



City	Santo Tirso
Location	Vale da Ribeira do Matadouro
Population	24,649 inhabitants (City).
Study site	23.89 ha
Site of project	5.83 ha.

TOPIC

It is necessary to merge boundaries and limits, proposing new activities in the area, promoting natural resources' ecologic sustainability and landscape performance, and a good urban integration in a general quality improvement process.

Public space is a strategic priority, as a connection structure and as a privileged place for a strong, quality territory's image. Therefore, a clear urban green space definition and the construction of urban territory's image are the main topics of this operation.

TERRITORIAL SCALE : CONURBATION

Santo Tirso's landscape and heritage potential are determinant in Oporto Metropolitan Area's (AMP) urban and ecological system. In this context, the mountain range and the rivers Ave and Leça valleys, constitute remarkable features in the structuring of metropolitan landscapes. Regional economy is a mixture of rural, industrial and services activities.

The accessibility system is linked to the national's main road system, giving this city a significant attractiveness, in residential, recreational and leisure functions, at a metropolitan scale.



URBAN SCALE : STUDY SITE

The Study Site is located next to Santo Tirso's civic centre, where the City Hall and the municipality's sport's compound are located, not far from the river banks and the Monastery (10th century) that faces it. This area has a diverse urban occupation, with collective housing buildings as well as isolated one-family houses, and urban facilities.

Empty and buildable spaces, some of municipality's property land creates an opportunity to define the border between built and free space, to be recovered for urban functions.

Programmatic intentions

Two different areas with specific goals: one area to qualify on a circulation level (cars and pedestrians); other area (able to build on) for requalification and to consider for urban functions' implementation. To propose a qualification process of public space and to spot new facilities in the garden area adjacent to the City Hall.

PROXIMITY SCALE : SITE OF PROJECT

To develop an occupation with current uses (a small housing group and small neighbourhood shops or services) and public spaces. A nursery garden to relocate and/or re-qualify and an old slaughter building (currently a obsolete carpentry), to adapt to new uses. By the water front, there are environmental limitations to be observed while proposing open-air activities and public pedestrian walkways.

Programmatic intentions

Urban space to be structured by a public natural spaces' net (green and/or of collective use, considering pedestrian and cycling paths), housing and spotted facilities: youth hostel, environmental educational school/studio and nursery garden (place where plants are grown commercially, either for sale direct to the public or to other retailers).



