

Sustainable urban farming: a vector for ecological transition

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Session 5

Ecological transition



Landscape/City a new configuration of Rural/Civic contemporaneous life—environments

Prof. Giorgio Pizziolo, prof. Rita Micarelli

IIAS International Institute for Advanced Studies in System Research and Cybernetics, Ontario, Ca



Landscape/City takes shape



Within the processes of Ecological Transition the *Landscape/City* can be a **nucleus** and a **mover** of the in-becoming **Life Environments**, a place where the multiple webs of the town are closely entwined around the environmental texture.



Such a **holistic configuration** equally involves the **territory**, the **living spaces**, the **single persons** and the **social communities** reciprocally **linked** and **ecologically balanced**. In this sense the *Landscape/City* can emerge as an **aesthetic catalyser** of new **projecting processes**.

This phenomenon develops at the *real/local environmental dimension* but it is strongly connected to the unbounded informational *web environment* in a continuous reciprocal entanglement.

In other words the *Landscape/ City* is *nothing but a very relationship* between a **consolidated social trim** (the traditional town) and a **new organization** of its environmental context to which the ancient town had been referred.

The very Nursery of such relationship are the both Territory and its natural aesthetic Configuration.

A complex and multiple system of relationships where the Action-Research of Persons and Community play a fundamental role, just as reference points to their whole environmental contexts that contain and harbour both the City and the Landscape.

If in such a condition the two would be related each other and involved in reciprocal dynamics we could think of a new entity able to harbour and nurse an in becoming human /environmental context .

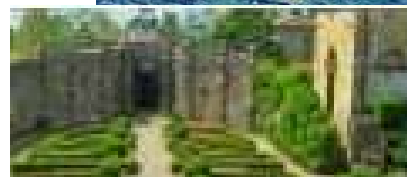
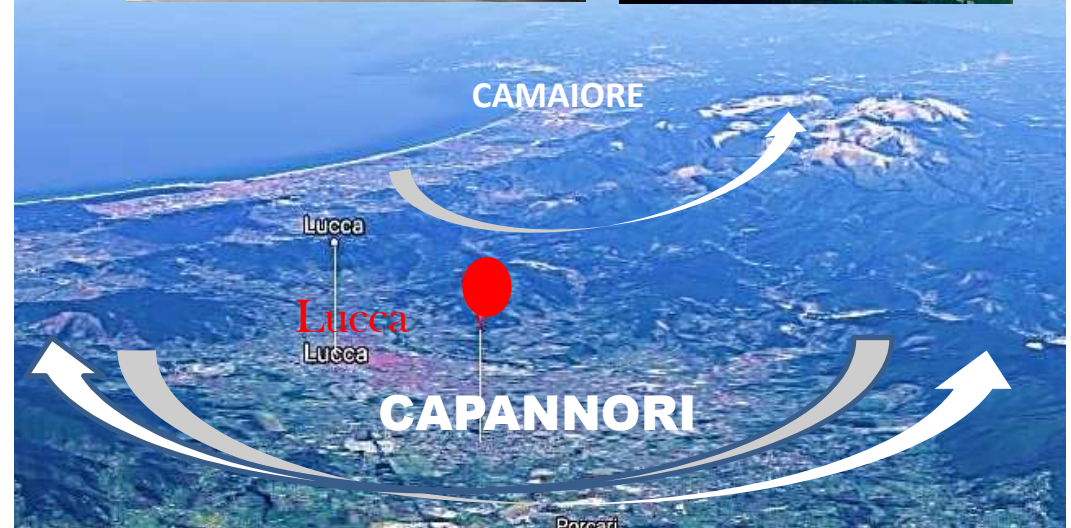




In Tuscany and in Italy **such realities** (ranging from small villages or town, to little parts of urban or metropolitan areas) **are still alive and manifest throughout the habits, experiences and life styles of their citizens even if they are overwhelmed by the impelling globalization.**



Within such realities a lot of **Communities improve their knowledge, experiences and projects that could open the ways to different configurations of Landscape City.** On this base we consider that multiple versions of **Landscape City** are possible and can be realized within such socio-environmental conditions, according to **various procedures, that can continuously take shape on each territorial reality throughout evolutionary participative processes.**

