



2018

The use of water for technical development or technical development for the use of water?

Ambrogio, Fabio and Comino, Elena and Dominici, Laura and Ros, Maurizio

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THE USE OF WATER FOR TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT OR TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE USE OF WATER?

Systemic and Ecological considerations about the CLEAN energy production in
urban context

Elena Comino, Fabio Ambrogio, Laura Dominici, Maurizio Rosso



POLITECNICO
DI TORINO



SYSTEMIC
DESIGN
RESEARCH
NETWORK

RS
D7
2018

RELATING SYSTEMS THINKING AND DESIGN 7 SYMPOSIUM, 24-26 OCTOBER 2018, POLITECNICO DI TORINO



DESIGN OF IN FOR THE TERRITORY

“CUT CROSS BOUNDARIES” RESEARCH AND PRACTICE

INTERDISCIPLINARITY

INVOLVEMENT OF DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS

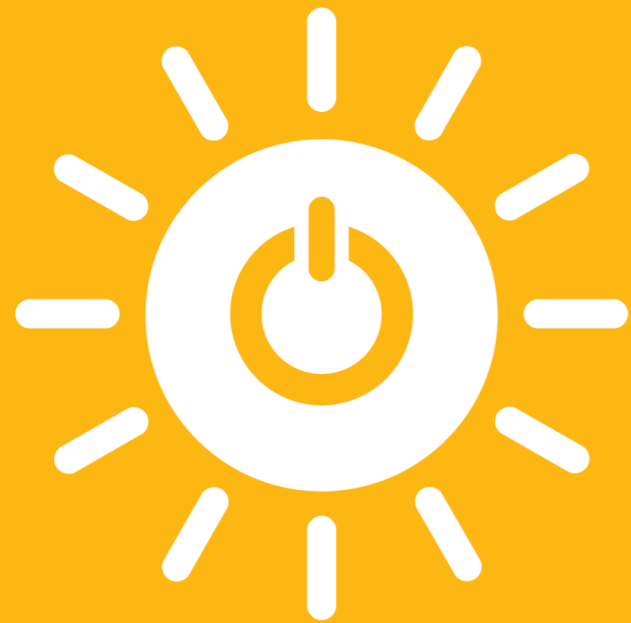
 Engineering
FABIO AMBROGIO & MAURIZIO ROSSO

 Applied Ecology
ELENA COMINO

 Systemic Design
LAURA DOMINICI

AGENDA 2030
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



INCREASE GLOBAL PERCENTAGE
OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

MANAGEMENT OF LOCAL RESOURCES
EVALUATION OF NATURAL OPPORTUNITIES

Aim to design resilient, sustainable
and inclusive cities

ENERGY IS A PUBLIC RIGHT!
ENSURE ACCESS TO CLEAN ELECTRICITY FOR ALL



FOCUS NOT ONLY ON THE **QUANTITY**
OF THE ENERGY PRODUCED, BUT ALSO ON THE
QUALITY

When can we call the energy “**CLEAN**”?

- ❑ from renewable resources
- ❑ few outputs or nothing
- ❑ no consistent impact on the environment (in term of resilience)



URBAN CONTEXT

complex system of tangible and intangible aspects

Economy

Society

RESEARCH
IN
SUSTAINABILITY
FIELD

Culture

Environment



[WHY DO WE NEED TO FOCUS ON CITIES?]

IN 2050 NEARLY 70% OF GLOBAL POPULATION WILL RESIDE IN CITIES
(UN-HABITAT, 2011)

75% OF GLOBAL ENERGY DEMAND

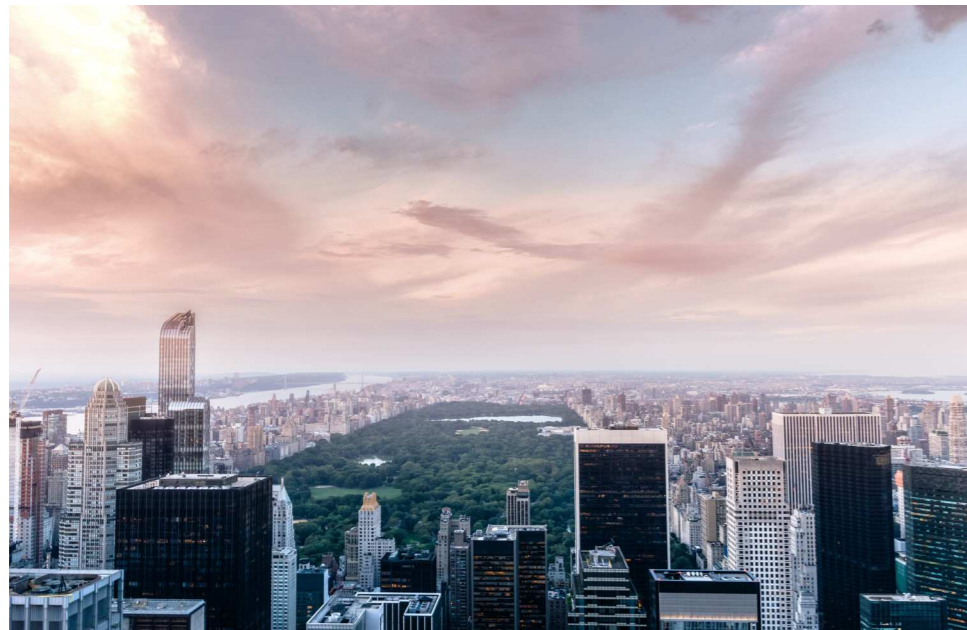
75% OF TOTAL EMISSION OF GHGS

2% COVER OF GLOBAL SURFACE

[FOCUS ON INNOVATIVE POTENTIAL
IN LOW-CARBON TRANSITION]

