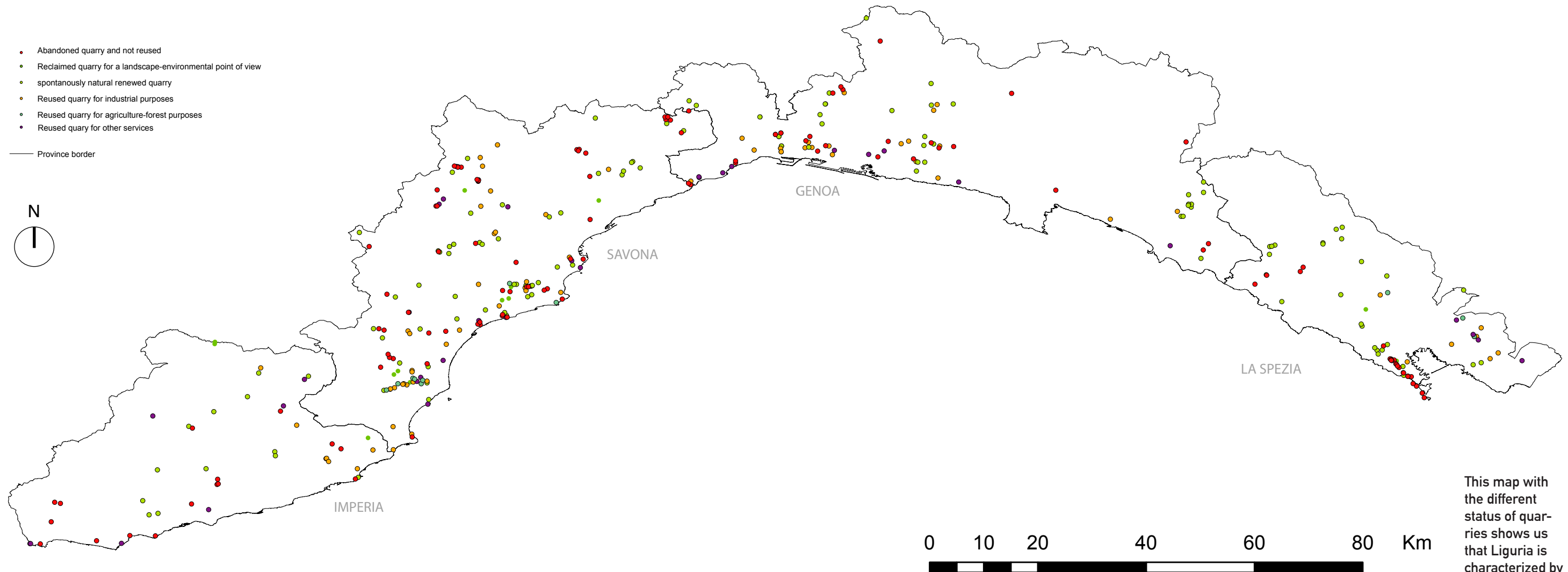


Fig.21: Source: by author with data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 02.10.17).

This map with the different status of quarries shows us that Liguria is characterized by industry. It lies in the economic 'golden banana' area.

THE WATER

THE RIVER IMPERO



THE RIVER PRINO



Fig.22: Source: all pictures page 66 and page 67 are made by author

THE WATER ON REGIONAL SCALE

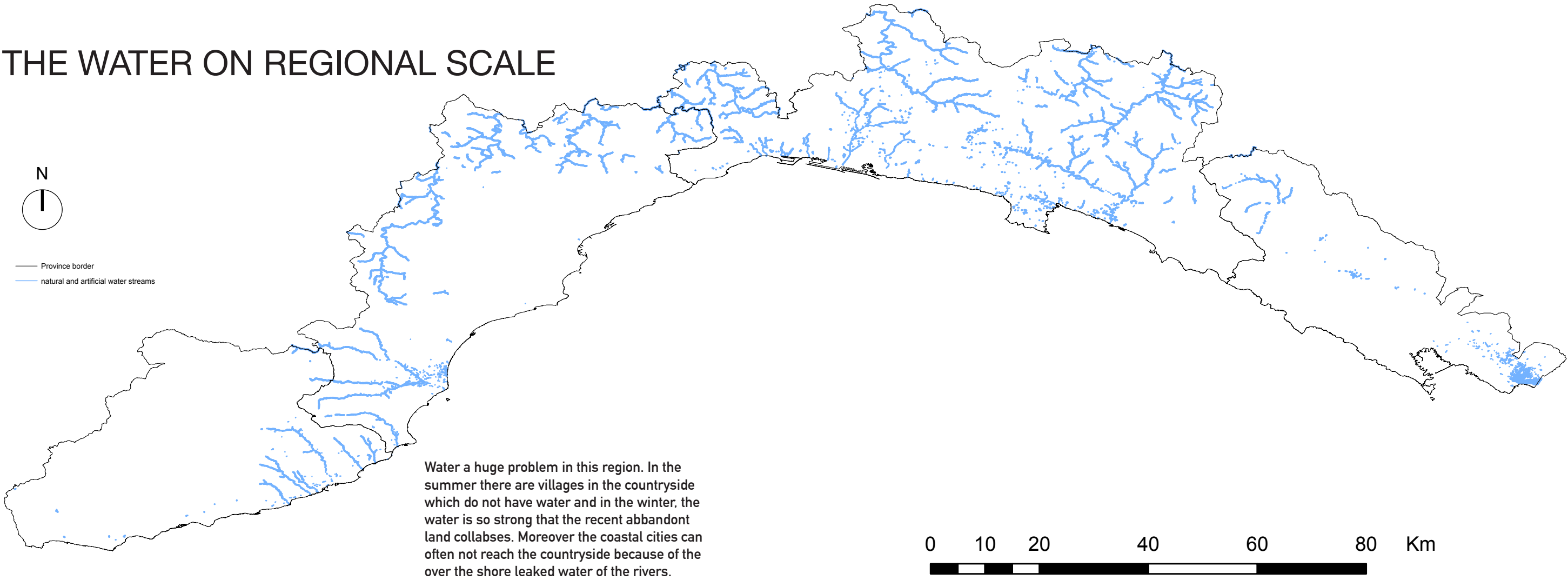


Fig.23: Source: by author with data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 02.10.17).

WATER RISK ZONES

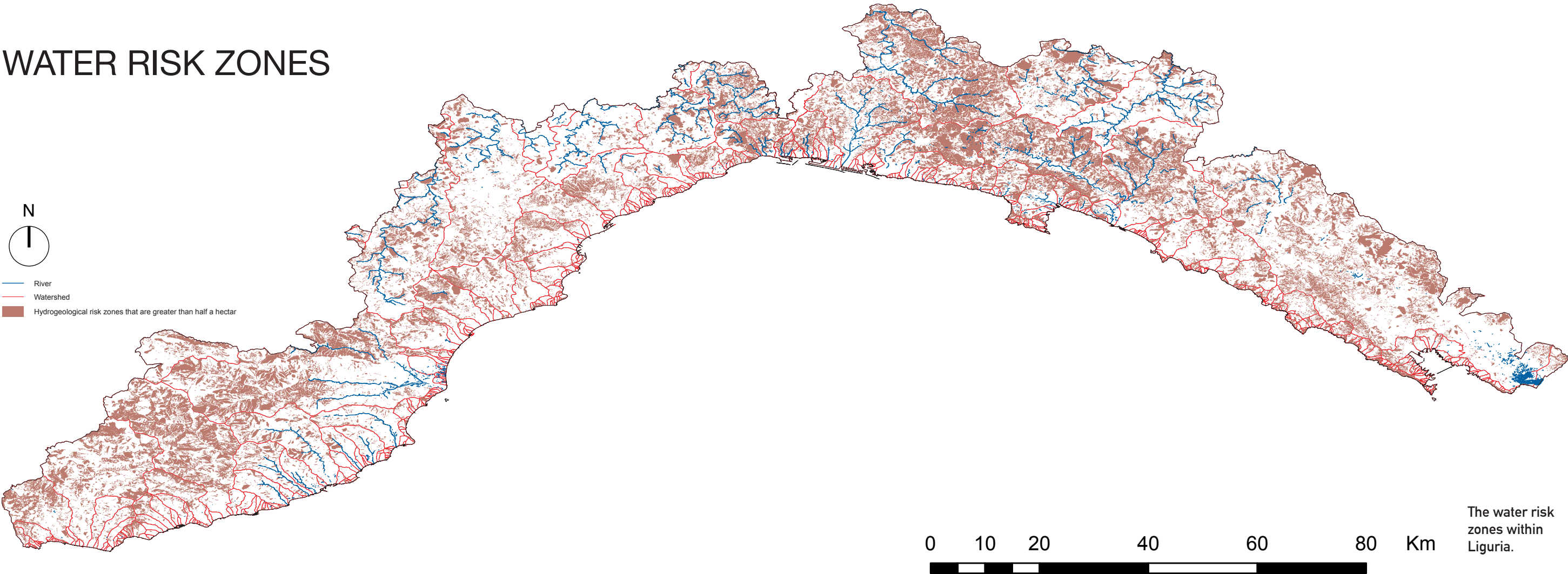
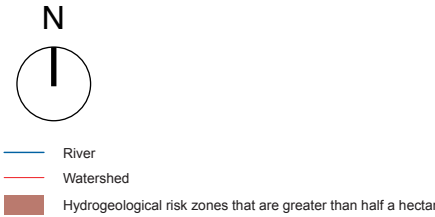


Fig.24: Source: by author with data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 02.10.17).

WATER RISK ZONES WITHIN THE PROVINCE OF IMPERIA

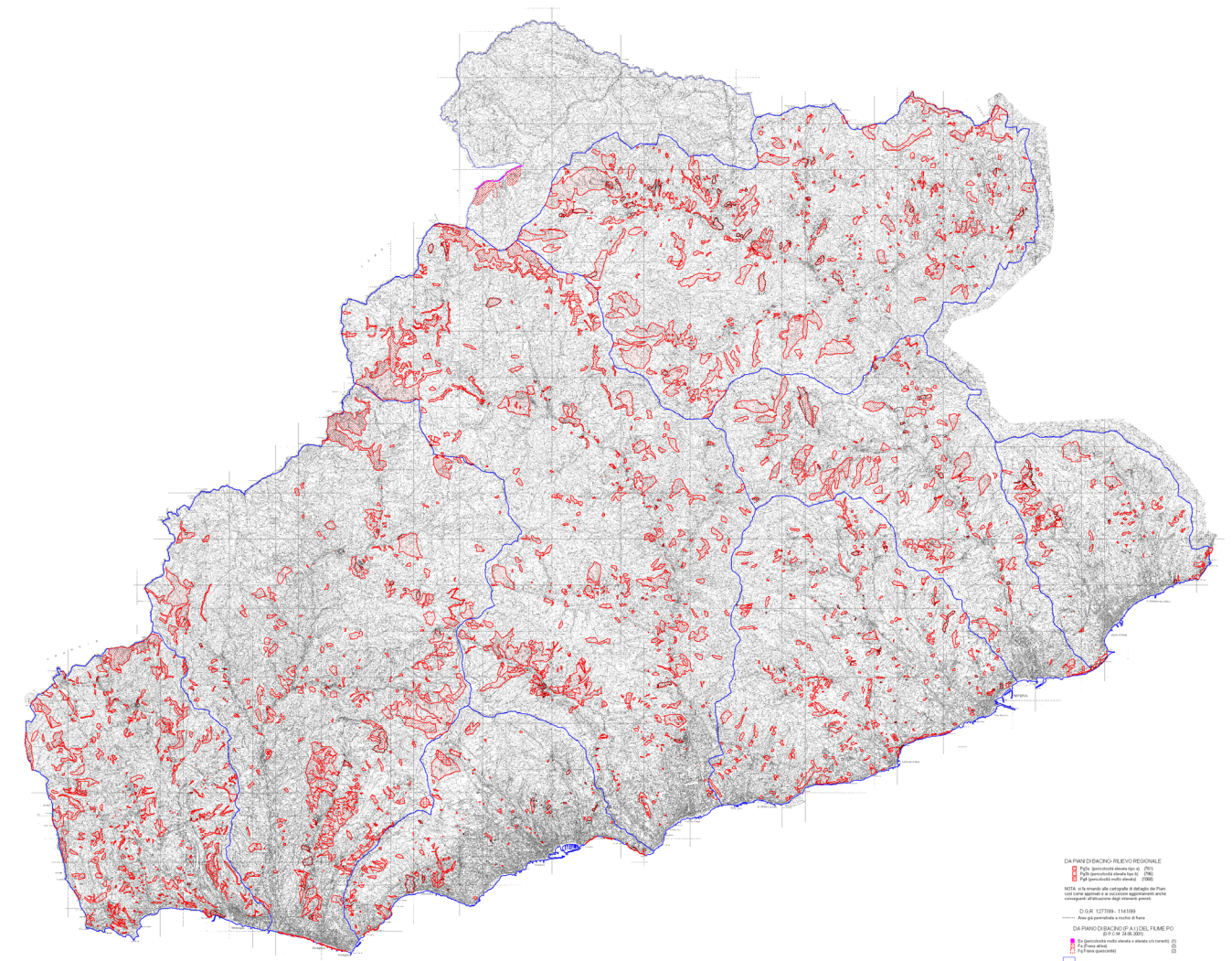
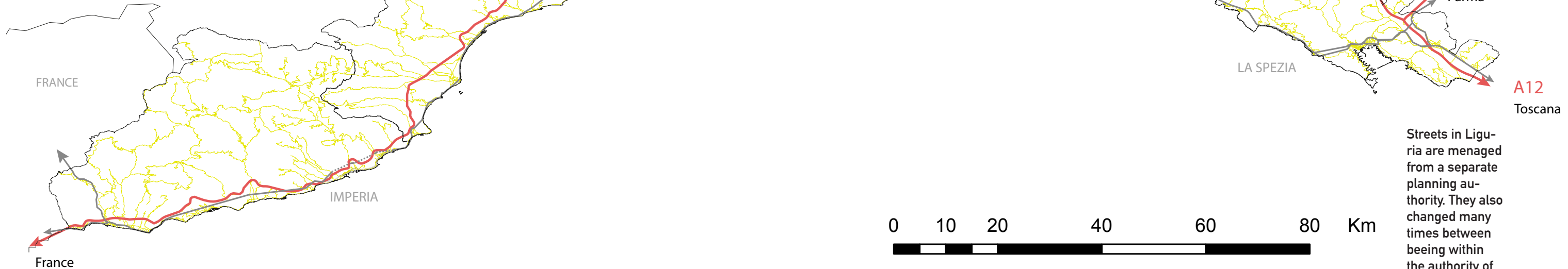
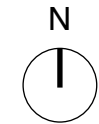


Fig.25: High water risk zones within the province Imperia. Source: Provincia Imperia. Piano territoriale di Coordinamento. Aree ad elevata o molto elevata suscettività al dissesto. Tav.n°9. May 2001. URL: <http://www.provincia.imperia.it/ptc/elencocartografico.asp> (accessed 02.10.17).

LA STRADA - THE ROAD

— highway
— suburban secondary road
— train tracks
— old train tracks



0 10 20 40 60 80 Km

Fig.26: Source: by author with data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 02.10.17).

Streets in Liguria are managed from a separate planning authority. They also changed many times between being within the authority of the region and the authority of the provinces.

THE ROAD ON PROVINCIAL SCALE

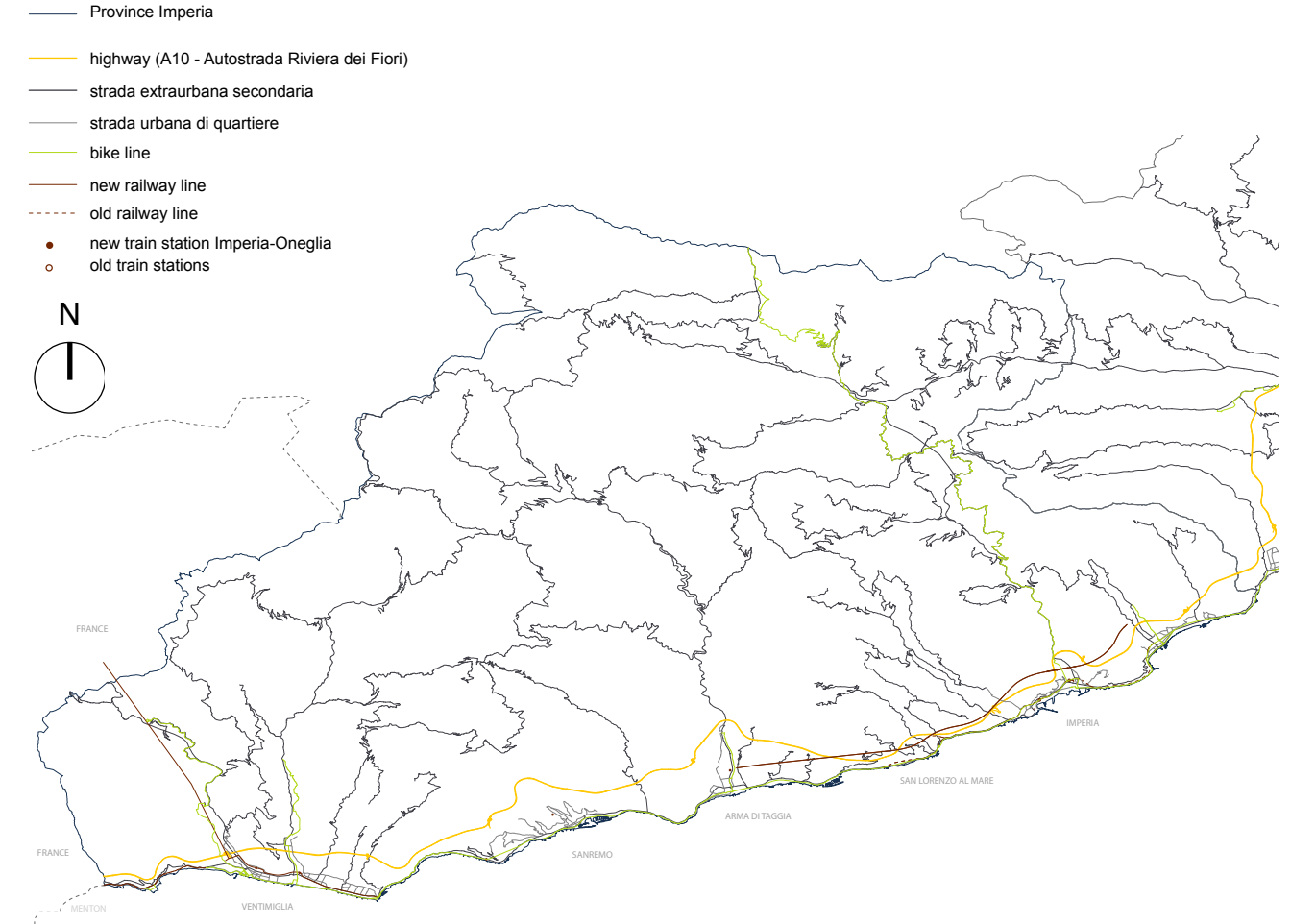


Fig.27: Source: by author with data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 02.10.17).

