



**Politecnico
di Torino**

Honors Thesis

Master's degree Science in Sustainable Architecture

Abstract

Go away, come back, stay. Challenges and opportunities in the inner areas: the case of Orco valley.

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Testo abstract (4000 caratteri max) (Century Gothic 12, interlinea 16 pt). Usare lo stile "Testo Abstract".

In recent years, some awareness has emerged, leading to a consideration of residency and the world of work. The escalating housing pressure in urban areas often results in a significant increase in rental and property prices, adversely affecting the inhabitants' quality of life and contributing to overcrowding, deficient traffic management, and poor air quality. Simultaneously, certain areas are undergoing a profound depopulation process, constituting 48% of the national territory. These regions are conservatories of vast architectural, landscape, cultural, and traditional heritage. Despite their considerable territorial and demographic expanse, these areas remain underutilised, presenting untapped potential that could contribute substantially to the country's wealth and prosperity. Recognizing the significant untapped potential in these areas, which could generate wealth for the country, is crucial. Additionally, the condition of these territories incurs costs related to hydrogeological instability, requiring attention, management, and care by the inhabitants to mitigate the risk. Italy faces a substantial challenge linked to this theme due to its diverse meteorological, climatic, topographical, geological, and morphological characteristics, magnified by climate change that is leading to more extreme weather events. Considering the opportunities that technology offers, especially heightened after the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, this thesis work aims to investigate the possibility of revitalizing these territories in a more inclusive and sustainable way. Specifically, the research is focused on Valle Orco, an area in which "Iren", an energy and environmental company, has historically played, and continues to play a fundamental role. Can companies serve as catalysts for the development of the territories in which they operate?

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