

## Looking for Tratturo Celano – Foggia, A didactic and third university mission experience for the rediscovery and active care of the ‘trattural’ territories between Abruzzo and Molise

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### Abstract

The “*tratturi*” (ship trails), although constituting one of the oldest and most well-known territorial networks in Italy, are nevertheless the object, especially in Abruzzo, of a generally discontinuous and occasional attention by the institutions and local administrations. Linked, in the past, to the journeys of shepherds and flocks, the Italian *tratturi* are today generally used for improper uses with respect to their original functions. These uses are, however, today regulated by concessions of little economic value for the public entity. Originally strictly linked to the local dimension, through the practices and cultures of pastoralism, the *tratturi* can still find today a sense and an economic, cultural and social function, starting from their recognition as territorial common assets, even beyond the rhetoric of conservation and memory, and of the so-called tourist “enhancement”? This paper discusses the answers given to this question by the local actors of *Tratturo Candela Foggia* - stakeholders, representatives of local administrations, defenders of collective and community interests - during the workshop “Looking for *Tratturo*” held in October 2021 with the support of some Italian and

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foreign universities.

This paper therefore summarises the results of an investigation and research conducted largely on land survey, and subsequently developed within some subsequent educational works, trying to indicate and highlight actions aimed at the care and active custody of these territories. What is at stake is the recognition of an opportunity that certainly has to do with slow and eco-sustainable tourism, but also and above all with the activation of fair and aware local development policies of marginal contexts, subject to demographic abandonment and to the socio-economic decline, aiming at the same time at the mitigation of territorial inequalities of different nature, economic, social, access to common goods and public facilities, in the interest of the communities that live and are still active custodians of these territories.

## **Keywords**

Internal marginal areas; Territorial regeneration; Walkways, Territorial Commons, Local Communities, University Public Engagement.

*Because to really stay, you have to walk,  
travel in the invisible spaces of the margin (Vito Teti, 2022)*

## **What are the *tratturi*?**

The “*tratturi*” are natural paths, originated over the centuries from the passage and trampling of the herds and used by shepherds to carry out transhumance. They owe this name from the Latin term: *trahere* (=pull, drag). Tratturi are 2 to 5

metres wide and generally run from north to south; they are connected by smaller paths with a width of 32-38 metres called “*tratturell?*”, and the short connections between tracks with a width of 12-18 metres, called “bracci”. Based on a long and complex historical process, many of these soils are now state owned (Bourdin and Russian, 2016). Along the various paths there are “*riposi*” (=resting areas), large areas of pasture for the rest of the herds during transhumance. Real “highways of antiquity”, the *tratturi* also functioned as a sort of road network used to lead the flocks during transhumance to reach on foot from the pastures of high altitude in Abruzzo to the Tavoliere delle Puglie. This journey lasted twenty days and the return was scheduled for early summer.

The main *tratturi* (Fig. 1) are five: “Tratturo Magno L'Aquila-Foggia”, “Celano-Foggia”, “Centurelle-Montesecco”, “Castel di Sangro-Lucera” and “Pescasseroli-Candela”. The richness of the environmental pictures, the landscape's shape, the distribution of the settlements, the road network, the deposit of everyday and historical-artistic artefacts, the materials' use and construction techniques are all aspects that have been associated with the regional production structure linked to sheep farming and the derivative activity of transhumance along the *tratturi*'s path. This heritage is accompanied by that linked to intangible culture, recently recognized as a Unesco heritage site. It is made up of cults and rituals linked to transhumance and a vast narrative and literary heritage. For a long time, the very survival of this complex system of archaeological, cultural, environmental and landscape resources and values has been frustrated by the ineffectiveness of the forms of protection.

The absence of forms of active governance of the transformations, the overlapping of public competences and responsibilities, the lack of consideration given by local communities and local stakeholders had only some recent

and indicative exceptions.