ECONOMIC HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

“Already in the first half of the 1800s with the agricultural crisis, the phenomenon of trans-oceanic emigration had begun in our region [Liguria (sic!)] that few decades later would involve many other rural situations, and in the same period in Sampierdarena, in the Genoese hinterland, the first modern factories were built (...) the start in Italy of the “industrial revolution” (Bisio et al., 2004: 27). “Before World War I (...) most heavy industry was concentrated in the Milan-Genoa-Turin industrial triangle. (...) During the 1950s Italy’s per capita income rose more than it had during ninety-year span from 1861 to 1950. (...) When Italy was liberated in 1945, more than 40 percent of the Italian labour force was employed in agriculture; by 2005 only 3.9 percent was so employed, compared with 30.6 percent in industry and 65.4 percent in the service sector. (...) was accompanied by massive movements of people from rural areas to cities – from southern Italy to northern Europe. These migrations had far-reaching implications for the Italian economy and society. (...)” (Hancock et al., 2014: 326). Nowadays this triangle is still important, many people are commuting from Liguria to Milan and Turin. Especially the Jung generation is moving to those cities for work or university. So those three cities are the main driving forces.

Until today the region Liguria represents with the port of Genova (Genoa) also the European gateway between European North and the Far Eastern countries, export and import towards Italian main economic centres (Milan, Turin) and towards the rest of Europe. “(...) Today Genoa ranks as the premier port in Italy in terms of total throughput (over 50 million tons), and amongst the top Mediterranean container gateway ports (approximately 2.1 million teus). Genoa’s proximity to Italy’s major industrial and consumer centres in northern Italy (both Milan and Turin are just 150 km away), as well as to the primary manufacturing centres of Central Europe, such as Bale (Switzerland), Munich (Germany) and Vienna (Austria), make the port an

ideal southern gateway for trade to and from Europe, and the natural hub for Far East trade. (...)” (Port of Genoa [WWW Document], n.d.. FRUIT LOGISTICA. URL: <http://www.virtualmarket.fruitlogistica.de/de/Port-of-Genoa,p1438352> (accessed 10.22.17).).

“Almost contemporaneously the Ligurian Riviera was established as a touristic destination for the elite that increased the presence of foreign travellers, supplanted only in the period after the second World War by the plundering tourism of second houses, anticipating a phenomenon that will bring destruction to many Italian coasts. (...)” (Bisio et al., 2004: 27). The prevailing landscape is a cultural landscape with a key role in this region, it is formed by the typical stone terraces which make it fertile and which prevent it from huge hydrological disasters. But in the recent 20 years this region is shrinking in its population, which means landscape abandonment and hydrological instability that arises the social costs for the whole region.

After World War II Italy had a huge industrialization period and a connected economic growth (“Materiali Uval” from Issue31 2014:14). This phenomenon was taking place in all kind of towns, independently from its size or location and it happened on different levels of intensity. It was a territorial model of “widespread polarization” (“Materiali Uval” from Issue31 2014:14). A poly-centric organisation started and a scattered landscape with minor towns and complicated history of economic and demographic decline started.

1980 a vast de-population started in Italian regions and since 1970 negative population growth has been registered, where the region Liguria with -15,3% shows the worst record within the Italian regions as the Public Investment Evaluation Unit (UVAL) and UVER reported 2014 (“Materiali Uval” from Issue31 2014:19). A large part of Italy remained unused with a large amount of territorial capital. In Liguria residual spaces of agrarian and industrial economies – leftovers from the booming economy that Italy had after World War II, can be found. They are empty and are derelicts imbedded in the landscape. Italian planning system gave more attention to the macro scale and the growth itself, so towns on a smaller scale, within not growing regions or territories were left beside and territorial degeneration

took place, a decline in its citizenship and an aging population. Although de-industrialization a new territorial competitiveness arises especially in the sector of tourism. That leads towards a main development at the coastal towns. They offer space for this client and its related industry. Liguria as a coastal region does the same but it has only narrow space between the mountains and the Mediterranean Sea. The coast is quickly overloaded with its different functions. Sprawl into the countryside with new, dispersed settlements occur, which covers the hills towards the mountains like a carpet, a tissue. “(...) The irrational consumption of soil deletes the identity value of a place, creating hybrid and undefined suburban spaces, full of unexpressed potentialities but empty of content, which need to be reinvented and reorganised to become one of our land resources and not a problem. (...)” (Tucci, Giorgia, Mediterranean Landscapes In: Territories. Rural-urban strategies 2017: 227). Where are the old villages standing in relation to the mentioned current development?

Annotation to Fig.24:

1. Past: Mutual exchange of materials and products between coastal cities and the countryside towns. Interdependency. Moreover people from different regions were helping each other in harvesting time.

2. Present: One direction of interaction. Direction towards the coast. Most economic axis is on the coastline itself. Towns of the countryside are competing with each other for European funds and new strategic development to attract more inhabitants, tourists and economic growth.

3. Possible future, scenarios:

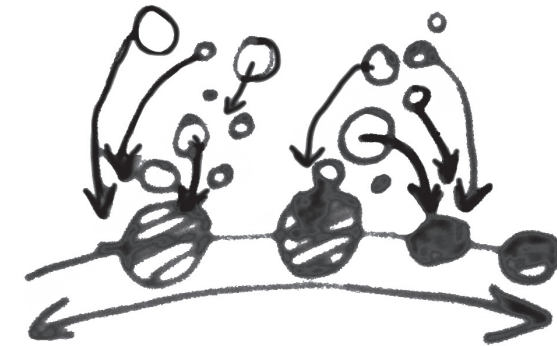
Szenario 1: independent network of villages that support each other and create together a sustainable growth and which are the other extreme of growth and of the coast development.

Szenario 2: exchange of networks and flows between coast and villages. More complex and more interdependent from each other. Developing the region coming from the countryside and its valleys as territorial unit.

1. Past



2. Present



3. Possible future

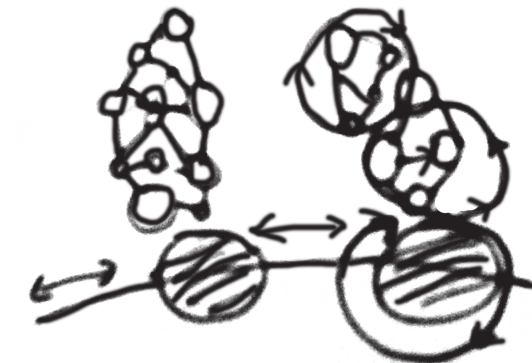


Fig.28: Source: authors interpretation

Movement of goods and people, first understanding and observation.

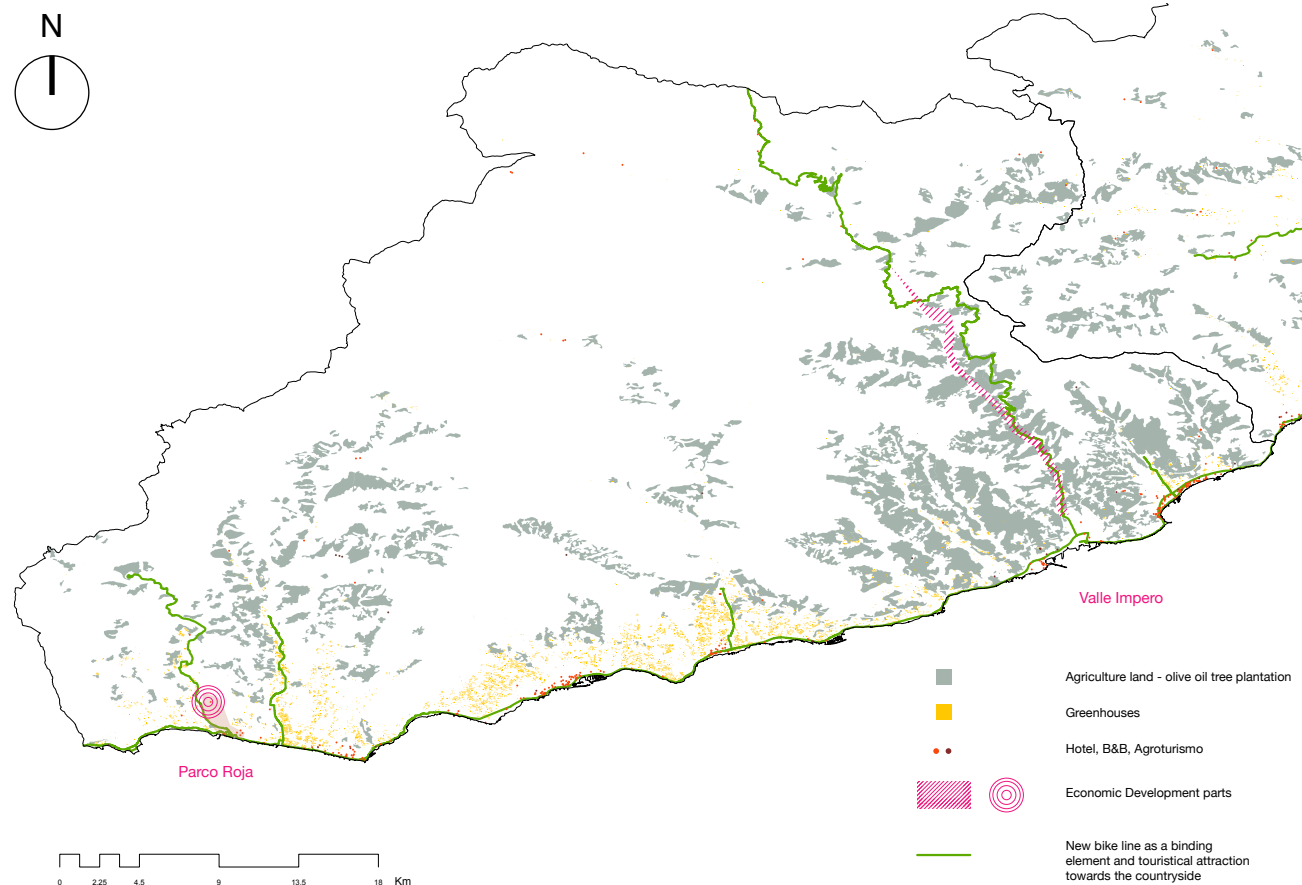


Fig.29: Source: by author with data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 02.10.17).

In the province of Imperia there are two main economic focus points, the Parco Roja which is near to the border to France and the valley Impero which is the provincial connection towards Turin. The new Parco Roja, a small economic centre, will be established on a historical railway property, which was never in usage (mayor of Ventimiglia). And within the valley of the river Prino, where, as the director of confindustria told, will be established a high-tech IT main centre. (Fig.28).

Moreover, the province sees the future planned bike lines as a opportunity for a new economic development and as a touristic attraction.

Interview answers:

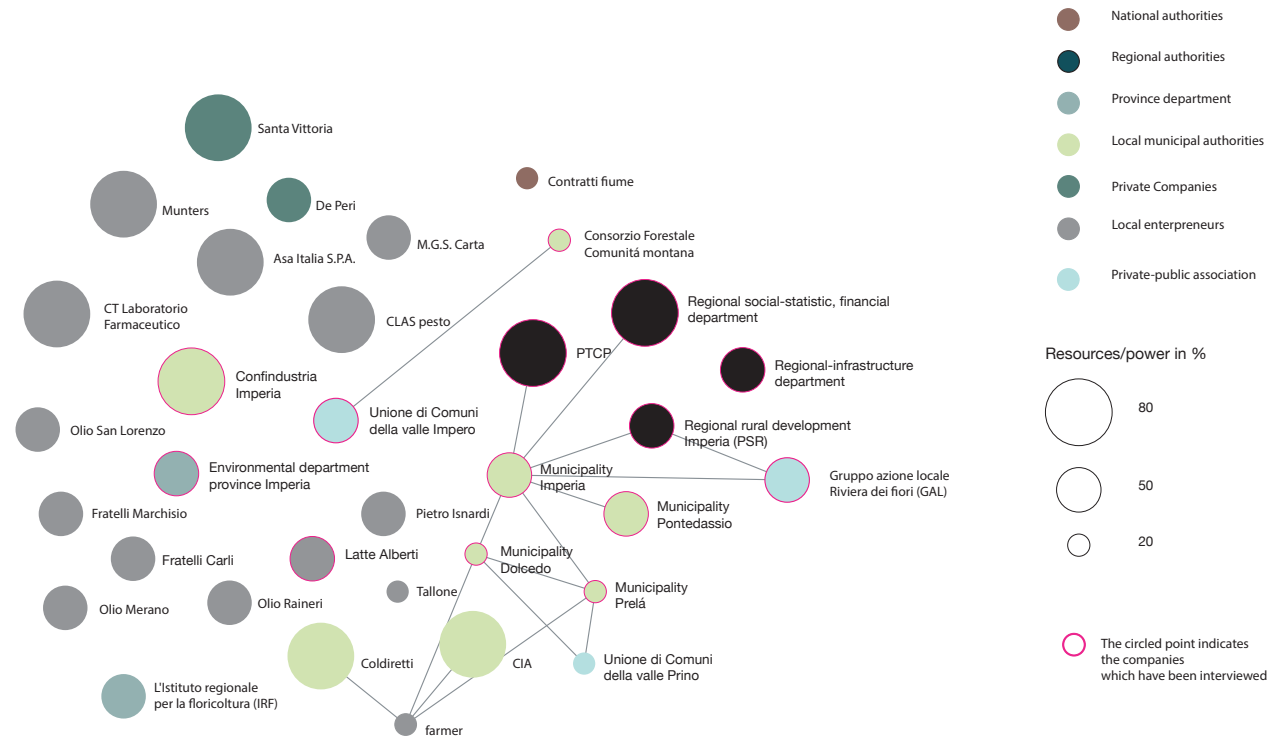
“(...) There is no specialisation and valorization(...)” (Director of confindustria Imperia)

“The utility comes from the service. They (entrepreneurs, inhabitants etc.[sic!]) should learn that utility comes from the service and not the other way around.” (Director of confindustria Imperia)

“We need more specialized labor.” (Director of confindustria Imperia)

“Big industries have taken the values from outside of the province, they have not focused on the product itself which starts from the raw material of the countryside.” (Director of confindustria Imperia)

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS



PTCP= Pianificazione Territoriale urbanistico regionale

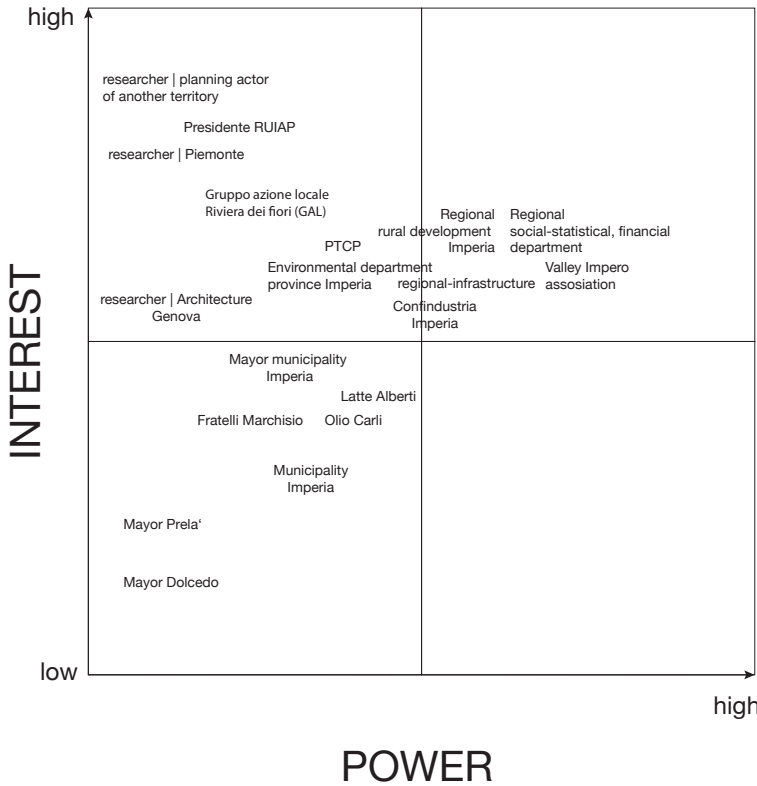
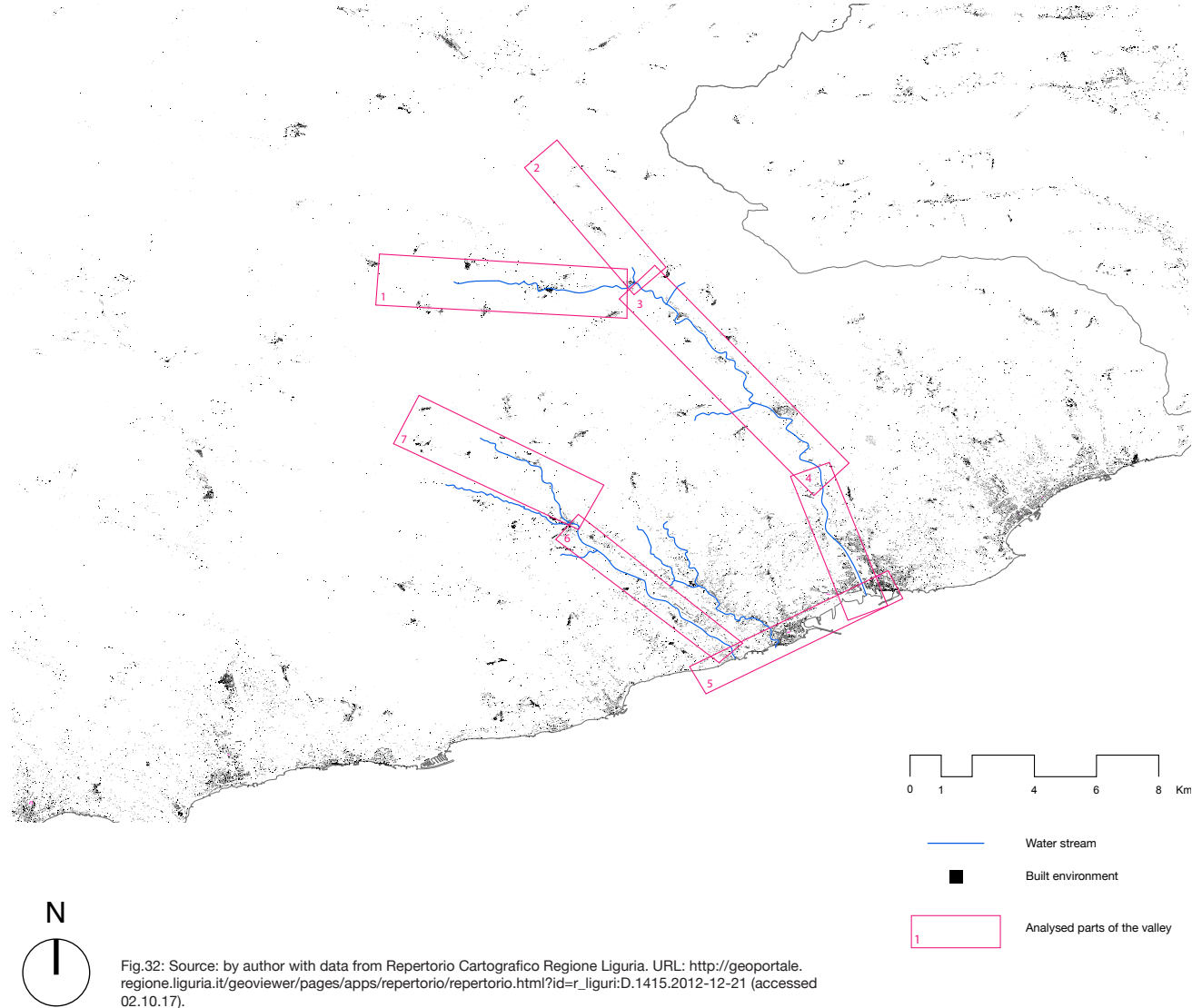


Fig.30: Source: by author
Fig.31: Source: by author



INDUSTRIES AND STAKEHOLDER OF THE VALLEYS

The following maps are analysis the economic activity of the chosen valleys. The analysis is done by defined numbered sections (total 7), which Fig. 26 on the previous page shows. The reason is the readability and the better understanding.

