



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO

Honors thesis

COURSE OF
ARCHITECTURE CONSTRUCTION CITY

Abstract

**Regeneration of marginal alpine territories: the case of
Maira and Grana valleys**

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July 2019

Sixty percent of the Italian territory is defined as marginal area. Marginal areas are borderline territories, sparsely populated and, apparently, fragile. Although, in a sustainable development perspective, they are a perfect field to test innovative policies and new age economy. The Internal Areas National Strategy, carried out thanks to the cohesion policies department, has dealt with intervention programs for borderline territories, using both innovation and local traditions since 2014.

The present study, pilot area of Piedmont region for the program, presents an excellent situation for a critical reinterpretation of the territory. Through the years, dynamic administrators, available institutions and positive feedbacks from the population have allowed the growth of forefront initiatives, mostly developing tourism. Aiming at a sectorial tourism, based on trekking and environmental heritage, the local policies have made the area a singular and essential destination, above all for the German, Swiss and Austrian tourism.

This work offers an integrated analysis of economic evaluations and territorial policies, in order to give an overall framework of the present study, with the purpose of laying the foundations for future investments in a cohesion perspective.

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