Figure 1 – “Carta dei Tratturi, Tratturelli, bracci e riposi”, map of the sheep-tracks published by the Commissariat for the reintegration of the Foggia sheep-tracks (Source: [www.rilievo.poliba.it/studenti/aa00/Nevola/tema/tratturi/CARTATRATTURI.HTML](http://www.rilievo.poliba.it/studenti/aa00/Nevola/tema/tratturi/CARTATRATTURI.HTML))

As Letizia Bindi (2017) recalls:

*"The legislative frameworks that have tried to regulate for Italy the delicate issue of sheep tracks and civilizations of transhumance are numerous and different, sometimes even controversial. They have determined, over the decades, a growing attention to the paths of pasture as a salient data of the local landscapes concerned as well as the traditional pastoralism understood as a set of practices and knowledge of great interest. This path of definition and enhancement, however, has not been and is not free from informality, in some cases, from negligence, mis-interpretations and violations."*

## **Tratturi, territorial *common goods*?**

However, the *tratturi* are one of the oldest and most well-known territorial networks in Italy and are still largely owned by the State. Today they generally appear to be linked to improper uses compared to their original functions and are administered through concessions of little economic value for the State. The *tratturi* also have a fundamental historical and cultural value: having remained unchanged for centuries, they have represented an irreplaceable means of communication between peoples and an important vehicle for the transmission of customs, traditions, cultural forms and expressive models. Asking ourselves then what is left and what can be done becomes a commitment of critical citizenship. It is a space that belongs to everyone but difficult to call "common good". Furthermore, it is a fact that the attention to the recovery and enhancement of sheep tracks and more generally to the many traces of the culture of transhumant pastoralism, has for some time now constituted a field of convergent interest for numerous researchers and scholars, even from different disciplinary backgrounds. That complex phenomenon of seasonal migrations of people and animals that has built entire landscapes of central-southern Italy in perhaps a thousand-year history is studied by innumerable research and publications, also produced within the Italian's architecture departments.

However, it is difficult to recognize how such a large amount of scientific production has been able to activate care and custody, particularly in Abruzzo, from local administrators or local stakeholders.

Today an attitude of painful nostalgia still seems to prevail in the public discourse around the theme of *tratturi*, even within a considerable and appreciable recovery of interest, as in relation to a large abandoned infrastructure whose use, value and meaning, and to which only occasional celebration

is reserved from time to time.

The theme of the care and active custody of sheep-tracked lands, although it is often a topic of research also by local scholars and historians, it turns out to be essentially a topic of little interest for local administrators and stakeholders, who should be entrusted with the main action of protection and enhancement cultural and social value of these assets. They are still mostly state-owned in Italy and it is online talked about in terms of valorisation improper because of ill-suited to the prospect of considering such spaces as "common goods".

However, few know how a big part of the *tratturi* are still land of property of the State and are also the subject of an archaeological bond, which is owned, however, by the Superintendency of Archaeology, Fine Arts and Landscape, which is entrusted with the task of protecting and preservation of the asset. The bond exists despite having lost today the original function linked to pastoral practices for the most part. If the *tratturi* are state-owned property (like the shores of the seas and rivers) it shouldn't be so difficult for the various public entities to allow the growing demand for new collective uses which is beginning to affect even these extraordinary public territorial structures with ever greater force. The new data is the recent Unesco candidacy proposal for the recognition of Transhumance as material goods. It seems moreover to be given by the growing interest in paths, whether of religious or historical nature, as an opportunity for rediscovery and active, widespread, collective practice of internal landscapes and territories of our country, which are in abandonment or decline.

The sheep tracks therefore constitute a formidable opportunity to get to know, rediscover and make new ecological and sustainable practices of territories often burdened by conditions of abandonment and marginality, today further penalised - particularly in Abruzzo - by the

persistence of seismic events and the widespread condition of insecurity that these events have caused.

But to do this it is necessary to establish new visions: thinking of sheep tracks no longer as abandoned infrastructures, but as a territorial common good, and so to be reintroduced into the flows and circuits of collective interest of the local communities, with an attitude of responsible consideration of its environmental and cultural testimonial value. It is also necessary to establish new alliances between public administrations, local stakeholders, associations for the defence of common rights, citizens who are custodians of urban and territorial commons.

Within this new logical and operational framework, the public University can also play its part: by carrying out an unprecedented role of critical, participatory observation of the transformation processes of sheep-track landscapes; by acting as a cultural and scientific stimulus, of activating relationships between public, private and third sector entities; by validating the many recovery and "enhancement" actions of sheep-tracked soils, recognizable in the often episodic and extemporaneous projects in progress or planned.

