

“Strengthening a diversified rural economy
in the post-2027 period”

29 Sep – 1 Oct. *Kotka, Finland*

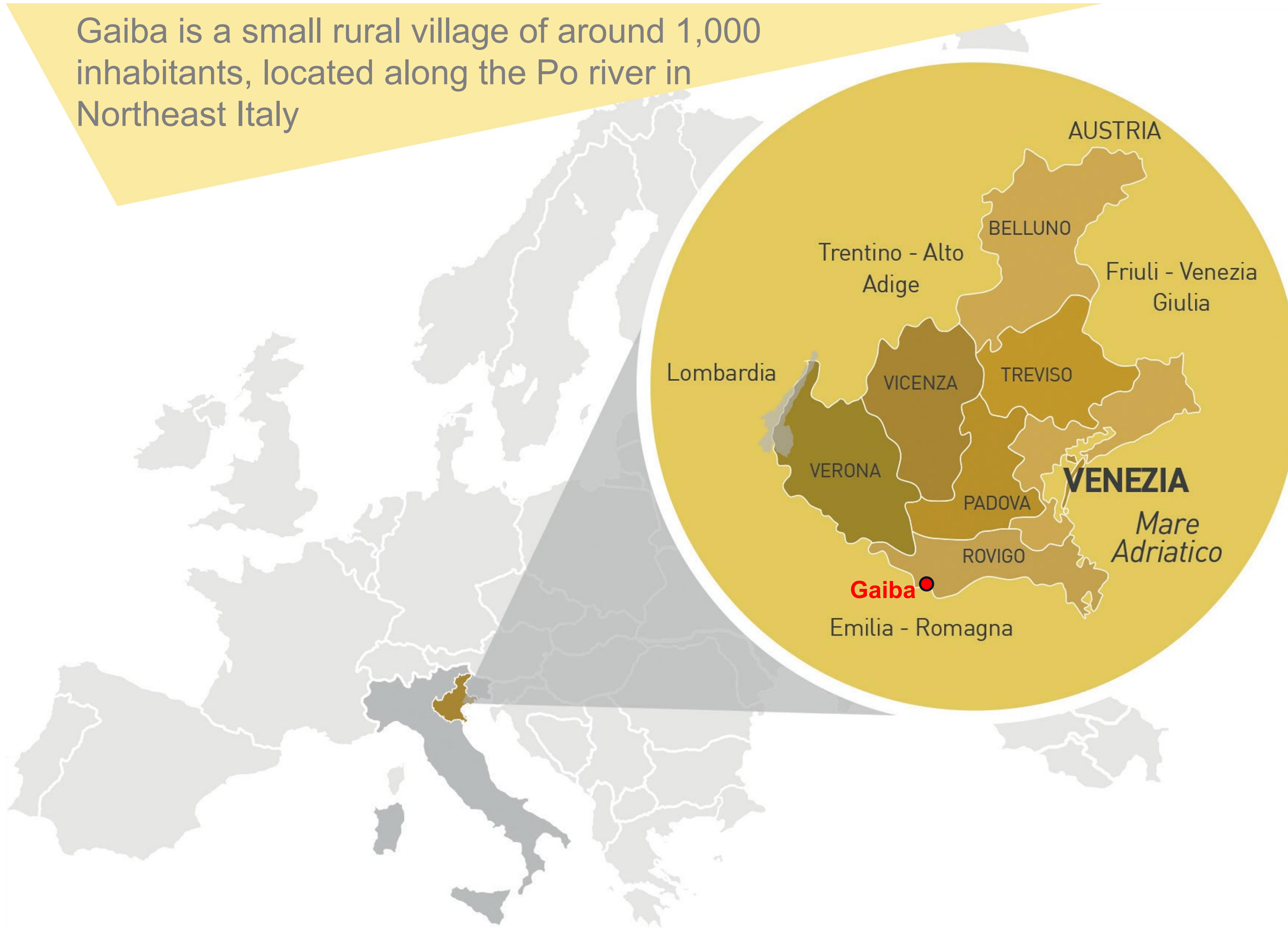


Nicola Zanca, Ph.D.

