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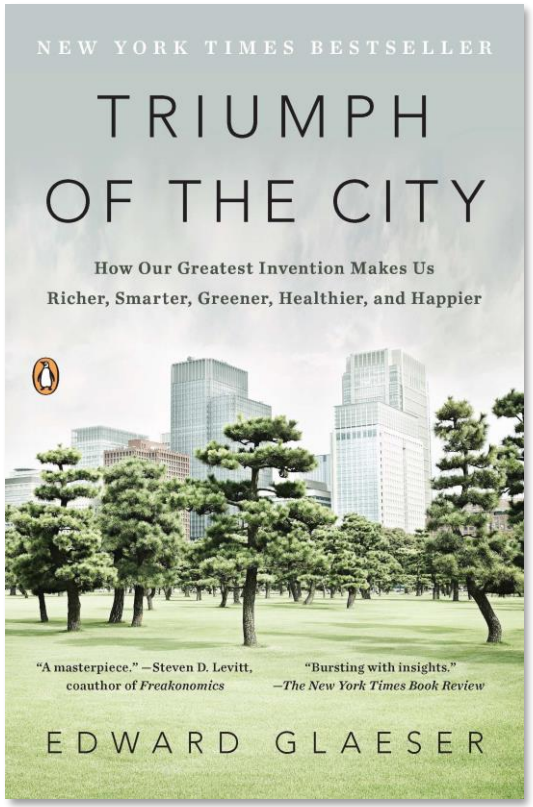
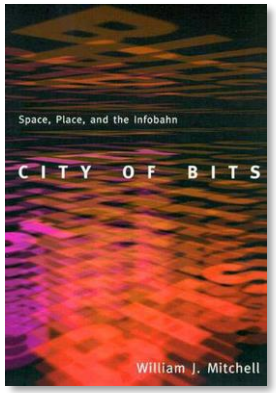
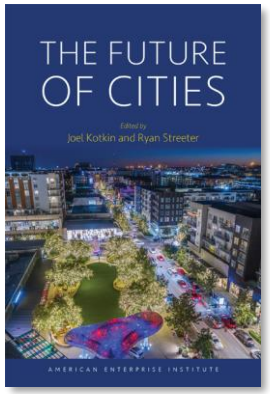
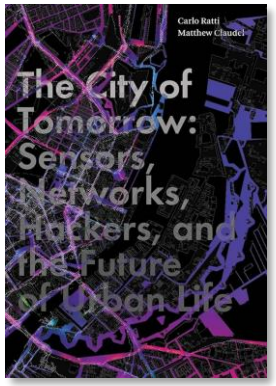
Smart Metromountain: urban and mountain interdependence and physical-digital infrastructures as a tool for a new climate-resilient liveability

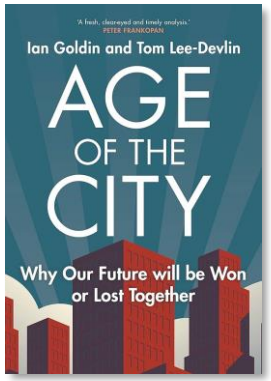
Which triumph for the city?