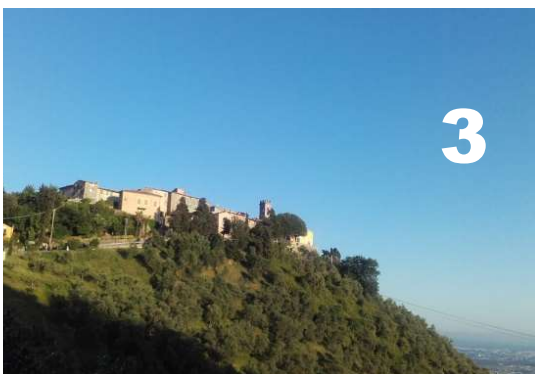




THE RURAL/URBAN LANDSCAPES

1 MOUNTAIN **2** ANCIENT TOWN **3** HILLS

4 DRAINED AREAS AND URBAN SPRAWL **5** COASTAL AREA

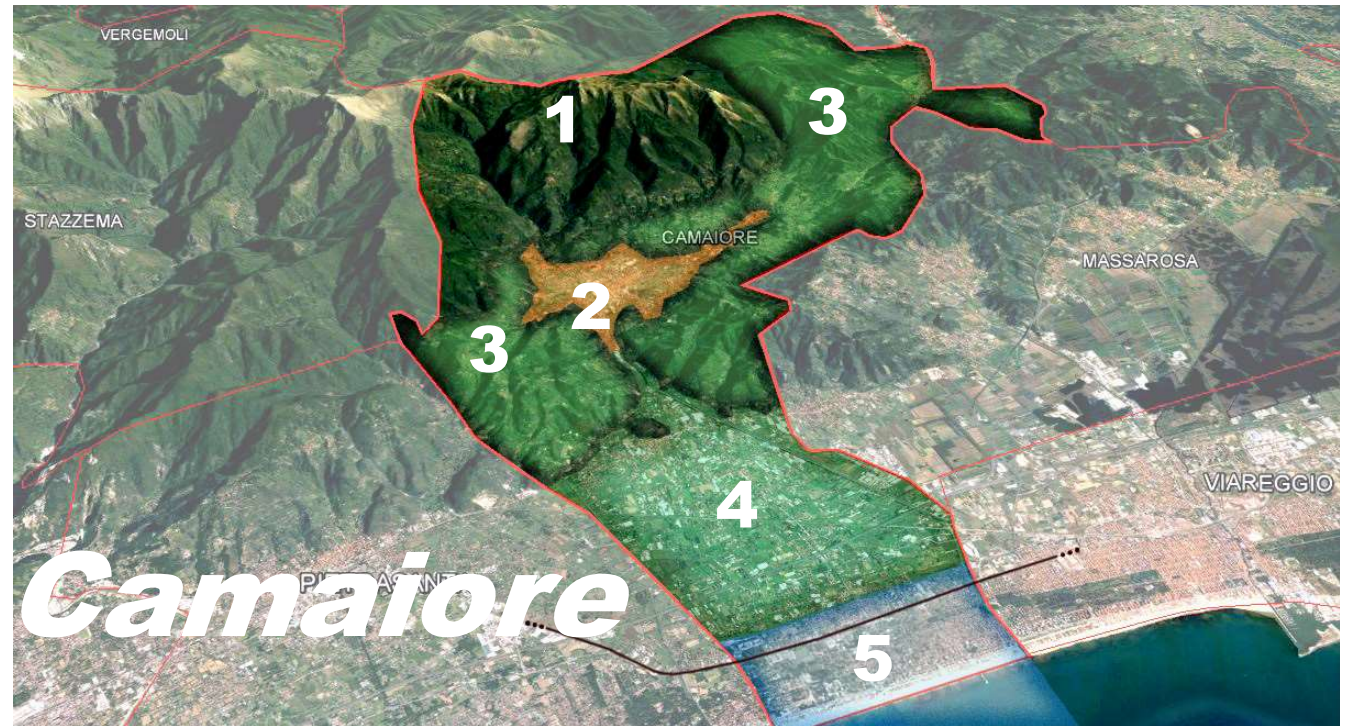
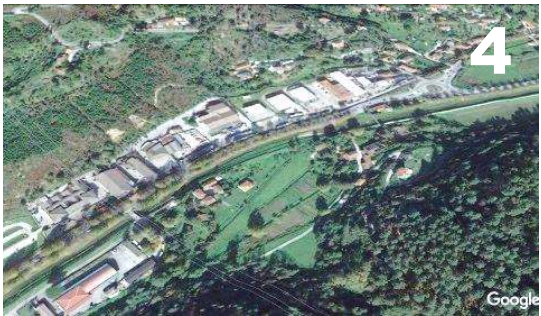


The territory is articulated as a very urban/ environmental structure extended between the Apuan Alps Mountain 1; the north Tirreno Sea 5; through a pre-mountain hills 3; and a drained fertile plain 4; (all crossed by small rivers and torrents and drainage canals); an urban ancient centre, 2.

