



**Politecnico
di Torino**

Honors Thesis

Master's Degree Architecture for Sustainability.

Abstract

**Coexistence spaces.
Apulian territories of agricultural and energy production**

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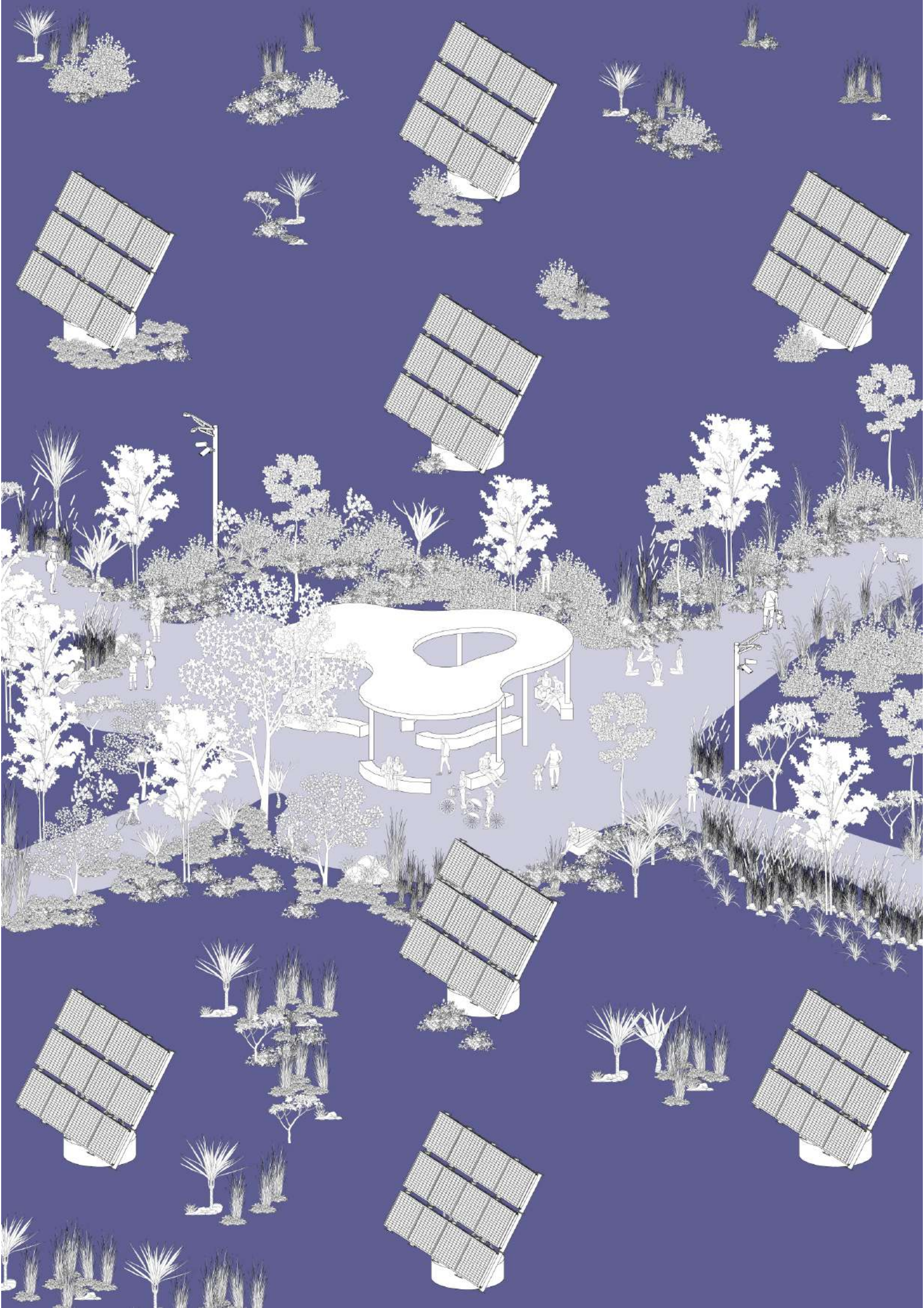
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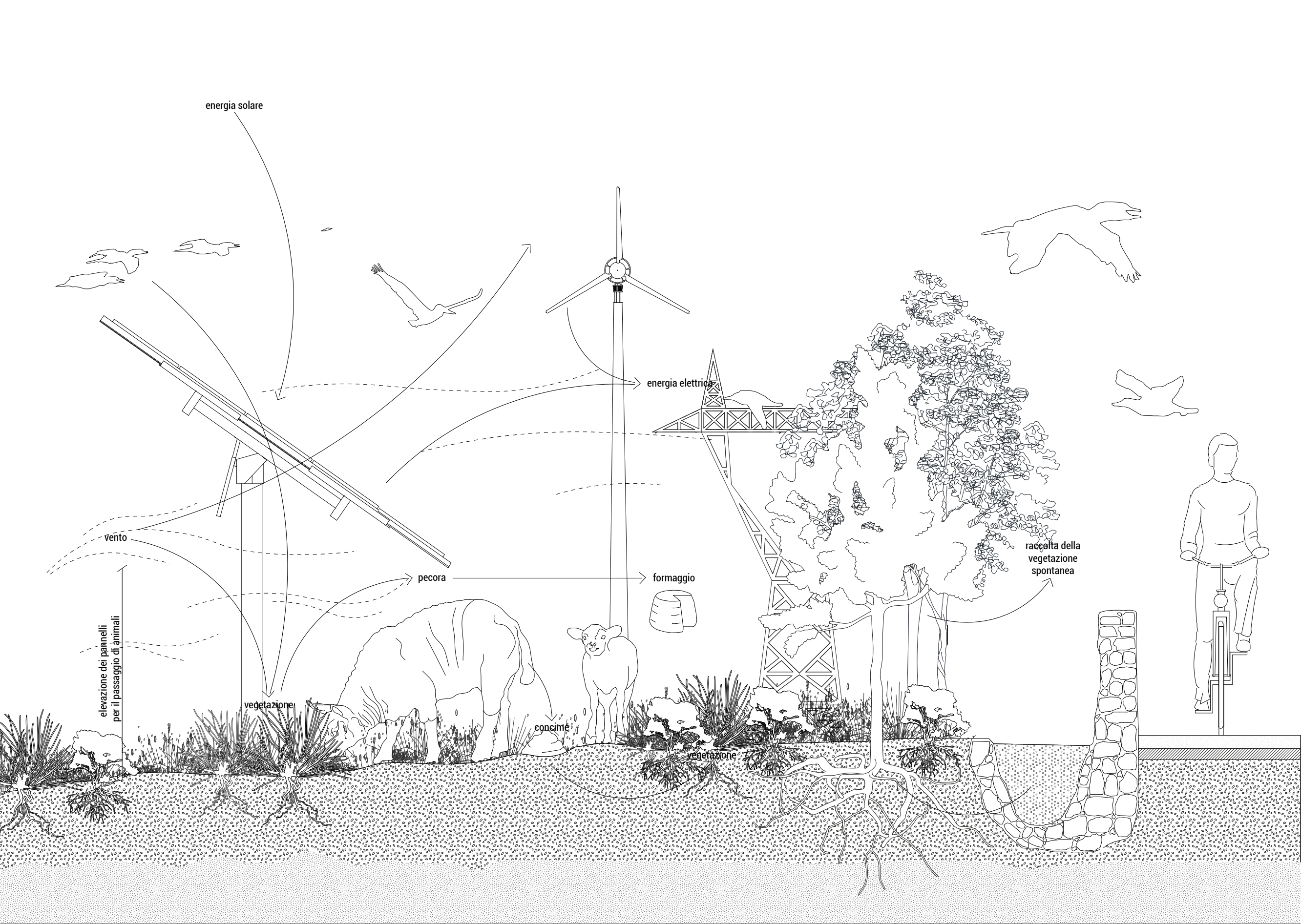
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February 2024

