

Green Energy and Technology

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Smart Planning: Sustainability and Mobility in the Age of Change

 Springer

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Preface

This volume presents a collection of contributions on a subject of considerable interest in the ambit of studies on managing urban change. The main objective is to show that *smartness* in managing territorial changes may be implemented with urban and area interventions which ultimately aim at sustainability, pursued by suitable measures on the mobility of people, goods and information. This underlying assumption provides the structure for contributions within two large thematic areas: sustainability and mobility, which are used to map out a new approach to urban planning in Italy. We were particularly pleased to be able to involve in the editorial project the main research groups active in the field of urban sciences from the various schools of engineering operative in Italy. This book offers an overview of sustainability by urban planning scholars and provides an up-to-date review of urban mobility in the context of urban planning—topics that are of considerable interest in the development of smart cities. Environmental sustainability is universally recognized as a fundamental condition for any urban policy or urban management activity, while mobility is essential for the survival of complex urban systems. The new opportunities offered by innovations in the mobility of people, goods and information, as well as radically changing interactions and activities, are transforming cities. Including contributions by urban planning scholars, this book provides an up-to-date picture of the latest studies and innovative policies and practices in Italy, of particular interest due to its spatial, functional and social peculiarities. Sustainability and mobility must form the basis of “smart planning”—a new dimension of urban planning linked to two main innovations: procedural innovation in managing territorial change, and technological innovation in the generation, processing and distribution of data (big data) for the creation of new “digital environments” such as GIS, BIM, models of augmented and mixed reality, useful for describing changes in human settlements in real time. The contributions are structured as follows: the innovative methodology is first described, and procedures and tools are then proposed for urban interventions with specific reference to real cases within the Italian context. As already highlighted in the volume entitled: “Smart Energy in the Smart City”, published in the same series in which this publication represents a natural evolution, the Italian context represents, also in

this case, a test bench of major interest due to such specific aspects as geography, socio-economic variability between the North and South of the country, differentiated local development potential, climate and exposure to various conditions of risk for urban systems.

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Contents

Part I Sustainability

Knowledge of Places: An Ontological Analysis of the Social Level in the City	3
Rossella Stufano, Dino Borri, Domenico Camarda and Stefano Borgo	
1 Introduction	3
2 Urban Planning	5
3 Carving up Geographical Places	6
4 The Case Study	7
5 Analyzing the Social Level	10
6 About the Analytical Frame	12
References	13
Smart Land: Regeneration and Sustainability in Lost Scenarios and New Performances	15
Donatella Cialdea	
1 Introduction	15
2 Landscapes in Evolution and Neutral Spaces	17
3 Living Landscapes: Boundaries and Limits	22
4 Sustainability Versus Resources Utilization: The Project's Results	26
5 Conclusions and Remarks	30
References	34
Reducing Urban Entropy Employing Nature-Based Solutions: The Case of Urban Storm Water Management	37
Raffaele Pelorosso, Federica Gobattoni and Antonio Leone	
1 Introduction	37
2 The Low-Entropy City	38
3 Nature-Based Solutions and Second Law of Thermodynamics	39

4 Study Case	40
5 Methods	40
6 Results	44
7 Discussion and Conclusions	45
References	47
Cities and Energy Consumption: Strategies for an Energy Saving Planning	49
Carmela Gargiulo and Laura Russo	
1 Introduction	50
2 Literature Review	51
3 Methodology	53
4 Results	58
5 Conclusions	65
References	68
Increasing Hydrological Resilience Employing Nature-Based Solutions: A Modelling Approach to Support Spatial Planning	71
Raffaele Pelorosso, Federica Gobattoni and Antonio Leone	
1 Introduction	71
2 Urban Green Infrastructure, Ecosystem Services and Resilience	72
3 Urban Resilience and Climate Change	73
4 Study Case	74
5 Methods	75
6 Results	79
7 Discussion and Conclusions	80
References	80
Indicators and Actions for the Smart and Sustainable City: A Study on Italian Metropolitan Cities	83
Rosaria Battarra, Fulvia Pinto and Maria Rosa Tremiterra	
1 Sustainable City and Smart City: Two Approaches for Dealing with Urban Challenges	83
2 Smart Environment: Indicators and Activities in a Few Italian Cities	88
3 Overview on Urban and Environmental Characteristics of the Italian Metropolitan Cities	92
4 The Environmental Dimension in Metropolitan Cities: A Field Research	95
5 Conclusions	102
References	104

Effect of Urban Greenspaces on Residential Buildings’ Energy Consumption: Case Study in a Mediterranean Climate 109
 Carmela Gargiulo, Ahmed Ayad, Andrea Tulisi and Floriana Zucaro

1 Introduction 109
 2 State of the Art 111
 3 Methodology 113
 4 Results & Discussion 118
 5 Conclusion 122
 References 123

Integrating Green Infrastructure and Ecological Corridors: A Study Concerning the Metropolitan Area of Cagliari (Italy) 127
 Ignazio Cannas, Sabrina Lai, Federica Leone and Corrado Zoppi

1 Introduction 127
 2 Case Study 129
 3 Multifunctional Green Infrastructures as a Means to Integrate Biodiversity Protection into Spatial Planning 130
 4 The Identification of ECs in the Metropolitan City of Cagliari 134
 5 Merging Metropolitan GI and ECs 137
 6 Conclusions 141
 References 143

