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## The countryside's rule in the new master plan of Naples

*Giovanni Dispoto*

In the iconography of Naples the countryside is a peculiar aspect of the town landscape like the seaside and the volcano Vesuvio. Naples is represented like a town showed on the gulf, rich of gardens and agricultural areas both in the historical centre, both up along the hills.

The last witnesses of this landscape are the small gardens in the historical centre, Posillipo's countryside, and of the other hills which surround the town. This ideal geography of the Neapolitan greenbelt is completed by kitchen-gardens that still remains in the oriental side of town, where until the half of the 1900's the Sebeto river slid, and now there are oil plants and brown fields. The urban planning started with the Prg variant in 1994, characterizes in the 'protection and the restoration of physical integrity and the cultural identity of the territory' one of the main purposes of the plan to get 'by the restoration of the historical centre and the valorisation of landscape' also promoting the urban agriculture. The countryside is considered in Prg variant as a very important element of natural, historical and urban Neapolitan landscape.

The master plan variant, recognizing the landscaped value and that ecological metropolitan scale, assign to the hill areas not built, and in particular the agricultural areas, to green of city and territorial scale, assuming the formation of 'green belt', between the city and its surrounding areas, to find through the conservation and the development from part of private of existing agricultural and forest activities and integration of

these destinations with uses and compatible activities connected to free time and the restoration activities.

From the examination of the previous general planning instruments of Naples city from the '39 today, the agrarian landscape is identified mainly with the idea to conserve the hill morphology not built, a balance between building space and areas to conserve, substantially coinciding with the hill agricultural areas. In the case of the plan of 1939 by Piccinato, the agricultural spaces of the hill areas, was compromised in the decades succeeded you from an illegal expansion building, are assigned at the creation of a natural reserve with particular reference to the Camaldoli hills. The master plan approved by the higher public body Council in 1972, has had the merit to bind the remained agrarian landscape, in order to assign it to parks of particular landscape interest (I1 sub zone), to green to public park (I2 sub zone) or, like in the case of Posillipo, to bound private green (L1 sub zone). Today more than fifth part of the city territory it still turns out constituted from cultivated lands, in part woody lands, some part uncultivated or abandoned but however not built. The main choices of the new general urban instrument: the safeguard of the structuring elements of the natural territory conformation, and with it the restoration of physical integrity and the cultural identity.

The recent urban planning action in the 1993 with the first direct election of the mayor. In that time we made other planning actions have been determined the protection of the landscape and the atmosphere to city scale: in 1993, with the approval of the regional law n. 33, it comes temporarily defined the perimeter of the Flegrei fields park, a rich

territory of volcanic phenomena, archaeology and mythology, that it included also a part of the western territory of Naples; in the 1995 the Posillipo landscape plan and Agnano-Camaldoli plan. In 2002 becomes operative the plan by the authority of basin of Naples western North, in order of the law of the 183/89 for the ground defence. The scheme of municipality urban planning is completed with the new regional urban planning law n. 16 of December 2004, the proposal of Regional territorial plan of february 2005, and the Territorial plan of the Province of Naples, already adopted in 2003 and today in course of elaboration. At the end of the work planning, in 2005, with the general variant approval, and the process for the new metropolitan regional park of hills is completed.

This park, inside the city borders, is the result of a variant process that has considered with of the hills territory like a green belt of the city, finding the landscape values characterized from the plan of 1939: a regional institution park planned from the choices of the urban planning.

The green area crown introduces in the relationship with the city centre an articulate development from the presence of areas that penetrate deeply in the heart of the city until connect the historical centre. The new plan has exalted the value of the existing historical relationship between the city and its surrounding finding areas in the geographic and land reasons the forma urbis and with it a new definition of the limits of the built areas and the neighbourhood. On this idea the Municipality is testing new management models of the green city that, conserving the agricultural productivity

characters, the image of the historical landscape and also the private property, they promotes at the same time the public use with finalized initiatives to assert the character of multifunctional city agriculture in agreement with the recently Community agrarian directives.