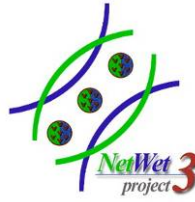




European Union
 Directorate General for Regional Policy
 (E.R.D. Funds)



Italian Republic
 Ministry of the Treasury, Budget and
 Economic Planning



NetWet 3 Project

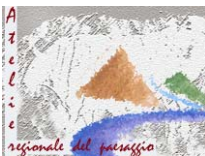
“New forms of Territorial governance for the promotion of landscape policies in the field of water resources management at water territories.”



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 Network of the Landscape’s Ateliers for a sustainable management of the river dynamics

(Work package 5, activity 5.1. - 5.2. – 5.3.)

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The Network of the Landscape's Ateliers for a sustainable management of the river dynamics

Abstract: The 'Landscape's Ateliers' could be the tool to activate the 'Landscape's Contracts' related to the courses of water to rediscover and redefine a new relationship between inhabitants and river territories. This tool can be strategic in reference to the problem of the hydraulic risk that, if managed in sectorial way, causes heavy impacts on the territory and involves further separations between the river and the facing populations.

According to the recent international directives, the active participation of the inhabitants can re-establish a relationship full of possible developments in the project. The participation can lead to a risk culture founded on the knowledge of the dynamics of periodic transformation of the courses of water, considered essential to face in a more complex way the problem of the floods.

The Atelier Network for the exchange of the good practices can contribute to consolidate of such innovative experiences.

1. Innovative principles in the floods management: debate and international directives

The disastrous floods happened during the last years in Europe have led to a general change of mind on the strategies adopted for the mitigation of the hydraulic risk. According to the analyses of the European Agency for the Environment

in the period 1998–2002, Europe suffered about 100 damaging floods causing some 700 fatalities, the displacement of about half a million people and at least 25 billion EUR in insured economic losses.¹

The failures of the traditional policies shown by the recent floods, the alarming forecasts concerning the consequences of the climatic changes and the scientific innovations in the analysis of the river systems, have favoured the rising of a new policy, whose goal is the management of the floods rather than the reduction of the risk.

On the principle that the floods are a natural element and that every intervention maintains a residual risk however, the safety of the people and the goods is pursued through a management of the floods that follows mainly according two strategies :

- the prevention of the damages, has to be realized through measures that reduce the vulnerabilities of the territory, above all by a careful planning that does not expose the heritages furtherly to the floods.

- the increase of the resilience, that is that one of the ability to absorb the modifications caused by the flood, to pursue through the putting in work of measure to balance ecologically the river system and to adapt the assets exposed, like the requalification of the river and flood plains and the planning of compatible work with the flood.

The European indications on the strategies to adopt for the management of the floods, took a step forward in the direction of a sustainable management: the result is reflected in the international documents, like the recent 'Flood Directive' of the Council of Europe(2007/60). It begins from the following consideration:

Floods are natural phenomena which cannot be prevented. However, some human activities (such as increasing human settlements and economic assets in

¹ EEA (Environment European Agency), *Climate change and river flooding in Europe*, in «EEA Briefing», 1 (2005), pp.1-4.

floodplains and the reduction of the natural water retention by land use) and climate change contribute to an increase in the likelihood and adverse impacts of flood events..²

On this basis, the directive encourages not structural solutions and undertakes prevention measures, based above all on the decrease of the vulnerability of the human structures and on the organization of the aids in the emergency.

Also 'the Guidelines on Sustainable Flood Prevention' UN/ECE (2000) of the United Nations, underlines the naturalness of the floods and consequently the necessity to pass from a defensive approach to one more active, involving the local populations, according the following principles:

Natural hazards and flood events are part of nature. They have always existed and will continue to exist [...].³

Considering the evolution and trends, the approach to natural hazards requires a change of paradigm. One must shift from defensive action against hazards to management of the risk».⁴

Flood protection is never absolute; only a certain level of protection against flooding can be guaranteed.⁵

The roots of the international debate, and the international documents and agreements spread over a net of experiences in this field that are accrued and consolidate three lines of action: the fluvial requalification, the decrease of the territory vulnerability and the adaptation of the structures.

