

1 **Renewable Energy Sources Assessment and System Design based on Open Tools and**  
2 **Digital Twin Models towards Zero Energy Districts: the case study of Anzio Port**

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11 **ABSTRACT**

12 The present paper deals with an infrastructure digitization policy aimed at optimizing  
13 maintenance processes and energy efficiency to transform port areas in ZED (Zero Energy  
14 District). The Lazio Region started the process in 2020 for all its ports. Anzio started and  
15 developed as a pilot project as it is a particularly representative sample for the Mediterranean  
16 Sea reality due to its geomorphological conformation. The study aimed not only at developing  
17 energy-saving procedures and strategies but also at integrating production systems from  
18 Renewable Energy Systems (RESs) for sustainable mobility. In the article, these strategies  
19 described in detail and energy analysis is carried out, starting from the current state and  
20 demonstrating the potential energy self-sufficiency of the infrastructure. It also highlights the  
21 potential of the investigation utilizing a Digital Twin (DT) of the area, combining the  
22 possibility of BIM (Building Information Modeling) and GIS (Geographic Information  
23 System), comparing future scenarios even to varying scales to maximize the beneficial impact  
24 of energy efficiency measures.

25 **KEYWORDS**

26 Renewable Energy Systems (RESs), Zero Energy District (ZED), Digital Twin (DT),  
27 Building Information Modelling (BIM), Geographic Information System (GIS) and Revit  
28 software's.

29  
30 *List of Abbreviations*

31

BIM	Building Information Modelling	IoT	Internet of Things
GIS	Geographic Information System	DT	Digital Twin
RESs	Renewable Energy Systems	ZED	Zero Energy District
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon Dioxide	DTM	Digital Twin Model
MWh	Mega Watt Hour	PVs	Photovoltaics
GBS	Green Building Studio	LED	Light-Emitting Diode
ROI	Region of Interest	CFD	Computational Fluid Dynamics
EC	European Community	IFC	International Foundation Class

32 **1. INTRODUCTION**

33 Increasing energy demand due to the growing in the population of human societies has led to  
34 rising energy prices, pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. In this regards, energy costs can  
35 be a significant overhead for ports [1]. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution

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36 directly contributes to ports sustainability and green landscape [2]. It should be noted that  
37 energy efficiency in ports is mainly related to providing the same services with less energy  
38 consumption and the use of renewable and environmentally friendly energy sources.  
39 Countless services have been possible due to the growing technology. Energy efficiency is  
40 significant for ports that aim to reduce energy consumption and provide environmentally  
41 friendly services. Sustainability and adaptation strategies given the weather conditions that  
42 can influence port policymakers, it is vital to help create green ports. Since many of these  
43 ports are built near large cities, they play an essential role in air pollution [3][4]. In order to  
44 help the sustainability and landscape of the port green, targets have been set in the regulations  
45 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in port waters, yards, and background areas [5]. Reducing  
46 greenhouse gas and pollutant emissions directly results from energy efficiency, electrification  
47 of equipment, use of alternative fuels, and renewable energy sources. These aspects, along  
48 with increasing operational efficiency, can form a large part of the concept of ports in the next  
49 generation [6].

50  
51 There is a solid and positive relationship between port operational efficiency and port energy  
52 efficiency. As the increase of operational efficiency of sources reduces energy consumption  
53 and significantly increases energy efficiency in ports [7]. Energy consumption in ports can be  
54 either electricity or fossil fuel. In recent years, practical steps have been taken to electrify  
55 equipment using electricity generated in ports through renewable energy sources. The energy  
56 efficiency sector is strongly influenced by the increasing advances in electricity generation,  
57 storage, distribution, conversion and consumption technologies [8].

58 Power systems used in ports include various components such as batteries, distributors,  
59 converters. In addition, new methods have been developed and installed to enhance network  
60 intelligence and new devices for efficient energy storage. The use of this updated technology  
61 in ports can significantly increase energy efficiency. The use of such intelligent reinforced  
62 power distribution systems can increase energy efficiency in different areas of ports. The  
63 significant increase in renewable energy technology, which has accompanied by the  
64 development of control technologies and the converters installation, has led to the  
65 development of efforts to develop energy in ports. The detecting, assessing and then  
66 installation of renewable energy converters is crucial for green ports target. In this case, new  
67 technologies such as smart grids and microgrids can strengthen energy management in ports  
68 managing demand and supplying energy. Ports, especially container ports, have three  
69 functional areas namely; quayside, yard side and landside [9][10].

70  
71 In this regards, the Digital Twin (DT) system is proposed essentially based on an integration  
72 of software already widely used, such as Building Information Modelling (BIM) and  
73 Geographic Information System (GIS), inserted in a sharing platform and powered in real-  
74 time by a series of the Internet of Things (IoT) sensors aimed at implementing the database  
75 and optimizing the functioning Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems [11]. The simulations that  
76 can be carried out through the use of specific, compatible tools (for example, life cycle  
77 assessment, energy diagnosis, fluid dynamics, simulation of flows of people and vehicles,  
78 image analysis with behavioral predictions) will allow the use of the DT in multiple fields of  
79 study, from architecture to engineering and economics.

80 Implementing a systemic, digital approach applied to industrial areas and/or urban systems  
81 produces diversified digital city models based on the scale of analysis. Above all, the amount  
82 of data drawn from the actual urban structure and structured within its DT [12]. This  
83 methodology represents the basis for the evolution and progressive technological  
84 transformation of the traditional urban map, thus developed, managed, and constantly  
85 monitored in its three dimensions through models based on intelligent geo-databases. For

86 example, in the context of buildings, it is possible to link energy-related parameters to the DT  
87 of a building or of a portion of the neighbourhood to monitor energy consumption, related  
88 costs, and possible measures aimed at their optimization. These monitoring possibilities can  
89 find application in the management of individual infrastructures or larger scale of entire  
90 commercial and industrial areas, opening up renewed scenarios such as intelligent and  
91 evolutionary cities.

92 Creating an information model based on objects and their specific properties and attributes,  
93 with a view to the development of an accurate Digital Twin Model (DTM) [13], means  
94 configuring a tool for analysing and evaluating possible scenarios supporting decision-  
95 making, connecting to the structures, objects and buildings their complex processes and the  
96 interactions between people and the built environment. These models powered by a constant  
97 flow of data generated, thanks to the main digital model, i.e., sensors, cameras and smart  
98 grids, to update the DTM in real-time. The DTM can progressively collect a large number of  
99 data, returning a virtual mirror of reality at any time, using sensors installed inside the  
100 buildings and port infrastructures. In particular, in the process components, the DT thus  
101 collects operational and environmental information, later processed with analytical techniques  
102 and algorithmic simulations. The benefits of this type of modelling are various, and range  
103 from predictive maintenance to operational efficiency, to optimization of available Renewable  
104 Energy Systems (RESs) [14], as well as to the energy efficiency of the existing structures and  
105 infrastructures; with its constantly updated database, it can help all decision-makers through  
106 the management of the port area, as well as to make long-term decisions on issues such as  
107 infrastructure and source management, urban planning, environmental sustainability. The  
108 main economic and environmental benefits would derive from the forecasts of energy load  
109 and self-production of the energy systems installed in the perimeter of the port areas. The DT  
110 energy of the area, besides guaranteeing a virtuous management of the energy systems of the  
111 area, would lead to rationalization and efficiency of the use of energy sources with savings in  
112 expenses on overall supplies (gas + electricity) between 15 and 20%, with a consequent  
113 improvement also of the microclimatic conditions of the area and the “CO<sub>2</sub>” emission levels.

