ALPTER: Terraced landscapes of the alpine arc Project co-funded by the European Union, INTERREG IIIB 'Alpine Space'



ALPTER Protect the terraced areas in the Alps as internediate landscapt:

Laura Fagarazzi Region of Veneto, University of Padu

Outline

Terraced areas as intermediate landscapes

2. Terraced landscape development

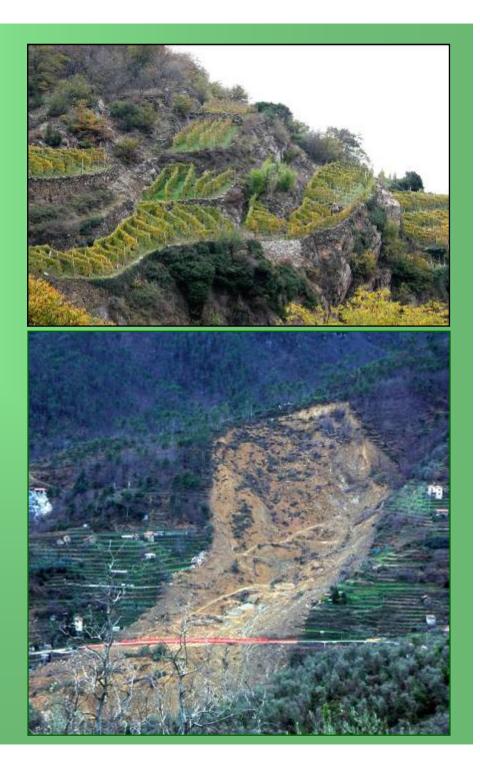
3. From decay to promotion: the ALPTER project proposals

- a. Productive recovery
- **b.** Tourist promotion
- c. Enhancement of social value

Terraced landscapes were created for two main purposes:

Enlarge farmland surface along steep slopes

Defence against soil erosion and hydrogeological hazards



Terraced areas as intermediate landscapes between...

urbanized valley floors

pastured highlands

artificial spaces

natural environments

middle slopes

semi-natural habitats temporary environments

Terraced sites are among the most significant (and fragile) seminatural habitats, a combination of natural and cultural heritage.

They are based on anthropic equilibrium, which requires human inputs in order to be kept.

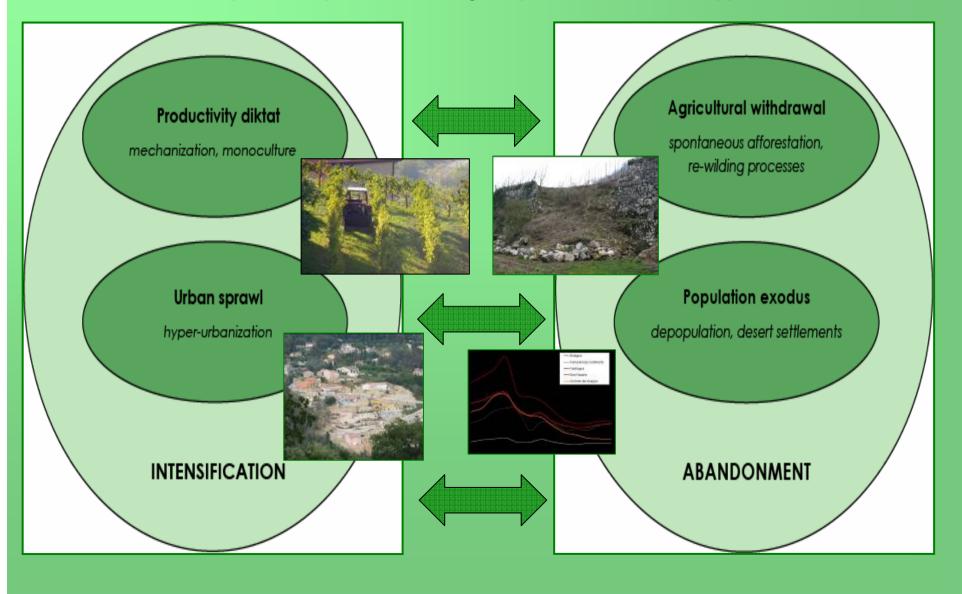
Their intermediacy is also between farmland conceived for multifunctional polyculture in a self-subsistence economy, as in the past, and modern mechanized monoculture (e.g. vineyards and olive groves).

