



## **8. Living territories/Abitare il territorio**

edited by *Chiara Belingardi, Silvia Minichino, Matteo Scamporrino*

## Introduction

Defining areas for intervention is the first step in planners' and designers' activities. The regional approach in selecting problematic frames and design surfaces was the key issue proposed in this call for papers in the session entitled Living in Territories. How and why a region is defined are crucial questions in urban and landscape planning. Three criteria are widely known to delimitate a region: biophysical, political and socio-economical. They are deeply connected to the sustainable development of territories.

Energy systems, ecological structures, agricultural activities, settlements and communities are the elements identified in querying the regional concept and finally, regional planning uncertainty. When we think about the regional scale in the planning and design process we imagine a specific approach which deals with urban and rural issues together, because a region is never a uniform environment.

What elements could help planners and designers hypothesize their research field and interpret their operational ground? What are the analysis methods, planning processes and design tools that should be explored in order more effectively implement regional planning?

Although people are more and more involved in the planning processes, this point, as well as the procedure to include stewardship practices in planning, is the most relevant uncertainty for planners and designers.

In the call for paper two main questions were asked to be explored: on one hand the regional approach in planning and design concerning methods, procedures and operational knowledge; on the other hand the planners' and designers' roles in regional transformations.

The papers collected in this section explore several meanings of region in urban and landscape planning since different region conceptualizations are proposed by the authors. Furthermore different interpretation keys emerged in reading the actual problems at the regional scale: soil consumption and water management, people's actions and planned transformation links and landscape transformations. The regional approach is envisioned from territorial (**Fanfani**), historical (**Rosselli, Piras**), ecological (**Anguillari, Guerra, Romano et al.**) and landscape perspectives (**Ciabò, Mestriner, Pè**). The regional approach is considered useful in understanding complex phenomena and in achieving innovative solutions to problems. The following papers discuss these topics from different perspectives. Some of these deal with new elements in the planning process: analytical, procedural and operational tools are proposed. The future scenario perspective (**Anguillari**) is a design-based process and it has become a visual instrument to involve politics, planners and people in regional transformations. The GIS - base index and synthetic indicators are suggested in order to bridge the gap between planners' knowledge and actual territorial features (**Romano et al., Ciabò**). The river contract (**Guerra**) is described as a practice to engage communities in territorial management. A second group analyses different practices that could be used to begin to examine the relationship between the rural and urban, architecture and nature. The agricultural park is proposed and investigated as a territorial governance tool (**Fanfani**). Roles of traditional agricultural practices in peri-urban areas are explored in order to manage urbanisation (**Rosselli**). Sustainability is envisioned as a conceptual medium to use ancient practice in environment construction (**Mestriner**). Final reflections discuss the role of planners and designers in the regional transformation: they are envisioned as mediators having to manage planning and design processes (**Pè**). Is this role effective in the regional planning process? How could planners and designers, therefore architects, use planning and design knowledge to allow increasing qualities of territorial transformation?

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Veneto 2100: living with water

*Enrico Anguillari*

Urban settlement sensibility assessment. Morphological-based analysis in Italian case studies

*Bernardino Romano, Serena Ciabò, Elena De Santis, Mauro Fabrizio, Francesco Zullo*

The landscape value: interpretive categories, diagnostic techniques and management rules

*Serena Ciabò*

Disputed or shared territory? The Italian experience of river contract: new relationship between river and its region

*Silvia Guerra*

Local development and "agri-urban" domain: agricultural park as promotion of an "active ruralship"

*David Fanfani*

Urban landscape development and rural fringes in Delhi

*Claudia Roselli*

Some reflections on the relationship between people of the fourteenth century, city and territory

*Antonella Piras*

Minimum living

*Paolo Mestriner*

Digital technologies landscape design urban curatorship

*Raffaella Pé*

