

# VALENCIA DE ALCÁNTARA / TEAM 4

## CULTIVATING A NETWORK CITY



European 13-14 Inter-Sessions Forum – Workshop

### **ARCHITECTURE TO THE RHYTHMS OF CITY AND NATURE**

To arouse interactivity at the European level, European and the Junta de Extremadura invited the E13 winning teams (winners and runner-up) for 4 days to consider and design scenarios on the E13 session topic –“The Adaptable City”– applied to urban contexts in the Region of Extremadura. Three urban situations were proposed for the Workshop, all three located in 2 nearby towns – Olivenza (with 2 sites) and Valencia de Alcántara.

In a region like Extremadura, with almost 75% villages of less than 2,000 inhabitants, the city-nature relation is everywhere. Nothing can be done without considering the presence of the rural environment, which has generated enough activity for the urban poles to develop. Still, along the years, the influence of the countryside has gradually (if not drastically) vanished, impacting on the urban spaces which therefore were deserted. So how to regenerate the urban structure through the revitalisation of urban fragments? How to consider today the limit between city and countryside? And how to take back the urban space through new rhythms and uses?

**European  
Junta de Extremadura  
E13 Winning Teams**





## VALENCIA DE ALCÁNTARA // USES & RHYTHMS

### How Can Urban Rhythms Be a Motor for Urban Reappropriation?

“How Can Urban Rhythms Be A Motor For Reappropriation” was the question for Valencia de Alcántara, a rural town of roughly 6,000 inhabitants, 80 km West of Cáceres and North of Badajoz. The spatial opportunities were very clear, as the Junta de Extremadura asked for inspiring concepts for the city as a whole and especially for a number of vacant or largely underused buildings in the centre – a former slaughter house, a cultural centre, a foundation buildings almost in ruins, and the fortress that overlooks the town.

The rhythms were to be found in the imbrications of scales, from the architectural to the urban and regional, against the backdrop of elsewhere also well-known problems, such as a declining economy, the rural exodus, the demographic change and the question of the future of agriculture. The teams tried to engage dynamic interactions between the conceptual approach, the local situation and the different actors & stakeholders, and to transpose them in a storyboard, from macro to micro scale, and vice versa.





# CULTIVATING A NETWORK CITY

## USES & RHYTHMS – URBAN REAPPROPRIATION



“Cultivating a network city” aims to unite the local dynamics in a shared and polycentric “regional metropolis”. The local diversities and various specificities are to be developed and cultivated, the necessary critical density is provided through mobility, of both people and services. So-called “service stations” act as hubs between the local and the trans-local level, providing both basic services –such as a mail office or car sharing– as well as temporary events –like weekly or seasonal markets, or open-air exhibitions. They also serve as an “anchoring point” for the mobile services in the network, for instance a library or doctors, and as entries into local activities such as markets, visits of local food producers or guided fishing tours.

### PARTICIPANTS

Blaž BABNIK ROMANIUK (SI), Anna KARVKOVA (SI), Dušan STUPAR (SI),  
Winner in Wien (AT) with “Publicquartier - Kagran City Center”

François DANTART (FR),  
Runner-up in Bordeaux (FR) with “Les grandes manœuvres”

Cécile FRAPPAT (FR),  
Runner-up in Marne-la-Vallée (FR) with “La Déprise”

Gerard DURAN BARBARÀ (ES),  
Runner-up in Irún (ES) with “Ura Eta Natura”

**COACH:** Jens METZ (DE)



**SE VENDE**

**ESTE EDIFICIO**

**607 92 20 29**

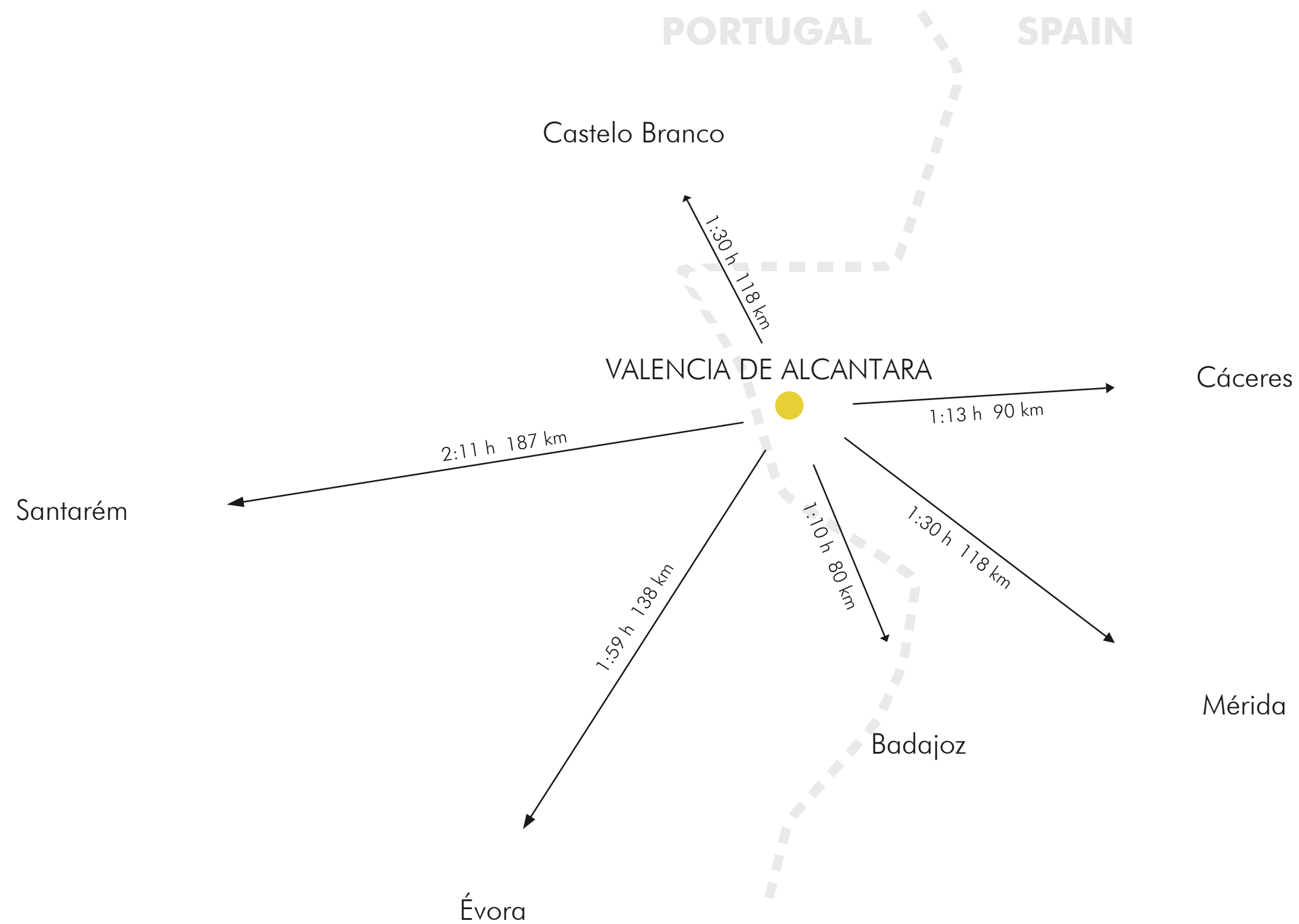
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# **CULTIVATING A NETWORK CITY**

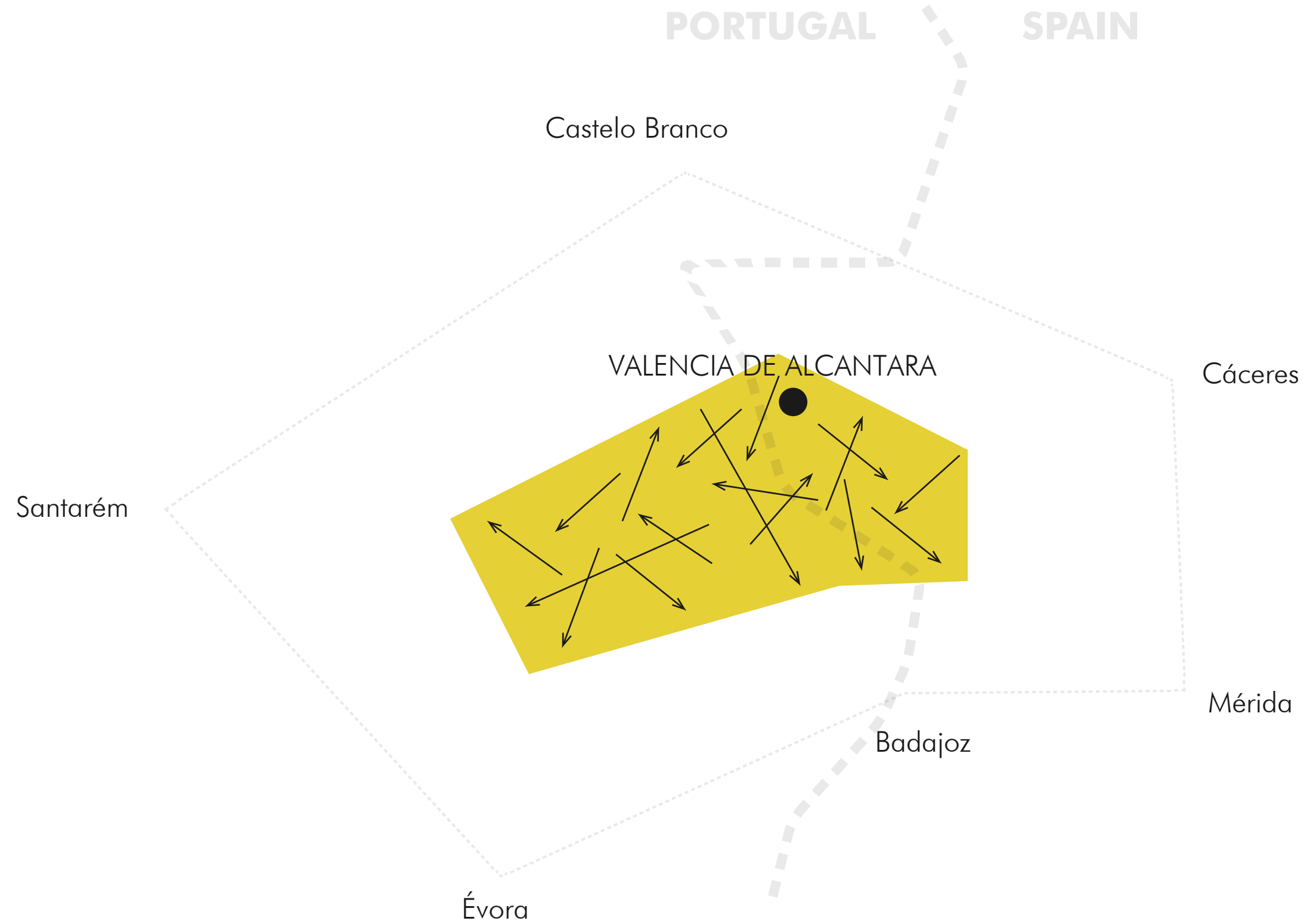
VALENCIA DE ALCANTARA

Cécile Frappat, François Dantart, Gerard Duran Barbarà, Anna Kravcova, Blaž Babnik Romaniuk, Dušan Stupar