In all experiences from Netherland to Balkans, from alpine countries to Mediterranean ones, recurs the fundamental topic the involvement of the local communities in the finding of the problems and in the experimentation of the possible solutions, in order to guarantee the change of paradigm that only if it permeates in the conscience of the local communities, can guarantee the effectiveness of the undertaken processes.

2. Participated river landscapes

The destruction of the flood prone areas along the rivers derives in great part from the breaking of the relationship between the local communities and their territory. In order to invert such processes a substantial change in the relations between the local river communities and the fluvial system is necessary. The loss of the ancient knowledge in the management of waters, imposes a long process to go nearer to the fluvial environment, to rediscover the characteristics and to experience unknown relations.

This change is clearly pointed out also in the international documents, and it is possible only through the direct involvement of the inhabitants either in the definition of problematic concerning the floods, or in the search of the best solutions.

The active inhabitants participation is important above all for:

1. The construction of a risk culture
2. The decrease of the community vulnerability.

² art..2, Directive 2007/60/CE, *cit.*

³ Art.4, *Guidelines on Sustainable Flood Prevention, cit.*

⁴ Art.6, *Guidelines on Sustainable Flood Prevention, cit.*

⁵ Art.7, *Guidelines on Sustainable Flood Prevention, cit.*

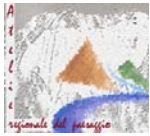
The construction of a risk culture is based on an effective and responsible acquaintance and knowledge of dynamics of the fluvial landscape and their dangers. The above mentioned acquaintance is based on the local knowledge and in the local memory. It defines also the perception of the risk from concerning population.

Beyond an efficient organizational structure to manage the emergencies, an indispensable element in order to face the calamities is a solid social structure. In this case the participation of the inhabitants in all the processes of planning of the fluvial territories, brings to the birth of new alliances between citizens.

These new communities can contribute in a decisive way to pull down the fragility and vulnerability of the local society, just through the culture of shared values that constitutes the strong tie. The international experience 'Contract of River' (see the deliverables on Landscape Contracts) can constitute an important point of departure for a participated strategy to large-scale.

3. The experience of the *Regional Landscape Workshop* – Comunità Montana Italian-Arbereshe of Pollino Castrovillari – Calabria Region – Function, activities and organization

3.1 The origin of the initiative



The Centro Study Pan has been the subject who carried out in Calabria the Project of the EU INTERREG IIC. – **Mediterranean landscapes and Latin Alps** closed in the years 1999-2001.

The Centro Study Pan proposed and then achieved the Project in the area of the Comunità Montana of Pollino with his office in Castrovillari

To the Project INTERREG IIC have taken part eleven Italian regions, two French and two Spanish ones.

The Project had as its explicit aim an activity of study and research inherent the changes of the landscape in the Mediterranean area and specifically, as far as the Calabria Region is concerned, the changes of the landscape in some municipalities in the area of the Comunità Montana Italo-Arbereshe – in the Pollino national park.

The working group – experts, public administrators, professionals and so on – of the Italian involved Regions, together with those of other Countries Partner in the Project, had to compete right away with the problems connected with the definition of “landscape” in the social economic given context and with the tools to use in order to analyze the changes afoot in the Mediterranean landscapes, on their causes and how to attribute new values to their own life environment and on the modalities for a participated management of the landscapes and the territory.

It is to underline that at this stage the European Convention on Landscape⁶ had not been approved, yet – it will be signed in Florence on the 20 October 2000 – and therefore it did not exist a shared definition of “landscape” but some very crucial points had emerged:

- a- The landscape in the Mediterranean area, starting above all from the second world war till our days, has suffered some degradation processes never observed before in historical age related to the short period of time that caused them, for the intensity of the changes afoot and more particularly for the fact that against the destructuration of the landscapes has not followed an action of qualitative reconstruction.
- b- As a consequence of these changes, the landscape in Europe has ceased to be a “cultural object” and has progressively turned into a *social issue*⁷ that has progressively involved during the last years, experts and the society.
- c- Being faced with these changes of the Mediterranean and European landscapes, it has emerged the need to equip oneself with a methodology and innovative tools. It came out the question of how to involve the population in the management of the landscapes’ changes and how to give them new values in the transformed and given economic, social and cultural conditions, and it was identified, in the use of the *social awareness*⁸, the tool that made possible at the same time to analyze the

⁶ In this text landscape we refer to the definition that the European Convention on Landscape uses in the section 1 and more precisely: Landscape designates a determined part of territory, so as it is felt by the populations, whose character comes from the action of natural either/or human factors and from their relations among them.

