

SUMMER SCHOOL

Sustainable Governance of Mediterranean Wetlands

Caorle/Venezia (Venice, Italy), 3rd - 7th June 2019

Introduction

Luav University partners (Marta De Marchi and Michela Pace) were invited to participate to a Summer School on the sustainable governance of Mediterranean wetlands.

In the frame of Interreg Mediterranean project WETNET, the Leader Partner Regione Veneto, organized the Summer School in order to:

- build capacity on sustainable governance addressing target groups involved in wetland management
- facilitate the uptake of the Wetland Contract model at Mediterranean scale
- foster the coordination and networking of Mediterranean wetlands
- make available an high level training event replicable in the Mediterranean community

The WETNET project faces the challenge of a multi-level governance for the Mediterranean wetlands, with the double purpose of restoring both the natural ecosystems and the local systems related to them.

The Summer School was held in Caorle, in the province of Venice, a seaside old town with a wide coastal wetland area. The closing day of the Summer School was held by University Luav in Venice.

The target participants were:

- national and regional decision makers on wetland management
- managing directors and technical officers of Med wetlands
- international NGOs members active on wetland management at Med scale
- practitioners and researchers on wetland governance issues
- graduated students (PhD and/or MD) in wetland governance related topics

3rd June 2019

The first day, a welcome speech on coordinated management and networking of Mediterranean wetlands was given by WETNET partners. After an introduction on the WETNET project, a lesson on building ecosystem-based responses to Mediterranean wetlands challenge was given.

4th June 2019

The second day was organized into sessions

In the morning two sessions were proposed: the first one on background and open challenges for sustainable wetland management; the second one on solutions and effects on wetland management.

In the afternoon an exercise on wetland governance involved all the participants, simulating the discussion among stakeholders in an hypothetical wetland contract meeting. After that, a training seminar on North Adriatic coastal wetlands was held.

5th June 2019

The third day a fieldtrip was organized, in order to visit Caorle wetland and the experimental farm of Vallevicchia.

The group visit the Carole wetland by boat, stopping in the area of traditional fishermen houses, the *casoni*, which are nowadays protected as historical and vernacular heritage. After that, the group moved to Vallevicchia island, reclaimed during the Sixties and owned by Veneto Regione. Here, the private agency of Veneto Agricoltura, which develop researches and consultancy for regional farmers and enterprises, is working on experimental forms of farming since many decades. Three members of Veneto Agricoltura gave lessons on the site as a laboratory for sustainable forms of agriculture in seaside conditions.



6th June 2019

The fourth day some WETNET project partners told their experience in the development of local wetlands contracts, giving principles, methods, suggestions and tools.

After that, another training session took place, with different tables for the different partners of WETNET project, in order to share experiences and practices amongst partners and participants.

7th June 2019

The last day participants were hosted at Luav University, for the closing of the Summer School.

An overview on national strategy for wetlands management was given by representatives from Italy, France and Spain. Then, a series of Italian wetland contract experiences was presented to the audience.

Conclusions

The participation of Luav partners to the Summer School was useful in the light of the information transferred from another Interreg project and, especially, in order to define the methodology that can be used in the process of a wetland contract construction.

In particular:

- Lessons from experts and facilitators gave fundamental suggestion for building the stakeholders map, not only in terms of involvement, but also in terms of positioning and level of power in the discussion;
- Study case presentations were useful to enrich the knowledge on wetland management and on the differences amongst difference target areas and countries;
- WETNET leader partners' speeches gave an overview on the responsibility of each partners and on the challenges of coordinating many partners operating on very different areas;
- training moments were useful to understand the role of the facilitator at the table, who has not only to guide the discussion, but also to understand the difference between actors' stakes and positions, in terms of different levels of transparency during the discussion phases.



To conclude, the opportunity to have a direct contact with WETNET partners gave luav partners the possibility of knowing more about the two parallel processes: on the one side the development of relations amongst Interreg partners; on the other side the construction of local wetland contracts.

The participation to the Summer School also enforced the link between two different Interreg focused on similar topics and the strengthening of this network can: on the one side to improve the work of CREW partners; on the other side to continue implementing the experimentation on wetland contracts for the Mediterranean area.

2014 - 2020 Interreg V-A
Italy - Croatia CBC Programme

Priority Axis: 3. Environment and cultural heritage
Specific objective: 3.2 Contribute to protect and restore biodiversity

Event follow up report

Work Package:	<i>2. Communication activities</i>
Activity	<i>2.4.1. External Meetings Reports</i>
Deliverable:	<i>2.4.1. Each partner will participate at 2 external thematic events outside the Programme area (locations/dates to be decided during the project implementation) and produce a brief report. Types of thematic events: ADRIAPAN and MEDPAN events, Italian National Board of River Contracts events, CIRF (Italian Center of River Restoration) events, MED Programme events (WETNET project); EiP Water events; Italian National Conferences and Congresses of Urban Planners.</i>

Project Partner:	<i>IUAV</i>
Name of event:	External Meetings Reports
Date:	03. – 07. June 2019.
Event type:	<i>External Meetings</i>
Event venue:	<i>SUMMER SCHOOL Sustainable Governance of Mediterranean Wetlands</i>
Short description of the event:	In the frame of Interreg Mediterranean project WETNET, the Leader Partner Regione Veneto, organized the Summer School in order to: build capacity on sustainable governance addressing target groups involved in wetland management, facilitate the uptake of the Wetland Contract model at Mediterranean scale, foster the coordination and networking of Mediterranean wetlands and make available an high level training event replicable in the Mediterranean community.
Speakers speeches, brief summary and conclusion:	To conclude, the opportunity to have a direct contact with WETNET partners gave Iuav partners the possibility of knowing more about the two parallel processes: on the one side the development of relations amongst Interreg partners; on the other side the construction of local wetland contracts.
Role of CREW partner in the event:	The participation to the Summer School also enforced the link between two different Interreg focused on similar topics and the strengthening of this network can: on the one side to improve the work of CREW partners; on the other side to continue implementing the experimentation on wetland contracts for the Mediterranean area.
Type of audience/target groups involved:	National and regional decision makers on wetland management managing directors and technical officers of Med wetlands, international NGOs members active on wetland management at Med scale, practitioners and researchers on wetland governance issues, graduated students (PhD and/or MD) in wetland governance related topics.

Annexes:

- Agenda