114  
115 Today, new technologies can be used to increase energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas  
116 emissions in ports as solutions. Reducing greenhouse gases in ports can have a significant  
117 effect on mitigating air pollution in port cities. On the other hand, using boats and ships with  
118 electricity can prevent severe marine pollution caused by oil spills. These solutions include  
119 the use of electricity as an energy source for independent vehicles, energy storage devices,  
120 cooling technologies using renewable sources and clean fuels, lighting technologies, such as  
121 cold-ironing [15], equipment [16][17], reefer containers [17], technologies in lighting. This  
122 technological improvement can dramatically guarantee the energy efficiency of ports by using  
123 LED lamps instead of high-pressure sodium lamps in port storage facilities, management  
124 buildings, high lighting towers in the wind space terminal [18].

125 The ECT Delta terminal in the Netherlands uses LED bulbs to save 922 MWh of annual  
126 power consumption, equivalent to € 300,000 [19]. In addition to using LED technology,  
127 focusing on lighting levels and designing armatures in ports can help save energy.

128  
129 Renewable energies and other clean fuels have evaluated and identified as energy sources for  
130 ports to reach a green port, such as tidal [20] and wave energy [14], geothermal energy [21],  
131 wind and solar energy [22] are available for ports due to the potential of the source of  
132 energies. Studying different scenarios, especially wind and solar, allows us to accurately plan  
133 and measure the next generation of RESs located in the area to eliminate energy from fossil  
134 fuels throughout the ports area [23]. Many studies are addressing port energy management  
135 such as the ports of Singapore [24], Hamburg [25], Rotterdam in the Netherlands [26],

136 Antwerp [27], Istanbul [28], Lübeck [5], Genoa [1], Vancouver [29], La Spezia [30]. Sadek et  
137 al [31], focused on renewable energy sources to replace fossil fuels of Mediterranean ports. In  
138 their research, offshore wind turbines and fuel cell units have been used as two examples of  
139 energy sources in ports. Their research shows that the combined system of wind turbines and  
140 fuel cells is the best choice for the unit cost of electricity generation with 0.101 and 0.107 of  
141 Alexandria port. They state that using fuel cells and offshore wind turbines as a green power  
142 concept will reduce “CO<sub>2</sub>”, “NO<sub>x</sub>” and “CO” emissions per year. Finally, they point to using a  
143 combination of renewable energy and green energy supply in the port of Alexandria, with the  
144 possibility of reducing 22.31% of annual electricity costs.  
145

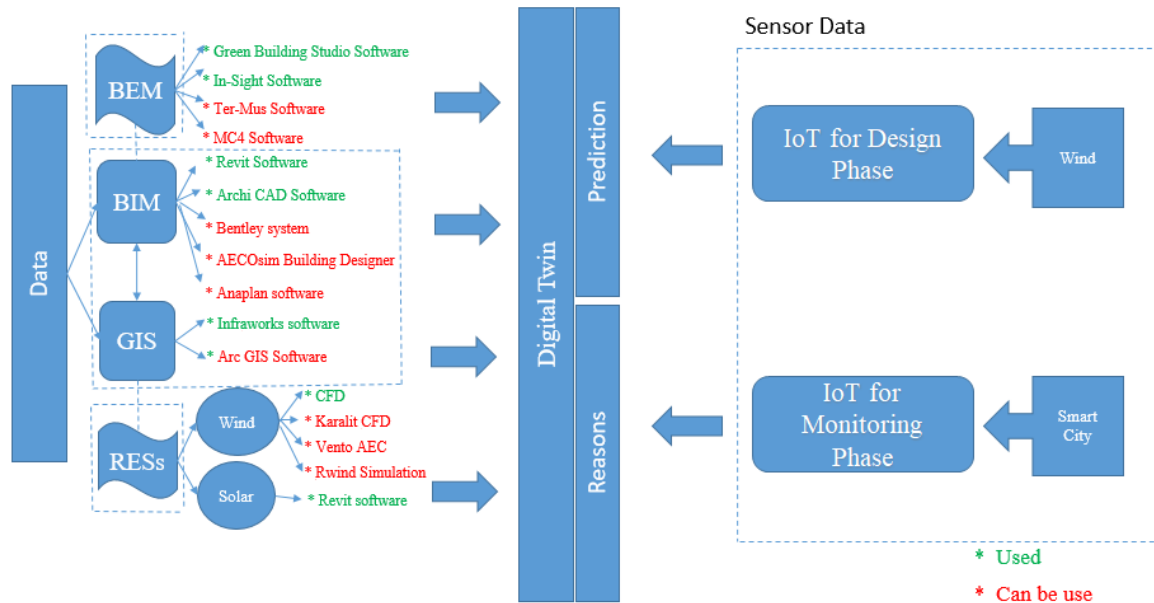
146 This study aims to develop energy-saving methods and strategies using the integration of  
147 production systems from renewable energy systems (RESs) to increase energy efficiency in  
148 the energy ports. In this study, energy-saving strategies are first described in detail in energy  
149 analysis. In addition, the research potential of Digital Twin (DT) has been through the  
150 integration of BIM (Building Information Modeling) and GIS (Geographic Information  
151 System) software’s. Secondly, open-source platform tools such as "Renewables. Ninja", "RSE  
152 Wind Atlas", "Giovanni" have been used to evaluate wind speed and solar radiation potential  
153 in the port of Anzio. These open-source platform tools are used to discover, extract, and  
154 process renewable energy sources data mapping to better understand the port of Anzio as an  
155 area of interest, and cover all large maritime areas with very high time resolution (yearly,  
156 monthly).

## 157 **2. Materials and Methods**

158 The DT includes a physical model, a virtual model and a connection between the physical and  
159 virtual models. In particular, three different data types (IoT, open data platform such as,  
160 “Renewables. Ninja”, “RSE Wind Atlas” and “PVWatt” platforms and MERRA-2 reanalysis  
161 data and three software’s types, it means BIM, GIS, Revit software’s have been integrated into  
162 the following lines;  
163

### 164 ***2.1. Data and software’s***

165  
166 The data is collected through sensors and actuators (IoT) sharing information to the DT in the  
167 cloud. Furthermore, the DT simulates its operation based on the information collected and uses  
168 these simulations either as a benchmark for comparison with the actual performance or to modify  
169 the operation/setting of the duplicated physical object. The realisation of the digital model related  
170 to the product, system, organisation or activity process investigated. In the case of DT in the  
171 urban context, the idea of "Smart City", which is the focus of this study, the model can be created  
172 through the use of BIM software, such as Graphisoft ArchiCAD, and Autodesk Revit (figure 2).  
173 Furthermore, the development of efficient strategies through the identification of individual  
174 technologies able to reduce consumption (e.g. lighthouse towers equipped with Light-Emitting  
175 Diode (LED) lighting) and through energy diagnoses on buildings performances using dedicated  
176 software such as, MC4 and TerMus (Figure 1).  
177  
178



179  
 180 Figure 1. The main stages of the method developed in the port of Anzio. The software's used  
 181 in this research is shown in green and the software's that can be used is shown in red.

182  
 183 The Autodesk's simulation engine, Green Building Studio (GBS), has been utilized; it enables  
 184 the energy analysis functions in Revit, and Insight, the web interface for interacting with the  
 185 results produced by GBS.

186 In this context, MERRA-2 reanalysis data has been used to wind speed and solar irradiation  
 187 potential analysis of the areas of Anzio port over 41 years between 1980 to 2021. The wind  
 188 speed and solar sources time series analysis and mapping can help in decision-making about  
 189 the renewable energy sources potential in the areas of Anzio port.

190  
 191 **2.2. Case Study**

192  
 193 Anzio (41°26'52.61"N-12°37'44.59"E) is a city with 43.43 km<sup>2</sup> (16.77 sq mi) and commune  
 194 on the coast of the Lazio region of Italy, about 51 kilometers (32 mi) south of Rome, Lazio  
 195 (Latium) region, and located on a peninsula jutting into the Tyrrhenian Sea [32] (Figure 2). It  
 196 is a fishing port and a departure point well known for its seaside harbor setting for ferries and  
 197 hydroplanes to the Pontine Islands of Ponza, Palmarola, and Ventotene [33].