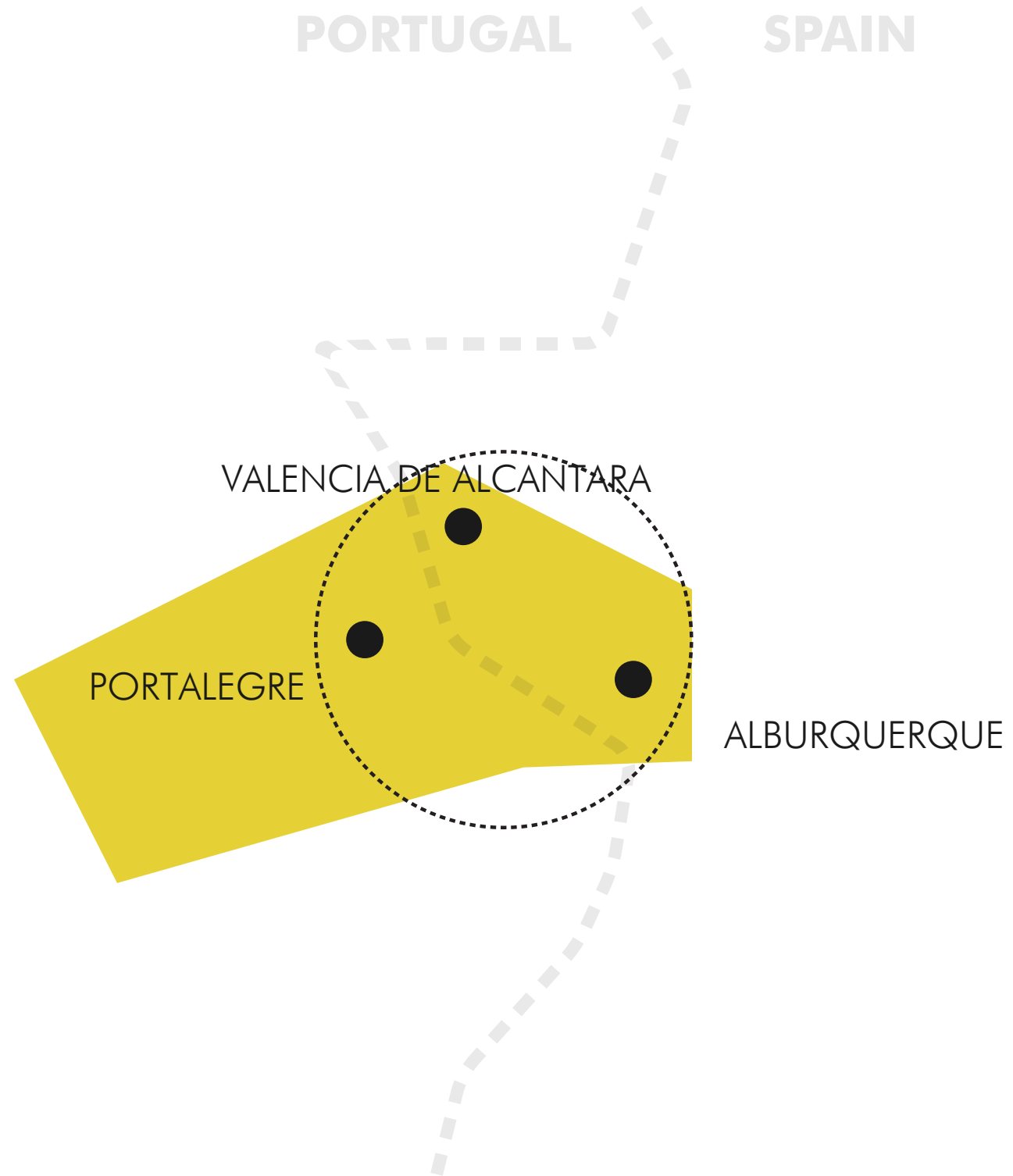
PASEO DE



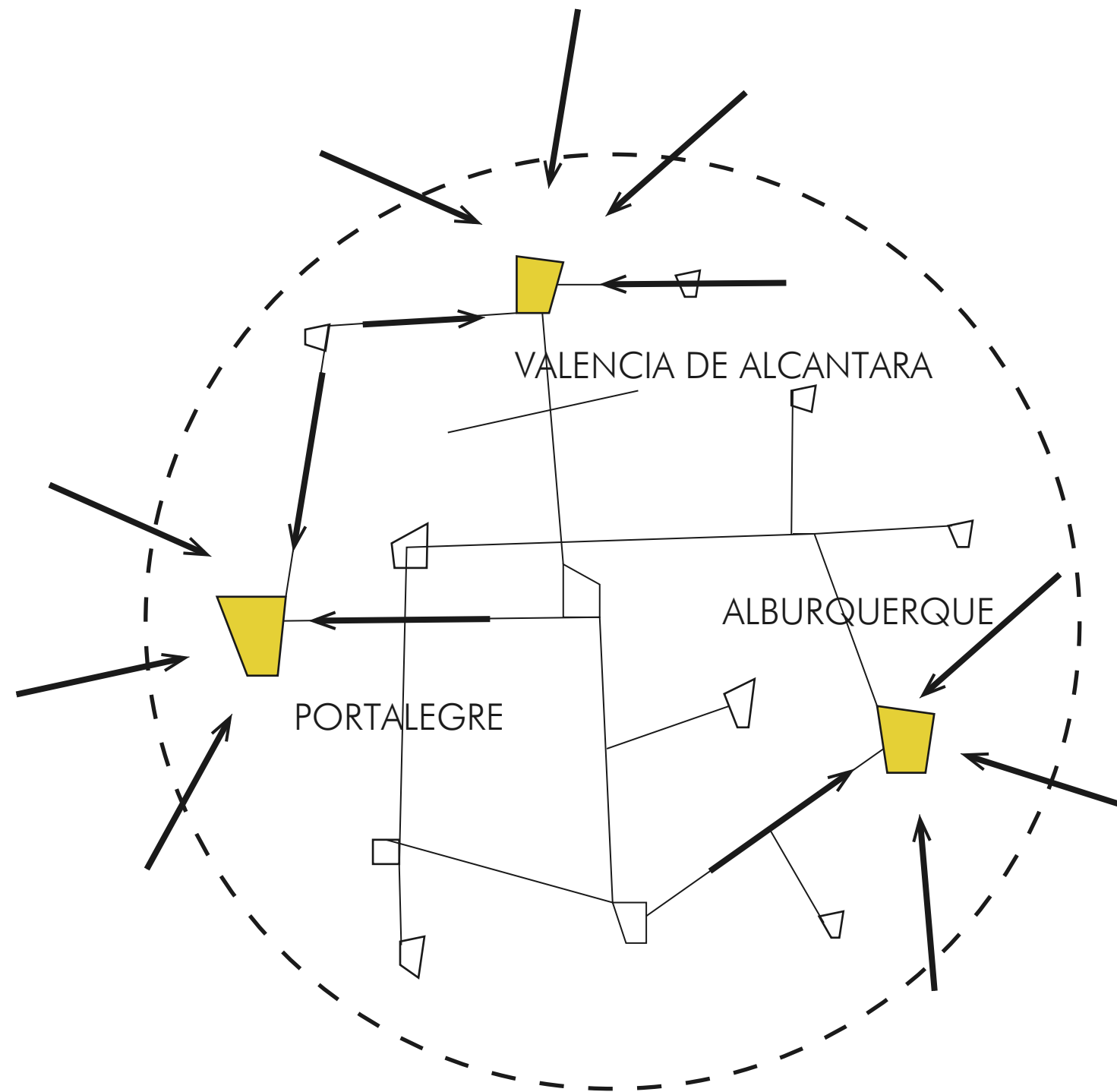
**CAUSES OF SHRINKING**



**RE-LOCALIZATION OF ECONOMY**

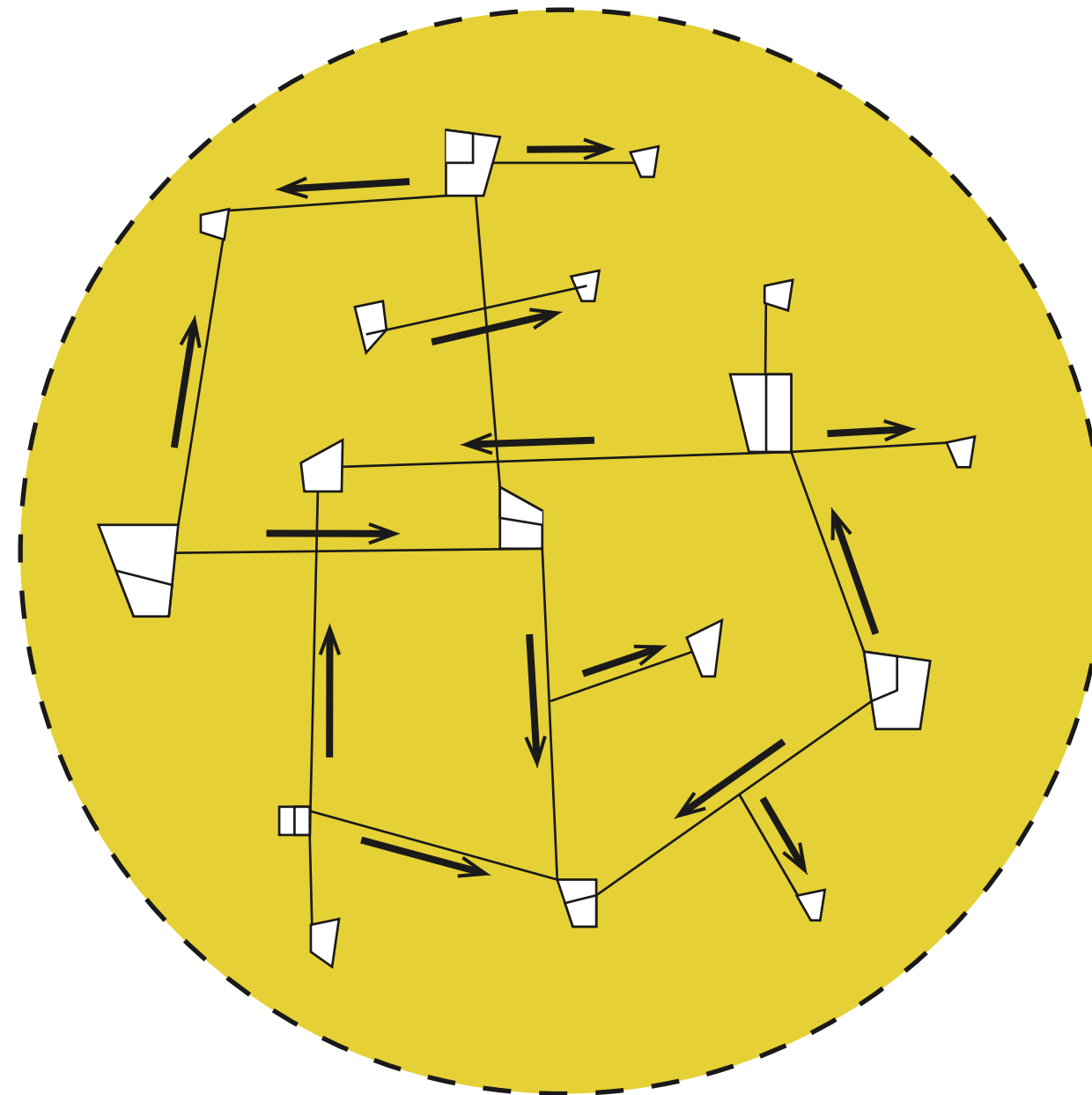


**PROXIMITY + CRITICAL MASS OF INHABITANTS**



**AVOIDING ANOTHER STRONG CENTER**





A photograph of a coastal scene. In the foreground, a low stone wall runs along the edge of a grassy area. Two people are standing near the wall, looking out towards the ocean. The ocean is a deep blue-grey color, and the sky is a pale, hazy blue. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

