Apps and Web mapping: innovative tools to promote slow tourism along Via Regina

Milan Antonovic¹, Maria Antonia Brovelli², Massimiliano Cannata¹, Mirko Cardoso¹, Candan Eylül Kilsedar², Marco Minghini², Giorgio Zamboni²

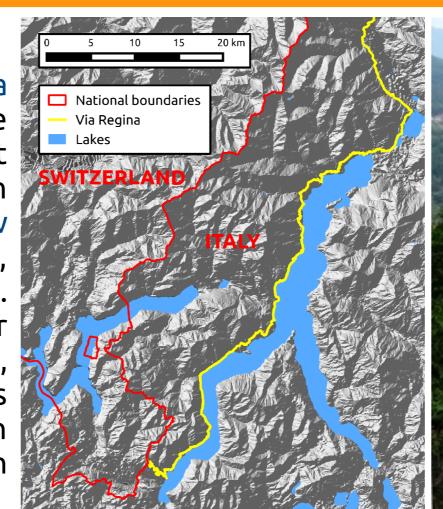
SUPSI ¹Institute of Earth Sciences - Campus Trevano, 6952 Canobbio (Switzerland)



² Politecnico di Milano - Como Campus via Valleggio 11, 22100 Como (Italy)

SLOW TOURISM AND VIA REGINA

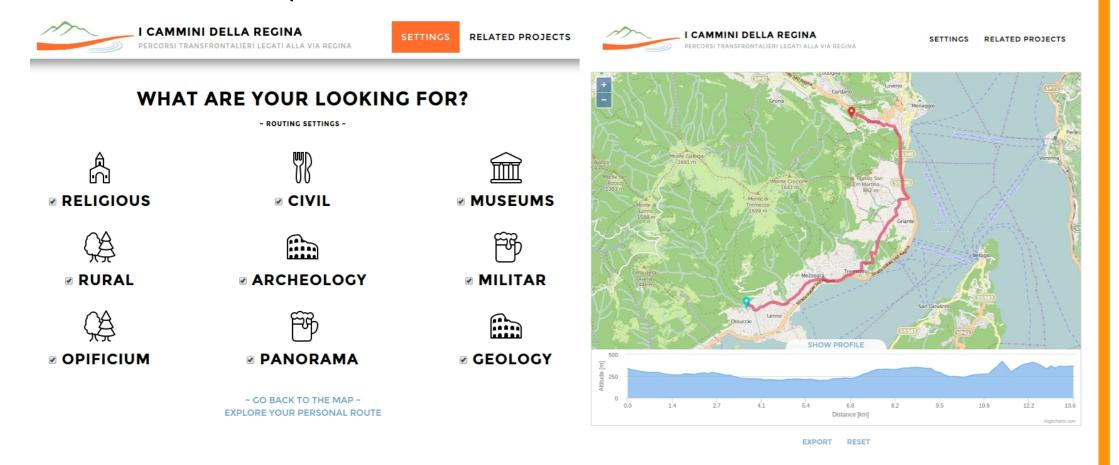
Overlooking the West coast of Lake Como in Northern Italy, Via Regina has represented a fundamental European trade and pilgrim route since the ancient Roman times. The dense system of paths departing from it and spanning the beautiful mountainous region at the border between Italy and Switzerland makes this area an awesome destination for slow tourism activities, which consist of sustainable forms of transportation, appreciation of nature and (re)discovery of the local history and culture. In the frame of the Interreg project "The Paths of Regina – Crossborder paths linked to Via Regina", which involves Italian and Swiss universities, cultural associations, local agencies and administrations, this work aims at valorizing slow tourism in the Via Regina region through the creation of open source Web Mapping applications leveraging also the modern fields of crowdsourcing and virtual globes.