Mayor of Gaiba

Approaching a competitive and sustainable local rural development: The Gaiba municipality experience

Gaiba is a small rural village of around 1,000 inhabitants, located along the Po river in Northeast Italy





**How to make
transition happen
in rural areas?**





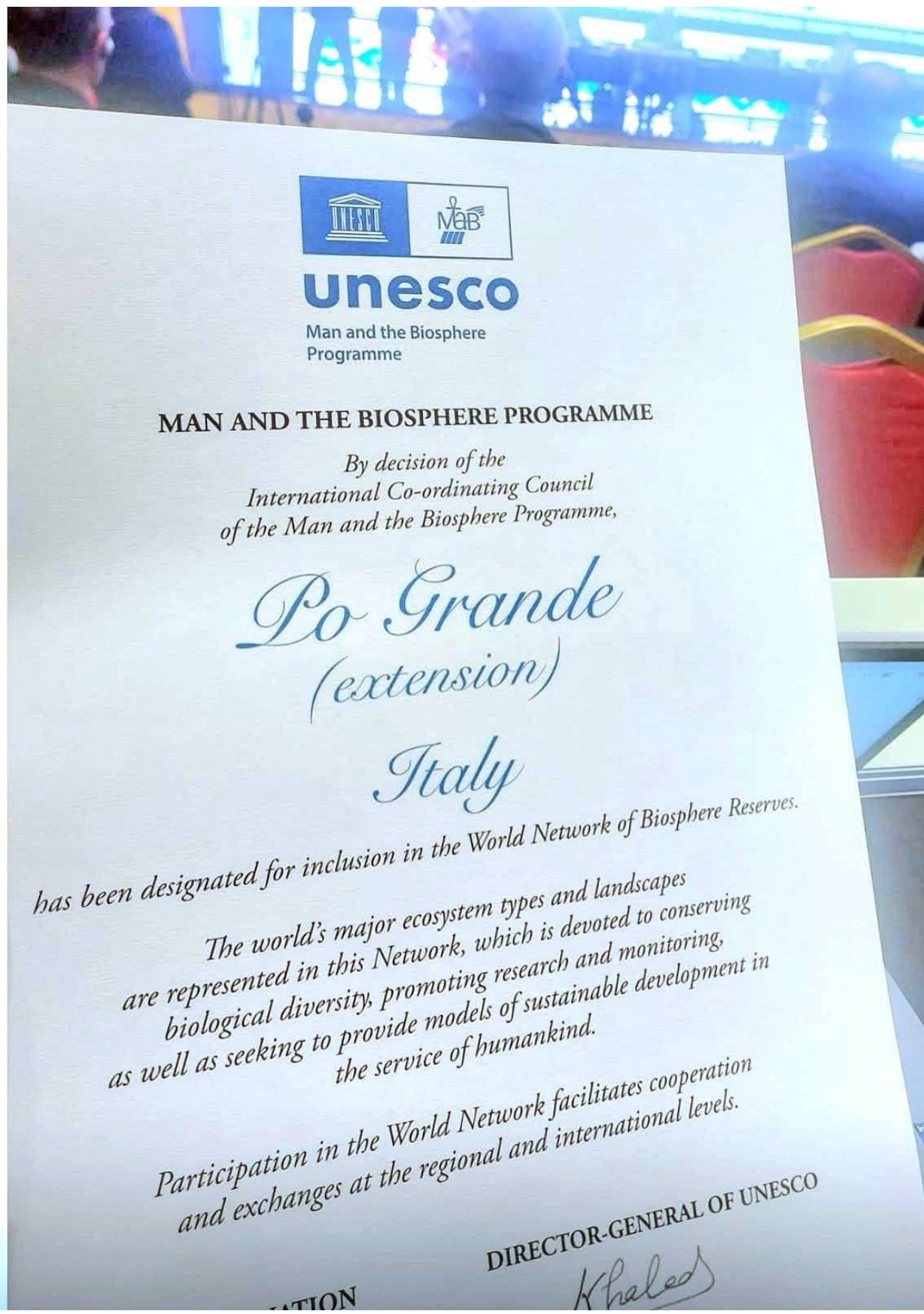
Renewable Energy Community - REC



- Gaiba has joined an **inter-municipal Renewable Energy Community**
- Private investors financed the photovoltaic installations, at zero investment cost for the **Municipality**
- The incentive tariff generates **annual revenues** for the community: resources can be reinvested in **schools, local associations and measures against energy poverty**

UNESCO MAB: Po Grande Biosphere Reserve

In 2026, Gaiba became part of the UNESCO MAB Po Grande Biosphere Reserve, that now involves 102 municipalities