CAMAIORE THE RURAL/URBAN LANDSCAPES

1 MOUNTAIN 2 ANCIENT TOWN 3 HILLS

4 DRAINED AREAS AND URBAN SPRAWL 5 COASTAL AREA



Different conditions and separate life styles -some time contrasting – **characterize the municipal territories :**
a seaside resort on the beaches;
an ancient small town (founded and planned in medieval age) **a sprawled undifferentiated fabric** (rural/ urban/artisan gathered along the ancient roads and canals) ;
the hills (still inhabited and properly used by micro farmers , **a well shaped mountain** (sheep and cultivations managed by perseverant old and young farmers).



These differentiated situations , have been progressively exasperated, to the prejudice of their original ties and the entire life environment.

Despite this impelling crisis, the territory is still alive and humming with activities while the consciousness of this crisis is propagating among attentive social groups and citizens.

In this stimulating environment is maturing a new idea of ***Mountain/Sea Landscape City*** developable throughout progressive experiential activities, spontaneously managed by Groups of Citizens, promoted by the local Government, supported by local and external Experts, all minded to potentiate the original dynamics of this territory) or create new Relational Fields both among them and towards external Environments .

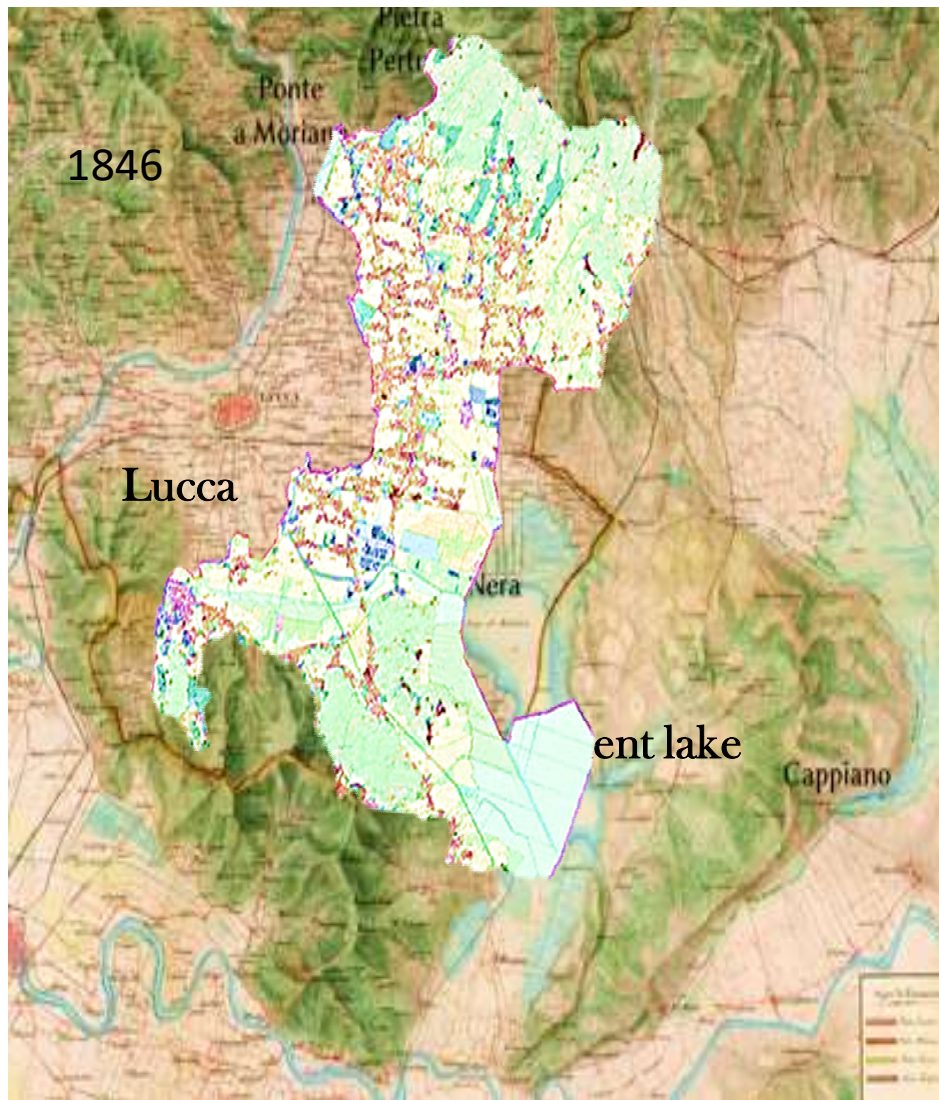


In this way a lot of Action-Researches, all based on the local ecological resources, could be triggered:

- **Respect of the mountain, appropriated management of mountain natural and farming productions** (water, soil, animals, fruits)
- **Acknowledgement and potentiation of Hills and Plain Agriculture**
- **Enhancement of specific Archaeological researches** (from Neanderthal to Medieval age)
- **Strengthening and promotion of the territorial ancient structures** (by an integrated appreciation and valorisation of the local History, Art, Architecture, technological-territorial Apparatus...)

