

New | Arrival Towns | Cities

Lab 2 | Sabaudia



The present report is a documentation of the insights related to New Towns and migration from the two-day New Town Lab in Sabaudia and it should be read within that context. The lab was the second of five events as part of the International New Town Institute's two-year project "New Towns Arrival Cities". The first event was held in Milton Keynes in November 2017. European New Towns were built with a strong top-down planning approach. Today, they all face similar challenges as they struggle to adapt to rapidly growing and diversifying populations.

The New Towns Arrival Cities project, funded by the European Union as part of its Europe for Citizens Programme, is a platform for knowledge exchange between six European New Towns on the topic of accommodating migration. It consists of five two-day "New Town Lab" events in five partner cities: Milton Keynes, UK (November 22-23, 2017), Sabaudia, Italy (May 16-17, 2018), Grand Paris Sud, France (October 2018), Vällingby, Sweden (December 13-14, 2018) and Nissewaard, The Netherlands (February 2019).

The five chapters of the report reflect the main topics addressed in each of the project's five New Towns that will hold a lab, with the aim of establishing a structure that would make the results of the five labs relevant to the other partner cities and easily comparable. Instead of offering definitive conclusions, the report presents the main challenges, insights, observations and questions that came out of the presentations and discussions, with the intention of providing a base for further investigation.

New Towns Arrival Cities project website: <http://www.newtowninstitute.org/spip.php?rubrique149>

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Sabaudia

Introduction

Sabaudia is unique among the cities participating in the New Towns Arrival Cities project because it is a forerunner of the welfare state New Towns, built just before WWII. Like other New Towns, though, it has been formed by immigrants since its origins: During Fascism and the post war period, populations from Veneto, Friuli, Trentino and Emilia Romagna moved to the region and were employed for land reclamation and agricultural work; later (1980-2000) workers came from Poland and Maghreb. The most recent immigrant agricultural workers are the Sikh, an Indian population from Punjab, who are currently the largest ethnic minority (11% of the population of Sabaudia, according to City Council statistics 2017). Romanians and Moroccans are the second largest ethnic groups in the city.

City origins

Sabaudia is one of eleven new towns built in Italy during the thirties, six of which can be considered “reclamation cities” and the others as “category cities” with very unique production features: several are mining cities, one has an aeronautics industry, and one produces cellulose. Two small towns in Sardinia should also be considered as reclamation towns: Arborea (formerly Mussolinia) in the Terralba district and Fertilia in the Nurra district. A third city was built in Sardinia, Carbonia; two cities in Istria, Raša (Arsia) and Podlabin (formerly Pozzo Littoria); one in Lazio, Guidonia, close to Rome, and one in Friuli, Torviscosa, all different in size.

The reclamation of the Pontine Marshes

The reclamation of the Pontine countryside was the biggest reclamation project in Italy (set up and implemented by several legislative decrees, 1924, 1928, 1933). The area was initially a wet plain of 80,000 hectares bordered to the north by a coastline stretching from Mount Circeo to Terracina in the south, by the Tyrrhenian Sea to the west, and by Via Appia running from Rome to Terracina in the east. The five towns planned within the area, Littoria (1932), Sabaudia (1934), Aprilia and Pomezia (1939), are very different in size, from 3,000 inhabitants foreseen in the smallest (Pontinia) to the 20/40,000 thousand foreseen in the biggest (Latina). Sabaudia was planned to receive 5,000 inhabitants in its centre and 20,000 in the wider area.

The purpose of the reclamation and planned towns was to facilitate the agricultural exploitation of the reclaimed land, reduce unemployment, revive rural Italy and build support for the fascist regime. The economic strategy was based on a network of primary cities and secondary towns, the latter considered as service centres for the rural homes spread throughout the agrarian territory.

Although there was a single unifying hydraulics plan and a common intention to give a territorial and civic role to the new towns, the new cities themselves are designed as strongly independent urban centres. This is due to the Fascist rhetoric which wanted each urban project invested with significant political meaning and heroic references.



The reclamation area of the Pontine Marshes included the building of five New Towns: Pomezia, Aprilia, Littoria, Pontinia and Sabaudia.



