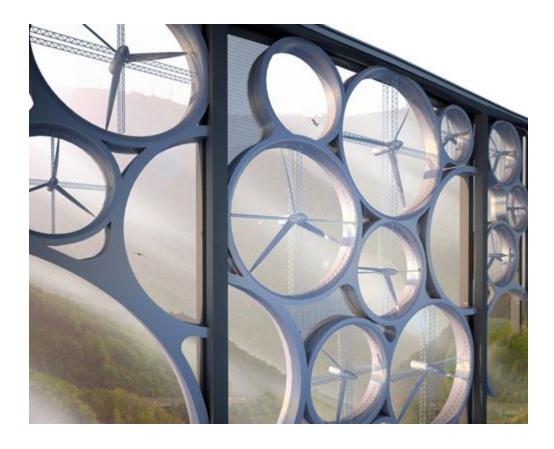
SolarWind Bridge



Solar cells coated in clear plastic, are able to produce 11.2 million kilowatt hours

This SolarWind <u>Bridge</u> could power 15,000 homes. And even better, the bridge could be a vegetables garden.

Designed by <u>Francesco Colarossi</u>, <u>Giovanna Saracino and Luisa Saracino</u> as part of an Italian design contest to re-imagine a decommissioned bridge (for which it placed second), this so-called SolarWind concept would have solar cells embedded in the roadway and an array of 26 wind turbines underneath, which the designers say could produce enough energy combined to power 15,000 homes.

To make the design greener still, the designers have even included a "green promenade" that would run alongside the road, which they suggest could be used to grow fruits and vegetables that'd then be sold to folks driving by. Incidentally, while it's less focused on technology, the design that placed first in the contest (a so-called "vertical village") is pretty impressive in its own right

26 wind turbines

Using the space between the viaduct, the team proposed installing 26 wind turbines, which would produce 36 million kilowatt hours of electricity per year!

Additionally, the roadway across the bridge would be densely lined with solar cells coated in clear plastic, producing another 11.2 million kilowatt hours. Much like New York's Highline, but on a much more grandiose scale, the entire viaduct itself would be turned into a promenade and park. Drivers may pull off to take in gorgeous coastal views, solar powered greenhouses would be installed along the bridge, creating an ultra-fresh farmer's market.



Green Utopia Concept

The entire structure is like a green Utopia, repurposing abandoned structures, producing a combined 40 million kilowatt hours of electricity (that is enough to power 15,000 homes), while creating a chance to take in the surrounding panoramic views, and buy the freshest of produce! Sounds much better than merely tearing down the old viaducts.