### **The Looking for Tratturo methodology**

From a methodological point of view, it shares a style of investigation that interprets walking as an indispensable way of studying a territory and planning its change. By walking inside a place, all the senses are stimulated to grasp the characteristics and forms of the space: the walker registers them with different tools (see "Participatory research and tools" in this article); he/she interacts with the people he/she meets, collects elements, clues, details and builds a complex knowledge of places capable of challenging preconceptions, rhetoric or dominant narratives. He/She exercises the gaze *from below*, producing direct knowledge,

*back to things* (Merlini, 2009). Far from being a trivial and simple operation, the walking survey is always poised between the careful planning of the route and the sensitivity for improvisation. Clarifying the object of the search is aimed at offering lenses that help to take advantage of the *serendipity effects* of the journey.

The value of the survey also lies in the possibility of abandoning the "from the outside" perspective, and "enter inside" the materials of contemporary territories. In a second phase, the data and impressions gathered by each participant allow to overturn the perspective and bring one's own "In-World", which is loaded with the itinerant experience carried out, but drawing on one's own studies, memories, culture and habits, can think and plan to return to the "Out-World" with new questions and suggestions for the planning and experimentation of actions in and with the territory (Cianci, 2021).

The field experience becomes an opportunity to bring new tools, points of view, approaches that are contaminated during the experience, which is also why the international team is an added value in order to verify the levels of attention on this common good and trying to restart it, as the mission of the experience.

This type of activity is closely linked to the experimentation of participatory practices and to the production and collection of knowledge and data, this format follows other similar experiences conducted in recent times (Rovigatti, 2018, 2019). These have allowed methods for rediscovering, strengthening ties and reconnecting subjects who live and work around the *tratturo*. The workshop promoted the act of tracing in order to recognize the '*trattural*' tracks and the material traces of this presence - shelters, sheepfolds, newsstands, churches, fountains, memorial stones - a first basic operation to promote projects for the reactivation and rediscovered viability of the sheep track.



The international experience "Looking for Tratturo" wants to open a debate on these issues through the activation of itinerant workshops dedicated to individual traits of the Apennine *'trattural'* network. This type of workshop, inaugurated in 2018 with the first edition dedicated to the Tratturo Magno (Rovigatti, 2019) aims to experiment and consolidate methods to create links. Recognizing the paths and of the material traces of this presence is a first fundamental operation also to promote projects for the reactivation and rediscovery of the practicability of these common goods.

### **The 2019 edition: Looking for Tratturo Celano - Foggia, from Celano to Rocca Pia**

The initiative of the Looking for Tratturo program in 2019 focused on the Tratturo Celano - Foggia, in its initial segment in Abruzzo, at the foot of the historic centre of Celano, and the Altopiano delle Cinquemiglia. "Looking for ... Tratturo Celano Foggia", an International participatory urban planning workshop for the regeneration of sheep-track landscapes in the municipalities of Celano, Aielli, Cerchio, Collaromele, Pescina, Castelvecchio Subequo, Castel di Ieri, Goriano Sicoli, Raiano, Prezza, Pratola Peligna, Sulmona, Pettorano sul Gizio, Rocca Pia, Rivisoldoli, Roccaraso, has been held from the 3rd to the 8th October 2021.

Like every year, a structured path of participatory research and field investigation was proposed to its -mostly- foreign participants, aimed mainly at the rediscovery of paths, places, spaces, landscapes, territorial common goods linked to a civilization completely unknown to them. Due to logistical and geographical opportunities, the first section of one of the most interesting historical sheep tracks was chosen: the "Tratturo Celano-Foggia".



Figure 2 - First step Celano-Collarmele, Piana di Celano, October 5th 2021 (photo by L. Simionato)

“[The Celano-Foggia is] one of the five great routes of the horizontal transhumance (...) the most inland of them all: thanks to its position, it is the one that fits best into the enormous network of herding routes that innervated all the most important centres of central and southern Italy. (...) Its route starts from Celano, in Marsica (inland Abruzzo), and reaches the Tavoliere delle Puglie, ending in Foggia, crossing valleys and plateaus in a south-easterly direction and almost always staying on the Adriatic side of the Apennine watershed. (...) According to the census carried out by the Corps of Foresters in 1993, the only and last available, its route had been reduced to 189 km (compared to the original 208 km) and only 80 km had been restored, the state of conservation was poor for a similar length, very precarious for 20 km, and even non-existent for 103 km (...) The very precarious state is due above all to the use of the sheep-track surface for agricultural and forestry purposes and its occupation by roads, railways, power lines and other infrastructures.” (Gregg and Petruccione, 2013).