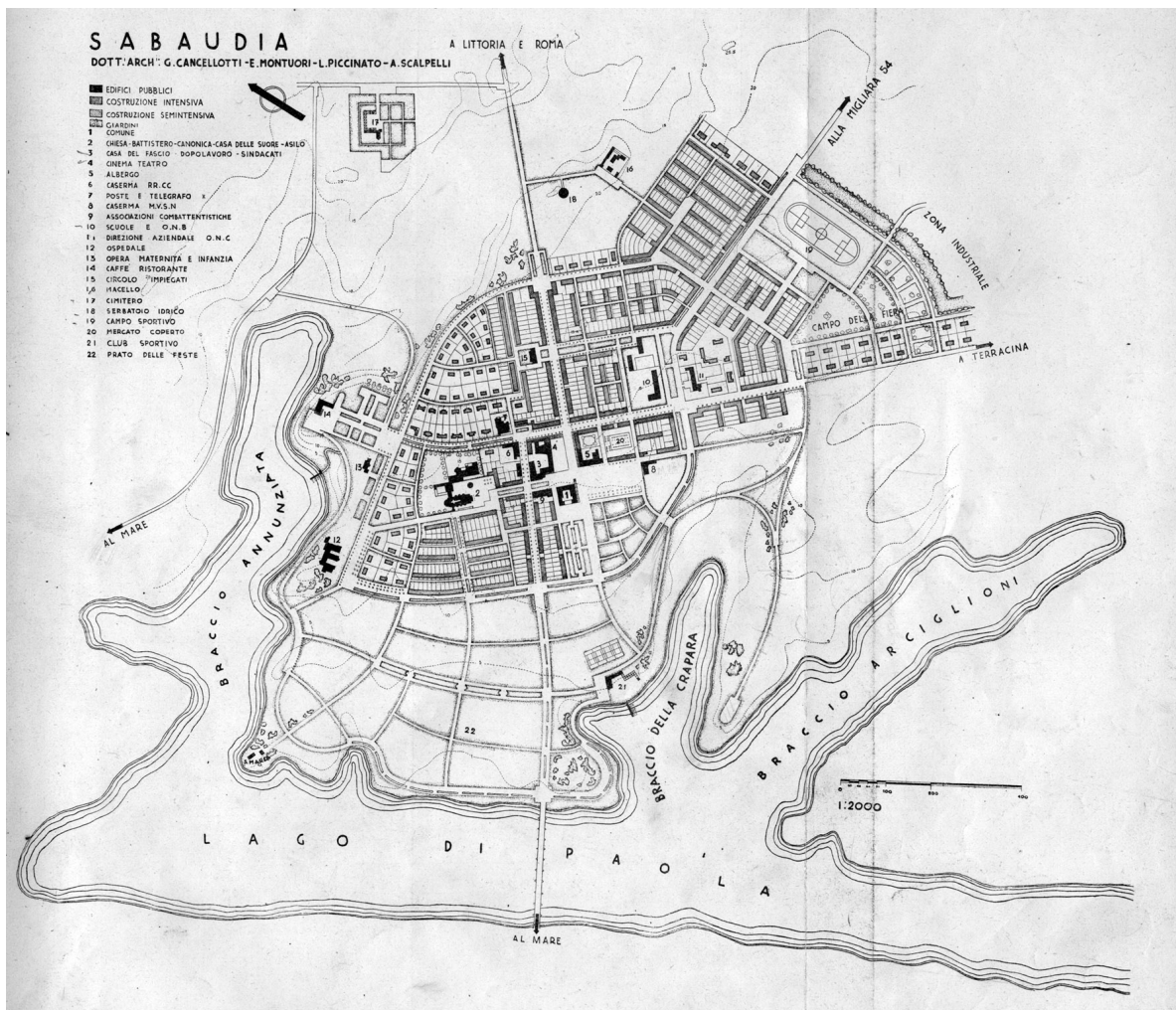
Sabaudia was planned as the centre of a network of rural settlements.

The Piccinato Master Plan, 1934

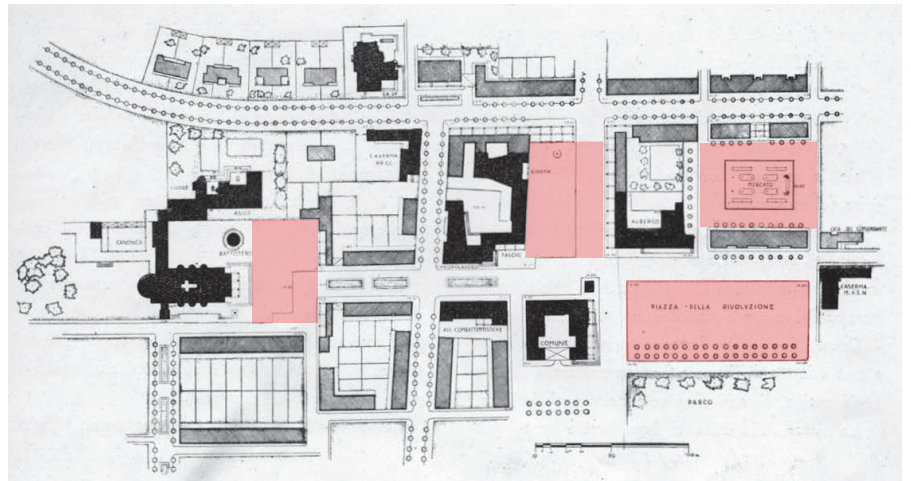
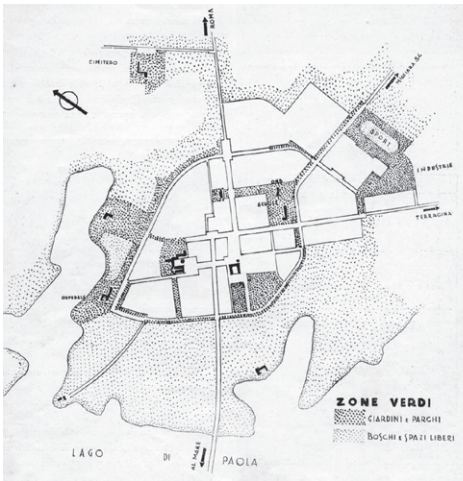
While the plans for Latina and Pontinia were directly commissioned, those of Sabaudia and Aprilia were the result of a competition. The winning proposal for the master plan of Sabaudia was designed by a group formed by the architects Cancellotti, Montuori, Piccinato and Scalzelli.