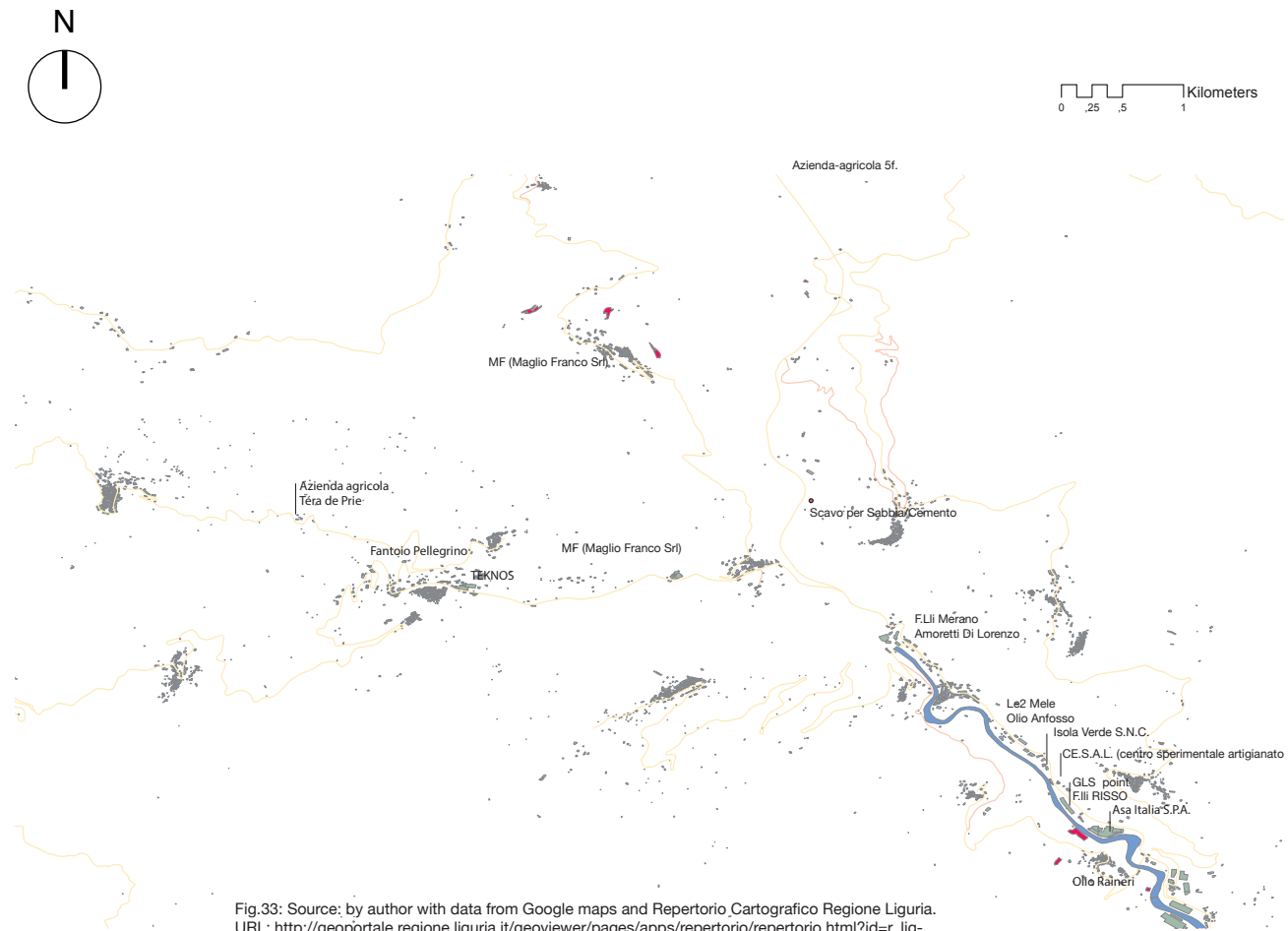
Conclusion:

One can see that there is a difference between the valley Impero and the valley Prino. The valley Prino has more olive oil and flower production based industries whereas the valley Impero has more mechanical, food manufacturing industries and construction based quarries. We can also find quite international companies like Munters S.P.A. or CLASpesto which export products mainly. The other companies are mostly traditional companies from the place itself and are strongly connected to the place, but to compete they really need to specialize and to make sure they attach their products to the location - place.

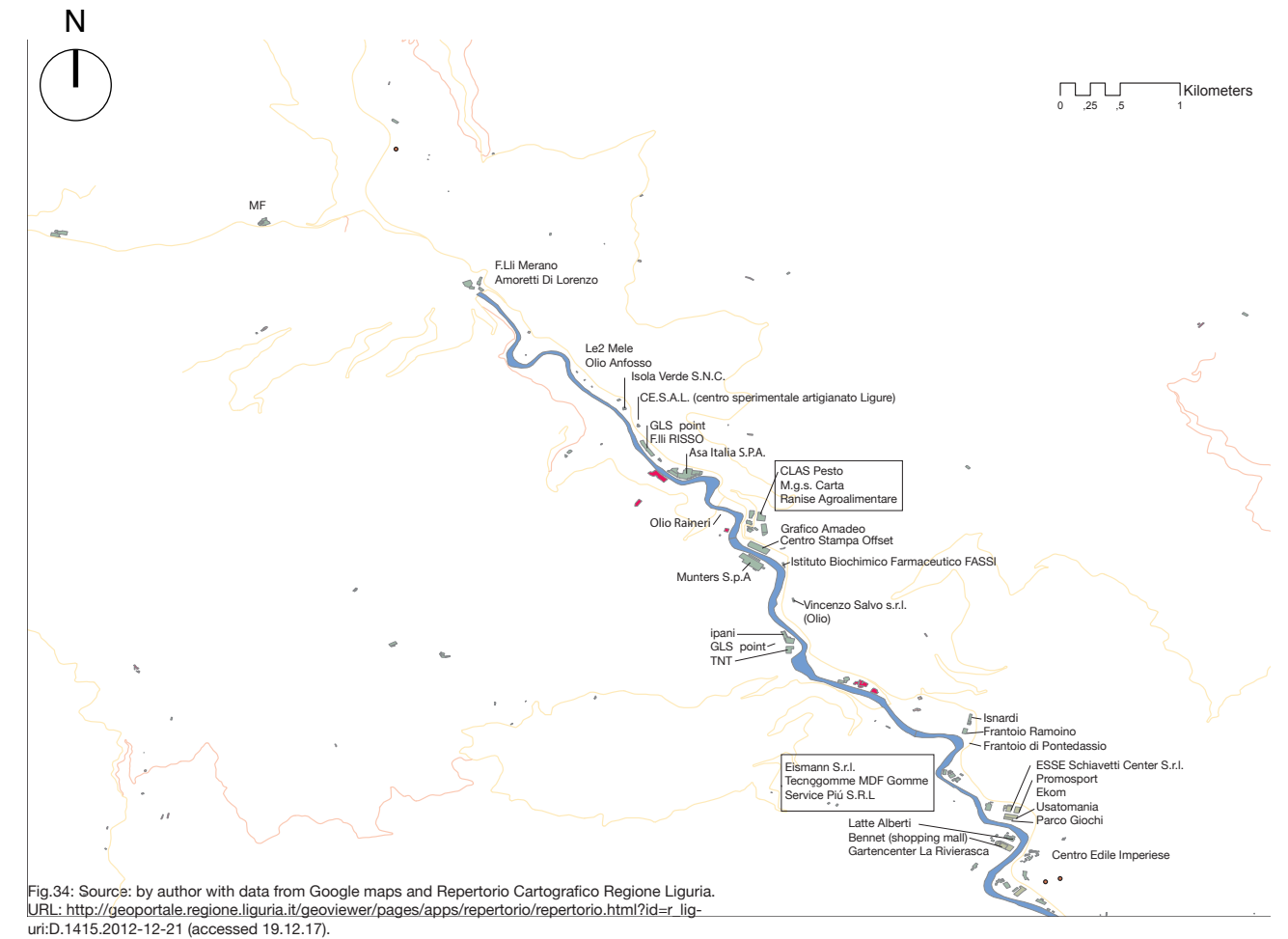
Legend for the upcoming maps:

- abundant quarry
- spontaneous renaturalisation of an abundant quarry
- reused quarry for industrial purposes
- reused quarry for residential purposes
- water stream
- abandoned rail track
- disused rail track
- funicular
- current rail line
- highway
- non-qualified extra-urban road
- main extraurban road
- secondary suburban road
- urban neighbourhood road
- not qualified road
- Rail transport services - railway passenger station
- Industry
- Greenhouse

PART 1 AND PART 2



PART 3



PART 4

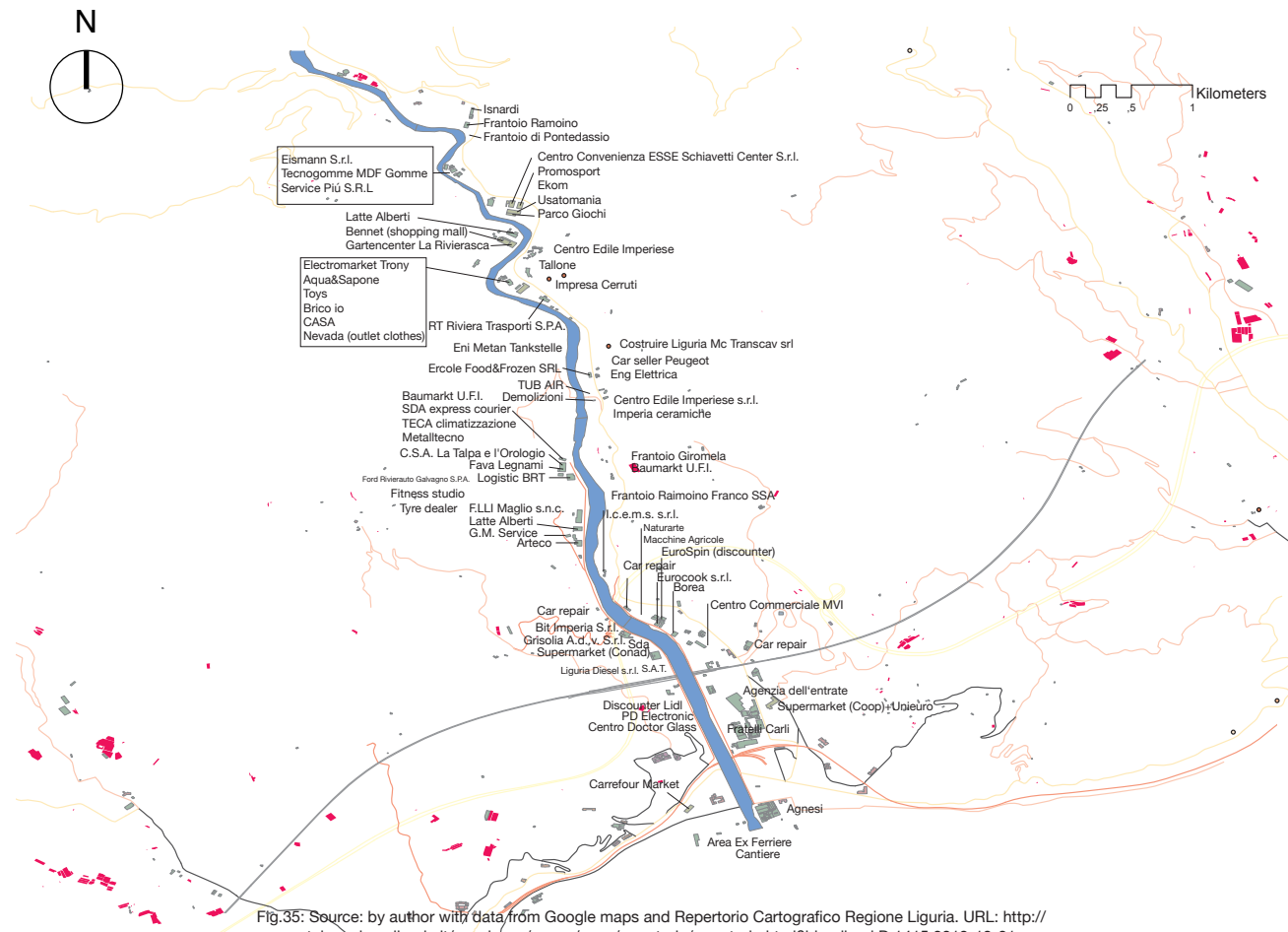


Fig.35: Source: by author with data from Google maps and Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 20.12.17).

PART 5

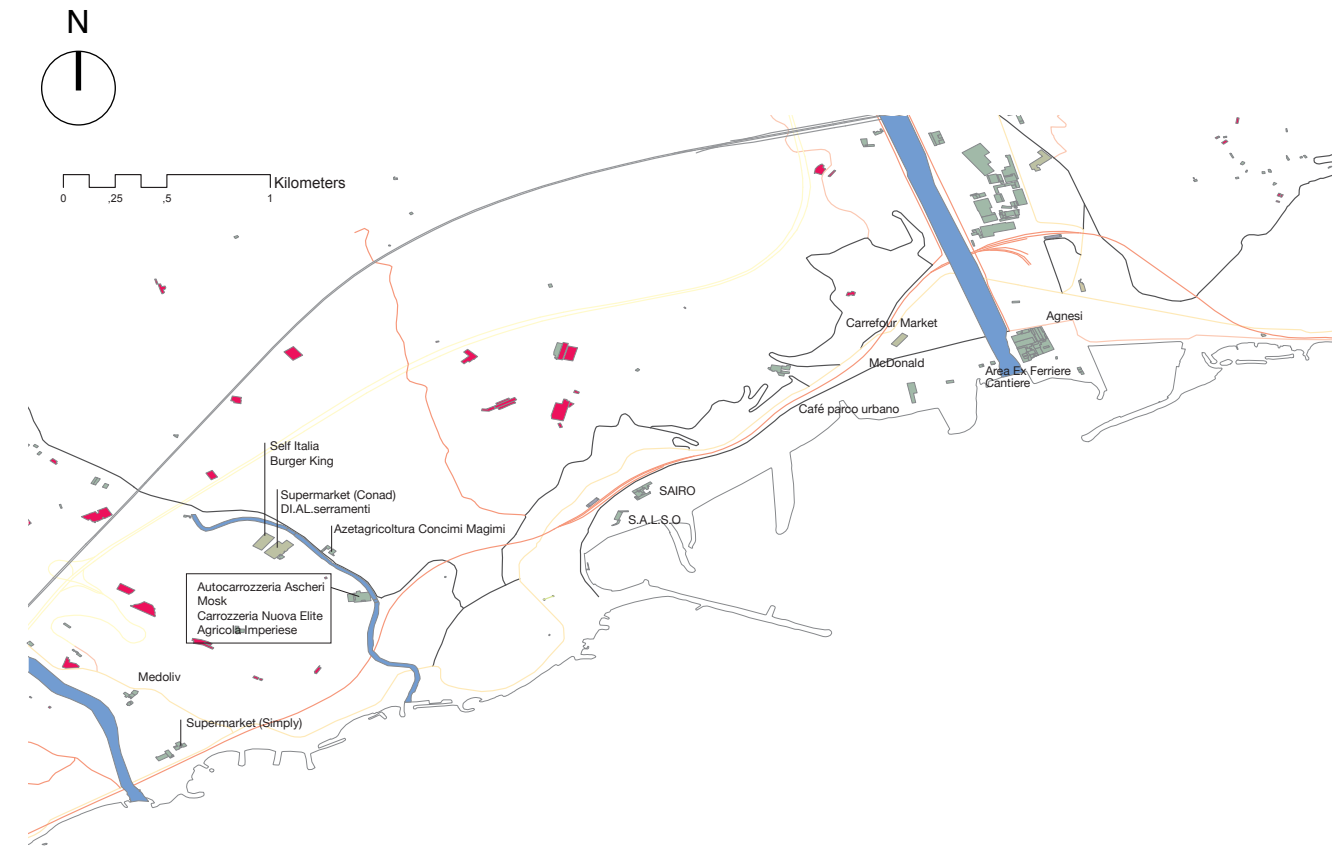


Fig.36: Source: by author with data from Google maps and Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 20.12.17).

PART 6

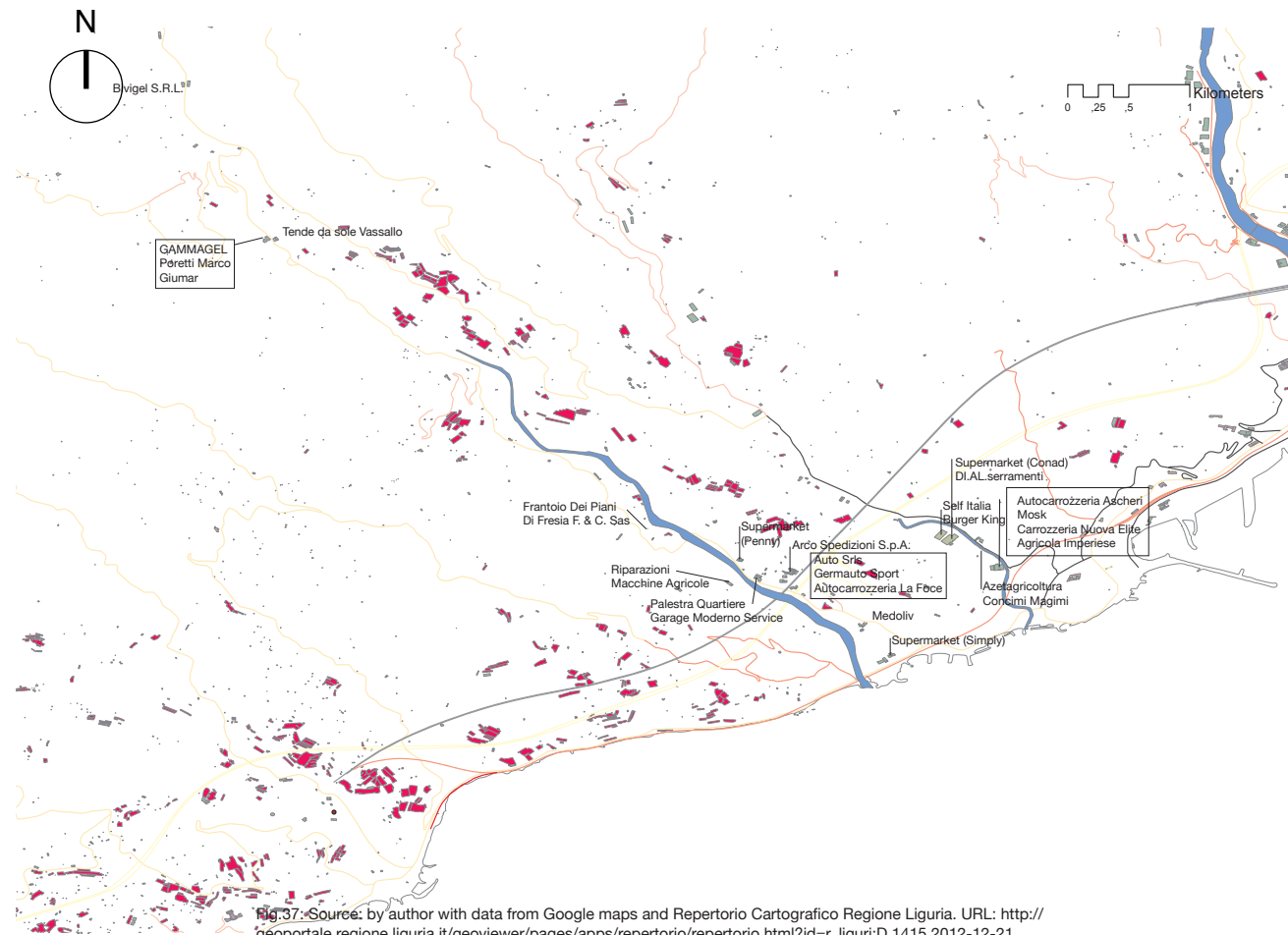


Fig.37: Source: by author with data from Google maps and Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 21.12.17).

