



Baiso, Italy

A creation of a mineral route for the valorization of natural heritage and restoration of quarries



This case is about restoration and land use planning procedures for land use changing in relation to new uses

SCALE

Local

EXTENSION OF THE PROJECT

3 km²

TYPE OF MINING

Open-pit mining

MINERAL RESOURCES

Clays



Regione Emilia-Romagna

The Baiso municipality (Reggio Emilia Province) is located in the northern part of Italy. Historically, the Baiso area was one of the most important exploitation sites for the ceramic industry of Sassuolo. The area is characterised by cretaceous clays (“Varicolori” clays) where quarry activities for the ceramic industry of the Sassuolo district were established in the past. Due to a market crisis, most quarries closed. This type of clays determines a spectacular landscape characterised by coloured gullies and by a natural environment of high value. This is the reason why the area is a UNESCO’s Man and the Biosphere Programme site, a regional park and a landscape regional heritage. With regional funds coming from mineral exploitation fees, the municipality of Baiso has developed, together with the Region, a study of a mineral and landscape route that will increase the attractiveness of the area thanks to the integration of land use planning and mining planning. The study will drive to the creation of a mineral and landscape route which will increase the touristic attractiveness of the area and will help to finalise the restoration of the closed quarries. The creation of the route determines a change on land uses/access permit on land and, due to the fact that the route will pass through an area where quarries mapped in the mining plan were located, will determine on a change of the planning instrument. The Region, the Province of Reggio Emilia, the Regional Civil Protection Agency, the Baiso municipality, the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, technical experts and stakeholders are involved in this activity.