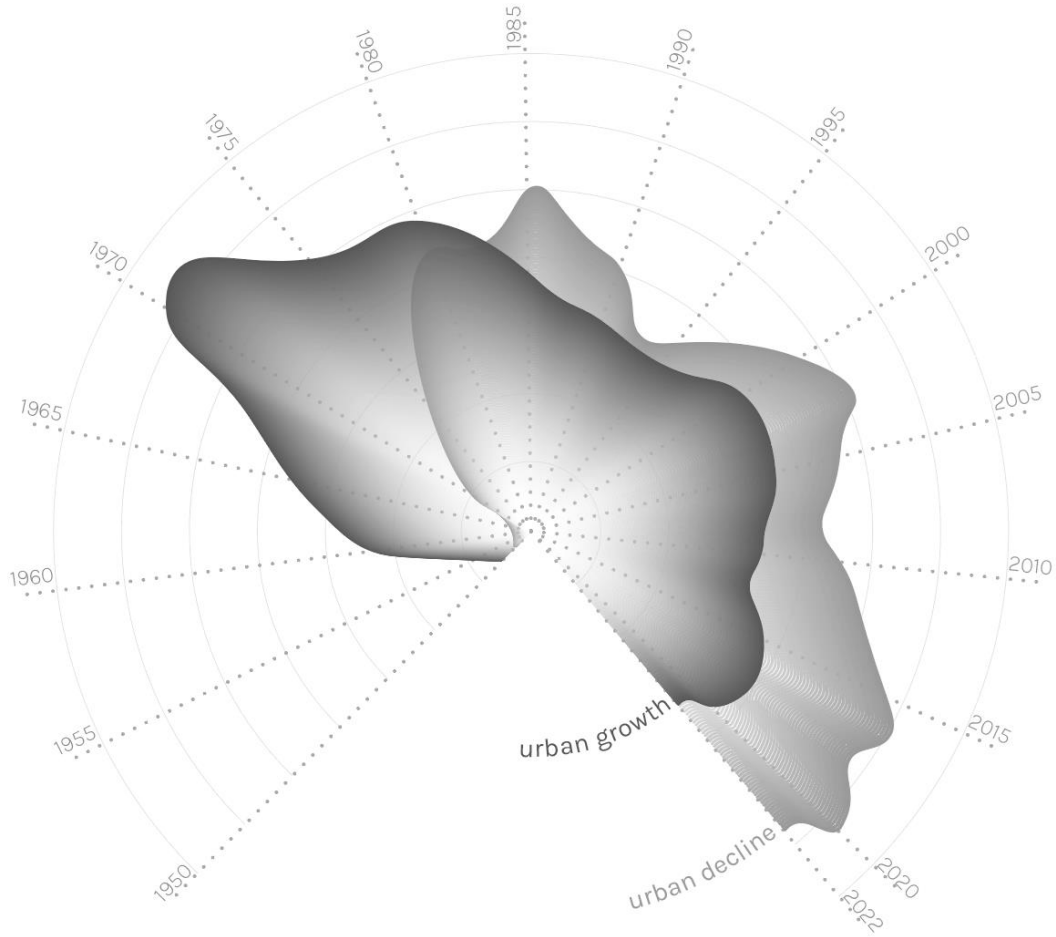






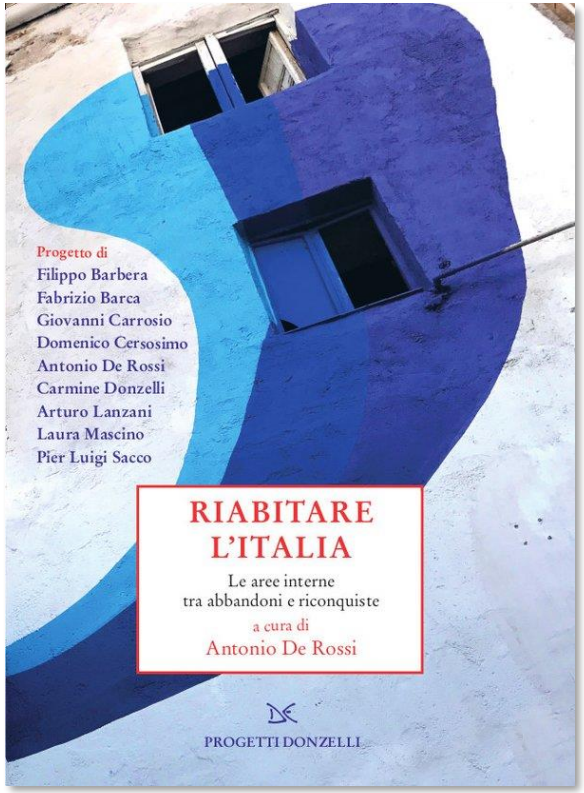


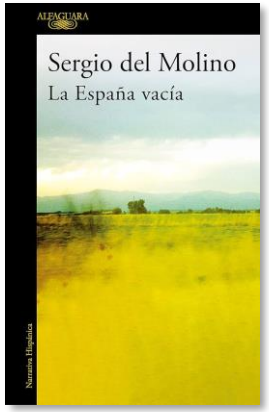


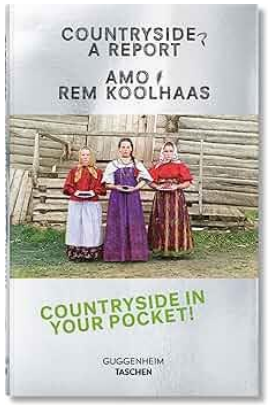


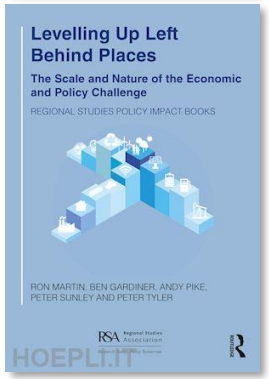
Graph made by Mauro Fontana based on Google Ngram.

