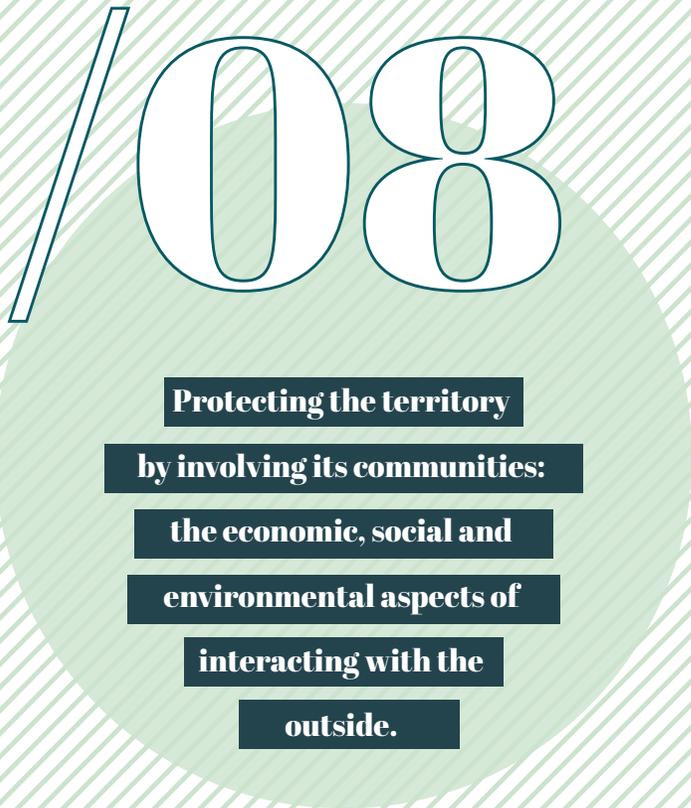


safeguarding

and giving value to the territory



Protecting the territory

by involving its communities:

the economic, social and

environmental aspects of

interacting with the

outside.