The plan is based on the concept of an open city directly linked to its surroundings, an agricultural centre serving the surrounding land. There are two reasons for this approach: Fascist agricultural propaganda and the beauty of the land, especially its sandy coast, Paola Lake, the network of coastal lakes and the Circeo promontory. The necessity to preserve the beauty of the land is also at origin of the establishing of the National Park of Circeo in 1934, which encompasses Sabaudia within its borders.

The will of Luigi Piccinato (the main architect and urban designer of the city) to bring the landscape elements into Sabaudia with both physical and visual connections leads to a quite open urban shape, rather than a strict geometric plan. The urban masterplan is centred on three types of open spaces: the squares (the municipality square, the square of the adunate/gathering and the church square), the axes connecting the squares and several wide representative tree-lined roads, and the green spaces towards the lake of Paola, intentionally left unplanned and open. The municipality square sits at the intersection of the two main perpendicular axes - the cardo and decumano - referring to the glorious history of Roman town planning.



The Piccinato masterplan for Sabaudia, 1934 (source: Piccinato 1934)



Piccinato's plan placed Sabaudia within "green zones" (left), which were brought into the city centre with wide axial streets and squares (right). (source: Piccinato 1934)



The 1934 Piccinato masterplan (orange) superimposed on Sabaudia's existing urban fabric (black). (source: presentation by Dunia Mittner during day 2 of the lab)

The Seaside Centre and Touristic Boom (~60s to ~80s)

After WWII, Sabaudia started its transformation from an agricultural centre to a resort town. During the Sixties and Seventies in particular, Sabaudia was appreciated by the Roman intelligentsia because of its nature (including an 18km-long beach) and the rationalist architecture's pure rectilinear forms that evoke the metaphysical sensations of De Chirico paintings, and its proximity to Rome.

Famous writers such as Alberto Moravia and Dacia Maraini as well as filmmakers such as Pier Paolo Pasolini and Bernardo Bertolucci chose Sabaudia as their summer holiday destination, spending several months there and transforming it into an elite seaside resort. The Moravia-Pasolini couple was particularly influential in the transformation of Sabaudia into a resort town. The city also formed the backdrop of well-known movies including "Divorce Italian Style" (Germi), "School Mates" (Verdone) and more recently "The Caiman" (Moretti) and "The Family Friend" (Sorrentino). Beyond filmmakers and intellectuals, the site is chosen by politicians and television personalities.

During this time, Sabaudia's surroundings become the victim of intense squatting and illegal building, making it necessary to redraw the borders of the Circeo National Park. Some coastal areas near Latina, where illegal construction is particularly severe, are taken out from the original perimeter of the park. Other areas remained within the borders to protect them from real estate speculation, such as the coastal lakes of Fogliano, Monaci e Caprolace. The Eighties are thus a time of heavy construction within the territory.

Immigration in Sabaudia: the Bella Farnia neighbourhood as a case study

During the 1970s economic boom, Bella Farnia, one of Sabaudia's satellite secondary towns located along the coast, was developed as a holiday house resort. Today, almost half of the residents are Indian immigrants.

Bella Farnia was part of a series of similar developments that sprang up all across the Mediterranean tourist areas. It is composed of multiple allotments structured as small enclaves with winding street patterns and white plastered buildings. The Bella Farnia Mare allotment, where most of the Indians have settled, was originally developed by the Somal housing cooperative and offered a variety of summer house typologies including detached single-family villas and denser arrays of apartments for a less affluent clientele. Because it was meant as a holiday resort, few public amenities were planned: a church, an elementary school (which is now abandoned) and a bar.

Before the development was completed, however, Somal went bankrupt. A conspicuous number of flats was left unfinished, and public spaces remained as open left-over spaces. The empty apartments attracted the attention of nearby agricultural entrepreneurs, who bought them and began renting them to the Punjab workers who arrived in the 1980s to work in the nearby fields and greenhouses.

Numerous factors drew the Punjab immigrants to Sabaudia: finding work in India was difficult at the time and those who could afford it went abroad; it was also relatively faster to obtain visas for Italy than for other European countries, which were distributed according to annual quotas for the immigration of agricultural workers. The Punjab workers settled in Bella Farnia because it was close to their work and rent was relatively cheap. Moreover, other areas of Sabaudia were not renting to immigrants in the 80s and 90s; Bella Farnia was an exception because it was a holiday resort. Most of the agricultural workers, despite being met with less favourable living and working conditions than they expected, remained in Sabaudia because of the debt incurred during their travels and because of the bureaucratic obstacles to arranging their documents.

