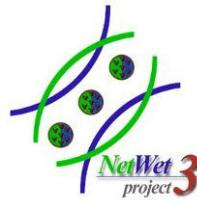




European Union
 Directorate General for Regional Policy
 (E.R.D. Funds)



Italian Republic
 Ministry of the Treasury, Budget and
 Economic Planning



NetWet 3 Project

“New forms of Territorial governance for the promotion
 of landscape policies in the field of water resources management at water territories.”



EU Community Initiative
 Interreg III B ArchiMed



KEPEMEP-MedRegio
 Coordinator of NetWet 3 project



**Centro Studi
 PAN**

**Mountain Community
 Italo-Arbëreshe of the Pollino
 Project Partner no 03**

THE LANDSCAPE'S CONTRACT

*(Work package 4, activity 4.1. – 4.2. -
 Work package 5, activity 5.1. - 5.2. – 5.3.)*

Coordinator : Felice Spingola

Workgroup: Sara Giacomozzi, Giuseppe Iannicelli, Giacomo Perrotta, Sergio Pulieri, Felice Spingola, Giuseppe Valente

Abstract:

The participated management of the territory's transformations imposes the experimentation of new tools of landscape planning. In this sense the experience of river contracts assumes an important reference for their effectiveness involving the local society in the processes of construction of new sustainable landscapes.

In order to exceed sector approaches that the river contracts assume in some Italian experiences, is very useful to refer to the wider concept of landscape that implies a holistic approach to the transformations, following the innovative indications of the European Convention of the Landscape. The Contract of Landscape can therefore become, if it respects the fundamental requirement, the tool adapted to manage the fluvial landscapes in different sectors and scales.

Index

1. The participated approach in the management of the contemporary landscapes
2. The River's Contract: the European experience
3. From the River's Contracts to the Landscape's Contracts
4. Methodological approach to the writing of a Landscape's Contract
5. The Landscape's Contract in the Net Wet 3 Project
6. Contribution of NetWet 3 Project to Landscape Contracts concerning the water areas of the Pollino Mountain Community

Bibliography

1. The participated approach in the management of the contemporary landscapes

The participation of the civil society to the decisional processes, and to the landscape's policies in particular, is today recognized from good part of the scientific community necessary for the success of plans and decisions and now also from part of the political world and is greeted like solution to the failures of the only economical approach.

But the participation is a term which often is misused and everyone defines and practises it according to the conveniences more to calm the conflicts that in order to imply in the decisional processes the interested subjects.

The Landscape Contracts want to face a challenge to develop a methodology and useful tools to take in account the study of the landscape, its social sharing and the experimentation in the construction of new landscapes.

2. The River's Contract: the European experience

In the planning tools for the water courses, the experience of river contracts introduces, with no doubt, one of the more interesting examples in the ability to develop a process of transformation of the river's territories that involved directly all the local actors in order to re-establish the relations with environment and with the dynamics of the water courses.¹

Starting from the daily actions that have a consequence on the rivers landscape, every river's inhabitant, association or agency, contributes to the continuous construction of a fluvial landscape based on the principles of the sustainability. The more interesting European experiences are surely those Walloons that could coordinate the participated processes from the bottom integrating the different actors.