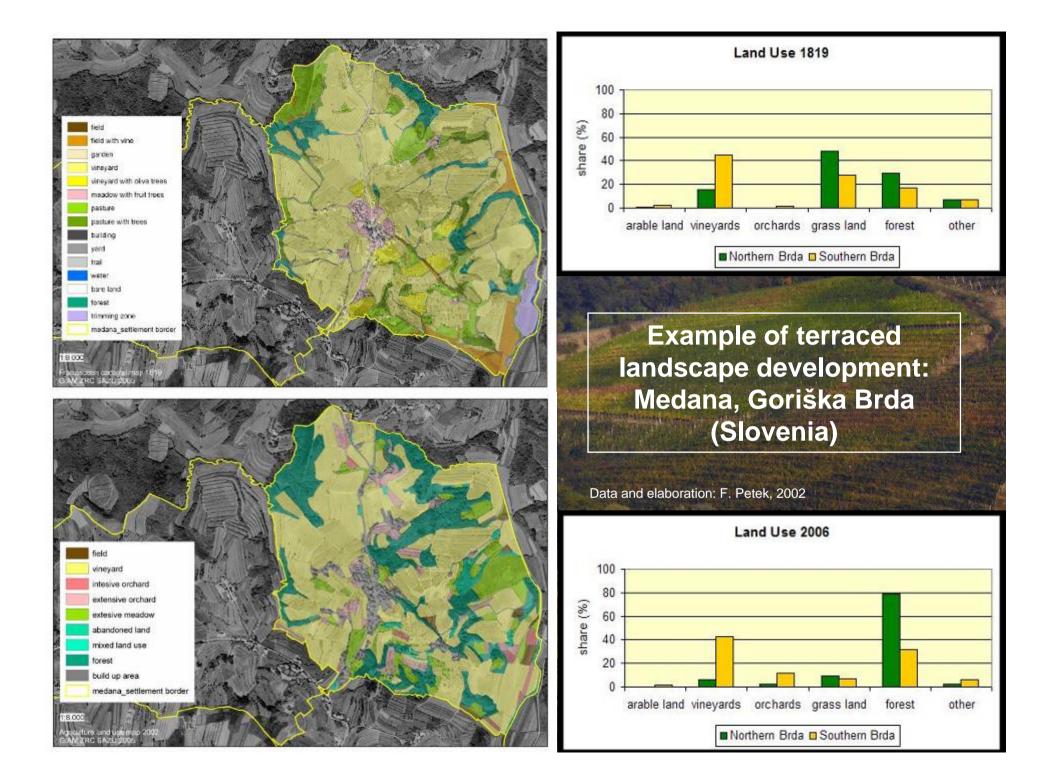


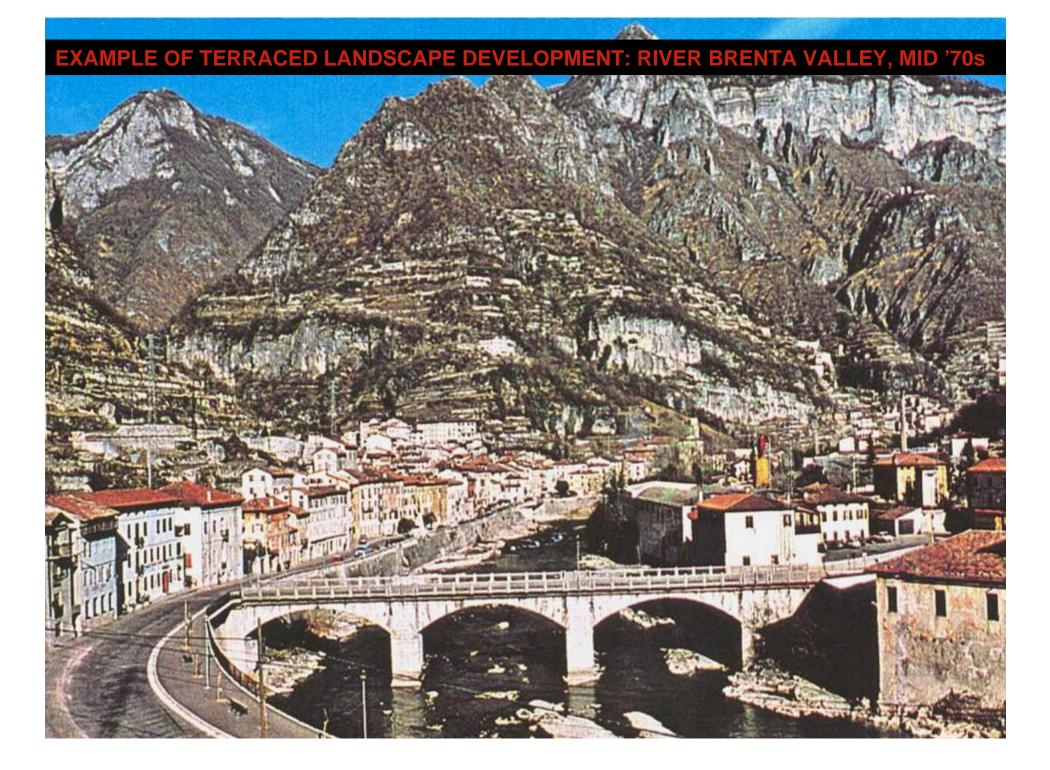


Terraced landscape development

Terraced landscape development as a range of processes towards opposite extremes:







EXAMPLE OF TERRACED LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT: RIVER BRENTA VALLEY, 2006



Decay versus promotion: the ALPTER project proposals

Three ways of managing terraced landscape development processes:

1. Productive recovery

2. Tourist promotion

3. Enhancement of social value

Productive recovery

- recovering or enhancing the role of terracements as farmland, preventing the establishment of intensive forms of agriculture (proper trade-off)
- stimulating regional agrarian products
- promoting territorial brands and niche markets

Good practices:

- Liguria: Cinque Terre National Park's products
- 🗖 Goriška Brda (Slovenia)



Tourism promotion

Enhancing tourist demand...

Exploit terracements' tourist appeal

Results from a survey carried out by the BOKU University of Vienna: *"The more terraced, the more preferred!"*

D...and supply

Providing facilities and services (guided tours, hiking tracks, ...)

