

Co-Housing Napoli

Building Community through Shared Spaces and Sustainable Living



Co-Housing Napoli.
Building Community through Shared Spaces and Sustainable Living
Naples, 2025

This report was produced by the Assessorato all'Urbanistica, Comune di Napoli

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Preface

In an era marked by growing social divides and escalating housing insecurity, *Co-Housing Napoli. Building Community through Shared Spaces and Sustainable Living* presents a timely exploration of Naples' innovative urban policies. At its core lies a bold vision: to create a more cohesive, participatory city where solidarity-based living and innovative urban policies foster social well-being. This initiative, spearheaded by the Comune di Napoli, transcends mere responses to the housing emergency. It seeks to establish new paradigms of shared living and community-driven urban development, redefining the relationship between residents, public space, and the built environment.

The urban regeneration projects underway in Naples are not isolated interventions but part of a holistic strategy to address systemic inequities. By prioritizing sharing and inclusion, these initiatives aim to build cohesive communities where spaces and resources are collectively managed, ensuring that even the most vulnerable citizens become integral actors in a supportive social fabric. Rooted in Naples' history of resilience and cultural richness, the city has positioned itself as a laboratory for social and urban innovation. Its renewal strategies are guided by a vision that places care at the center – care for people, heritage, and ecosystems – ensuring that every intervention prioritizes social equity and ecological responsibility.

A bold strategy, attuned to principles of social, environmental, and economic sustainability, is essential to this transformation. At a time of profound uncertainty, Naples' ambitious urban renewal plans align with contemporary social realities, repurposing disused areas and promoting models that adapt to shifting family structures and urban needs. Central to this effort is the integration of affordable housing solutions designed to counteract

speculative real estate markets and shield vulnerable populations from displacement. Such an approach demands collaboration across scales – from local communities to national and European institutions – recognizing urban renewal policies as a pillar of equitable societies, alongside fair wages, healthcare, and education.

The urgency of this mission is intensified by mounting pressures such as unregulated tourism, which contributes to housing scarcity and threatens both the social fabric and architectural heritage of Naples. In response, urban renewal policies have become essential to safeguarding the city's residential stock, maintaining affordability for young couples, workers, and long-term residents, and aligning economic development with social equity. These strategies are part of a broader revision of the Piano Regolatore di Napoli, which seeks to reconfigure the city's spatial organization by introducing new public spaces and adapting to demographic, economic, and environmental transformations. Within this framework, alternative housing arrangements – such as co-housing – are explored not as ends in themselves, but as tools within a wider policy agenda that aims to cultivate resilient, inclusive, and ecologically balanced urban environments.

The report highlights a series of urban projects that reinterpret the concepts of cohabitation through three interconnected modes: Co-Housing, Healing, and Working. In the heart of Naples' historic center, the Condominio Sociale San Nicola a Nilo brings together elderly residents and young families in an intergenerational co-housing model that counters isolation and preserves demographic diversity. Similarly, in Via Stadera, the 1.3.7. Co-Housing project integrates shared kitchens, gardens, and embedded social services – such as medical and legal support – into a residential structure that fosters mutual aid and challenges fragmented welfare systems.

Under the theme of Healing, the Quadrivio della Memoria transforms a neglected urban space into a site of collective remembrance and regeneration, commemorating a tragic event while inviting civic participation. The Eco-Villaggio dell'Accoglienza (EVA) repurposes confiscated land as a sanctuary for survivors of domestic violence, where women actively co-design services, cultivate social gardens, and reclaim agency. Nearby, the Food Community Hub Casanova revitalizes a former municipal bakery into a place of inclusion, hosting integration programs, a multicultural bistro, and workshops on food sovereignty.

In the realm of Working, the Sacro Tempio della Scorziata is being reconceived as a hybrid hub for living and working in the historic center, merging cultural heritage with contemporary needs. The Agri-Cultura initiative in Ponticelli, finally, reclaims abandoned land for urban farming, creating short supply chains, promoting environmental stewardship, and involving youth, vulnerable groups, and Third Sector actors in building sustainable livelihoods. Together, these projects exemplify a city where care, community, and spatial justice are driving a new urban agenda.

These projects are united by Naples' revised Piano Regolatore, which institutionalizes anti-speculative measures, community land trusts, and climate-adaptive design. The plan acknowledges that housing cannot exist in isolation – it intersects with transportation, green infrastructure, and cultural preservation, demanding interdisciplinary solutions.

The path forward demands creativity, dialogue, and bold policymaking. Naples' experiments in co-housing and regeneration remind us that cities thrive when they view residents not as passive beneficiaries, but as active partners in design and stewardship. As demographic and climatic pressures intensify, such collaborative frameworks become not just aspirational, but essential.

In documenting these efforts, Co-Housing Napoli challenges us to envision cities where housing transcends bricks and mortar to become a practice of care – one that honors the past, serves the present, and safeguards the future. Naples' story is a call to action: to build not only homes, but communities where every individual can belong.



↑
Naples from above.
Photo by Gianluca
Piccolo, 2024.

Togetherhness

Laura Lieto

Deputy Mayor of Naples / Councilor in Urban Planning

Cities are increasingly places where people from different ages and walks of life experience the inadequacy of traditional, apartment-based lifestyle, either because they cannot afford a standard flat, or because they cannot afford psychological and physical tolls connected with that specific lifestyle and spatial arrangement. Downward demographics in most central areas all around Europe highlight a growing trend of elderly people living alone in properties far exceeding their housing needs and yet seeking for meaningful relations, not just services, while family and social ties grow dim. Elders with special needs, when impeded to access health care for economic, cultural or existential reasons, find themselves in need of relations that neither welfare nor inconsistent family ties are able to provide.

Students, as well as young professionals at the early stage of their career, hardly cope with apartment-based living as well, as they experience painstaking inability to access the housing market in inner areas, where usually academic institutions and business headquarters are located. A varied combination of rent-gap processes, from corporate real estate investments to digital platform over-tourism, stand in the way of large populations with limited resources to access the housing market, and create deeper inequalities that, in turn, have an impact on how cities work in terms of public services (or the lack thereof), transportation and basic facilities.

The list of groups impacted by the inadequacy of the apartment-based life style can be longer, hereafter a few examples:

- Single under-employed parents with children
- People with mild disabilities aiming at independence as they grow to adulthood.
- Slum dwellers engaging social upscaling
- Temporary residents attracted by local job markets as milestones in their upscaling careers.

In the long wake of European co-housing traditions inspired by reformist ideas of gender equality and collectivization of production means and services, co-housing for future cities brings new significance to such a reformist lineage for its impact on social and physical sustainability.

When urban growth is no longer on the EU agenda, and carbon neutrality is expected by 2050 along with zero land consumption, cities are compelled to implement different strategies of de-carbonization in which social isolation and market failures will matter even more in the future.

In this scenario, a new urban pact is required not just to cope with social anonymity, economic deprivation and mental alienation, but also to establish a new, implementable alliance between human and natural habitats. The quality of the environment and an equitable balance between the individual and the collective, between the private and the public realm, and between the natural and the artificial are at the heart of an inclusive and sustainable vision of future cities.

Such vision needs to address the state-of-the-art of best practice in environmentally conscious design, making the most of local conditions, maximizing the use of natural and recycled materials, reducing carbon footprint and minimizing lifetime running costs. Buildings should be designed to promote sustainable lifestyles with water recycling, sustainable energy and waste systems as well as green mobility, local food production and a commitment to the circular economy.

Such an environmentally sensitive approach parallels a new understanding of social dynamics in cities bringing our focus on modern forms of co-living that do not necessarily reflect the reformist tradition of elective communities mentioned above.

Traditional family structures and gender division of labor that have informed the basic syntax of modern cities (based on elements such as neighborhood units, collective facilities and public standards, sharp division of mobility systems, etc..) no longer represent the actual composition of social bodies living in cities. As social ties once providing thick safety nets from childhood to old age slacken, a new urban pact is deemed necessary not just to cope with social anonymity, economic marginality and mental alienation, but also to establish a new, factual alliance between species and their habitats.