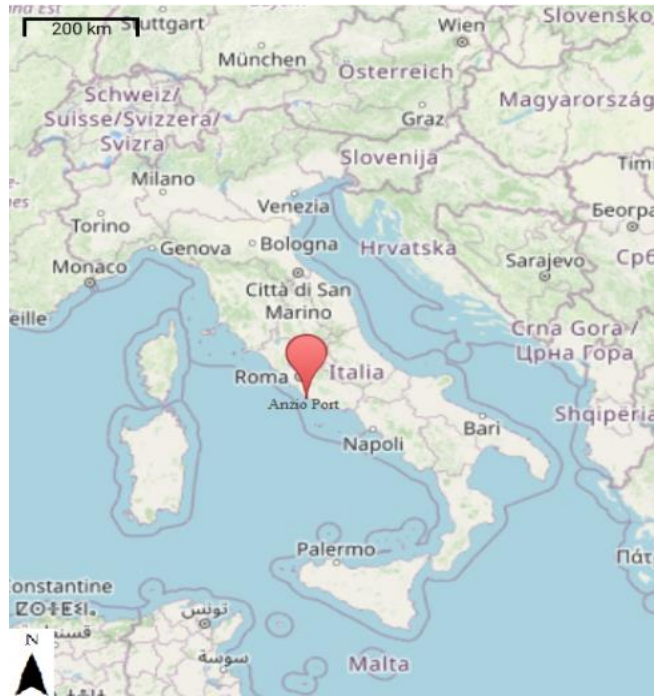


Figure 1. Anzio port location.

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Creating DT of the ports areas, which are so complex and characterized by a high number of functions and parameters, beneficial useful for the maintenance, energy and building management of the complexes [34]. Still, it can also create virtuous management of spaces, even about user's social behavior, and monitor in real-time both the conditions of comfort and environmental safety of users and operators and the flow of vehicle goods.

207 This project, which the competent Regional Directorate of Lazio initiated, concerns the ports of the island of Ventotene and Formia, Terracina, and Anzio. The aim is to improve the area's energy behaviour, reduce emergency maintenance to zero, and minimise failures due to the malfunctioning of energy and plant systems and equipment. This will result in economic savings of between 20 and 25% of the entire maintenance budget. This policy should be seen in the context of an Italian national plan that envisages the digitisation of the entire public infrastructure.

214 In the timetable set out in Ministerial Decree no. 560/17 implementing European Directive 2014/24/EU on Public Procurement, a gradual digitalisation is envisaged for all public works, with the obligation to digitalise also works with a value of less than one million euros from the year 2025. Precisely because of these factors in the infrastructure sector, a strong impulse for energy efficiency and environmental compatibility of works and 'network infrastructures' in general is to be expected in Italy. The competent Ministry has recently changed its name from 'Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport' to 'Ministry of Sustainable Infrastructure and Mobility'. In addition, projects are underway, financed mainly by the European Community for the Recovery Fund, to improve the energy efficiency, safety, and environmental sustainability of critical infrastructures and restart the country's economic development.

224

### 225 3. RESULTS

226 The results of a new hybrid method are provided using a digital model and RESs. These results offer practical strategies for evaluating wind and solar energy sources in ports to study the zero-energy zone.

228

### 3.1. Digital Model and the Efficient Strategies Development

Through Revit software (Figure 3), a series of distinct digital models created by discipline (architectural, structural and MEP), each representing a specific "layer" within the overall digital model of the port area. Each of these models was then populated with three-dimensional families/objects, relative to the specific discipline under investigation, which, used as information containers.



Figure 3. BIM model of the Anzio port area

The main objective of the DT framework is actually proposed to support decision-making using integrated multi-scale digital data sources, and BIM and GIS information containers for simulation purposes about the implementation of strategies improving energy performance in the entire port area. Future developments will integrate multi-scale digital simulations to real-time data, as the digital models are structured to be interconnected to a cloud platform aimed at acquiring useful data both from the models and from IoT sensors, configuring the effective DT. The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems is going to be implemented in the DT, improving data processing and data management systems for the operation and maintenance phases as well as for further interventions.

As an example, the use of the electric multi-scale digital BIM and GIS model allows the detailed analysis of energy consumption, both through a punctual computation of all local loads such as lighting fixtures and electric recharging columns for boats, and through the calculation of the actual consumption of public buildings in the area (harbour master's office, ticket office, etc.).

The inclusion of appropriate shared parameters in the BIM model has allowed a detailed calculation, estimate and description of the energy consumption associated with the various facilities in the port area. The consumption of the lighting terminals, which is about 67% of the total electrical consumption (see Table 1) is shown below.

260

261

Table 1. Actual electrical load of the port lightning system.

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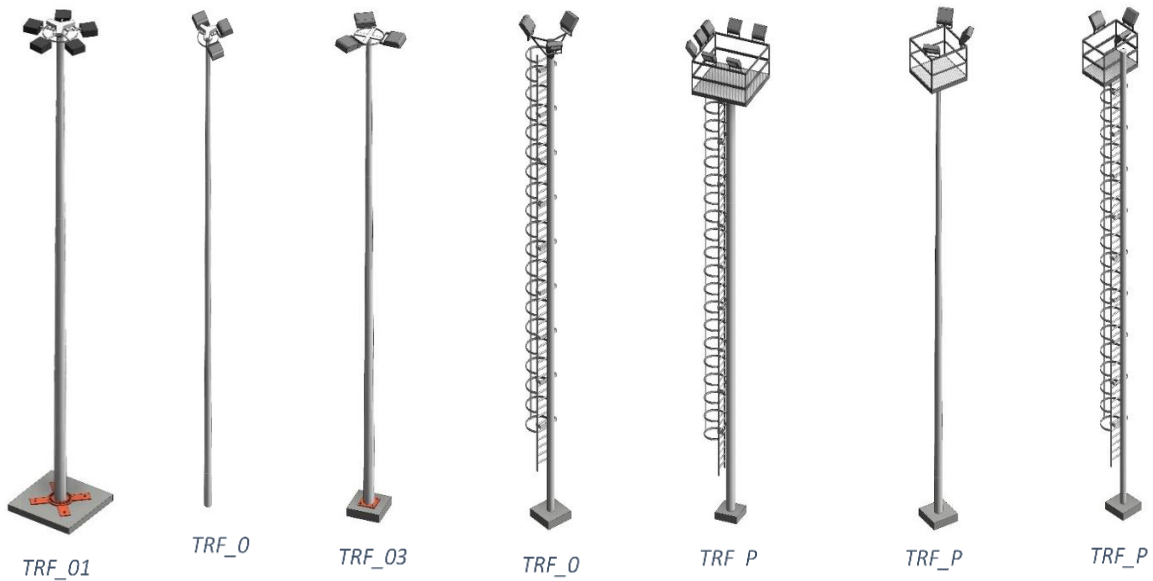
<b>Existing phase - Consumption estimate - Lighting</b>										
<b>Data sheet</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Family and Type</b>	<b>Quantity (n)</b>	<b>Spotlight (n)</b>	<b>Spotlight power (W)</b>	<b>Type power (W)</b>	<b>Total power (W)</b>	<b>Hours of use (h)</b>	<b>Days of use (n)</b>	<b>Annual consumption (Wh)</b>
STF-A_004.1	Streetlight	LMP_01: H_4m	3	1	60	60	180	10	365	657000
STF-A_004.2	Streetlight	LMP_02: H_6m	18	1	80	80	1440	10	365	5256000
STF-A_004.3	Streetlight	LMP_03: H_6m - 3_Proiettori	4	3	100	300	1200	10	365	4380000
STF-A_004.4	Streetlight	LMP_04: H_3m	2	1	80	80	160	10	365	584000
STF-A_004.5	Streetlight	LMP_05: H_3m	12	1	100	100	1200	10	365	4380000
STF-A_004.6	Streetlight	LMP_06: H_6m	4	1	80	80	320	10	365	1168000
STF-A_004.7	Streetlight	LMP_07: H_6m - 1_Proiettore	3	1	100	100	300	10	365	1095000
STF-A_004.8	Streetlight	LMP_07: H_6m - 2_Proiettori	1	2	100	200	200	10	365	730000
STF-A_005.1	Light tower with platform	TRF_P_01: H_12m - 7_Proiettori	1	7	850	5950	5950	10	365	21717500
STF-A_005.2	Light tower with platform	TRF_P_02: H_12m - 3_Proiettori	1	3	850	2550	2550	10	365	9307500
STF-A_005.3	Light tower with platform	TRF_P_03: H_12m - 3_Proiettori	1	3	850	2550	2550	10	365	9307500
STF-A_006.1	Light tower	TRF_01: H_12m - 3_Proiettori	7	3	850	2550	17850	10	365	65152500
STF-A_006.2	Light tower	TRF_01: H_12m - 5_Proiettori	6	5	850	4250	25500	10	365	93075000
STF-A_006.3	Light tower	TRF_02: H_12m - 2_Proiettori	1	2	850	1700	1700	10	365	6205000
STF-A_006.4	Light tower	TRF_02: H_12m - 3_Proiettori	1	3	850	2550	2550	10	365	9307500
STF-A_006.5	Light tower	TRF_03: H_12m - 3_Proiettori	2	3	850	2550	5100	10	365	18615000
STF-A_006.6	Light tower	TRF_04: H_12m - 3_Proiettori	1	3	850	2550	2550	10	365	9307500
STF-A_007.1	Signal light	FRR: H_4m	1	1	100	100	100	10	365	365000
STF-A_007.2	Signal light	FRV: H_4m	1	1	100	100	100	10	365	365000
							<b>71500</b>			<b>260975000</b>
									<b>kWh</b>	<b>260975</b>

