

The sustainable regeneration of the Italian parish ecclesiastical heritage: tools, methods, processes

Dr. Francesca Daprà

Politecnico di Milano, Department of Architecture, Built Environment and Construction Engineering, Milan, Italy

THE PARISH SYSTEM IN THE ITALIAN CITY

The Italian **parish ecclesiastical property**, popularly known as *oratorio*, constitutes a **considerable heritage**, particularly widespread in the cities of northern Italy (151 structures in Milan). Italian Parish facilities, by their **intrinsic openness** to the population and their presence as **landmarks within the neighbourhoods**, are authentic “common goods” to be considered within the **urban and social renewal process**, to which **strategic roles** are assigned for the regeneration of the city in a **sustainable perspective**.

A SYSTEM TO BE REGENERATED

The **actual status of the heritage** calls for **systemic tools and methods for their regeneration**, as well as integrated, multi-stakeholder and participated processes for the **transformation and renewal** of such structures.

TOOLS AND METHODS FOR A SUSTAINABLE REGENERATION: THE STRATEGIC DESIGN FRAMEWORK

The **research project SPèS** developed at Politecnico di Milano (funded by Polisocial Award 2019) analysed the infrastructures of the Milanese *oratorio* system to define methods for a **sustainable process of transformation and innovation**. A **multi-criteria framework** – including both **urban, architectural and social indicators** – was set, and applied to 5 Pilot Cases, to **suggest strategies for a renovation** of the heritage.