The way we envision future habitats that are environmentally as well as morally viable is deeply connected to our ability to accommodate a society in transition within places and spaces that require a radically new understanding



↑
Naples from above.
Photo by Gianluca
Piccolo, 2024.

of what's needed to carry a decent life for as many different subjects as possible.

In this perspective, togetherness still holds a strong sense of social reform, as a political problem, and yet projects a powerful challenge not just to radical intellectuals or community advocates, but to subjects from all walks of life who, for practical reasons mostly, find themselves in the unique position to pioneer a new urban lifestyle. There is no romanticized community getting together based on common beliefs, values or ideologies: rather, future co-housing is about communities of strangers rising around needs, concerns, and constraints connected with social isolation and economic marginality while making an impact on the environment.

Countless experiences all around the world highlight how co-housing philosophies are wide-spread and extremely adaptive to specific cultural and physical circumstances: from couch-surfing networks in big cities to student coops in university campuses, from subsidized co-housing for homeless and mentally ill people to social condos in rapidly gentrifying neighborhoods.

Such a big variety spans from folk remedies to welfare policies, from entirely informal arrangements to institutionalized frameworks and up-scaling market formats, bringing about a heterogeneity that cannot be compressed within an all-encompassing idea of co-housing for all, but worth exploring as a publicly-led policy to curb the most relevant market failures as well as to address cultural needs otherwise undetected.

Paulo Mendes da Rocha,
SESC 24 de Maio, São
Paulo, 2017.

↓



To some extent, co-housing practices reveal a large-scale movement of survival and resistance that responds to hardship and inequalities of capitalist urbanization. It also provides large-scale, composite evidence of how society is changing and – for the purposes of these notes – how architecture and planning are compelled to come up with new ideas, arrangements and regulations supporting togetherness as a new nature-culture alliance in cities worldwide.

This idea of co-housing poses some radical questions to architects, community organizers, planners, government people, philosophers, to all somehow engaged in the production of future cities.

For this reason, the vision has to be discussed within a larger audience addressing issues such as:

How do we imagine and design habitable space for collective purposes?

How much space do we need to keep our privacy while sharing activities and obligations with others? How is this impacting cultural backgrounds and habits?

How much can we reduce the carbon footprint by regrouping home functions within co-housing structures?

How can we contrast communitarian drifts while supporting new forms of co-living? How can we cultivate freedom and diversity while being able to agree about some basic, common things?

In one word, how can we think of publicly-led co-housing in pragmatist terms?

→

Tezuka Architects,
Roof House, 2001.





←
Sam Chermayeff,
Sauna, Berlin 2014.

→
Leku Studio,
Plaza Superilla de Sant
Antoni, 2019.



Co-Housing

1. San Nicola a Nilo
intergenerational Co-Housing
2. Stadera adaptive Co-Housing

The evolution of contemporary urban environments necessitates a critical reassessment of residential models that can address socio-economic inequalities, demographic shifts, and architectural adaptability. Shared living typologies, such as cohousing and social condominiums, emerge as viable responses that prioritize diversity, spatial flexibility, and reciprocal social engagement. These initiatives foster intergenerational and transcend socio-economic integration by creating living conditions that transcend traditional residential models, offering an alternative to market-driven housing solutions.

The Condominio Sociale reimagines urban living as an intergenerational co-housing centered on mutual aid, putting together vulnerable groups – economically disadvantaged families and elderly residents – within a shared support network. By fostering collective management and countering displacement pressures from overtourism, it safeguards Naples' historic social diversity while building resilience through cooperative spatial strategies.

The Co-Housing project in Via Stadera integrates climate-conscious design with adaptable architecture to address residents' evolving needs, from medical and legal support to psychological care. Rooted in collective responsibility, it embeds sustainability into communal life, transforming residential spaces into hubs that respond to both local vulnerabilities and global imperatives like climate resilience.

Central to these housing models is a participatory social contract that obligates residents to contribute to the collective well-being of the community. This dynamic is particularly crucial for vulnerable demographic groups, as residency is contingent upon active participation in mutual aid initiatives and the stewardship of shared spaces. These experimental housing models illustrate that urban dwelling can transcend mere economic transactions, instead serving as mechanisms for social cohesion, reciprocal care, and adaptable architectural strategies.

project name

profile	<u>project address</u>
	<u>actors & stakeholders</u>
	<u>project start</u>
	<u>resources</u>
type	<u>intervention</u>
	<u>typology</u>
	<u>use</u>
	<u>residential units</u> <u>working units</u>
people	<u>inhabitants / target families</u> <u>children</u> <u>seniors</u> <u>students</u>
space	<u>number of floors</u> <u>footprint</u> <u>floor area</u> <u>common space</u> <u>public space</u> <u>extra</u>
	<u>progress</u>

Key

San Nicola a Nilo intergenerational Co-Housing

Via S. Nicola a Nilo,
Quartiere San Lorenzo

Comune di Napoli
Movimento per l'abitare

2022

€ 495,000

refurbishment

historic courtyard
building

co-housing / co-shared
living spaces

14

2

70
31
10
20
2

4
2.867 sqm.
2.255 sqm.
612 sqm. (21%)
28 sqm.
public courtyard



The apartments have
been delivered and are
being occupied by the
new residents.
The design of the shared
areas is underway.



shared laundry
and reception



public space for
coexistence of different
social groups



shared living spaces
among residents



targeted to
social fragile and
vulnerable groups

Demographic data /
Municipalità 4

Residents: 90,651
Average Age: 42,5
Aging Index: 136.1
Structural Dependency
Index: 49.2
Foreigners / M: 9,823
Foreigners / F: 6,391
Foreigners / Seniors: 785

Quartiere San Lorenzo:

Public Housing Units: 5
Residents: 48,486
Families: 21,135
1-member apt.: 8,417
2-member apt.: 4,910
3-member apt.: 3,467
4+ member apt.: 4,341

Vico San Nicola a Nilo,
new inhabitants shape a
historic social condominium
reimagined for modern
urban living. With co-living
spaces and communal areas,
it fosters community and
inclusivity, paving the way
for sustainable urban futures
↓

Vico San Nicola a Nilo,
collaboration in action:
Community members
shaping inclusive housing
policies, bridging
gaps between public
intervention and private
needs.
↓



In recent years, Naples' historic center has become a focal point for observing urban changes triggered by the COVID-19 crisis. The expansion of tourism has strained the social and material fabric of the area, traditionally home to a diverse mix of residents. Many historical ground-floor dwellings (*bassi*) have been converted into tourist accommodations, accelerating local displacement and attracting investors with little regard for the area's cultural identity.

One notable case is a former elderly residence in Vico San Nicola a Nilo, established in 1995 as Naples' first social condominium. By 2018, a criminal organization had occupied four apartments – three for family use and one as a short-term rental. Following a 2019 investigation, the city ordered evictions, initially targeting only the organized crime units. However, by 2022, authorities moved to clear 13 additional units, occupied either by heirs of original residents or informal caregivers. Residents, supported by local housing movements, protested against mass tourism's impact, arguing for their right to remain.

The San Nicola a Nilo social condominium in Naples is a cohousing project that aims to promote inclusion and solidarity among the elderly and vulnerable families. It was established by municipal resolution in 2022 and represents an innovative response to the housing crisis and gentrification in the historic centre. The project involves the allocation of eleven apartments, housing a total of 37 people, for a temporary period of 24 months. During this time, residents will be supported to achieve housing independence.

The selection criteria are based on indicators of social vulnerability, such as low income (below

€15,000), lack of property ownership and lack of social networks. Beneficiaries include the elderly, families with minors or members with disabilities, mental health problems or chronic illnesses. Each tenant signs the Solidarity Charter of the condominium, which promotes good living practices, mutual support and community participation.

In addition to providing temporary housing, the social condominium experiments with new welfare models based on participation and social cohesion. It also aims to preserve the social diversity of the historic centre, which is threatened by tourism-led gentrification and economic polarisation. This pilot project could become a replicable model for other areas of the city, contributing to inclusive urban policies and the protection of the right to housing. Social workers and third sector organisations are supporting residents in developing community projects, building neighbourhood networks and acting as intermediaries between the municipality and residents.