**WHAT IS NEEDED FOR  
A NETWORK CITY?**

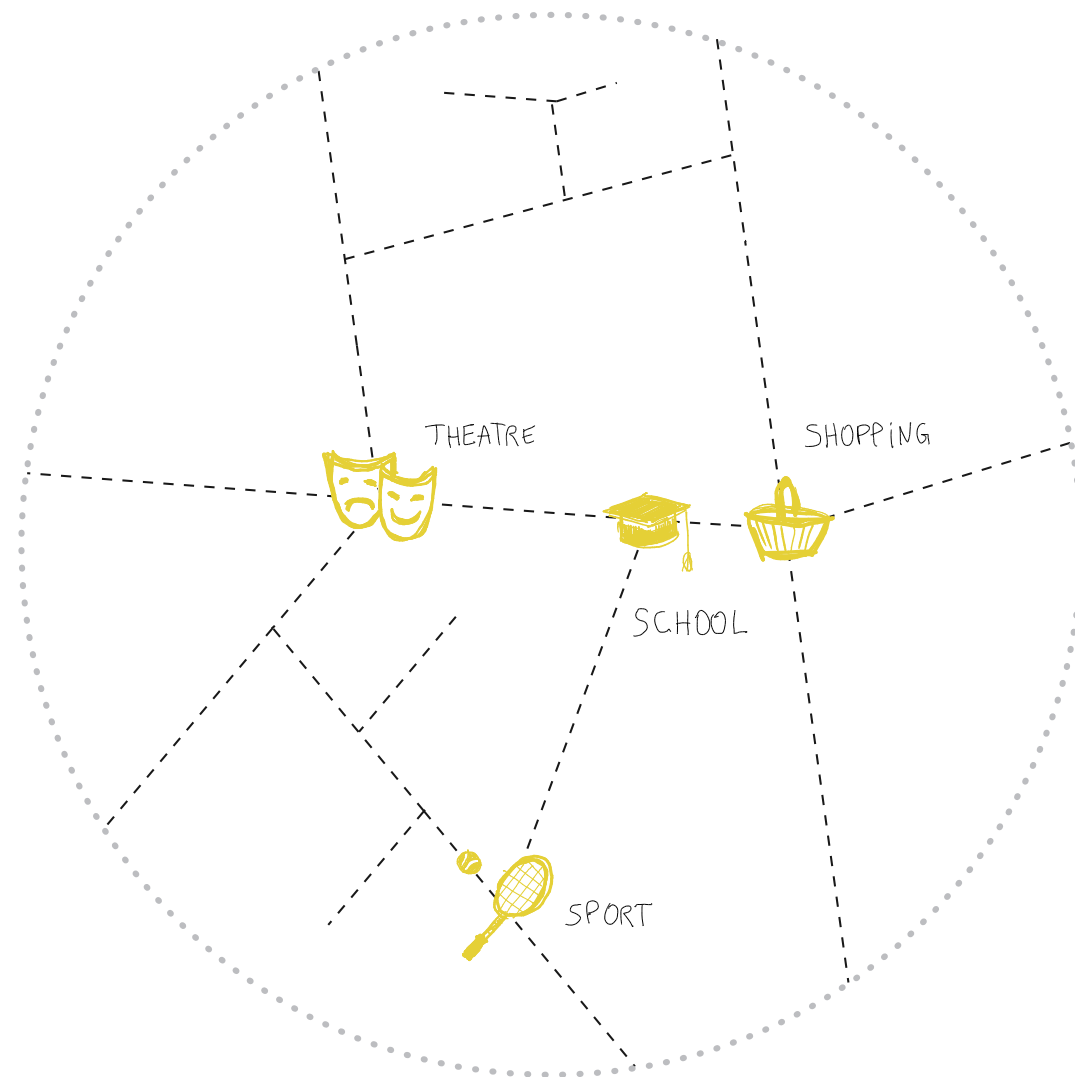


# **DIVERSITY**

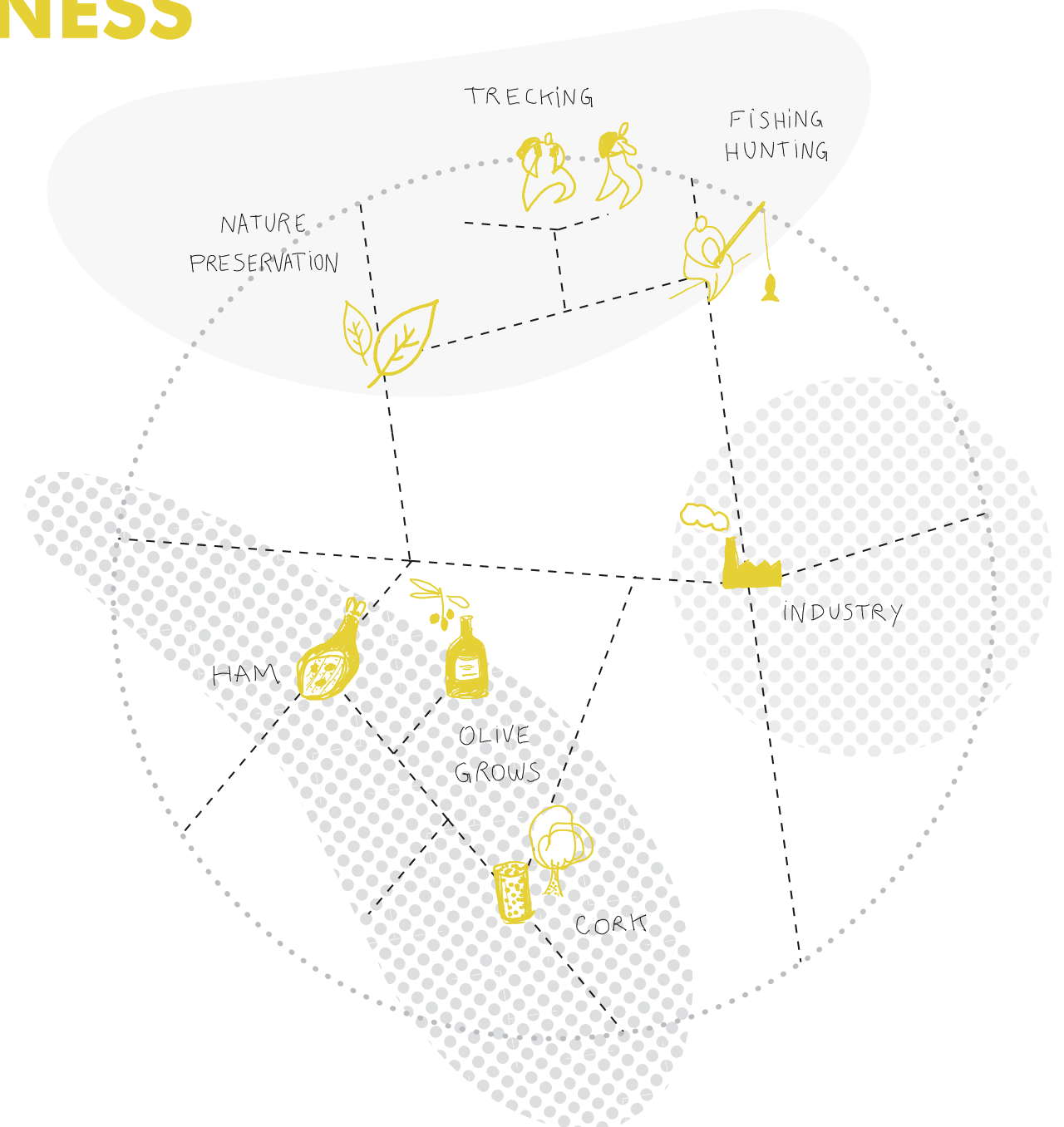
**AND**

# **DENSITY**

# DIVERSITY THROUGH UNIQUENESS



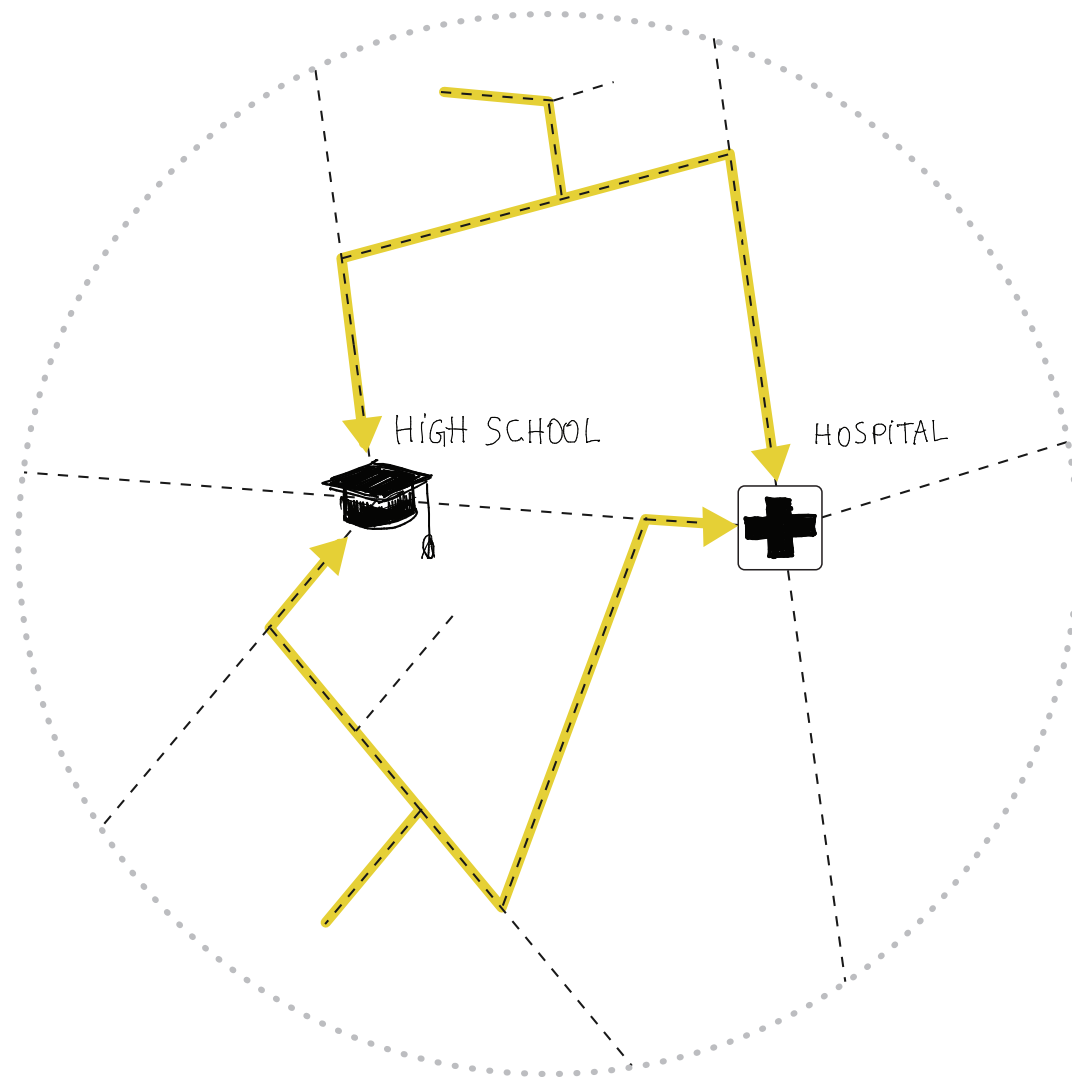
**DISTRIBUTION  
OF FUNCTIONS**



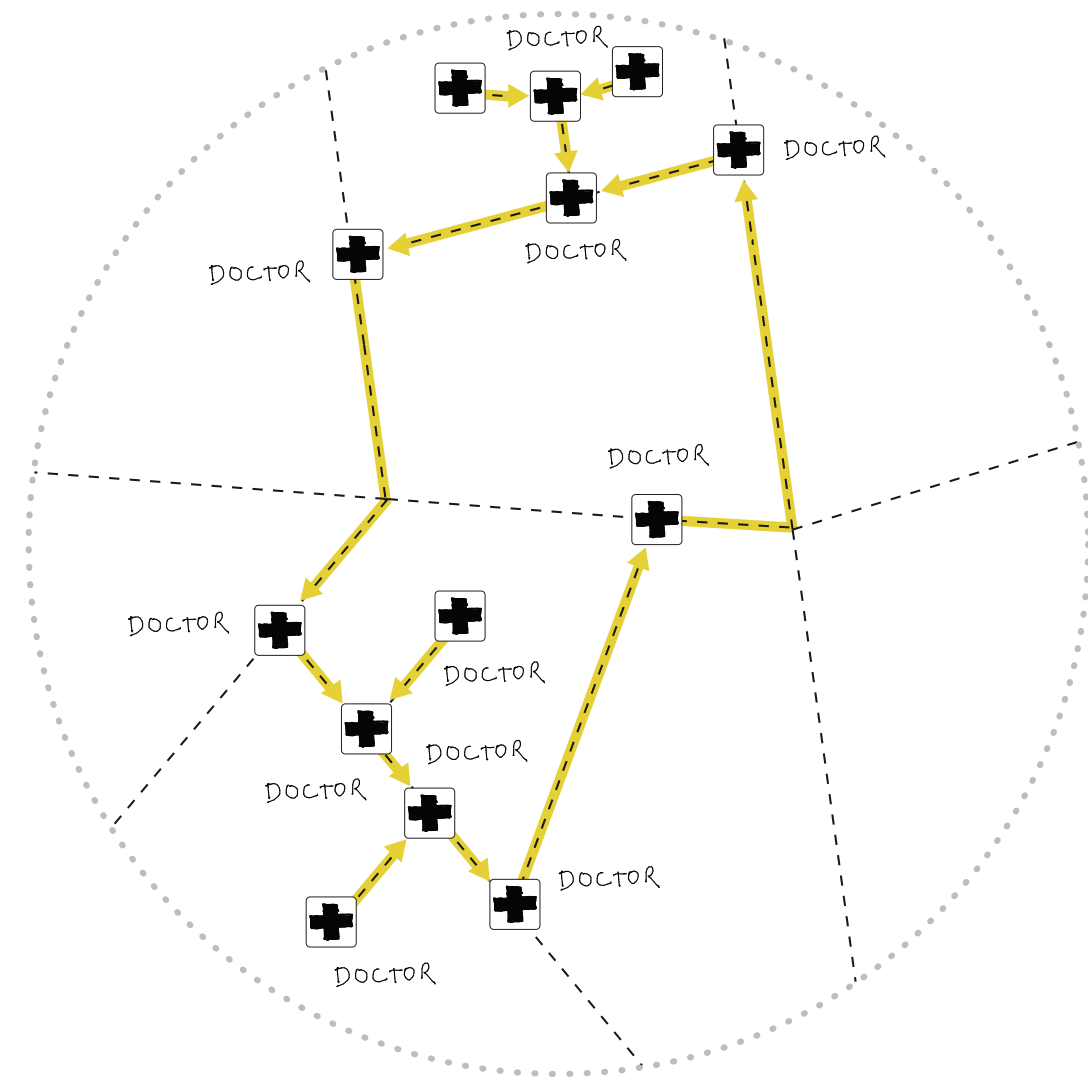