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Fig 4. The lighting structures under studies.

271 The consequent hypothesis of efficiency improvement by replacing the old energy consuming  
 272 floodlights of the light towers LED lighting structures shown of Figure 4. The results can be  
 273 summarised as a reduction of about 65% in energy consumption for lighting than the current  
 274 state as reported in Table 2.

275

Table 2. Optimized electrical load of the port lightning system.

276

277

Project phase - Consumption estimate - Lighting										
Data sheet	Description	Family and Type	Quantity (n)	Spotlight (n)	Spotlight power (W)	Type power (W)	Total power (W)	Hours of use (h)	Days of use (n)	Annual consumption (Wh)
STF-A_004.1	Streetlight	LMP_01: H_4m	3	1	60	60	180	10	365	657000
STF-A_004.2	Streetlight	LMP_02: H_6m	18	1	80	80	1440	10	365	5256000
STF-A_004.3	Streetlight	LMP_03: H_6m - 3_Proiettori	4	3	100	300	1200	10	365	4380000
STF-A_004.4	Streetlight	LMP_04: H_3m	2	1	80	80	160	10	365	584000
STF-A_004.5	Streetlight	LMP_05: H_3m	12	1	100	100	1200	10	365	4380000
STF-A_004.6	Streetlight	LMP_06: H_6m	4	1	80	80	320	10	365	1168000
STF-A_004.7	Streetlight	LMP_07: H_6m - 1_Proiettore	3	1	100	100	300	10	365	1095000
STF-A_004.8	Streetlight	LMP_07: H_6m - 2_Proiettori	1	2	100	200	200	10	365	730000
STF-A_005.1	Light tower with platform	TRF_P_01: H_12m - 7_Proiettori	1	7	250	1750	1750	10	365	6387500
STF-A_005.2	Light tower with platform	TRF_P_02: H_12m - 3_Proiettori	1	3	250	750	750	10	365	2737500
STF-A_005.3	Light tower with platform	TRF_P_03: H_12m - 3_Proiettori	1	3	250	750	750	10	365	2737500
STF-A_006.1	Light tower	TRF_01: H_12m - 3_Proiettori	7	3	250	750	5250	10	365	19162500
STF-A_006.2	Light tower	TRF_01: H_12m - 5_Proiettori	6	5	250	1250	7500	10	365	27375000
STF-A_006.3	Light tower	TRF_02: H_12m - 2_Proiettori	1	2	250	500	500	10	365	1825000
STF-A_006.4	Light tower	TRF_02: H_12m - 3_Proiettori	1	3	250	750	750	10	365	2737500
STF-A_006.5	Light tower	TRF_03: H_12m - 3_Proiettori	2	3	250	750	1500	10	365	5475000
STF-A_006.6	Light tower	TRF_04: H_12m - 3_Proiettori	1	3	250	750	750	10	365	2737500
STF-A_007.1	Signal light	FRR: H_4m	1	1	100	100	100	10	365	365000
STF-A_007.2	Signal light	FRV: H_4m	1	1	100	100	100	10	365	365000
							<b>24700</b>			<b>9015000</b>
									<b>kWh</b>	<b>90155</b>

278

279 In addition, in the Anzio port area are installed some charging device for private and public  
280 boats. These devices are located in different places and divided into double charging stations and  
281 simple interlocked sockets. In Table 3 is reported the overall electrical consumption of all the  
282 devices.

283

284

285

Table 3. Electrical load for charging systems.

<b>Consumption estimate - Electrical device</b>							
Data sheet	Description	Family and Type	Quantity (n)	power (W)	Hours of use (h)	Days of use (n)	Annual consumption (Wh)
STF-A_003.1	Charging station	CLL_01_QMC200B: GW68832W	2	4	10	90	7200
STF-A_003.2	Charging station	CLL_02: 4P	5	4	10	90	18000
STF-A_003.3	interlocked socket	PRI: 2P_01	10	4	10	90	36000
STF-A_003.4	interlocked socket	PRI: 2P_02	15	4	10	90	54000
STF-A_003.5	interlocked socket	PRI: 3P	2	4	10	90	7200
STF-A_003.6	interlocked socket	PRI: 4P	2	4	10	90	7200
							<b>129600</b>

286

287 The total amount of optimizing electrical loads of the Anzio port area is  $90155 + 129600 =$   
288  $219755$  kw/h for a year. This is the target of implementing the RESs local grid production in the  
289 same place to reach a zero-energy district.

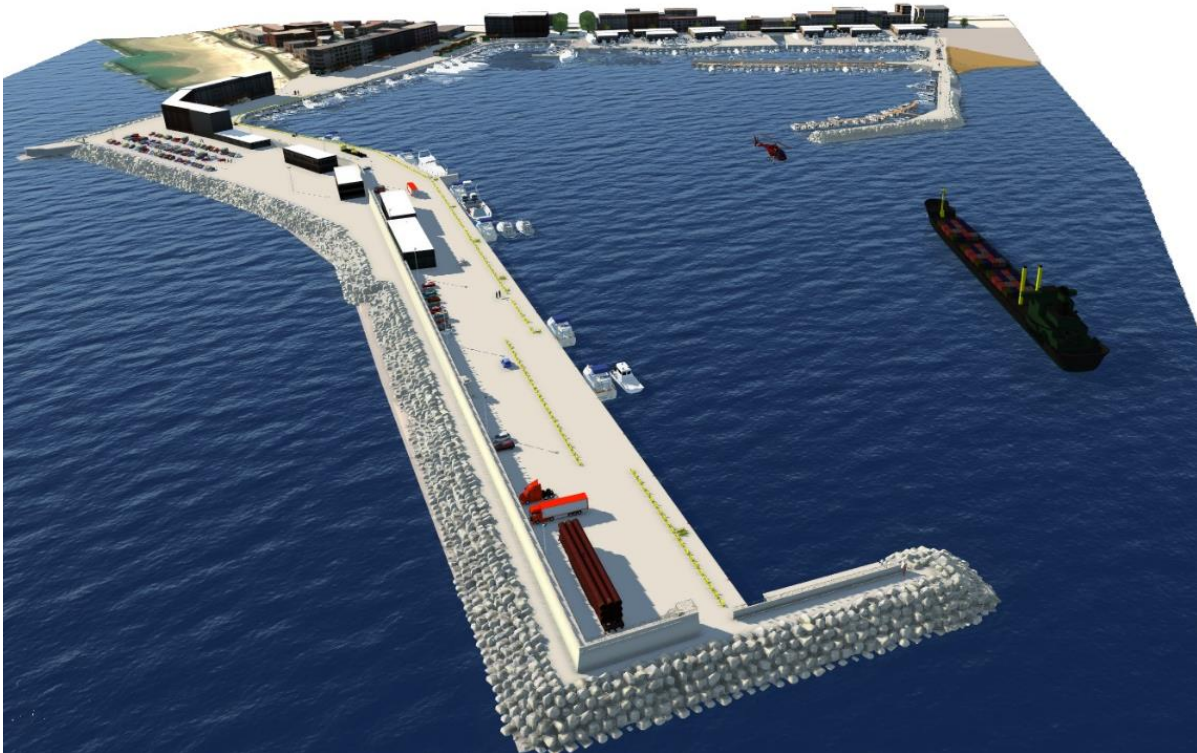
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### 291 **3.2. Integration of Renewable Energy Systems (RESs)**