Throughout such Action -Research Experiences the different life environments, with their habitats , human experiences and activities, could be enabled to potentiate and connect each other as the new configuration of **Landscape City** by using and potentiating the four **Agro-BIO- Regions** (Agro pastoral Mountain, Mediterranean Hills, Rural Gardens , Agro farm in the plain) . **Here the Landscape/City could flourish and develop.**





A low land, a wet plain surrounded by the ancient Serchio River, the marshland of ancient Bientina Lake

embraced by the Monte Pisano on the south and the Apennine piedmont area on the north

Forty ancient small villages , a large agricultural area, small torrents, fountains, resurgences, underground waters which run into the Serchio River today are fully immersed in a

Contemporary Urban Sprawl

CAPANNORI

and *Lucca* 1846-2016

2° EXAMPLE



They still constitute a large **RURAL/CIVIC LIFE ENVIRONMENT**, founded on a network of **LITTLE ANCIENT VILLAGES** and **RURAL AREAS**, all related to hilly landscapes and historic Farms and Villas.



Today, the hilly landscapes have been protected from the aggressive recent transformations, but the plain has been progressively invaded by factories, new residences, while the ancient roads have been invaded by a dangerous traffic, (like urban motorways).



The quality of life of the local community is exasperated, while the territories became a sort of *dumping periphery* for all kinds of undesirable activities of the wider surrounding area (agriculture, traffic, industry, urban waste incineration).

Such increasing diseases provoked a lot of creative reactions among the citizens (zero waste /circular economy, alternative management of the traffic) **realized by permanent spontaneous Laboratories for a responsible participation in the public management of their territories.**