**DEVELOPING  
LOCAL SPECIFICS**



# DENSITY THROUGH MOBILITY



**MOBILITY  
OF PEOPLE**

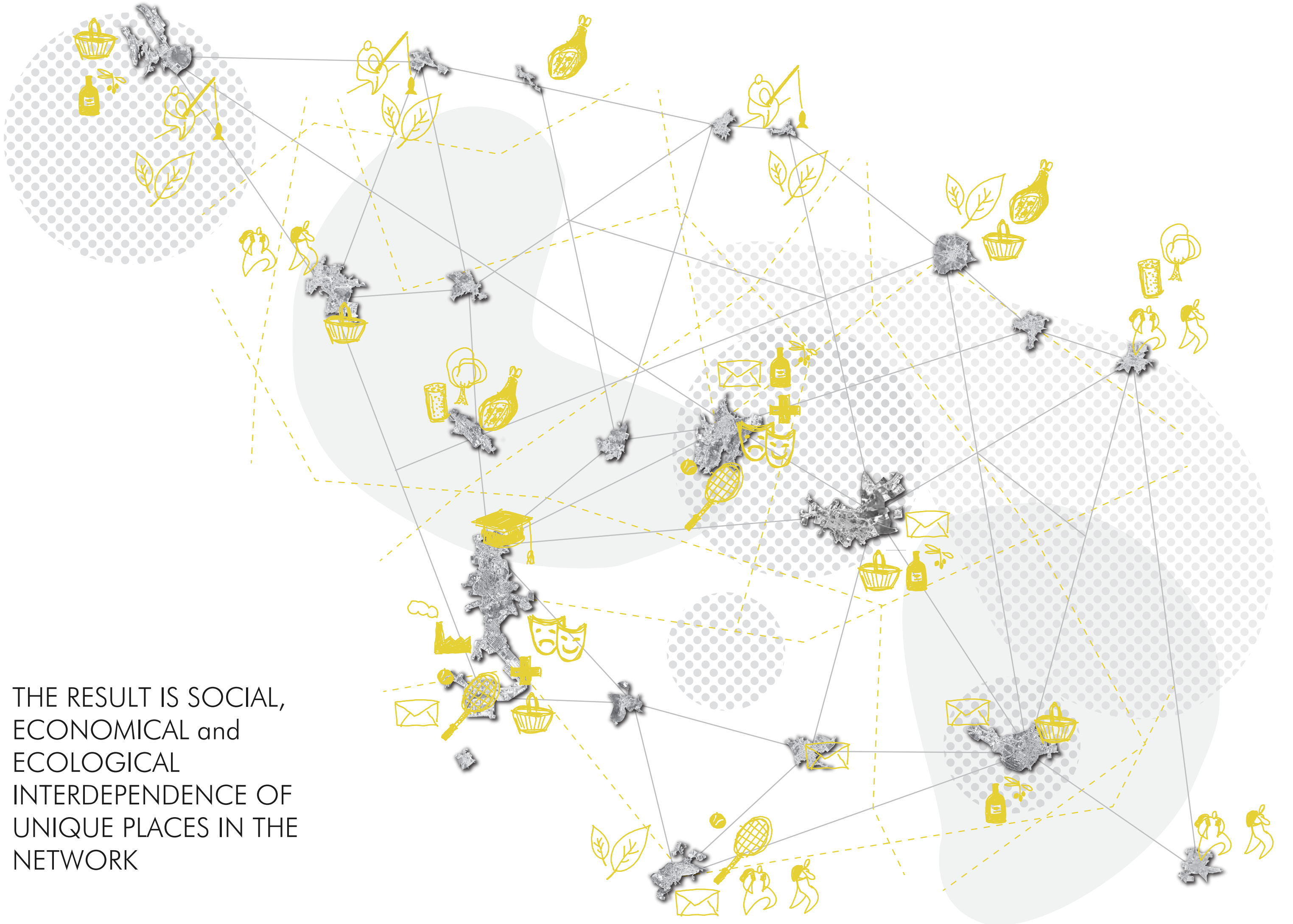


**MOBILITY  
OF SERVICES**

IN A NUTSHELL

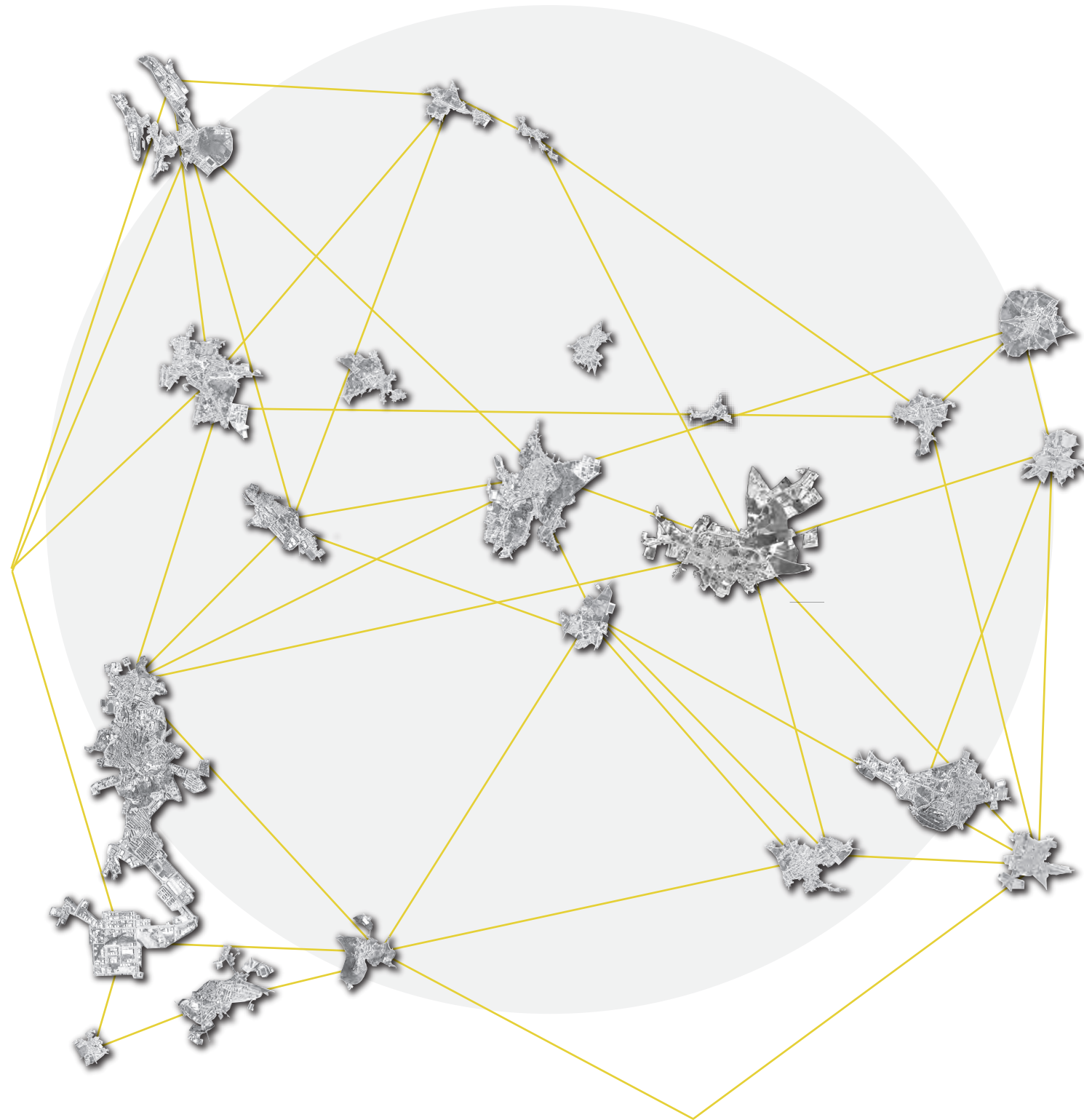
**A NEW SERVICE NETWORK**  
OPERATING ON AN  
**ADAPTED PHYSICAL NETWORK**

