

City	
Country	Italy
Population	879,004
Title of policy or practice	Orti Generali (General Gardens)
Subtitle (optional)	Social inclusion and urban transformation, urban fringe.
URL video	https://video.virgilio.it/guarda-video/alla-scoperta-degli-orti-general-di-mirafiori-sud-a-torino_bc6022913207001
Category	Food Production
SDGs	<p>SDGs: 1, 11, 12.</p> <p>Orti Generali mainly addresses SDG 11, yet producing spillover effects over other areas of human life such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2) Responsible production and consumption through the implementation of a resource and energy efficient irrigation system (drop irrigation system specifically designed for plants therein cultivated and related phytopathology) and the mandatory adoption, for any gardeners, of the organic method for food production; 2) Social inclusion of citizens suffering from a shortage of economic resources (the garden, thus, may feature as an anti-poverty and food-poverty measure) or therapeutic communities; 3) Education on urban sustainable agriculture for schools at the educational farm or by offering paid courses to gardeners and, more generally, to the citizens.
Brief description	<p>The Municipality of Turin has always paid attention to the question whether its citizens have access to agriculture in public areas while facing the phenomenon of spontaneous urban gardens as well. The interested area is between the Municipality of Turin and the Municipality of Nichelino and was often a highly urban and socially decayed area.</p> <p>More specifically, Orti generali is a project by Associazione Coefficiente Clorofilla, in Parco Piemonte, a green public space located in Mirafiori Sud, a peripheral neighbourhood in the City of Turin. Over a land of three hectares, a concession of the Municipality for 15 years, Orti Generali has created 160 gardens. Two hectares are allocated to urban gardeners, while one hectare is dedicated to socially inclusive activities that involve socially disadvantaged groups (e.g. dwellers living in a condition of socio-economic poverty or therapeutic communities via Sert). As Orti Generali aims to become an economically sustainable social enterprise whose core expertise lays in managing residual agricultural areas in urban spaces, access to the gardens is mediated by the payment of a monthly or annual rent. Prices differ depending on the kind of garden – whether individually or collectively managed – and the kind of renter – whether under 35 years old or suffering from a condition of socio-economic vulnerability. All gardeners must adopt the organic method of food production, and to this end, the association provides specific guidelines and offers the possibility to buy biological seeds directly on site. The project, through sustainable urban agriculture, directly enhances urban transformation processes by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Changing the local landscape through a viable and sustainable placed-based activity; 2) Promoting educational and learning activities related the practice (e.g. school involved in the educational farm and paid courses on sustainable agricultural techniques). <p>Main beneficiaries: Gardeners, citizenry and the local neighbourhood, other third sector organizations.</p>
Date of start and state (ongoing/completed)	03/2019 Ongoing

Actors and stakeholders involvement	<p>Main actors: Association Coefficiente Clorofilla and Miraorti project Economically supported by: Miur; ProGReg; Compagnia di San Paolo; Amiat Sponsored by: Municipality of Turin and Circostrizione 2 Supported by: OrMe - Orti Metropolitan torinesi and Federazione Nazionale Pro Natura In collaboration with: Fondazione Mirafiori, ASL, Pro Natura Torino, Cooperativa Patchanka, Locanda nel Parco and Associazione Parco del Nobile.</p>
Approach	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Bottom-up approach with the citizenry (particularly, informal gardeners) and needs assessment of the local context; 2) Analysis of the juridical-normative tools enabling the envisaged urban transformation and support to local institutions; 3) Scenario-making through a comparative analysis of similar projects in different geographical contexts (e.g. Paris, England) 4) Design and implementation of a context-specific sustainable urban agricultural model.
Innovation	<p>The whole business will be based on environmental sustainability and on the improvement of the urban eco system through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ingredients produced under certification that guarantees traceability, equity, respect for the work and the environment; • Sustainability of the production process, support to local development; • Waste reduction and recycling. All the produced organic materials will be composted. The packaging will be biodegradable and therefore compostable; • Renewable energies.
Impact	<p>The project wants to target the more vulnerable subjects from an economic and a psychic point of view.</p> <p>What needs to be highlighted is that, in the framework of environmental sustainability, urban gardens have a positive ecological effect: they regulate humidity and temperature (positively affecting the microclimate), they reduce solar and wind energy (protection), they promote biodiversity (horticultural products, ornamental plants and natural vegetation). Moreover, in the cities, it's possible to reuse a big variety of organic materials that can be used to fertilize the soils, protect, maintain and make vital essential processes start again.</p> <p>Urban agriculture enables a better management of the hydric resources by facilitating water filtration and reducing the costs of forced drainage.</p> <p>Moreover, urban agriculture reduces urban carbon dioxide emissions: by producing your own food in urban areas, you skip long distance transportations and it is proved that plants absorb carbon dioxides and while they are growing, they do it even more.</p>
Inclusion	<p>Collective Garden: a semi-public space open to anybody. There you can see little flowerbeds that are made by individual citizens and shared or just there as a demonstration for specific programmes (permaculture, synergic garden, biodynamic garden), common areas to relax. A supervisor will manage the organization of all the activities. These will be privileged places where to teach what a garden is and how to cultivate it and where exchanges and inclusion of those who cannot take care of a space autonomously will be possible (social inclusion).</p>
Adversity coefficient	