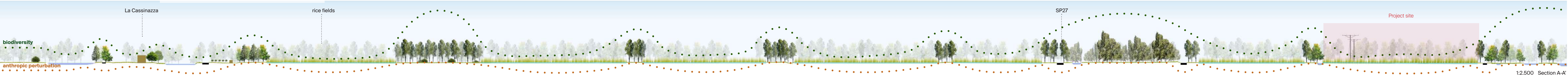
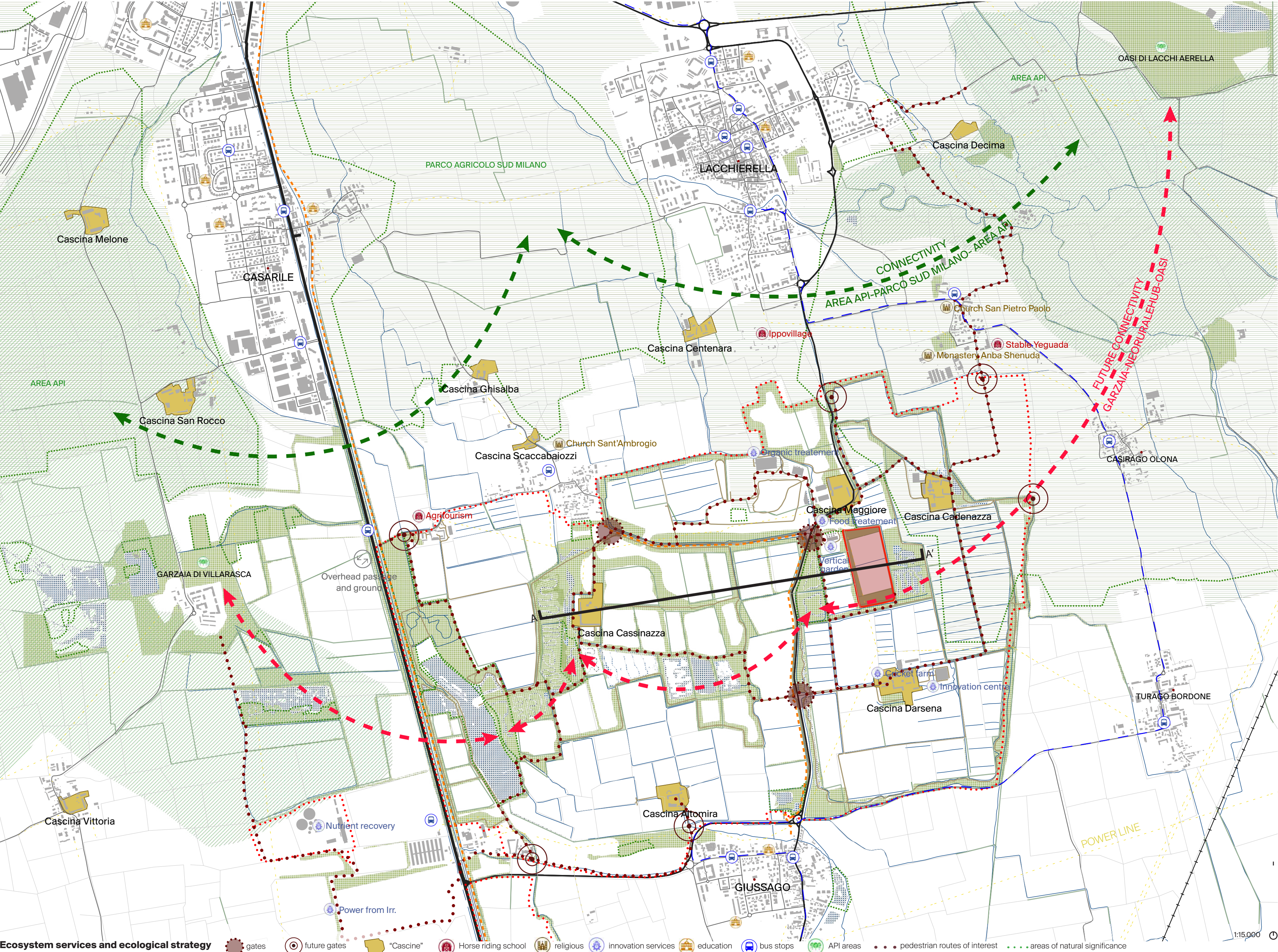