Co-operatives and eco-museums, such as the 'Cortemilia's Ecomuseum on vineyards and terracements' (Piedmont) provide a wide range of educational activities, especially addressed to pupils and students

IREALP questionnaire among ALPTER partners

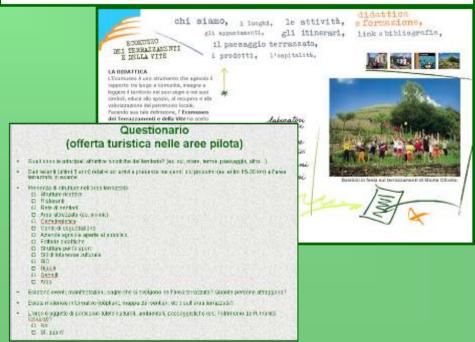
Choice model on landscape preferences



"Please choose the most and the least preferred landscape"





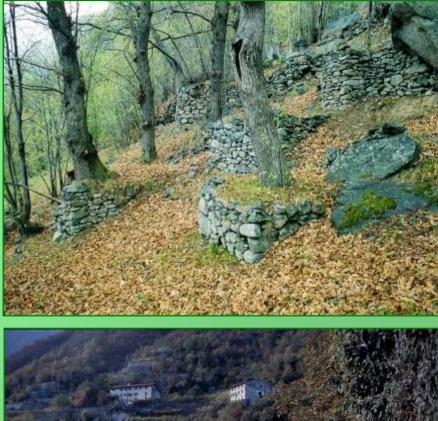


Enhancing social value

re-appropriation of traditional landscapes, strengthening the feeling of territorial identity by local communities

Example: Val Bregaglia (Switzerland)

 re-discovering of land potentialities and newidentities by incoming dwellers (e.g. immigrants)
Example: Brenta River Valley (Italy)





UNESCO has recently launched a global programme for an inventory of techniques linked to traditional knowledge, with particular regard to those practices preventing desertification. The project, called **Traditional Knowledge World Bank**, aims at gathering and protecting historical knowledge, promoting innovative practices based on the modern re-proposal of tradition as well;

terracing is considered to be a very important practice for avoiding erosion and combating desertification;

ALPTER is thus co-operating with UNESCO and IPOGEA, the institutions in charge of this project.

