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Collective environmental awareness as leverage for a sustainable future:

Italian cities as a lab for social, civic and political innovation

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### Who we are

1994: Civic Informatics Lab @ UniMi and the Milan Community Network - RCM: +25,000 registered users

2006-2008: e21 project, 10 municipalities in the Lombardy region

committed in Agenda 21 initiatives

2005: ComunaliMilano2006 → partecipaMi 1.0

(+3,000)

2008: RoadSafety

Partecipa Military

Sicurezza stradale

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2011: ComunaliMilano2011 → partecipaMi 2.0 (1,937 participants)









## The context and the problem









# **In Italy**







# **CAPS:** The project idea

Collective awareness platforms applied to environmental sustainability initiatives ("common goods", e.g., water) provide engaged citizens, their grassroots movements and the "new" cities governments the opportunity:

- to develop a more rational public discourse (thanks to data made available to citizens, enriched with their "collective intelligence")
- and finalize discussions
  experimenting new forms of democratic and participatory
  decision-making to foster individual and collective behavioural
  changes which are mandatory for facing the economic crisis.



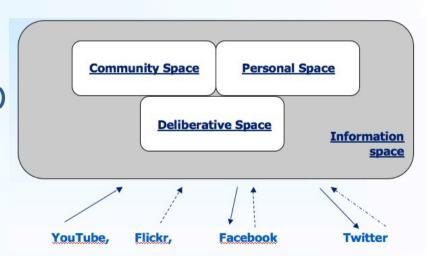
## What we can offer

## The notion of *productive* discussions and ideas



large/significant field experiences

embedded in a software platform openDCN (Deliberative Community Networks)





### What we can offer

a methodological framework for designing online deliberative environments drawn from the learned lessons

issues to be considered in the design along the *gemeinschaft* (community) and *gesellschaft* (the norms/rules, social contract) dimension

- a network of connections: Milan, Naples, Genova, Cagliari, Como,....
  - + smaller cities (participatory budget on a different sw platform)
  - + connections in Portugal (Coimbra, Lisboa, Cascais, Porto)
  - + .....
- a network of multidisciplinary (academic) relationships: other departments @ UniMi (Political Science, Economy), KMi (UK), XRCE (F),.....