According to the initial work program of the workshop the rediscovery and transcription of this historical path was first made on maps and then became an opportunity for civic monitoring of the current condition of a property still largely state-owned (Fig. 3).

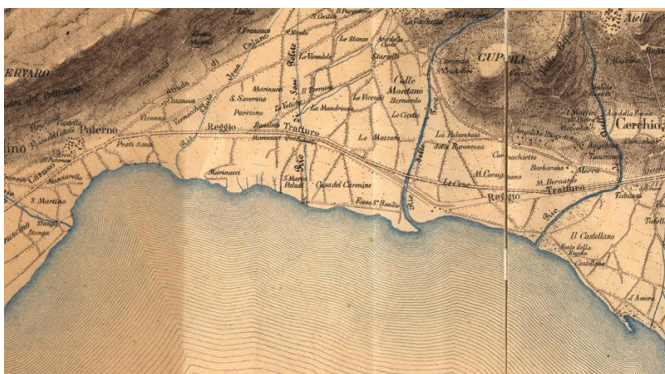


Figure 3 - Initial section of the Tratturo Regio Celano–Foggia (IGM, 1865)

Through material acts of a different nature in the territories crossed by the Tratturo, students tried to investigate its current and potential uses to elaborate scenarios and design proposals that assign the soils of the Tratturo the unprecedented condition of "territorial common good", as space and resource for active reinvention of old and new economic and community practices.

The Workshop was born, in its initial intentions, also as a laboratory of participatory urban planning and the potential activation of projects and immediate tactical urbanism actions, to be carried out in collaboration with local administrations and third sector associations.

The experience, as for the past editions, had an itinerant nature. In 2019 the starting point was the Municipality of Celano and successive stages in Collarmente, Pratola Peligna, Sulmona, Pettorano sul Gizio, with final stages in Rocca Pia

and in the “Altopiano delle Cinquemiglia” (municipalities of Rocca Pia, Rivisondoli and Roccaraso). The itinerary is surrounded by three natural parks which constitute a significant part of the Abruzzo Region. These peculiar and critical *inland areas* [1] are capable of providing residents with limited accessibility to essential citizenship services (education, health, mobility), despite being endowed with considerable environmental, cultural and partly tourist resources. They are distant from the main urban centres, have for some time been undergoing a self-perpetuating process of marginalisation. Characterised by the quantitative and qualitative reduction of the local offer of public services, they suffered the decline of the population below the critical threshold, the demographic ageing, the decrease in employment and the degree of use of the territory, the degradation of the artistic and landscape heritage, the *digital divide*.

### **Participatory research and tools**

The Workshop began in the first week of October 2021 and lasted for one week. Although coinciding with the activities of the traditional Pescara Summer School [2], this workshop had an independent organisation, and was open to the free participation of students from Italian and foreign schools of Architecture and Engineering, especially those of the last year of the master's degree in Architecture. Ten places had been reserved for Italian students, fifteen places for foreign students, ten places more for high school students in the provinces of Pescara, Chieti and L'Aquila. The participation was completely free, thanks to the hospitality offered by the municipalities of the Tratturo mentioned in a previous note. In particular, the municipalities of Collaromele, Pratola Peligna and Rocca Pia, granted the use of both dedicated accommodation, teaching spaces, as well as logistical

support. Besides that, the organisation and teaching and scientific offer of the Department of Architecture and of the other Italian and foreign universities involved in the project. The main intention of the Workshop “Looking for... Tratturo” has always been offering all its participants a small but concrete experience of participatory urban planning, directly in contact with the inhabitants and active citizenship associations addressed to the theme of the recovery and regeneration of the landscapes and internal territories of that Region. These areas are affected by problems of growing territorial marginalisation, housing depopulation and abandonment, however characterised by an extensive quality of the landscape, cultural, environmental and demographical heritage.