292

293 Using the Industry Foundation Classes (IFC) file format allows the exchange of information  
294 through a standard, open and non-proprietary format. It is possible to exploit all the BIM  
295 functionalities, generating an energy model of the building/plant system (BEM). Consequently, it  
296 is possible to analyse the actual state of different energy loads thanks to a detailed analysis of  
297 heating, hot water and cooling requirements in real conditions, identifying and adjusting the most  
298 critical parts in the system's annual energy balance [35]. Once the efficiency of the entire port has  
299 been achieved, potential areas for the insertion of renewable energy production technologies are  
300 identified [36]. Their potential can be identified using appropriate calculation tools, within the  
301 model and using the integration between the BIM model and geographical data obtained with  
302 GIS tools as shown in Figure 5.

303



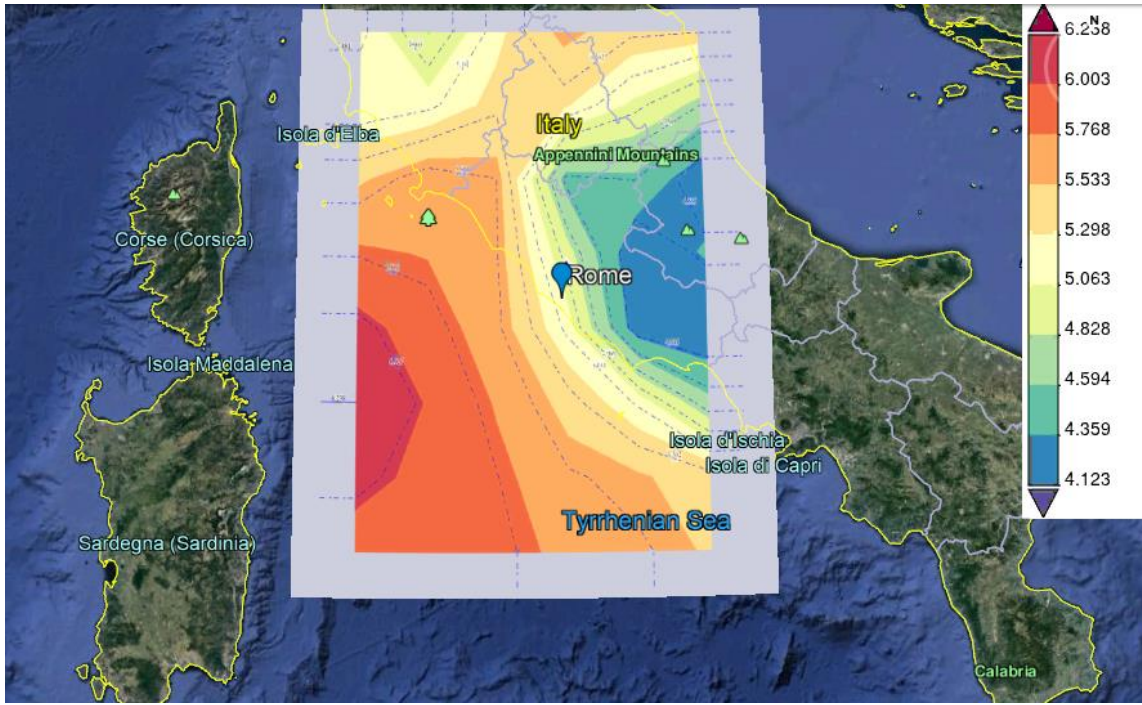
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306  
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Figure 5. BIM model inside Infra works.

308 Similarly, with the interoperability between BIM and GIS, operated through Autodesk's Infra  
309 works software, the DT information enriched with geospatial information describing the urban  
310 environment. This systems cooperation creates a reliable model where geographic information  
311 and design data are integrated to understand different asset interactions with the surrounding city.  
312 Among possible applications, GIS information can be exploited in a BIM process to improve  
313 energy savings. In this sense, GIS informs BIM by exploiting data such as building heights and  
314 footprints, it is possible to identify areas with high energy loads or those with the highest priority  
315 for energy retrofitting [37]. The possible integration of Renewable Energy System (RES)  
316 concerning essentially systems that exploit solar and wind energy can be evaluated through  
317 software such as the Revit plug-in that studies the sunshine of areas, or Autodesk Computational  
318 Fluid Dynamics (CFD), Karalit CFD, Vento AEC, Rwind Simulation and similar, solving the  
319 Navier-Stokes equations and allowing the study of CFD problems.

### 320 **3.2.1. Wind potential assessment of Anzio Port**

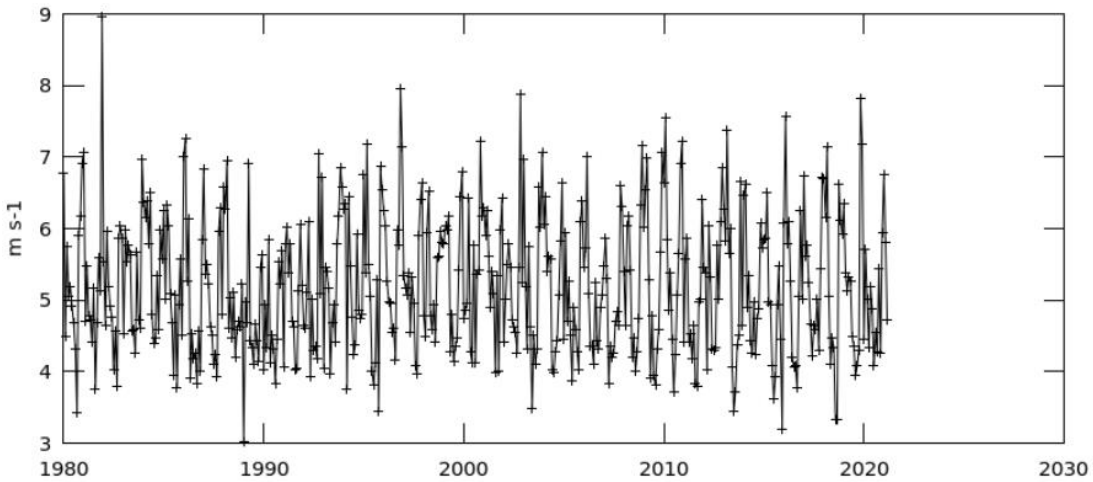
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322 Firstly, more than 40 years monthly data from the MERRA-2 reanalysis dataset have been  
323 used to evaluate and identify wind speed potential of port areas, to understand the wind speed  
324 (Figures 7, 8) in case of micro wind turbines installation.  
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Figure 7. Surface wind speed per (m/s) in the Rome City and also Anzio port showed with blue point for the years from 1980 to 2021.