PART 7

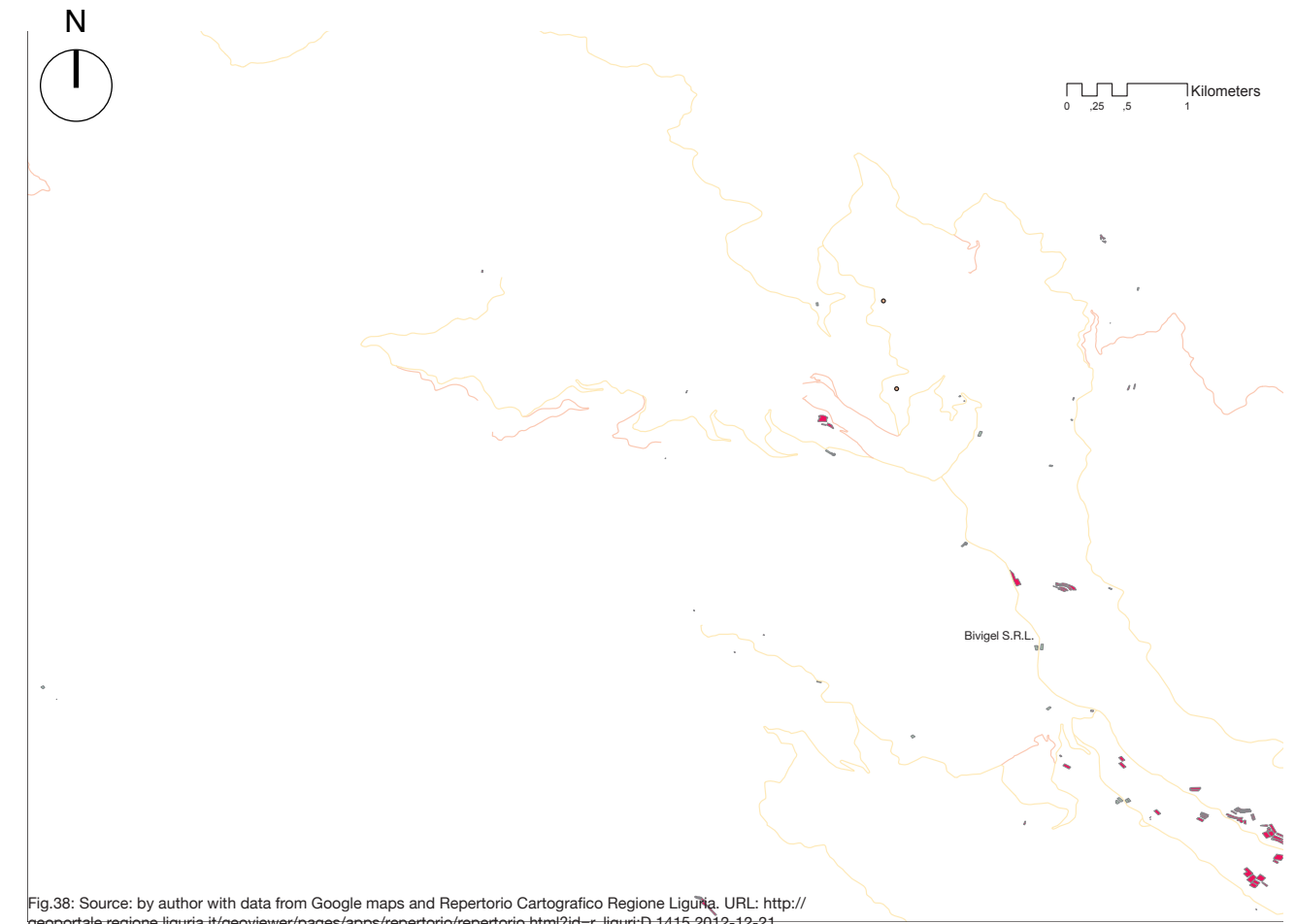


Fig.38: Source: by author with data from Google maps and Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 21.12.17).

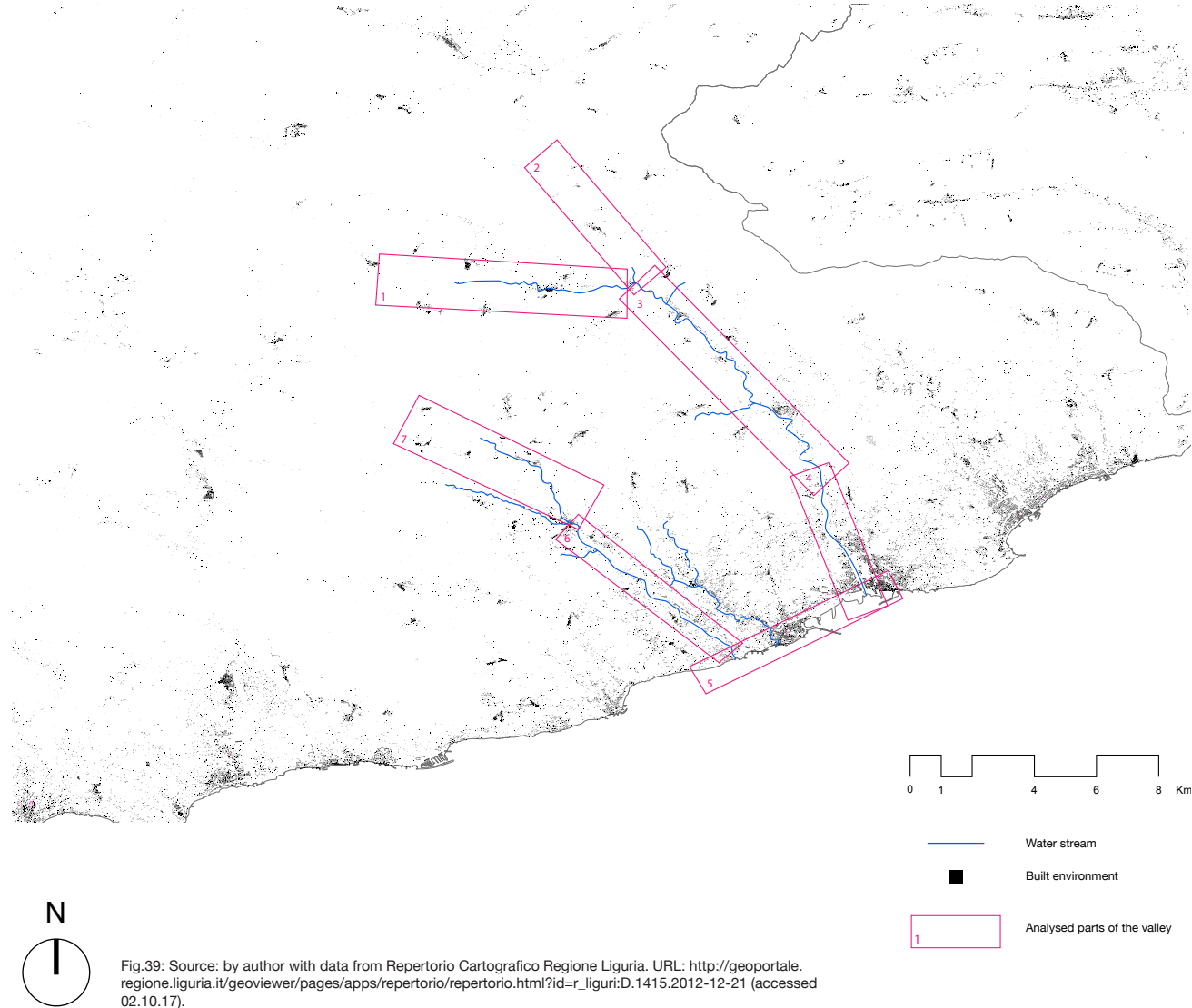


Fig.39: Source: by author with data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 02.10.17).

ENVIRONMENT

The following maps are showing the different vegetation species of the chosen valleys. The analysis is done by defined numbered sections (total 7), which Fig. 33 on the previous page shows. The reason is the readability and the better understanding.

PART 1

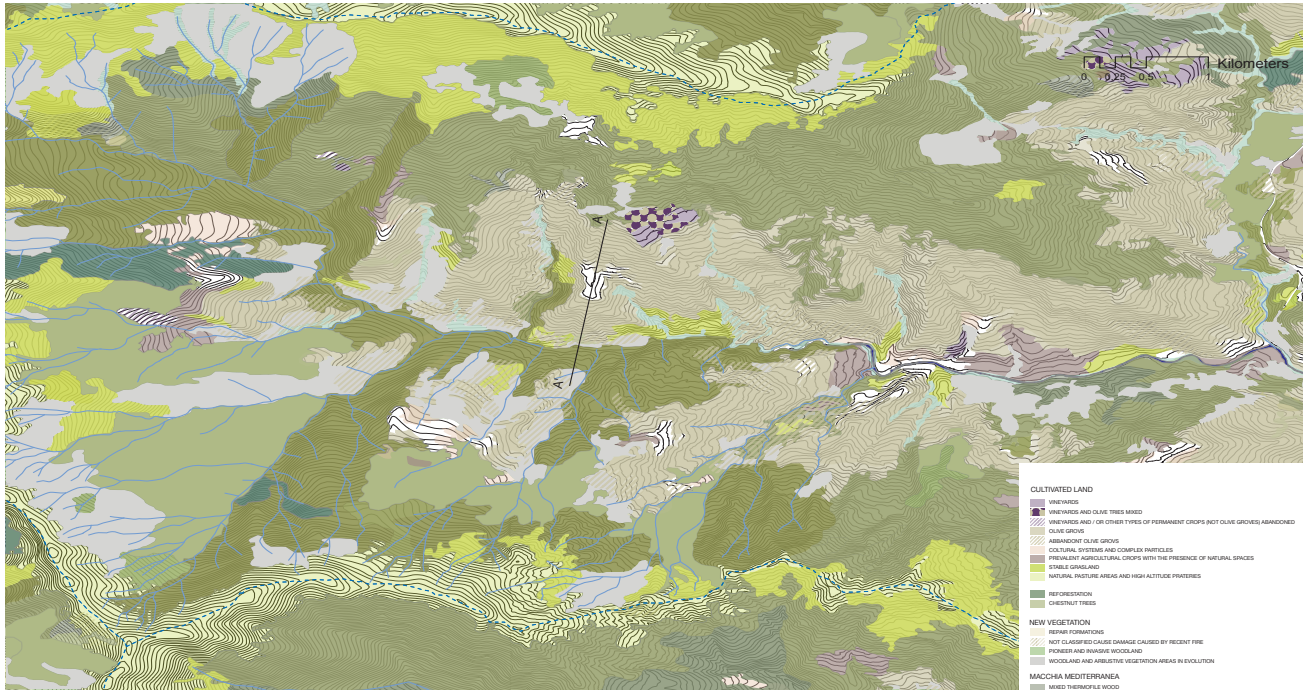
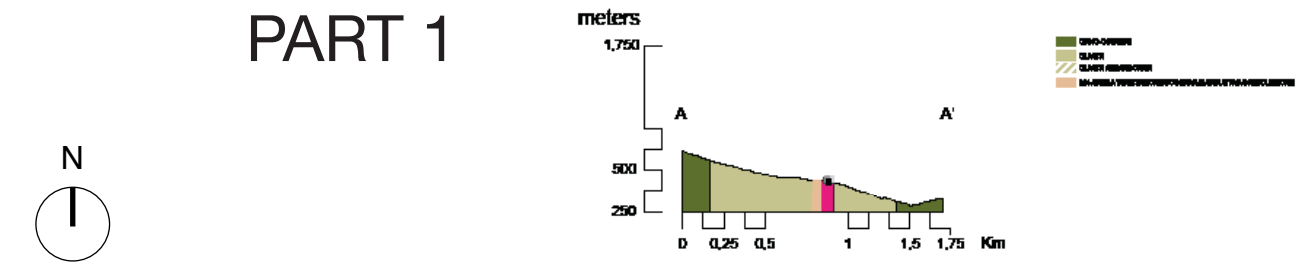


Fig.40: Source: by author with data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 19.12.17).

PART 2

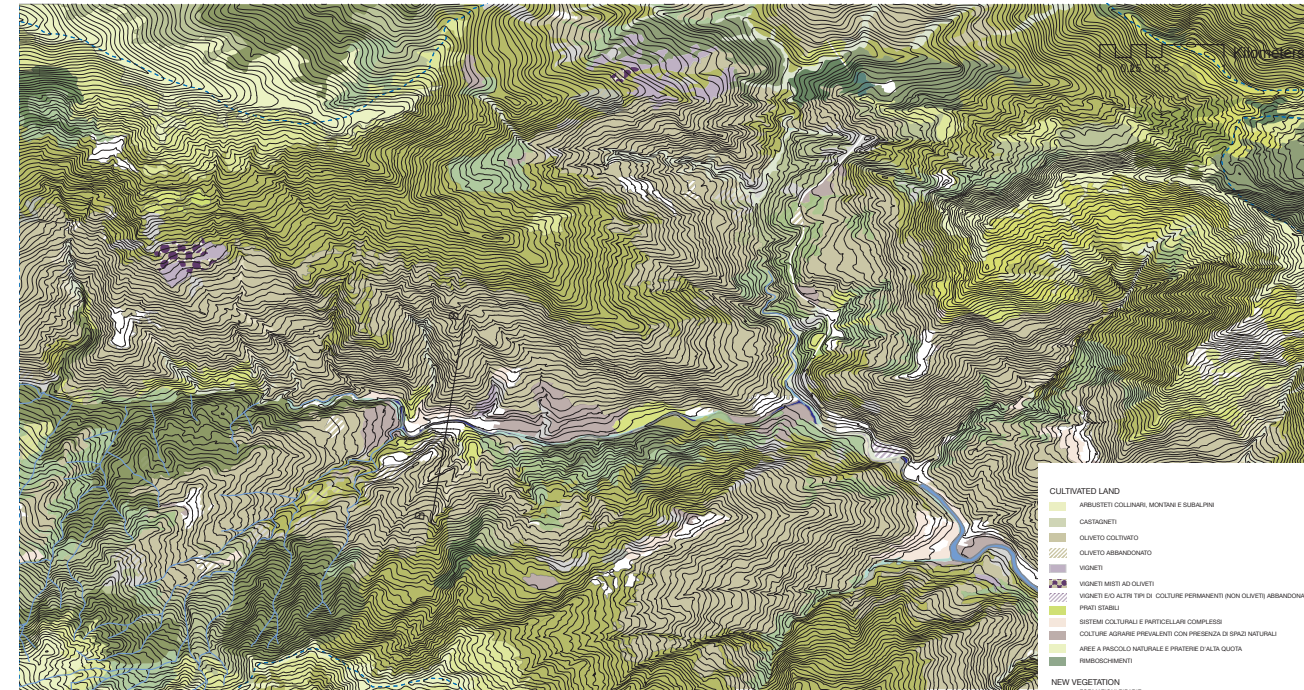
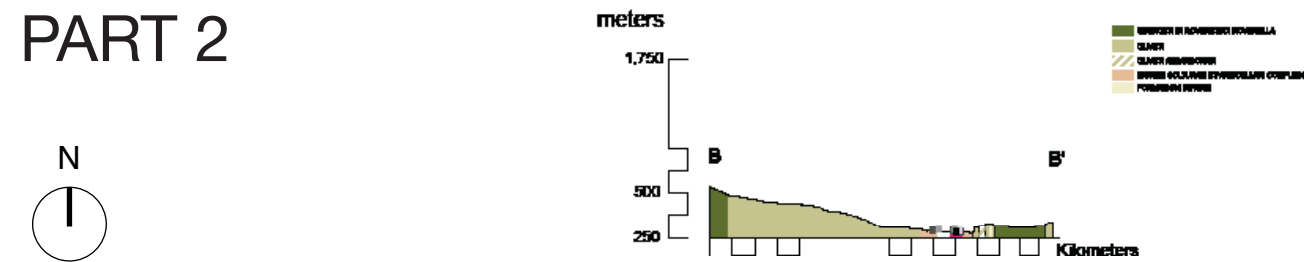


Fig.41: Source: by author with data from Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 19.12.17).

PART 3

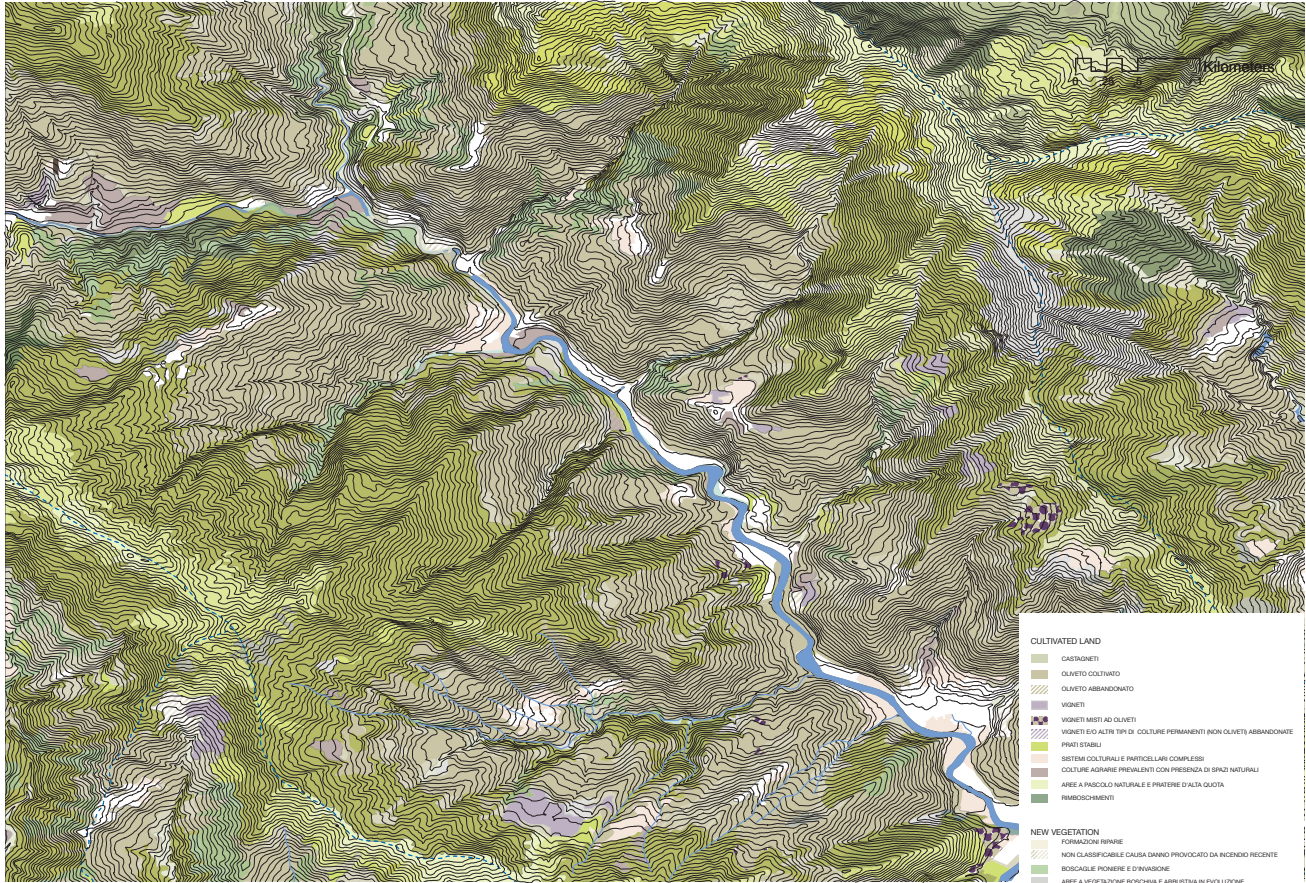


Fig.42: Source: by author with data from Google maps and Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_lig-uri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 20.12.17).