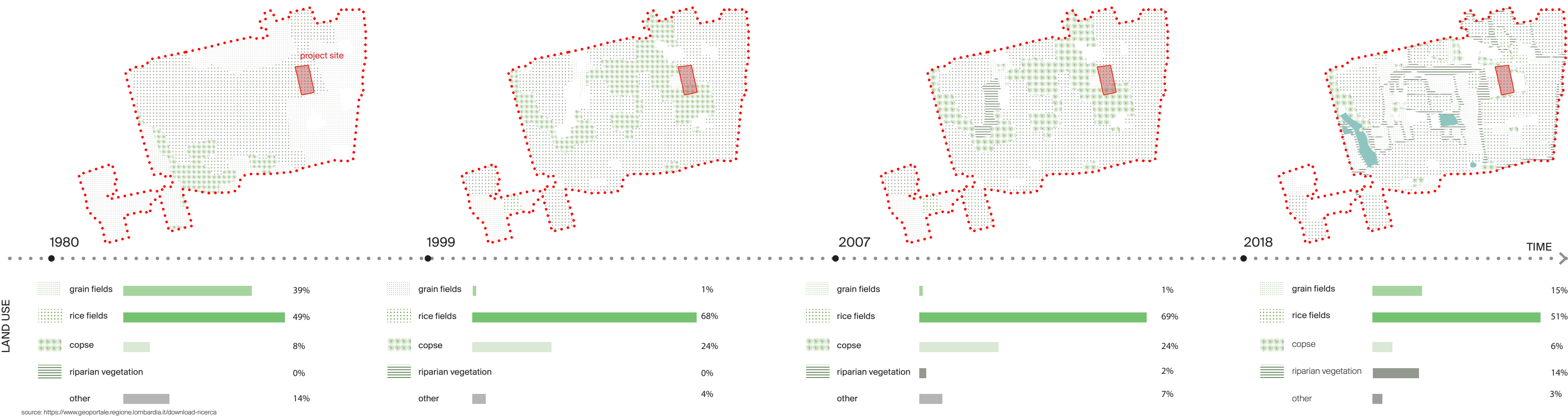
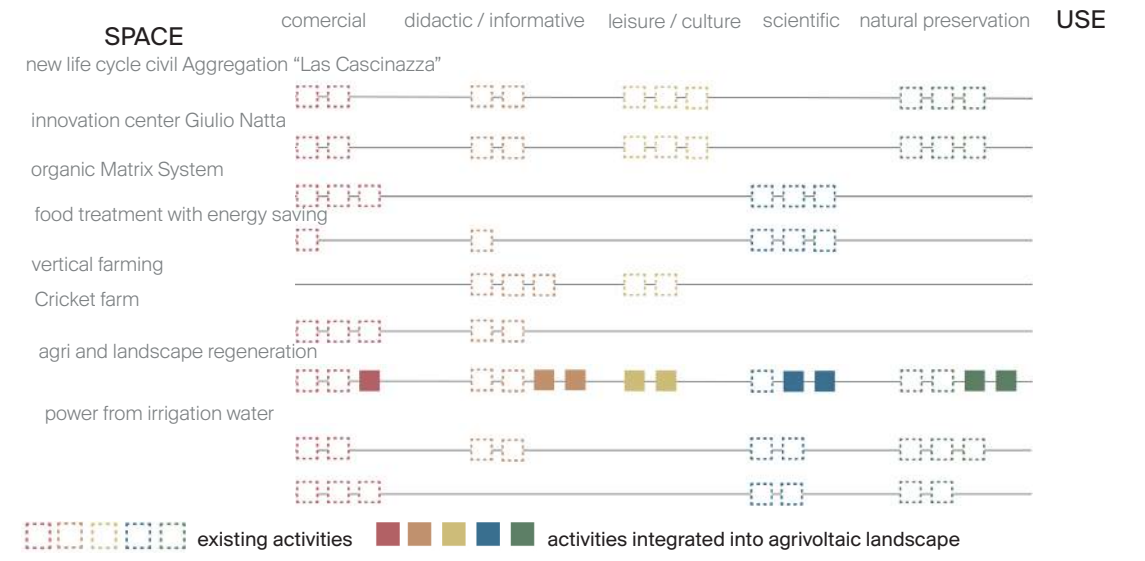