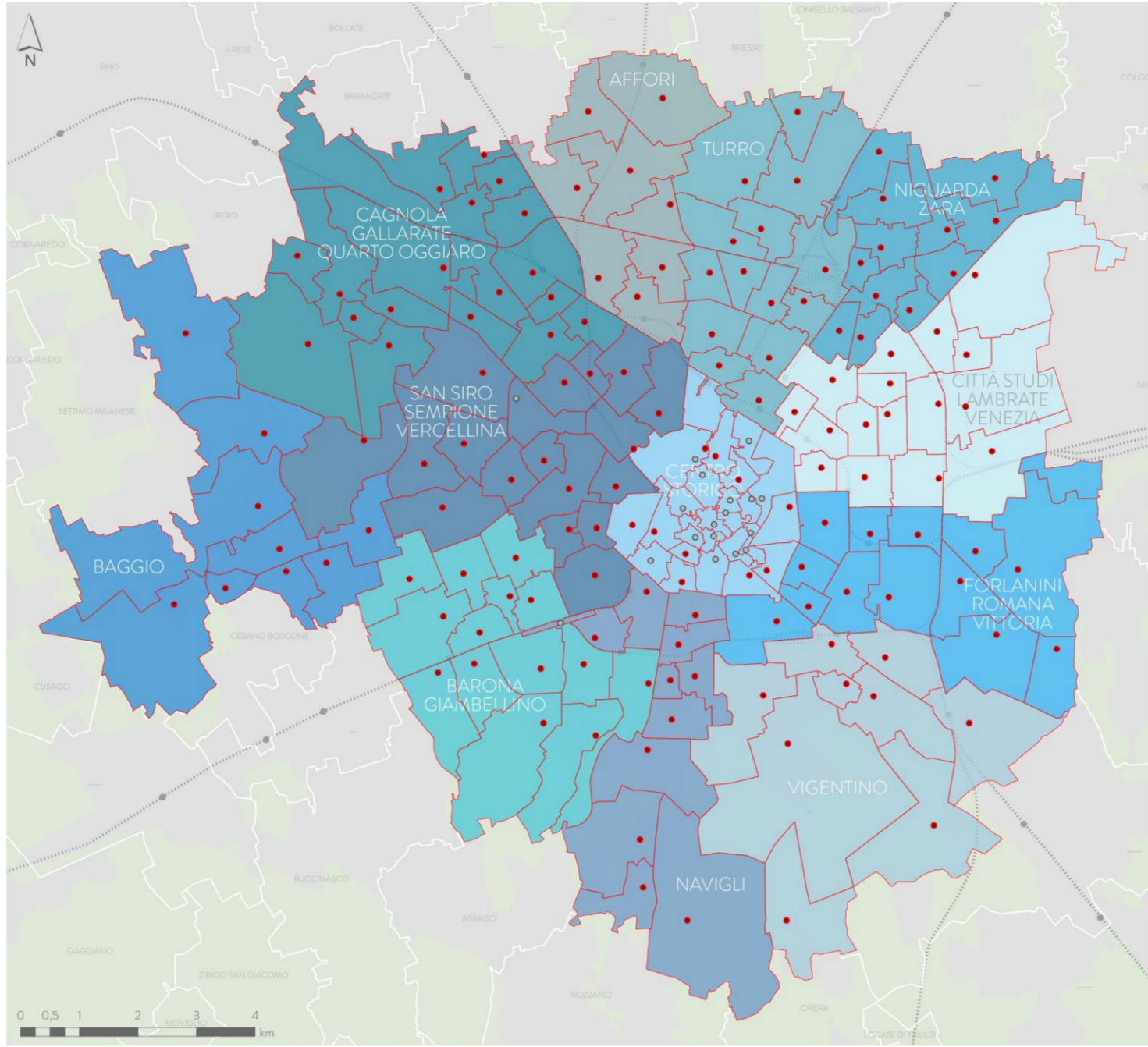


Fig.1 Map of the Parish system in the city of Milan



Fig.2 Examples of Italian parish complexes analysed

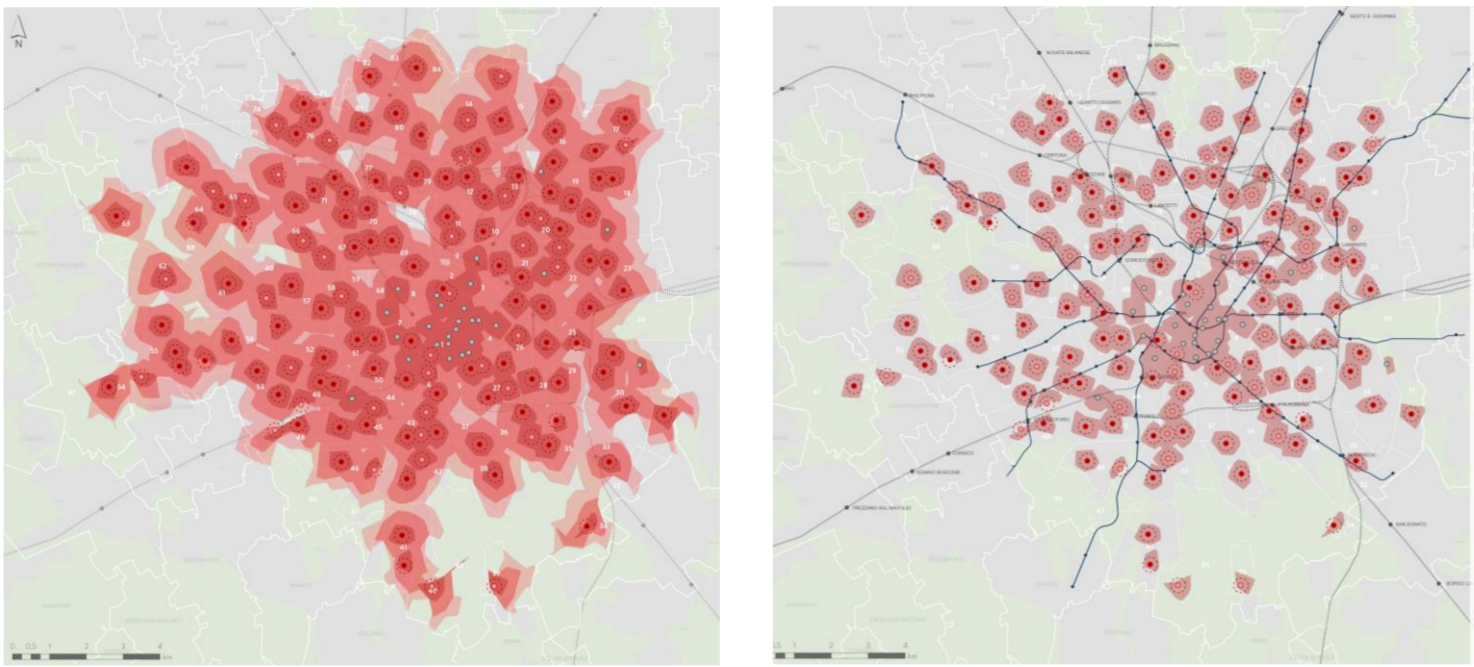


Fig.3 Accessibility by foot and public transport to the parish system

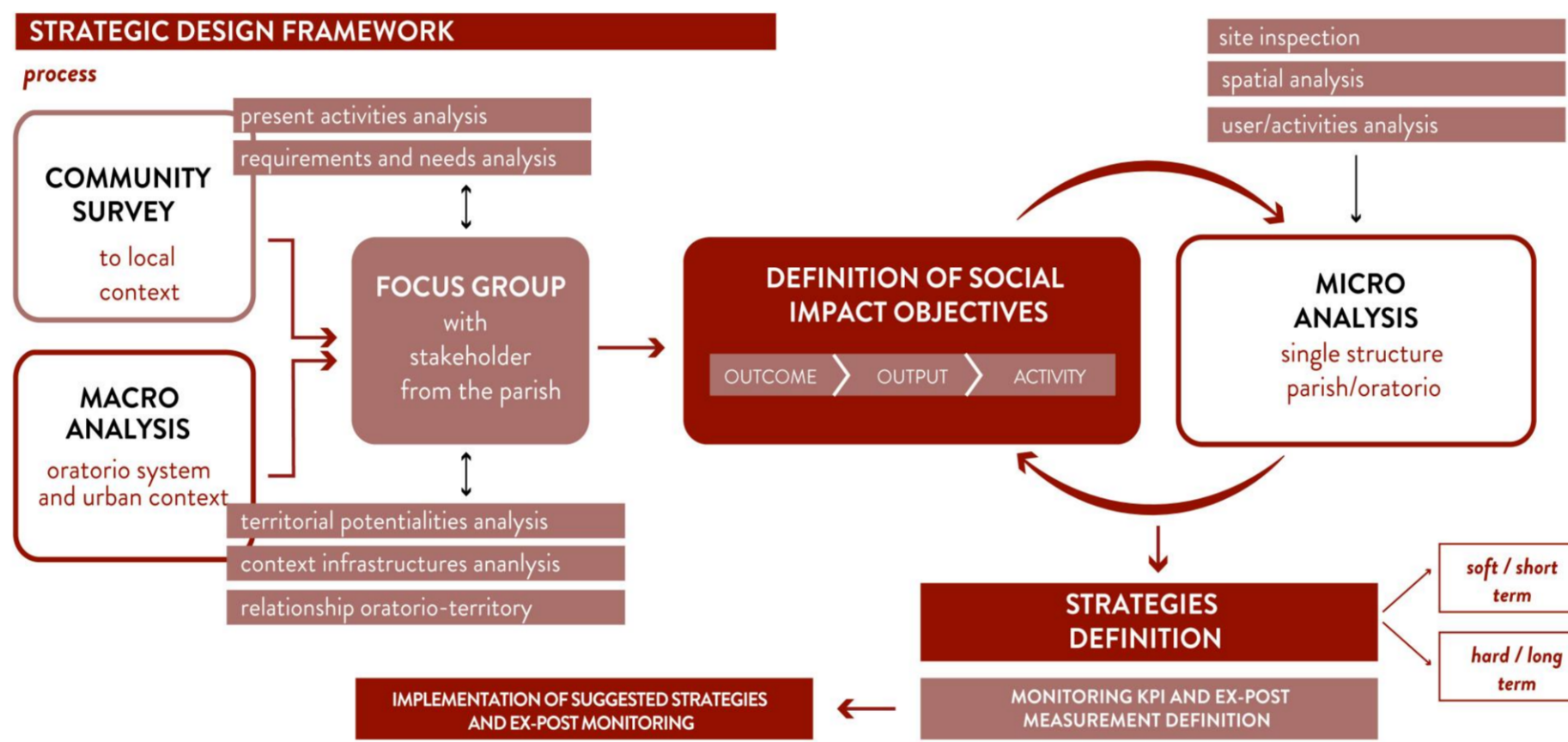


Fig.4 Process of application of the SDF



Fig.5 Image for a renovated complex

Macro-Areas	Criteria	Indicators
1. Urban and Architectural aspects	1.1 Recognizability and identity	Level of recognizability of the parish facility in the neighborhood
		Level of community services offered by the parish facility
		Presence of collaborations with parishes facilities in the surrounding area
		Collaborations with the municipality and/or associations and/or local authorities
	1.2 Context	Level of the historical and architectural value of the spaces of the parish facility
		Level of proximity of green areas to the parish facility
		Presence of playing areas near the parish facility
		Quality level of aggregation spaces within the parish facility
	1.3 Reachability	Presence of outdoor gathering spaces around the parish facility
		Presence of public and private sports facilities in the parish facility
		Level of accessibility to the parish or oratory via bike paths
		Presence of bicycle stops inside and outside the parish
	1.4 Usability and accessibility	Presence of dedicated parking spaces near the parish
		Level of accessibility to the parish by public transport
		Level of accessibility to the building
		Recognizability of the facility entrance