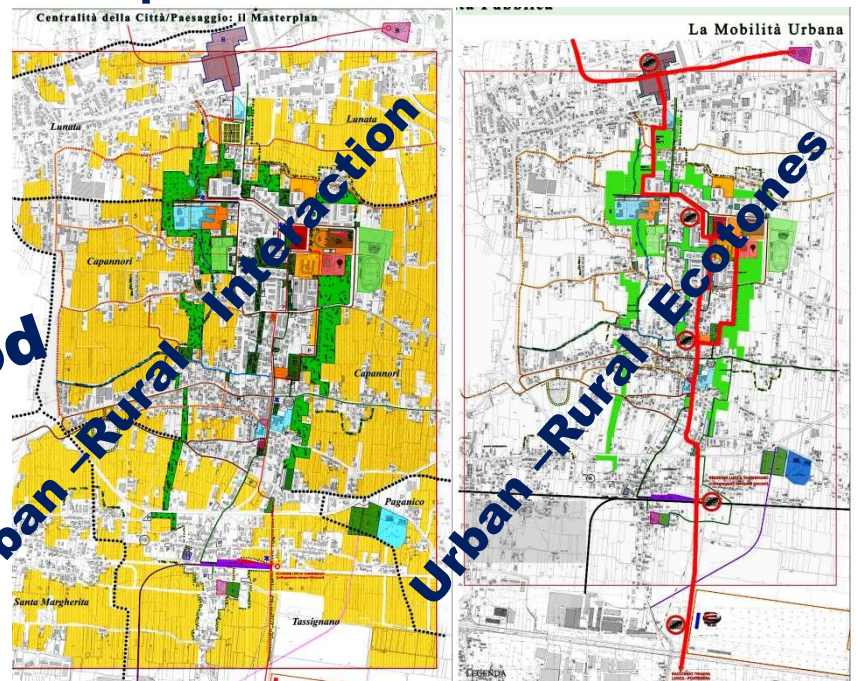
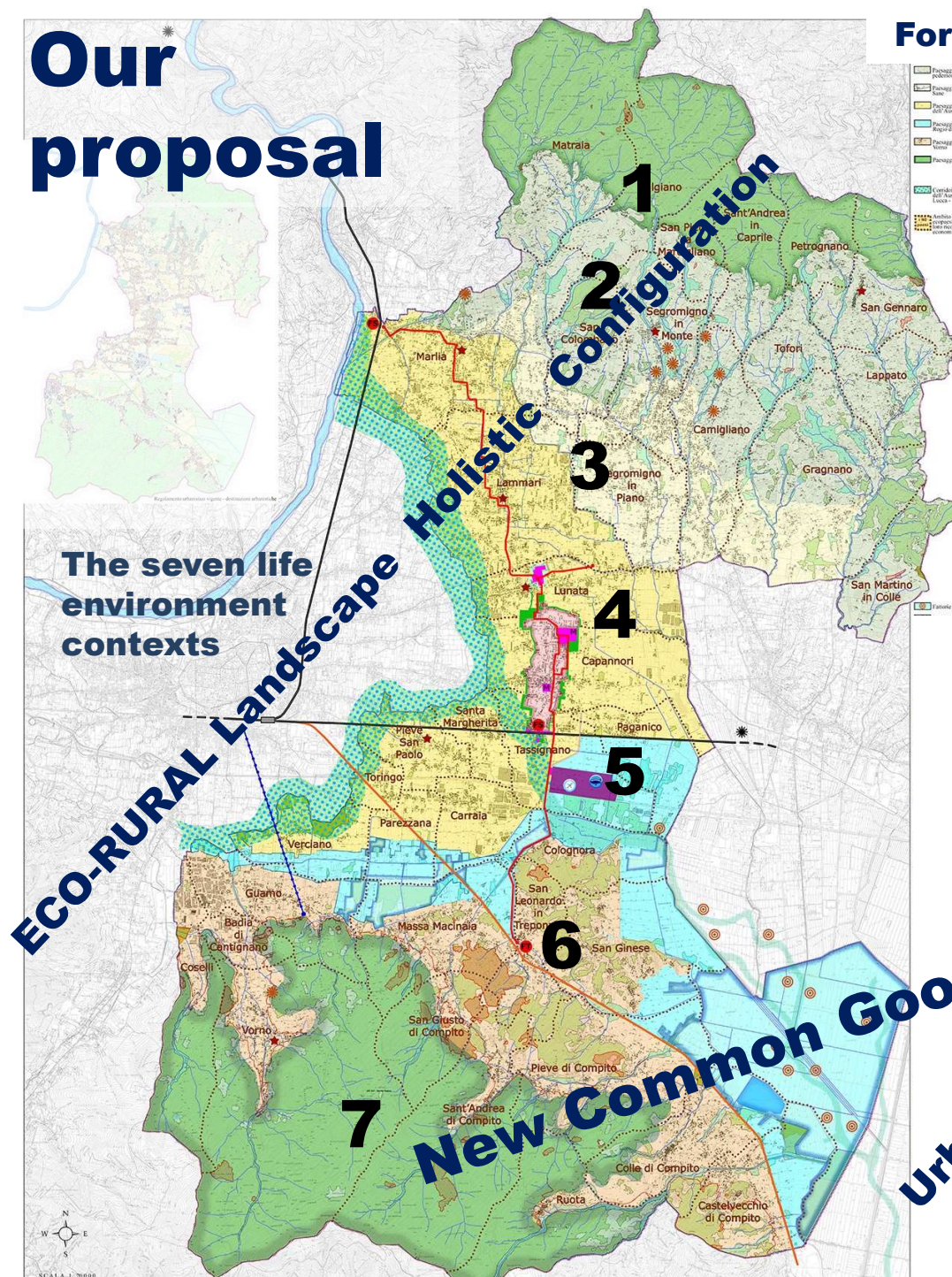
Our proposal