⁷ See Felice Spingola, *the social and partecipative dimension in the creation of the landscapes* in Mediterranean Prize of the Landscape, edited by Junta de Andalusia Seville 2001.

⁸ See G. Pizziolo and F. Spingola, *A experience of the European landscape: from the dynamics, to the social awareness, to the net of the workers of the landscape*, in Mediterranean Landscapes, edited by Sardinia Region, Cagliari 2002

changes afoot, allow the widest participation of the interested subjects and the resident populations and by this way to think of the creation of new shared landscapes. The useful tool and structure for an effective and participated management of the landscape was identified in the workshop of the landscapes.

3.2 Functions and organization of the Regional Landscape Workshop



During the last years and also in consequence of the implementation of the Project INTERREG NET WET 3 – *New forms of territorial governance for the promotion of the politics of landscape in the water territories* – the Comunità Montana Italo-Arbereshe of Pollino with the scientific support of the Centro Studi Pan has provided for the reinforcement of the Workshop in its central components:

- the thematic library on landscape;
- the implementation of the data base on the iconography of the landscape.
- The completion and the enlargement of the activity of study and research in the other municipalities of the CM and its surrounding – see contribution by the Project INTERREG NETWET3-
- Reinforcement of the partnership net with Italian and foreign institutions in Italy and Europe particular reference to Countries who are in the Mediterranean basin,
- Continue the formative/informative activity of *-education to the landscape-* both addressed to the vast public, segments of the civil society – students, associations- and to professionals and/or civil administrators. It has been possible to implement this activity thank to the ProjectNet Wet 3 – *new forms of territorial governance for the promotion of the policies of the landscape in the water territories* that specifically foresaw the elaboration of didactic material for the vast public on the landscapes of water territories.

As far as his logistic organization is concerned, at present the *Regional Landscape Workshop* is a structure of the Comunità Montana Italo-Arbereshe of Pollino with his office in Castrovillari.

The Comunità Montana Italo-Arbereshe of Pollino formalized the institution of the Regional Landscape Workshop by the resolution of 13 November 2006 n° 101 entrusting the Centro Studi Pan with the scientific direction.

The physical localization of the Regional Landscape Workshop is in the headquarte of the Comunità Mantana 's botanical garden:

It disposes of:

- a big conference room properly equipped
- a room adapted as a thematic library about the Mediteranean Landscapes and a database on the iconography or the landscapes with particular reference to the landscapes of the Comunità Montana's area and its surroundings
- a permanent exhibition area.

A bureau adapted as head office of the *Regional Landscape Workshop*.



At present it is priority interest of the Pollino Comunità Montana Italo-Arbereshe of Pollino that the activities of the *Regional Landscape Workshop* are integrated in the wider policy that the local government department, who has the power of attorney on the problems inherent the landscape, has started through the realization of the regional Observatory of the landscape. For this aim it has been submitted a proposal to the Calabria Region and negotiations are in progress to define the role of the Regional Landscape Workshop on a regional scale.

3.3 Main activities of the Regional Landscape Workshop during the years



The Regional Landscape Workshop has completed a series of researches on the changes of the agricultural landscape and urban centres of the concerned area with a holistic approach to the problem working out some thematic monographs equipped with thematic maps and iconographic, historical and up-to-date material.

The main produced monographs are:

Use of the soil, a comparative analysis on the changes intervened in the agricultural and forestal areas from the second world war till today.

The monograph has been edited by Simonetta Fascetti of Basilicata University.

The constructed landscape –Materials for a history of the hydraulic factories in the Coscile basin and the two tributaries , The Garga and the Eiano that analyzes in a hystoric and social economic profile the presence of artefacts of industrial archaeology along the river Coscile and in the Comunità Montana's area of Pollino

The monograph has been edited by the Prof. Francesco Mainieri.

