

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
FIRST SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Science in Eco-Design
Honors theses

Systemic approach applied to territory.

Giaveno's town case study

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The developed work represents a projected hypothesis of systemic approach applied to a territory.

The subject of the research is the municipality of Giaveno, located in the valley of Sangone, province of Turin.

The elaborate of thesis constitute a support for the designer and a guidebook for a community; the first step to a sustainable future for the territory. Compound of seven volumes, encourage a reticular and not linear reading of the proposed contents. The choice of the cognitive path is free; the reader generates his own knowledge in an independent way.



The world where we live is crossing a time of deeply crisis that involves every aspect of our lives. The reasons are related to a perception crisis.

We have to admit that mechanistic model, which is at the bottom of most of modern societies, is completely obsolete to resolve our current problems.

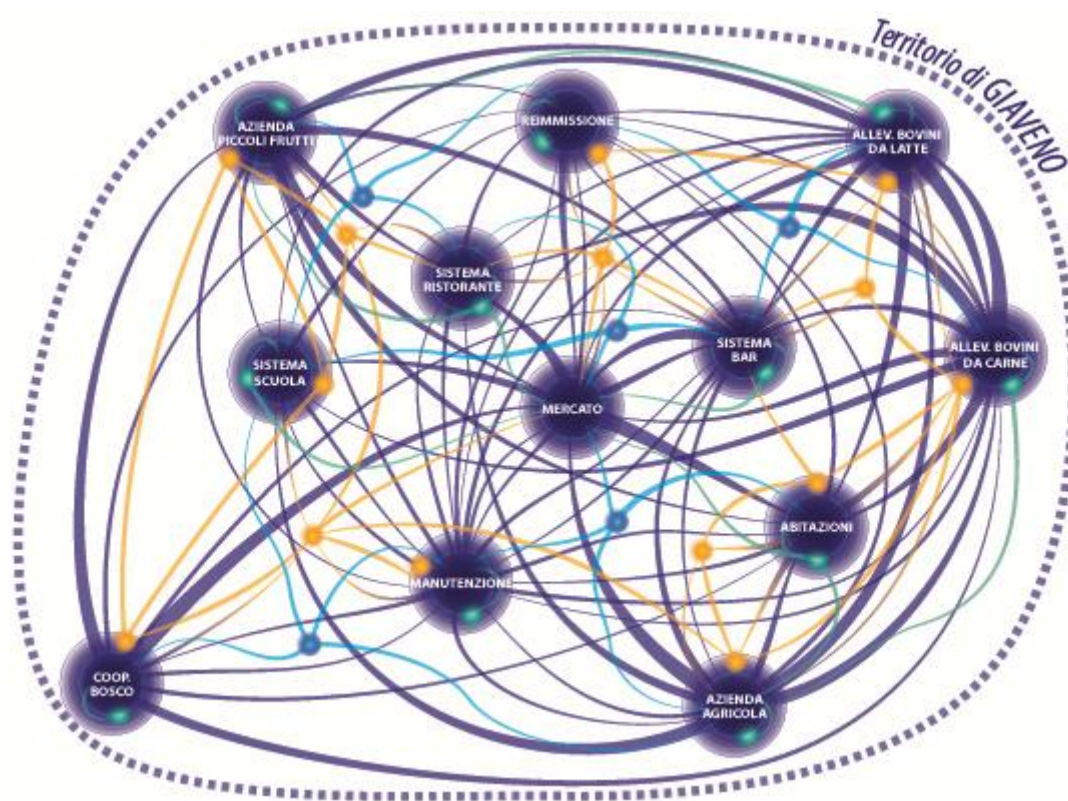
The society needs a change of paradigm, to revalue our thoughts and our values; a transition from mechanism to holism.

An excessive propensity to rational and analytic thoughts, and self-assertive and competition values, led us to a kind of society strongly anti-ecological and unfair. The solutions that we can set to change the conditions have to be sustainable.

The systemic thinking proposed a life vision, as a complex relationships network. A system is the resulting of the relationships of collaboration and interdependence that subsist between the different components of the system itself. Understanding the ecosystems correspond to understand networks inside networks.

Systems can be artificial, natural or social; opened, closed or isolated. A municipality is a social system, and his components have to be understood in a holistic way, to lead the community to a sustainable development.