PART 4

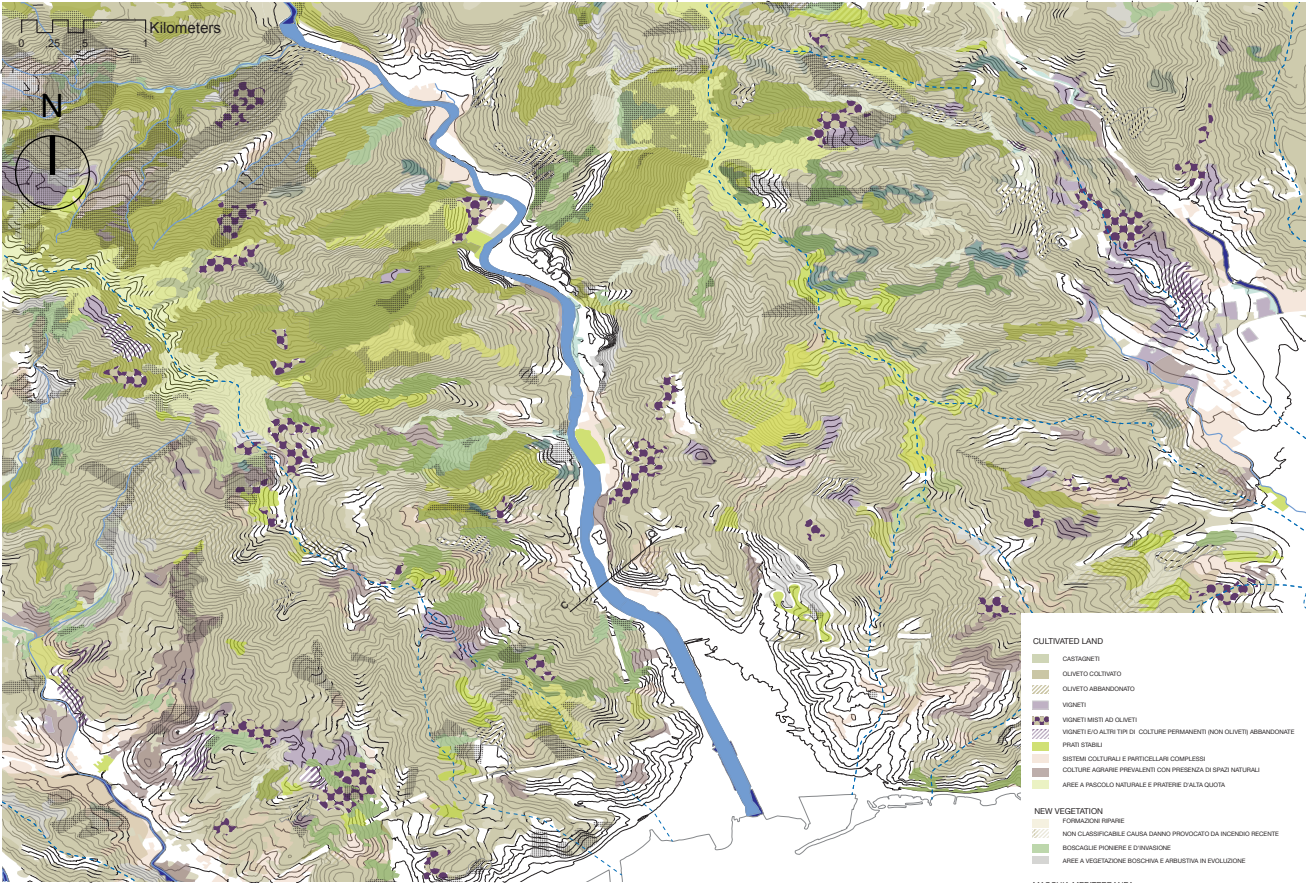


Fig.43: Source: by author with data from Google maps and Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 20.12.17).

PART 5 - BETWEEN ONEGLIA AND PORTO MAURIZIO

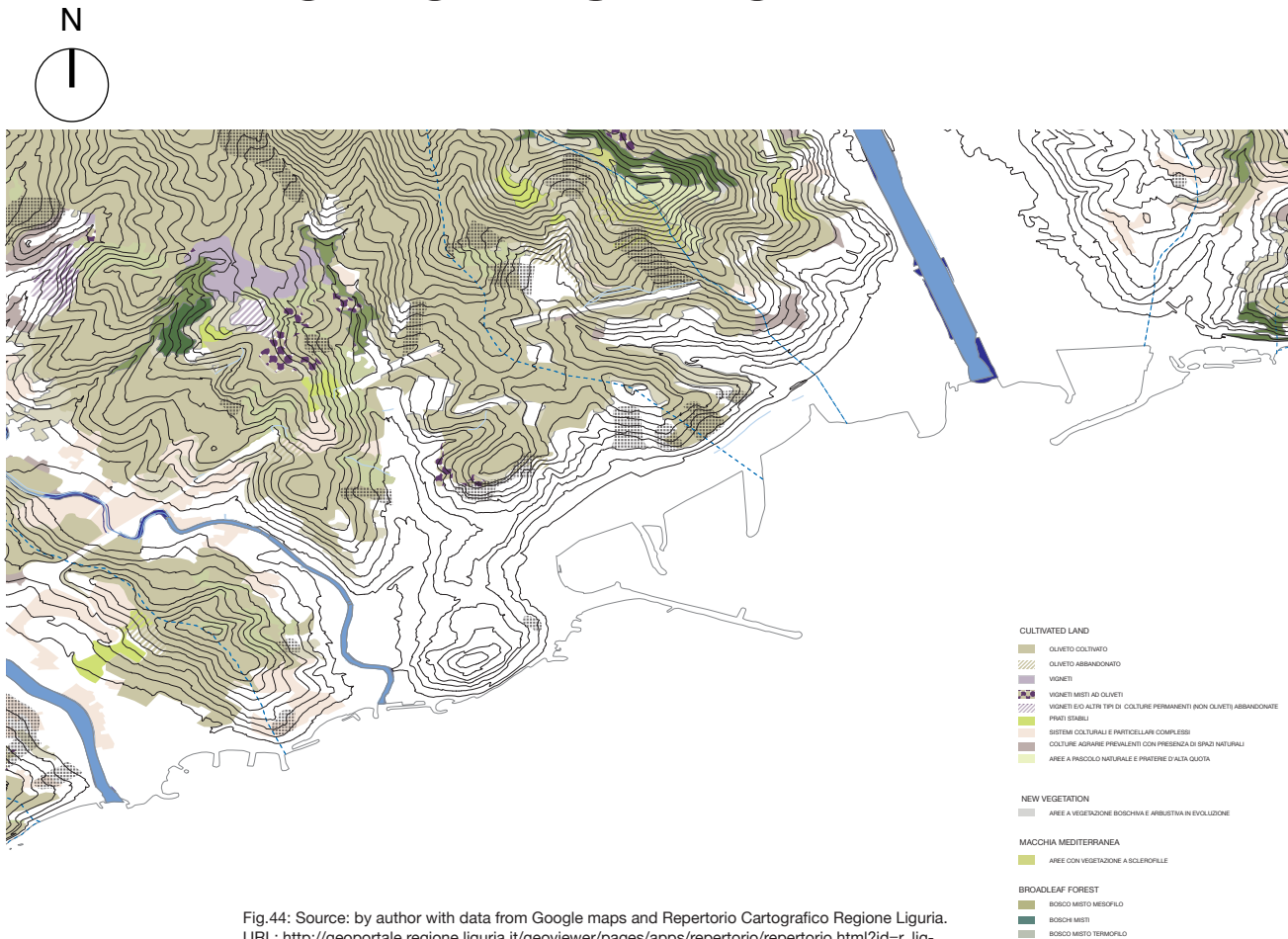


Fig.44: Source: by author with data from Google maps and Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_lig-uri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 21.12.17).

PART 6

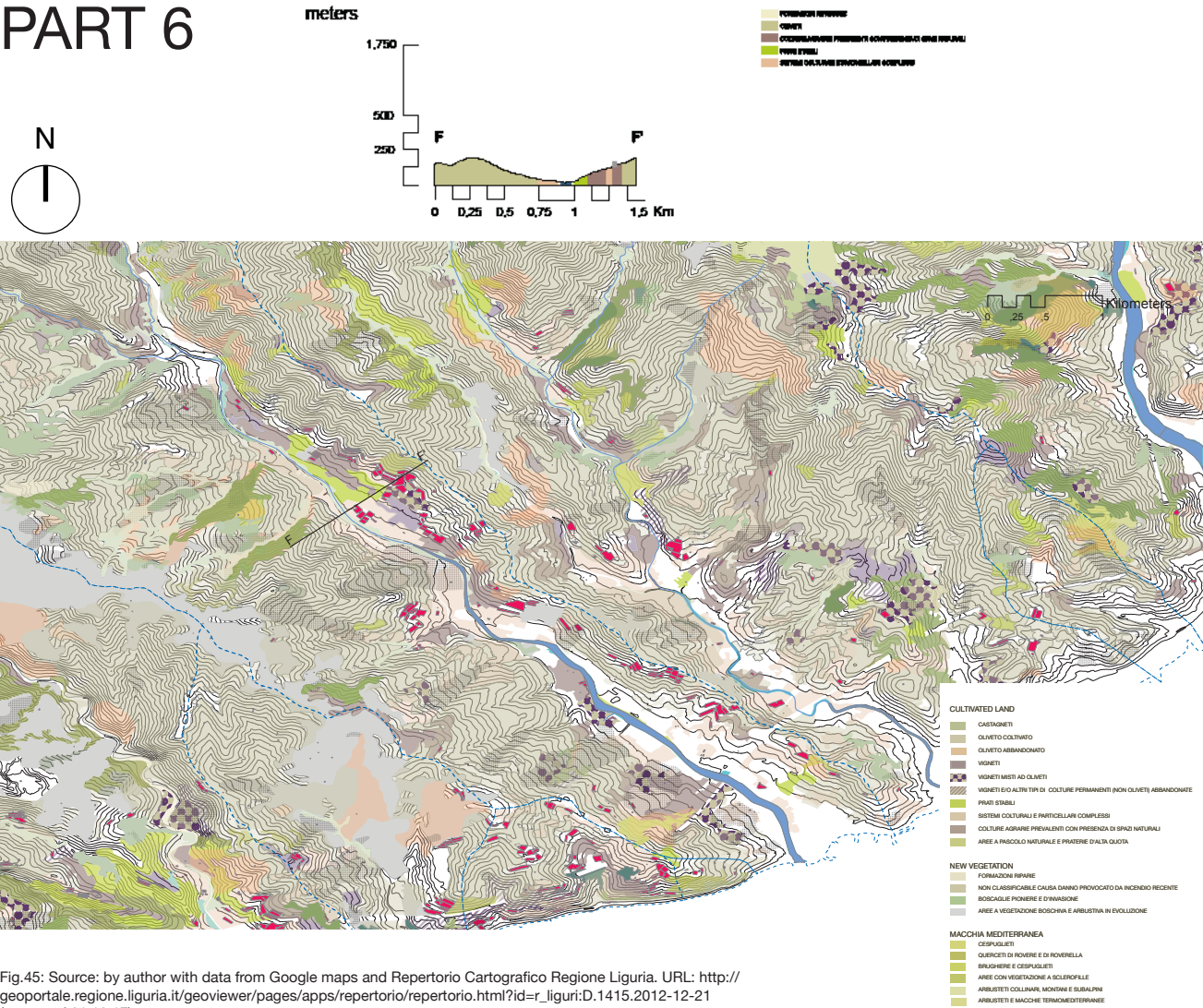


Fig.45: Source: by author with data from Google maps and Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria. URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_liguri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 21.12.17).

PART 7

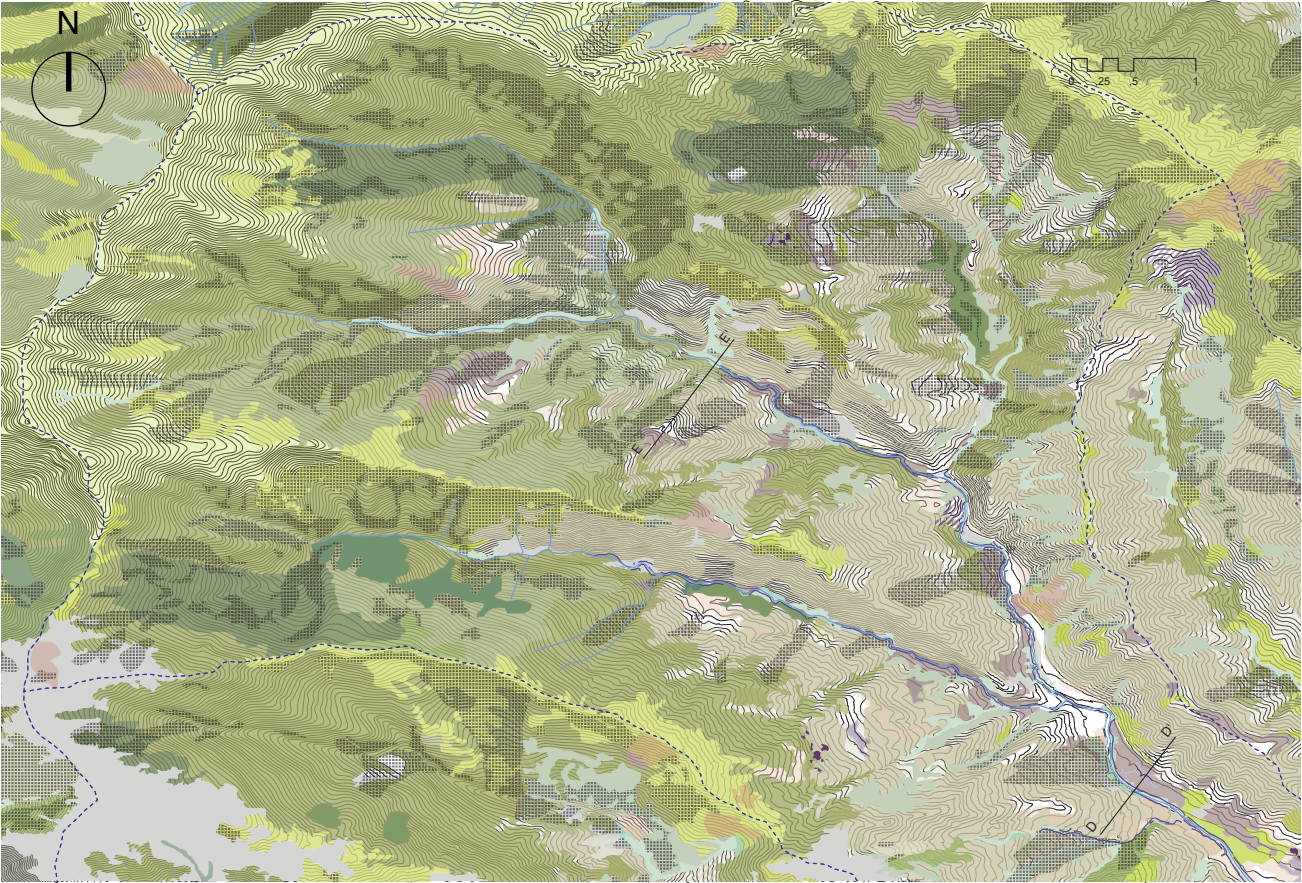
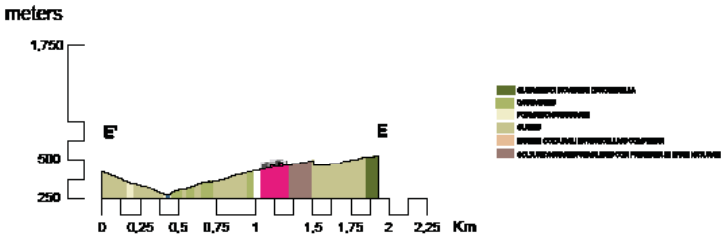
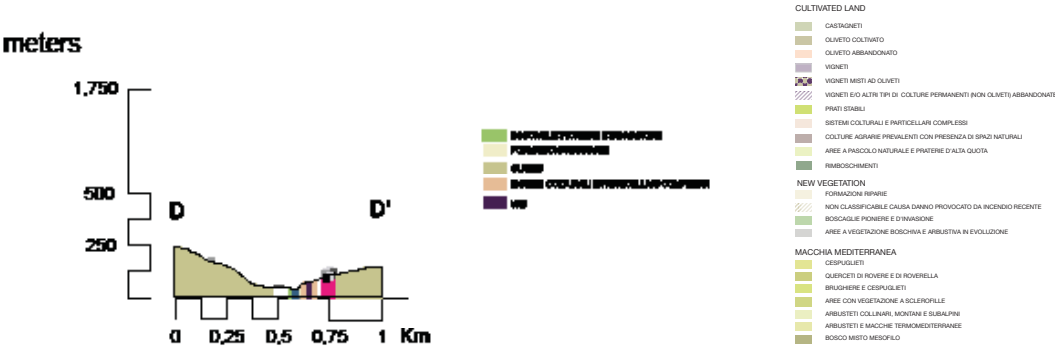


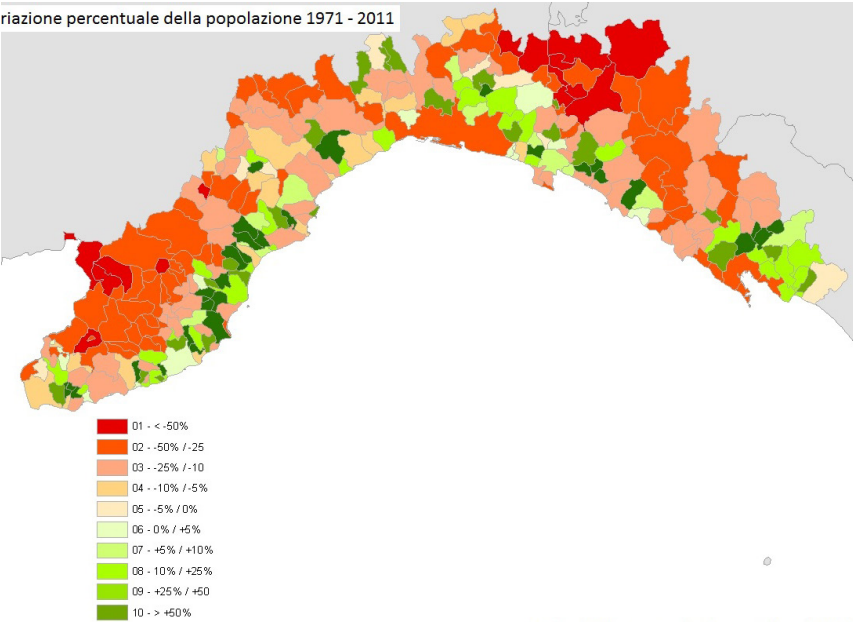
Fig.46: Source: by author with data from Google maps and Repertorio Cartografico Regione Liguria.
URL: http://geoportale.regione.liguria.it/geoviewer/pages/apps/repertorio/repertorio.html?id=r_lig-uri:D.1415.2012-12-21 (accessed 20.12.17).

