

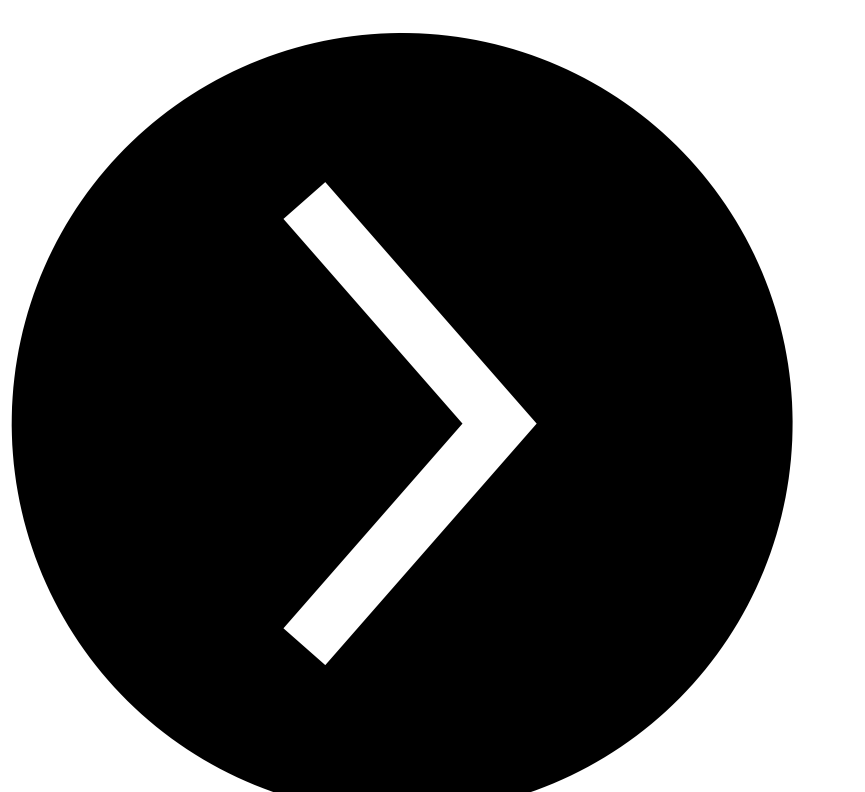


**COMMUNITY  
GARDEN**

**Episode 23**

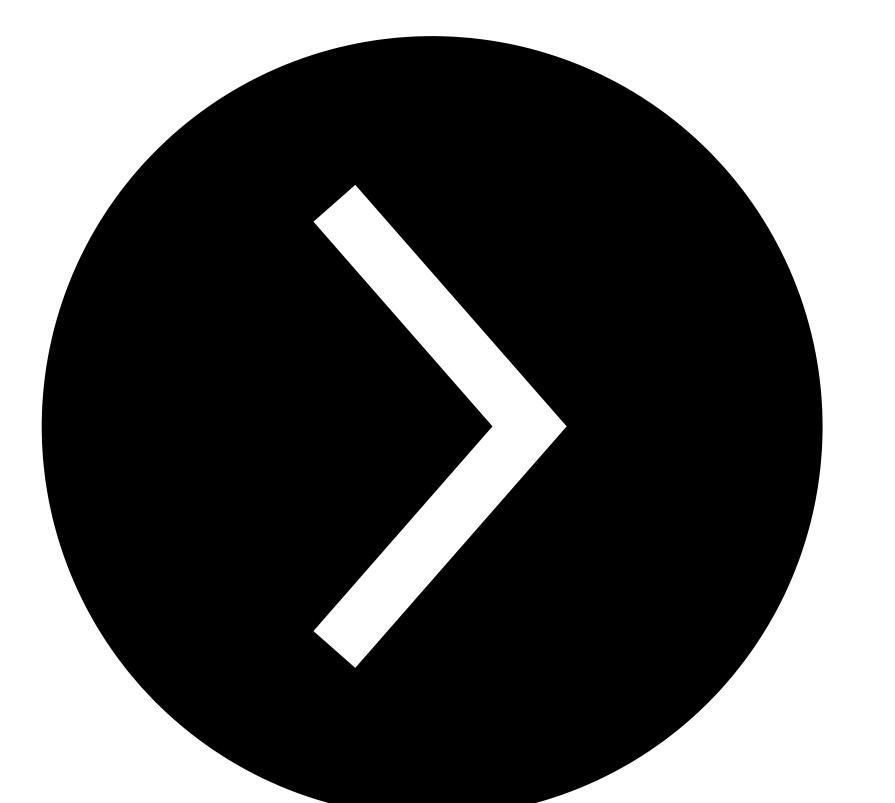
# **How to turn a semi-abandoned garden into a community hub**

