

## **Scienze del Territorio**

### **Issue no. seven: “Heritage communities for fragile territories”**

## **Call for papers – deadline: 15 July 2018**

Since long the whole Italian mountainous and hilly system has been suffering a dangerous process of abandonment, with serious consequences in terms of environmental security, territorial presidium and socio-cultural vitality. During the last decade these negative effects have been tragically exacerbated by a series of frequent and devastating seismic events, which affected great part of the central Apennine, from Marche to Molise, sadly replicating the strong earthquakes that in the last century periodically hit the Italian “highlands”.

The strenuous resistance of some inhabitants to the abandonment of the places of their everyday life is not sufficient to significantly reduce the demographic decline and the consequent socio-cultural and economic impoverishment of many “internal” areas.

To invert this trend and reverse the consolidated paradigm of “small centres on the brink of extinction”, it is therefore needed to sustain local communities in developing diffuse forms of renewed self-organisation of and of self-governance of territorial heritages, outlining through action-research processes new visions and narration for the “bone of Italy”, so far scarcely investigated.

The transition from “territories of resistance to heritage communities” constituted the focus of the V annual convention of the Società dei Territorialisti/e (<https://goo.gl/1rGjUH>), held in Matelica (MC, IT) on 12-14 October 2017.<sup>1</sup>

The seventh number of the Journal *Scienze del Territorio* will further explore some of the themes emerged during the convention and will collect in the section “Scienza in azione” – *double blind* peer-reviewed – works discussing the development of a new model of social and territorial regeneration of fragile areas, based on the knowledge and valorisation of heritage assets.

The editorial board will accept contributions consistent with the scientific and cultural objectives of the Journal (<http://www.fupress.net/index.php/SdT>), written in Italian, English, French or Spanish, and exploring all or some of the research tracks opened during the Convention and referable to “fragile territories”:

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<sup>1</sup> The Convention’s main themes have been developed through direct apprehension and contact with some retro-innovative practices expressed by the local context and by other territorial contexts, the discussion of the case studies presented in the thematic workshops and, finally, a round table on public policies for “fragile” territories. To further develop the discussion started in Matelica, the Journal will dedicate a number to the topic, as for previous conventions of the SdT (<https://goo.gl/pvuVPx>; <https://goo.gl/h9To64>; <https://goo.gl/1sjosk>; <https://goo.gl/xYjPWR>).

**1. Heritage knowledges and visions.** How to build a collective vision of landscape and of territorial heritage, combining expert and local knowledge, skills and representations representations? What to do for this vision to integrate full awareness of potential natural threats, and effectively confront emergency logics and practices? How to learn considering of natural hazards, earthquakes included, as structural invariants of a territory?

How relevant is the contribution of external actors in triggering processes of territorial heritage capitalization?

Which are the skills to activate for developing programs of cultural heritage prevention and maintenance able to overcome the logic of ex-post restoration? Which best practices are more effective than obligations and regulations for uses?

How to pass from digital algorithmic geographies, where quantitative fluxes outweigh local passive subjects, to multimedia and multisensory geographies embedding the full potential of territories and communities?

How to (re)formulate the concept of bio-region in terms of social recognition of territorial heritage as founding element of bioregional self-sustainable systems?

**2. Territorial self-governance and self-organisation.** How to sustain collective vision and management in the transition from knowledge/representation to the implementation, avoiding processes of full delegation that often engender phenomena of institutional irresponsibility?

Which roles plays the recognition of the shape and extension of the “territory of everyday life” in the full exercise of all the different forms of democracy?

How can we go beyond the classic triangle local authority / associations / citizens?

How can we activate the “active earthquake” figure to overcome the “military occupation” of the catastrophe economy and the risk of gentrification of internal areas?

How to start innovative self-organisation processes of pointing at the reconstruction of communal networks able to sustain social resumption, alternative information and accountability of public decision makers?

**3. New productions of new local communities.** Which ways toward the re-establishment of intimate bonds with environments returned to productivity through the valorisation of territorial heritages?

Which are the figures to privilege as co-producers and co-creators of local goods and services to share in the network?

Are Systems of New Local Sustainable Economy (SELS), Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), mixed consumers/producers figures (GAS, Territorially responsible enterprises, etc.) the best forms of community renaissance?

Are the diversion of productive subjects from market economy (solidarity funds, etc.), hospitality models for migrants, constructive ways to follow?

Which neo-rural and, more generally, neo-productive practices can provide a new economic foundation of urban bioregions?

Which *prosumers* energetic communities for an energetic capitalisation aiming at outdoing the carbon destructive model?

Which historic goals, such as individual and collective health and wellbeing, can be intercepted by the new settlement dynamics of highlands?

**4. For a new planning approach to reconstruction.** How can we contextualise earthquakes in the more general framework of the fragility factors of our territory? How can we regenerate the virtuous morphologic typologies of the urban and rural territorial heritage to contrast the trivial simplification of the global dimension? How can we oppose a complex settlement model able to generate its own invariants norms informing landscapes of a high quality?

How can we thwart the threats of post-seismic urban reconstructions determining “emergency housing solutions” (SEA) and producing by sheer addition a landscape deprived of any distinctive quality?

Which is the role of infrastructural corridors and of new systems of “soft” mobility in the framework of a bioregional approach to the accessibility of fragile areas?

Which are the elements of an unprecedented socio-technical project of reconstruction (urban and landscape planning) able to identify and sustain offsets of new post-seismic territoriality and to resuming and valorising the micro-project pre-seismic experiences of re-settlement?

How can we connect the renaissance hypothesis of earthquake areas with counter-exodus, repopulation and construction of new centralities in the internal areas?

## Submission deadline and procedures

All papers should be submitted via email to the following address: [rivista@societadeiterritorialisti.it](mailto:rivista@societadeiterritorialisti.it)

**Submission deadline: 15 July 2018.**

All submitted papers must comply with the editorial guidelines accessible at the web address <https://bit.ly/2moV8vc>.

For any further information please contact [rivista@societadeiterritorialisti.it](mailto:rivista@societadeiterritorialisti.it)