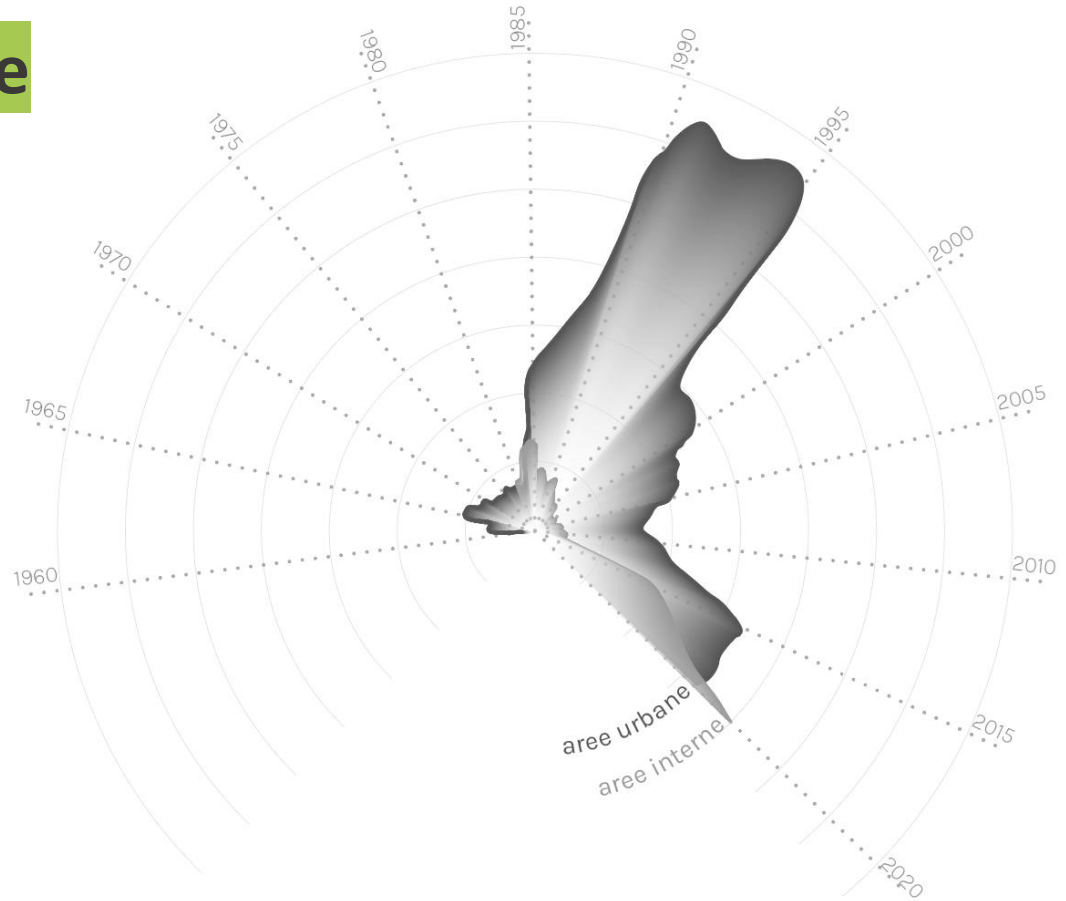
Left Behind Places: A new cultural debate