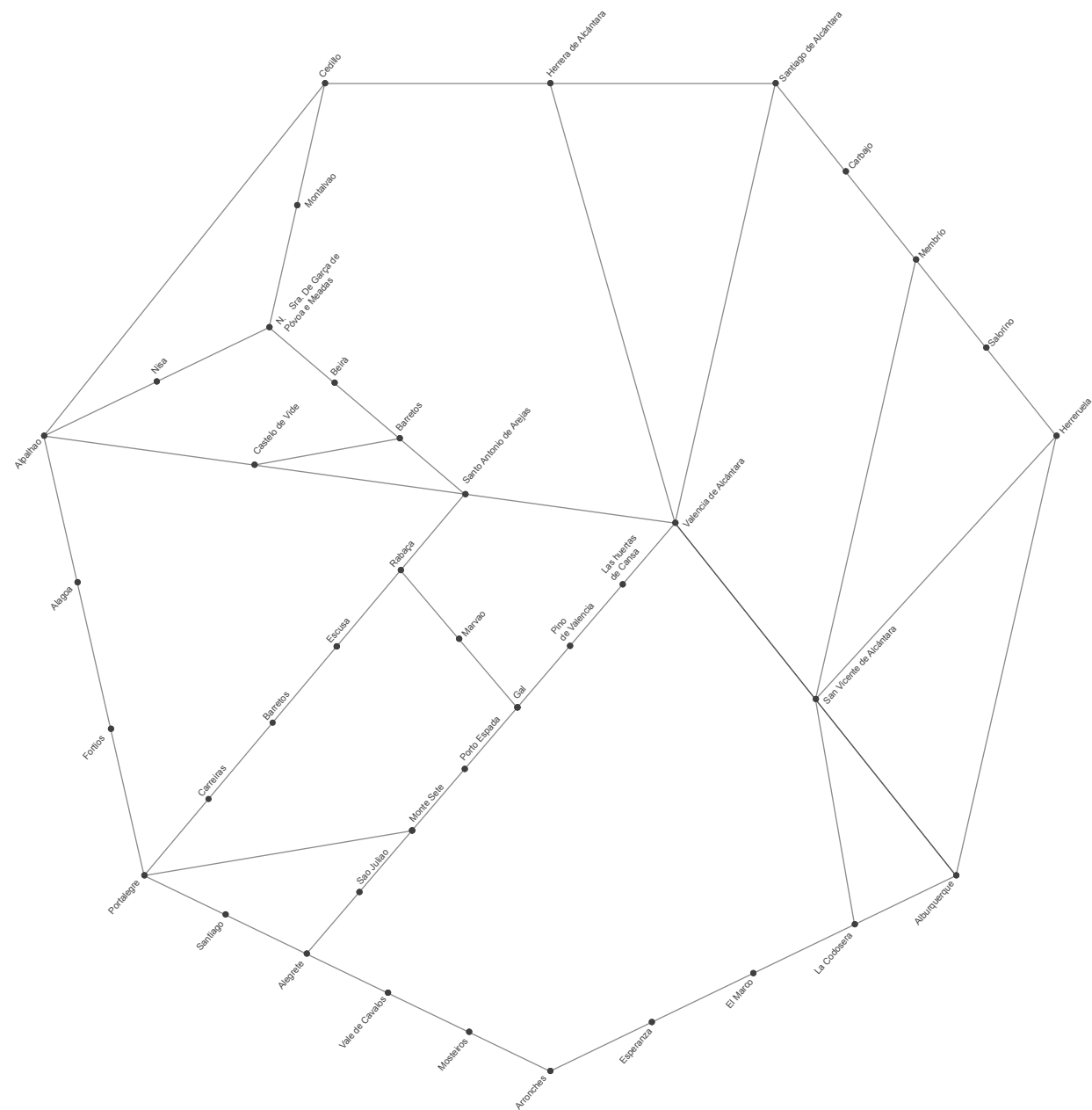




THE RESULT IS SOCIAL,  
ECONOMICAL and  
ECOLOGICAL  
INTERDEPENDENCE OF  
UNIQUE PLACES IN THE  
NETWORK

AND  
INCREASED DENSITY AND  
ACCESSIBILITY

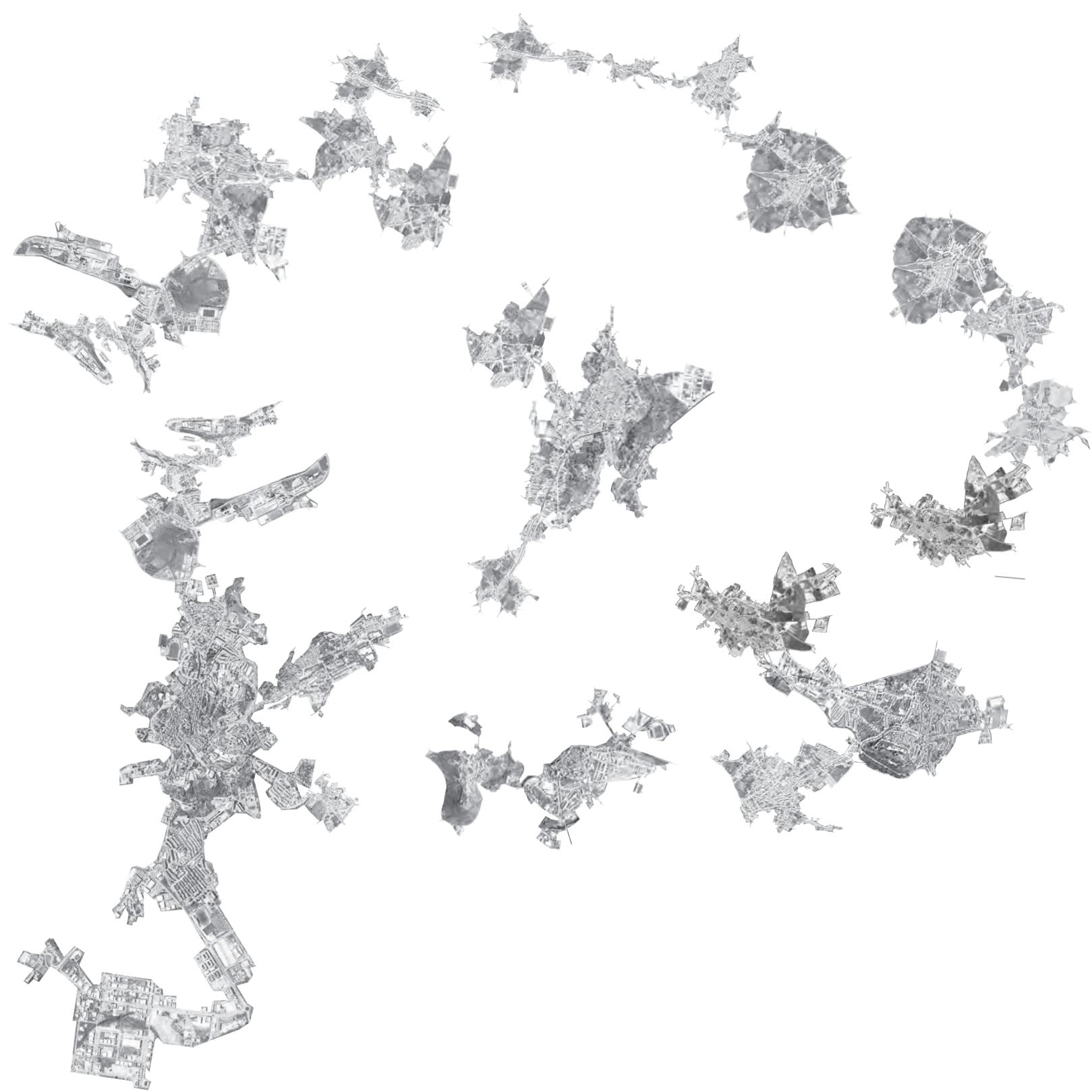
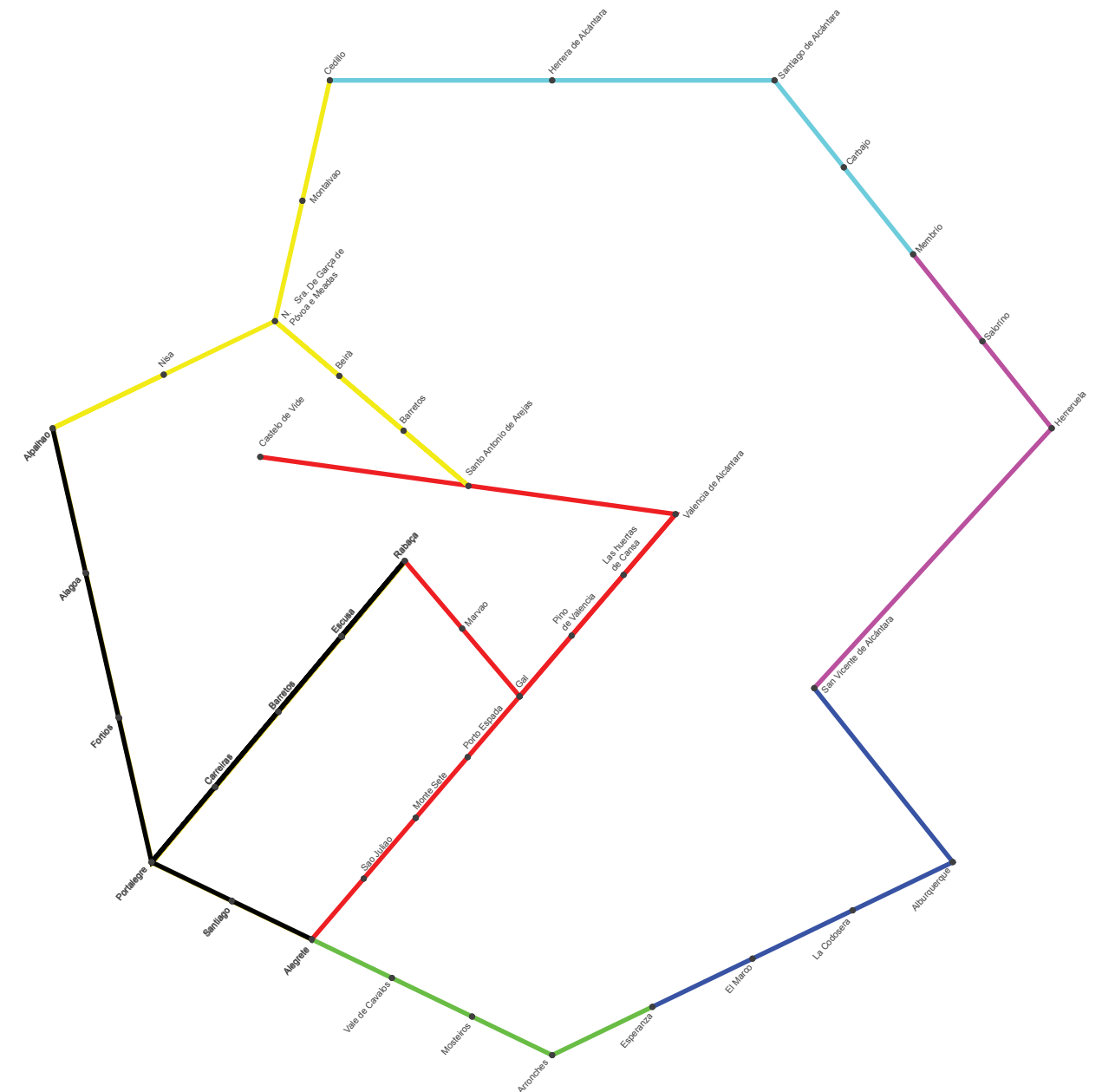




**EXAMPLE OF MOBILITY: MARKET**

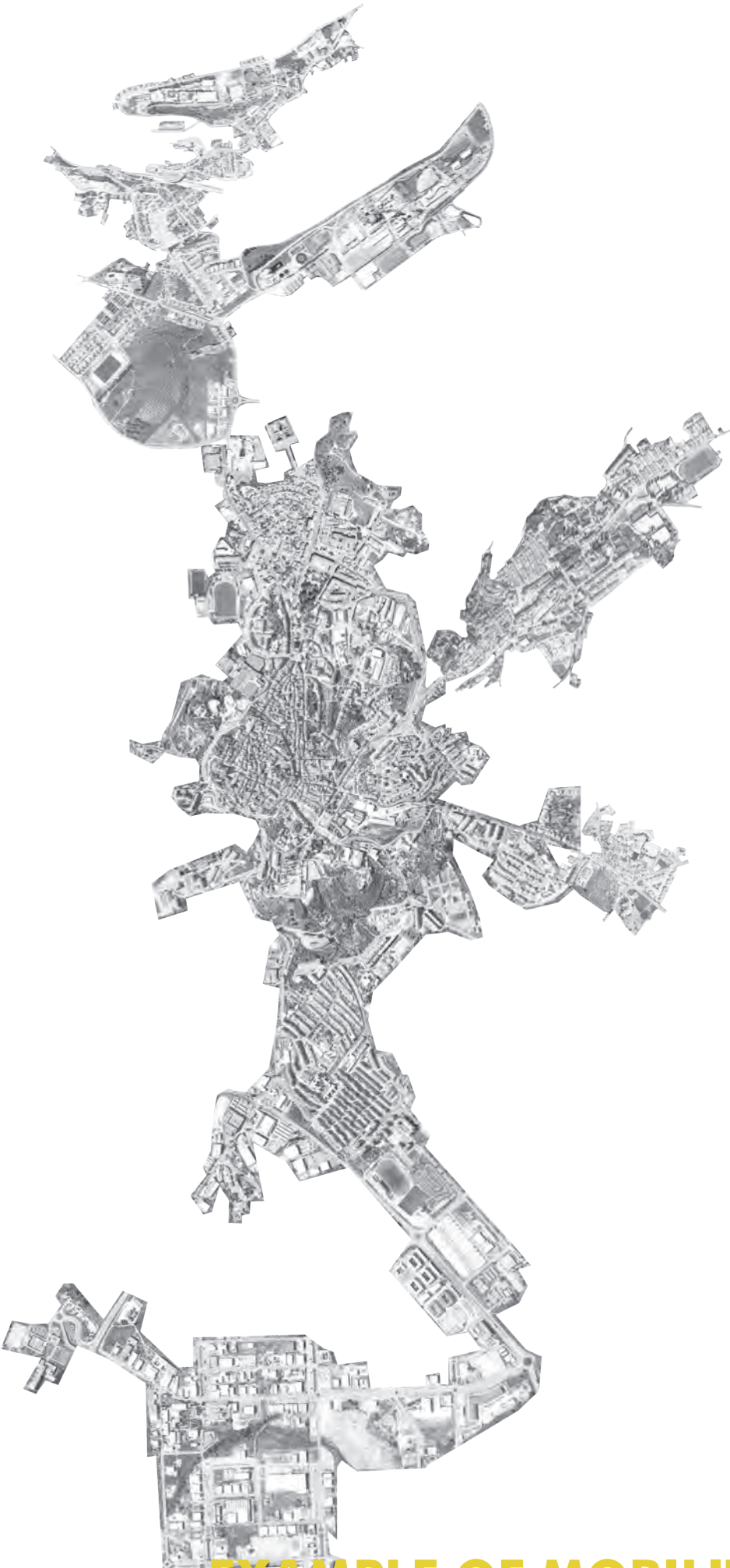
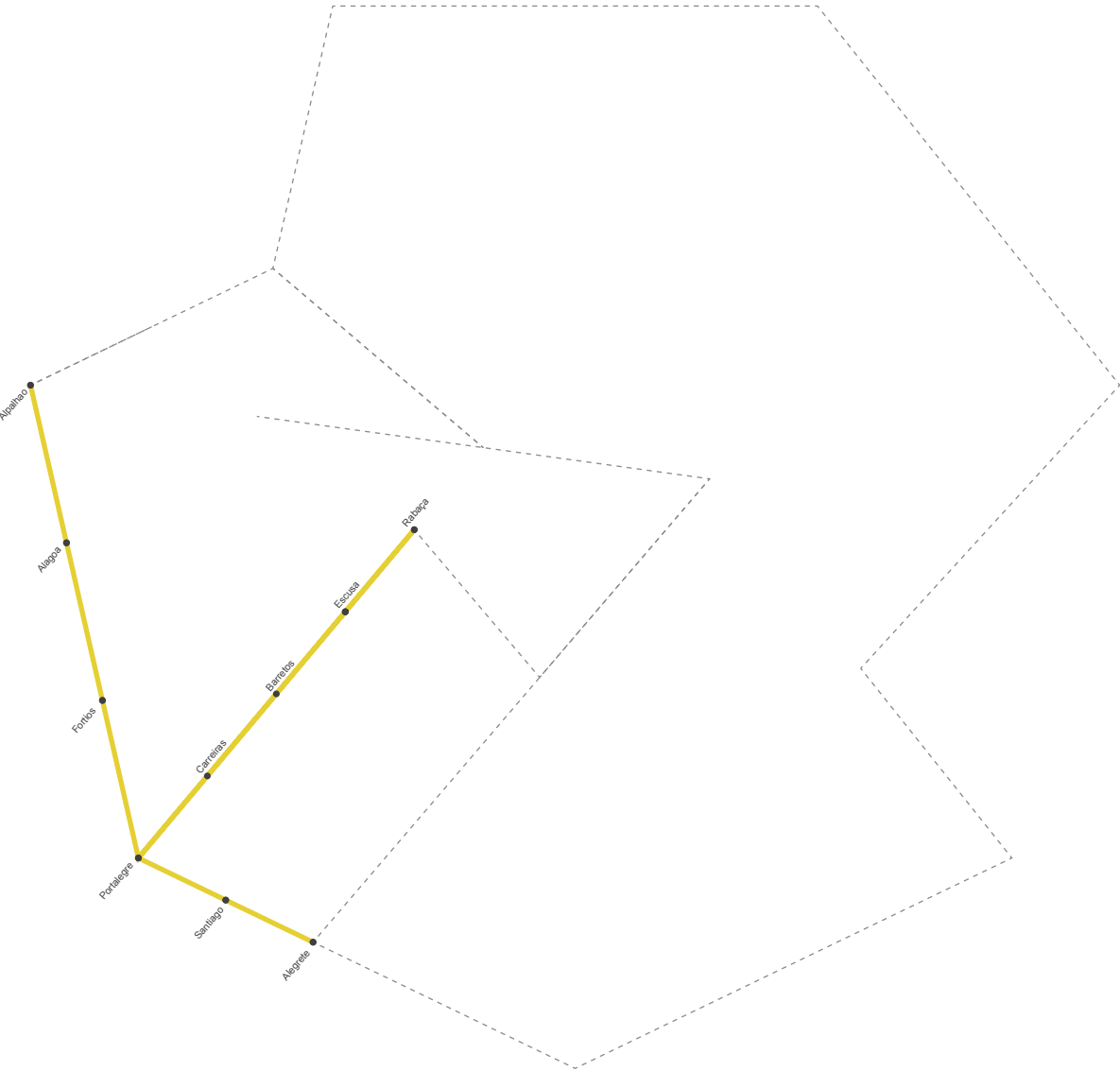