This case highlights the evolving housing crisis in Naples, where over 8,700 households await public housing. The city has adjusted allocation criteria, shifting from purely economic factors (such as income thresholds) to social vulnerability – prioritizing elderly residents, families with minors, and individuals with disabilities. This approach has influenced broader urban renewal efforts, including projects in other neighbourhoods such as Scampia and Ponticelli, setting a precedent for integrating social services into public housing policy. In this sense, the Condominio Sociale model represents an innovative balance between public intervention and private interests, offering a possible blueprint for sustainable urban living amid growing housing inequalities.

→

In the face of rising tourism and gentrification, this social condominium offers a sanctuary for vulnerable populations, promoting inclusion and mutual support. Designing spaces that cultivate belonging, one shared bench and conversation at a time. As we envision the future, this model inspires hope for replicable solutions that address housing crises while preserving the cultural identity of historic neighborhoods





↑
Vico San Nicola a Nilo, view of the internal courtyard.
Historic courtyards reimagined as spaces for
connection, fostering mutual support among
vulnerable residents
↓



↑
Residents pledge to
shared values, embedding
community participation
into the fabric of urban
living

project name

profile	<u>project address</u>
	<u>actors & stakeholders</u>
	<u>project start</u>
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	<u>progress</u>

Key

Stadera adaptive Co-housing

Via della Stadera 137,
Quartiere Poggioreale

Comune di Napoli

2024

€ 9.500.000

new construction

residential housing
block

co-housing / co-shared
living spaces

min. 24
ca. 96

⌋
⌋
⌋

21 sqm.
157 sqm.
567 sqm.
100 (30%) sqm.
755 + 1.711 (gardens)
public open courtyard



The Design guidelines
were approved in
September 2024.
The Executive project is
underway. Construction
works assigned.



ground floor
dedicated to
associations and
commercial activities



public and green
spaces open to
the city



new possibilities
of urban
interaction



spaces dedicated
to collaborative
activities



flexible spaces
to accommodate
future changes

Demographic data / Municipalità 4

Residents: 90.651
Average age: 42,5
Aging Index: 136,1
Structural Dependency
Index: 49,2
Foreigners / M : 9,823
Foreigners / F: 6,391
Foreigners / Seniors: 785

Quartiere Poggioreale:

Public Housing Units:
1,266
Residents: 20,997
Families: 8,311
1-member house: 2,438
2-member house: 2,116
3-member house: 1,632
4+ member house: 2,080

The site for this intervention is located in Naples, at Via della Stadera 137, in an area of significant urban interest. Via della Stadera, situated in the Poggioreale district, marks the convergence of Via Santa Maria del Pianto, Via Nuova Poggioreale, and Via delle Puglie, forming a connection between the neighborhoods of San Pietro a Patierno, Poggioreale, and Ponticelli. For many years, this road served as one of the main entryways into Naples from the east, functioning as both the city's outermost boundary and an important customs checkpoint.

A historical marker of this past still exists at number 219 of the street, where a white stone, worn by the tire marks of passing vehicles, remains as a visible reminder of the area's former role in defining the limits of the city. This urban context is layered with history, preserving within its spatial fabric the traces of a Naples in transition, a periphery that has shifted from agricultural landscapes to industrial sites, from a place of transit to an expanding urban frontier, and more recently, to an area undergoing regeneration. Increasingly, this part of the city has become the focus of redevelopment efforts, integrating residential and mixed-use functions through the transformation of former industrial and underutilized areas.

The project aligns with this broader vision of renewal and is embedded within the framework of the "Stadera a Poggioreale" Urban Implementation Plan (PUA), a privately-led initiative approved by the Naples City Council with Resolution No. 502 on December 12, 2022. This urban strategy surrounds the intervention site and will undoubtedly catalyze the regeneration of the entire district. The PUA outlines the demolition of existing buildings within the project area to make way for a diverse and inclusive urban environment. The plan includes the creation of a medium-scale retail space for the sale of food and non-food products, accompanied by dedicated parking facilities, as well as a new residential tower designed to introduce innovative living solutions that embrace new models of collective dwelling, such as co-housing and co-living. The redevelopment also provides for the introduction of new green spaces, including a 755



In the 1950s, three residential towers were built in the area in front of the intervention site, one of which collapsed during the earthquake of November 23, 1980, likely due to poor-quality materials and structural defects, resulting in the deaths of 53 people.

↓



sqm public park along Via della Stadera and a 1,711 sqm urban forest conceived as a natural and ecological extension of the neighborhood.

The Urban Regeneration Program includes the creation of a Solidarity Condominium, a new housing model introduced by regional legislation on social residential construction, which integrates housing with neighborhood-based services. This new condominium, to be located at Via della Stadera 137, follows the first pilot experiment in the historic center at Via San Nicola a Nilo.

At the core of this transformation lies the idea that housing is not merely about providing shelter but about fostering a sense of belonging and shared experience. This project envisions a residential environment where community-oriented living takes precedence, where people actively participate in shaping their surroundings, share resources, and engage in collective care for the spaces they inhabit. The integration of urban greenery further enhances this vision, reinforcing sustainability as a key driver for the district's future. By blending historical identity, urban regeneration, and new housing models, this initiative aims to set a precedent for a more inclusive and connected way of living, one where the city is not just a backdrop but an active agent in shaping everyday life. The entire housing program, which consists of both the renovation of an existing building and the construction of a new one on a site designated for demolition, will be carried out in two functional phases.

The first phase will be funded through resources allocated under Law 145 / 2018 and subsequent amendments, along with a portion of municipal co-financing, and will involve the construction of a new building on the site of the demolished structures. This phase will include the redevelopment of external areas, communal spaces, green and parking areas, and spaces dedicated to collaborative housing and urban services.

The second phase, funded through the Program Agreement signed between the Municipality of Naples and the Campania Region on April 15, 2020, which is currently being restructured, will focus on the restoration of the existing building facing Via della Stadera. In total, 100 subjects will (individuals as well as families) will be accommodated into the new Co-housing facility, overcoming traditional flat based layouts and organised into a new form of shared living space. The construction process and the design of services will incorporate community engagement through consultation sessions and co-design activities, facilitated by a specialized consultancy agency.

Gathering around a table, future residents and planners engage in co-design activities, shaping their living environment together. This participatory approach ensures that communal areas reflect the needs and aspirations of those who will inhabit them, fostering a sense of belonging and shared responsibility. In co-housing projects, the process of designing spaces is as important as the final result, as it lays the foundation for a supportive and engaged community.

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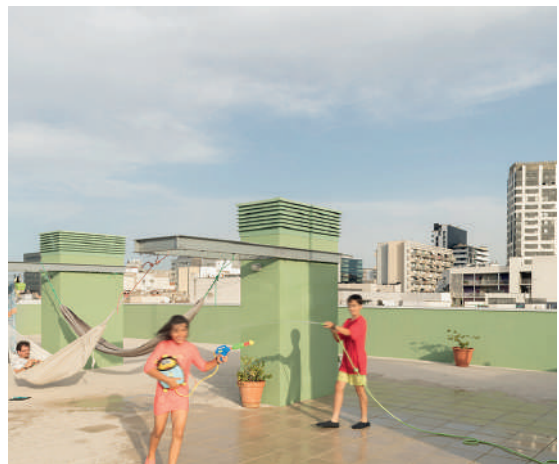


↑

Working side by side on design and planning activities strengthens social bonds and enhances collective decision-making.



↑ →
In a co-housing model, private outdoor spaces are not just for individual use but become an extension of the communal sphere. Balconies, terraces, and walkways provide opportunities for casual encounters, spontaneous conversations, and shared moments, reinforcing the idea that home extends beyond the apartment walls.



← ↑
Well-designed communal spaces invite people of all ages to gather, play, and interact. In co-housing developments, these areas become the heart of the community, where relationships are built, ideas are exchanged, and a sense of togetherness is nurtured through everyday activities.