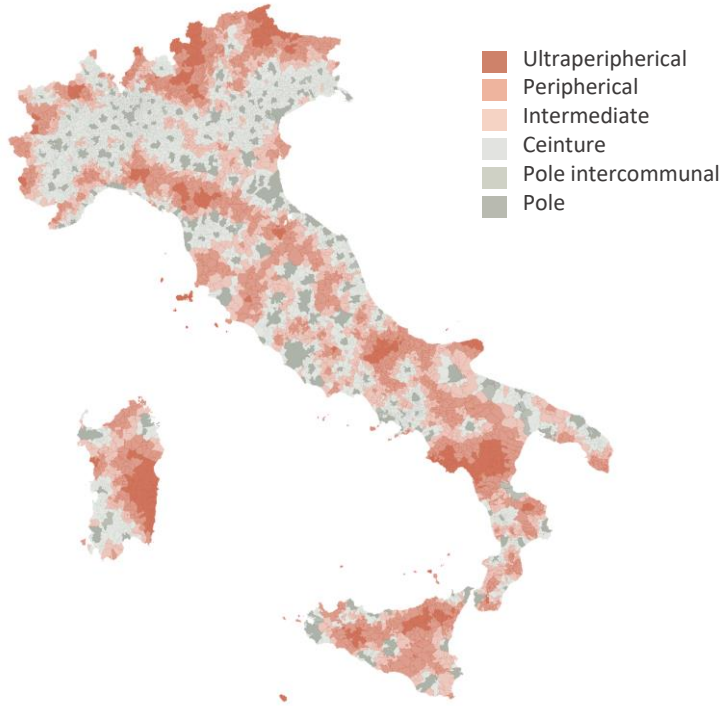




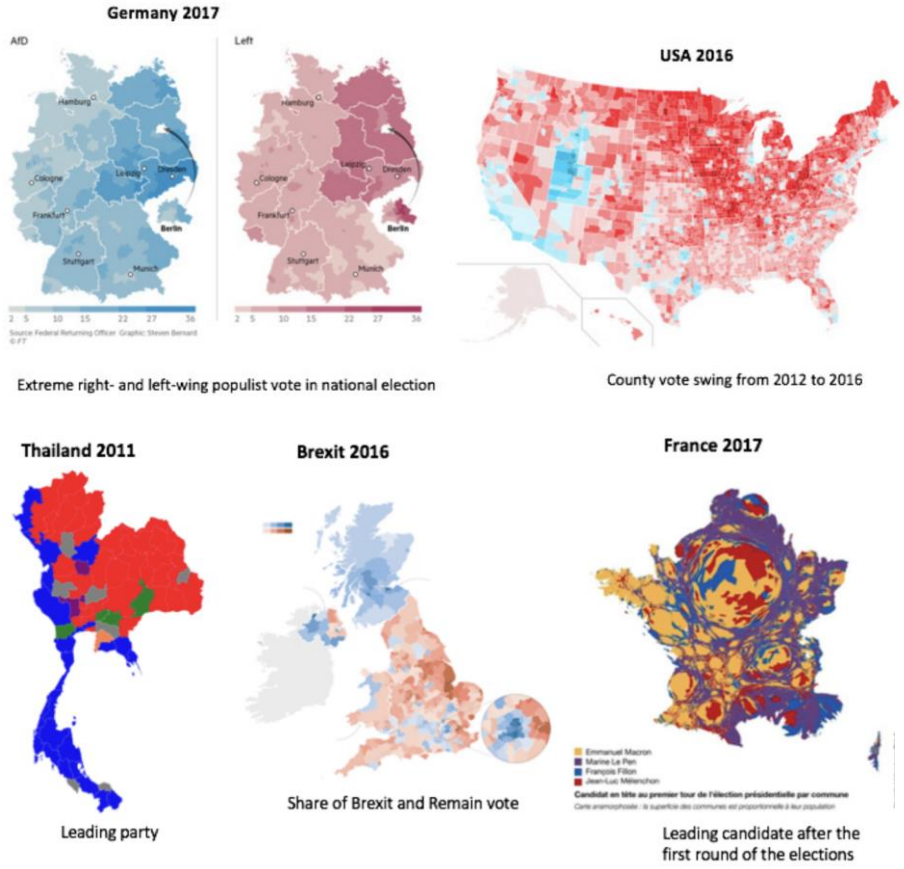


Graph made by Mauro Fontana based on Google Ngram.

Political consequences



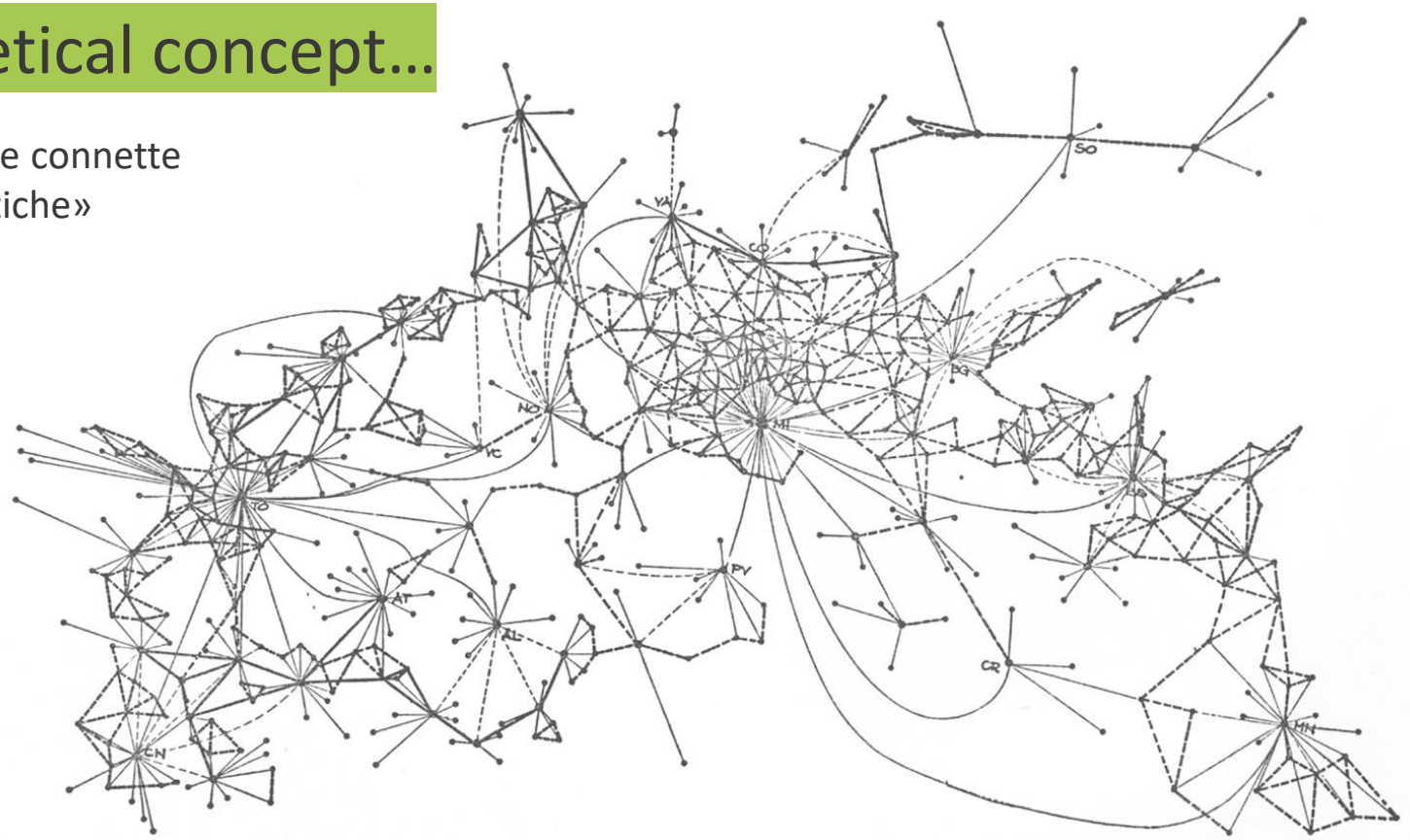
Map of the peripherality for the Strategy for the Inner Areas