Daily market



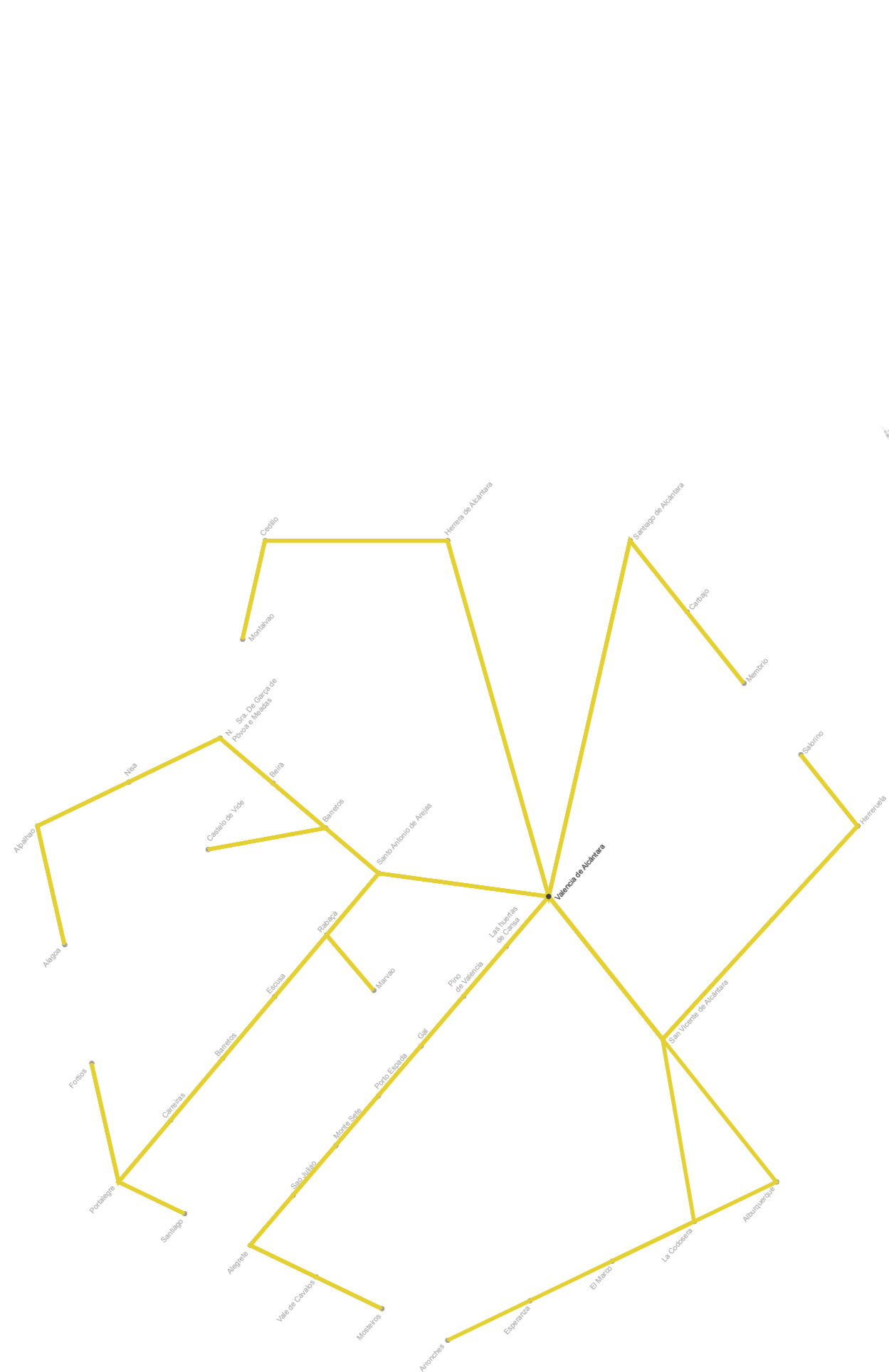
EXAMPLE OF MOBILITY: MARKET

Daily market  
Self-sufficient community



**EXAMPLE OF MOBILITY: MARKET**

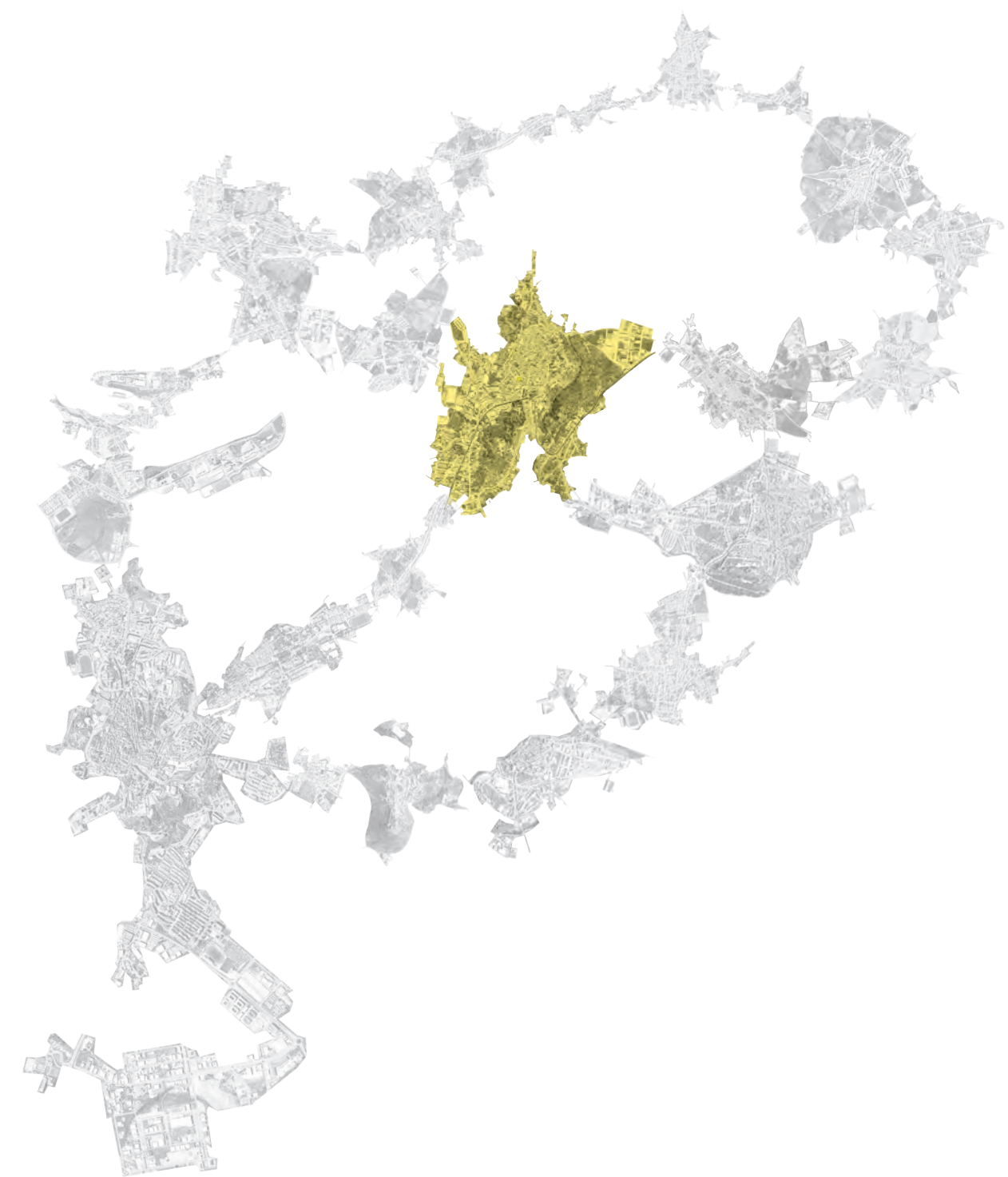
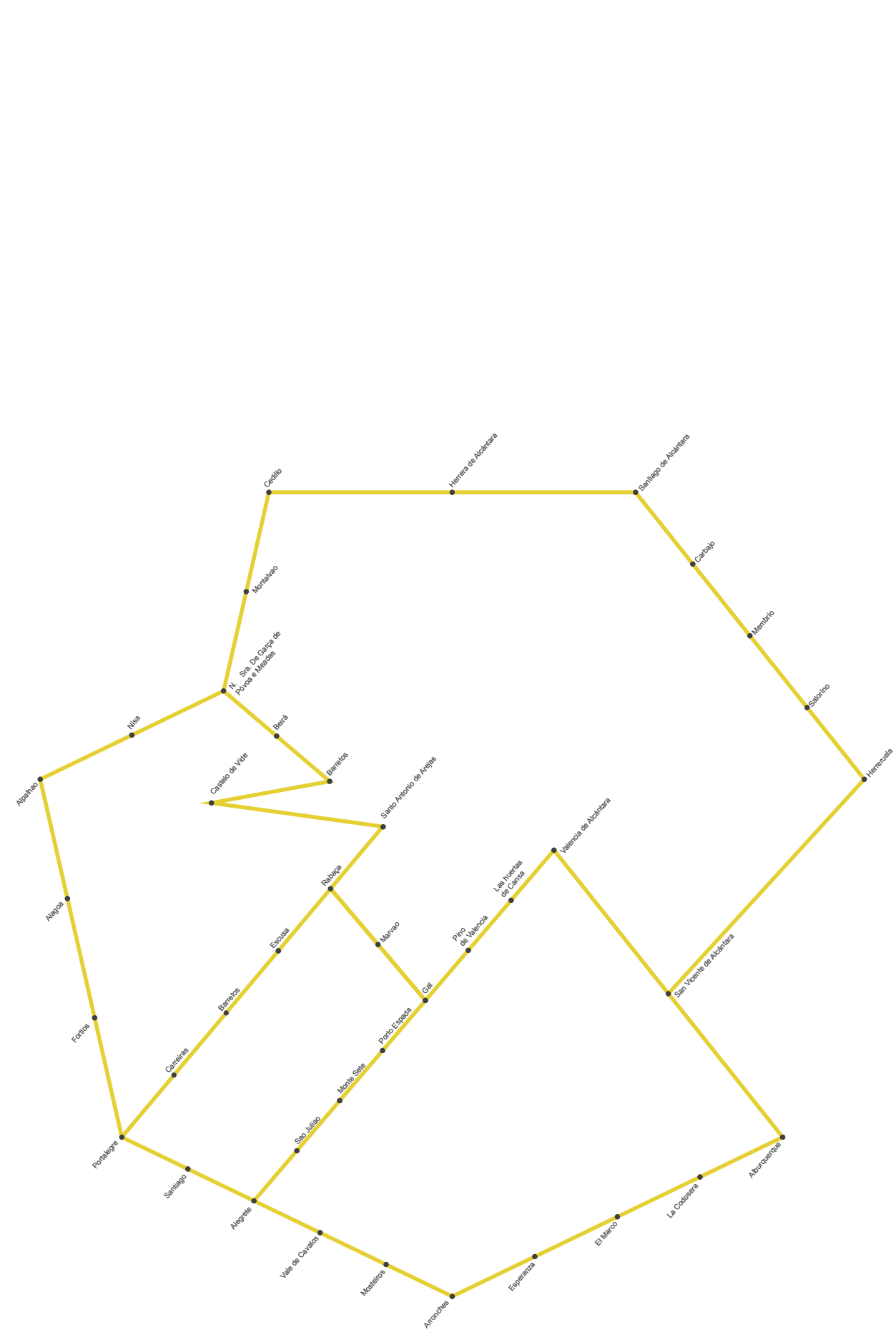
## Weekly market