Today, the apartments that were designed for 2-4 people are home to 6-8 immigrants, and the roughly 1900 Indians in Bella Farnia constitute around 40% of the population (according to the Municipality of Sabaudia's population statistics, 2017). However, the neighbourhood's Italian families in the larger holiday houses and the Indian communities in the apartment blocks seldom mix.



The Bella Farnia neighbourhood: the outlined lower area shows the Bella Farnia Mare area where many Punjab immigrants live. The public amenities are limited to several shops, a bar and a church (outlined upper area).

The New Town Lab: How can Public Spaces Improve the Integration of Newcomers?

How can newcomers, and in particular the Punjab community, be better integrated in Italian society? Historically, the city's abundant open spaces have served this function. Today, however, they are only occasionally used: once a week during the market, or for special events during the summer, for example during the Sabaudia film festival. One problem is the mix of pedestrian and car traffic. As well, new neighbourhoods such as Bella Farnia lack public spaces where new populations can gather and meet. How can this situation be improved?



The Indians' apartments (left) and the larger villas owned by Italians (right) strike a surprising contrast, yet are part of the same neighbourhood.

1. Culture

a vibrant immigrant culture, yet segregated

The Punjab population in Bella Farnia has a rich culture, but one that remains little known by the nearby Italian community. While Italians socialize at the bar in the evenings, the Indians gather in their own neighbourhoods and in the Gurdwara Sikh temple.

The Gurdwara was established in 2001 in a warehouse 1km from the centre of Sabaudia. It is a place for gathering and for religious celebration on Sundays, when most workers have a day off. The temple is open 24/7 and many Indians use it as temporary accommodation (if they have nowhere else to sleep) in exchange for helping with cooking and cleaning. The temple is also open to those from outside the Sikh community, for instance Romanian and Ukrainian women who married Indian men or Italians who are curious about the Punjab culture. However, these are more the exception than the rule; others seldom come because of the language barrier and because they have no contacts within the community.

At the end of June, thousands of Sikhs from the province of Latina and from the regions of Lazio, Campania and even further from north-Italy join Bella Farnia's Sikh community in a procession from the Gurdwara to the centre of Sabaudia, commemorating the martyrdom of the fifth guru Arjan Dev.

Apart from religion, Indian culture becomes visible in sports: since 2001, Indians from all over Italy come to Bella Farnia every July to compete in the national Kabadi tournament – India's national sport. The Punjab culture is also manifested in the spices, food and Indian films sold in the neighbourhood's modest selection of small shops.

Despite this cultural richness, there is almost no communication between the Italians and the Indians. Even within the small confines of Bella Farnia, the two communities remain segregated.



The Gurdwara Sikh temple, 1km from the centre of Sabaudia, is housed in an old warehouse.

2. Public Space

short-term, local and participative action needed

The city centre of Sabaudia was designed to host the political, social and commercial life of its surrounding network of rural settlements. Its wide axial streets and public squares were built in proportion to the large region that they served. While Bella Farnia's Punjab community bikes 9 km to the Gurdwara, however, they apparently do not find it worthwhile to travel a similar distance for the public life in Sabaudia's centre, contributing to the residential and economic segregation of the community.

Overall, the workshop results (see Appendix 1) propose improving Bella Farnia's open spaces with basic maintenance and small-scale, temporary interventions as a testing ground for shared activities. Cooperation between the municipality and local community would require fewer resources from the municipality and would give the community a sense of ownership. Moreover, there is possibly too much public space, making it a financial burden; some of it could be redeveloped with housing and commercial programme, generating finance to raise the overall quality of public space and public services in Bella Farnia. The mostly likely starting points for implementing the proposed strategies are the central square and the park because of the public and symbolic value of a well-connected central meeting place, the current lack of places for children to play, and the potential of sports for creating a bridge between different generations and cultures.

In proposing these strategies, however, we cannot naïvely assume that improving public space and the physical conditions in Bella Farnia will solve its complex problems of inequality and non-inclusion. The municipality needs a more long-term plan, also to serve its ambition to obtain funding from regional and European governments. Another challenge is finding ways to engage the separate local communities, especially because the Indian residents are less outgoing than the Italians and because the population varies throughout the year, growing considerably during the summer holiday season.



The workshop focussed on five open public spaces in Bella Farnia.



Indian children playing football on an abandoned parking lot in Bella Farnia

The example of Gellerup as a financial model

The ongoing urban renewal project in the Danish New Town of Gellerup, which was presented by Tom Nielsen (Aarhus School of Architecture) and Sara Allermann Kruse (City of Aarhus) during the May 17 public conference, demonstrates how redevelopment can pay for itself with densification and diversification. Built in the late 60s and early 70s as a “workers’ paradise” with 2400 housing units in 8 typologies of flats, Gellerup was initially populated by middle-class Danish families. During the 70s, these families left with the arrival of Turkish guest workers and Vietnamese refugees. The 80s saw an influx of refugees from Palestine, Iran, Iraq and Somalia. By the 1990s Gellerup was the poorest neighbourhood in Denmark, plagued with riots and unrest and labelled a ‘ghetto’. Because few people actively chose to live in large-scale housing blocks, a social imbalance was developed, which was exacerbated by the tendency of successful migrants moving out to other, more suburban areas when they had the chance. Gellerup in this way stayed an ‘arrival city’ for the poorer migrants, however without the positive connotations of offering chances for economic and social improvement.