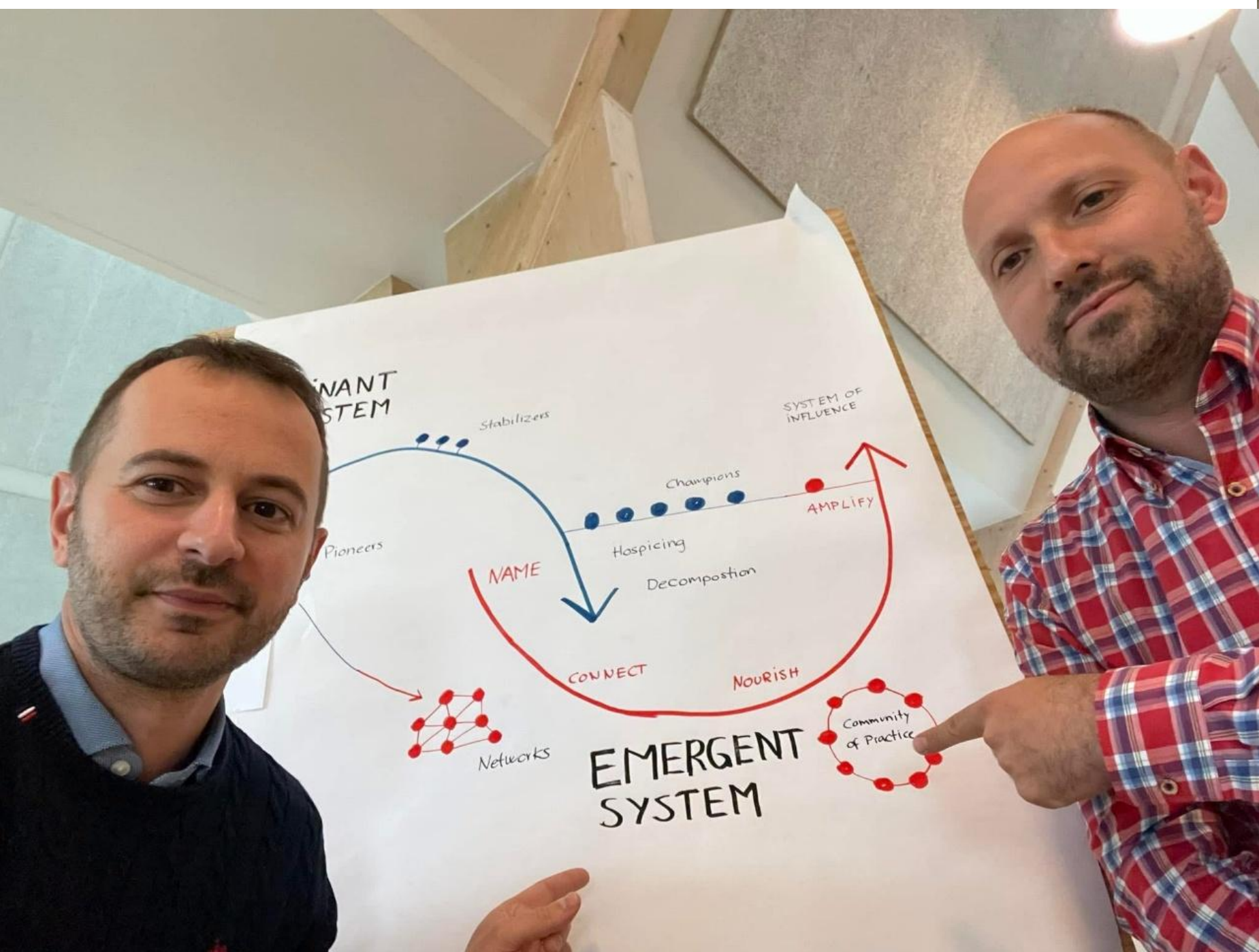
Which role do You want to play in the Community?





When we create a common sense of ownership, the road is open to development





If You can dream it...



...You can do it - Enzo Ferrari





WTA tennis tournament “Veneto Open” promoted by Confindustria Veneto Est



Simplified Logistics Zone (SLZ)

- The area has recently been included in a Simplified Logistics Zone (SLZ), admitted by the EU treaty to state aid.
- The SLZ has the Port of Venice as its hub and also includes 20 municipalities.
- The instrument provides tax incentives and fiscal advantages for eligible investments.
- Objective: support existing businesses, attract new investment and improve the competitiveness of rural enterprises.