The impact of left-behind places on political decisions

Metromountain: from a theoretical concept…

«Metromontagna è un quasi-concetto: un ibrido che connette e sovrappone finalità conoscitive, prescrittive e pratiche»
Barbera, De Rossi (2021)



"Strutture urbane reticolari in Piemonte e Lombardia, relazioni di interdipendenza"
from Dematteis, G. (1989) "Regioni geografiche, articolazione territoriale degli interessi e regioni istituzionali" in Stato e mercato

Metromountain: …to institutional and strategical level

Institutional figures

City of Cuneo
Assessorato alla Metromontagna
Sara Tomatis

City of Torino
Assessorato Politiche per l'Area Metropolitana e metromontana
Gianna Pentenero
(now under the mayor Stefano Lo Russo)

Strategical projects

Metropolitan City of Firenze
Firenze città metro-montana. Indicazioni strategiche per le politiche pubbliche locali

Metropolitan City of Torino
Piano Strategico Metropolitano 2024-2026 della Città di Torino – Metro(poli)montana

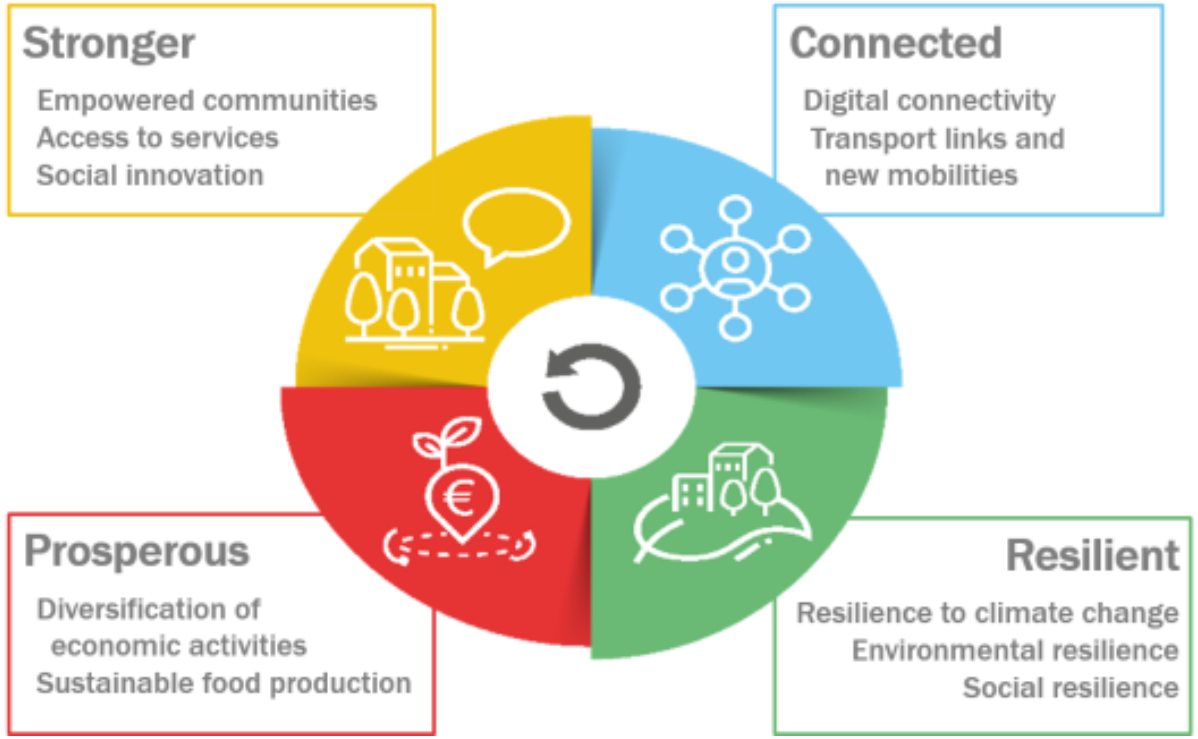
Municipality of Saluzzo
(with Politecnico di Torino)
Piano Strategico delle Terre del Monviso