Time Series, Area-Averaged of Surface wind speed monthly 0.5 x 0.625 deg. [MERRA-2 Model M2TMNXFLX v5.12.4] m s-1 over 1980-Jan - 2021-Mar, Region 12.486E, 41.3635N, 12.7167E, 41.5118N



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Figure 8. A monthly time-series analysis between 1980 to 2021 for the Anzio port showed. Secondly, two sites have been located as ideal for the turbines' placement [38]. The locations match the piers at the South and North ends of the harbour (Fig 9), for a total amount of fifteen turbines. Ten of these would place alongside the breakwater spots of the former; the remaining five would follow the breakwaters' lines of the latter.



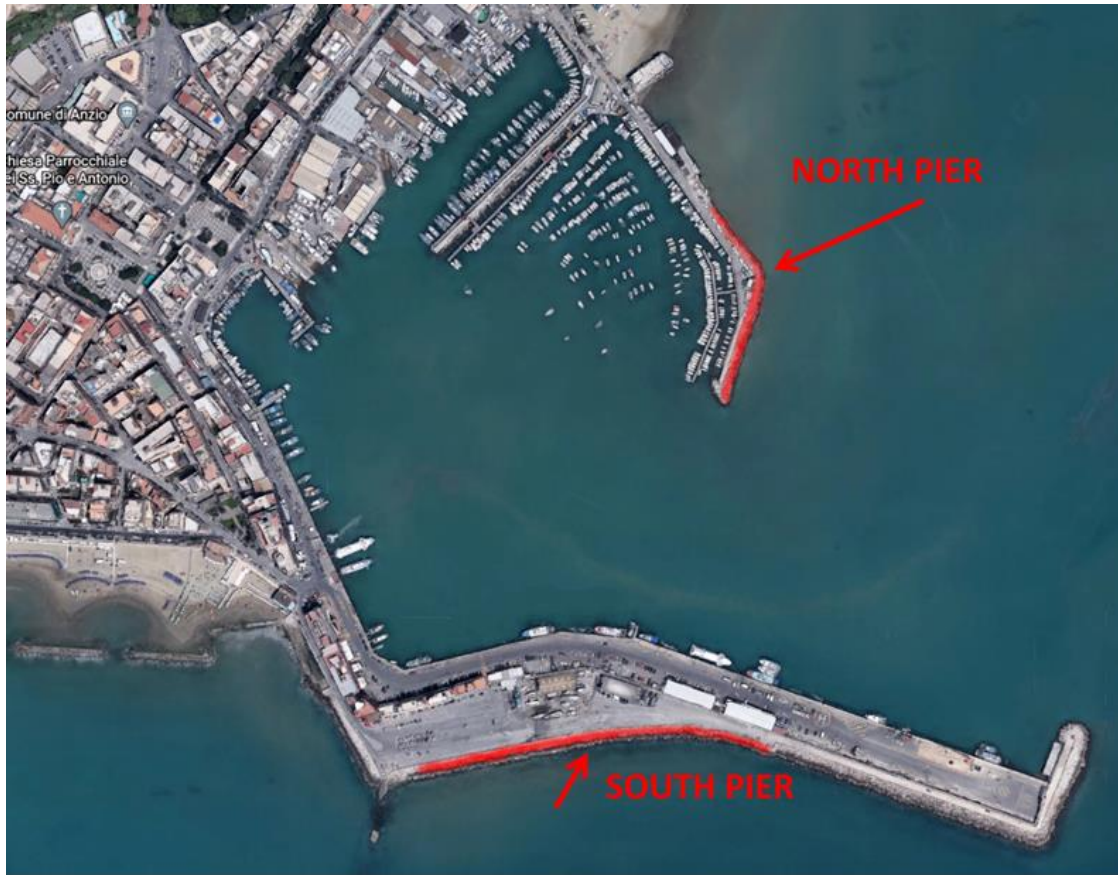


Figure 9. The Micro-wind turbine installation locations.

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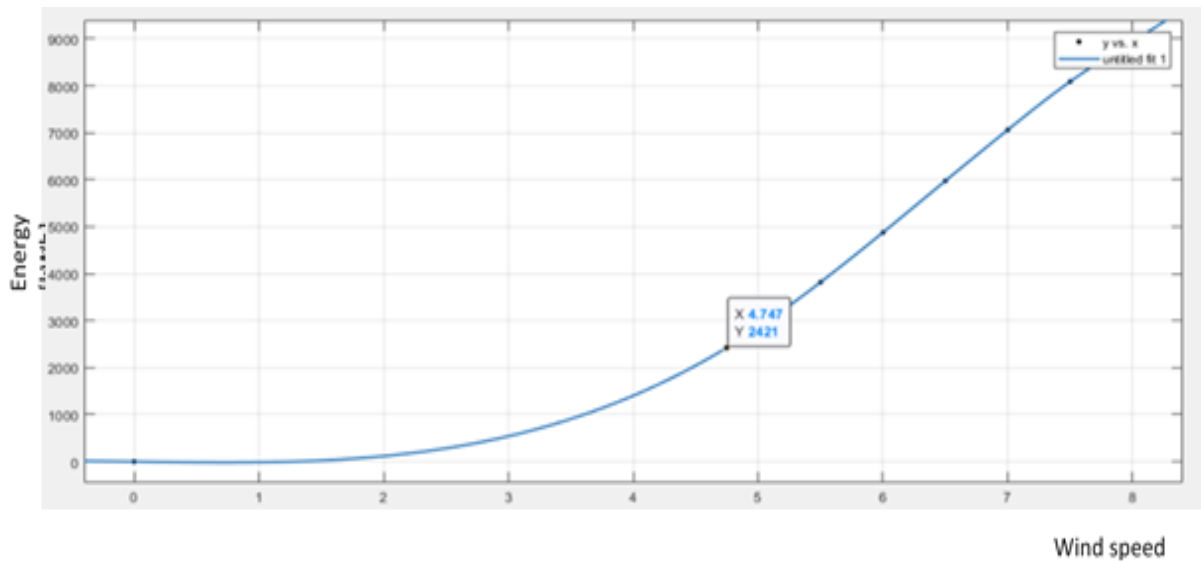
The micro wind turbine DS3000 model (ETNEO Italia) was chosen to be installed at Anzio Port. DS3000 model is a 3kW vertical axis micro-generator, equipped with a Savonius rotor mounted on the central axis of the turbine, valid for the starting of the rotation with low winds, and three Darrieus blades to increase the production with medium/strong winds. The Savonius blades, oriented on the four cardinal points to capture the wind from any direction, do not require the orientation of the rotor.

The annual average wind speed was calculated by using the “Renewables.ninja” platform, which provides a database with the hourly average wind speed [39]. For both Region of Interest (ROI), the obtained value at the height of 10 m is around 4.75 m/s (data confirmed by the RSE Wind Atlas platforms and MERRA-2 reanalysis dataset) [40][38][39]. The wind direction has not been taken into account since, as mentioned above, these models of turbines do not need to be oriented. Regarding the calculation of the turbine's annual energy production, reference was made to the data estimated by the supplier ETNEO Italia, as shown in the Table. 4.

Table 4. Turbine's Annual Energy Production (AEP).