UNDERSTAND RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN HUMANS AND THEIR CONTEXT

3 analytical and practical tools to analyse human needs, ecosystem services and urban context



Urban Ecology

Urban ecology is the study of ecological processes in urban environments. This includes all aspects of the ecology of any organisms found in urban areas

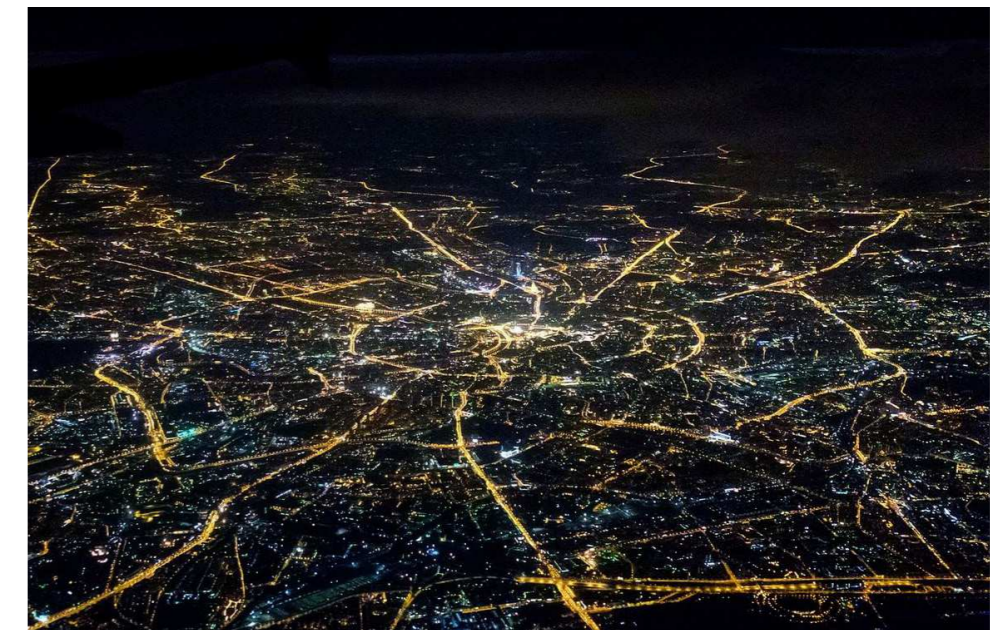
Nature



Urban Metabolism

“The sum total of the technical and socio-economic processes that occur in cities, resulting in growth, production of energy and elimination of waste”

Kennedy, 2007



Systems Thinking

Holistic approach and lens to visualize and understand the structure of complex systems in everyday life, focusing on interconnections between parts

Comino, Dominici, Peruccio, 2018

DESIGN PRINCIPLES GUIDELINES FOR INTERDISCIPLINAR ISSUES

ECOLOGICAL ENGINEERING PRINCIPLES

Emerging discipline that answers to the increasing demand for providing benefits for human welfare and preserving natural environment. It recognizes that humans and their environment are mutually dependent and they cannot be addressed separately.

(Bergen, Bolton, Fridley, 2001)



DESIGN CONSIDERING NATURAL
SYSTEMS



DESIGN FOR SITE-SPECIFIC
CONTEXT



ECOSYSTEMS CAN FUNCTION
WITHOUT HUMAN INTERVENTION



DESIGN FOR EFFICIENCY IN
ENERGY AND INFORMATION



DEFINE THE PURPOSE OF DESIGN
INTERVENTION

SYSTEMIC DESIGN PRINCIPLES

Design approach that integrates the Systems Thinking with the Human-centred Design. It focuses on processes and connections between system's components. The approach is based on the principle that "the output of a system is the input of another one".

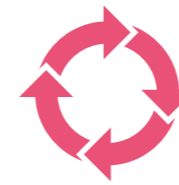
(Bistagnino, 2011)