Starting from the holistic study of territory, our research is focused on redesigning the relationships between the different components that characterize the system; trying to strengthen the relations between local activities, promote the creation of new ones and generate new jobs. The whole aim is to stimulate the local economy and to improve the environmental and social welfare.

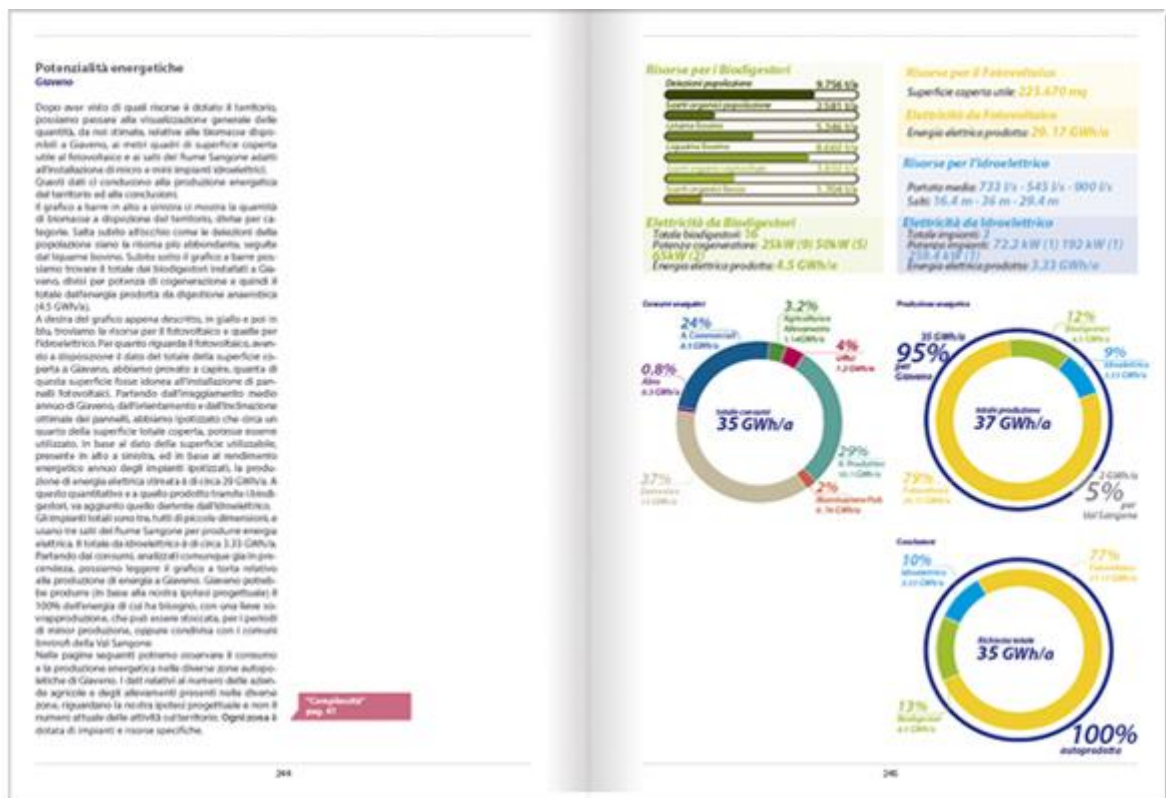


The complexity that we deal, has allowed us to define a project methodology made of different phases all highly interconnected between them. It foresees an active and conscious participation of the reference community, and a respect of the identity of the belonging territory.

The technical knowledge of the designer coevolves together with the social knowledge of the community.

The project process developed, contemplate a transitional phase between the actual model and the systemic model. The result is a first qualitative hypothesis of the Giaveno system, a first quantitative hypothesis of the fluxes that characterize the different services and activities that are part of the system, and a vision of the energetic, water, and food potentialities of the commune.

Through the valorization of local recourses, the strengthening of relationships between the players that characterize the system, and the cooperative and collaborative participation of the members of the community, Giaveno could satisfy entirely their own needs of food, energy and water.



Our thesis research, shows how feasible and desirable can be the practice realization of a project of systemic approach applied to the territory. The blue economy model development is creative and aims to the welfare of a community and their belonging territory. For us the systemic model isn't a simple valid alternative to the actual model, but represent a (eco) logic evolution to a sustainable and fair future.

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