-Between Pollino and Sibari, monograph of writers' and travellers' texts of the *grand tour* on the Pollino and more specifically on the Project area.

The monograph has been edited by the Prof. Vittorio Cappelli of the Calabria University and later published by Rubettino with the contribution of the Comunità Montana Italo-Arbereshe of Pollino

-The agricultural landscape of Comunità Montana of Pollino– elements of identifiability and rural housing , that examines the rural housing and the intervened changes.

Visual analysis of the kinematic axis: implementation at a trait of the highway SA/RC –Comunità Montana's Area of Pollino, a study on the dynamic vision of the landscape

These two monographs have been edited by the architect Donatella Rodriguez, bioarchitect expert on landscape.

The social awareness of the landscape among the Comunità Montana of Pollino population area Pollino national park– monograph edited by Dott Felice Spingola, national coordinator of the enquire on the social awareness of the landscape, together with the Prof Giorgio Pizziolo – Florence University – successfully completed in the eleven Italian regions who are partners in the ambit of the INTERREG IIC Project activities.

In the ambit of this initiative, in accordance with the municipal administrations of Castrovillari and the Comunità Montana Italo-Arbereshe of Pollino it was set up in 2002 the **Regional Landscape Workshop** with its seat in the cloister of Castrovillari, put on disposal by the municipal administration. Later on the *Regional Landscape Workshop* moved to the premises of the Comunità Montana and has at present its own logistic optimal location by the seat of the botanic garden, this one also property of the Comunità Montana Italo-Arbereshe of Pollino.

In the office of the **Regional Landscape Workshop** it was started an outfitting, in the limit allowed by the funds available, of a *thematic library on the landscape* and an **iconographic Thesaurus –database** – with cartography and pictures that support with documentary evidence the evolution of the landscape in the Comunità Montana's area of Pollino.

With the contribution of the *Comunità Montana Italo-Arbereshe of Pollino* has been conceived and started the first course in Italy on **Education on Landscape** that has involved students and teachers of the *Liceo Scientifico Statale E. Mattei of Castrovillari* and as teachers in the course, experts from various Italian Universities and from Calabria.



During the years other very important initiatives have been furthermore organized, among them:

a)- workshop on *the Mediterranean Landscape - shared experiences* 15/16 July 2000-;

b)-*National course on Bio-architecture – 2001-*;

c) *the Exhibition – meeting on - The European Convention on Landscape scientific acquisitions of intervention on the territory* 19/20 and 21 April by the Franciscan cloister of Castrovillari

d)- *I° interactive convention on the Mediterranean Mountain – 13/14/15 December 2002.*

The Regional Landscape Workshop has besides started a very successful cooperation with the Calabria University that saw its fulfilment with the presentation of the results of the activities of study, research and intervention in the *course of specialization, analysis and planning* of the landscape activated by the *Department of territorial planning*, by Doctor Felice Spingola and the architect Donatella Rodriguez.

Always by the *Territory Planning Department* of UNICAL, it was moved - in May 2002 - , the exhibition on the results of the activities carried out in the *Program INTERREG IIC Project -Mediterranean and Latin Alps Landscape.*

Furthermore, *The Regional Landscape Workshop* and the Centro Studi PAN have been included in the Working Group of the European Council who has elaborated the report to be submitted to the II* International Convention of the member States of EU about the state of implementation of the European Convention of the Landscape who took place in Strasbourg, by the EU Building on the 14 and 15 November 2002.

The activities carried out by *The Regional Landscape Workshop* have been produced, on invitation of the Director of Culture Directorate, Cultural and Natural Heritage of the Council of Europe Doctor Maguelonne De Jeant-Ponts, during the working days organized by the European Council on 23 and 24 May 2002 (see Council of Europe's website):

<http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention>;

<http://www.coe.int/Conventioneuropéennedupaysage>).