Bottom-up metromountain experiences: a hypothesis of classification

A long-term vision for the EU's rural areas: towards stronger, connected, resilient, and prosperous rural areas by 2040.
European Commission (2021)

European Union

4 BLOCK OF ACTIONS
stronger, connected, prosperous, resilient rural areas



Stronger Rural Areas

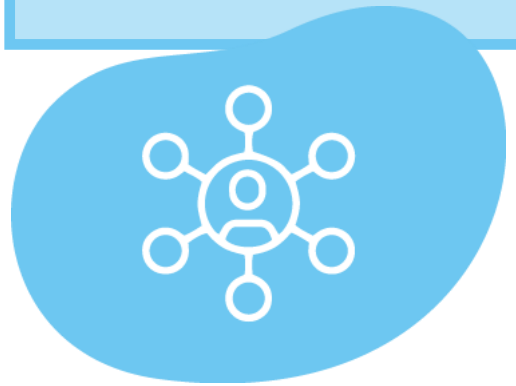
Under this action area, rural areas benefit from support to **empower communities** and have **access to services** to facilitate **social innovation**, **spatial planning** and **youth involvement**.

Metromountain and climate-resilient actions

- e-medicine and e-assistance
  reduce of emissions and act on climate change cause
- climate migrations
  are conditioned by climate change effects
- models and practices transfer (ex. cohousing)
  reduce of emissions and act on climate change cause

Connected Rural Areas

Under this action area, rural areas benefit from actions to boost **sustainable transport links** and **digitalisation** through investments in infrastructure, technology development and skills enhancement activities.



Metromountain and climate-resilient actions

- innovative and sustainable mobility services
  reduce of emissions and act on climate change cause
- smart working (no transport need)
  reduce of emissions and act on climate change cause
- new inhabitants and amenity migration
  are conditioned by climate change effects

Resilient Rural Areas

Under this action area, rural areas benefit from actions to increase **environmental, climatic** and **social resilience** by storing carbon in peatlands and wetlands, enhancing **soil health** and improving prospects for **women and vulnerable groups**.

Metromountain and climate-resilient actions

- uses of renewable energy resources
  reduce of emissions and
  act on climate change cause
  limit climate change effects

- development of short supply chains
  reduce of emissions and
  act on climate change cause
  limit climate change effects

- new resettlement and monitoring policies
  limit climate change effects

Prosperous Rural Areas

Under this action area, rural areas benefit from actions supporting **social economy**, addressing the needs of young people, promoting **bioeconomy** and supporting **producer organisations** and **producer groups**.

Metromountain and climate-resilient actions

- changes of touristic practices paradigms (sustainable and de-seasonal choices)

  are conditioned by climate change effects

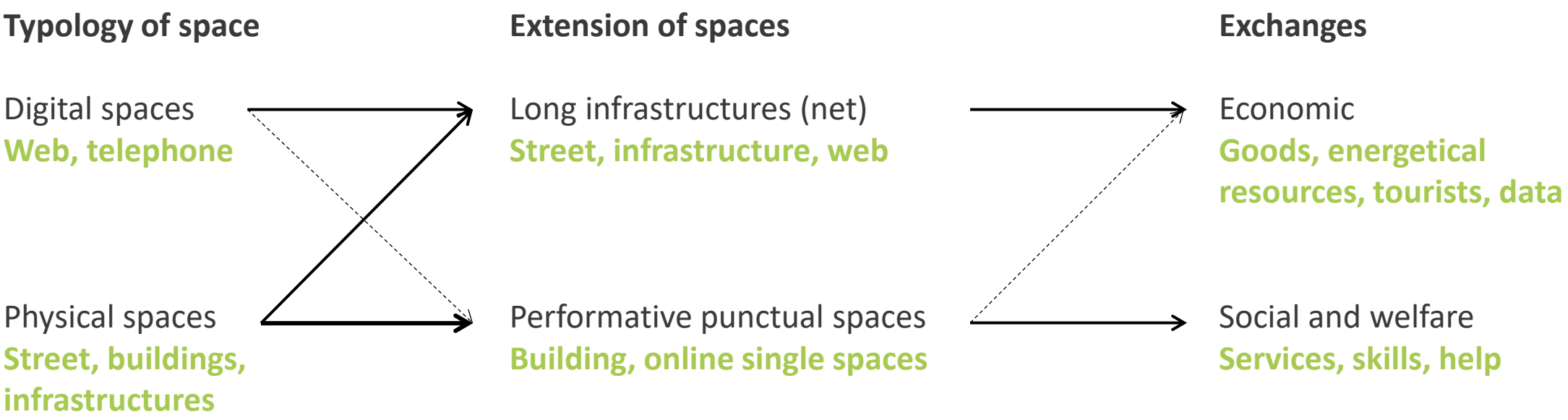
- Sustainable production of goods (increase in production altitude) and development of urban seller groups

  reduce of emissions and act on climate change cause limit climate change effects

- skills transfer - mountains as experimental fields

  limit climate change effects

Bottom-up metromountain experiences: a spatial classification



Metromountain welfare: which spaces?