THE OUTPUT OF A PROCESS
BECOME INPUT TO ANOTHER ONE



RELATIONS GENERATE THE
SYSTEM ITSELF



AUTOPOIETIC SYSTEMS SUSTAIN
AND REPRODUCE THEMSELVES



ACT LOCALLY



MAN CONNECTED TO OWN
ENVIRONMENT

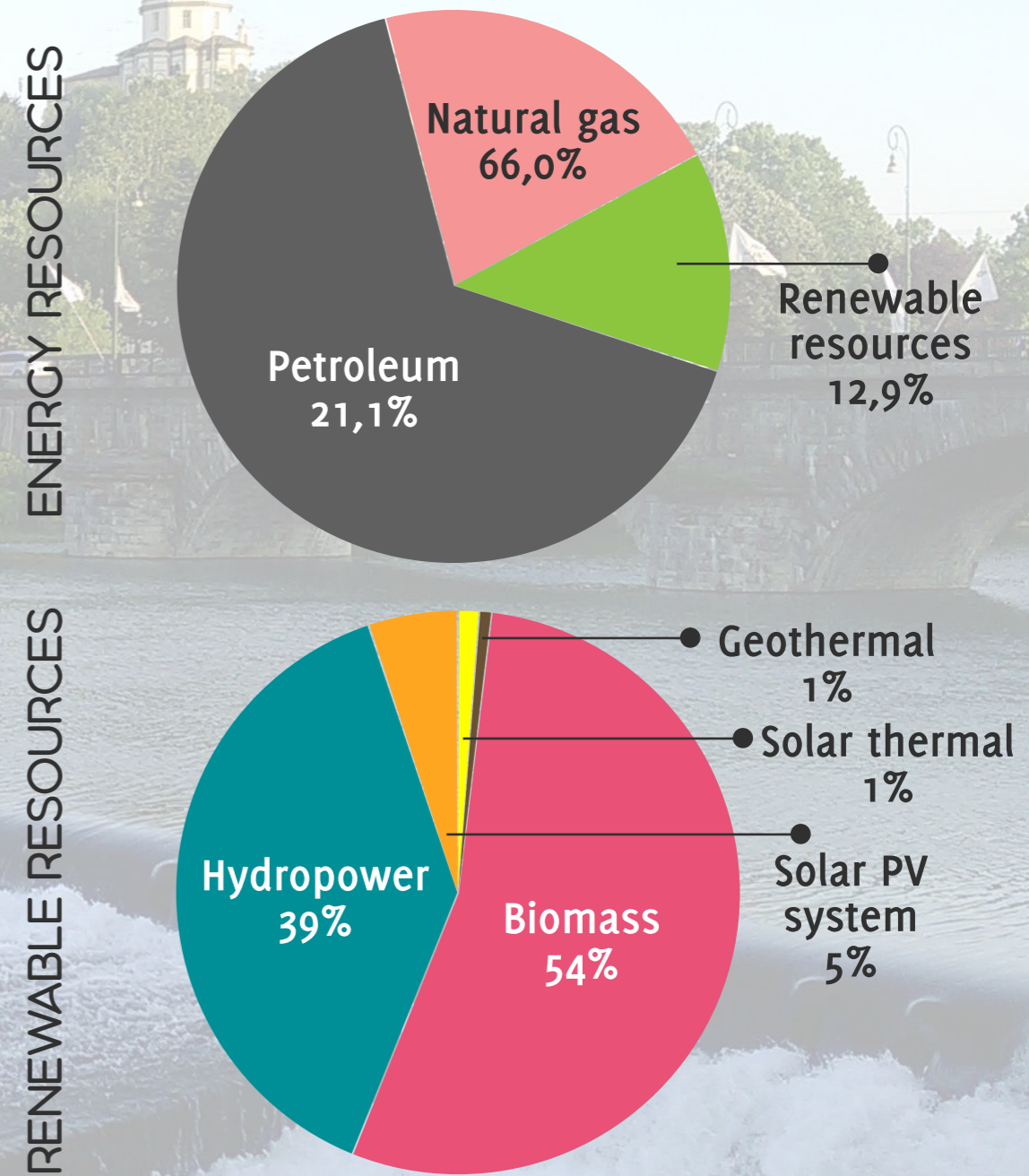
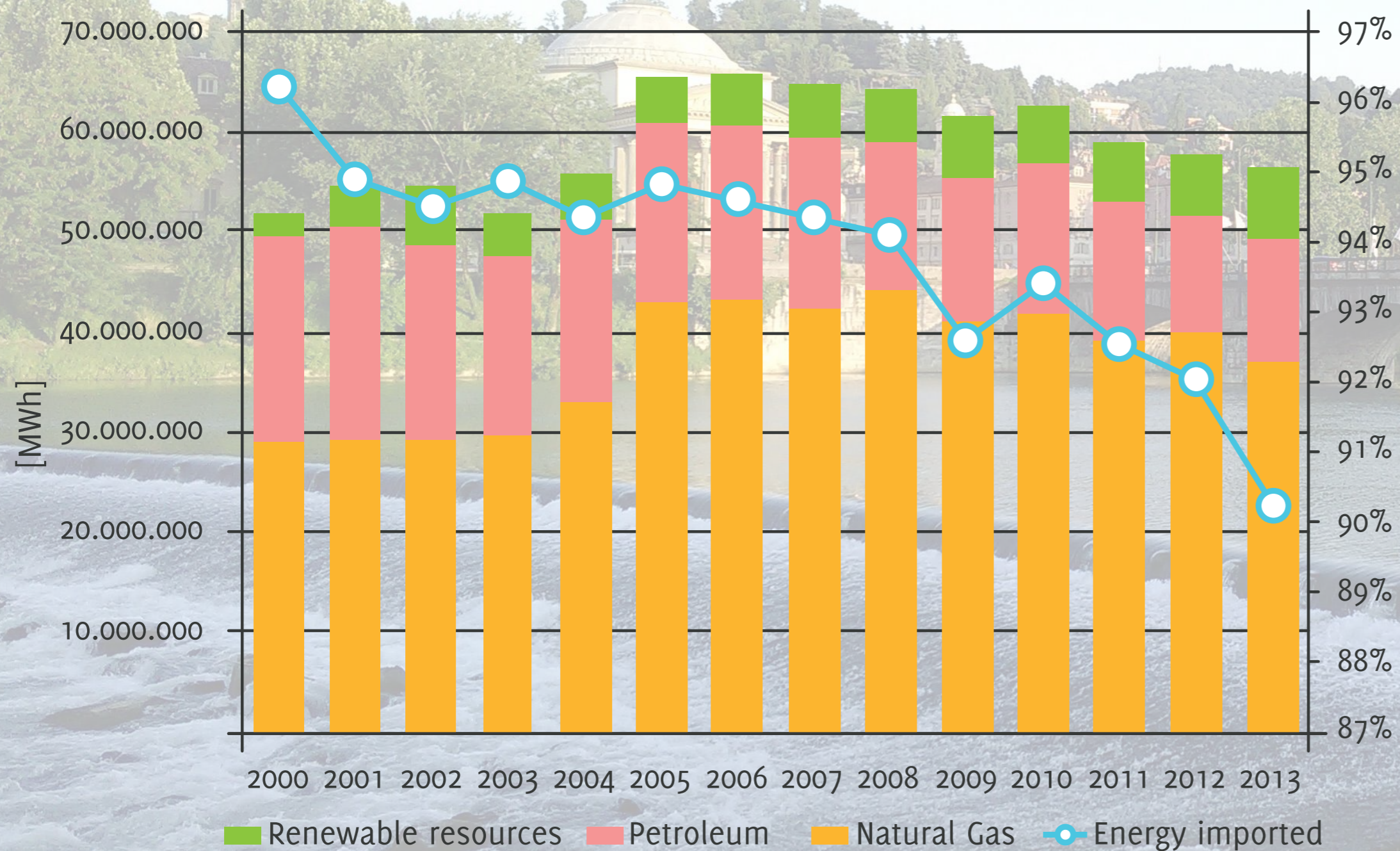
CASE STUDY THE CITY OF TORINO