The interest that *The Regional Landscape Workshop* has raised among various scientific institutes and Government authorities in Europe is attested by the numerous invitations to events organized by the States in accordance with the Council of Europe - Directorate of Culture, natural and cultural landscape ,

-following the most important ones:

-Strasbourg, France, 23-24 May 2002 – *First meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Convention on Landscape* with an intervention on : *the Workshops of landscape. New tools for the implementation of the European Convention on Landscape – the experience of the regional Landscape workshop – Castrovillari – Italy-*;

- Strasbourg , France, 28-29 November 2002 – *Second Conference of the contracting and signing countries of the European Convention on Landscape* with an intervention on: *the social participation – new methodologies for the management and the creation of shared landscapes-*

-Tulcea – Rumania - 6-7-(8) may 2004- meeting on: *Landscape And Spatial Planning -Information Seminar Concerning - Sustainable Spatial Development And The European Landscape Convention* with an intervention on: *New challenges of the European Landscape Convention, new methodologies*;

Bordeaux – France – 1-4 December 2004 -: *from the awareness of the landscapes up to the action on the landscapes* with an intervention on: *landscape and participation*;

-Lubiana, Slovenia, 11-12 May 2006 – *Forth meeting of the workshops for the implementation of the European Convention on landscape* with an intervention on:

Landscapes and changes: towards a new pattern of governance in the politics of the landscape;

-La Vella – Andorra, 4-5 June 2007 – seminar on the landscape with an intervention about: *Tutorship of the mountainous landscapes in Italy : Problems and perspectives;*

-Sibiu Romania 20-21 September 2007- *Sixth meeting of the workshop for the implementation of European Landscape Convention*, with an intervention on: *shared governance of the landscapes of water territories* : The experience in progress of the project NetWet 3 – Regional Landscape Workshop – Castrovillari – Italy - ;

All the interventions have been published in different volumes edited by the Council of Europe that can almost all be consulted on the web.

Finally, in 2005 The Comunità Montana Italo-Arbereshe of Pollino , under proposal of the Centro Studi Pan, adhered as a partner to the project *Net Wet 3 – new forms of territorial governance for the promotion of the politics of landscape in the water territories* financed by EU in the ambit of the program INTERREG - ARCHIMED that allowed to give continuity and to strengthen, in the course of the last 2 years, the action *of the Regional Landscape Workshop*. It must be underlined that the 30 project partners have taken the experience of the *Regional Landscape Workshop* as a reference to design in their contexts a structured and unceasing activity oriented to the participated enforcement of the European Landscape Convention and to the use of the *social awareness of the landscape* as a methodological tool for the resident population to regain possession of their life environment and for attributing to it new shared values.

The project Net Wet 3 – *new forms of territorial governance for the promotion of the policies of the landscape in the water territories* has made possible the expansion of the knowledge on the landscape dynamics present in the Comunità Montana's area and his neighbourhoods and the strengthening of the trans-national partnership, already a significant one, that will allow the *Regional Landscape Workshop*, in the short and long term, to carry on with his action aiming to involve the local populations, the local public administrators and the decision makers, who at different title infer with the changes of the landscape in order to generate an action that goes more and more towards the direction of the tutorship and the creation of new landscapes in the given context.

All the outputs of the Net Wet 3 Project are available on the Comunità Montana's website.

4. The role of the Network of the Landscape's Atelier

For the promotion of processes participated from the bottom the local experience of the Atelier of the Landscapes developed in various contexts. The Atelier consists of associations between municipalities, agencies and associations for the study of the transformations of the contemporary landscape and the experimentation of participation ways with an particular attention to the social aspects.

The roles of the Atelier can be summarized in:

- center of local documentation on the nature and the quality of the landscape;
- observatory of the landscape transformations;
- forum of the social perceptions and the attributions of shared values of the landscape;

The Center is structured like a coordination knot of emerged search and experimentation on thematic that invest the transformations of the landscape and like a participated creative laboratory that doesn't take advantage in its studies only by instruments of theoretical surveying but also by the social perception of the landscape; on the other hand the atelier investigates the vision perceived from the inhabitants of the transformations of their life environment.

For that reason the Atelier can become the main actor to begin a knowledge process about the waters dynamics that put in connection the various know-how and reach to define a link with the water course and their dynamics.