The didactic laboratory initially included five days (40 hours) of continuous activity, from October 3<sup>rd</sup> to October 8<sup>th</sup> composed and articulated in:

- a. introductory lessons and thematic seminars, presented by professors from the partner universities and by external experts (Fig. 5);
- b. investigation and research activities in the field, also with the help of IT tools and GIS devices (critical path) (Fig 4);
- c. experimentation with listening and participatory practices (collection of testimonies, storytelling, questionnaires and surveys on communities and local stakeholders);
- d. elaboration of project proposals and management models of the state-owned spaces of the *tratturo* included in the network of urban and territorial commons monitored and investigated during the research.

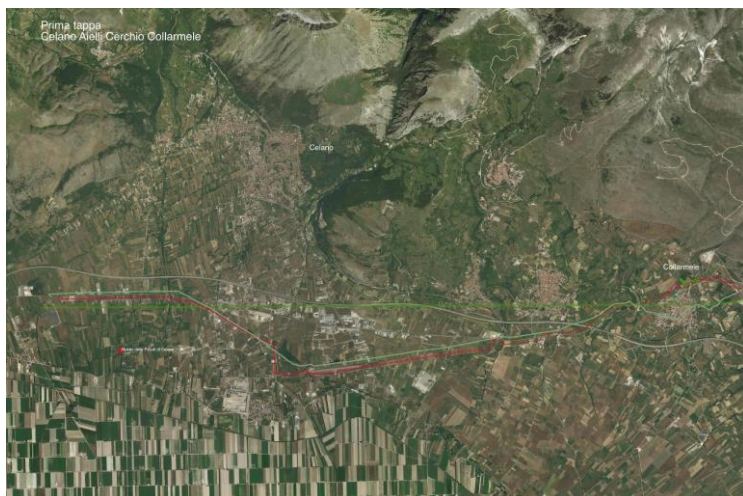


Figure 4 - GIS environment processing of the Tratturo Celano - Foggia route in the initial section, in red as recognized as an archaeological constraint (DM 42/20024) by the Superintendency of Archaeology, Fine Arts and Landscape for the provinces of L'Aquila and Teramo (Source: Abruzzo Region Open Data)

A seminar for the public presentation of the results achieved on October 11, 2021.

The workshop had a strongly multidisciplinary and intercultural character, thanks to the involvement of three international universities, from which 22 students participated. The particular historical period in which the workshop was held influenced the methods of participation which were also foreseen remotely. This ensures the active attendance of all students through live video tools, lessons in blended mode and simultaneous translations.



distance.

The landscape of the *tratturo* acquires full meaning only if read in its complexity and in the totality of the elements that compose it: (1) the road with the relative spaces used for grazing; (2) signs that make the route recognizable, such as milestones or dry stone walls; (3) engineering works to facilitate the practicability of the route such as bridges and fords; (4) service artefacts for transhumant animals and flocks such as fountains, wells, troughs and sheep baths; (5) properties built close to the route such as caves and taverns; (6) buildings and artefacts of popular devotion linked to pastoral life such as churches, chapels, sanctuaries, votive shrines or road crosses; (7) factories for the transformation of primary products such as dairies or woollen factories. Looking for these signs in the area, mapping them, assessing their state of conservation and targeting the possibility of reuse was one of the main purposes of the planned laboratory activities.

The tools put in place that allowed the experience to be successful were: the availability of official analogue and digital maps, the use of smart phone applications during field inspections such as the LocusMap / Map3D app, the production of photographic reports, the construction of collaborative maps, the organisation of participatory meetings with local communities and stakeholders for the socialisation of the observations and knowledge acquired and matured in the field (Fig. 6).

The greatest effort was dedicated, however, to the assessment of the state of conservation of the route, and in particular of its accessibility, imagining possible new uses or highlighting the practices currently in use.