FRAMEWORK ON RENEWABLE ENERGY



CASE STUDY THE CITY OF TORINO

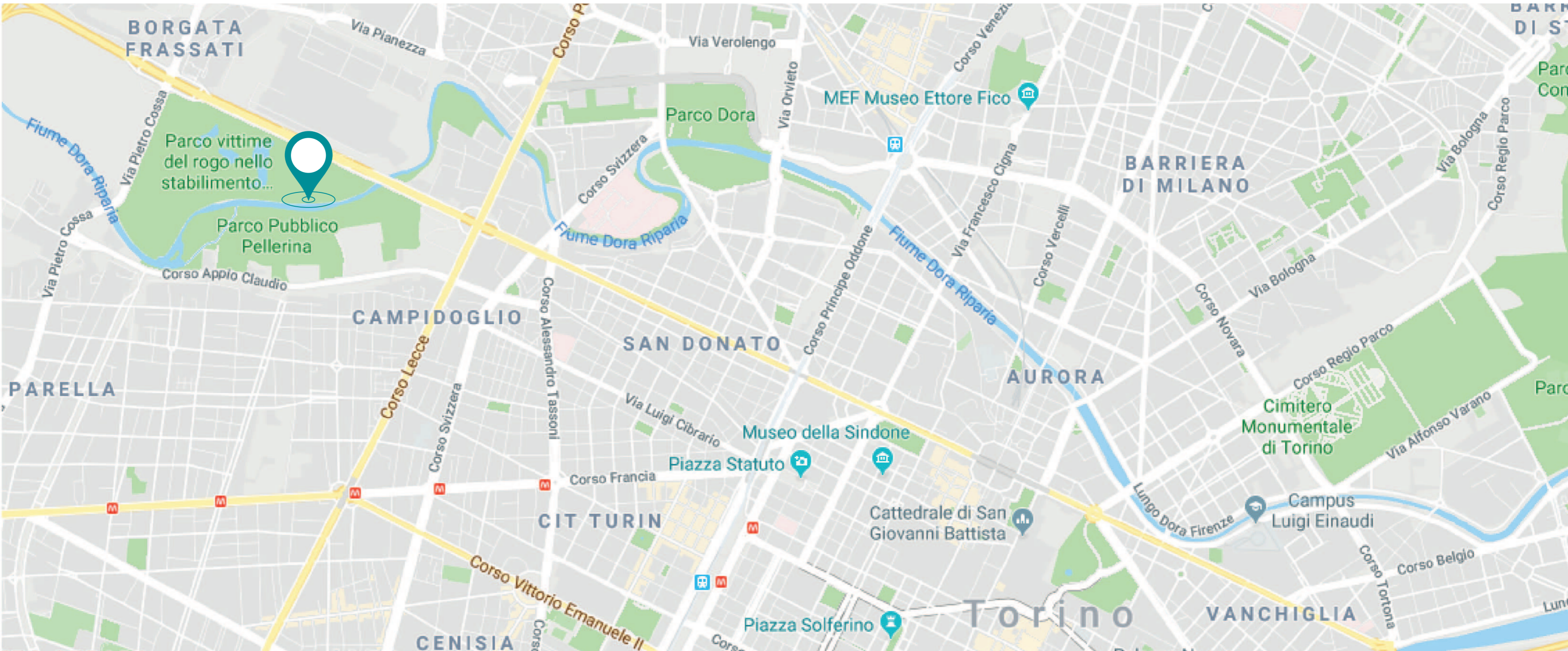
FRAMEWORK ON RENEWABLE ENERGY



Source: 9° Rapporto sull'Energia, Provincia di Torino, dicembre 2014

CASE STUDY THE CITY OF TORINO

MINI HYDROPOWER SCENARIO IN TORINO



CASE STUDY THE CITY OF TORINO

MINI HYDROPOWER SCENARIO IN TORINO



DORA RIPARIA RIVER PELLERINA PUBLIC PARK

Good practice in management
of water resource

CASE STUDY THE CITY OF TORINO

HISTORICAL DAM OF REGIO PARCO, DORA RIPARIA RIVER



1758

start of construction of the industrial estate “Manifattura Tabacchi”, the dam in the Dora Riparia river and the artificial canal Regio Parco



1996

end of industrial activity of the Manifattura Tabacchi and neglect of river infrastructures