The richness of the various experiences of Atelier, is due to the regional specificities and to their historical evolution, and is increased of value in the comparison and in net with the experiences of the other Atelier and the other experiences on similar topics (regional observatories on the landscape, RECEP-ENELC, etc..). That can contribute in an active way to the construction of a catalogue of best practices in the participated construction of the new landscapes of the floods.

In this way is reached a goal that singularly an atelier could not guarantee by the comparison not only of the results, but also of the methodologies and the used techniques, with a communication balanced and equal, without supremacy over the net.

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I GENERAL CONSIDERATION

4. Flood event are part of nature [..]
5. Society has become more vulnerable to natural hazards[..]
- 6.,7 Change of Paradigm[..]
8. Holistic approach[..]
- 9.-12 Prerequisites for proper action[..]

II BASIC PRINCIPLES AND APPROACHES

13. There are at least seven basic principles and approaches regarding sustainable flood prevention. To implement them, cooperation at all government levels, and coordination of sectoral policies regarding environmental protection, physical planning, agriculture, transport and urban development is needed. As regards transboundary waters, cooperation is needed among the riparian countries to harmonize national policies and strategies, and to draw up concerted action plans:

- (a) Flood events are part of nature. They have always existed and will continue to exist;
- (b) Human interference into the processes of nature has increased the threat of flooding. As far as possible, such interference should be reversed, compensated and, in the future, prevented;
- (c) Flood prevention should cover the entire catchment area of watercourses; this also applies to transboundary waters and their catchment areas. Flood prevention has also to be based on the precautionary principle;
- (d) Structural measures will remain important elements of flood prevention and protection. However, these measures should primarily focus on the protection of human health and safety, and valuable goods and property. Requirements of nature conservation and landscape management should be taken into account;
- (e) Everyone who may suffer from the consequences of flood events should also take his/her own precautions. To this end, an appropriate information and forecasting systems should be established by the competent authority;
- (f) Human uses of flood plains should be adapted to the existing hazards. Appropriate instruments and measures should be developed to reduce the risk of flooding;
- (g) In flood-prone areas, preventive measures should be taken to reduce possible adverse effects of floods on aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, such as water and soil pollution.

III. POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

14. All appropriate action should be taken to create legal, administrative and economic frameworks that are stable and enabling and within which the public, private and voluntary sectors can each make their contribution to flood prevention, dam safety and the reduction of adverse impacts of dangerous flood events on human health and safety and valuable goods and property, and on the aquatic and terrestrial environment.

15. To protect human health, primary and secondary preventive measures are necessary. Primary preventive measures include: building codes; legislation to relocate structures away from flood-prone areas; planning appropriate land use; adequately designed floodplains and flood-control structures; and earlywarning systems. Secondary preventive measures are those actions taken in

response to early evidence of health impacts. They include all types of flood response, but also guidelines on how populations are to act during floods, as well as disease monitoring and correct risk communication.

16. Priority should be given to integrated water management measures for the whole catchment area rather than to the management of floods as such.

17. The impact of all major human activities concerning flood prevention and protection in the catchment area on society as a whole should be properly considered. All major undertakings with the potential of adversely affecting human health or significantly affecting water quality or quantity, biological communities, landscape, climatic factors, architectural and archeological heritage, or the relationship between them should be subject to environmental impact assessment (EIA) and authorization procedures. EIA should also be applied on an international scale, in particular with regard to activities with a potential transboundary effect on health and aquatic ecosystems.

18. Physical planning as well as urban and rural development and construction should take into account the requirements of flood prevention and reduction, including the provision of retention areas.

19. In setting up these frameworks local problems, needs and knowledge, and local decision-making mechanisms should be duly taken into consideration.

20. An information policy that covers risk communication and facilitates public participation in decision-making should be developed.

IV. JOINT AND COORDINATED ACTION

21.-23. Joint bodies[..]

24.-26. Provision of information[..]

27.- 29. Critical situations and mutual assistance[..]

V. PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

30.-36. [..]

Nb: The pictures in the text concerning different events organized by Atelier Regionale del Paesaggio in the Calabria Region with economical support of the Comunità Montano del Pollino.