Sustainability of Local Plans and Urban Sectors. Proposal for an Operating Procedure 147
 Giuseppe Mazzeo

1 New Meanings of Sustainability 147
 2 New Processes of Assessment 151
 3 Methodology 152
 4 Conclusions 161
 References 162

Conflicts and Sustainable Planning: Peculiar Instances Coming from Val D’agri Structural Inter-municipal Plan 163
 Giuseppe Las Casas, Francesco Scorza and Beniamino Murgante

1 Introduction 163
 2 The Implementation Context: A Synthetic Description of Strategic Sectors 165
 3 Conflicts as Evidence of Liquid Society Paradigm 168
 4 Dramatic Dilemma: Protection or Exploitation? 170
 5 “Energy Museum” Project 171
 6 Conclusions 174
 References 176

Linking Knowledge to Action with Geodesign	179
Elisabetta Anna Di Cesare, Roberta Floris, Chiara Cocco and Michele Campagna	
1 Introduction	179
2 The Geodesign Methodological Approach	180
3 The Workshop Preparation	181
4 The Workshop Workflow	193
5 Results and Discussion	196
6 Conclusions	197
References	198
Part II Mobility	
“Smart” Planning to Enhance Nonmotorised and Safe Mobility in Today’s Cities	201
Maurizio Tira, Michela Tiboni, Silvia Rossetti and Michelle De Robertis	
1 Planning and Designing Cities for Cars: Historical Milestones	201
2 Land Use, Mobility and Automobile Dependence	205
3 How to Counteract Automobile Dependency? A Planning Point of View	208
4 Recent Development in Planning Research: Smart Planning for Nonmotorised Mobility	209
References	212
Territorial Governance and Mobility Management. A Smart Perspective for an Alpine City	215
Bruno Zanon	
1 Mobility Between Infrastructure and Service. The Role of Information	216
2 Territory and Mobility: Distance, Speed, and Behaviours	217
3 Mobility Governance: Places and Flows	218
4 Governance and ICT in Mobility Management	220
5 A Methodological Framework for a Smart Perspective	222
6 Mobility in an Alpine Region	224
7 Trento, a Smart City in the Making	225
8 Conclusions: Open Issues, New Perspectives	227
References	228
The Area Trademark for the Launch of Sustainable Processes of Smart Planning in Rural Areas	231
Mauro Francini, Sara Gaudio, Annunziata Palermo and Maria Francesca Viapiana	
1 The Aims of an Area Trademark	231

2	Technical Requisites of a Performance Specification Between Environmental, Social and Economic Quality	235
3	Case Study: The Crati Valley	236
4	The Area Trademark: Presupposition for the Definition of an Integrated Local System	247
	References	248
	Planning and Designing Walkable Cities: A Smart Approach	251
	Elisa Conticelli, Athanasios Maimaris, George Papageorgiou and Simona Tondelli	
1	Introduction	252
2	Issues and Challenges Affecting Walkability	255
3	ICT for Walkable Cities	260
4	Conclusions	265
	References	266
	A Spatial Multi-criteria Analysis Method for the Assessment of Walkability to Guide the Design of Interventions in Urban Crossings	271
	Dario Canu, Tanja Congiu and Giovanna Fancello	
1	Introduction	271
2	State of the Art	272
3	Method	274
4	Discussion of Results and Conclusions	281
	References	283
	A TOD Classification of Metro Stations: An Application in Naples	285
	Enrica Papa, Gerardo Carpentieri and Gennaro Angiello	
1	Introduction	285
2	Literature Review: TOD Indicators	286
3	The Study Area	291
4	Methodology	292
5	TOD Cluster Analysis Results	294
6	Conclusions	296
	References	297
	Slow Mobility and Cultural Tourism. Walking on Historical Paths	301
	Romano Fistola and Rosa Anna La Rocca	
1	Slow Mobility as a New Way of Exploring Territories	301
2	Historical Paths and Slow Tourism as Tools for Territorial Fruition	302
3	Cultural Paths as a Distributed Museum	305
4	Historical Path Recovery: New Technologies for the Fruition of Cultural Heritage	307

5 The Historical Paths as a Complex Tourist Cultural Product:
The Recovery of via Francigena in Campania 309

6 Recovering Historical Paths: A Methodological Proposal 314

7 Conclusions and Possible Research Developments 319

References 321

**Estimation of Mobility Flows at Sub-regional Level: An Application to
Piedmont Based on a Socioeconomic Scenario 323**

Simone Landini and Sylvie Occelli

1 Introduction 324

2 Motivation of the Study and Main Goals 325

3 Analytic Strategy: Methodological Framework and Distance Parameter
Estimation 327

4 Results and Discussion 331

5 Concluding Remarks 337

References 339

Milan: The Configuration of a Metropolis 343

Valerio Cutini, Denise Farese and Giovanni Rabino

1 Introduction 344

2 Methodology 344

3 Diachronic Analysis of the City 346

4 Correspondence to the Reality 349

5 Applications: Results and Discussion 350

6 Conclusions 356

References 357

**Shaping the Sustainable Urban Mobility.
The Catania Case Study 359**

Paolo La Greca and Francesco Martinico

1 Land Use and Transport Planning 359

2 The Catania Case Study 362

References 373