AIM

RESTORATION OF ANCIENT DAM OF DORA RIPARIA
REDUCTION OF FLOODING RISK IN THE AREA

CASE STUDY THE CITY OF TORINO

HISTORICAL DAM OF REGIO PARCO, DORA RIPARIA RIVER



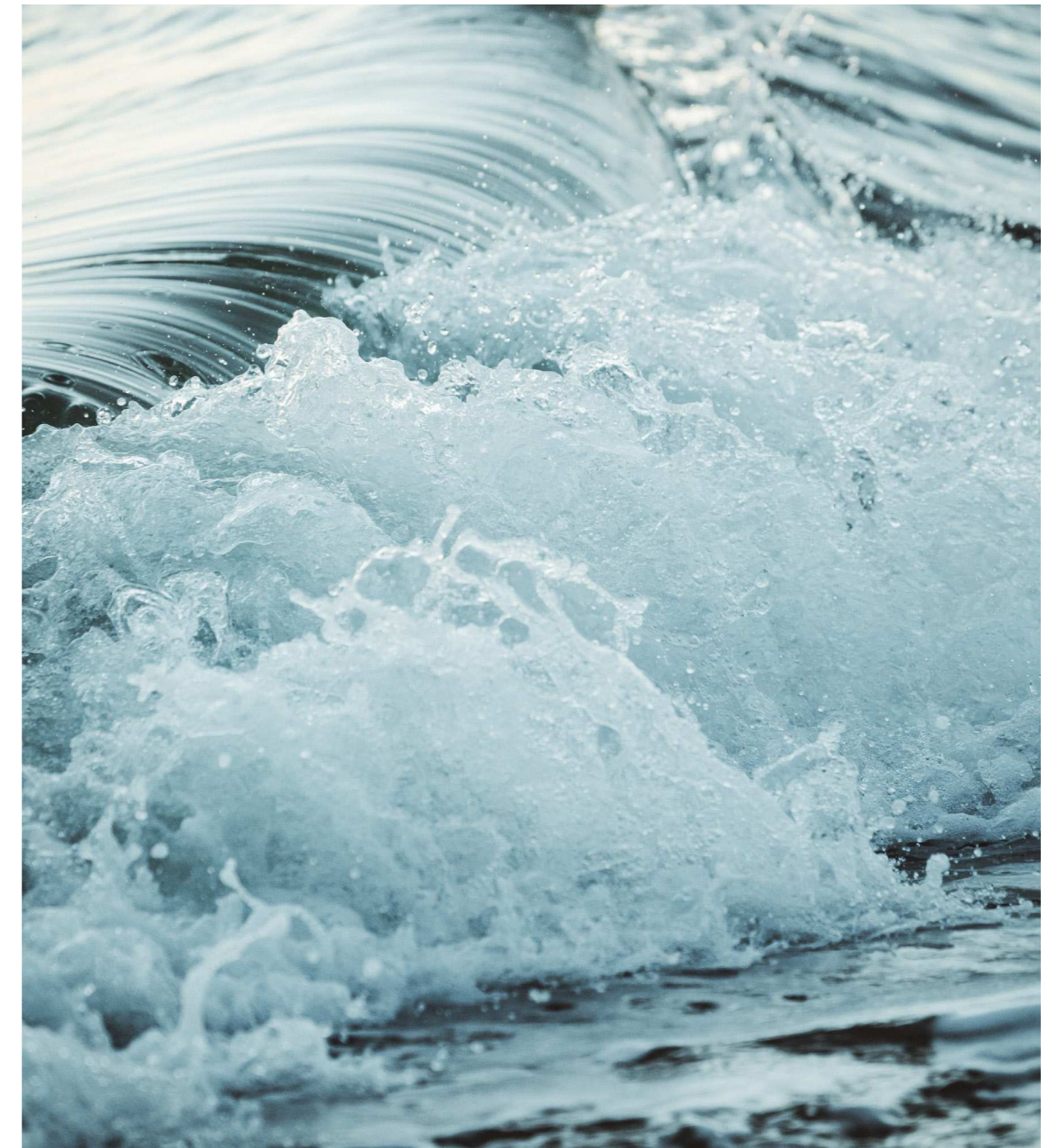
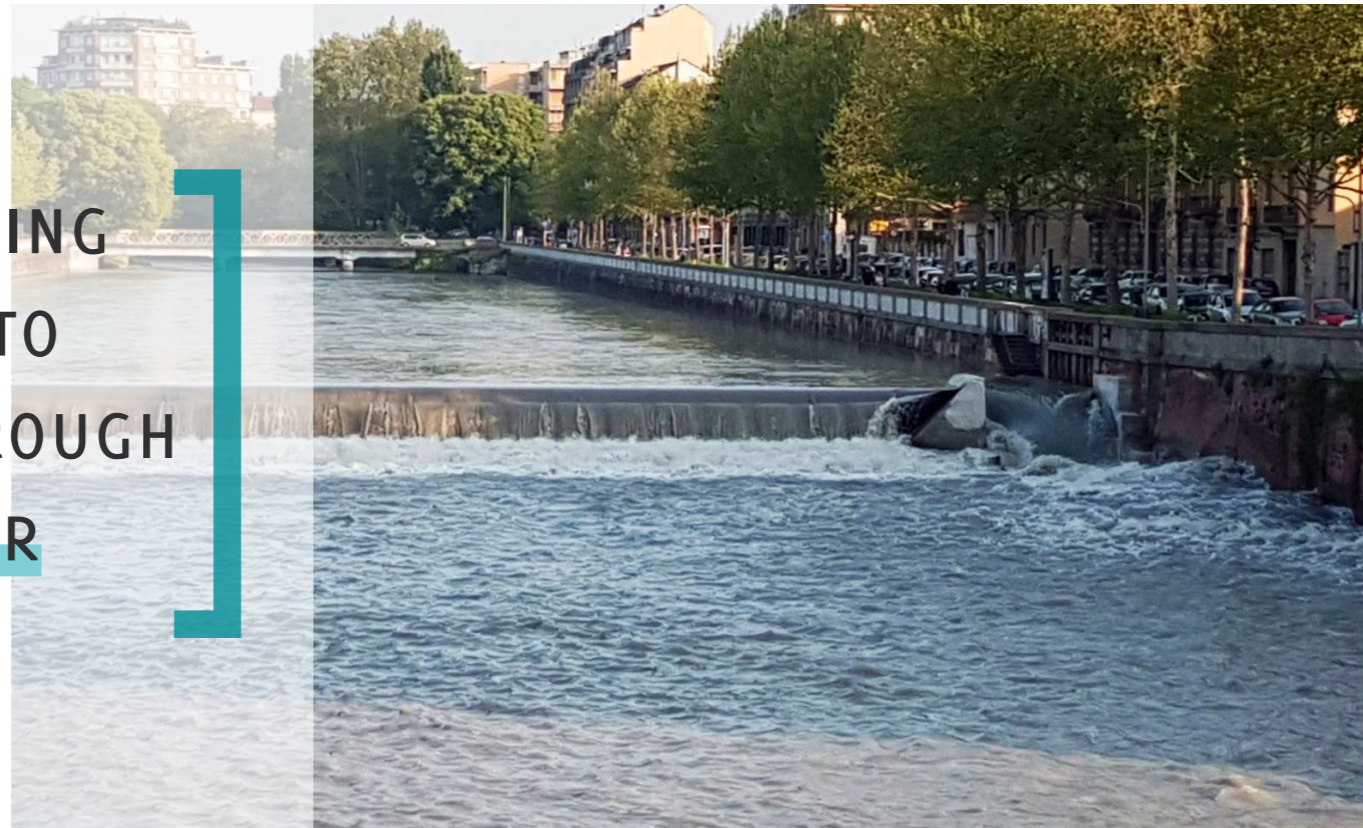
MANIFATTURA
TABACCHI
FACTORY