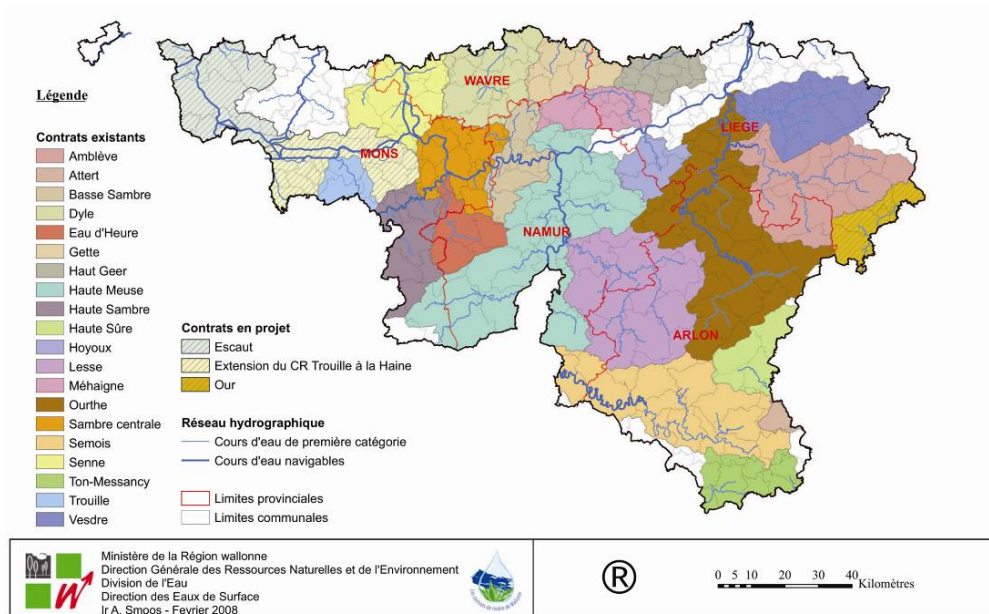


Fig.1 River Contracts in Wallonia

¹ Alberto MAGNAGHI, *I contratti di fiume: una lunga marcia verso nuove forme integrate di pianificazione territoriale*, in «Notiziario dell' Archivio Osvaldo Piacentini» 1 (2008).

For instance in the Walloon experience the involvement of the agriculturists has allowed to define and to sustain some agricultural practices that limit the erosion and favor the waters accumulation.²



Agronomic techniques of light hydraulics: Fig 2-3 Grassy Bands; fig.4-5 Grassy Channels; Fig.6-7 Comparison between the effects of 2 types of plowing (deep or superficial)

3. From the River's Contracts to the Landscape's Contracts

The experience of the river's contracts, has been individualized by the 2^o world forum on the water (the Aja 2002) as fundamental tool for the restoration and management of the river basin but the effectiveness and the integration with the general management's policies are generally unsatisfactory.

² In Sabine DAUTREBANDE, *Guide méthodologique pour le choix d'aménagements appropriés en matières de conservation des sol set des eaux*, Faculté Universitaire des Sciences Agronomiques-Hydrologie et Hydraulique agricole-Génie rural, Gembloux 2003.

To overcome the sectorial approaches is useful to resort to the European Convention of the Landscape that recognizes in the landscape the synthesis of the territory and of the perception that the local population has of it.

The proposal is therefore to integrate the tool of River's Contracts, that risks in the Italian experiences to centralize the attention only on the quality of waters, in Landscape's Contract, where all the natural and human elements of the fluvial organism, concurs to construct a scene of shared reference on which base the own actions.

The participation of the river populations, from the local agencies to the category's associations, from the single inhabitants to the environmental associations, are called to define the impacts and the possible contributions of their actions respect to a predefined plan, and to decide the strategies and priority of the activity.

The partners of the NetWet 3 Project undertook the task to build up a Contract Landscape concept: this work needed the comparison with other experiences in Italy, UE Member States and those from Mediterranean Basin, in particularly with experience on river contracts, because the Net Wet 3 Project concerns the water landscapes governance.

The landscape contract has an innovation value compared to well-known river contracts, because its following elements:

- Its overall approach to management and governance of environmental issues;
- It is not strictly related to the environmental damage (unlike the river contracts, that concern the restoring of compromised environmental situations), but to the comprehensive governance of all landscapes placed in a particular area, without differences;
- It has the aim to give back common values to environment, according to its changed socio-economics conditions and to furnish scientific information to resident populations and all subject involved in.
- The aim's Landscape Contract is to start up a participated process with all interested subjects (stakeholders like local managers/representatives, technicians, citizens, tourists, etc) in order to build up new landscapes by a participated approach.
- The Landscape Contract is a decentralized cooperation tool really useful for local representatives: it gives the chance to manage the local areas following a participated approach, solving their problems through shared scientific data and giving the possibility to improve the citizens conditions.

4. Methodological approach to the writing of a Landscape's Contract

The compilation of a Landscape's Contract, beyond their legal acknowledgment to regional level and their local specific structuring, for being effective must contain some fundamental elements:

1. The presuppositions:
 - territorial unity
 - unity of governance
2. The actors
The local community, is the main actor and it is charged of the transformation choices of their life's environment.