Collective Healing

1. Quadrivio della Memoria
2. EVA / Eco-Villaggio
dell'Accoglienza
3. Food Community Hub
Casanova

Cities, carry scars – physical, social, and emotional. Collective healing explores how cohousing becomes a catalyst for urban recovery, transforming spaces of trauma into hubs of resilience and fostering collective well-being through inclusive design and community-driven regeneration. This section highlights interventions that address Naples' layered wounds, not merely by rebuilding structures, but by nurturing social bonds, restoring dignity, and empowering marginalized voices. At the heart of this approach is the Quadrivio della Memoria in Secondigliano, a participatory urban regeneration project that reimagines a burial site as a living memorial. In the 1996 eleven people lost their lives during the explosion of underground gas pipelines in the area. Through green spaces, socially engaged art, and places for gathering, the project weaves memory into the urban fabric, creating a park where grief and hope coexist.

The Food Community Hub Casanova transforms a derelict bakery in the Vasto district into a civic infrastructure for social inclusion. Revolving around the values of food justice, co-designed with local residents and Third Sector organizations, the hub becomes a space of nourishment in every sense – fostering solidarity, activating informal networks of care, and supporting vulnerable groups through food-related initiatives. Here, collective healing is rooted in the shared act of preparing and consuming meals, turning the everyday into a gesture of belonging and empowerment.

The EVA Eco-Villaggio dell'Accoglienza offers a sanctuary for women and children victims of domestic abuse, blending housing, therapeutic gardens, and cultural programs to heal individuals while reclaiming land from organized crime.

Together, these initiatives embody a vision of cohousing as a tool for collective healing – where architecture meets empathy, and communities coauthor their renewal. By integrating commemoration with daily life, and care with empowerment, Naples charts a path toward a city that heals not in isolation, but together.

project name

profile	<u>project address</u>
	<u>actors & stakeholders</u>
	<u>project start</u>
	<u>resources</u>
type	<u>intervention</u>
	<u>typology</u>
	<u>use</u>
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Key

The area in question lies intersection of Corso Secondigliano, Via Napoli Capodimonte and Via Limitone d'Arzano, in a particularly complex urban context. The characteristic feature of this area is the void left by the rift caused by the so-called Secondigliano tragedy. This event, which took place on 23 January 1996, resulted in a catastrophic collapse of underground tunnels triggering the explosion of gas pipelines, causing the collapse of several buildings and the death of eleven people.

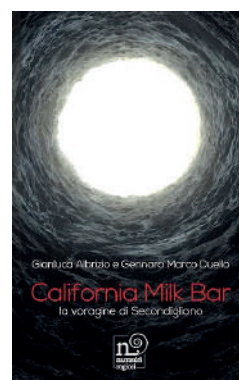
Thirty years after the tragic event, the area has remained in a state of planning limbo despite private attempts to occupy the land. The tragedy left a deep mark on the neighbourhood and the city, becoming an indelible part of the collective memory. The families of the victims founded the association "Familiari Vittime della Tragedia di Secondigliano", which continues to honour the memory of their loved ones through annual commemorations. The association has requested that the Quadrivio, currently a symbol of the tragedy, be transformed into a space for community and remembrance.

The local community, in particular the association "Familiari Vittime della Tragedia di Secondigliano", has long waited for a project to redefine this space and reconnect it with the community and the surrounding urban fabric.

Through a participatory urban regeneration process, the Quadrivio will become a space dedicated

to the memory of the victims, but above all a place where this memory is celebrated every day through new social and recreational spaces. The involvement of the victims' families and the local community is essential to ensure that the project truly reflects the needs and aspirations of those who live in the neighbourhood. It is clear that the Quadrivio area is in urgent need of urban regeneration, not only to repair the damage caused by the tragedy - the thirtieth anniversary of which is in 2026 - but also to commemorate the victims and restore dignity and identity to a place of such importance to the local community. This design guide aims to involve the neighbourhood and other stakeholders in the participatory rebuilding of the area. By involving professionals with experience in creating community spaces through participatory regeneration processes.

Despite economic difficulties and high unemployment, Secondigliano remains a vibrant neighbourhood thanks to the many initiatives of local



The story of Quadrivio, recounted in books and remembered with sorrow, was marked by the 1996 sinkhole that caused the death of 11 people. For years, the area was neglected, but today it is being transformed into a space of memory and rebirth for the community that aims to transform this place into a bridge between past and future for the Secondigliano community.

associations, parishes and schools. In addition to its commemorative and community-building functions, the redevelopment of the Quadrivio is also an opportunity to counteract the social marginalisation and urban decay that have affected the area for years. The redevelopment project covers approximately 3,000 square metres of currently unused land, with the aim of transforming it into a memorial park. The intervention will include landscape improvements, socially engaged artistic installations and spaces for sports and community activities. The different areas will be designed as interconnected spaces, not only physically but also architecturally, fostering a dialogue between the new and the existing. The intervention aims to strengthen urban connections by integrating temporary structures for events and enhancing visual continuity with the surrounding context. The green spaces will follow a progressive approach, involving the community in maintenance and planting activities. Technically, the project will use sustainable materials and flexible spatial configurations, prioritising modular structures and permeable surfaces to facilitate site management and maintenance. Accessibility and safety will be ensured through accessible pathways, efficient lighting and appropriate paving solutions. In addition, the project aims to enhance existing facilities, such as the arena and football pitch at Case Celesti, to promote coexistence and improve the quality of life in the neighbourhood.

The project adopts an interdisciplinary approach, involving architects, engineers, urban



planners and professionals from fields such as history, sociology and psychology. Based on an in-depth analysis of collective memory and community testimonies, it proposes targeted interventions to preserve, reinterpret and disseminate the historical and cultural heritage of the neighbourhood, with the aim of transforming the Quadrivio di Secondigliano from a site of tragedy into a symbol of community and rebirth and an active of public history place. These interventions will be integrated into the memorial park and will serve as a catalyst for collective reflection, facilitating the community's reconciliation with the past. In order to achieve this, a dialogue will be established with artists capable of engaging with the memory of the event and the architectural characteristics of the site through performative and relational interventions.



← ↑
The Quadrivio regeneration project will convert 3000 square meters of unused land into a memorial park. Featuring green areas, a multipurpose open space, and socially engaged art installations, the park will serve as a daily reminder of the past and a beacon for the future, fostering social cohesion and urban renewal.



←

By involving local residents and the families of the victims, the project ensures that the new park will meet the needs and aspirations of the neighborhood. The park will include sustainable landscaping, accessible pathways, and flexible spaces for events and activities. This initiative aims to honor the victims of the 1996 disaster while providing a place for social interaction. The project reflects the resilience and hopes of the local community.



←

↑

The Quadrivio's transformation into a park strengthens urban connectivity, blending sustainable design with community-driven spaces to revitalize Secondigliano and enhance its integration with the city.

project name

profile	<u>project address</u>
	<u>actors</u> <u>& stakeholders</u>
	<u>project start</u>
	<u>resources</u>
type	<u>intervention</u>
	<u>typology</u>
	<u>use</u>
	<u>residential units</u> <u>working units</u>
people	<u>inhabitants / target</u> <u>families</u> <u>children</u> <u>seniors</u> <u>students</u>
space	<u>number of floors</u> <u>footprint</u> <u>floor area</u> <u>common space</u> <u>public space</u> <u>extra</u>
	<u>progress</u>

Key

EVA / Eco-Villaggio dell'Accoglienza

Different sites across the city

Comune di Napoli, ASL, Universities, Centri anti violenza

2025

PNRR

refurbishment

underused residential buildings

housing for fragile women

16
6

17

11
11
11
11
11

11

300 sqm.
230 sqm.
100 sqm. (30%)
30 sqm.
job employment; medical service; social and cultural activities

The project has been awarded PNRR funding for confiscated assets, securing the necessary resources for its implementation.



↑ 1
Via Montagna Spaccata:
1200 sqm of green areas,
845 sqm of orchards.