TERRITORY EVOLUTION. TOWARDS A MORE BIODIVERSE LANDSCAPE. The gradual process of re-naturalisation of the NEORURALHUB area has led to a considerable increase in biodiversity and services provided on territorial scale.



ECOLOGICAL NETWORK ENHANCEMENT. The areas close to the project site, are of great environmental significance: **a.** Priority Intervention Areas (API) - **b.** Regional Ecological Network (RER) - **c.** Areas of environmental Interest (REP) are of special interest for the ecological connectivity on territorial scale. - **d.** "Parco Agricolo Sud Milano" which extends up to the project area, acts as an ecological connector between the natural API areas and the agricultural landscape. In continuity with these zones, the NEORURALEHUB has a potential strategic role in improving ecological connectivity and biodiversity in the territorial matrix.

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPE VALUES. "Parco Agricolo Sud", NeoruralHub, neighbouring urbanizations, natural areas, the "Cascine", etc. make up a dense and complex landscape of enormous value, capable of providing a quality environment and multiple services whose benefits can have a direct return on social, cultural, and economic well-being of the local community.



ECOLOGICAL STRATEGY ON SITE. The recognition of environmental and landscape dynamics and values, in line with the current Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), have served to shape the proposal based on the concept of green infrastructure. Green infrastructure can be broadly defined as a strategically planned network of natural and semi-natural areas which, with other environmental elements, is designed and managed to: **1. Provide a wide range of ecosystem services** **2. Increase the biodiversity of both rural and urban settlements.** This will also: **a.** Promote a better quality of life and well-being in the landscape where people live and work - **b.** Enhance biodiversity, for example by connecting areas of green infrastructure with isolated natural areas, thereby increasing wildlife mobility in the wider landscape - **c.** Counteract the effects of climate change, mitigating the impact of flooding, storing carbon, reducing soil erosion - **d.** Promote a more efficient and integrated approach to landscape development. According to these premises, the actions foreseen in the project area, which can be consistently extended to the rest of the territory, will contribute to improve the capacity of nature to provide the local community with multiple and valuable ecosystem services.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE GOALS

Improvement of environmental services. Optimisation of use and management of natural resources.

- Eliminate of water and air pollutants
- Improve pollination
- Protect against soil erosion
- Retain rainwater
- Increase pest control
- Improve soil quality
- Reduce land occupation and soil sealing
- Integrate functional areas (energy production with agriculture, etc.) and optimise their efficiency
- Modulate anthropic frequentation in the different areas of activity with the aim of reducing/controlling disturbances in the natural areas to be preserved.

Create a more comfortable and beautiful landscape.

- Increase property value and local distinctiveness
- Integrate energy and transport solutions
- Maximize visual integration of infrastructure (mobility, energy, etc.)
- Preserve aesthetic value of the landscape (alignments, structure of natural systems, etc.)
- Create visual and perceptive spaces

Mitigation of climate change effects

- Flood mitigation
- Strengthen ecosystem resilience
- Carbon storage and sequestration