A community-led project from Turin that transforms an underused public garden into a vibrant, inclusive, and multifunctional community hub.



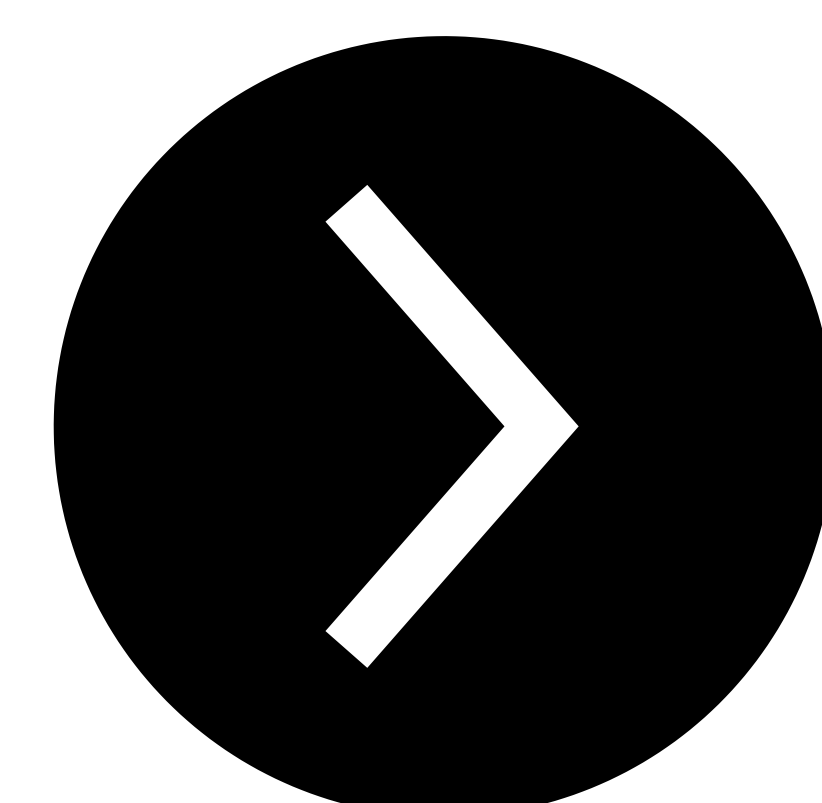
# The challenge

- Many marginalised neighbourhoods lack safe and accessible public spaces.
- Low community engagement due to limited opportunities for intercultural interaction.
- Lack of inclusive, intercultural and intergenerational activities in the Barriera di Milano district of Turin.
- Underused public spaces are often perceived as unsafe and disconnected from local life.



# The idea

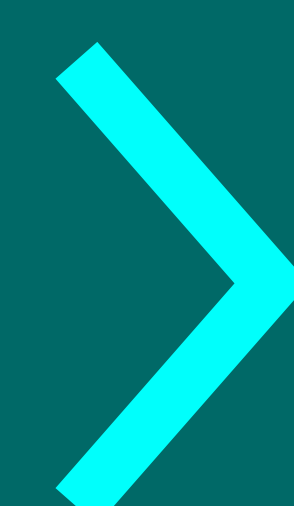
“RI-CREIAMO: The Garden I Wish For” brings together residents, artists, universities and social organisations to transform a neglected public garden into a shared community space through culture and well-being activities.