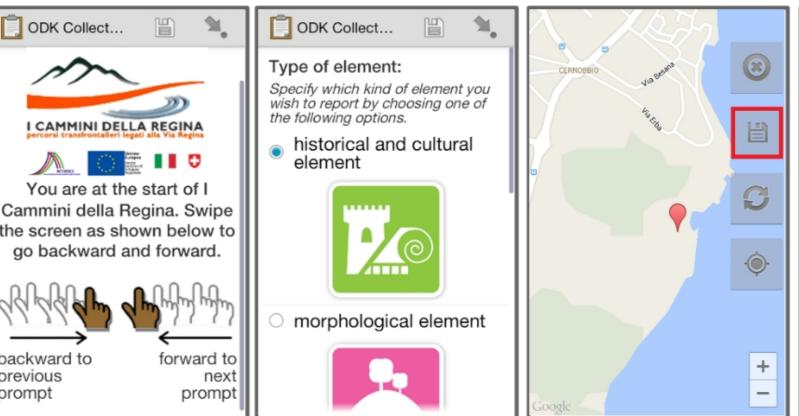
2D WEB VIEWER

Main 2D viewer of the project with advanced functionalities: computation of customized routes according to the user's preferred points of interest (using pgRouting) and terrain profile (using ZOO WPS); print of the user's computed route with ad hoc statistics (travel time, average slope, height difference, etc.); geocoding; exploitation of TripAdvisor API to visualize accommodations, restaurants and attractions sites.



MOBILE APP FOR SLOW TOURISTS

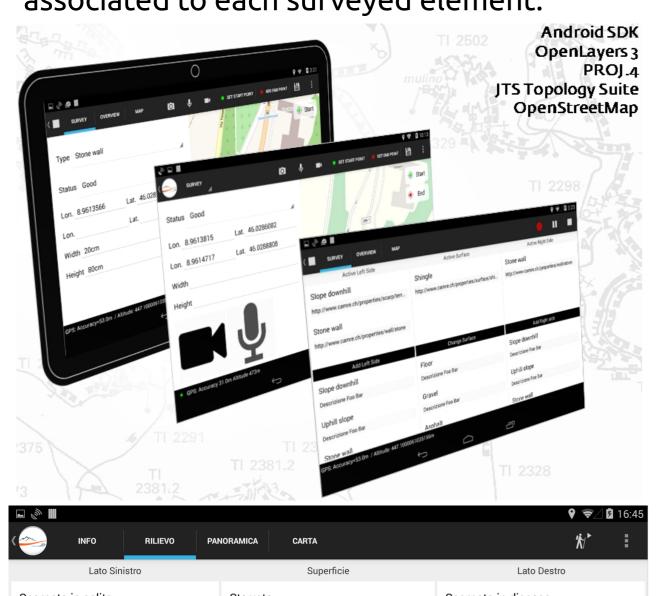
X Data crowdsourced by the general public using an Android app based on the Open Data Kit suite, which is mainly composed of a server module (ODK Aggregate), running under Apache Tomcat and synchronized to a PostgreSQL database to store the data; and an Android app (ODK Collect) allowing users to report POIs (ranging from historical/cultural points of interest to tourism services and morphological elements) through their mobile devices.