Many years of social efforts have not changed the area, so these are now being combined with radical physical changes. The urban redevelopment project aims to retain residents with strong socio-economic resources and attract more diverse groups of residents. It will renovate existing housing, replace five housing blocks and five institutions with more dense, diverse housing types, build new office buildings that will move 1000 jobs to the area, and create a sports and culture campus and a new urban park. Gellerup will be more connected to the surrounding city - and will therefore feel safer - with a light rail line and new streets.

Similar to Bella Farnia, one opportunity for improvement in Gellerup was the abundance of open space in this modernist neighborhood. In particular a series of empty grass fields along the eastern side was unused and without ownership. Here, the solution was to decrease the amount of open space and use the area to diversify the housing stock and demography by inviting private development projects. While public space is valuable for social integration, selectively developing it for housing, real estate, cafes or shops can balance both the programme and the financial burden of maintaining the spaces.

3. Adapting the Founding Principles

from serving a regional economic strategy to serving a growing and diversifying local population

Sabaudia was a “showcase” New Town built as part of the “Battle for Land” economic strategy to build consensus around the fascist regime. The O.N.C. (Opera Nazionale dei Combattenti, a charitable organization to support WWI veterans) coordinated agricultural production in a network of rural settlements to maximize yield and distribution. Its function was also political and representational, reflected in its solemn rationalist architecture and public squares.

The fall of the regime in 1943, the growing population in the 1960s and the arrival of new immigrants from the 1970s onwards changed Sabaudia from a centre in service of a national economic strategy to a veritable city. New neighbourhoods and services were built around the original centre.

Economically, the city suffered from decreasing funds as industry and (military) institutions closed their doors in the last decades. Today, the local democratic government must shoulder the sometimes conflicting demands of the ‘original’ inhabitants and the newcomers from India as well as Romania and Morocco in a situation with diminishing finances and a political climate which is not favourable towards integration of migrants. At the same time, the region’s economy is strongly dependent on the immigrant workforce; Indians perform 90% of the work for the agricultural sector, which accounts for 60% of the Sabaudia’s economy.



View from the civic tower towards the church: wide tree-lined streets and rectilinear rationalistic architecture surrounded by nature.

4. Building a Positive Narrative

Recognizing the Indian workforce as part of the city's pioneering spirit

Sabaudia's two main economic pillars are agriculture and tourism, based on the region's fertile land and the beauty of its natural surroundings. Balancing an increasingly intensive agricultural production with the preservation of the natural environment are therefore a primary focus for the municipality. The Circeo national park, founded the same year as Sabaudia and encompassing the city within its borders, was established for the dual purpose of protecting nature and developing tourism. It is the smallest national park in Europe but also the most biodiverse, and this natural environment is preserved both for the common interest of the global community and because of economic competition. Balance with agricultural exploitation is maintained by only farming in restricted areas.

Sabaudia promotes a narrative of itself based on tourism and nature, emphasizing its picturesque qualities. Touristic promotion focuses on wellbeing, the environment and history. However, relatively little recognition is given to the immigrant community as an asset when, in fact, Sabaudia was built by immigrants and continues to be sustained economically by them.

Building a narrative that recognizes the importance of immigrants would firstly require to recognize the ongoing pioneering spirit of Sabaudia: after the first generation of immigrants from the north of Italy, there have been consecutive waves of migrants coming in and the Indians and other migrants form part and parcel of this ongoing development shaping the city.

Secondly it would require empowering migrants to participate in urban life, providing support that might lead them to strengthen their socio-economic position, ensure their civic rights, create chances for emancipation and maybe for them to become entrepreneurs themselves. This effort is already being made by schools, which offer language courses and teach immigrant students and families about public services. Participation of youth also happens through sports. However overall, the immigrant residents are not yet an integrated part of Sabaudian urban life.



An exchange between the international delegates and Bella Farnia's Indian community during the May 16 tour

5. Government-Citizen Relations

private organizations fill the `communication gap` between the municipality and its immigrant residents

While the initiatives taken by schools and sports organizations are an important first step towards recognizing and empowering the immigrant population, there is not yet enough support from the municipality's side.

There are numerous communication barriers between the Punjab agricultural workers and government institutions, including working hours and language. The Indians work from sunrise to sunset. With only bikes or busses as a means of transport, they cannot reach the government offices in Sabaudia during opening hours. Moreover, most institutional workers don't speak English (as many Indian workers do) and most Indians don't speak Italian, making it difficult for the institutions to teach the workers about their rights and responsibilities, and for the Indian workers to explain their situations and needs to the Italian authorities. As the Punjab community leader Dhillon Karamajit explains, the language barrier is one of the causes of exploitation, as the Indian workers cannot ask for their rights.