CONCLUSION

The vegetation of this two valleys can be described as following:
The cultivated agrarian land is found mostly near to the settlements. They are than followed by the olive groves which are on the southern slopes until around 600m above sea level. The river basins are mostly by reeds plants and spontaneous vegetation.
The northern slopes are mostly covered by overgrown wood land which are often chestnut trees (*Castanea sativa*) mixed with beechewood land (*Fagus sylvatica*). More on the hill the typical ‘macchia Mediterranean’ follows. This macchia is also mostly on the southern and aride slopes. High natural pasture areas and altitude prateries we find on the hill, those are sparsely used from shepherds for their animals and where this is abandoned or not used as pasture land, the macchia takes over.



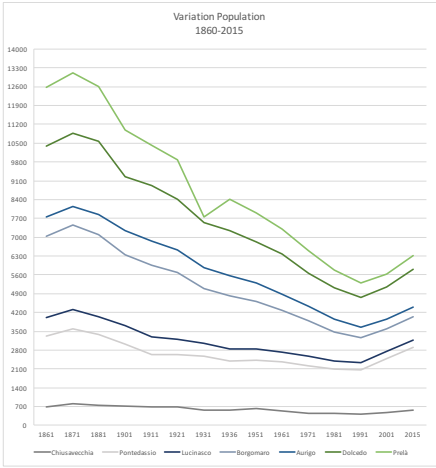
THE SOCIETY



Fonte: ISTAT - Censimenti della popolazione 1971 - 2

Fig.47: Source: Mappe e tabelle relative alla classificazione Aree Interne 2012. Retrieved from: http://www.agenziacoesione.gov.it/it/arint/Cosa_sono/t/; retrieved 29.09.2017

Fig.48: Population development of the different municipalities of the two valleys in the province of Imperia from 1861 to 2015. Source: made by author from Data of Comuni Italiani. URL: <http://www.comuni-italiani.it/008/012/statistiche/popolazione.html>, retrieved 20.12.2017



DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS/PROVINCE - YEAR 2013
(SOURCE: DATI ISTAT.IT)

	IMPERIA	SAVONA	GENOVA	LA SPEZIA	TOTAL
TOTAL MIGRATION RATE (per 1000 inhabitants)	21.8	18	26.3	23.1	23.8
NATURAL BALANCE (per 1000 inhabitants)	-6	-7.4	-6.8	-6.5	-6.8
GROWTH RATE (per 1000 inhabitants)	15.8	10.5	19.5	16.6	17
TOTAL FERTILITY RATE - TFR	1.35	1.32	1.34	1.36	1.34
AGING INDEX (% values) 1st January	232.6	242.6	238.7	236	238.2

Fig.49: Source: made by author Data from Source: dati ISTAT.IT

Table III.2 - Demographic trends in the Inner Areas within Regions

Population variation – percentage difference 1971 – 2011						
	Inter-municipal					
	Hub	Hub	Outlying	Intermediate	Peripheral	Ultra peripheral
Piedmont	-18	19.3	18.5	-2.5	-27.6	-41
Valle d'Aosta	-7.6	-	46.3	7	18.1	-
Lombardy	-17.1	10.3	39.4	8.2	4.5	-1.4
Trentino Alto Adige	9.7	-	42.4	24.3	15.9	13.9
Veneto	-7.7	31.2	38.6	15.9	11.3	-33.3
Friuli Venezia Giulia	-13.7	-	19.4	-5	-35.5	-
Liguria	-24.9	-5.8	4.3	-1	-41.4	-34.3
Emilia Romagna	-0.2	24.5	35.5	14.9	-8.5	-52
Tuscany	-4.3	15.6	24	-1	-15.6	6.6
Umbria	13.3	9.5	32.1	7.9	5.2	-
Marches	5.9	15.2	37	-2.3	-7.5	-
Lazio	-1	36.2	67.7	59.1	11.2	-27.4
Abruzzo	6.9	42.5	42.5	-2.5	-23.9	-42.8
Molise	44.8	-	17.1	-18.3	-34.7	-46.9
Campania	-10.6	38.3	45	3.7	-16.6	10.5
Apulia	3.1	15.3	26.7	17	-1.5	-9.5
Basilicata	25.2	-	57.6	1.9	-10.1	-22.1
Calabria	2.5	8.6	17.2	-1.7	-18.2	-10.6
Sicily	-2.7	5.6	63.2	7.3	-8.1	-21.1
Sardinia	-10.9	-	81.5	11.3	-4.5	13.9
North West	-18.7	9.1	31.4	2.9	-4.6	-4.8
North East	-4	26.1	35.2	15	2.1	2.6
Central	-0.5	20.8	37.4	29.3	-1.8	5.1
South	-1.6	33.2	35.9	5.1	-14.9	-10.5
Islands	-4.3	5.6	67.7	8.1	-7.1	-1.7
Italy	-6.8	22.7	35.8	11.6	-8.1	-5.3

Source: ISTAT data processed by UVAL-UVER – Population census 1971 and 2011

Fig.50: source: UVAL Issue 31, Aree interne. A strategy for inner areas in Italy: Definition, objectives, tools and governance 2014: 27.



Fig.51: source: author

INTERVIEWS:

“(…) Farmers are mostly retired people who are doing it as hobby, as their second money font, income.” (Albertina and Dario, 53 years old, self-employed, Tavole).

“Village was like a big family.” (Mauro 65 years old, former employee of Municipality Prelá).

“In difficult times everyone helped each other without judging. Now everyone is more individualist.” (Mauro 65 years old, former employee of Municipality Prelá).

“The silence here in the village or on the countryside is an element. People do not know the silence anymore. Silence is associated with loneliness.” (Albertina and Dario, 53 years old, self-employed, Tavole).

“Once the community stood on a social dependency.” (Albertina and Dario, 53 years old, self-employed, Tavole).

“Having ground in the countryside was a richness, people were in a state of wellbeing if they had ground.” (Mayor Municipality Dolcedo).

“Most of the people here work for the public service or facilities.”(Albertina and Dario, 53 years old, self-employed, Tavole).

PROBLEM ANALYSIS CONCLUSION

Liguria has the highest population decline with -15.3% between 1971 and 2011 of the whole inner areas of Italy, especially the peripheral areas suffered with -41.4% the most as UVAL-UVER processed from ISTAT (see Table III.2 from: UVAL Issue 31 2014: 27), which could be the response of the de-industrialization process that occurred in this region. High population change and restructuration especially in the countryside took place. In the countryside are some areas which can be notated with a negative population exchange (ISTAT 2012), which means that depopulation took place. Moreover, the province Imperia has in Liguria the lowest (817,000 people) occupation rate but the highest rate of occupation in agriculture with 63,000. Disoccupation rate is with 13,8% in 2014 the highest disoccupation rate within Liguria (L'agricoltura nella Liguria in cifre. CREA 2014:18).

Moreover, one can see that with the climate change problems like huge dry summers where summer fires and water problems are the consequent are taking place since the last years as well as high precipitations which affects huge landslides and damages, especially in the space where recent abandonment of agriculture land took place. The mantainance of the tipical agricultural terrasses stabilise and reduce the speed of water from precipitations and retains water from flooding down the hill and gives fertility back to the land. Without the maintenance, these terraces are collapsing and giving space for erosion and because of the steepness of the slopes (until 2000 m above sea level) they are becoming a hazard for the coast as described in the research of Brancucci and Paliaga 2006. “(...) The abandonment of terraced agricultural areas results in a new interference with the geomorphic system: the lack of maintenance of a man-altered landscape implies the geomorphic system to gain the control back by means of erosion processes that cause land degradation. The final result is the increase of the geomorphic hazard with diffuse problems of instability and the raise of the solid transport in the rivers. In areas like Liguria territory this problem assumes a particular importance

because of the strong and direct linkage between the hinterland and the coastline that is hardly urbanised. This strong linkage is caused by the peculiar morphology and by the climatic situation of the region. (...)” (Brancucci and Paliaga, 2006: 4). Not only depopulation and agricultural abandonment is a current problem of this region but also old factories and glasshouses are a not yet faced issue.

Moreover, the tourism industry is growing with each year and leads the development of the coastal cities, which became more and more depended from this economic sector. In the countryside the problem of second houses which causes urban sprawl and at the same time has an impact on land consumption that creates reduction of water permeability as Brancucci and Paliaga mentioned in their research 2006. As one can see in the table (Fig.52) the region Liguria is in

FABBRICATI RESIDENZIALI NUOVI PER REGIONE IN RAPPORTO ALLA SUP. NETTA Permetti di costruire - Anno 2004

REGIONI	ANNO 2004 mc/kmq sup.netta
Lombardia	1276.15
Veneto	1065.24
Lazio	744.90
Emilia-Romagna	713.66
Liguria	685.44
Friuli-V. Giulia	620.92
Campania	599.51
Trentino-A. Adige	526.01
Marche	450.96
Puglia	406.43
Abruzzo	389.53
Toscana	378.38
Piemonte	368.03
Calabria	348.19
Umbria	282.27
Sardegna	267.19
Sicilia	262.57
Molise	204.04
Valle d'Aosta	108.51
Basilicata	106.62

Fig.54: The three elements on which the project base on and the main problems connected to it. Source: by author.

the year 2004 on the fith place with 685,44 cubic metres of cementation per Km² of the net surface of it's new construction of residential buildings. That provokes a huge sealing of the pavemnt and a reduction of space for agriculture land. Moreover, if the new construction of buildings is not regulated it destroyes the compactness of the old structure. Huge infrastructure projects are the main driving development forces of this region which underlines more and more Liguria's role as a territory of transit. A preliminary own observation is furthermore that the villages in the valleys seem to act independently, competing for EU funds on their own. Each valley acts currently independent and the Municipalities are often not cooperating because of different political issues.

HYPOTHESIS

What if we take the valley as a new planning entity to design in the context of shrinkage?

A valley could become a effective way to rethink the current existing urban-rural relation. It may open up a more holistic and more sustainable regional development.

The hypothesis of this project is that the valley can be introduced as a new planning entity, which can guide a more inclusive and successful generation of a region because it binds two forces with its different values together: the countryside with its cultural and social value and the coast with its touristic attraction, economic and higher infrastructural services (Fig. 29). A valley could become a effective way to rethink the current existing urban-rural relation and would relief the coast from its overloaded functionality.

RESEARCH QUESTION:

How can we rethink the role of the valley, as a driver for regional development by maximizing the potentials of depopulation and cultural landscape?

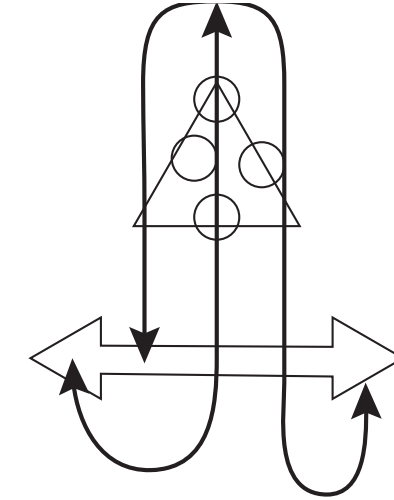
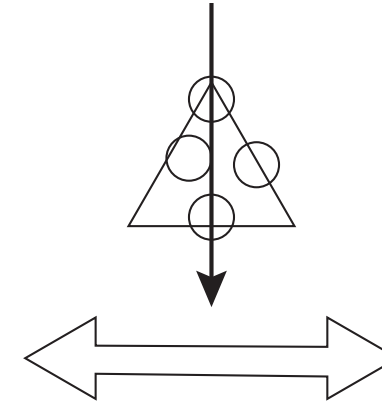


Fig.55: Changing current forces and focusing of the valley. Source: by author.

From a one directed force towards a loop.

METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

As the conclusion of the problem analysis revealed, we are tackling in this region with different problems on every scale. At the centre of this project shrinkage and abandonment and the relationship between the society, the economy and the environment to it. This demands a people and economic centred approach, which engages with the daily life within those complex system and how this works on the different scales. The research connects the different agencies through the valley, an entity that allows to understand especially the flow between the countryside and the urban coastal centres. The entity 'valley' is seen in this thesis as connector, container of different activities and as catalyst for a territorial regeneration. This project and design will be based on following tools and methods to get more into depth and find a solution for the aging society, the water problems and to give back an economic prosperity and social connection to the region.

ArchGIS to find the most vulnerable parts in the region and to find relations and correlations between the urban fabric, the economy, the natural environment, and the society within the two valleys of interest; Furthermore, to make classifications of shrinkage and to different signs of shrinkage. Using **DepthmapX** for the small-scale analysis and the test of my design ideas and model for the municipality scale; As a valley cannot be perceived as a whole, at once, we have to move through it, from the sea to the mountains in the countryside or vice versa. To understand better the relations and the way the landscape is used and perceived I would like to use the method of '**spatial biographies**' which was used from Kate Unsworth (2016). By using spatial biographies one can find a better understanding of the 'genus locus' of the place, it helps also to find values, which than can be connected and can help to formulate new ideas and get better understanding where one as urban planner can intervene the best, where missing links are. Moreover, the relationship between the people's daily life and the landscape, different identities and lifestyles

can support design decisions (Unsworth, 2016: 90f).

Moreover, different kind of **interviews** (32 people) were made: Interviews with stakeholders of the region and Italian planning professionals and with local people of the villages of the two chosen valleys. Interviews help to make the own subjectivity to a more objectivity. To get a better understanding of the relation between economy, society and landscape and to find current and a new development trends; Furthermore, the stories of people gives a better understanding in the values of the place it gives an understanding to what people are attached to and how their subjective view on the territory forms the place. These different actors with their own personalities and background as well as their interest in this region or spatial entity is underpinned by the method of spatial biographies as mentioned above. The narration of different experiences and different lifestyles brings us to a long duration documentation, that are stable and are resistant towards changes, as Daniela Poli (2001: 3) described. Within the **territorial approach** the human activity plays an important role in the analyses of the territory (Daniela Poli, 2001: 3), which underpins the decision of taking interviews and being in a tight relation with the inhabitants and the stakeholders that are acting in those territories.

This contributes also to the approach of the '**narrative landscape**' which can also take the inhabitants as the protagonist of the project and which takes into account a set of stories, which lead to a more objectiveness and brings us to a new configuration of space (Havik et al., 2017:63f). "(...) The unravelling of small-scale narratives is needed not only to detect major issues (...) but to understand the impact in a non-hierarchical way on a daily level (...)" (Havik et al., 2017:67).

'Il modello reticolare' as a new approach in regional planning. Being interconnected and related to other important centres and being able to contribute to this network and interwoven relations makes value of the local identity and treats every centre the same, the hierarchy of centres will disappear or be not anymore, the main categorization as it was in the Italian concept of the 'Aree Interne'. This way of thinking gives the possibility to villages and towns to be a part of the whole network, and to contribute to it with its own endogenous force. This make those

towns less dependent and gives them the opportunity to be not anymore treated as a leftover in a huge net. The result is that those smaller towns can with this concept contribute to a self-sustainable local development where the relation between the social dimension, economy and local environment is more tight and resistant towards exogenous forces (David Fanfano, 2001:5).

Sketches for a quick understanding of general relations and to show principles and own interpretations of the system as well as giving insights to the local urban fabric and its systems;

Transact and **sections** to realize the spatial differentiation and relation between the natural and human flow or daily life embeddedness.

Photos to show impressions, contrasting elements in the landscape and to compare current development with the past and to be able to create a future projection;

Video to show how the valley changes from the mountain areas towards the sea. To give a sensation how rural and urban territories interfere with each other.

Model to understand the importance of the terraces and find the relation between the landscape morphology, the built environment, and the social life. To find possible solutions for the abandon land and the water management.

The valley as a new strategy to approach the region, as an entity of focus: I use the valley as my entity, because a valley in my observation binds all forces together and is also the binding element between the coast and the countryside of the region Liguria. Every valley has its own particularity and specific way of functioning. Moreover, the valleys of Imperia are particular long on one hand side and on the other hand the speciality of those valleys, in the region of Liguria, is that in air distance they are all really close to the sea, so one can experience the mountains and the sea at same time which make the territory more complex. This approach can be related to the project the project “Llobregat Corridor” in Spain where the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) and the Massachusetts Institute of

Technology (MIT) a joint research project about the river basin of Llobregat which researched about creating a regional development through the corridor of a river. This project focused on the cultural and industrial history of Catalunya, Spain, and valorised the values of the people and their local knowledge.

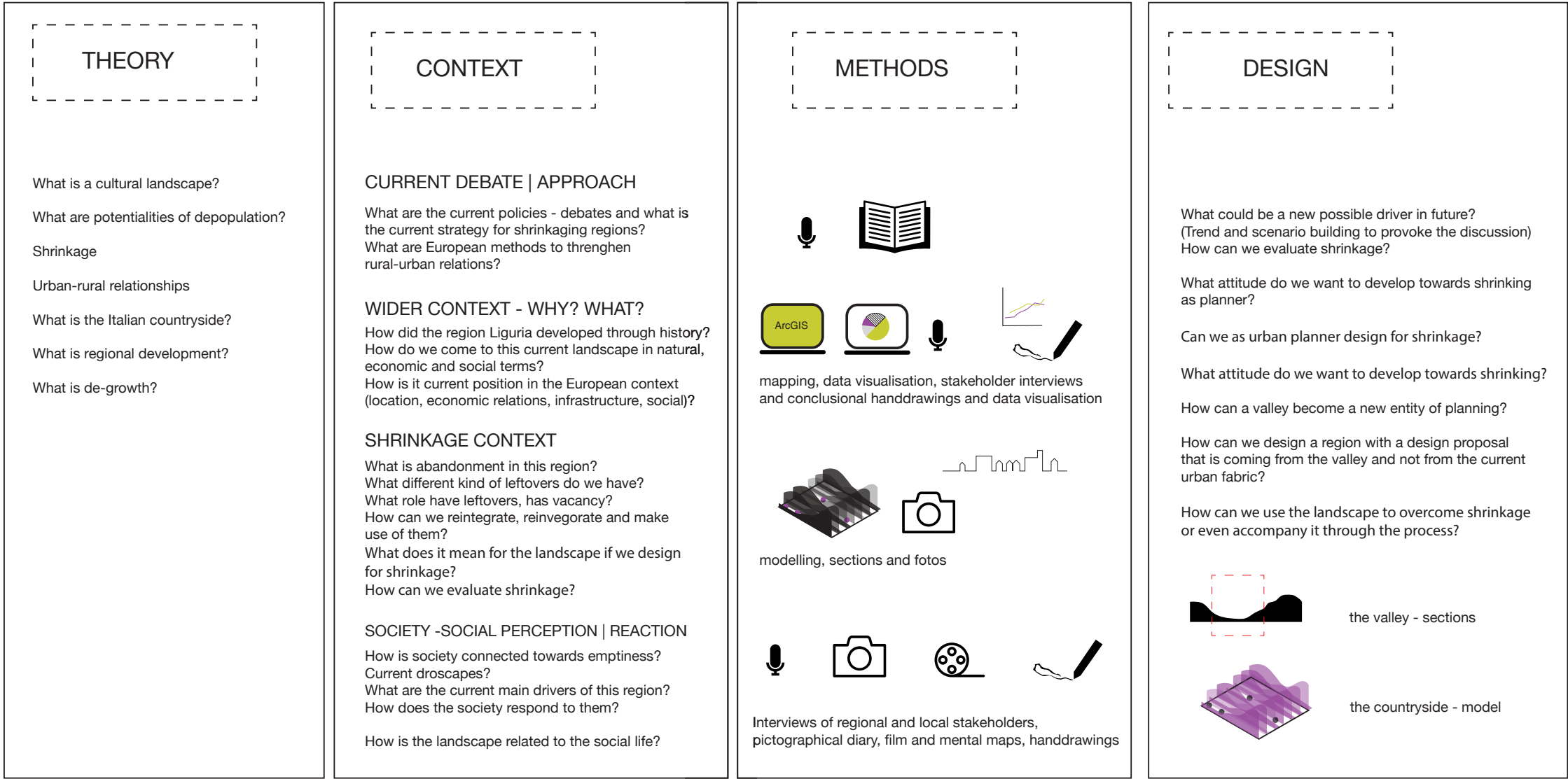
Moreover, trying to make a new model between the sea and the hill or the mountain areas, which in Liguria are close to each other but still treated differently as two entities. As Alberto Magnaghi explained within a skype conference (17.12.2017), they try to connect the two entities by applying a territorial approach and giving force to the values of the countryside. To think about new connections and a new development by considering the sea, the hill and the flat land within a network approach seems to be on current discussion within the Italian planning school, as I understood from the interview with Alberto Magnaghi. Taking the valley or a territory as a new planning entity seems to be a quite recent approach and by different projects like in Turin, where he is involved, in a testing, development phase. That made my approach of taking the valley a new planning entity even more interesting case study.