REGIONE DEL VENETO

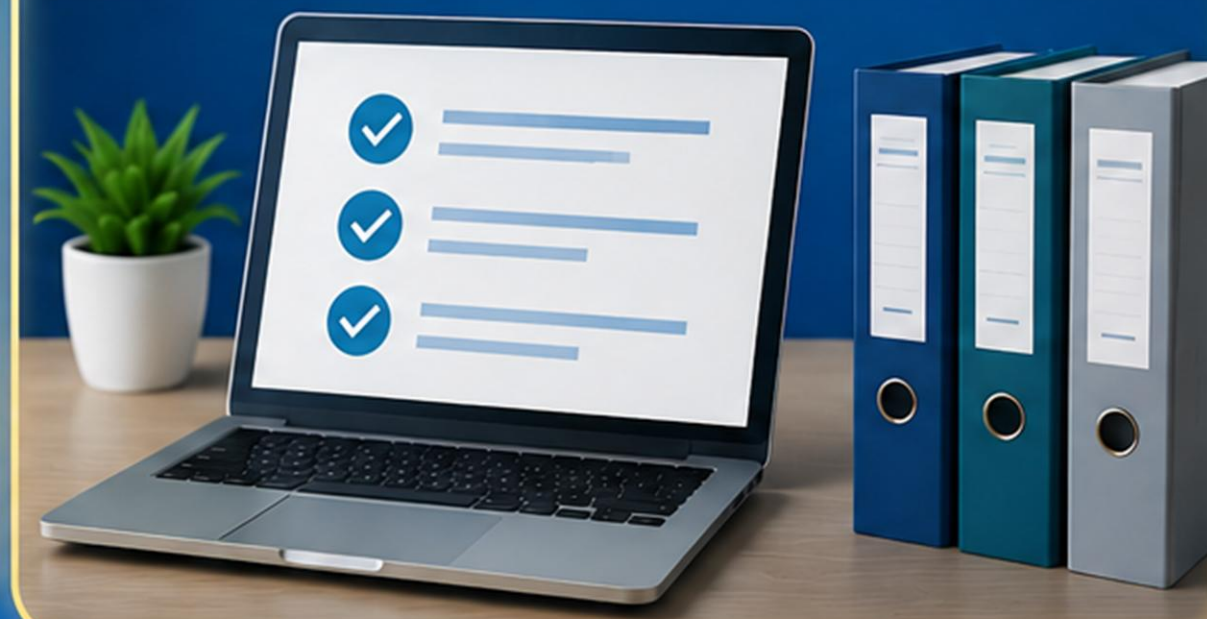
EXISTING AND NEW COMPANIES IN SLZ CAN BENEFIT OF:



SPECIFIC
TAX CREDIT
OR INCENTIVES



ADMINISTRATIVE
SIMPLIFICATIONS



SLZ ADMINISTRATIVE BENEFITS



REDUCTION OF ONE THIRD OF THE PROCEDURE DEADLINE OF:

- ✓ Environmental assessments: EIA - Environmental Impact Assessment, SEA- Strategic Environmental Assessment, AIA - Integrated Environmental Authorization, AUA - Single Environmental Authorization;
- ✓ Landscaping permit;
- ✓ Building permit;
- ✓ State-owned port concession;
- ✓ Authorizations for works in ports.



SINGLE AUTORISATION (art. 5 bis of DL no. 91/2017)

which brings together all the authorization, assent and clearance documents required by legislation in relation to:

- ✓ the work to be performed,
- ✓ the project to be approved
- ✓ the activity to be undertaken.



ONE STOP SHOP

as single interface for the company to access the SLZ system, interoperating with the:

- ✓ Port Digital Single Desk
- ✓ SUAPs of the Municipalities concerned





TAX CREDIT



The tax credit for investments in SLZ areas eligible for regional State aid is supported by a total financial allocation of **€100 million** for each of the years **2026, 2027** and **2028**.



Eligible investments include the establishment of new facilities, the expansion of existing facilities, or production diversification, with an investment amount ranging from **€200,000** to **€100 million**.



Eligible investments in capital equipment: machinery, plants, equipment, land, and buildings used in production facilities.



SMALL SIZE COMPANY

- EMPLOYED < 50
- ANNUAL TURNOVER < 10 mln €
- ANNUAL BUDGET < 10 mln €

30% SMALL SIZE COMPANY IN VENICE

35% SMALL SIZE COMPANY IN ROVIGO'S PROVINCE



MEDIUM SIZE COMPANY

- 50 < EMPLOYED < 250
- ANNUAL TURNOVER < 50 mln €
- ANNUAL BUDGET < 43 mln €

20% MEDIUM SIZE COMPANY IN VENICE

25% MEDIUM SIZE COMPANY IN ROVIGO'S PROVINCE



LARGE SIZE COMPANY

- EMPLOYED > 250
- ANNUAL TURNOVER > 50 mln €
- ANNUAL BUDGET > 43 mln €

10% LARGE SIZE COMPANY IN VENICE

15% LARGE SIZE COMPANY IN ROVIGO'S PROVINCE

A new local investment: APORA – Orogel cold-storage facility



- New **APORA - Orogel** cold-storage facility inaugurated in **Gaiba in April 2026**
- Acquisition and redevelopment of an existing warehouse
- Part of a growing agri-food system connecting farmers, processing, logistics and markets
- An example of **private investment creating value from rural agriculture**

What's next?

Sustainable homes for new families



- New housing to meet the needs of workers and families
- Attracting people looking for a **rural quality of life**
- **Bioclimatic homes** with high energy efficiency
- Lower energy consumption and **lower utility bills**

Most still remains to be done. That's why the future is wonderful



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has”

Margaret Mead
anthropologist



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