## EXAMPLE OF MOBILITY: MARKET

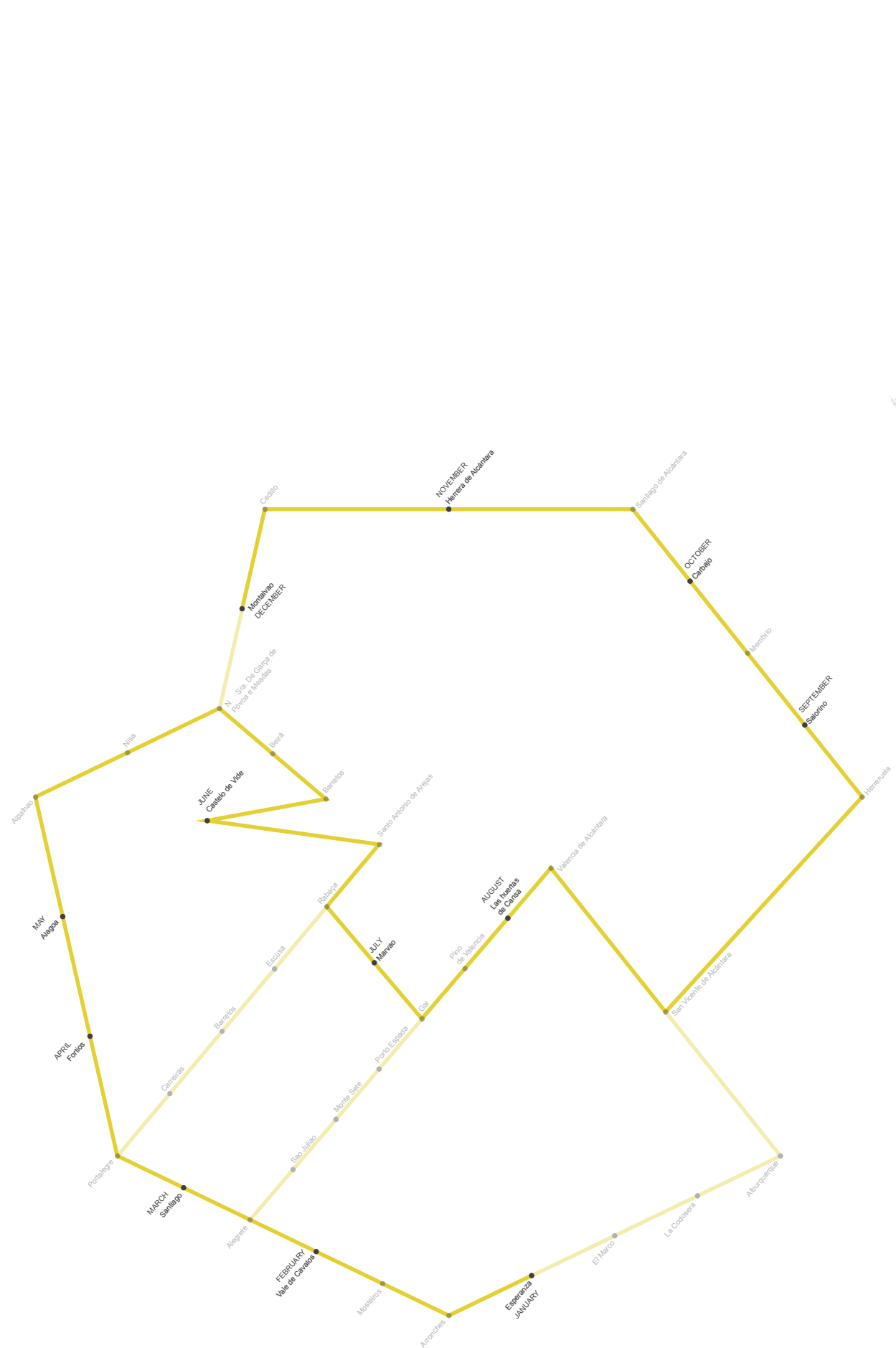


Weekly market



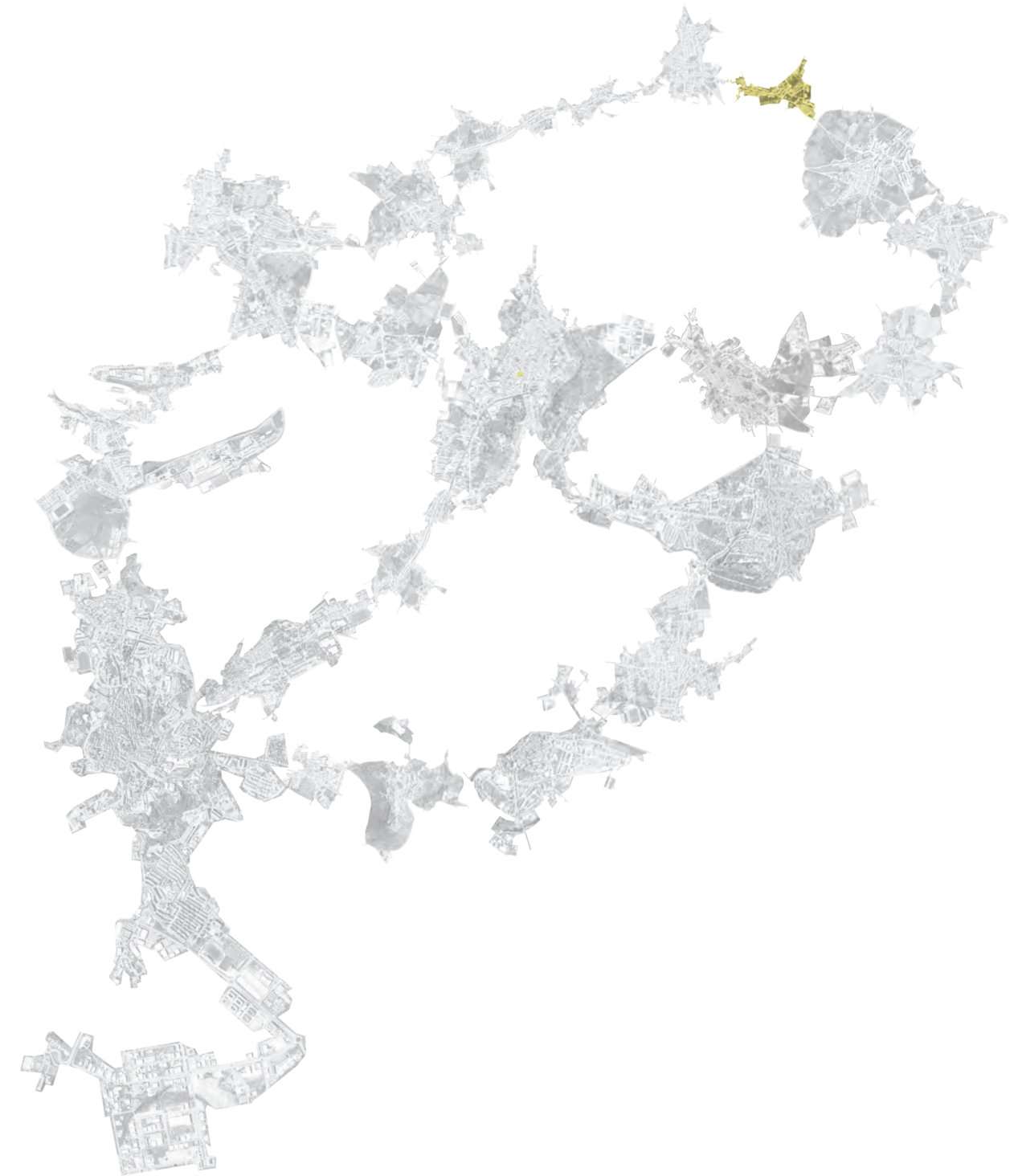
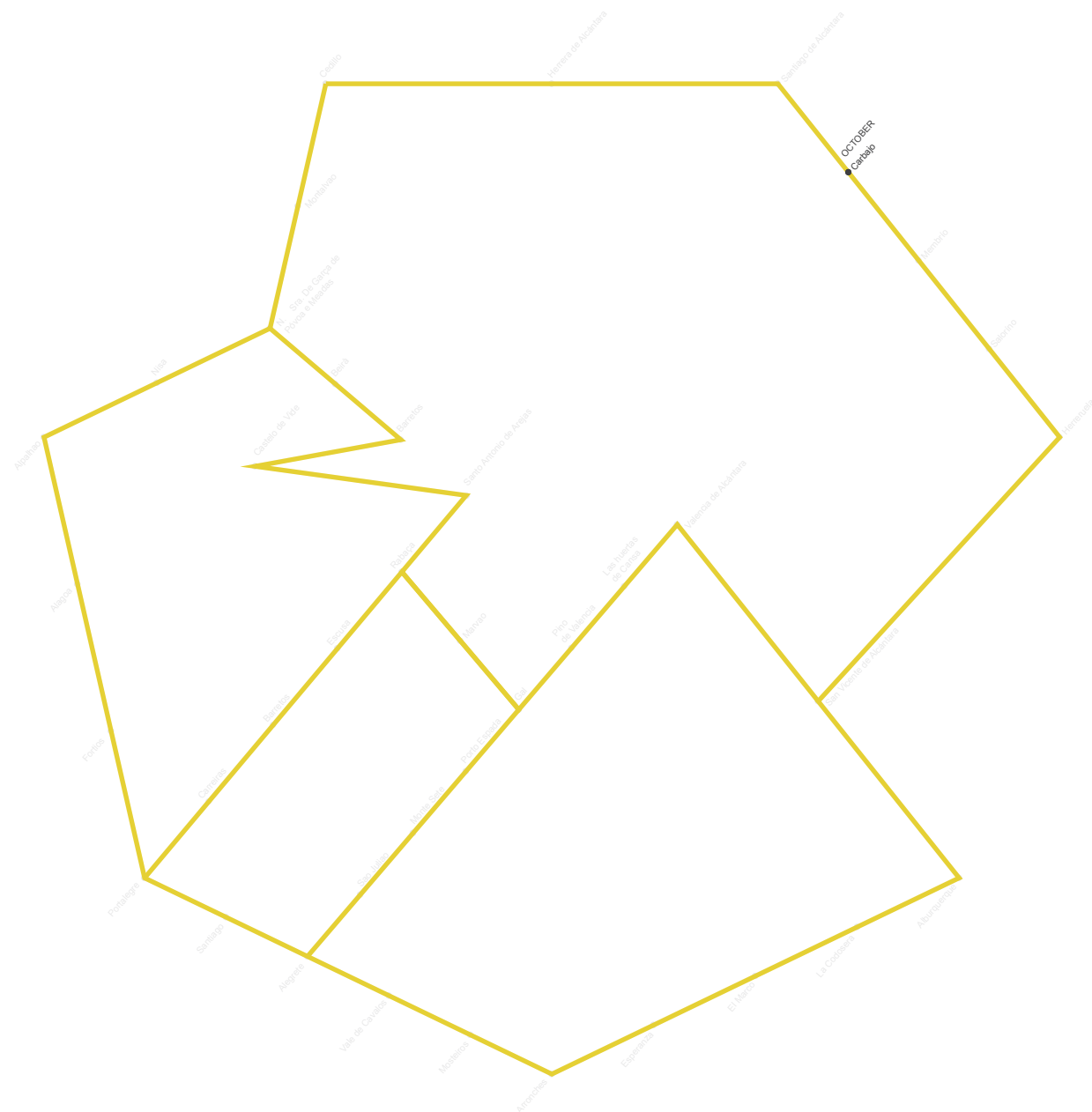
EXAMPLE OF MOBILITY: MARKET

Monthly market



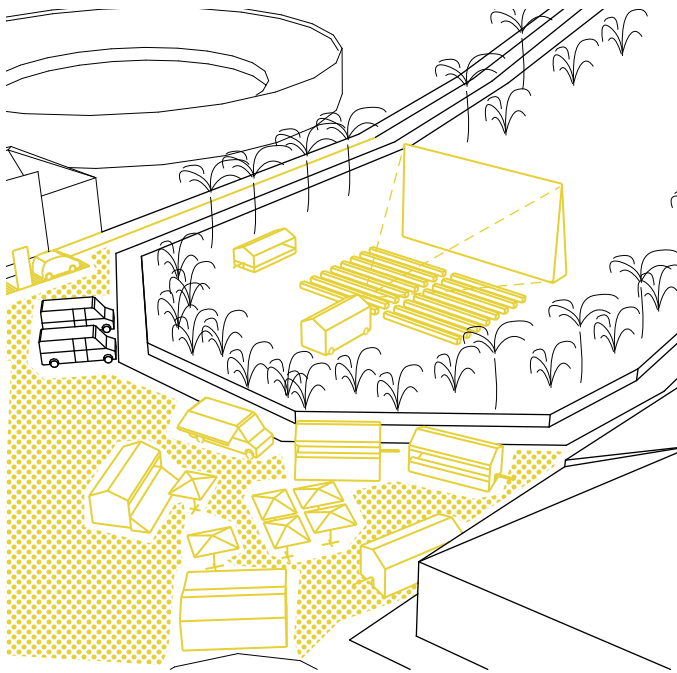
## EXAMPLE OF MOBILITY: MARKET

October market

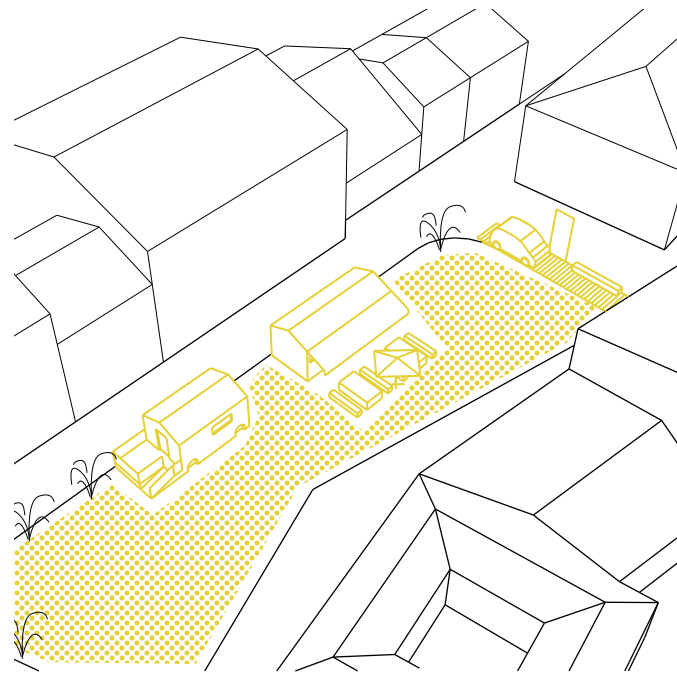


## EXAMPLE OF MOBILITY: MARKET

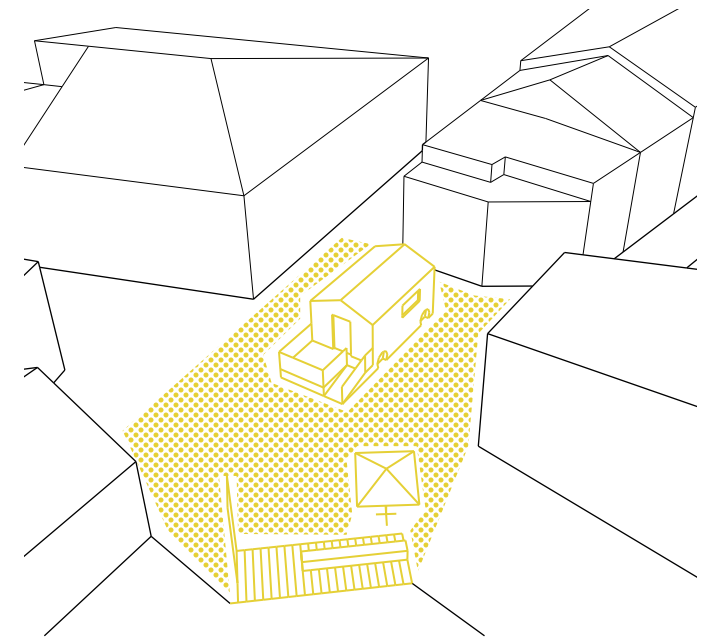




SCALE OF A VILAGE



SCALE OF A SMALL  
TOWN



SCALE OF A CITY

ADAPTED PHYSICAL NETWORK  
SERVICE STATION AS A SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AND IDENTIFICATION ELEMENT

