



PhD in DESIGN - 39th cycle

**PNRR 118 INTERDISC Research Field: CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND LEARNING SPACES.
TERRITORIAL POLES AS A FIELD OF SOCIAL INNOVATION AND DESIGN
EXPERIMENTATION**

Monthly net income of PhDscholarship (max 36 months)
€ 1195.5
In case of a change of the welfare rates during the three-year period, the amount could be modified.

Context of the research activity	
Motivation and objectives of the research in this field	<p>Interdisciplinary PhD Grant The PhD research will be carried out in collaboration with research groups of the PhD programme in "Urban Planning, Design, and Policy". See http://www.dottorato.polimi.it/index.php?id=242&L=1 for further information</p> <p>The Italian "Integrated System 0-6 years" recognizes equal opportunities for everyone and the development of the children's potential for relationships, autonomy, creativity, and learning while overcoming inequalities and territorial, economic, ethnic, and cultural barriers (D.L. 65/2017). The legislative decree states that the first segment of the Italian national education system is 0-6, but its effectiveness is limited by certain structural distortions. The COVID-19 pandemic has reopened a public debate about the role of schools and educational spaces in the development of society. In the following period, the National Recovery and Resilience Plan allocates significant resources to implement childcare services, establishing reward mechanisms associated with the design of childcare territorial poles. The implementation of the 0-6 integrated system, on which the research will draw, is based on the connections between the Early Child Education and Care services and the cities and territories in which they are embedded, within an alliance system made of horizontal and vertical continuity. The 0-6 system can be defined as a context that promotes education and learning in a broad sense and stands in a</p>



	<p>education and learning in a broad sense and stands in a space. The research theme wants to examine the plural dimension of the territorial poles (Poli per l'Infanzia) defined in D.L. 65/2017 in a more systematic way, investigating their value both in learning, social and urban terms with a special focus on the role of spaces in the educational processes. The proposed research will lead to a focus on learning spaces, considering them as crucial in addressing growing forms of social and territorial inequality. Focusing on learning rather than on educating, acknowledges that learning is not restricted to specific spaces and times: the entire environment is a potential learning space at any time. The candidate will study the composition and integration of early childhood services' and pre-schools' spaces among themselves and with their surroundings in three different concentric spatial dimensions, starting from the spaces for the 0-6 educational continuity, to spaces of proximity and connection with other organizations targeting children in the neighborhood, up to spaces of continuity in the whole city and territorial context.</p>
<p>Methods and techniques that will be developed and used to carry out the research</p>	<p>The research process will be developed through a mixed method research, combining qualitative and quantitative data analysis and merging the tools and approaches typical of the two different disciplines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Literature review / Framing the context</i>; The multidisciplinary nature of the topic requires a preliminary immersion in other disciplinary fields to identify the research gap and construct a literature review through desk research. Literature will include the pedagogical-educational dimension of the spatial features of physical environments, with the support of the research institute INDIRE; 2. <i>Case studies analysis / Data Collection</i> Mapping case studies, through: exploring multidisciplinary approach to the main topic; highlighting innovation indicators; analyzing applied strategies. The selected case studies represent on going experience of territorial poles 0-6 at national and international level and candidate projects for PNRR funding; the research could also relate virtuous elements of the observed cases and possible



	<p>guidelines/adjustments on PNRR candidate and funded projects. For a selected number of case studies will be analyzed more in details the service offered and the relations among the service and indoor and outdoor spaces.</p> <p>3. <i>Ethnographic research</i>; This analysis phase will include ethnographic research and the development of a territorial map that quantitatively and qualitatively characterizes the 0-3 and 3-6 services at national level. Ethnographic research will deeper analyze specific territories of local interest. The outcome will serve as: a description and analysis instrument for both scientific and designing purposes; a significant qualitative research result, an up-to-date and accurate snapshot of the 06 system; and a replicable method for studying 06 services (and/or other service networks);</p> <p>4. <i>Experimentation</i>; Action research will be used through involving all the actors of the specific context of study, especially public administration, service providers and managers, educators, families and children by using participatory and collaborative approaches (i.e. participatory design, co-design, user and community centered design) to translate the insights of literature review and case studies into research outputs (i.e. scenario building, guidelines, strategies etc.);</p> <p>5. <i>Impact and validation</i>; Throughout the co-creative activities, the collected data will be analyzed and prototyped so to be validated even thanks to the collaboration with the stakeholder involved (e.g. public administration, INDIRE, service providers and educators). One of the main objectives of the research is the construction of guidelines useful for the integration of education, social, cultural, and urban planning policies in educational project design and space planning to support these policies.</p>
<p>Educational objectives</p>	<p>The proposed research stems from the scientific relevance of the Polisocial project 'Equi_06', in which the two involved departments are collaborating. The EQUI_06 project, now in its final phase, is producing relevant research results from different disciplinary perspectives: social analysis, policy analysis, spatial analysis,</p>



	<p>organizational studies, service design. EQUI_06 has adopted the city of Milan as a context and object of research, in the doctoral research the candidate will explore different contexts. The multidisciplinary approach has made it possible to maximize the understanding of the phenomena and processes under study, opening up new perspectives for in-depth study and developing hypotheses that may be tested in other contexts. From this project therefore emerged the need and the desire to deeper explore different aspects of the 0-6 integrated system, by combining different expertise capable of reading services in their social and territorial policy dimension (DAStU team) and in spatial +service design strategies (Design team).The proposing group is working together on the relations among spaces and services for the digital welfare in the framework of MUSA project funded by PNRR.</p> <p>The educational objectives can be summarized in: increasing and expanding awareness and understanding; developing an ability towards a multi-disciplinary approach in urban studies, at the edge of service design, planning, and social policies.</p>
Job opportunities	<p>Job opportunities related to design-led innovation research, policies and planning, both in the public and in the private sectors: Design and planning practices, Academic positions, Government positions, Non-profit and Institutional positions, etc.</p>
Composition of the research group	<p>2 Full Professors 4 Associated Professors 7 Assistant Professors 7 PhD Students</p>
Name of the research directors	<p>Laura Galluzzo,Stefania Sabatinelli,Paola Savoldi</p>

Contacts
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Additional support - Financial aid per PhD student per year (gross amount)



Housing - Foreign Students	--
Housing - Out-of-town residents (more than 80Km out of Milano)	--

Scholarship Increase for a period abroad	
Amount monthly	597.75 €
By number of months	6

National Operational Program for Research and Innovation	
Company where the candidate will attend the stage (name and brief description)	
By number of months at the company	0
Institution or company where the candidate will spend the period abroad (name and brief description)	Aalto University, Helsinki, Finland
By number of months abroad	6

Additional information: educational activity, teaching assistantship, computer availability, desk availability, any other information
<p>Educational activities (purchase of study books and material, funding for participation in courses, summer schools, workshops and conferences): financial aid per PhD student per year max 4.872,90 euros per student (total for 3 years)</p> <p>Teaching assistantship: availability of funding in recognition of supporting teaching activities by the PhD student there are various forms of financial aid both for research and teaching activities. The PhD student is encouraged to take part in these activities, within the limits allowed by the regulations.</p> <p>Computer availability: 1st year, 2nd year and 3rd year: Each research group will supply PhD student with a computer, if necessary.</p> <p>Desk availability: 1st year, 2nd year and 3rd year: Each research group will supply phd student with a desk.</p>