

The Futur-e Project



Future-e represents a unique example worldwide, in which a company leads a process to redevelop disused industrial sites, which differ in terms of size and location, making it a development opportunity for the local area and for the Italian industrial system. Future-e aims to transform 23 power plants in Italy, in the concept of the circular economy, into ecosustainable places dedicated to science, art, culture or tourism, and new industrial activities.

These are power plants producing a total of 13 GW which used non-renewable sources, based on obsolete or inefficient technology, and which therefore are no longer competitive on an energy market in which generation from large plants is giving way to increasingly distributed production using renewable sources.

For Enel, it is an opportunity for growth for the Group and a potential element of innovation for the whole country. The Future-e program is designed with the goal of finding the most innovative and sustainable solutions for the decommissioning of these power plants and at the same time strengthening relations between the Company and communities.

The Shared Value approach used, which is based on close analysis of the context and on the direct and proactive involvement of local communities, is the key to the initiative. The dialogue started with local communities and institutions to transform the plants involved takes many forms: competitions, ideas contests, working groups.

During 2016 Enel launched the project competition for the former power plants of Rossano, Montalto di Castro, Porto Tolle, and Trino. Before each competition, a survey tailored to the local area in question enables local needs to be understood as well as the related expectations. The results of the analysis are essential to develop a stakeholder manage-

ment and engagement plan, as also in the stage of selecting the best solutions for the reuse of the sites.

In the case of Porto Tolle, for example, the study of the local context and the materiality analysis were carried out through various channels, including interviews with the population to sound out ideas on the future reuse of the plant, and a series of meetings with category associations as well as the direct involvement of local institutions in the assessment of the projects. To assess the suitability of the proposals, there is a commission made up of representatives of the Municipality and Region, the University of Padua, Milan Polytechnic and Enel. The selection criteria for the projects are: technical and economic quality, level of innovation and environmental, economic and social sustainability, with particular attention to safeguarding the levels of employment and the best possible reuse. The common element to the projects presented is the desire to valorize the area and part of the existing structures by giving them completely new functions in the spirit of sustainability. The future of the site of the plant may therefore develop into sectors such as tourism, agrifood, fishing, with ideas aimed at creating value for the local area hosting the plant.

For the plants of Montalto di Castro, Rossano and Trino, the stakeholder engagement activities have involved local industry and international institutions, universities and schools, in assessing the selected projects and in promoting their dissemination. During 2016, over 8,400 stakeholders were involved at national and local level. In addition, a dedicated website has been developed, www.future-e.it, to ensure complete transparency in all information regarding the program, promoted as an example of the circular economy. In addition, during the year the redevelopment of the former plant of Carpi was decided and it will become a logistics center for Enel.