# Honors Thesis

Master's Degree Architecture for Sustainability.

Abstract

*Think Regenerative. Beyond Sustainability: a Method for Urban Regeneration*

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Contemporary cities are facing increasingly complex environmental and social conditions that traditional sustainability approaches struggle to address. Mitigation alone, although necessary, is no longer sufficient to reverse the ongoing degradation processes affecting ecosystems, public spaces, and local communities. Within this context, urban regeneration emerges as a paradigm capable of reframing the city through an evolutionary perspective, guiding design toward the production of systemic value.

This thesis proposes a methodology for reading and assessing the regenerative capacity of urban projects, developed through a combination of literature review, case-study analysis, and insights gathered from direct field observations, thematic workshops, and hands-on design experiences.

The method is structured around five thematic domains — Resources/Energy/Mobility, Social, Biodiversity, Water Management, and Temperature & Air Quality — understood as interdependent dimensions of urban vitality and as essential lenses through which to interpret the complexity of the city.

The application to the case study of Piazza Bottesini, in the Aurora district of Turin, allows for testing the method's effectiveness in analysing contexts marked by environmental and social fragilities and in orienting strategies that can be replicated in other urban settings.

The results indicate that regeneration should not be conceived as a fixed goal, but as an ongoing process requiring design tools capable of engaging with the city as an integrated system, where the synergy between actors, resources, and relationships becomes the foundation for coherent and perceivable transformations over time.

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