↑ 4
Vico VI Duchesca:
Psychological and legal support, social café, theater courses, medical check-ups and proximity, workspaces.



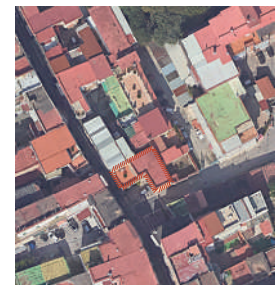
↑ 2
Via Tiberio:
3 Bed spaces (1 double, 1 single), 1 bathroom, spacious outdoor area.



↑ 5
Via Comunale Ottaviano:
5 Bed spaces (2 doubles, 1 single), 2 bathrooms, spacious common area.



↑ 3
Via Fontanelle:
3 Bed spaces (1 double, 1 single), 1 bathroom.



↑ 6
Corso Sirena:
6 Bed spaces (3 doubles), 3 bathrooms.



common basic services and self-help



shared and safe spaces for women and children



activities to support recovery



social garden



↑

The project, in addition to providing a broader range of services for the women involved, aims to create a hybrid space for the city that integrates social and healthcare services with spaces for social interaction and culture, lowering access barriers to services and regenerating marginal areas.

The EVA - Eco Village of Hospitality project is a comprehensive initiative that integrates a Service and Culture Hub, a social garden and a network of shelters for women who have experienced abuse and their children, providing them with a holistic support system. This ambitious project aims to create an extensive network of services across multiple sites in the city, ensuring accessibility and fostering a sense of community and empowerment among its beneficiaries. The initiative is structured to provide psychological and legal support, job counseling through engagement in social work, and health prevention programmes with a particular focus on women's health. It also includes participation in cultural activities such as theatre and art workshops specifically designed to support trauma recovery and personal growth. At the heart of the project is the recognition of beneficiaries not just as service users,

but as individuals with valuable experiences and skills that should be actively considered in the design and management of services. This approach aims to go beyond the standard services required by current legislation, such as psychological and legal support and job placement, by addressing a wider range of needs. **Employment opportunities are created through training and work experience, particularly in the social garden, which was created on land reclaimed from an illegally constructed building confiscated from organised crime in the Pianura district. This garden not only provides a therapeutic environment, but also serves as a practical training ground for women to develop horticultural skills. Similarly, a social bistro on the ground floor of the Vico VI Duchesca building acts as a bridge between the facility and the city, fostering an open and welcoming atmosphere while offering employment opportunities in the hospitality sector.**

The project also prioritises health prevention by providing access to mammography and ultrasound screening services. In collaboration with the University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli, the initiative aims to establish protocols for the prevention of malignant breast diseases through information campaigns and health education programmes. These services are spread across

different locations to ensure that women from different parts of the city can easily access them. In addition, cultural activities play a crucial role in the psychological recovery of the women involved. Partnerships with institutions such as the Teatro Trianon make it possible to organise theatre and storytelling workshops that are held in several locations to maximise participation and engagement.

In addition to offering a wider range of services, the EVA project aims to create a hybrid space for the city – one that combines social and welfare services with spaces for socialisation and culture.

This approach not only lowers the barriers to accessing support, but also revitalises marginalised areas by transforming them into vibrant community hubs. The project envisages a network of venues across the city, each with a different function but all contributing to the overall goal of empowering women. For example, the Service and Culture Hub will be a central point offering a range of services, while smaller satellite centres in different neighbourhoods will provide localised support and activities. This decentralised model ensures that women from all parts of the city can benefit from the project without having to travel long distances.

Ultimately, the EVA project seeks to empower women by increasing their capacity to aspire to a different and improved life; that feature that would inspire and enable others to act. It cultivates the cultural competence to envision a future and build pathways to it. By distributing activities and services across a network of sites, the project not only addresses the immediate needs of women who have experienced abuse, but also promotes long-term social inclusion and community development.

This innovative approach aims to create a sustainable model of support that can be replicated in other cities, ensuring that the benefits of the project extend far beyond its initial scope. Through this network of sites, the EVA project aims to transform the lives of women and their children, giving them a brighter future and a renewed sense of hope.



Cohousing Napoli



↑
Strength in solidarity: women supporting each other through shared experiences, mentorship, and community engagement. These personal connections are essential in breaking cycles of isolation and fostering resilience as they navigate a journey of healing and self-sufficiency.
↓



←
A co-housing initiative that goes beyond providing shelter – it creates a nurturing and inclusive environment where women and their children can heal, rebuild their lives, and reintegrate into society through collective living, shared responsibilities, and access to key resources. These interactions play a crucial role in rebuilding confidence and encouraging women to envision a new future for themselves and their children.



Education as a foundation for independence: skill-building workshops and training programs provide women with the tools they need to pursue new career opportunities, achieve financial autonomy, and actively participate in shaping their own futures.



↑
Art as a means of healing and transformation: creative therapy workshops provide women and children with an outlet for self-expression, allowing them to process trauma, regain confidence, and develop new skills in a supportive and encouraging environment. Participatory planning and co-design sessions ensure that the women involved in the project have an active role in shaping their living spaces, reinforcing a sense of agency, ownership, and long-term community sustainability.

project name

profile	<u>project address</u>
	<u>actors & stakeholders</u>
	<u>project start</u>
	<u>resources</u>
type	<u>intervention</u>
	<u>typology</u>
	<u>use</u>
	<u>residential units</u> <u>working units</u>
people	<u>inhabitants / target families</u> <u>children</u> <u>seniors</u> <u>students</u>
space	<u>number of floors</u> <u>footprint</u> <u>floor area</u> <u>common space</u> <u>public space</u> <u>extra</u>
	<u>progress</u>

Key

39

Demographic data / Municipalità 4

Residents: 90.651
Average age: 42,5
Ageing index: 136,1
Dependency Ratio: 49,2
Public lodgings: 1,271
Foreigners / M : 9,823
Foreigners / F: 6,391
Foreigners / Seniors: 785

Quartiere Vicaria:

Residents: 14,827
Families: 6,146
1 member: 2,102
2 members: 1,410
3 members: 1,238
4+ members: 1,396

The FCHC will be open
to different categories of
citizens and hold events
and educational courses
about food

↓



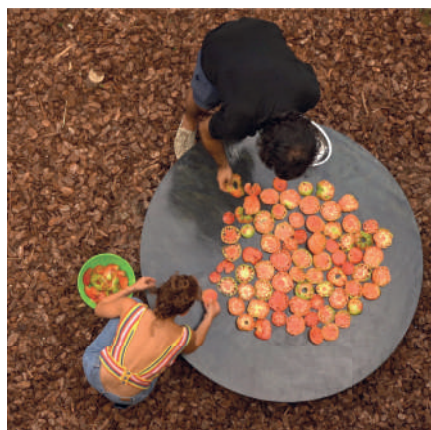
↑

The entrance to the old
communal bakery that
will become the new food
hub



→

The Food Community Hub
Casanova envisions food as
more than sustenance – it
is a catalyst for education,
community building, and
creative expression. By
hosting events, workshops,
and shared meals, the
FCHC will foster a dynamic
environment where food
becomes a tool for social
engagement and cultural
exchange.



The redevelopment of a former municipal bakery will transform a long-forgotten site into a community hub, promoting civic engagement and social inclusion. Located on the edge of the Vasto district, at the intersection of Via Casanova and Corso Novara, the building occupies the inner part of a block also bordered by Vico Vasto a Casanova, a small cul-de-sac that provides access to the building. Through a co-design process involving third sector organisations, the project aims to create a space dedicated to active citizenship, where ideas, projects and proposals can flourish. The initiative is part of a wider urban regeneration strategy that adopts a collective management approach, providing local communities with a publicly owned facility for high-impact social activities, including the delivery of public welfare services.

The adaptive reuse of the site will focus on restoring activities related to its original function - food preparation - within a modern and integrated framework that ensures economic and financial sustainability. The intervention will include the establishment of a multi-ethnic social restaurant, a centre for food education and support, and training programmes related to the food sector. A bakery will be established, complemented by dining services and educational initiatives such as a culinary school offering vocational training in food-related activities.

