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# Universities as drivers of innovation and urban regeneration

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# The role of universities in local development

- Universities are centers *of knowledge production and diffusion* with a significant influence on urban dynamics.
- *They produce and attract human capital*, stimulating entrepreneurship and innovation.
- They operate in the local dimension with an *international scope*, combining territorial roots with participation in global dynamics.





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# The role of universities in local development

1

**Analyze impacts and spillovers** generated by the transformations of university campuses



*Analysis of international case studies and systematization of impacts and spillovers. The dataset includes a total of 141 case studies, covering 135 cities (40 countries).*

2

**Assess the value** that stakeholders attribute to urban regeneration interventions in Milano



*Assessment of stakeholders' willingness to pay (WTP) through a survey of citizens, students, and faculty at universities in Milan (approximately 4,000 respondents).*

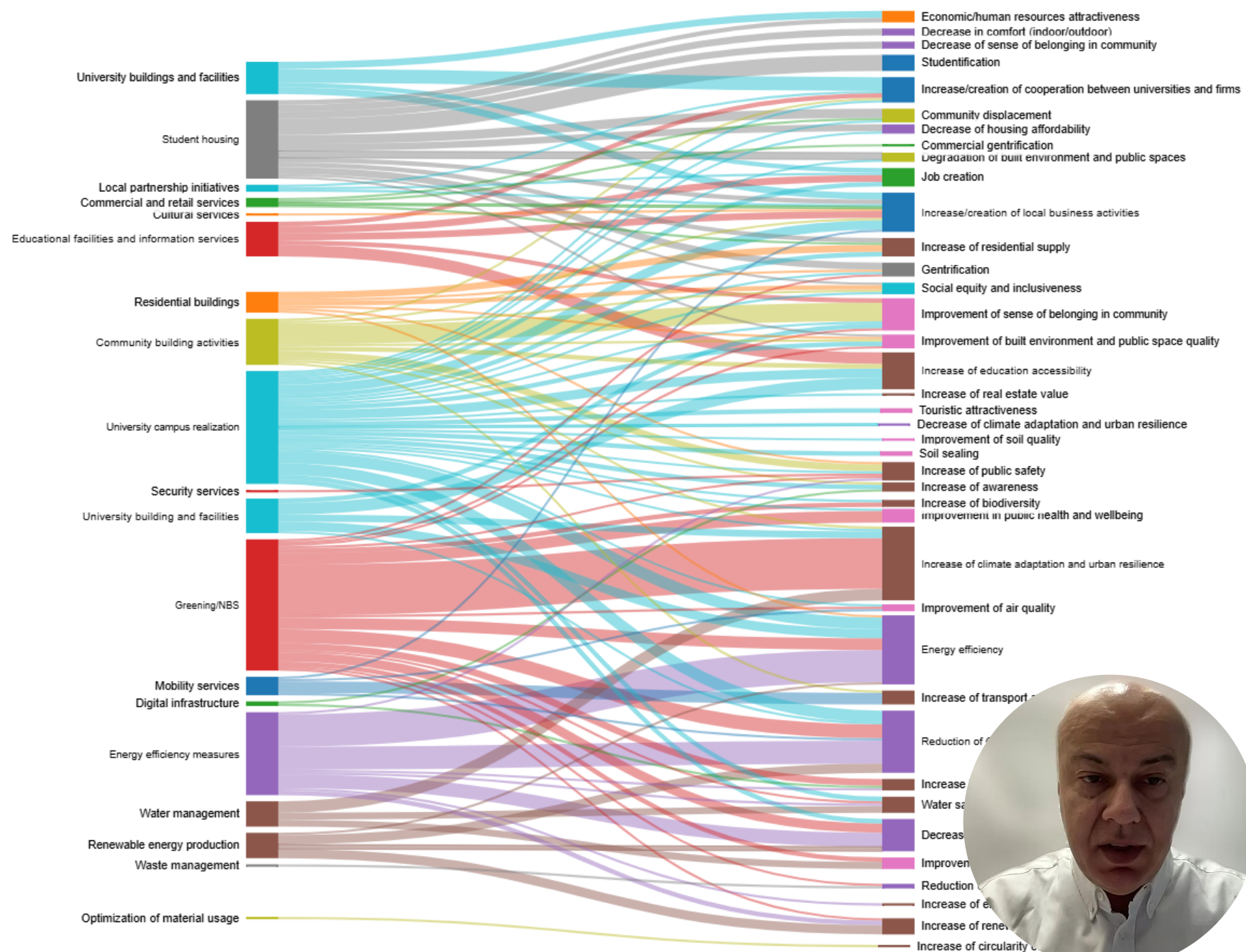






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# Relationship between interventions and impacts / spillovers