Independent organizations are working to fill this gap. FLAI (the federation of agricultural industry labourers) organized numerous strikes, resulting in the passing of the law against "caporalato", the illegal hiring of agricultural labourers for very low wages through an agent. Every Wednesday, FLAI worker Hardeep Kaur, herself of Indian background, parks a minibus-turned-mobile-office in Bella Farnia, from which she offers legal advice and helps the Indians to arrange their resident permits and other documents. InMigrazione, a social cooperative in Sabaudia, offers support for immigrants including a welcome centre and language school, and they engage in research and activism on the issue of exploitation of agricultural workers. Amici di Bella Farnia, formed to provide basic community services for the first generation of immigrants from the Veneto and Friuli regions, organize activities and workshops for the elderly Italian community. They regularly offer their community centre for the Indians to gather, but the two groups don't mix.

Although the municipality has made a step in supporting local needs by establishing a 2018 participatory budget of 360 000 euros, more engagement is likely needed. In the first place, it would require including more members of immigrant communities - not only the leaders - in exchanges and reflections about their needs, visions and expectations for their neighbourhoods. Equally important is the municipality's willingness and commitment to address these needs. Especially in a situation where funding is lacking, co-creation and co-ownership with local communities are necessary to address the complex social situation.

Conclusions

Sabaudia, like other New Towns, was built and maintained by a top-down planning process. With changing populations and needs, the city faces similar problems of isolated and disadvantaged immigrant neighbourhoods, lacking services and unused urban spaces. Given the social complexity of neighbourhoods like Bella Farnia and the municipality's lacking financial resources, urban redevelopment can no longer follow the traditional top-down approach. New planning processes are needed in which communities are given a more active role in order to plan according to their needs, encourage ownership and alleviate the municipality's financial burden in maintaining public spaces and amenities. However, such cooperation requires communication, willingness and commitment from the municipality as well as local communities. How can municipality and immigrant populations, in particular the Indian population of Bella Farnia, be encouraged to participate in such processes and become integrated in urban life?

While **culture** has the potential of becoming a platform for inter-cultural dialogue, as is the case in Milton Keynes, in Sabaudia it appears to have the opposite effect. The community of Indian agricultural workers and their families gather within the confines of their own neighbourhood and weekly at the Gurdwara temple. Although the Italian and Indian communities live right next to each other, there is an apparent lack of willingness to come to know each other, one reason being the language barrier.

Further discussion:

- *Do the two communities share any common interests that could draw them together, such as the malfunctioning of public services in Bella Farnia?*
- *Can the existence of different cultures be taken into account to create a meaningful design of public and/or commercial spaces and possible cultural programs?*

Another reason for the lack of integration between the two communities is the lack of well-functioning **public spaces** in Bella Farnia. As a starting point, the workshop results proposed basic maintenance of existing open spaces, starting with temporary small-scale functions and engaging residents in a process of co-creation. There are also possibly too many open spaces and developing it could diversify the programme while alleviating the financial burden of maintenance.

Further discussion:

- *How can public spaces be designed, programmed and managed in a seaside town that hosts a much larger population at certain times of the year?*
- *How can the quality of the public space be raised in a financially viable way, possibly by combining investments with development opportunities?*

New Towns are products of their time, and changing social and economic circumstances require **adapting the city's founding principles** to the new circumstances. Originally designed to be a flagship city as part of a national economic strategy in support of the fascist regime, Sabaudia's population has since grown and diversified while the government's resources have diminished.

While its population was initially Italian, today there are large numbers of Indians, Moroccans and Romanians. The immigrants from Punjab are particularly important for the city's economy, performing 90% of the labour in the agricultural sector. Given that agriculture is one of Sabaudia's two economic pillars - along with tourism based on the natural environment - can a more **positive narrative** be formulated, one that recognizes the immigrant workforce on which the city depends?

Acknowledging the importance of Sabaudia's Indian community and involving them in urban life would require a shift in **government-citizen relations**. A more cooperative approach to planning also becomes necessary as government funding diminishes. Currently, there is a communication gap between the local immigrant community and institutions, making it difficult to address socio-economic problems. Organizations such as FLAI and InMigrazione are working to fill this gap, but additional support from the municipality would be needed to address the complex situation.

Further discussion:

- *It is clear that the community needs to play a more active role in urban development, requiring public actors to modify their planning approach: not thinking for the community but with them. How can such a change be accommodated?*
- *If language is a primary barrier to government-citizen relations, how can schools and language education in general gain a more prominent role in the long-term integration strategy?*
- *Obstacles on the road to improvement exist such as insufficient funds, lacking political will or others. Can these obstacles be clearly identified? How can they be dealt with?*

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Appendix 1

Workshop

The workshop assignment

How can public spaces in Bella Farnia be redesigned and reprogrammed to accommodate the needs and desires of its multifaceted and diverse population?

As part of this New Town Lab, an urban workshop was carried out with the participation of 70 architecture students from the University of Padua, led by Professor Dunia Mittner, Sebastiano Roveroni and Marco Stecca. After studying Sabaudia from their home university, the students spent four days in the New Town, elaborating thoughts and ideas for improving Bella Farnia's public spaces. On May 17 the students coordinated five workshop groups that brought together local civil servants and the international partners to formulate possible strategies for five open spaces, each guided by a given theme: the square, the park, the playground, the market and the hub.