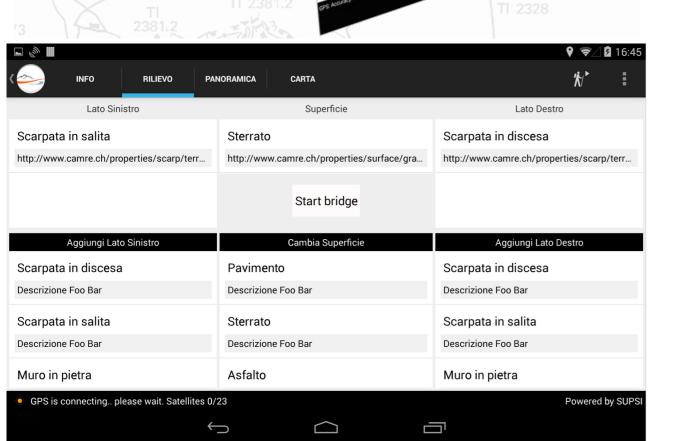




MOBILE APP FOR PROFESSIONALS

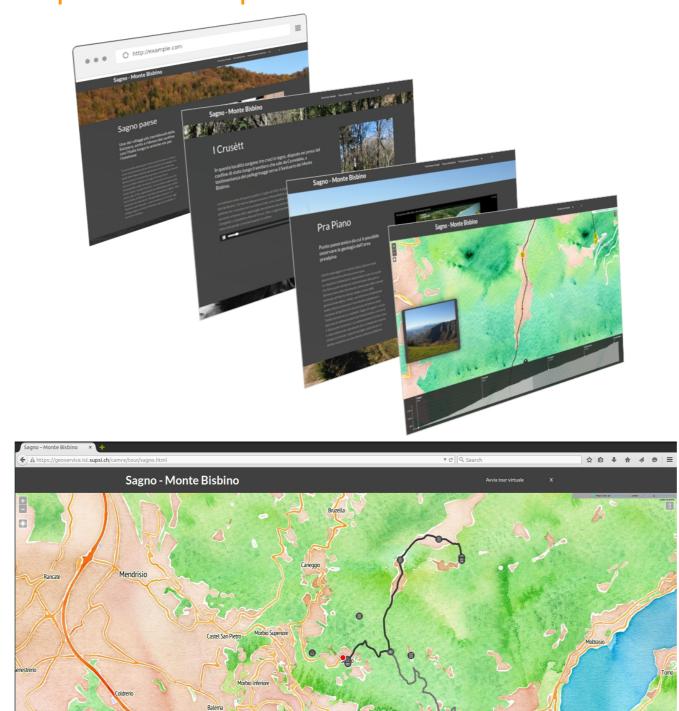
* An application named GeoIVS to map historical routes of Switzerland, where users can register elements around them. Textual & vocal notes as well as pictures and videos can be also associated to each surveyed element.





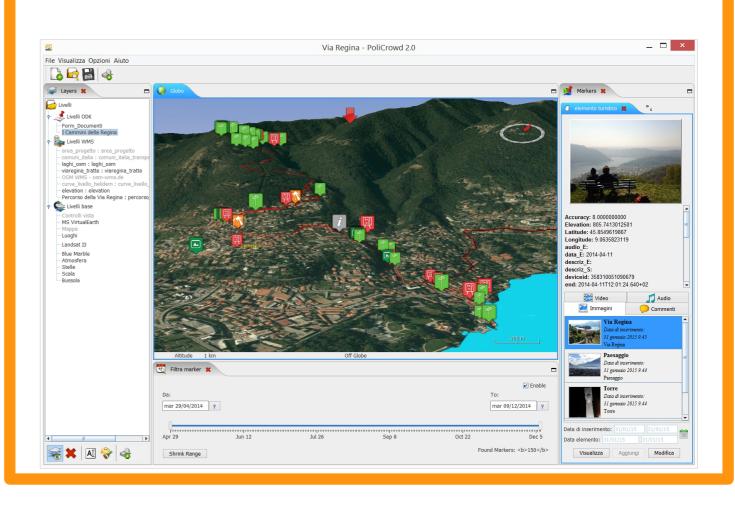
VIRTUAL TOUR APPLICATION

* The integrated framework combines geospatial technologies, the concept of virtual tour, the use of multimedia (images, slideshows, videos and photospheres) and the location-based approach. The application relies on OpenLayers, Bootstrap, JQuery, D3.js, Less.js, GeoJSON, and OpenStreetMap.



3D WEB VIEWER

A fully realistic 3D data visualization is finally achieved through a customization of the PoliCrowd 2.0 platform based on NASA World Wind virtual globe. In addition to the servers specifically deployed within the project, the application can transparently connect to any WMS-compliant server and also to ODK servers. Users can interact with the POIs reported through the app by adding multimedia contents and time-filtering their visualization.



http://www.viaregina.eu