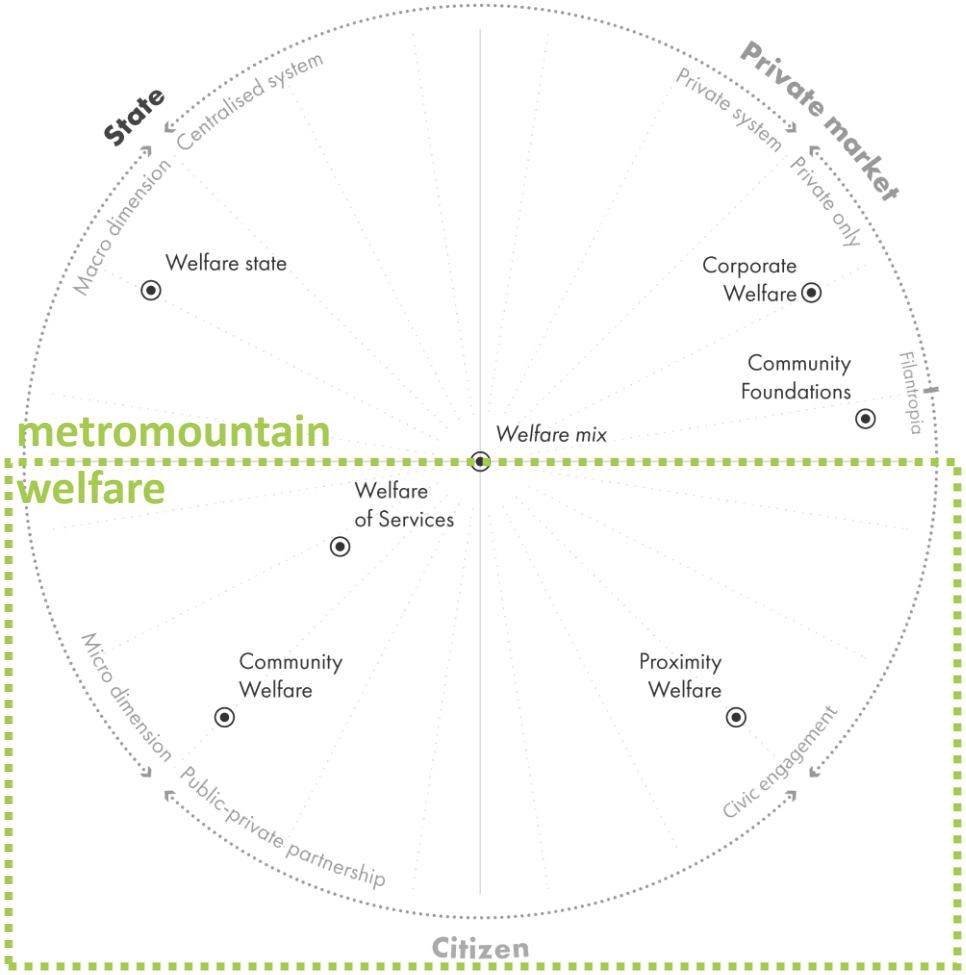
Innovative Management Models

Community cooperatives
Consortia and social enterprises
Public-private partnerships
Resident associations
Local institutions

space and community

Hybrid and Adaptable Uses

Cultural activities
Training and research activities
Recreational activities
Social and healthcare services
Educational and training services
Local commercial activities
Local production activities
Tourism promotion activities



