



BLENDED INTENSIVE PROGRAMME (BIP) 2023
What's left? A strategy for the inner areas



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 Escuela Técnica Superior
 Universidad de Sevilla



What's left? A strategy for the inner areas

Programme draft 12_07_2023

Host institution

Italy: University G. d'Annunzio of Chieti-Pescara (UdA) | Department of Architecture

Partner institutions

Spain: Universidad de Sevilla | Departamento de Proyectos Arquitectónicos | Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura

Portugal: Instituto Superior Manuel Teixeira Gomes | Mestrado Integrado em Arquitectura

Participants

Università degli Studi "G. d'Annunzio" Chieti – Pescara | Dipartimento di Architettura

Massimo Angrilli (Scientific Coordinator)

Susanna Ferrini

Lorenzo Pignatti

Domenico Potenza

con

Valentina Ciuffreda

Andrea Di Cinzio

Giulio Girasante

+ 10 students

Instituto Superior Manuel Teixeira Gomes | Mestrado Integrado em Arquitectura

Ana Bordalo

José Manuel Carvalho

Luís Durão

Vítor Alves

+ 9 students

Universidad de Sevilla | Departamento de Proyectos Arquitectónicos | Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura

Maria del Carmen Martinez Quesada

José Manuel Pérez Muñoz

Luis Rubiño Chacon

Zacarias de Jorge Crespo

+ 8 students

Patronage

Maiella National Park

“Cocco” pasta factory

Number of ECTS provided

6



Abstract

The line of research concerns the internal areas of the Abruzzo region, subject to a process of depopulation and abandonment. A phenomenon that affects almost all the Apennine areas of Italy and, to a lesser extent, the Alps. The same phenomenon also affects many rural regions of Portugal and Spain and for this reason the program aims to encourage the exchange of ideas, policies and best practices in the different Mediterranean countries.

On the Italian side the project will be based on the Italy's National Strategy for "Inner Areas" (SNAI), which is an innovative policy for development and territorial cohesion to counteract marginalisation and demographic decline within "Inner Areas" throughout the Country. SNAI relies on an ambitious place-based policy based on new multilevel local governance through integrated local promotion and development, addressing demographic challenges and responding to the needs of territories penalised by significant geographical and/or demographic handicaps.

"Inner Areas" are considered fragile territories, far away from main centres of supply of essential services and too often abandoned to themselves. They stretch over 60% of the national surface, and host 52% of Italian municipalities and 22% of its population. This "truest" and most authentic Italian areas primarily need to enable their inhabitants to still reside or return there.

The National Strategy aims to promote and protect "Inner Areas" assets and local communities, enhancing their natural and cultural resources, creating new employment circuits and new opportunities – in short, counteracting the massive demographic exodus.

The National Strategy addresses 72 "Inner Areas" – overall, 1,077 municipalities and about 2,072,718 inhabitants.

The program has two main slots: the first consists of 4 online meetings of 3 hours each; the second of a 6-day workshop (plus two days of travel) to be held at the Pescara school of architecture. During the workshop, 1 day of study visit is planned in Fara San Martino, a small town in the Apennines which will constitute the case study for the experimental application. The design activity in the town will be patronized by the Maiella National Park, which will host the final day of presentation of the summer school works.

Online Seminars

Preparatory meetings

7th December: online staff meeting

2nd March: online staff meeting

Conference sessions with staff and students (September)

4th September afternoon-1st session (3h starting at 4 pm): Group self-presentation (staff and students); general information and presentation of the topic from the hosting institution; the National Strategy for Inner Areas (SNAI);

5th September afternoon-2nd session (3h starting at 4 pm): invited lecturer from the partners regarding the policies and best practices from Spain and Portugal;

6th September afternoon-3rd session (3h starting at 4 pm): partner senior students' presentation of the projects in development related to the topic;

7th September afternoon-4th session (3h starting at 4 pm): case study presentation by the hosting institution and discussion with Prof. Lucio Zazzara, President of the Maiella National Park; Antonio



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Tavani, Mayor of Fara San Martino; Lorenzo Cocco, “Cocco” Pasta Factory. Digital cartography and information distribution.

Summer School (in person)

September 11-16th (10th and 17th travel days).

10th Sept: Arrival in Pescara (at the Rome Airport and from the airport to Pescara by bus);

10th Sept. afternoon/evening: Departure to Fara San Martino; welcome dinner with the municipality and the Cocco pasta factory; Hotel accommodation;

11th Sept: Field visit, brainstorming on the site of a disused textile factory; preliminary conceptualization; return trip to Pescara;

12-15th Sept: work sessions at the School of Architecture of Pescara;

16th Sept: Project presentations at “Aurum”, the Pescara’s Maiella National Park representative office; discussion and concluding remarks; final social dinner; return trip to Pescara;

17th Sept: farewell and travel back to Rome airport;

Post Seminar

20th September: On-line Staff meeting with the three Learning Institutions to reach conclusions regarding the BIP projects, closing and planning of future programs

Case study

Fara San Martino is a small town in the Maiella national park (1.289 inhabitants), on the Apennine chain. A town best known for being one of the world capitals of pasta, produced in 4 different factories: De Cecco (since 1886) Cocco (since 1944), Del Verde (since 1967) and Farabella (since 1998).

It is also a tourist destination due to its location at the gates of the Maiella national park, with the medieval village located just below the mountain, which can also be accessed through the Fara gorges, another element of interest for hikers.

The opportunity for the project is provided by the presence of an old textile factory that is now abandoned and in an advanced state of decay. The factory, owned by the Cocco pasta factory, could become a multifunctional hub of pasta culture, comprising an interactive museum/academy on the history of pasta and its relationship with the natural resources of Fara San Martino, with primary reference to water and a cultural centre for collective events.

The territory of Fara San Martino is very hard but the inhabitants have known how to make the best out of it. A major asset is linked to the morphology of the territory of the small rocky valley and to the most important of its natural resources: the water of the Verde River, which historically represents a great energy wealth for the community. The river narrows as it slips into a series of fast rapids, and then plunges into a succession of thunderous and powerful waterfalls. For many years it has set the wool industries in motion, which transformed its movement into strength.

The key role that water has had, in fact, is testified by the productive activities of this town which, starting from the end of the 1700s, saw the growth of the woolen mills which dealt with carding and dyeing the wool. In the historic woolen mills, wool was processed to create fabrics and blankets embellished with floral designs and figures that lead back to Longobard figurative art.