TOWN - VALENCIA DE ALCANTARA - POP: 5800 INHABITANTS

MOBILE SERVICES  
PROVIDED:



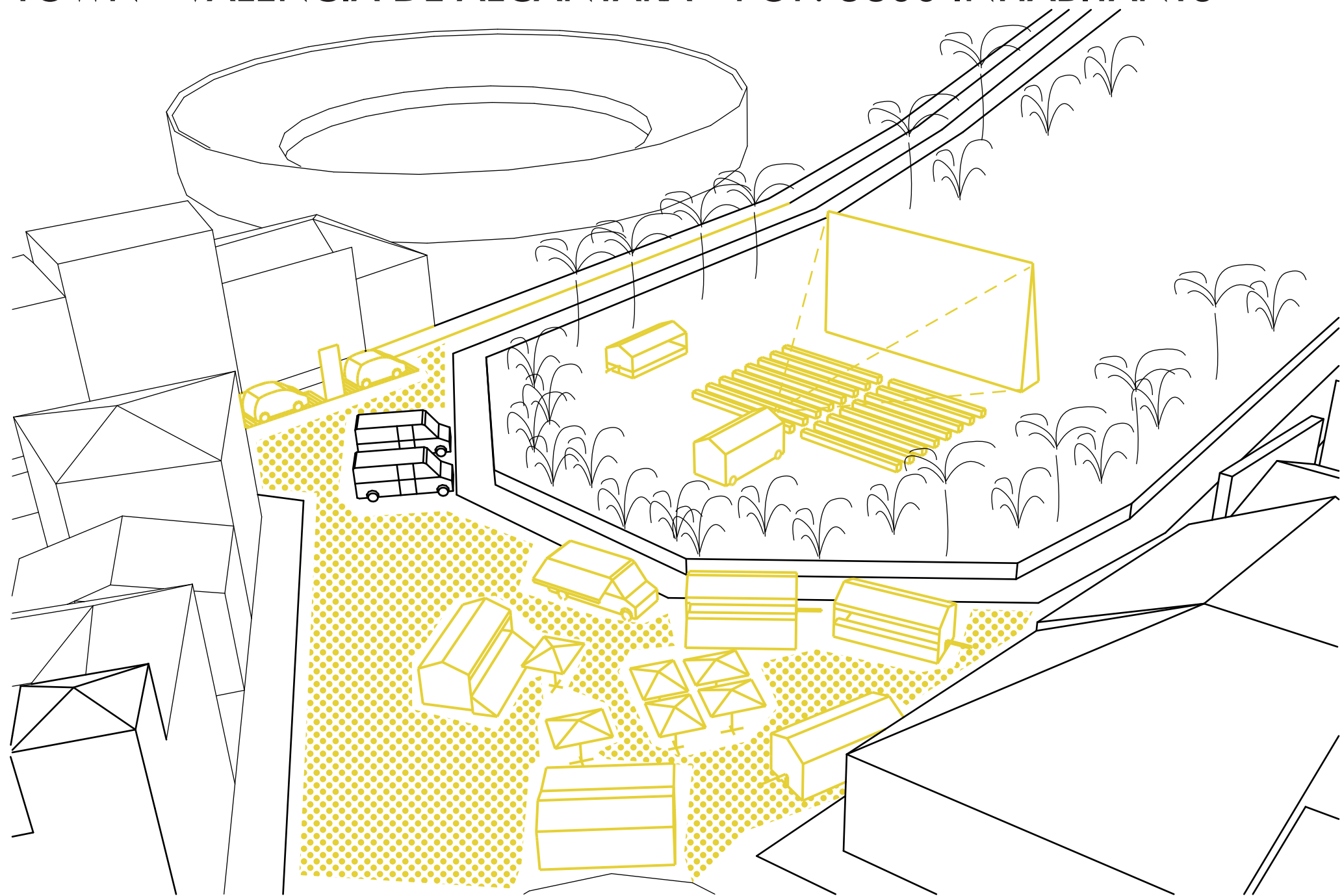
FOOD &  
GOODS MARKET



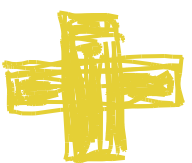
ON DEMAND TAXI  
& CARSHARING



OPEN-AIR CINEMA



ON SITE:



HOSPITALS



HIGH-SCHOOLS



INDUSTRY

VILLAGE - MEMBRIO - POP: 700 INHABITANTS

MOBILE SERVICES  
PROVIDED:



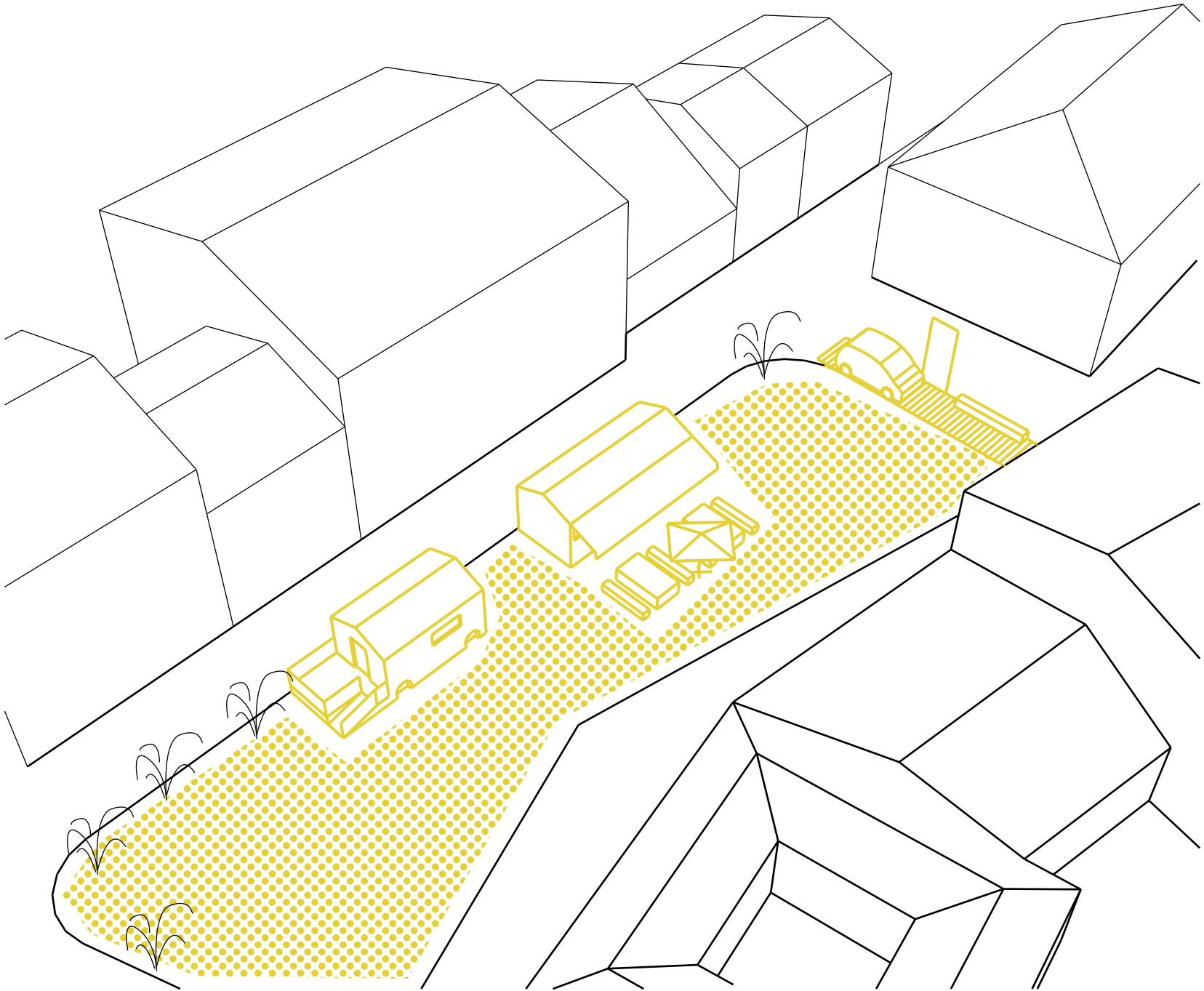
MOBILE LIBRARY



DOCTORS



ON DEMAND TAXI  
& CARSHARING



ON SITE:



CORK PRODUCTION



HAM



OLIVES GROWS



## SMALL VILLAGE - CARBAJO - POP: 223 INHABITANTS

MOBILE SERVICES  
PROVIDED:



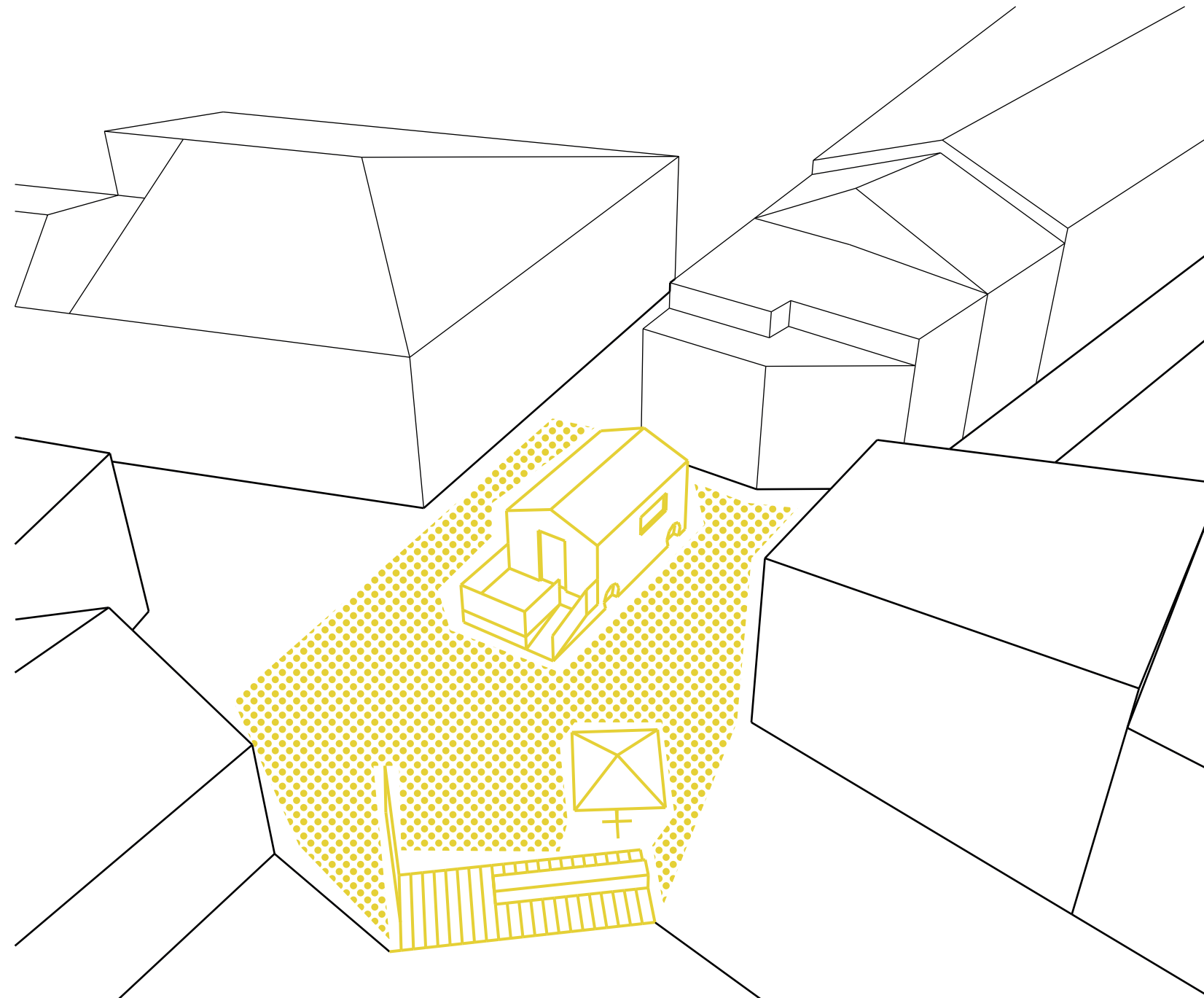
DOCTORS



MAIL



ON DEMAND TAXI  
& CARSHARING



ON SITE:



TREKKING



FISHING/ HUNTING



NATURE PRESERVATION