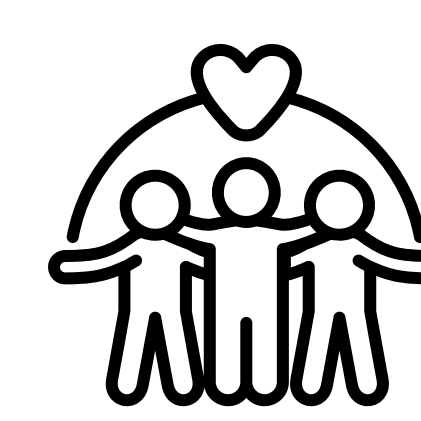
# What's innovative here?

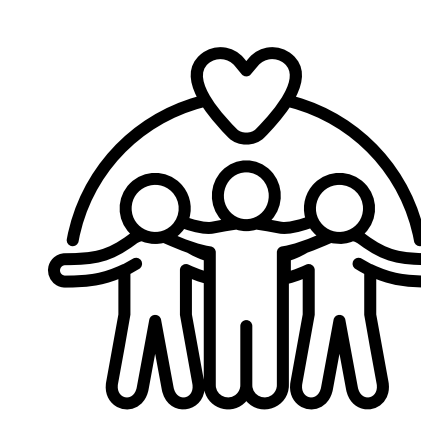
- **Neuroaesthetic design:** uses design principles that support emotional well-being and mental health.
- **Three thematic pillars:** Health & Well-being, Art & Culture, and Inclusion & Sociality, with continuous activities co-created with residents.
- **Community Social Oven:** a shared space where communities connect through food and traditions.
- **Digital storytelling:** interactive QR-based panels to engage youth and promote accessibility.

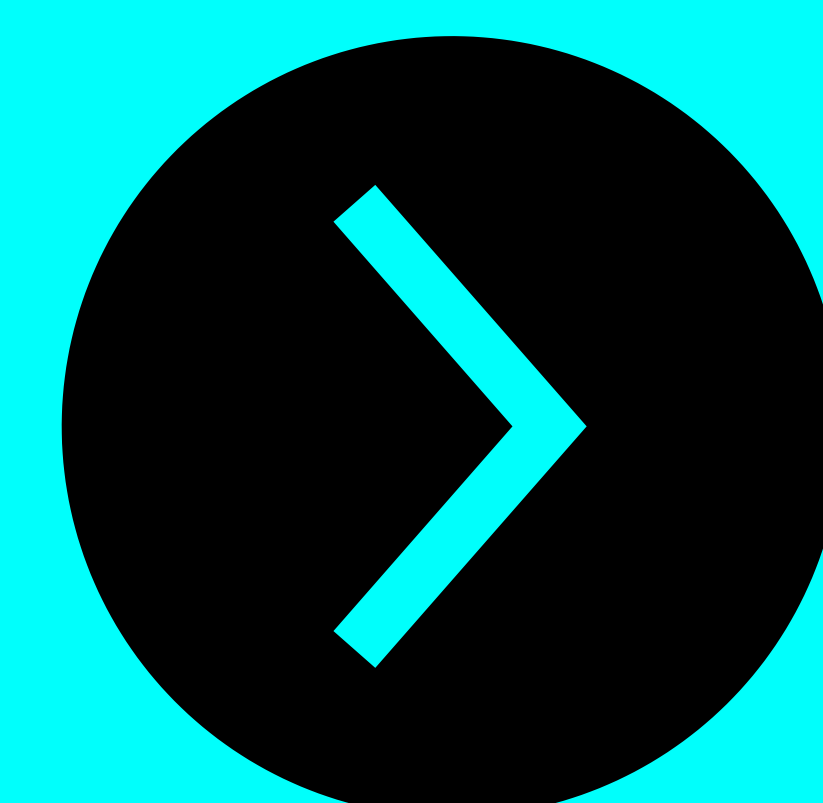


# Impact so far


Over 300 residents, including vulnerable groups, benefit from the project. 