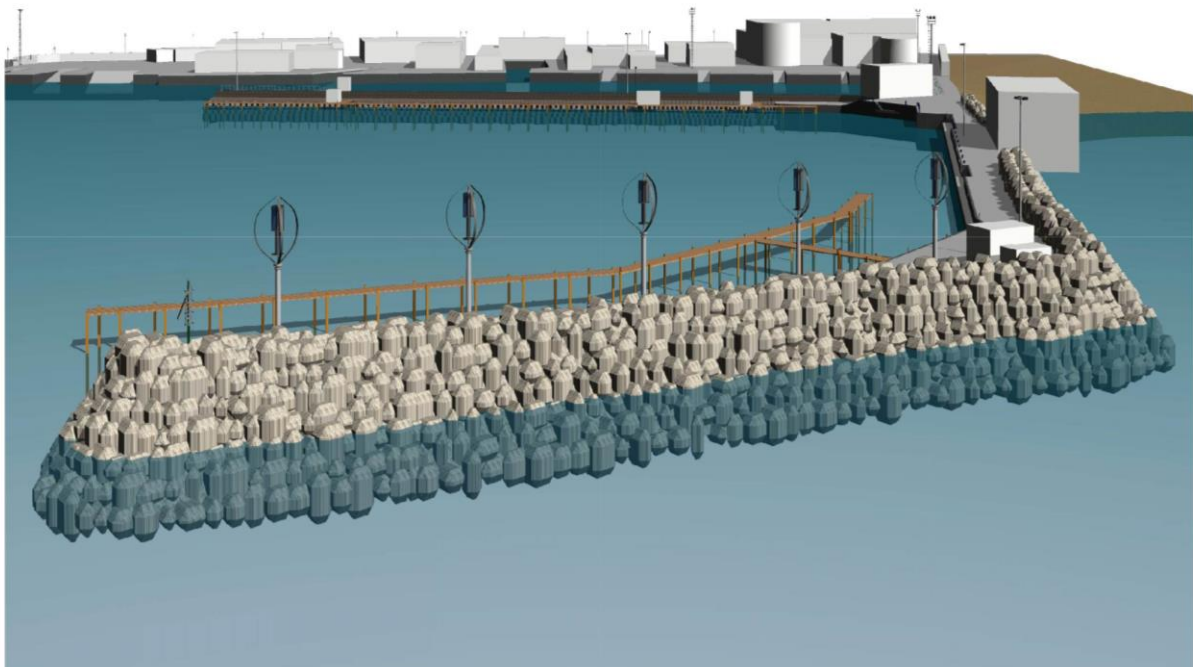
Average Wind Speed (m/s)	AEP (kw/h)
5	2.851
5.5	3.819
6	4.877
6.5	5.975
7	7.061
7.5	8.088
8	8.945

359 The numerical analysis, the Matlab "Curve Fitting Toolbox" tool used to obtain the value of the  
360 annual energy produced at a speed of 4.75 m/s. specifically, a spline has been selected as the  
361 appropriate interpolation function, as shown in the curve in figure 10.  
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364 Figure 10. Turbine production data.

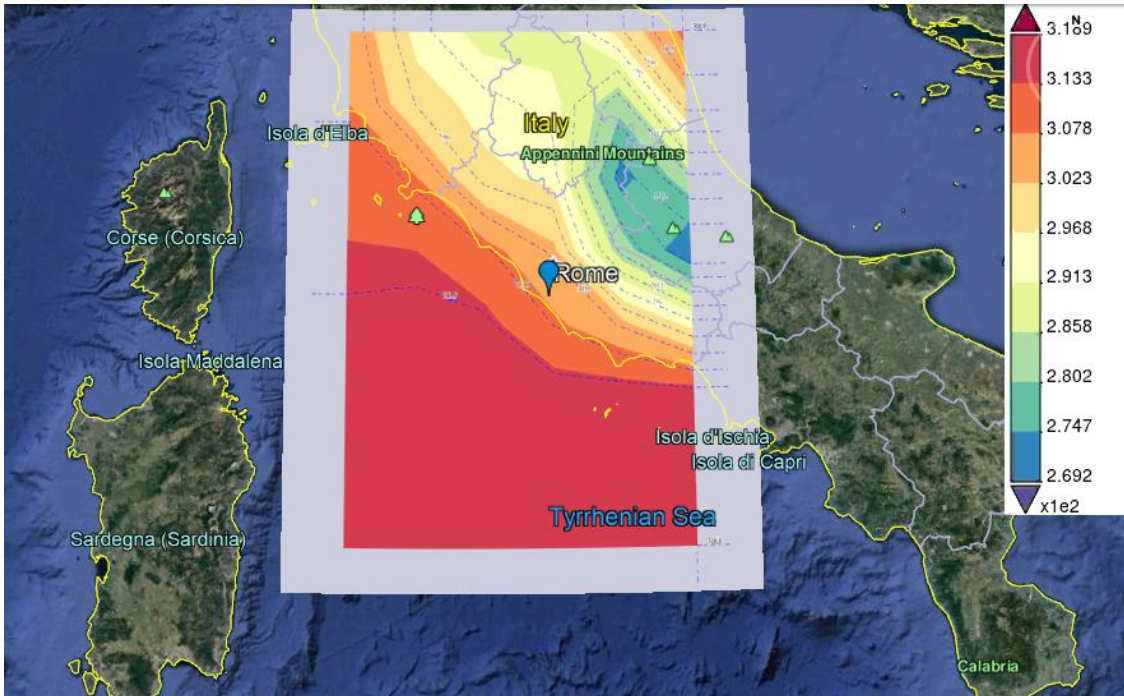
365  
366 Fifteen micro wind turbines are located in external port areas as shown in figure 11 as example.  
367 The obtained value is approximately 2420 kWh per year. Therefore, it is possible to produce  
368 36300 kWh per year with fifteen turbines located on the external side of the pier (figure 11).



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370 Figure 11. Turbines BIM Model.

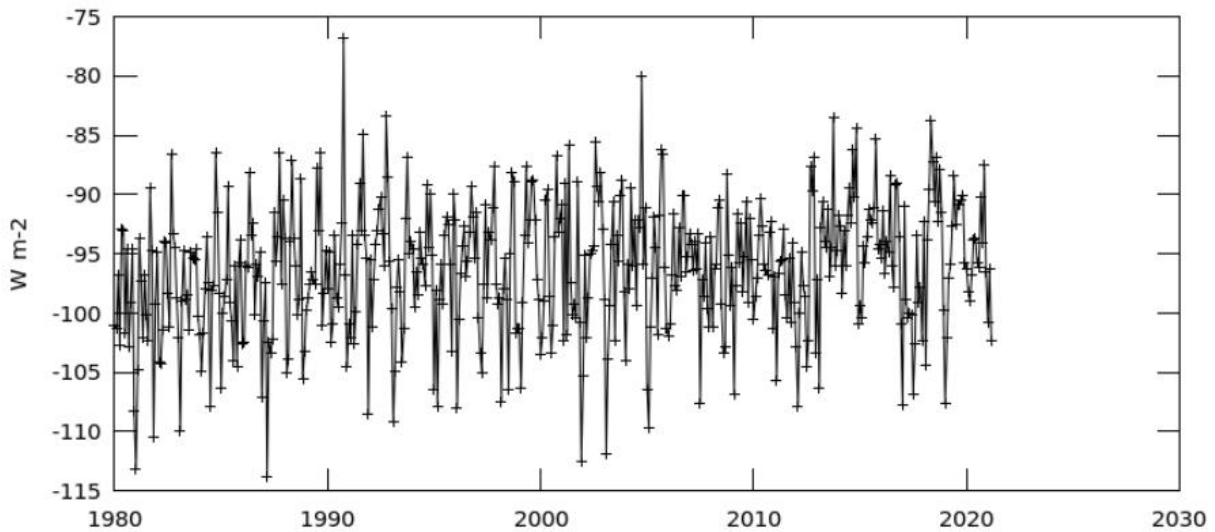
371 **3.2.2. PV system. Energy from “Solar Roadway”**

372 Firstly, more than 40 years monthly data from the MERRA-2 reanalysis dataset have been  
373 used to evaluate and identify PV solar irradiation potential analysis of port areas with exciting  
374 potential to evaluate the solar irradiation potential (Figure 12, 13) for PV installation.  
375



376  
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378 Figure 12. Solar irradiation in the Rome City and Anzio port showed with blue point for the  
379 years from 1980 to 2020.  
380