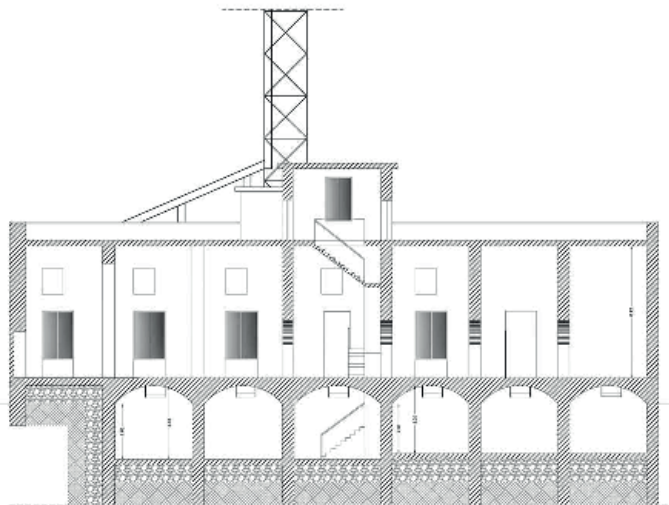
This process will be driven by the active involvement of local communities within an open and inclusive management model, with a particular focus on immigrant integration. A co-design approach will be adopted, involving different stakeholders throughout the decision-making process, from planning to implementation and evaluation. The management model will be structured through a public-private partnership agreement. In order to define this agreement, a co-design table will be set up with third sector organisations. Following this participatory process and the selection of partners,

public-private partnership agreements will be formalised with voluntary organisations and social promotion associations, as well as companies that are in line with the strategic objectives of the project, such as those providing social services of general interest. The recovery of the abandoned municipal bakery is in line with a wider strategy for the regeneration of disused public spaces, aimed at improving living conditions in the neighbourhoods and creating new economic and social opportunities in the city.

The intervention will consist of a complete renovation of the building and its functional adaptation in compliance with current urban planning regulations. The expected outcome is the regeneration and revitalisation of an important part of the city, located on the outskirts of the historic centre and close to major public transport hubs. The Municipality of Naples, as owner and promoter, will lead the initiative in collaboration with key local stakeholders from different sectors operating in the Piazza Garibaldi area. This intervention will have a significant social impact, addressing the needs of a densely populated urban area with limited public infrastructure. Given the high demand for public spaces and facilities and the presence of severe social and economic deprivation, the Community Hub will serve as an important meeting place and a catalyst for employment opportunities.

The implementation of the planned interventions will include a comprehensive building refurbishment to restore the former municipal bakery in accordance with current technical and building regulations, ensuring its adaptive reuse as a community hub.

Section of the existing baking hall, that will become the core space of the new Food Community Hub Casanova



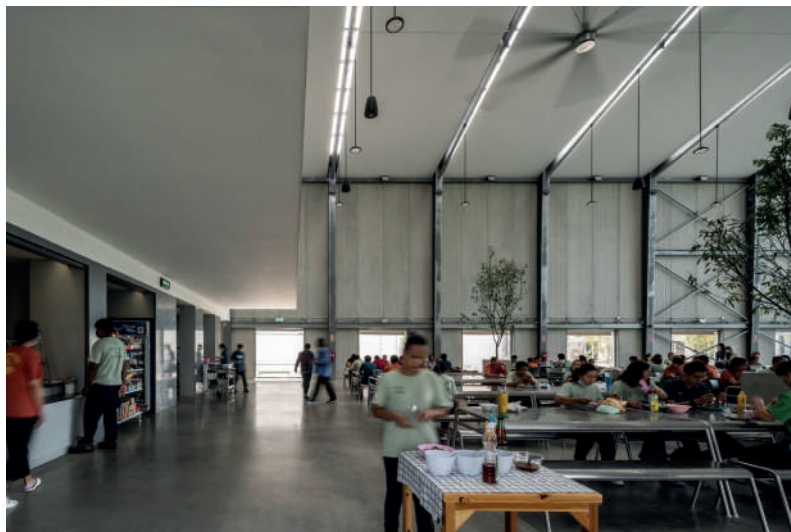


The project aims to reintegrate the site into the collective memory by creating a space for civic participation and social innovation. Focusing on food-related activities and education, the hub will act as an incubator for active citizenship, fostering initiatives that promote community well-being. To achieve a more effective urban regeneration strategy with a significant impact on the surrounding neighborhood, the refurbishment and repurposing of the building will be accompanied by improvements to adjacent outdoor spaces. Particular attention will be given to the internal courtyard, shared with other buildings in the block, which is currently abandoned and in poor condition. These enhancements will further support the creation of a welcoming and functional environment for community engagement and social inclusion.

↖
The FCHC establishes a community-managed food hub with professional kitchen facilities for training programs, a social restaurant serving affordable meals, and flexible spaces for public events and social enterprise incubation.



→
The comprehensive renovation adapts the former municipal bakery into the FCHC – a facility providing professional kitchen spaces for culinary training, a community restaurant, and multipurpose areas for educational and social programs.



Working

1. Sacro Tempio della Scorziata
2. Agri-Cultura

Working explores how Naples is looking at new job opportunities and innovative education programs through collaborative, community-driven interventions that reclaim neglected spaces, reinterpret heritage, and reimagine the future. Here, working refers to emerging fields like care, commitment, and digital manufacturing that intersect with practices of cooperation.

This section focuses on projects where cohousing becomes a catalyst for systemic change, interweaving sustainability, cultural preservation, and economic resilience into inclusive practices of transformation. In the ancient heart of the city, the Sacro Tempio della Scorziata revives a fire-damaged church through phased restoration, preserving surviving frescoes and sacred art to reclaim cultural identity as a collective resource. Meanwhile, Scorziata is also designed as a small-scale ecosystem of makers, digital developers and social entrepreneurs running new activities in the very core of the city. Meanwhile, Ponticelli's Agri-Cultura initiative turns abandoned land into productive urban farms, merging sustainable agriculture with social inclusion to address environmental challenges and reconnect communities with local traditions.

These initiatives show how working together – physically, socially, and symbolically – enables cities to evolve from the bottom up. They reveal a philosophy of cohousing as shared agency, where labor becomes a form of citizenship, and collaboration is the foundation of resilience. Working is not just about creating infrastructure; it is about making meaning, building trust, and reshaping the urban fabric through collective hands. In Naples, this is how the city is being remade: not by grand plans, but by the quiet persistence of those who work together for a common future.

project name

profile	<u>project address</u>
	<u>actors & stakeholders</u>
	<u>project start</u>
	<u>resources</u>
type	<u>intervention</u>
	<u>typology</u>
	<u>use</u>
	<u>residential units</u> <u>working units</u>
people	<u>inhabitants / target families</u> <u>children</u> <u>seniors</u> <u>students</u>
space	<u>number of floors</u> <u>footprint</u> <u>floor area</u> <u>common space</u> <u>public space</u> <u>extra</u>
	<u>progress</u>

Key

Sacro Tempio della Scorziata

Vico Cinquesanti,
Centro antico

Comune di Napoli
Università degli Studi di
Napoli Federico II, Unesco

2023

€2.500.000 +
€10.500.000

refurbishment

historic church building
+ cloister

student cohousing
+ coworking spaces
+ bistro and exhibition

29
80
1
1
80

7
1
4.339 sqm.
100 (34%)
456 sqm.
bistro, library,
coworking spaces

The executive project is
under development.



common services
for the student
community



historic building
within the ancient
city



shared living
spaces for
students



mixed activities,
both for students
and citizens

The Sacro Tempio della Scorziata is a sixteenth-century architectural complex located near Piazza San Gaetano, the ancient agorà of the Greco-Roman city of Neapolis. The site owes its name to Giovanna Scorziata (or de Scorciatiis), a Neapolitan noblewoman who dedicated her life to charity, allocating her considerable inheritance to the foundation of an institution for the care of women. The pious institute she established, around 10 August 1579, was intended to provide shelter for noblewomen or women of genteel status who had been left alone or were in difficult circumstances.