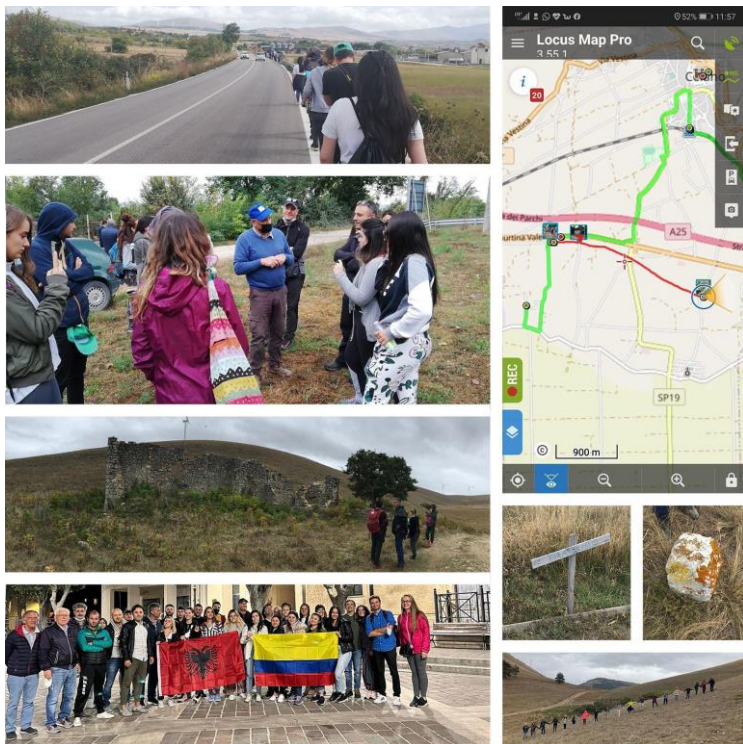


Figure 6 - Workshop methods (left) and tools (right), images taken by the students involved (Authors' elaboration).

The structured methodology during the inspection phase, meetings with stakeholders, frontal lessons, dissemination of observations to the resident community and administrations, convivial moments, allowed the research question to reach the people we met and intercepted interest in various capacities to the theme: the Tratturo exists, is it viable? What uses and practices are developing on this state-owned land?

## **A question we ask ourselves every year: does the Tratturo still exist?**

The laboratory had as its first objective the construction of a framework of shared knowledge, the creation of maps and analytical information apparatus through new technologies (collaborative mapping). These updates have already been collected and shared in the logic of Open Data through the "Tratturi Bene Comune Observatory" project (Rovigatti, 2018) with the aim overall to define a program of actions for the "regeneration of the common goods", existing and projected.

The scheme of the laboratory was built on the model already experimented for some time by the IUAV University of Venice, through the FuoriVia association, a cultural association born in 2016, whose members are students, professors, researchers, but also those who simply have a passion for walking. They use a model called "Participatory Planning", already a partner of a previous version of the project, travelling along the Tratturo route. The workshop envisaged for each day the succession of participatory investigation and discovery in the field, followed by discussion and meeting activities with the communities and individuals - institutional and civil society - who live and work in the territories of the Tratturo, aimed at building a shared strategic agenda for the care and the active custody of sheep-track landscapes.

The further hypothesis of the laboratory concerned the possibility of materialising part of this program through the creation and direct management of some small, measured and strategic interventions of revaluation and resignification of sheep-tracking spaces and equipment. This went through a progressive involvement of the inhabitants of the local communities in order to create small urban and territorial recovery and regeneration interventions, to be started before

and during the duration of the laboratory through forms of assisted self-construction, self-financed through crowdfunding programs. The pilot areas were to be previously identified with the Associations and local administrations involved, or subsequently during the critical path.



Figure 7 - Collaramele, Tratturo Celano-Foggia, October 6th 2022 Church of “Madonna delle Grazie” (Photo by L. Simionato)

In concert with the local administrations involved some Pilot Project Areas were identified. The choice also acquired the meaning of an effective verification of the availability of these administrations to take an active commitment on individual actions of care and recovery of the *‘trattural’* territories and the material heritage associated: sheepfolds, huts, fountains, wayside shrine or small sacred buildings, enclosures, small furnishing artefacts, or even buildings of recognized patrimonial value, as in the case of the extraordinary sheep-tracking church of the Madonna delle Grazie in Collaramele (Fig. 7), still closed to visitors and in a precarious state of static protection after the catastrophic earthquake of 2009.

Among these, the creation of material and immaterial signs

to indicate the location and spatial dimension of the state property, and of some small installations linked to the collective and community use of this space. This information is currently totally absent along the Abruzzo stretch of the Tratturo Celano Foggia.

The intention of the laboratory was also to mark and give new meaning to the sheep-tracking path investigated and explored in the field through the design and construction of some ephemeral urban devices, with a programmed duration. The interventions were to be built with replaced or recycled materials and aim to initiate a process of rediscovery and re-appropriation of spaces and sheep-tracking artefacts, within the networks of public and collective equipment and in the forms of collective management of these spaces and in general of urban commons and territorial.