Workshop results

The square

A centrally located open green space that once functioned as a park, but is now abandoned

Four concrete actions points for improvement (in a collaborative process with the municipality and the local community):

1. Basic cleaning and maintenance of the space
2. Organize social events that include the entire community
3. Place a central element that serves both the stable population of Bella Farnia and the summertime touristic population
4. Create additional connections, making the area accessible from every part of the neighbourhood.

The park

A green area belonging to the municipality that is currently undermaintained

Four concrete action points for improvement:

1. Basic maintenance by the municipality, cut the grass, add sitting places, add a sign to mark the area
2. To generate funding for improving the park, part of the land could be sold; a shop or cafe could also be added, which would serve the entire community.
3. Organize meetings with the municipality and both the Indian and Italian residents to determine the needs and wishes for the space, determine common interests, plan shared actions.
4. Start to create a playground, a basic amenity that is currently lacking.

The sport playground

A green area currently used for sports

1. Make the area more accessible with basic maintenance by the municipality
2. Ownership: give the keys to the local youth interested in taking care of the playing field
3. Use the space as a testing ground for temporary shared and co-designed activities and installations, which could be a way of identifying which activities are interesting for both the Italian and Indian communities.
4. Delegate the management of the space to the community, supporting them with municipal funding

The market

An empty green area that was once planned to be developed as a market

1. Make a business plan for the area, based on the selling of local food and agricultural products as the element that can connect the Indian and Italian communities
2. Build a tall structure or tower to make the market visible and easily recognizable
3. Create a natural border of trees to protect the privacy of the local inhabitants who live around the market area
4. Install a drainage system to protect the area from flooding (the ground is uneven)

The hub

Privately owned land along the main road to Bella Farnia, located between the Italian and Sikh communities

1. Cleaning and basic maintenance of the area
2. Organize a meeting with the landowner, the municipality and representatives from the Sikh and Italian communities to decide on the potentials of the area. Possibilities include a multifunctional building and legal consultancy, a meeting point for the district and a centre that accommodates various religious groups.
3. To give the area a more community-oriented function, the municipality could purchase or lease the land to support the development of communal functions.
4. Make the area accessible from the main street and from the back side of the houses around it.

Appendix 2

Programme

Day 1: Wednesday May 16

(Site visits, open to project partners only)

13.30 - 13.45 International delegates meet in Fiumicino Airport. Transport to Sabaudia by bus.

15.30 Check-in hotel

16.00 Introduction

(Location - Sabaudia Centro di Documentazione "A. Mazzoni")

Welcome by Dr. Arch. Claudio Leone, Head of Sector VIII AA.PP. - S.U.A.P. - Europa Desk. Brief introduction on the foundation of the City of Sabaudia and its urban development by Dr. Arch. Luca Falzarano on the theme "Major reclamation works and new arrivals: migratory flows in the territory of Sabaudia, the creation of the city centre and the rural villages".

16.20 "Gellerup: From disadvantaged area to attractive city district"

Presented by Tom Nielsen (Aarhus School of Architecture) and Sara Allermann Kruse (City of Aarhus)

17.00 Tour of the city centre

Visit to the city centre with particular attention to the rationalist aspects of the original buildings, the institutional functions they had in the past and their present role. The tour is guided by Prof. Dunia Mittner.

18.30 Tour of Bella Farnia

The group leaves by bus for Bella Farnia. On the way, participants see the agricultural lands and the greenhouses, which are the economic pillars in the area and the reasons for the intense migration flows to the region. The tour ends in the small Bella Farnia settlement. The visit to Bella Farnia also includes the five locations that are the object of the workshop the following day.

19:30 Dinner at the Sikh Temple

Arrival at the Sikh Temple at Via Caporale Tortini, the religious centre and gathering place of the Punjab community, where dinner is served (kindly offered by the Sikh community).

21.30 Return to the hotel by bus.

Day 2: Thursday May 17 - Public event

(Conference and workshops)

(Location - Sabaudia Centro di Documentazione "A. Mazzoni")

9.00 Introduction by Dr. Arch. Claudio Leone, Head of Productive Activities dep. (moderator)

Welcome by:

Mayor of Sabaudia, lawyer Giada Gervasi;

Vice Mayor Mr. Alessio Sartori, Alderman Sport and Associations world;

Alderman Finance and Europe desk Dr. Giampiero Macale;

Alderman Productive Activities Dr. Fabiana Marangoni;

Indian Ambassador Reenat Sandhu;

Prefect Dr. Giovanna Maria Rita Iurato, Directorate of Religious Affairs, Ministry of the Interior

Prefect of Latina, Dr. Maria Rita Trio

9.20 Introduction to the theme of the Lab by Dr. Arch. Claudio Leone

9.35 “New Towns, Arrival Cities” project goals and ambitions

Presented by Dr. Michelle Provoost (INTI Executive Director)

9.50 “Re-planning collective spaces within a polycentric city”

Presented by Dr. Dunia Mittner

10.10 “The sustainability of new inclusive spaces”