REGIO PARCO DAM

CASE STUDY REGIO PARCO DAM

ACT LOCALLY! USE OF LOCAL RESOURCES

USING OF THE EXISTING
HYDRAULIC HEAD TO
PRODUCE ENERGY THROUGH
MINI HYDROPOWER



Request of
evaluation
of impact
assessment
(VIA)

2014

JULY

Concession by local
authority to restore
and use the historical
dam of dora riparia
for hydropower

2016

OCTOBER

Start of
construction

2017

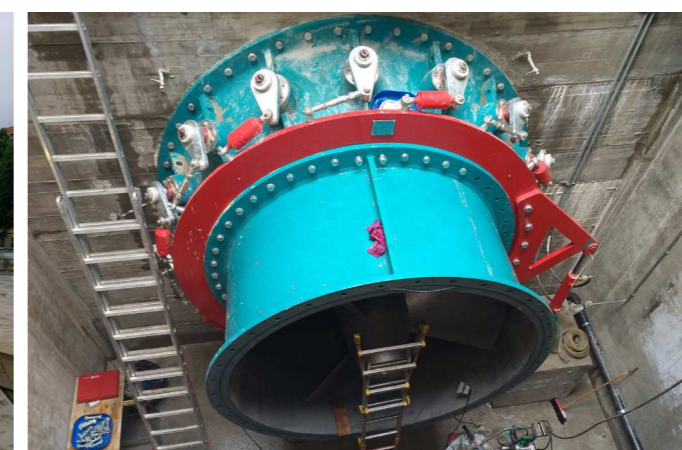
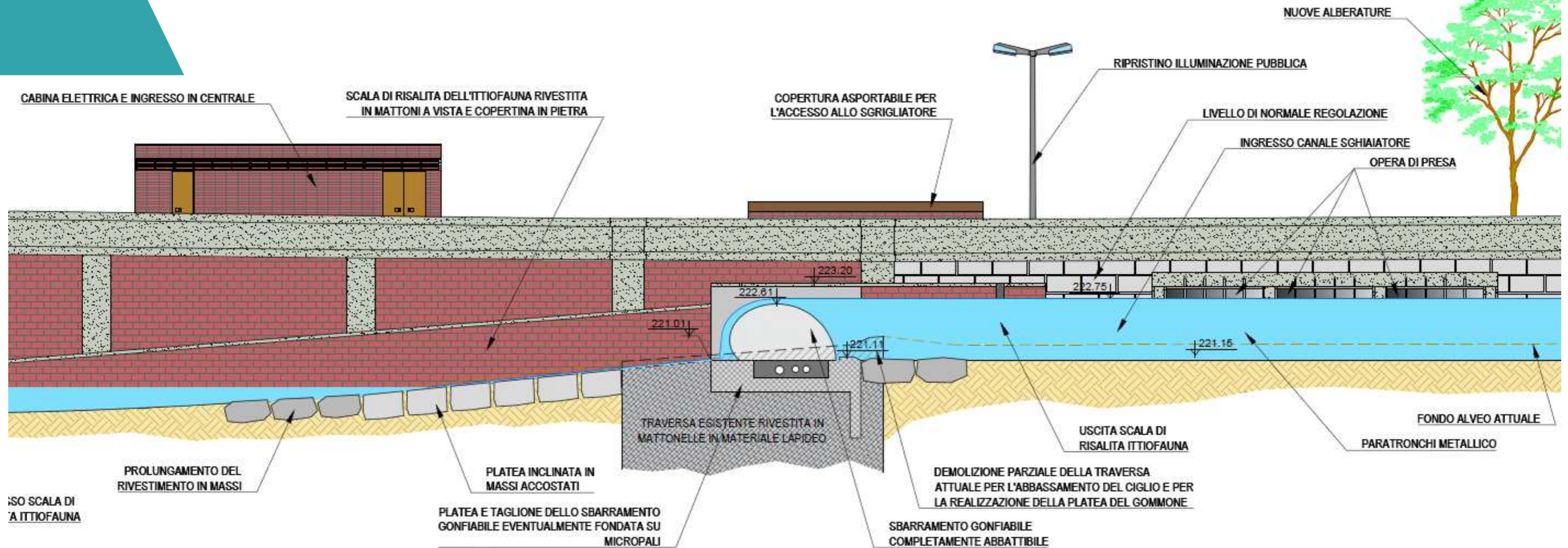
JANUARY