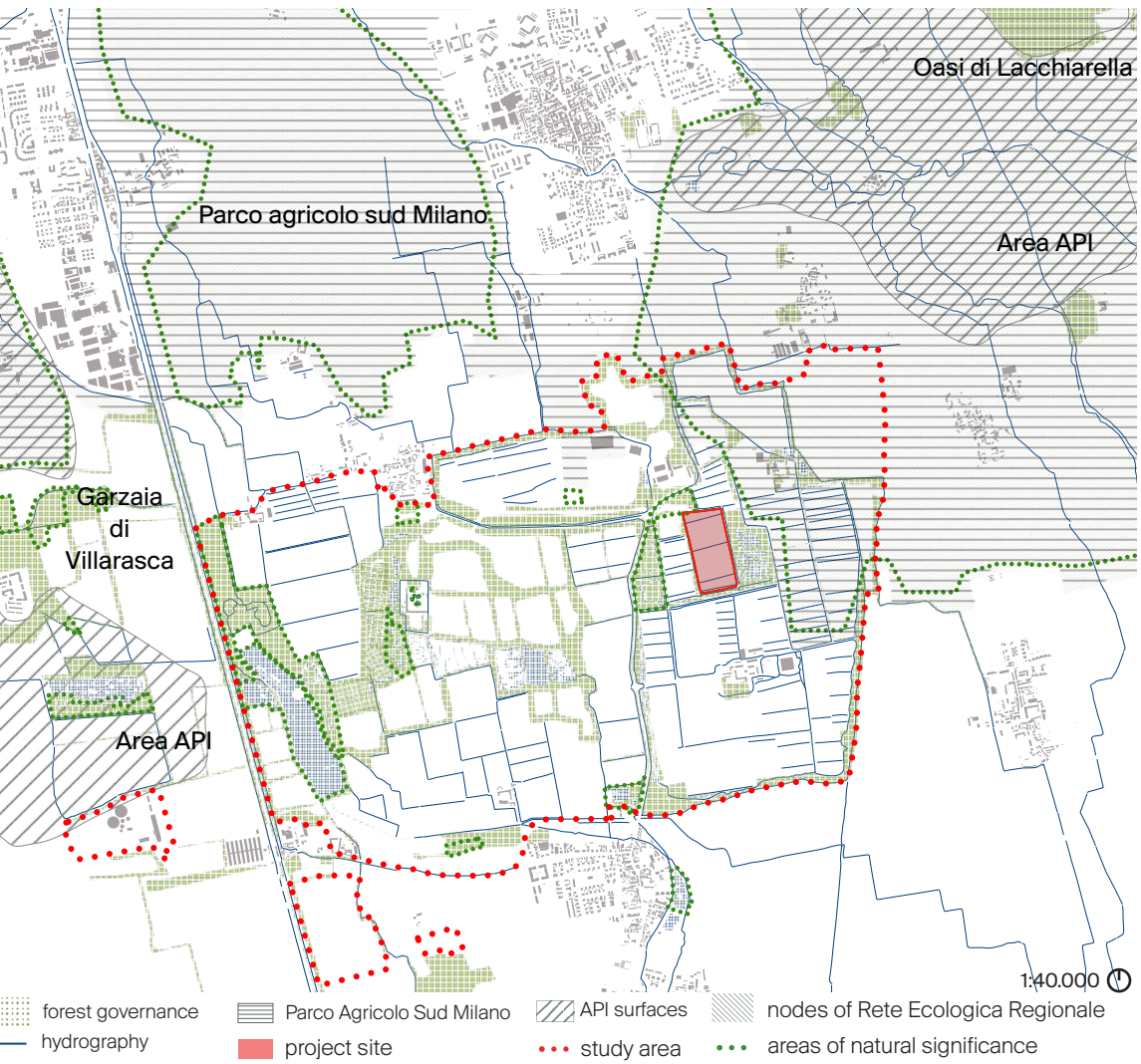
Enhancing biodiversity

- Enhance ecological corridors
- Improve landscape permeability
- Improve habitats

Production of socio-cultural and economic benefits for the local community.

- Improve interactions between urban centres and the HUB.
- Enhance and preservation of elements of interest (cascine, agricultural pattern, etc.).
- Improve people's health and well-being.
- Create jobs
- Diversify local economy
- Improve leisure and tourism opportunities
- Enhance cultural competences
- Preserve landscape materials and colour values
- Promote use of technologies and innovation

Arising landscapes 1/3



Ecological connectivity. The mosaic of agricultural fields with enclaves of diverse ecosystems (woodland habitats often connected to wetlands through biodiversity interstitial areas), have provided a level of permeability that represents a good starting point to improve ecological connectivity.



Agricultural landscape. The agricultural pattern, very homogeneous, is characterised by two predominant types of crops (cereals and rice); the cultural elements to be highlighted in this landscape are: **a.** the irrigation channels **b.** the "Cascine" and the annexed structures that testify the valuable local tradition. **c.** the rural paths **d.** the alignments of trees oriented mainly in a north-south direction; these protect the fields from the prevailing winds, act as natural barriers, and determine singular horizons on landscape, conditioning its perception and image.