The case of Ostana: the background

1921
Ostana has 1200 inhabitants

↓

End of XX century
Ostana has only 5 permanent inhabitants

↓

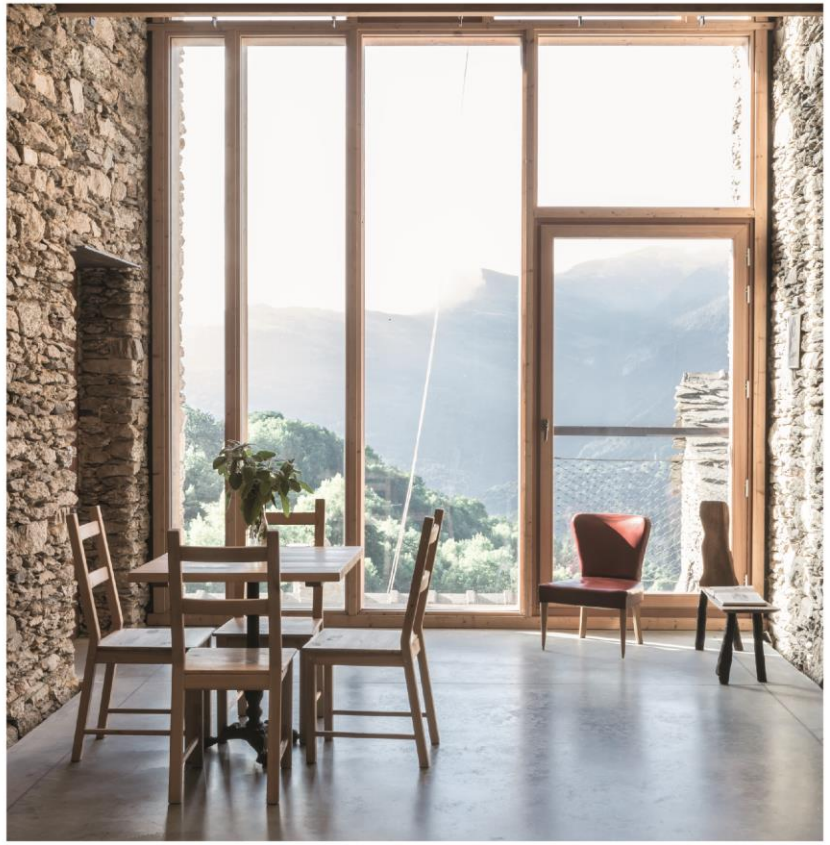
today
Ostana has more than 50 permanent inhabitants (88 residents)

1985 - 2004
From decline to revitalization through practices of enhancement and patrimonialization of local resources.

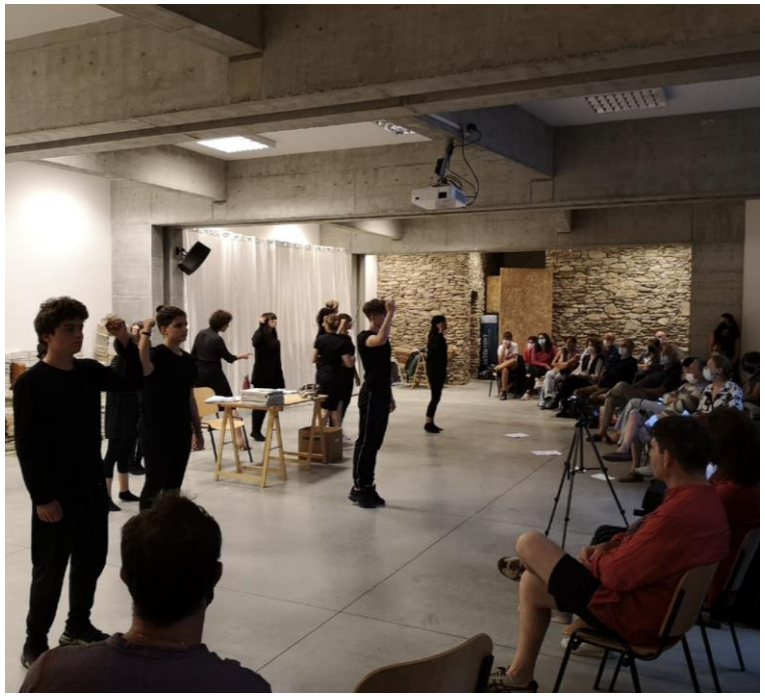
↓

2004 - today
Role of culture, self-centred local development, repopulation and economic revitalization, building a system of skills and alliances with the outside

The case of Ostana: Cultural Center - Lou Pourtoun



Design: M. Crotti, A. De Rossi, M.P. Forsans



The case of Ostana: House of welfare - Mizoun de la Villo

Design: M. Crotti, A. De Rossi, L. Dutto

The case of Ostana: Housing - Valentin

Design: S. Costamagna, A. De Rossi, L. Mascino, M. Tempestini

The case of Ostana: key points

SMART RURAL 21 — PREPARATORY ACTION ON Smart Rural Areas in the 21st Century

Smart Rural 2021 strategy

- Sustainable environmental development
  Sustainable mobility, natural resources management

- Residentiality
  Regeneration of building, management and funding

- Culture and social innovation
  Culture and community-based actions, new services

VISO A VISO Cooperativa di Comunità

'Viso a viso' Community cooperative

- Cultural and welfare building
  Restaurant, Library, Auditorium and Coworking

- 'Scuola di O'
  School 1-3 years old children also from city

- 'Segnavia - Porta di Valle Varaita'
  Urban-mountain exchanges

Conclusion

Smart cities, smart villages, smart rural

Risk of transposition of the urban model on mountain areas

↓

Smart territory

large-scale, urban and mountain together

↓

Climate-resilient liveability ↔ **Urban mountain interdependence valorisation**

THE 1ST SMART CITIES, TOWNS, RURAL AND MOUNTAIN VILLAGES INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

SCIENTIFC PARTNERS

COMMUNICATION PARTNER