

Italy

Sustainability criteria in the design of the Nodo Verde



TYPE OF TOOL
Project



MAIN SECTOR
Urban regeneration



THEME
*Green;
Resilience*



INFRASTRUCTURE GOVERNANCE PILLARS
*Fiscal sustainability, affordability and
value for money*

In a nutshell



OBJECTIVE: The Nodo Verde project aims at greening and repurposing the Bari railway station area.



Agency in charge
Rete Ferroviaria Italiana; Municipality of Bari



Levels of government
National and sub-national



Year of implementation:
2026



Current status:
Planning



Value:
€143 million

Overview

The Nodo Verde project aims at the redevelopment of an urban area of almost 160 thousand square meters in the city of Bari in southern Italy. By creating a wide pedestrian passage above the railway line, Nodo Verde aims at greening and repurposing the central railway station area, while reconnecting four neighbourhoods that have long been divided by the railway line (i.e., the city centre, Carrassi, San Pasquale, Madonnella). The project, approved for National Recovery and Resilience Plan funding, falls under Italy's *Programma Innovativo Nazionale per la Qualità Dell'Abitare*. As part of the technical and economic feasibility project assessment, a sustainability report was included and it contains: i) a "Do Not significant Harm" (DNSH) assessment, (ii) an assessment of the project plan's compliance with national Minimum Environmental Criteria (MEC), and (iii) a preliminary rating by environmental and sustainability protocols LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and ENVISION V3. As part of the DNSH assessment, a climate risk and vulnerability assessment was undertaken to inform the uptake of relevant climate adaptation measures. Building on this assessment, and with a view to building resilience to climate risks, the project plan includes various adaptation strategies and solutions including nature-based solutions such as green roof. An assessment of the project plan's compliance with MEC was also undertaken to evaluate the project's conformity with requirements under these criteria. Furthermore, the project plan and its sustainability were evaluated using the LEED protocol and the ENVISION protocol. The LEED protocol was used to rate the project by assessing the sustainability of the buildings included in the project in terms of energy and resource consumption, users' comfort levels, indoor environmental quality, etc. The assessment also accounts and values the inclusion of green components in the project. In parallel, the project's overall sustainability was assessed through the ENVISION 3 protocol, a rating system that evaluates infrastructure projects' sustainability, taking into account both project characteristics and the long-term impacts on the surrounding communities. Further assessments will be undertaken as the project advances to assess whether and how the sustainability measures included in the project plan will be implemented in practice. The project is expected to be completed by 2026.

REFERENCES:

- OECD (2023), *Developing an Integrated Approach to Green Infrastructure in Italy*, OECD Public Governance Reviews, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/d84bb8e4-en>.