3. The scenery definition
The elaboration of a shared strategic scenery of middle and long term becomes the base to estimate the policies pursued by the different actors.
4. The individualization of the strategic lines.
They are defined to realize the scenery.
5. The definition of the actions program
Every subject individualizes the actions that it engages to carry out
6. The signature of the contract: monitoring and updating

An activity that crosses all the phases of the process is that constituted by the information and communication. These guarantee a democratic share, and at the same time the construction of a new culture of the territory that constitutes the principal presupposition for the construction of new sustainable landscapes

5. The Landscape's Contract in the NetWet 3 Project

In Italy and Europe there are lot of well-established experiences about River Contracts (see previous paragraphs) and they were carried out in those countries where there are national rules promoting voluntary agreements on restoration and increase of environmental and local value of river basins.

Some of these experiences concern rivers crossing different countries – like the river basin of the Danube in Europe: this experience is really promising, both because the know-how acquired and the scientific outcomes achieved, both because the solution of problems related to different national legislations.

The innovative contribute of the Net Wet 3 Project, introducing for the first time in Europe the “Landscape Contract” concept, is to extend the interventions not only to river basins and water conservation, but to the whole water landscapes – according to their natural and cultural features.

The landscape is the key tool useful for analysis and knowledge achievement, as defined in the European Landscape Convention (ELC).

According o the ELC:

- a. The Landscape means “*an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors*”.
- b. “Landscape policy” means an expression by the competent public authorities of general principles, strategies and guidelines that permit the taking of specific measures aimed at the protection, management and planning of landscapes (Art. 1 ELC)

The Net Wet 3 Project chose to apply the Landscape Contract Hypothesis to “water areas”: this is just because the river contracts experiences, carried out so far, allowed to go beyond their distinctive issues (river water pollution, sand drawing from riverbed etc). In this way it was possible to deal with the overall problems of the areas – the “landscape”, according to ELC – in order to fix “new” relationships between the man and its environment: in fact in the last 70 years the Mediterranean Region experienced lot of fast epochal changes, never happened before.

In the particular case of the areas of Pollino Mountain Community and their surroundings, the landscape contracts focused on water areas, allowing to face overall the local current problems. They are able to carry out, by a participated and shared planning, restoration interventions on water pollution reduction, overflowing risk reduction, environmental systems

and landscapes restoration and all that is related to. This is also an important contribution to affluence improvement of resident populations and not only. The Landscape Contract can represent a new model of participated policy among different institutional components and can become an useful negotiation tool, for the advantage of resident populations and policy makers at Province, Regional, National and EU level. Further, it could give the chance to test different strategies of local landscape governance.

Unfortunately, except the ELC adoption, do not exist national laws carrying into effect the Landscape Contract (as occurred at the beginning for river contracts), and it's necessary referring to regional, national and international current laws on decentralized negotiation.

For instance, the water areas Landscape Contract carries out the environmental aims and goals on water issues that the European Commission planned in the VI Environment Action Programme and in the 2000/60/CE Directive, but above all it carries into effect the ELC by a participated design.

The local policy makers can quickly comprehend the importance of this tool: in ordinary situations it represents the useful key to face the local problems in an unitary view and this kind of approach is important, because if the problems are individually faced and split for each town the institutions at national level don't take them into suitable account.

At the moment, and in the particular framework of the Pollino Mountain Community, the Landscape Contract is the only tool able to tackle the increasing water requirement like underground water picking up for cities, tourist supplies on the coastal areas and the agriculture, considering too the mad use of water tables made in the Sibari Plain (see the work of Mr Caracciolo and colleagues of Net Wet 3 Project).

6. Contribution of NetWet 3 Project to Landscape Contracts concerning the water areas of the Pollino Mountain Community

A large number of information related to the context of water management issues in the Pollino Mountain Community areas was achieved by studies and research activities involving several kind of subjects (like public bodies, associations and private subjects) interested in the water governance of this area. The scientific data, collected and elaborated, are able to start the drafting formulation of a Landscape Contract concerning the whole water areas of Pollino Mountain Community and their surroundings.