Today, the complex – consisting of the church and the Conservatorio della Scorziata – occupies a large plot in the heart of Naples' historic centre, situated between the decumani of Via Tribunali and Via dell'Anticaglia, and the cardines of Vico Cinquesanti and Vico Giganti. The location, where Scorziata already owned several properties, was deemed particularly suitable for housing women of her own social class, as also stated in the founding act, which describes the site as "central" and surrounded by prestigious neighbours.

The women hosted in the Ritiro led a life resembling monastic seclusion, governed by strict rules and structured around prayers, moments of recreation, and traditional "feminine" activities such as embroidery, reading, writing, and singing. Unlike other conservatories in the city, however, the Scorziata was not designed as a conventual institution; its primary aim was to offer a dignified and protected residence, shielding women of good standing from the social perils associated with solitude.

A Space of Hospitality

Despite various extensions and transformations over the centuries, the complex never acquired the typical layout of a monastery, which is generally characterised by expansive communal spaces and interconnected environments to support collective life. Instead, it retained the configuration of a large noble residence, organised into multiple private quarters. This fragmented spatial arrangement is the result of the gradual aggregation of heterogeneous buildings, often joined through piecemeal construction lacking an overarching architectural vision.

Such a dispersed layout, which would have required more coherent planning, was largely a consequence of the limited financial resources available to the institution. The conservatory's operations were primarily funded through the fees paid by its residents, prompting an expansion of its statute to include married women in marital difficulty. Over time, the institute's social function grew; by 1855, it housed around forty women, each paying rent based on the type of accommodation, with a one-off entrance fee that was higher for married women.

Following the enactment of the 1862 law on public welfare institutions, the retreat came under state supervision, albeit retaining a degree of administrative autonomy. During the 19th century,



↑

The Sacro Tempio della Scorziata, poised for transformation, stands as a testament to Naples' rich architectural and cultural heritage. As restoration progresses, this historic site will be revitalized into a dynamic space for community, creativity, and shared living, blending its past with an innovative vision for the future.

and particularly in response to evolving socio-cultural conditions, the conservatory's role gradually diminished. By the early 20th century, the complex served primarily as the administrative headquarters of the charitable organisation, with limited residential use, although the church remained active for religious services. The 1930 Irpinia-Vulture earthquake caused structural damage, likely including partial collapses. In 2011, ownership of the site was officially transferred to the Municipality of Naples.

Since then, the church has sustained considerable damage due to seismic events, prolonged abandonment, theft, and, more recently (in 2012), a fire that severely affected the roof structure. The entire architectural compound was in an advanced state of structural and material degradation. The lack of maintenance and oversight exacerbated the decay,

leading to the accelerated deterioration of frescoes, decorative elements, and fine architectural details. Amidst the ruins of this now-inaccessible sixteenth-century monument, traces of its former splendour still persist. Recently, renowned French street artist Zilda brought renewed attention to the forgotten temple by installing one of his works on the vacant altar, amidst fragments of precious marble and surviving ornamentation. It is precisely these precious remnants – and the centuries-old tradition of shelter and social engagement – that lie at the heart of today's recovery, conservation, and adaptive reuse project, with the dual aim of safeguarding what remains and reimagining a future for this part of the city's historic core.

Launched as part of the UNESCO Grand Project and financed through the POR Campania ERDF 2014–2020 programme, the restoration of the Sacro Tempio della Scorziata – one of 27 strategic interventions – is still underway, having evolved through multiple phases and significant revisions. The initial phase focused on securing the complex through emergency stabilisation, with structural reinforcements in the most critical areas to prevent further collapse. At the same time, in-depth diagnostic surveys were carried out, though many parts of the site remained inaccessible and difficult to examine.

This first phase concentrated particularly on structural consolidation, especially in the most deteriorated sections adjacent to Naples' main historical arteries, such as the Church of the Presentation of Mary at the Temple. The ongoing second phase focuses on the comprehensive adaptive reuse of the site, aiming to reactivate the space and restore it to public life.

Amid increasing pressure from mass tourism, the Municipality of Naples has deliberately chosen a socially-oriented approach, resisting speculative dynamics and the functional homogenisation of the historic centre. The objective is to reclaim valuable urban space for the city's inhabitants, particularly younger and economically active demographics.

To this end, an economic-financial feasibility study has been initiated in partnership with Open Impact, a consultancy firm specialising in the design of high-social-impact urban regeneration projects. This process is supported by the architectural studio Corvino+Multari and guided by the participatory vision of Architect Luca D'Angelo, the municipal official responsible for the intervention. A dedicated task force – comprising consultants, public officials, and political stakeholders – coordinates the project, seeking to align cultural heritage preservation with inclusive social objectives.

A core principle of the project is the retention of the site's public and community-oriented identity, shielding it from speculative interests that could capitalise on its strategic location to introduce high-end tourist developments. For this reason, the Municipality has committed to transparency in the funding process, integrating European funds

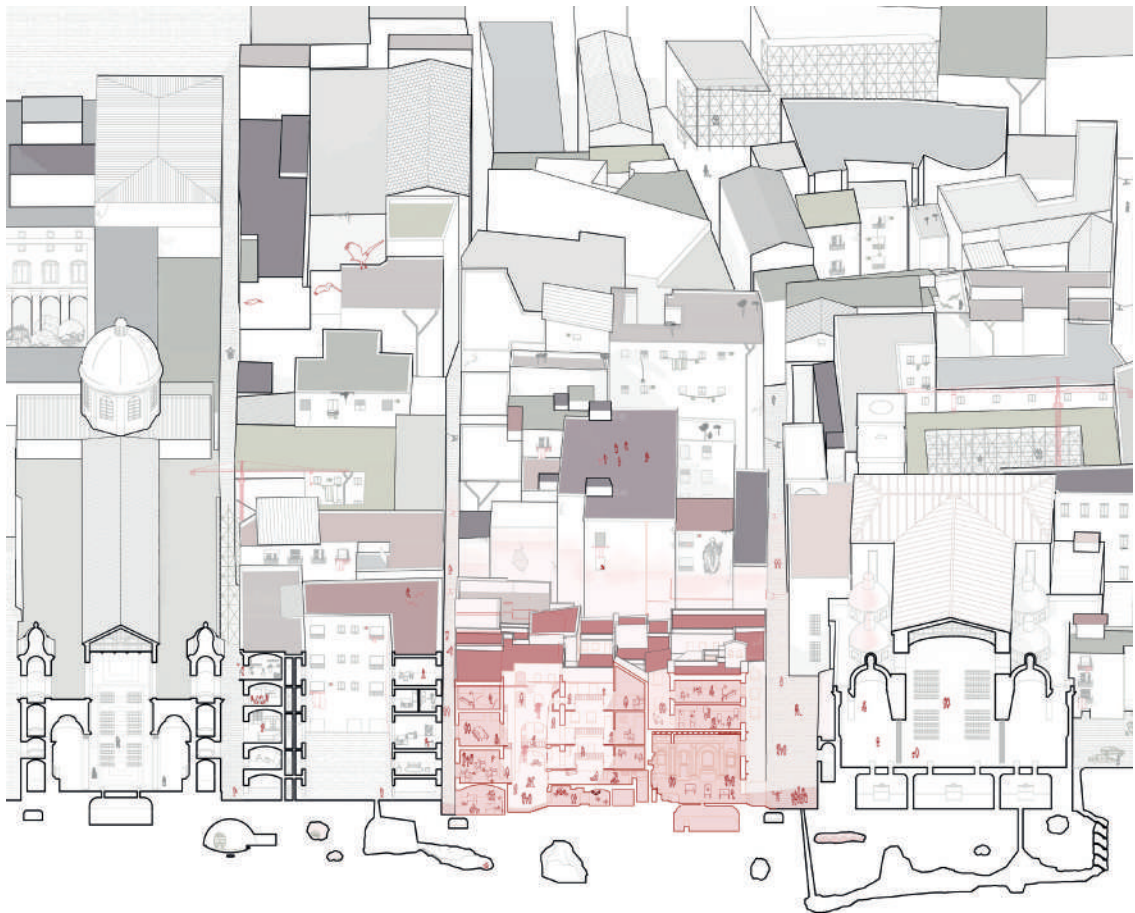


↑ The interior of the Church, currently in a state of severe decay due to fire and structural damage. Soon, restoration efforts will bring new life to this historic space, stabilizing its structure and transforming it into a vibrant cultural and community hub

with additional public resources, and maintaining a predominantly public governance structure for the project. Specifically, the proposal envisions the reactivation of residential and hospitality functions, prioritising access for students, workers, and young professionals. The complex will also accommodate a mix of community-focused uses, including spaces for cultural and social initiatives. Special attention will be given to the courtyards and rooftop gardens, which are to become hubs of social interaction and wellbeing. One such garden will host a small bistrot, intended as both a cultural and social anchor for the site.