Presented by Dr. Paolo Cassola (Director of the organization Parco Nazionale del Circeo)

10.35 coffee break

11.00 “The school as a place of welcome, aggregation and main actor in the formation of a spirit of solidarity”

Presented by Prof. Miriana Zannella (Director of the scientific high school “G. Marconi”)

11.20 “Arrivals in Sabaudia and daily life from the migrant perspective”

Presented by Mr. Karamajit Singh (Representative of the Indian community)

11.40 “Sociological aspects of the immigration process in the territory of Sabaudia”

Presented by Dr. Piero Rossi, Head of the Quality of Life sector of the Municipality of Sabaudia

12.00 Q&A from the public, concluding remarks by the moderator and presentation of the afternoon workshop sessions

Presentations finish at 12.45 and conference continues with the workshop at 15.00

15.00 - 17.00 Workshop sessions

The aim of the workshop sessions is to involve international delegates and local residents in identifying concrete strategies for making Sabaudia’s public spaces more inclusive. Delegates and residents are organized into 4-5 groups and assigned one public space. Each group has a maximum of 20 people and includes policy-makers, professors, international partners, local community members and architects/planners. During the workshops, the students from Padua present their work. There is one moderator for each group.

Within each group, the workshop proceeds as follows:

1. Introduction to the site by the students from Padua
2. Discussion about the needs and aspirations.
3. From your expertise and professional group, what kinds of improvements do you propose? What are the priorities?
4. Together define 4 concrete action points for implementation in the public spaces. This proposal is presented in the conclusive plenary session.

17.00 Presentation of the results of the workshops

17.30 Plenary discussion with panel of international partners

International partners give practical recommendations about how to turn ambitions into practice, including policy, participation and design aspects. Moderation by Michelle Provoost, INTI Director.

18.00 Summary and conclusion by Claudio Leone

18.05 - 18.30 Steering group meeting with representatives from the international delegations

21.00 Dinner (for project partners only)

Appendix 3

speaker biographies



Claudio Leone

Head of Productive Activities and of the Europe Desk, Municipality of Sabaudia

Claudio Leone is trained as an architect. He joined the municipality of Sabaudia in 2011 as Head of the spatial and regional planning department. He was subsequently appointed as Head of the Urban Planning of private and public building regulations with special duty on unauthorized developments. Since January 2018, Claudio is Head of Sector VIII (productive activities) and of the Europe desk.

Before working for the municipality of Sabaudia, he worked in public administration for the municipalities of Ardea, Pomezia and Nettuna. He started his career at the provincial administration of Latina from 1978 to 2002.



Michelle Provoost

Director of the International New Town Institute

Dr. Michelle Provoost is an architectural historian specialised in urban planning history, postwar architecture and contemporary urban development. She co-founded the office of Crimson Architectural Historians in 1994, and has been the Director of the International New Town Institute (INTI) in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, since 2008. Under her direction, INTI has grown into an internationally known centre for education and research relating to New Towns.

Dr. Provoost is the head editor of the INTI publications. She teaches at various universities in the Netherlands and abroad and continues to be in great demand as a public speaker. She lectures regularly throughout Europe, Asia, Africa and the United States, and has been involved in many municipal, national and private committees and juries.



Dunia Mittner

Assistant Professor of Urban Planning at the University of Padua

For several years, she has been working on the topic of new towns built worldwide since the beginning of the Twentieth century, writing several essays and three books: "New towns from the Twentieth century" (Testo&immagine, Turin-Italy, 2003), "The Reticular City and the Modern Project" (Città Studi, Milan-Italy, 2008) and "New Towns: An Investigation on Urbanism" (Jovis, Berlin 2018).



Mariana Zannella

Director of the scientific high school "G. Marconi"

Miriana Zannella is the Director of the scientific high school "G. Marconi" and teaches Italian and literature. She has many years' experience in teaching and training seminars about social inclusion and the role of education in the welcoming and acceptance of diversity.



Dhillon Karamajit Singh

President of the Gurdwara Sikh Centre in Sabaudia

Dhillon Karamajit Singh is the founder the Gurdwara Sikh Centre in Sabaudia. He is also President of the Italian Indian party since 2005, and President of the National Federation of Kabaddi (the national sport of India) since 2009. Dhillon immigrated to Italy in 1985 after obtaining a diploma in business economics at the Guri Nanak University in Amristar, and moved to Sabaudia in 1996, where he runs his own business. He obtained a degree in accounting in 2009, and has worked for the court in Latina as auxiliary. Today, he collaborates with the City Council and with schools to support the integration of the Sikh community.



Piero Rossi

Head of the Quality of Life sector of the Municipality of Sabaudia

For several years, he has been working as a social worker for the Municipality of Sabaudia. Since 2013 Piero is Head of the Social and Healthcare Services Sector and since last year he is Head of the Sector called "Quality of Life". Within this role, he is coordinator for Welfare, Health, Housing, Public Education, Library and Museum. He is also the technical representative of the office in charge of the Social Health District Plan "Latina 2".

New | Arrival Towns | Cities