Time Series, Area-Averaged of Surface net downward longwave flux assuming clear sky and no aerosol monthly  $0.5 \times 0.625$  deg. [MERRA-2 Model M2TMNXRAD v5.12.4]  $W m^{-2}$  over 1980-Jan - 2021-Mar, Region 12.486E, 41.3635N, 12.7167E, 41.5118N



381  
382 Figure 13. A monthly time-series analysis between 2019 to 2020 for the Anzio port showed.  
383

384 Secondly, electric power production from a solar source should be performed by positioning a  
385 dedicated PV panel directly on the ground in some port areas without significant cars. The



386 technology of solar roads rapidly increases its penetration, especially on infrastructures and  
 387 installation characterized by wide spaces without buildings and people presence [41][42][43].  
 388 For installing the photovoltaic modules, the area at the end of the Southern pier chosen. It's a  
 389 large area, characterized by good exposure and without shading (there are no buildings nearby),  
 390 as shown in figure 14 with indicated in red zone with arrow. As shown in Figure 14 it is possible  
 391 to evaluate how the area covered by the modules is much smaller than that available areas about  
 392 2663 m<sup>2</sup>.  
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Figure 14. PV solar asphalt area.

Tables 5 show the PV monthly energy production values of solar radiation (kWh / m<sup>2</sup> / day), AC energy (kWh) and value (\$) for the selected area in the port of Anzio. These values are obtained using the PVWatt online platform. Finally, table 6 shows the PV system specifications of the Anzio port. This is necessary to understand better and demonstrate the performance of installed photovoltaic systems.

Table 5. PV monthly energy production.

Month	Solar Radiation ( kWh / m <sup>2</sup> / day )	AC Energy ( kWh )	Value ( \$ )
January	1.56	16,143	6,457
February	2.19	20,774	8,310
March	3.42	35,223	14,089
April	4.73	46,171	18,468
May	5.79	56,476	22,590
June	6.26	57,868	23,147
July	6.36	60,025	24,010
August	5.62	53,022	21,209
September	4.37	40,937	16,375
October	2.93	29,376	11,750
November	1.74	17,240	6,896
December	1.30	13,486	5,394
<b>Annual</b>	<b>3.86</b>	<b>446,741</b>	<b>\$ 178,695</b>

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Table 6. PV system specifications of the Anzio port.

DC System Size	399.5 kW
Module Type	Standard
Array Type	Fixed (open rack)
Array Tilt	20°
Array Azimuth	180°
System Losses	14.08%
Inverter Efficiency	96%
DC to AC Size Ratio	1.2

409

#### 410 4. DISCUSSION

411 In recent years, due to the rapid growth of science and technology on energy efficiency in  
412 ports, there are still significant research gaps, especially operational ones, that need to be  
413 addressed in future research. Energy efficiency is one of the hot topics of research that  
414 advances in existing technology directly affecting future research prospects [44]. In this case,  
415 innovative approaches, economic analysis [45], optimization of various operations, the effects  
416 of technological advances and management analysis will be the most important for future  
417 research of ports. Economic and environmental analysis for automated and electric ports are  
418 also necessary and inevitable [46]. Therefore, integrating independent and electrical  
419 equipment with energy storage devices makes smart meters more potent and straightforward,  
420 making the significant range possible for further analysis [47]. Next-generation ports will use  
421 automation, electricity and intelligent energy management systems. To this aim, the role of  
422 independent or electric vehicles in the smart grid is unavoidable, which should be further  
423 discussed for future port operations.

424

425 Managing sustainable energy development using renewable energy source is an emerging  
426 issue for ports [6]. In this regard, a conceptual framework for energy management systems,  
427 similar to the model in their construction, can be very effective [48]. Unfortunately, there are  
428 no studies analyzing barriers to energy efficiency in ports. These barriers to energy efficiency  
429 in ports include most of the technical, economic and regulatory aspects. There are also  
430 barriers to the supply of clean fuels and other technologies, so barrier analysis is invaluable to  
431 industry and academia. In the port industry literature, most technical reports explain the use of  
432 renewable energy sources. However, this literature lacks studies explaining economic  
433 contribution, durability, application, and best practices.

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435 Furthermore, investing and developing in renewable energy sources is a big project. Such  
436 investments require careful economic investment analysis. Researchers can focus on  
437 intelligent grid analysis and evaluate smart grids operational and environmental performance  
438 through simulation tools. Balancing energy demand and energy supply in the smart grid is a  
439 complex task [49]. Since the supply of energy through renewable energy sources is mainly  
440 fluctuating, and it is challenging to predict energy demand due to the complexity of  
441 operations, mathematical analysis, artificial intelligence algorithms (deep learning and  
442 machine learning) to configure and design an intelligent network will be very positive. In  
443 addition, more research in the initial step should have high data quality to perform a  
444 successful analysis. The proposed DT framework is aimed at configuring a digital integrated  
445 and multi-scale database for simulation purposes, and it is intended to be integrated to real-  
446 time data from sensors and improving data management.

447

448 **5. CONCLUSION**

449 The project proposed represents the first phase of a digital transformation process of the coastal  
450 cities of the Lazio Region, starting from their infrastructural centre. The implications of this  
451 transformation directly concern the environmental, economic and social spheres, setting the port  
452 area as the epicentre and extending to the rest of the city. The port has potential for public  
453 buildings, water sports schools, boat workshops and association headquarters, not the subject of  
454 this paper, which can be incorporated into the DT. Due to their geometric characteristics and  
455 location a maximum of two-level buildings is easily transformable into ZEB buildings. A further  
456 implementation of the DT and extending the harbour representation can improve its  
457 environmental and economic management.

458

459 Predictive scenarios derived from data entered into a BIM and GIS environment within a sharing  
460 platform, with the creation and use of appropriate tools, the resilience of the urban fabric can be  
461 estimated. This allows planning in a well conscious way, respecting the environmental  
462 sustainability, the interventions aimed at the growth of economic, commercial and social  
463 activities. Critical from a design and then construction point of view is the accuracy of the cost  
464 estimate of interventions in such a critical area. Together with the costs, it is fundamental to  
465 estimate and plan the risks related to the execution of works, which will change the social impact  
466 of the place during their implementation. As a consequence, the digitalisation of the area,  
467 through this first implementation of the DT of the "Port of Anzio", makes it possible to start from  
468 the epicentre of this digital and ecological transformation, to spread throughout the territory,  
469 studying the exchange flows with the surrounding territories, linked to transport by sea, land,  
470 road and rail. It would also replace electricity production's economic and environmental costs for  
471 public lighting and electricity supply to moored boats by switching from carbon to renewable  
472 energy sources.

473 This digital transformation, with repercussions in all fields, will open new scenarios and higher  
474 efficiency in the management of public finances, especially in the area of the green deal. There  
475 will be substantial energy and environmental benefits already in the construction phase of the  
476 works. In fact, already in the planning and design phase, it will be possible to accurately assess  
477 various implications related to the implementation of the work and its territorial, environmental,  
478 and social context. The other important factor is the possibility to minimise the project's costs  
479 through the simulation of different scenarios. This means monetary costs, environmental costs  
480 and social costs, not least those due to the uncertainty of construction times. This is a factor that  
481 scares off potential private, national, and international investors.

482 That can predict by adding more future factors of this study such as horizontal transport  
483 infrastructure, roads and railways; the parameters will significantly increase the volume of  
484 analytical data under study. Therefore, the analysis of this data amount with current methods will  
485 be very time consuming and complex. So, given the diversity of data, such studies require a  
486 rigorous data management method and analysis to define a digital structure integration approach.  
487 Therefore, to achieve this accurate understanding, artificial intelligence algorithms will be used  
488 for the development of this study in the next stages.

489

490 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

491 The authors wish to thank Dr. Francesco Nardi for the important contribution to the research  
492 team.

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