However, the main objective remained that of updating the state of knowledge on the sheep-track landscapes crossed, as a starting point for a program of actions aimed at directing the interest of local communities to the collective re-appropriation of this territorial common good. The method came also on the basis of some reference experiences that would form an integral and fundamental part of the training program of the workshop [3].

### **Results achieved in the Workshop and subsequent educational developments**

As often happens with programs that may be overly ambitious, it must be recognized that not all the objectives set at the basis of the workshop have actually been achieved. Organisational and partly meteorological difficulties limited the investigation activities on foot in the field only to the initial stretches (Celano - Collarmele - Forca Caruso) (Fig. 8) and part of the sheep-tracking route within the extraordinary Altopiano delle Cinquemiglia. Other sections of the route

were in any case investigated within the territories of the municipality of Sulmona, Pettorano sul Gizio, Rocca Pia, Roccaraso and Rivisondoli. All the steps were in any case identified based on a preliminary work conducted on a cadastral basis and the return of geographical data on dedicated applications that can be used in the field investigation via simple smart phones. For a stretch of the Altopiano delle Cinquemiglia, the use of a drone was also tested, which allowed the return of an accurate video and photographic repertoire.



Figure 8 - Collarmele Tratturo October 6th 2022, (photo by L. Simionato)

The investigations conducted in the field produced a considerable wealth of video and photographic images, in some cases also accompanied by interviews with witnesses of *'trattural'* practices and with current economic operators. The activities of meeting and returning observations in the field with the "local communities" and all stakeholders deserve a separate discussion.

In many cases, this activity appeared unrealistic and hard to implement. This challenge is made even more difficult to overcome by the lukewarm interest shown by some of the local administrations involved, particularly the most affected by tourist flows, in the highest altitude sections involved in

snow tourism in the "rich" Roccaraso - Rivisoldoli district. Moreover, varying degrees of involvement were recorded, which appeared greater, as for instance in Collarmele.

The main expected outcome of the workshop was partially achieved, above all in the final events for the presentation of the results, such as in the conference held in Rocca Pia, anticipation of the seminar held in Naples at the end of the *Esperienza Italia* program for Colombian students. The presentation of these results also went through the production of maps and video and graphic materials reporting on the current conditions of accessibility of the Tratturo "common good", and of the vast set of landscape assets and territories associated with it.

The investigation into the accessibility of the Tratturo and its practicability also gave satisfactory results, with few objective limits to its acceptance in the network of Italian paths, promoted by the Ministry of Culture. In this regard, the substantial absence of information on the presence of the Adriatic Apennine cattle-track paths within the ministerial mapping is surprising, which limits the inventory of the southern regions to only the Appian paths, and which is invoked as soon as possible by the update ([www.camminiditalia.cultura.gov.it/cammini/](http://www.camminiditalia.cultura.gov.it/cammini/)).

Dealing with commons, the full accessibility of the *tratturo* common good turns out to be a decisive question, both for its internal use in the logic of the paths and the overall hypothesis of this paper. In this sense, the workshop itself, in its general objectives, was and still is in line with objective 11 of the UN Agenda 2030 and in particular its Proposition 11.7:

“in 2030, it will be necessary to ensure universal access for healthy, inclusive and accessible public and green spaces, particularly for women and children, the elderly and people with disabilities”.

The field survey of the accessibility of ‘*trattural*’ soils

therefore became a reason for drafting a collaborative and open map, entitled: "Tratturo Celano Foggia. Accessibility map, section Celano Rocca Pia" [4].

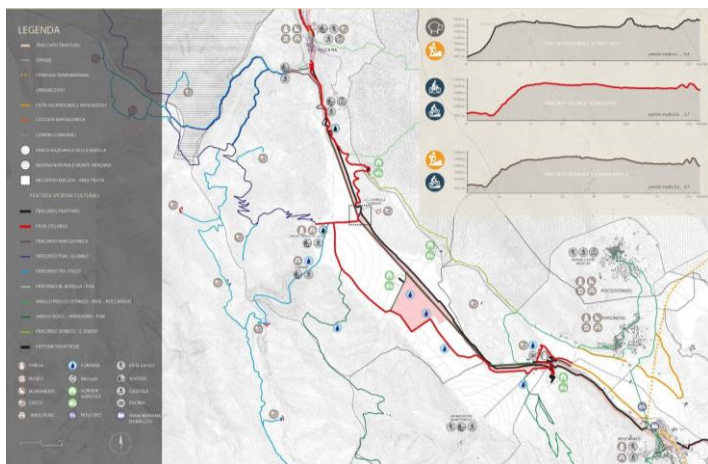


Figure 9 - Proposal for sporting, naturalistic and cultural green paths, extracted from the degree thesis by Giacomo Di Bartolomeo