End of
construction

2018

AUGUST

CASE STUDY REGIO PARCO DAM





ECOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS

- ❑ environmental impact assessment: not necessary, the area is inside the urban context and the infrastructure is already there
- ❑ secure the “minimal vital water flow” through inflatable dam
- ❑ fish ladder to preserve the passage of fishes and to ensure the continuity of river ecosystem
- ❑ creation of pedestrian area to redevelop the surrounding area
- ❑ planting trees and new vegetation (vegetation statement)
- ❑ consider already used materials for new infrastructures, preserve the same material language and landscape inclusion
- ❑ no output at the end of the energy production



BENEFITS PRODUCED FOR THE CITY

POWER: 248,6 KW

ENERGY PRODUCED: 1,7 GWH/YEAR

ENERGY REQUIREMENT: 600 FAMILIES

AVOIDED EMISSIONS OF CO₂: 930 T/YEAR

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN URBAN CONTEXT

ENVIRONMENTAL

ENHANCE LOCAL RESOURCE WITHOUT ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACTS AND OUTPUTS

ECONOMIC

PRODUCE ENERGY NEAR THE PLACE OF USE

SOCIAL

REDEVELOP DEGRADED AREA

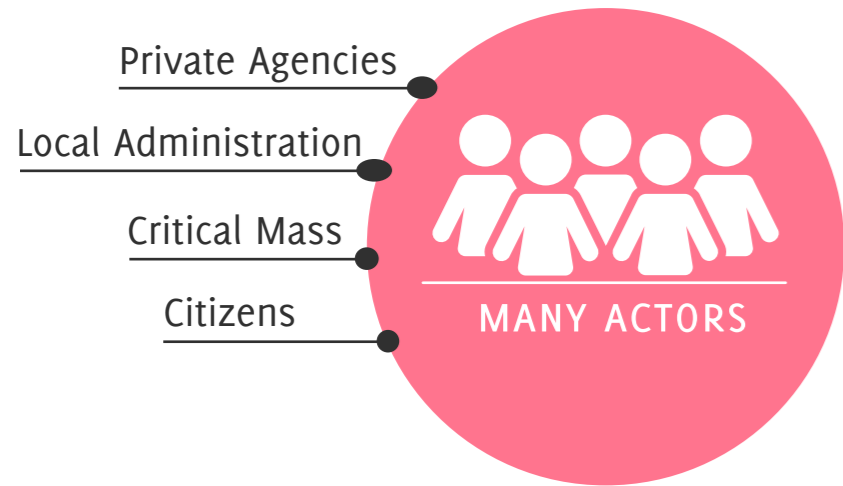
CULTURAL

RESTORE AND RECOVER HISTORICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
CONNECTED TO THE INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE OF THE CITY OF
TORINO

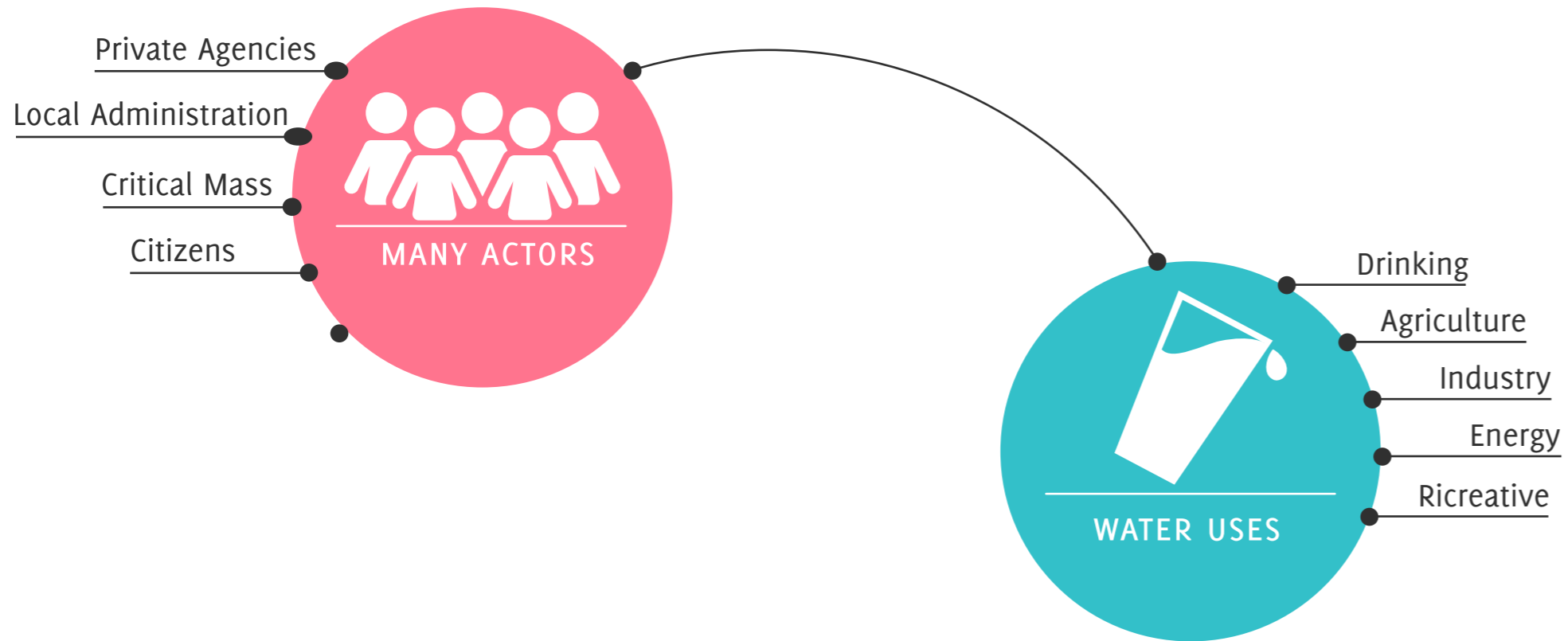
COMPLEX ASPECTS OF WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