The NetWet 3 Project allowed to outline the situation of water resources and other landscape elements, providing lot of deep information on the basin of rivers Coscile, Garga and Eiano:

- Critical aspects and their causes of the considered areas;
- The heritage of environmental values, landscape and territorial features that have to be the basis of the Landscape Contract;
- The hydrogeological risks related to the water management and affecting the Pollino Mountain Community areas;
- Proposition of good practices aimed to restoration interventions, management of water flows and cultural water heritage i.e. factories, watermills, abandoned water plants, vegetable gardens etc;
- Management and reuse of effluents waters;
- Cultural heritage related to historical fountains and troughs of the Community areas.

The Pollino CM and the policy makers of towns placed in the Coscile-Garga-Eiano basin, have a very significant acknowledgement asset represented by studies and information like monographs, geo-referred maps, pictures collection etc: they can use this asset to develop a Landscape Contract of Coscile-Garga-Eiano Valley in order to protect and increase the value of its environmental and cultural heritage.

The carrying out of the Landscape Contract could lead to:

- A “landscape – like” management of Coscile-Garga-Eiano Valley;
- The environmental conservation and water ecosystems preservation of the Valley;
- The increase of economic and territorial value of water commercial activities – both traditional and potential;
- The conversion of agricultural and wood activities standing on water resources;
- The aware and participated development of sustainable tourist activities;
- The sustainable management of effluent waters and their profitable reuse;
- The suitable waste management, that at present are often illegally disposed in riverbeds.

Because the Pollino Mountain Community was equipped by the “Regional Landscape Atelier” as innovative tool aimed to manage the landscape problems, the carrying out of the Pollino CM Landscape Contract could be an useful experience approved at different levels: provincial, regional, national, EU and, above all, at European Council level. The European Council could judge this experience as testing of the European Landscape Convention.

In depth, the Landscape Contract on water areas of Pollino Mountain Community, could allow the beginning of a new “water culture” spread over the resident population, that lost the traditional knowledge on water uses because the deep changes occurred in its socio-economic assessment after the Second War till now. The Landscape Contract could offer the chance to establish new values to the water resources.

Bibliography

- CALORI Andrea, “Apporti partecipativi e funzioni programmatiche per i Contratti di fiume in Lombardia”, in *Partecipazione pubblica nell’attuazione della Direttiva Quadro Europea sulle Acque 2000/60*, Atti del Convegno, Milano, 30 maggio 2005, on-line.
- Common Ground, *Rynes Rivers & Running Brooks, Rivers and Local Distinctiveness*, Shaftesbury 2005.
- DAUTREBANDE Sabine, *Guide méthodologique pour le choix d’aménagements appropriés en matières de conservation des sol set des eaux*, Faculté Universitaire des Sciences Agronomiques-Hydrologie et Hydraulique agricole-Génie rural, Gembloux 2003.
- GIACOMOZZI Sara, *Paesaggi fluviali in movimento: dalla gestione del rischio idraulico alla creazione di nuovi spazi di libertà*. Tesi di Dottorato in Pianificazione Urbanistica, Territoriale e Ambientale, XX Ciclo, Firenze 2008.
- MAGNAGHI Alberto, *I contratti di fiume: una lunga marcia verso nuove forme integrate di pianificazione territoriale*, in «Notiziario dell’ Archivio Osvaldo Piacentini» 1 (2008).
- Ministère de la Région wallone, Division de l’Eau, *Guide méthodologique relatif au contrat de rivière*, Région Wallone, 2001.
- PIZZIOLO Giorgio, *Il fiume, segno e generatore di paesaggio*, in «Ri-Vista, ricerche per la progettazione del paesaggio», 5 (2007), pp. 5-12.
- ROOSEN Jutta, "Lutte contre l'érosion des terres agricoles par les mesures agro-environnementales en Région flamande", intervento al convegno: *Lutte contre les inondations et coulées de boue*, Jodoigne, 15 giugno 2007, on-line.
- TREVISIOL, Erich Roberto, *Public Opposition Shifted Top-Down Planning into Bottom-Up in the Bacchiglione River Case Study*, in the 3rd World Water Forum, Kioto, Shiga and Osaka, Japan, March 16-23 2003.
- ZAZZI, Michele, “Partecipazione e processi negoziali per il governo dei bacini idrografici”, in *Una nuova strategia per il governo del territorio, delle acque e dei suoli*, Pollenzo 23-24 marzo 2006.