Finally, the elaboration of project proposals and management models of the state-owned spaces of the *tratturo* has found the starting point for new editions of *Looking for tratturo* - already on the agenda for the next few years- in the development of the activities carried out within the graduation works (Fig. 9).

These included the network of urban and territorial commons monitored and investigated during the research, although not finding specific treatment in the activities carried out during the workshop.

## Conclusions

Data and information collected along the stages covered on foot during the workshop and in the meetings with experts and local stakeholders constitute the starting point for the definition of new partnerships between and with local administrations and individuals, in synergy with the available Universities. The unprecedented results such as the first open source maps and QGis renderings; the pre-project analysis of the Areas Pilot and Strategic; the first diagnosis of the state of use of the *tratturo*; the first intervention strategies let to strengthen collaborative relationships, in the logic of public engagement and the third university mission.

The systematisation of this information has already allowed their return in two international seminars: one at the Federico II University of Naples, a second at the La Salle University in Bogota, shared with teachers and students who followed the workshop activities at a distance.

The degree thesis generated by these experiences are configured as important tools at the service of the territory as they have a detailed strategic agenda that proposes actions that can be carried out by administrators and stakeholders.

While waiting for a new, progressive edition of the "Looking for Tratturo" workshop, this agenda is available in particular to the local authorities, who could find on the occasion of the new economic and financial instruments of public action, and in particular within the tenders of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), resources and opportunities to give substance to at least part of these proposals.

While awaiting actions and tools from above, the redemption of sheep-tracking lands and the territories associated with them could take place through a substantial revision of the state-owned concessions currently in place. In fact, they are of very little interest and economic value for the public and crystallised in relationships that reward



individual local economic operators. For instance, the tratturo could benefit community cooperatives instead, promoting innovative practices of use and community valorisation of these state assets, restoring their sense of common good.

In this sense, the meeting and the live study of the conditions of the tratturo made it possible to understand the uses and criticalities of this concession system: specifically, in the stretch travelled in 2021, stretches marked by a strong abandonment because they were fragmented by public or concessionary infrastructures were found. The strong difference with the experience of 2018 (Looking for... Tratturo Magno) where residents were met who use this land for cultivation, parking or grazing, also revealing a deep knowledge of the tratturo and a welcome towards the idea of being able to envisage new uses for it, also with a view to tourism.

The tratturo remains -and must remain- state property and as such it must be enjoyed and used primarily by those who inhabit its spaces, therefore of all of us. It can become a place for common or community practices, open to the participation of those who cross and discover its territories, through old and new slow and sustainable mobility structures.

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- [1] "We call inland those areas significantly distant from the centres of supply of essential services (of education, health and mobility), rich in important environmental and cultural resources and strongly diversified by nature and as a result of secular processes of anthropisation." from National Strategy Inner Areas – SNAI.
- [2] Pescara Summer School is an educational activity organized within the degree laboratories of the Degree course in Architecture of the Dd'A of Pescara. It is a single-subject course in the field that generally takes place in the first ten days of September.
- [3] Among these, for example, the interesting experience of the municipality of Condove, Piemonte, and the collaboration agreement between Comune di Condove and A.s.d. Freemount for the care and maintenance of the trail 569 between Condove and Collombardo, by: [www.labsus.org/2018/02/sentieri-beni-comuni-patto-condove](http://www.labsus.org/2018/02/sentieri-beni-comuni-patto-condove)

piemonte/.

- [4] "Tratturo Celano Foggia. Accessibility map, section Celano Rocca Pia" available and in course of further elaboration at the link: [www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=14uTpdbP7bI9\\_iUtnYkBoFixpdkF5oRPR&usp=sharing](http://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=14uTpdbP7bI9_iUtnYkBoFixpdkF5oRPR&usp=sharing).