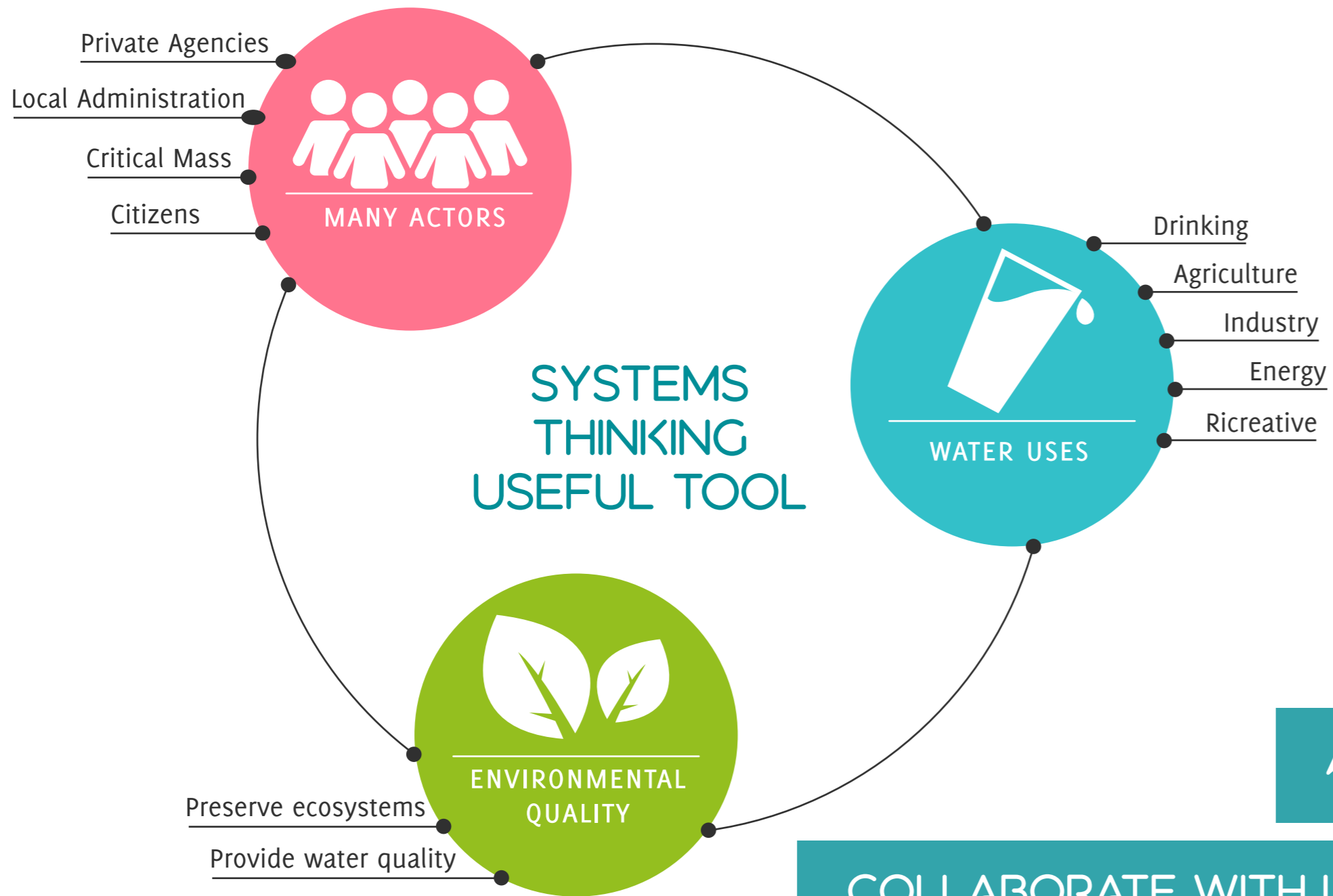
COMPLEX ASPECTS OF WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



COMPLEX ASPECTS OF WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



COMPLEX ASPECTS OF WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



ACT ON POLICY MAKING

COLLABORATE WITH LOCAL ADMINISTRATION



[THANK YOU]
FOR THE ATTENTION

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