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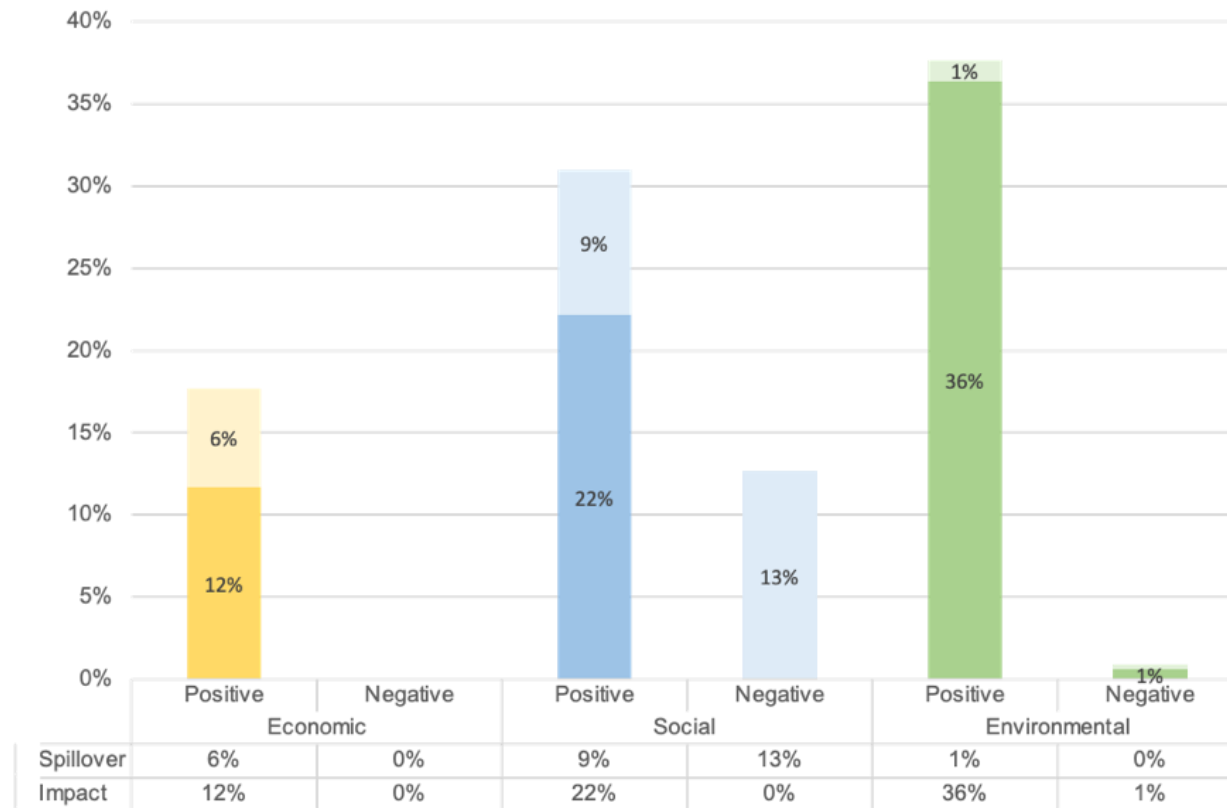


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# Positive and negative impacts and spillovers of campuses



Economic impact  
Economic spillover

Social impact  
Social spillover

Environmental impact  
Environmental spillover



Source: ...



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# Categories of interventions and perceived benefits

1. **Green spaces & NBS** – Recreational and sports use, improved aesthetics, reduced summer temperatures, and reduced flood risk. *Popular with young people, graduates, and residents within 500 meters of the campus.*
2. **Energy transition** – Reducing dependence on fossil fuels, cutting long-term energy costs, and reducing pollutants and CO<sub>2</sub>. *Recognized primarily by individuals with higher levels of education.*
3. **Sustainable mobility** – Creation of new public spaces, improved air quality, reduction of accidents and emissions, health benefits, and reduced traffic congestion. *More widely shared by academics, young people, and residents near campuses.*
4. **Comfort & well-being** – Increased perceived safety, improved quality of life and usability of public spaces. *More recognized by adults, graduates, and residents near campuses.*



Sou.