Several areas will be designated as multipurpose spaces for exhibitions and events, including the church itself and the upper floors. Additional spaces will be allocated to innovative entrepreneurial initiatives aiming to invest in heritage with socially beneficial models. The entire complex will be managed by a publicly selected entity responsible for ensuring the quality of the new functions and maximising the site's positive social impact within the urban context.

→ Despite years of neglect, the Sacro Tempio della Scorsziata is set to be revitalized. Upcoming restoration work will preserve its architectural heritage while adapting it for contemporary use, offering new opportunities for cultural and social engagement in the heart of Naples



project name

profile	<u>project address</u>
	<u>actors & stakeholders</u>
	<u>project start</u>
	<u>resources</u>
type	<u>intervention</u>
	<u>typology</u>
	<u>use</u>
	<u>residential units</u> <u>working units</u>
people	<u>inhabitants / target families</u> <u>children</u> <u>seniors</u> <u>students</u>
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	<u>progress</u>

Key

Agri-Cultura

Quartiere Ponticelli, Napoli

Maestri di Strada,
Un'Infanzia da Vivere,
TerradiConfine, Let's do
It! Italy, Ve.Spe. Verde
Speranza, University of
Naples
2025

Fondazione Con Il Sud
urban regeneration
reforestation

green natural spaces /
urban gardens

community gardens

11

neighbourhood
(Ponticelli)

11

10.000 sqm.

11

130 + 30 gardens

11

working hubs and storage
for food and vegetables

The project is in the
organization phase.
Work is proceeding with
the PFTE (Technical and
Economic Feasibility
Project).



open green space for
the local community



new urban
attractor for the
neighbourhoods



shared working
spaces



public space, building
relationship between
citizens and nature

Demographic data / Municipalità 6
Ponticelli, Barra, S. Giovanni a Teduccio

Residents: 94.473
Average age: 41,2
Indice di vecchiaia: 116,3
Indice di dipendenza strutturale: 53,0
Alloggi pubblici: 7.560
Foreigners / M : 1.386
Foreigners / F: 1.487
Foreigners / Teenagers: 412
Foreigners / Seniors: 214

Quartiere Ponticelli:
Alloggi pubblici: 1.668
Residents: 39.335
Families: 14.371
1 member: 3.337
2 members: 3.684
3 members: 3.071
4+ members: 4.279



→

The available areas in Ponticelli will become a thriving urban farm demonstrating the potential of regenerated land for local food production. In the same neighbourhoods, Fratelli De Filippo Park in Ponticelli has been fully reopened to the public. The park spans approximately 122,000 square meters, including paved areas, a large green space, and several artificial hills with extensive rest areas and playgrounds for children. Within De Filippo Park in Ponticelli, a network of stakeholders – including institutions, schools, nonprofit associations, and citizen committees – has come together to launch a public green space maintenance project.



Through a call for expressions of interest, the Municipality of Naples has identified a partnership of Third Sector Entities (Enti del terzo settore, ETS) to which it will grant a concession for an abandoned green area in Ponticelli. The *aim of the grant is to develop projects of reclaiming and cultivating abandoned, uncultivated or under-utilised agricultural land, promoting socially, economically and sustainable agricultural production capable of producing high quality products, while revitalising traditions linked to agriculture and livestock farming. The initiative aims to support exemplary projects for the care and management of currently abandoned and uncultivated green spaces. The proposed activities will integrate social inclusion pathways with rural development strategies, promoting short supply chains that address current difficulties in access to essential agricultural products. The project also aims to establish appropriate distribution channels and introduce technological and cultural innovations that can mitigate the impact of climate change on agriculture, while strengthening the market positioning of local products. In the heart of the Ponticelli district, a project is flourishing – literally – that aims to be a tangible example of how experimental urban planning policies can be translated into

innovative urban regeneration programmes. Promoted by the association Sott'e'ncoppa and supported by the Fondazione Con Il Sud, it serves as a preview of the neighbourhood's urban redevelopment plan through land reclamation and the launch of an innovative public land initiative that integrates sustainability, social inclusion and economic development. The project is the result of a municipal initiative that, through a public call, allocated over 10,000 square metres of land to find a partner capable of promoting activities with a strong positive impact on the local community. This initiative demonstrates how a derelict area can be transformed into a valuable resource and anticipates future urban planning strategies for the integrated regeneration of Ponticelli. Agri-Cultura goes beyond agriculture to focus on social and employment regeneration. It creates opportunities for disadvantaged individuals and vulnerable groups, with a particular focus on those facing reintegration challenges. By allocating this land, the local administration has facilitated the development of a sustainable enterprise based on the principles of circular economy and environmental sustainability.

As well as upgrading and repurposing a derelict area, the project invests in human capital

by providing training programmes and employment pathways for people at risk of exclusion from the labour market. This initiative is an example of how urban regeneration, social innovation and circular economy principles can be successfully combined. Dedicating such a large public space to such a project reflects a broader strategic vision for the city, where regeneration is not just about reclaiming physical space, but also about investing in human and social capital. The project represents an important step towards a future in which urban policies prioritise both environmental sustainability and the potential of the local community.

Fondazione Con Il Sud's support through the Terre Colte initiative has enabled the restoration and regeneration of derelict areas, transforming them into spaces for social interaction, cultural development and employment opportunities. These efforts are in line with the wider objectives of social and professional reintegration, strengthening a network of public and private bodies committed to promoting community development. The partnership behind Agri-Cultura is part of a wider movement that sees Ponticelli as a model for inclusive and sustainable urban transformation.

Agri-Cultura, in particular, is promoted by the association Sott'e'ncoppa together with the associa-

tions Maestri di Strada, Un'Infanzia da Vivere, Terradi-Confini, Let's do It! Italy, the social cooperative Ve.Spe. Verde Speranza and the Department of Agriculture of the University of Naples Federico II.

The project, funded by the Fondazione Con il Sud through the Terre Colte call for proposals, will be carried out in close synergy with Palazzo San Giacomo, which has launched a public tender to entrust the management of the plots located near the buildings of the De Gasperi district.

The initiative begins with the recovery and regeneration of the land, which has been leased to the

Educational gardening activities teach sustainable practices and social responsibility even among the youngest

↓



→ Community members will help preparing the land for cultivation as part of Agri-Cultura



↑ Community members engaged in collective gardening, fostering social bonds and environmental awareness



←
Volunteers reclaiming
abandoned spaces,
turning them into green
and productive areas
↓



↑
Urban gardening efforts help promote
sustainable food production and
social engagement
↓



Sott'encoppa cooperative. This will be followed by community involvement, social animation and local development activities. The project will be further enriched by mapping activities, co-design and self-construction of community composters, a fitness trail and aquaponic cultivation. At the heart of the initiative is "Adopt a Farmer", an activity that aims to create 130 urban gardens of 50 square metres each, dedicated to direct sales, as well as a further 30 gardens for self-consumption by families in vulnerable situations, or to be entrusted to associations, schools and other local organisations. Agri-Cultura also focuses on individuals seeking a path to social redemption: inmates will be involved in training programmes and initiatives for social and professional reintegration.

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