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**Strategic Research Dialogues**  
Shaping the Next Generation of the Built Environment

8th April 2026, h 11:30  
Campus of Engineering, Main Hall

*introduction*

**Filippo Ubertini**

Chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

**Silvia Meniconi**

Coordinator of the International Doctoral Program  
in Civil and Environmental Engineering

*seminar*

## **How to support Decision-Making in the Face of Systemic Failure. New Urban Planning Frameworks for the Polycrisis Era**

*invited speaker*

**Stefano Salata**

Associate Professor of Urban Planning  
Politecnico di Milano, Department of Architecture and Urban Studies

### **Abstract**

In the contemporary urban landscape, the necessity for cities to adapt has become an urgent mandate, yet this transition cannot be expected to occur spontaneously. Adaptation is a resource-intensive, time-demanding process that must be driven by intentional planning, particularly as we navigate a significant knowledge gap regarding the long-term benefits of nature-based solutions. This seminar addresses the critical issue of resilience within the context of the systemic polycrisis—viewed not as a series of isolated or unpredictable events, but as a fundamental failure of interconnected systems that stresses the city. To confront these challenges, we must adopt a new paradigm of knowledge and a more integrated approach to urban design. By exploring the essential scales and information required for adaptive planning, we will examine how ecosystem service knowledge, underpinned by a rigorous application of geomatics, GIS, and remote sensing, serves as a vital prerequisite for local policy. Ultimately, this technical foundation creates the necessary conditions to bridge the gap between specialized sectoral knowledge and general urban plans, ensuring a cohesive strategy for the cities of the future.

### **About the speaker**

Born in Grado (GO), is PhD in Territorial Government and Urban Design XXVI Cycle at the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies (DASTU), Politecnico di Milano. He is Associate Professor of Urban Planning at Politecnico di Milano and, previously at the Izmir Institute of Technology (Turkey). He has been Research Technologist of the Interuniversity Department of Regional and Urban Studies and Planning, Politecnico di Torino and worked on the project EU LIFE SAM4CP for the same Department. He works at the intersection of ecosystem service assessment and urban planning, and his actual research focuses the examination of how to increase the sustainability and resilience of urban systems in the face of climate change. His interests concern both the theory and practice of urban and territorial planning. He is a member of Ecosystem Service Partnership (ESP) and a member of National Research Centre on Land Take - ITALY (CRCS). Co-editor of Italian National Reports on land take (2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2022) of CRCS and author of many empirical research on scientific international journals.