Using those described methods and ways of representation I want to create a usable toolbox that fits within the microscale of each town but gives also a certain regional and global response to the future. Trying to set out a new model of development which answers the global forces in a futuristic sustainable way for Italian territories, which are mostly characterised by the two extremes, the sea and the remote mountain areas. Giving them a context and a toolbox to react to the different ways of abandonment and reassembling old knowledge to construct with for future scenarios. Finding a new model for development which is not mixing up the countryside with the coastal cities, the more urbanised territories, but, which takes into account the values of both parts and tries to give an answer how they can both develop in a sustainable way.

By researching and designing a new model of interaction, I am trying to contribute to a new agenda for regional development in complex topological and social-economic environments within Europe.

RESEARCH QUESTION:
How can we rethink the role of the valley, as a driver for regional development by maximalizing the potentials of depopulation and cultural landscape?

Fig.56: Research questions structured through theory, context and design and combined with tools. Source: by author.



Research
Questions
and methods to
answer them.

PART 2: DESIGN

First design ideas

Expected outcome

Working plan

DESIGN

My design proposals will be for the local inhabitants and will give new opportunities for 'new comers'. It will offer a structure where new possibilities can arise and old values can be rediscovered.

The proposals will help to reconnect on local scale social interactions and gives opportunities to new cooperation. Cooperation not only on local scale but also on regional and national scale. Due to the current prevailing danger of new cementation, further surface sealing and pollution of factories the valley Impero, the proposals will focus more on the value of the landscape itself. The design proposals for the valley Impero will try to find a smart way to connect huge production with a delicate landscape. Reveal the possible contribution that industry can have to the surrounding environment which turns exploitation towards contribution and cooperation.

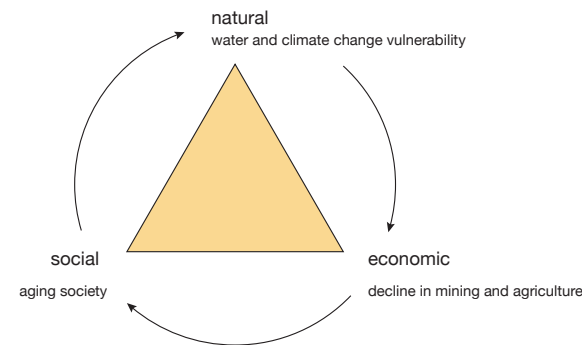


Fig.57: The three elements on which the project relies on with the main issues connected to it.
Source: by author.

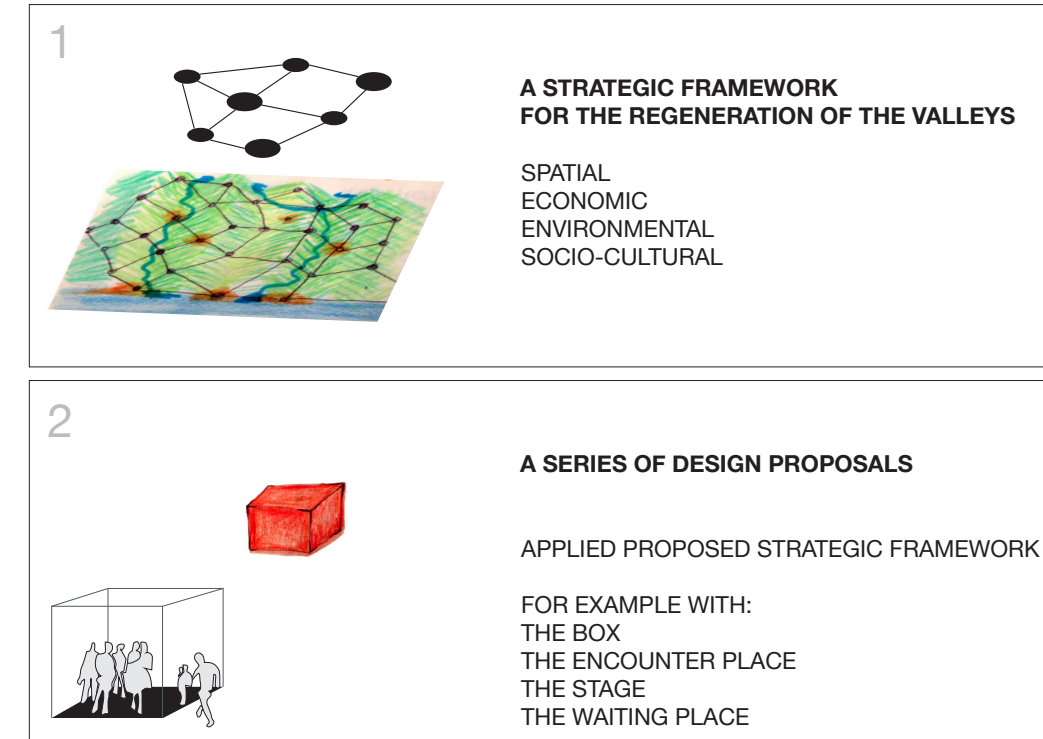


Fig.58: Expected final products. Source: by author.

The expected final products are a strategic framework for the regeneration of the valleys (1) and a series of design proposals, which are applying in different terms the strategic framework (2).

EXPECTED OUTCOME

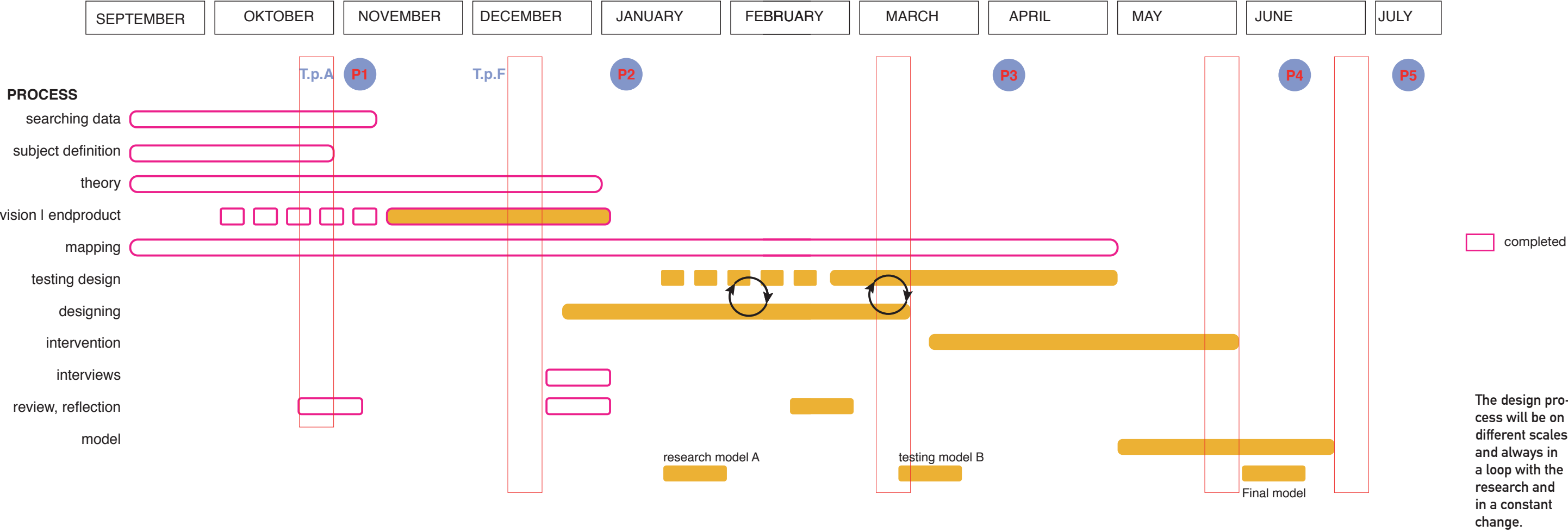
By analysing and designing one valley of the region I am going to propose a new spatial strategy, strategic framework, for the regeneration of the two chosen valleys, Impero and Prino which is complemented with design proposals, which apply the strategic framework which engages different actors on different scales. The interventions will be a catalyst for the other valleys of the region. Some projects are becoming a tool that can be replicated across the region that together form a new regional development strategy for the region Imperia. Moreover, it will include a suggestion with an implementation time line with stakeholder engagement as well as a recommendation for Italian countryside policy agenda.

This project comes from the countryside and gives a guideline for urban territories and its sustainable development. Why does this research come from the countryside through the entity of a valley? Because especially this region is based on its countryside but it isn't conscious about it and therefore it is developing the region from the coastline and though separating the countryside from the coast. This new tool-set will be developed from the analysis of two different valleys that both open up at the coast to the city Imperia. It will be than applicable to all the other valleys and will be a catalyst for a new regeneration model and become a network of cooperation between the valleys within the region. The valley will have key projects for the development of this specific two valleys and pilot projects that are a concrete example and will encourage redevelopment also in other valleys. On small scale I will design with emptiness and to overcome social disconnection. Trying to use droscapes and empty buildings in villages as space for new economies of the valley. Assuming that in the future we will also face new way of working, new life styles, new jobs with different demands as we have today – where maybe those spaces could be a place of a new system, new function and a new economy that will help against depopulation and shrinkage.

DESIGN PROPOSALS WILL WILL BE AFFECTING AND ENGAGING MULTIPLE SCALES:

1. EU LEVEL
2. REGIONAL LEVEL
3. THE VALLEY LEVEL
4. LOCAL LEVEL

WORKING PLAN



LITERATURE

Antrop, M., 2005. Why landscapes of the past are important for the future. *Landscape and Urban Planning, Rural Landscapes: past processes and future strategies* 70, 21–34. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2003.10.002>

Agnoletti, Mauro. „Rural landscape, nature conservation and culture: Some notes on research trends and management approaches from a (southern) European perspective“. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 126, Nr. Supplement C (1. Juni 2014): 66–73. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2014.02.012>.

Arnaiz-Schmitz, C., M. F. Schmitz, C. Herrero-Jáuregui, J. Gutiérrez-Angonese, F. D. Pineda, und C. Montes. „Identifying socio-ecological networks in rural-urban gradients: Diagnosis of a changing cultural landscape“. *Science of The Total Environment* 612, Nr. Supplement C (15. Januar 2018): 625–35. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2017.08.215>.

BAGNASCO, ARNALDO. „La costruzione sociale del mercato: strategie di impresa e esperimenti di scala in Italia“. *Stato e mercato*, Nr. 13 (1) (1985): 9–45.

Bandarin, Francesco, und Ron van Oers. *The Historic Urban Landscape: Managing Heritage in an Urban Century*. John Wiley & Sons, 2012.

Bergh, Jeroen C. J. M. van den. „Environment versus growth — A criticism of “degrowth” and a plea for “a-growth”“. *Ecological Economics* 70, Nr. 5 (15. März 2011): 881–90. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2010.09.035>.

Bevilacqua, Piero. *Lezioni sull’Italia repubblicana*. Donzelli Editore, 1994.

Bisio, Lidia, Giampiero Lombardini, Università degli Studi di Genova, und Dipartimento Polis. *Planning in Liguria*. Genova: De Ferrari, 2004.

Brancucci, G., und G. Paliaga. „The Hazard Assessment in a Terraced Landscape: Preliminary Result of the Liguria (Italy) Case Study in the Interreg III Alpter Project“. *Geohazards*, 18. Juni 2006. <http://dc.engconfintl.org/geohazards/16>.

Buller, Henry. „Re-Creating Rural Territories: Leader in France“. *Sociologia Ruralis* 40, Nr. 2 (1. April 2000): 190–99. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-9523.00141>.

Burger, M., Meijers, E., 2012. Form Follows Function? Linking Morphological and Functional Polycentricity. *Urban Studies* 49, 1127–1149.

Caffyn, Alison, und Margareta Dahlström. „Urban–rural interdependencies: Joining up policy in practice“. *Regional Studies* 39, Nr. 3 (1. Mai 2005): 283–96. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00343400500086580>.

Carlucci, Margherita. *Il sistema industriale della Liguria*. Quaderni de „L’Industria“ 41. Bologna: Il Mulino, 1987.

„Cartografia Regione Liguria - GIS4EU“. Zugegriffen 2. Oktober 2017. <http://www.cartografia.regione.liguria.it/template2.asp?itemID=204130&level=3&label=GIS4EU>.

Ciciotti, Enrico, Neil Alderman, und Alfred Thwaites. *Technological Change in a Spatial Context: Theory, Empirical Evidence and Policy*. Springer Science & Business Media, 2012.

„Ciclabilità anche nel Disegno di Legge per la salvaguardia dei piccoli comuni. Ma la legge nazionale sulla mobilità ciclistica, dov’è?“ Zugegriffen 7. Oktober 2017. <http://www.fiab-onlus.it/bici/notizie/notizie-varie/news-varie/item/1819-piccoli-comuni.html>.

„Cities are ‘deeply tragic’ says OMA founder Rem Koolhaas“. *Dezeen*, 24. April 2017. <https://www.dezeen.com/2017/04/24/rem-koolhaas-oma-cities-deeply-tragic-italy-milan/>.

„Consolidating and securing an old military route between France and Italy-Projects“. Zugegriffen 27. Oktober 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/projects/france/consolidation-et-securisation-dune-ancienne-route-militaire-entre-la-france-et-litalie.

Copus, A., 2012. Urban-rural relationships in the new century: clarifying and updating the intervention logic.

„Country files: ITALY | Agriculture and rural development“. Zugegriffen 12. Oktober 2017. https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rural-development-2014-2020/country-files/it_en.

„Countryside“. OMA. Zugriffen 30. Oktober 2017. <http://oma.eu/lectures/countryside>.

„Crisi nel savonese - «Chiusura di Ocv, è un massacro sociale»“. Zugriffen 7. Oktober 2017. http://www.ilsecoloxix.it/p/savona/2012/02/15/AP2JRyB-chiusura_massacro_sociale.shtml.

Crossman, Neville D., Brett A. Bryan, Bertram Ostendorf, und Sally Collins. „Systematic Landscape Restoration in the Rural–urban Fringe: Meeting Conservation Planning and Policy Goals“. *Biodiversity and Conservation* 16, Nr. 13 (1. Dezember 2007): 3781–3802. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10531-007-9180-8>.

„Cultural Landscape - Geography - Oxford Bibliographies - obo“. Zugriffen 27. Oktober 2017. <http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/view/document/obo-9780199874002/obo-9780199874002-0011.xml>.

Curzio, Alberto Quadrio. *Sussidiarietà e sviluppo. Paradigmi per l'Europa e per l'Italia*. Vita e Pensiero, 2002.

“Degrowth: A Vocabulary for a New Era” - Research & Degrowth (R&D) [WWW Document], n.d. URL <https://degrowth.org/2014/12/01/new-book-release-degrowth-a-vocabulary-for-a-new-era/> (accessed 10.30.17).

D’Alisa, Giacomo, Federico Demaria, und Giorgos Kallis, Hrsg. *Degrowth: a vocabulary for a new era*. New York ; London: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 2015.

Dakin, Susan. „There’s More to Landscape than Meets the Eye: Towards Inclusive Landscape Assessment in Resource and Environmental Management“. *Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe Canadien* 47, Nr. 2 (1. Juni 2003): 185–200. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1541-0064.t01-1-00003>.

„Dati coldiretti - A causa della siccità, vendemmia scarsa: in Liguria calo del 30%, nel Lazio del 40“. Zugriffen 29. Oktober 2017. http://www.ilsecoloxix.it/p/genova/2017/08/22/ASjyxK11-vendemmia_liguria_siccita.shtml.

Davoudi, Simin, und Dominic Stead. *Urban-Rural Relationships: An Introduction and Brief History*. Bd. 28, 2002. <https://doi.org/10.2307/23287748>.

Dematteis, Giuseppe. „Montagna e aree interne nelle politiche di coesione territoriale italiane ed europee“. *TERRITORIO*, 15. September 2013. <https://doi.org/10.3280/TR2013-066001>.

„Documenti - PC Marittimo“. Zugriffen 22. Oktober 2017. <http://interreg-maritime.eu/it/programma/documenti>.

Dühr, Stefanie, Dominic Stead, und Wil Zonneveld. „The Europeanization of spatial planning through territorial cooperation“. *Planning Practice & Research* 22, Nr. 3 (1. August 2007): 291–307. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02697450701688245>.

„EU Policy Lab | futureindustry“. Zugriffen 2. Oktober 2017. <http://blogs.ec.europa.eu/eupolicylab/tag/futureindustry/>.

Faludi, Andreas. „European Integration and the Territorial-Administrative Complex“. *Geografiska Annaler: Series B, Human Geography* 98, Nr. 1 (1. März 2016): 71–80. <https://doi.org/10.1111/geob.12090>.

Fanfani, David. „Il governo del territorio e del paesaggio rurale nello spazio “terzo” periurbano. Il parco agricolo come strumento di politiche e di progetto“. *Ri-Vista* 6, Nr. 2 (2006): 54–69. <https://doi.org/10.13128/RV-17443>.

Farina, Almo. „The Cultural Landscape as a Model for the Integration of Ecology and Economics“. *BioScience* 50, Nr. 4 (1. April 2000): 313–20. [https://doi.org/10.1641/0006-3568\(2000\)050\[0313:TC LAAM\]2.3.CO;2](https://doi.org/10.1641/0006-3568(2000)050[0313:TC LAAM]2.3.CO;2).

„Fondo per lo Sviluppo e la Coesione (FSC già FAS)“. Zugriffen 7. Oktober 2017. http://www.agenziacoesione.gov.it/it/politiche_e_attivita/Fondo_per_lo_Sviluppo_e_la_Coesione/.