This thesis deals with the contemporary radical transformations of the Apulian territory and its landscape, starting from the hypothesis that Apulia is an extreme case of an extensive monocultural settlement approach and that this approach is the prevalent reason for its own crises. In order to investigate this hypothesis, the work moves in two directions: the first is a reading of the spatial forms of Apulian production, focusing on agricultural production, since Apulia is the region in Italy with the highest number of hectares engaged in agriculture and its economy is based on primary and secondary agricultural production. What emerges is a phenomenology of the settlement forms that characterize the region and which confirm the monocultural nature of agricultural activity. The second direction, on the other hand, is the observation of two crisis phenomena, described as those punctual events that in a limited time have produced a radical change in the landscape. These are, in particular, the proliferation since 2013 of the *Xylella Fastidiosa* (XF) bacterium and the succession of policies to promote the installation of energy production plants from renewable sources (RES) starting from the national incentives with particular reference to the Conto Energia of 2008 and 2010 and the Regional Laws of 2011 on land consumption by RES. Although they are of a different nature and have a different cultural impact (the former is considered a reason for economic collapse, the latter, on the contrary, an opportunity for economic redemption), the two events are here observed together for their ability to radically change the territory in a very short time. The description of a crisis as perhaps concluded as that of the XF – which in ten years contaminated and exterminated 21 million olive trees distributed over 183 thousand hectares – allows us to recognize the monocultural and extractive characters of the territory showing all its vulnerabilities. The same characters can be seen in the exploitation of agricultural soils in Apulia for the production of renewable energy. One can recognize, in the RES and in the dense infrastructure that supports this production, an evolving transformative event that, starting from the permits and projects already approved, triggers a radical modification of the productive territory, defining a new monoculture, this time of the energy type, with environmental, social and economic outcomes on the agricultural territory not dissimilar to those caused by XF. Apulia, in fact, produces 14.9% of the national photovoltaic output and 70% of the systems are large and installed on agricultural land. In both cases, space is not only the lens through which to read processes, but also the place where to read the social and economic impacts of an extensive resource exploitation approach. The third part of the thesis, on the other hand, recognising how this approach is at the root of a territorial crisis that is more structural than eventemential, proposes the alternative of radical mediation. Far from being a do-gooder or pacifying form, the mediation proposal confronts physically and visually impenetrable extensive zoning and the reason for environmental conflicts themselves. In this sense, the spatial forms of coexistence and interpenetration between human, plant and, above all, technological presences such as production facilities are intended not only as a strategy of balance but also as an attempt to regenerate soils and landscapes.