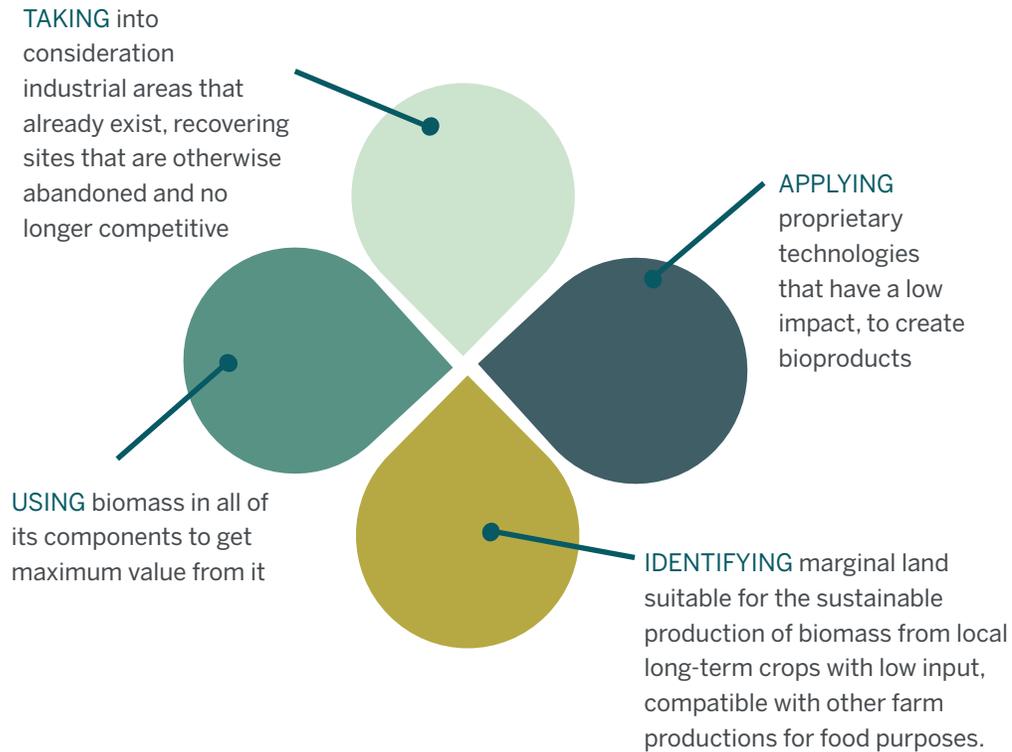
Relationship with the territory

For every company, its **geographical context** is an element of fundamental economic and social value. For us, this is even more true, because our idea of sustainability forces us to have a view of reciprocal exchange with the environment we work in; indeed, on the one hand, the territory, for us, is a direct source of raw materials, resources and human skills; on the other, it is an interlocutor to which to return value, employment opportunities and safeguarding activities.

It is this principle that led to the project of the **biorefinery integrated into the territory**, the creation of an agro-industrial system that produces sustainability in all environmental, economic and social aspects. This project gave life to **Matrica**, the joint venture, with Versalis, that came out of the reconversion of the petrochemical factory of Porto Torres, near Sassari, which is based on a close collaboration between industry, agriculture, the world of research and local authorities.

* See more at chapter F, Volume II

SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA OF MATRICA



The development of Matrica is inspired by precise sustainability criteria.

In 2015, Matrica began producing a range of chemical products for the bioplastic and biolubricant sectors, products for personal hygiene, plant products, and additives for detergents and for the tyre and plastic industries. In the reporting year, negotiations concerning the sale of Versalis caused concern over the future of the Matrica projects and over possible impacts in terms of employment, which did not materialize..

During this year, we continued testing vegetable sources that have a low environmental load, for use in the biorefineries, particularly cardoon. All of the agronomic testing is done fully respecting

the territory's biodiversity: we carry out research activities to identify native crops which preserve the local biodiversity, give value to the specific characteristics of the territory and allow reuse of marginal land. In 2015, the low-impact, agro-industrial production chains in Sardinia were chosen as a case study by the European Commission. The European Commission's Directorate General for Agriculture supported the Alghero workshop "Building new biomass supply chains for the bio-based economy" (27-28 May 2015), which analysed the synergies between the agricultural and industrial sectors for the development of new sustainable supply chains, with a low environmental impact, for the production of biochemicals and biomaterials.

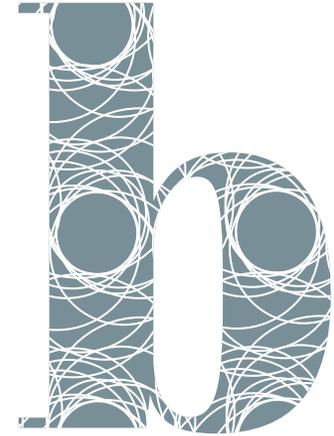
In January 2015, Novamont, Coldiretti and Consorzi Agrari d'Italia (CAI) signed an agreement aimed at spreading the cardoon crop among Coldiretti farmers, by setting up an agricultural supply chain that respects the territory, that makes use of unirrigated abandoned areas.

In accordance with the terms of the agreement:

- research projects will be developed using the new EIP (European Innovation Partnership) in rural development, in collaboration with significant stakeholders in the supply chain;
- the bioplastics from the integrated supply chain will be supported with more than 50% renewability, promoting the reuse of biodegradable shopping bags in the separated collection of organic waste, the use of compost in agriculture to limit desertification and the use of films for agricultural mulching.

Involvement of the community

According to our vision, the wellbeing of the territory must be seen in a broader sense to include anyone that is not directly involved in the production chain. Indeed, how we view sustainability involves a large group of players in different contexts. One example of this is the collaboration set up in 2015 with Caritas Diocesana in Novara, which led to "**Riparto – Repartire lavorando l'orto**" (Starting again, working the vegetable garden), a training programme that uses the growing of vegetable gardens as practice for rebuilding the dignity and identity of people that have met particular social difficulties. The project, which uses a park in Novara that has not been used for years, is dedicated to unemployed people and to their families, and provides them, in part, with food.



[bio- based]

bio-based

This is said of a product made up, at least in part, of biological substances, that is, substances of an animal or vegetable nature, and that, therefore, contains carbon absorbed by the atmosphere. Bio-based products are sometimes described as renewable.