Improved community well-being through cultural and outdoor activities. 

Increased participation and community engagement in local activities. 



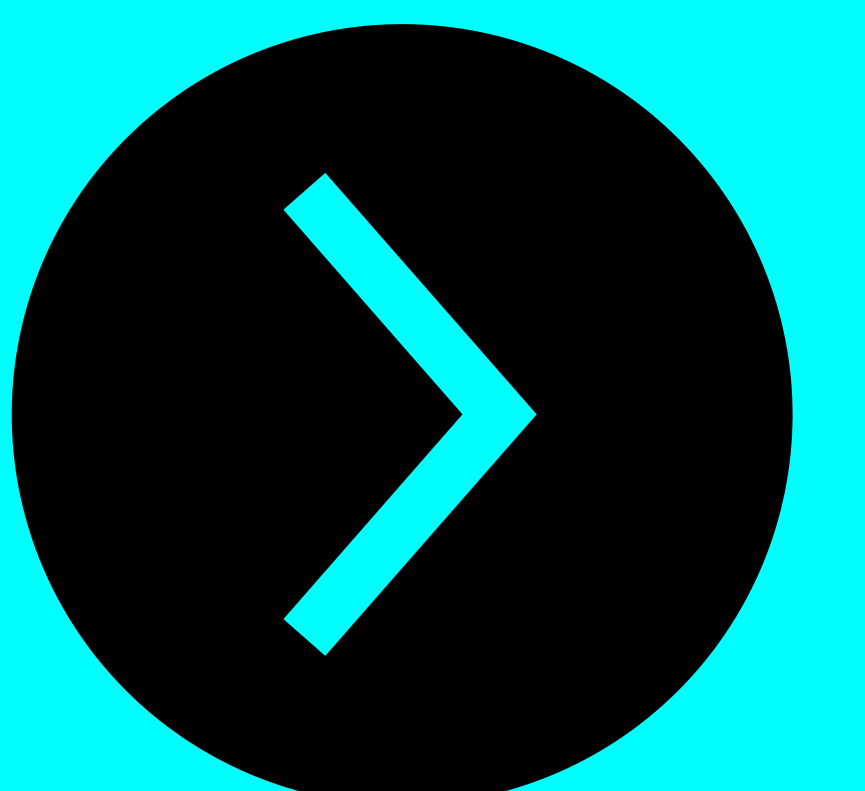
# Impact so far

Transformation of an underused public space into a multifunctional community hub. 

Increased visibility and use of public space, reducing perceptions of insecurity. 

Strong collaboration between residents, universities, artists and social organisations. 

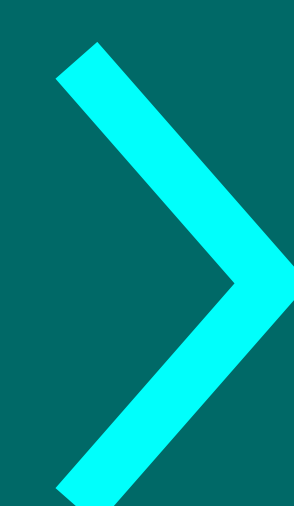
**Economic  
&  
systemic**





# What you can replicate

- Take part in local activities that bring people together in public spaces.
- Support initiatives that make neighbourhood spaces more inclusive and accessible.
- Encourage collaboration between residents, local organisations and creatives.
- Organise small cultural or social activities in your neighbourhood or in underused local spaces.



# Social Innovation Spotlight

## Episode 23

**If this case sparked an idea,  
don't let it stay on this slide.**

**Adapt it, remix it, and bring social  
innovation to life where you are.**

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