energia solare

energia elettrica

vento

pecora

formaggio

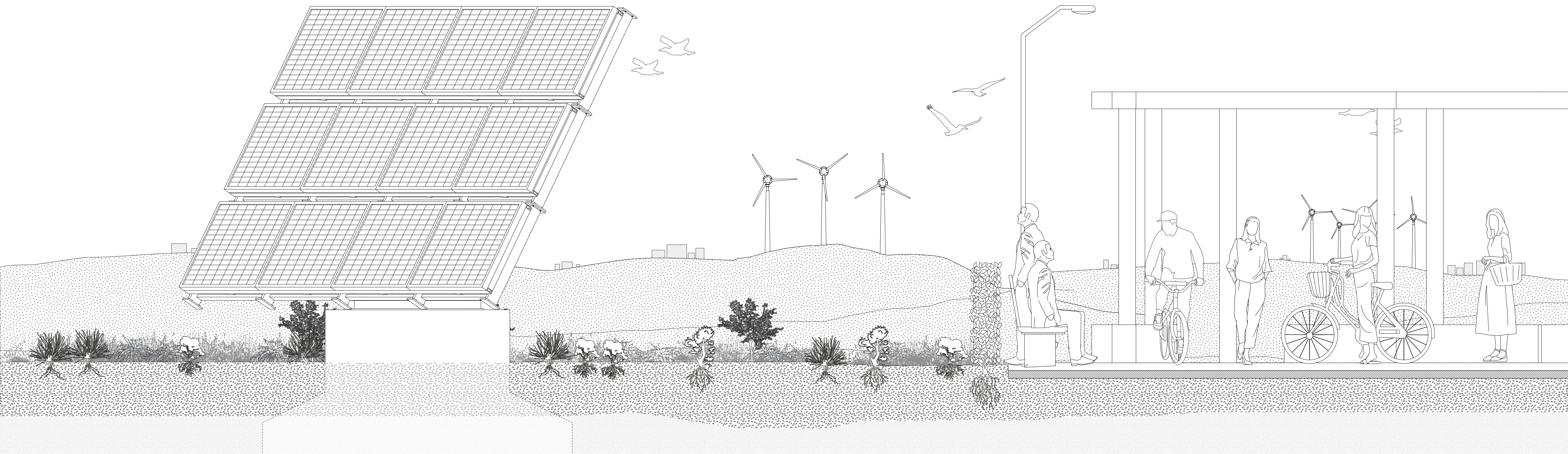
raccolta della
vegetazione
spontanea

elevazione dei pannelli
per il passaggio di animali

vegetazione

concime

vegetazione



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