5



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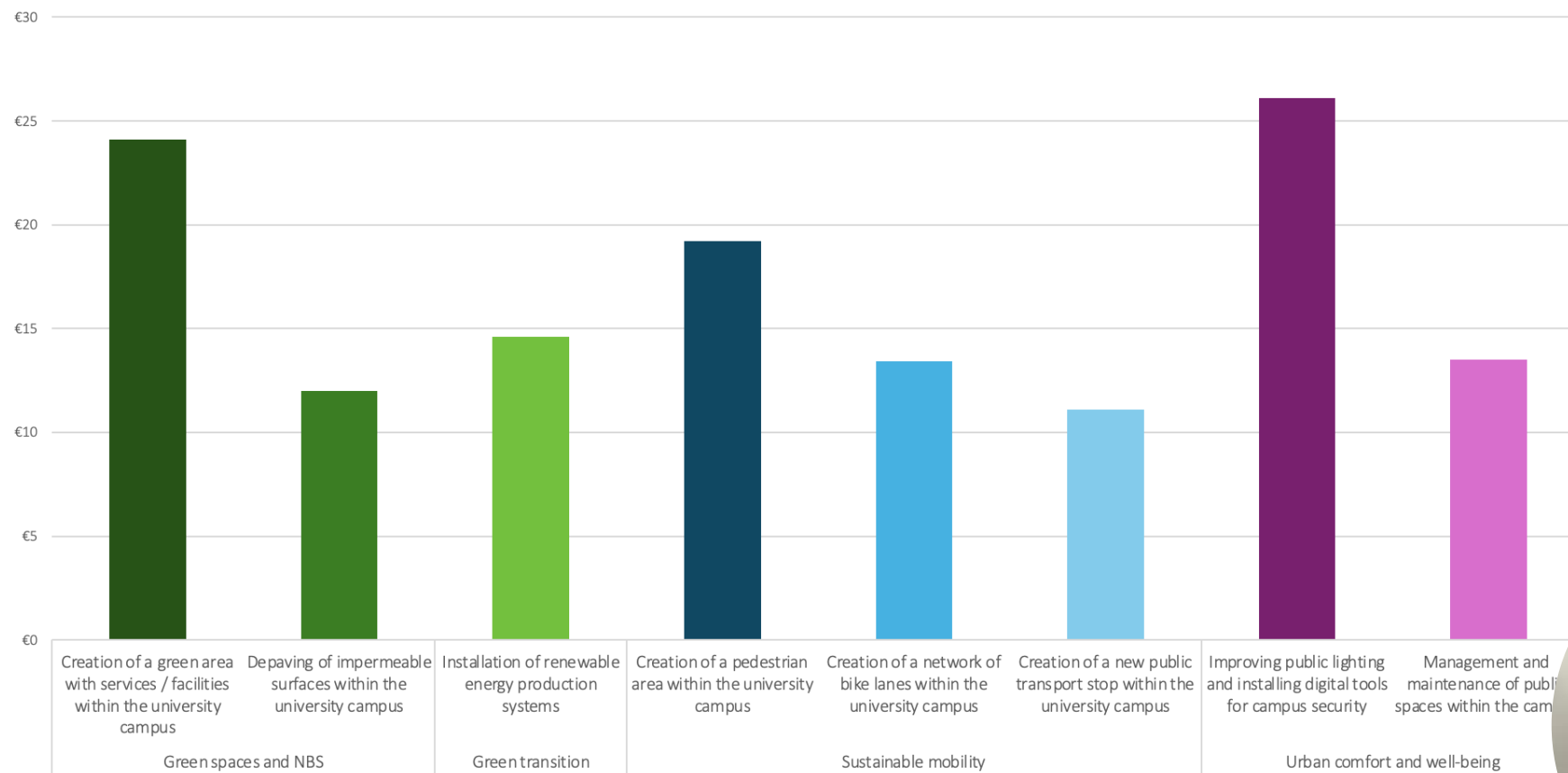


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# Perceived value – WTP



Sou. 6





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# Bocconi campus as driver for urban regeneration

**SDA Bocconi (2019)**  
**built on a formerly abandoned area.** It features a student residence, a public sports center, and green areas.



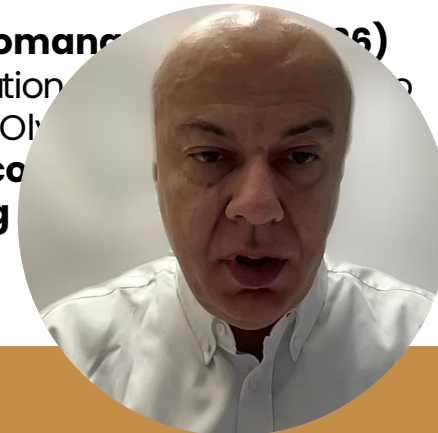
**Campus 2030 (2030)**  
**reconstruction of buildings covers 15,600 m<sup>2</sup>:** new multifunctional buildings.



**Aparto Giovenale (2022)** a **22,000 m<sup>2</sup> student residence** which includes services also available to residents.



**Porta Romana (2026)**  
regeneration  
host the Olympic Games  
**will be co-housing**







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# Bocconi university campus climate strategy

**Bocconi aims to achieve carbon neutrality** (Scope 1 and Scope 2) by 2025. The process to quantify Scope 3 emissions is under completion.

## Energy:

- **2 district heating/cooling systems**
- **100% of electricity** from **renewable sources since 2017**.

## Greening:

- **30,000 m<sup>2</sup> of green areas** open to the entire city.
- rainwater collection and reuse.

## Mobility:

- **agreement with an e-bike** rental company.
- inauguration of the **Milano Tibaldi railway station**.

Bocconi is a **signatory of the Milano Climate City Contract** within the EU Mission for 100 climate-neutral and smart cities.





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**Thank you**  
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