Fig.6 Main SDF indicators for the urban and architectural scale

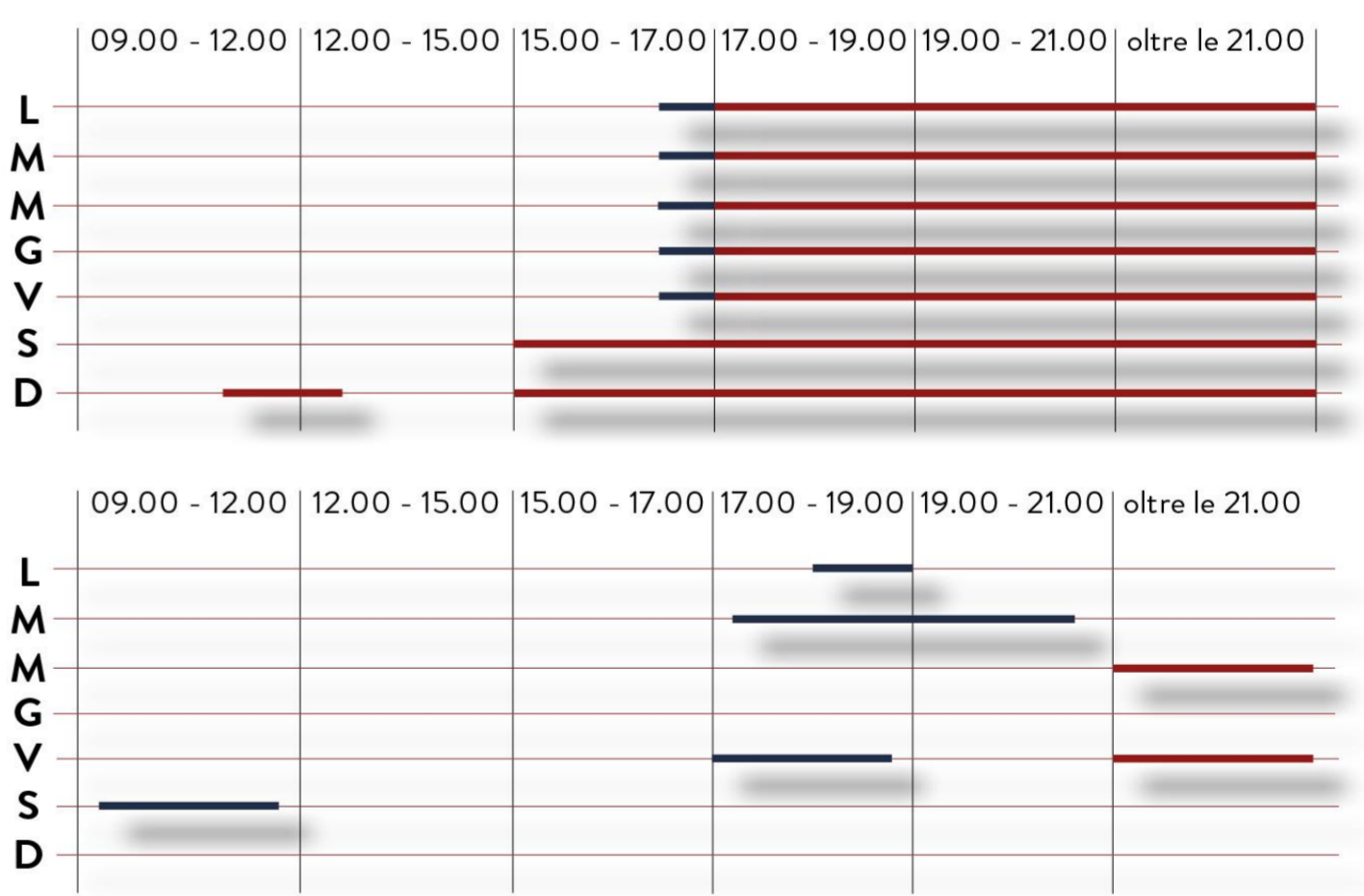
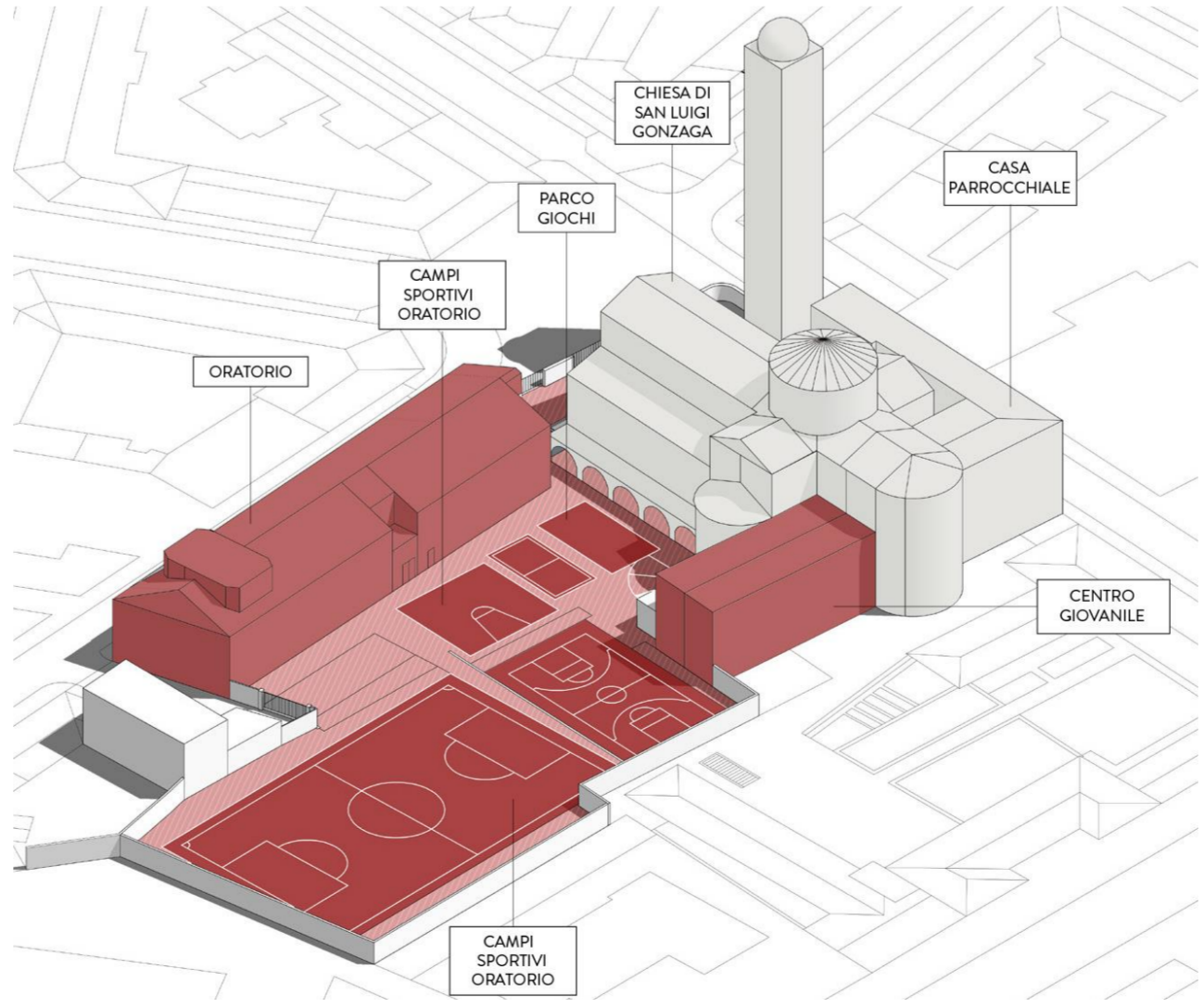


Fig.7 Example of hours of usage of parish facilities

Urban scale analysis



Architectural scale analysis



Social scale analysis



Fig.8 Example of analysis conducted during the application of the SDF to a parish complex in Milan