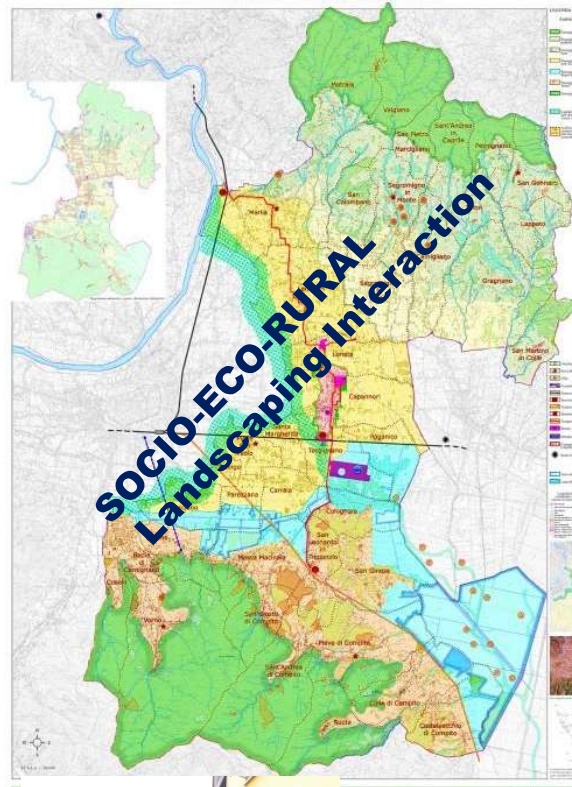
For a sustainable evolution of this territory

The re-composition /re-organization of the micro local initiatives through a communitarian territorial experience towards a new Landscape conomy

Such a collaborative- responsible condition suggested the idea of a new ethic/aesthetic Life Environment, considered as a potential Common Good where solidarity, economy, beauty, reciprocal learning can be interweaved by a continuous interactive *action* – research practiced among Citizens, Public Bodies, other Institutions, local Owners and Operators.

The seven life environment contexts





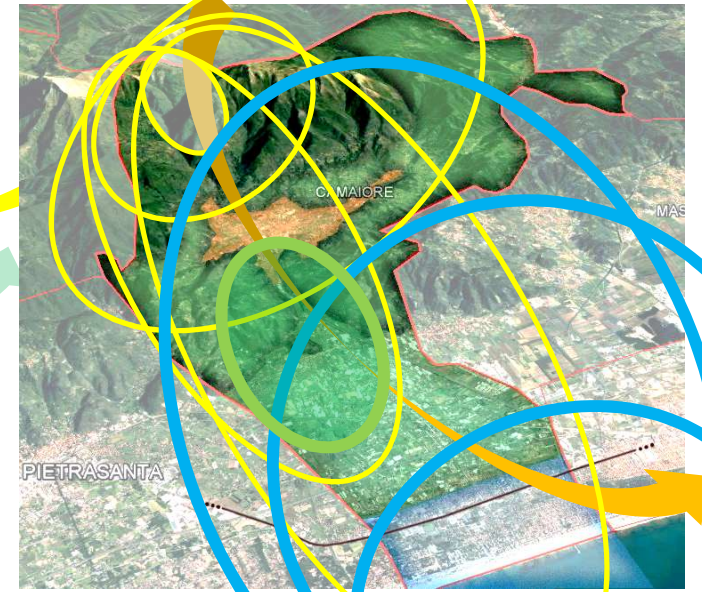
This holistic vision leads to a new configuration of Landscape City, rural and urban at the same time, where complex social dynamics interact to turn the present situation into a new condition, rural and urban at the same time, where the Rural Contexts (partially abandoned or hyper exploited) and the small Urban Dwellings (peripheral urban fabric) could be re-organized as Landscape Ambits (villages, mountain, hill, plain, underground water and wet areas mutually linked and ecologically integrated) where the contemporary rurality and the urban activities co-exist and create a new quality of life within a new evolutive Bioregion.

The Groups of citizens, expert and promoters of the *Filiera Corta Market*, Zero Waste management , Alternative Mobility could propagate and intensify their activities as territorial *Project Laboratories* .



Their purposes could be referred to the whole municipal territory and interweaved with the other activities already in course.

The interaction of
could assume a new ac
economic and experier
Landscape/ City , alive.



**On these relational
Textures and Fields the
Landscape/City could
FLOURISH, DEVELOP
and ...
*RESOUND !***