Francesetti, Cazzaniga, Dionisia, und Alga D. Foschi. „Mediterranean versus Northern Range Ports. Why do Italian Containers Still Prefer Routing via the Northern Range Ports? Advice for a new Policy“. *SSRN Scholarly Paper*. Rochester, NY: Social Science Research Network, 1. November 2002. <https://papers.ssrn.com/abstract=385142>.

Gallent, Nick, Hrsg. *Introduction to rural planning. The natural and built environment series*. London ; New York: Routledge, 2008.

„Genoa Economy“. Zugegriffen 22. Oktober 2017. <http://www.world66.com/europe/italy/liguria/genoa/economy>.

Gioia, Federica Corrado, Giuseppe Dematteis, Alberto Di. „Nuovi montanari. Abitare le Alpi nel XXI secolo“. Zugegriffen 1. November 2017. http://www.francoangeli.it/Ricerca/Scheda_libro.aspx?codiceISBN=9788820471118.

Giuffrida, Angela. „Italian Village Offers €2,000 Gifts to Boost Dwindling Population“. The Guardian, 7. Mai 2017, Abschn. World news. <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/may/07/italian-village-bormida-offers-2000-gifts-to-boost-dwindling-population>.

Grittani, Rinaldo, Alessandro Bonifazi, und Andrea Tassinari. „Everyday People Evaluating Everyday Landscapes: A Participatory Application of Landscape Character Assessment to Peri-Urban Countryside“. In Landscape Planning and Rural Development, 105–34. SpringerBriefs in Geography. Springer, Cham, 2014. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-05759-0_6.

Großmann, K., M. Bontje, A. Haase, und V. Mykhnenko. „Shrinking cities: Notes for the further research agenda. Cities, 35, 221-225.“, 2013.

Gubert, Renzo. „Ruralità e marginalità. Tre aree alpine a confronto“. Zugegriffen 1. November 2017. http://www.francoangeli.it/Ricerca/Scheda_libro.aspx?codiceISBN=9788820436025.

Hancock, M. Donald, Christopher J. Carman, Marjorie Castle, David P. Conradt, Raffaella Y. Nanetti, Robert Leonardi, William Safran, und Stephen White. Politics in Europe. CQ Press, 2014.

Havik, K., Notteboom, B., Wit, S. de (Eds.), 2017. Narrating urban landscapes: Verhalend stedelijk landschap, Oase. Nai10 publishers, Rotterdam.

Hospers, Gert-Jan. „Beyond the Blue Banana?“ Intereconomics 38, Nr. 2 (1. März 2003): 76–85. <https://doi.org/10.1007/BF03031774>.

Heenan, D., 2010. How Local Interventions Can Build Capacity to Address Social Isolation in Dispersed Rural Communities: A Case Study from Northern Ireland. Ageing International 35.

„I dati di coldiretti - Imperia, la siccità diventa un dramma“. Zugegriffen 29. Oktober 2017. http://www.ilsecoloxix.it/p/imperia/2017/10/28/ASifofMK-imperia_diventa_siccita.shtml.

„I paesi abbandonati (Dove comincia l'Appennino)“. Zugegriffen 27. September 2017. <http://www.appennino4p.it/abbandonati>.

„Italy and France cooperate to raise local awareness about cross-border natural hazards-Projects“. Zugegriffen 27. Oktober 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/projects/france/litalie-et-la-france-cooperent-pour-sensibiliser-les-populations-locales-aux-risques-naturels-transfrontaliers.

Janus, Amir Djalali, n.d. or, the Long Harbour. A project for the land and sea of Genoa. Rotterdamse Academie van Bouwkunst 2015. URL: <http://www.amirdjalali.com/?/teaching/Janus/> (accessed 12.11.17)

Kallis, Giorgos. „In defence of degrowth“. Ecological Economics 70, Nr. 5 (15. März 2011): 873–80. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2010.12.007>.

King, L., E. Casetti, und D. Jeffrey. „Economic impulses in a regional system of cities: A study of spatial interaction“. Regional Studies 3, Nr. 2 (1. September 1969): 213–18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09595236900185211>.

Konferenz „Territories. Rural-urban strategies“. Territories: Rural-Urban Strategies. Herausgegeben von Jörg Schröder, Maurizio Carta, Maddalena Ferretti, und Barbara Lino. Berlin: Jovis Berlin, 2017.

„La Spezia-based port authority starts monitoring Liguria port economy“. PortSEurope (blog). Zugegriffen 22. Oktober 2017. <http://www.portseurope.com/la-spezia-based-port-authority-starts-monitoring-liguria-port-economy/>.

„Lab Connections: Policy Labs in Europe for Europe #POLICYLAB4EU « URBACT The blog“. Zugegriffen 2. Oktober 2017. <http://www.blog.urbact.eu/2016/12/lab-connections-policy-labs-in-europe-for-europe-policylab4eu/>.

Lasanta, T., J. Arnáez, N. Pascual, P. Ruiz-Flaño, M. P. Errea, und N. Lana-Renault. „Space-time process and drivers of land abandonment in Europe“. CATENA, Geocology in Mediterranean mountain areas. Tribute to Professor José María García Ruiz, 149, Nr. Part 3 (1. Februar 2017): 810–23. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.catena.2016.02.024>.

Latouche, Serge. „Degrowth“. *Journal of Cleaner Production, Growth, Recession or Degrowth for Sustainability and Equity?*, 18, Nr. 6 (1. April 2010): 519–22. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2010.02.003>.

Laursen, Lea Louise Holst. „Shrinking Cities or Urban Transformation“, 2009. [http://vbn.aau.dk/en/publications/shrinking-cities-or-urban-transformation\(44014470-0476-11df-9046-000ea68e967b\)/export.html](http://vbn.aau.dk/en/publications/shrinking-cities-or-urban-transformation(44014470-0476-11df-9046-000ea68e967b)/export.html).

Layne, Mary Kristen. „The Textual Ecology of the Palimpsest: Environmental Entanglement of Present and Past“. *Aisthesis. Pratiche, Linguaggi e Saperi Dell'estetico* 7, Nr. 2 (2014): 63–72. <https://doi.org/10.13128/Aisthesis-15290>.

Lee, Jo, Arnar Árnason, Andrea Nightingale, und Mark Shucksmith. „Networking: Social Capital and Identities in European Rural Development“. *Sociologia Ruralis* 45, Nr. 4 (1. Oktober 2005): 269–83. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9523.2005.00305.x>.

Léon, Yves. „Rural development in Europe: a research frontier for agricultural economists“. *European Review of Agricultural Economics* 32, Nr. 3 (1. September 2005): 301–17. <https://doi.org/10.1093/eurrag/jbi012>.

„Liguria, dati sull'occupazione la replica dei consiglieri regionali del Pd Raffaella Paita e Giovanni Lunardon“. *Riviera24*, 18. September 2017. <https://www.riviera24.it/2017/09/liguria-lavoro-266030/>.

„Liguria Economy“. Zugriffen 22. Oktober 2017. <http://www.world66.com/europe/italy/liguria/economy>.

„Ligurian ports: strategic and thriving cruise destinations close to the heart of Europe“. *ItalyRivierAlps*, 27. September 2016. <http://www.italyrivieralps.com/2016/09/27/read-more/argomenti/places-of-interest/articolo/ligurian-ports-strategic-and-thriving-cruise-destinations-close-to-the-heart-of-europe.html>.

„Liguria's Ports Stand Together at Fruit Logistica - The Medi Telegraph“. www.themeditelegraph.com. Zugriffen 22. Oktober 2017. <http://www.themeditelegraph.com/en/transport/ports/2015/02/06/liguria-ports-stand-together-fruit-logistica-MK9Lxwy6FqZXgLoLFuDPMJ/index.html>.

„L'industrializzazione nel Nord Est e nel Centro • Repository Fondazione Fuà“. Zugriffen 8. Oktober 2017. <http://giorgiofua.univpm.it/items/show/13>.

Long, Hualou, und Michael Woods. „Rural Restructuring Under Globalization in Eastern Coastal China: What Can Be Learned From Wales?“ *Journal of Rural and Community Development* 6, Nr. 1 (16. September 2011). <http://journals.brandonu.ca/jrcd/article/view/426>.

Macaluso, Luciana. *Rural-urban intersections*. Parma: MUP, 2016.

MacDonald, D, J. R Crabtree, G Wiesinger, T Dax, N Stamou, P Fleury, J Gutierrez Lazpita, und A Gibon. „Agricultural abandonment in mountain areas of Europe: Environmental consequences and policy response“. *Journal of Environmental Management* 59, Nr. 1 (1. Mai 2000): 47–69. <https://doi.org/10.1006/jema.1999.0335>.

Magnaghi, Alberto (Eds.), 2001. *Rappresentare I luoghi. Metodi e tecniche*. Alinea Editrice, Firenze. URL: http://www.lapei.it/?page_id=568 (accessed 12.18.17).

Martinez-Fernandez, Cristina, Tamara Weyman, Sylvie Fol, Ivonne Audirac, Emmanuèle Cunningham-Sabot, Thorsten Wiechmann, und Hiroshi Yahagi. „Shrinking cities in Australia, Japan, Europe and the USA: From a global process to local policy responses“. *Progress in Planning, Shrinking cities in Australia, Japan, Europe and the USA: From a global process to local policy responses*, 105, Nr. Supplement C (1. April 2016): 1–48. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.progress.2014.10.001>.

Mayer, H., Knox, P.L., 2006. *Slow Cities: Sustainable Places in a Fast World*. *Journal of Urban Affairs* 28, 321–334. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9906.2006.00298.x>

Müller, Rainer. „When Less Is More: Eastern German Project Provides Hope for Shrinking Cities“. *Spiegel Online*, 9. April 2010, Abschn. International. <http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/when-less-is-more-eastern-german-project-provides-hope-for-shrinking-cities-a-688152.html>.

Murdoch, Jonathan, In: Cloke, P.J., Marsden, T., Mooney, P.H. (Eds.), 2006. *Handbook of rural studies*. SAGE, London ; Thousand Oaks, Calif, (page 171-200).

Murdoch, J., Lowe, P., 2003. The preservationist paradox: modernism, environmentalism and the politics of spatial division. *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 28, 318–332. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1475-5661.00095>

Murdoch, J., 2000. Networks — a new paradigm of rural development? *Journal of Rural Studies* 16, 407–419. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0743-0167\(00\)00022-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0743-0167(00)00022-X)

Musso, Enrico, Marco Benacchio, und Claudio Ferrari. „Ports and Employment in Port Cities“. *International Journal of Maritime Economics* 2, Nr. 4 (1. Oktober 2000): 283–311. <https://doi.org/10.1057/ijme.2000.23>.

„Nel finalese il progetto pilota per il recupero delle terre abbandonate - IVG.it“. Zugegriffen 27. September 2017. <http://www.ivg.it/2016/07/nel-finalese-progetto-pilota-recupero-delle-terre-abbandonate/>.

Notteboom, Theo E. „Concentration and the formation of multi-port gateway regions in the European container port system: an update“. *Journal of Transport Geography, Special Issue on Comparative North American and European gateway logistics*, 18, Nr. 4 (1. Juli 2010): 567–83. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtrangeo.2010.03.003>.

October, 13, 2011 By Merlin Fulcher, und Rory Olcayto. „Rem Koolhaas turns back on cities“. *Architects Journal*. Zugegriffen 12. Oktober 2017. <https://www.architectsjournal.co.uk/home/rem-koolhaas-turns-back-on-cities/8621130.article>.

„Operational Programme ,Italy – Maritime France““. Zugegriffen 27. Oktober 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/atlas/programmes/2007-2013/crossborder/operational-programme-italy-maritime-france.

Pickett, S. T. A., M. L. Cadenasso, und J. M. Grove. „Resilient cities: meaning, models, and metaphor for integrating the ecological, socio-economic, and planning realms“. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 69, Nr. 4 (30. Oktober 2004): 369–84. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2003.10.035>.

Pinto-Correia, T., Kristensen, L., 2013. Linking research to practice: The landscape as the basis for integrating social and ecological perspectives of the rural. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 120, 248–256. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2013.07.005>

„Politica di Coesione 2014-2020“. Zugegriffen 7. Oktober 2017. http://www.agenziacoesione.gov.it/it/politiche_e_attivita/programmazione_2014-2020/Politica_di_Coesione/Politica_di_Coesione.html.

Ray, D., n.d. Rem Koolhaas: countryside architecture - *Icon Magazine* [WWW Document]. URL <https://www.iconeye.com/architecture/features/item/11031-rem-koolhaas-in-the-country> (accessed 10.12.17).

Reed, Matt. „The rural arena: The diversity of protest in rural England“. *Journal of Rural Studies, Social Movements and Rural Politics*, 24, Nr. 2 (1. April 2008): 209–18. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2007.12.006>.

Rizzo, Agatino. „Declining, transition and slow rural territories in southern Italy Characterizing the intra-rural divides“. *European Planning Studies* 24, Nr. 2 (1. Februar 2016): 231–53. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09654313.2015.1079588>.

Sabaté, Joachim i Bel; Schuster, J. Mark (Eds.), 2001. *Designing the Llobregat Corridor. Cultural Landscape and Regional Development*. UPC and MIT, Barcelona.

Schneider, F., Kallis, G., Martinez-Alier, J., 2010. Crisis or opportunity? Economic degrowth for social equity and ecological sustainability. Introduction to this special issue. *Journal of Cleaner Production, Growth, Recession or Degrowth for Sustainability and Equity?* 18, 511–518. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2010.01.014>

Shucksmith, M., 2010. Disintegrated Rural Development? Neo-endogenous Rural Development, Planning and Place-Shaping in Diffused Power Contexts. *Sociologia Ruralis* 50, 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9523.2009.00497>

Schlappa, Hans, 2017. Co-producing the cities of tomorrow: Fostering collaborative action to tackle decline in Europe’s shrinking cities. In: *European Urban and Regional Studies*, Vol 24, Issue 2, First Published December 28, 2015, 162 – 174. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0969776415621962>

Schmidt, Suntje, Felix C Müller, Oliver Ibert, und Verena Brinks. „Open Region: Creating and Exploiting Opportunities for Innovation at the Regional Scale | Leibniz-Institut für Raumbezogene Sozialforschung“, 2017. <https://leibniz-irs.de/aktuelles/meldungen/2017/05/open-region-creating-and-exploiting-opportunities-for-innovation-at-the-regional-scale/>.

„Shrinking regions: a paradigm shift in demography and territorial development - Think Tank“. Zugegriffen 31. Oktober 2017. [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document.html?reference=IPOL-REGI_ET\(2008\)408928](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document.html?reference=IPOL-REGI_ET(2008)408928).

„Shrinking Regions: a Paradigm Shift in Demography and Territorial Development (in French and in English)“. Zugegriffen 31. Oktober 2017. <http://www.esponontheroad.eu/library/shrinking-regions-a-paradigm-shift-in-demography-and-territorial-development>.

Shucksmith, Mark. „Disintegrated Rural Development? Neo-Endogenous Rural Development, Planning and Place-Shaping in Diffused Power Contexts“. *Sociologia Ruralis* 50, Nr. 1 (1. Januar 2010): 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9523.2009.00497.x>.

Society, National Geographic. „Il cambiamento climatico è già realtà“. National Geographic. Zugegriffen 29. Oktober 2017. http://www.nationalgeographic.it/ambiente/2017/07/27/news/italia_il_cambiamento_climatico_e_gia_realta_-3616254/.

Soro, Bruno. „Liguria: declino o trasformazione? Un confronto con le altre regioni italiane / Liguria: economic decline or sectorial transformation? A comparison between Italian regions“. *Economia Internazionale / International Economics* 61 (1. Januar 2008): 539–68.

Sutherland, William J. „Restoring a sustainable countryside“. *Trends in Ecology & Evolution* 17, Nr. 3 (1. März 2002): 148–50. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0169-5347\(01\)02421-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0169-5347(01)02421-1).

Tarolli, Paolo, Federico Preti, und Nunzio Romano. „Terraced landscapes: From an old best practice to a potential hazard for soil degradation due to land abandonment“. *Anthropocene, Landscapes in the Anthropocene*, 6, Nr. Supplement C (1. Juni 2014): 10–25.

Tarolli, Paolo, Giulia Sofia, Simone Calligaro, Massimo Prosdocimi, Federico Preti, und Giancarlo Dalla Fontana. „Vineyards in Terraced Landscapes: New Opportunities from Lidar Data“. *Land Degradation & Development* 26, Nr. 1 (o. J.): 92–102.

„Territorial typologies for European cities and metropolitan regions - Statistics Explained“. Zugegriffen 20. Oktober 2017. http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Territorial_typologies_for_European_cities_and_metropolitan_regions.

Tosi, Stefano Munarin, Maria Chiara. „Tracce di città. Esplorazioni di un territorio abitato: l’area veneta“. Zugegriffen 25. September 2017. http://www.francoangeli.it/Ricerca/Scheda_libro.aspx?codiceISBN=9788846427151.

Trabattoni, Alina, David Arkell, und Robert Willis. „Who will breathe life back into Europe’s dying villages?“ *The Conversation*. Zugegriffen 27. September 2017. <http://theconversation.com/who-will-breathe-life-back-into-europes-dying-villages-58942>.

Unsworth, Kate, 2016. *Cities as incubators for citizen’s agency Biographies of (Dis)Connection: the case of Sheffield*. P5 Report: Design of the Urban Fabric. Master thesis. Technical University, Delft.

Vacca, Valerio, Antonio Accetturo, Luciana Aimone, Enrico Beretta, Silvia Camussi, Luigi Cannari, Daniele Coin, u. a. „Deindustrialization and tertiarization: structural changes in North West Italy“. *IMF Occasional Papers*, 15. Juli 2015.

Vale, Lawrence J. „The politics of resilient cities: whose resilience and whose city?“ *Building Research & Information* 42, Nr. 2 (4. März 2014): 191–201. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09613218.2014.850602>.

van den Bergh, J.C.J.M., 2011. *Environment versus growth — A criticism of “degrowth” and a plea for “a-growth.”* *Ecological Economics* 70, 881–890. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2010.09.035>

Van Rij, Evelien, und Eric Koomen. „Analysing the Rural Vitality Argument for Residential Development: Linking Discourses and Actual Spatial Developments“. *Tijdschrift Voor Economische En Sociale Geografie* 101, Nr. 5 (1. Dezember 2010): 583–95. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1467-9663.2010.00637.x>.

„Who Will Save These Dying Italian Towns? - The New York Times“. Zugegriffen 27. September 2017. <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/07/t-magazine/abandoned-italian-towns.html?mcubz=0>.

Wöbse, H.H.: *Kulturlandschaften als Objekte des Naturschutzes*. In: I. Koarik, E Schmidt, B. Sigel (Hg.): *Naturschutz und Denkmalpflege. Wege zu einem Dialog im Garten*. Vdf, Zürich 1998: S. 157–168.

Wright, Gordon. „Rural revolution in France. The peasantry in the twentieth century.“ Rural revolution in France. The peasantry in the twentieth century., 1964. <https://www.cabdirect.org/cabdirect/abstract/19641802031>.

„XV European Rural Development Network Conference: 3-4 October 2017, Eisenstadt, Austria – European Rural Development Network“. Zugegriffen 2. Oktober 2017. <http://www.erdn.eu/15erdn2017/>.

Zanini, Andrea. Un secolo di turismo in Liguria. Dinamiche, percorsi, attori: Dinamiche, percorsi, attori. FrancoAngeli, 2013.