

I “Contratti di Fiume” nella Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia

Opportunità e futuri sviluppi per gli ambienti fluviali e le comunità locali

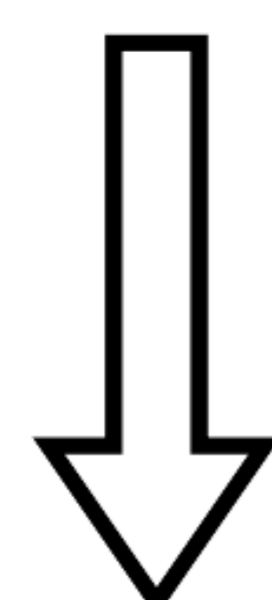
WATER, RIVER CONTRACT,
PARTICIPATION, SENSE OF
PLACE, PLACEMAKING

River Contracts as voluntary agreements for water management

high degree of participation



community
place-making activities



**enhanced
sense of place**

AIMS:

The project aimed to explore the river contracts, voluntary agreements between stakeholders for managing water bodies. This research investigated ongoing evolutionary processes, evaluated the path and impact, and studied the dynamics and actors involved in the activation of river contracts. Furthermore, the project explored the dynamics that are taking place, the actors involved, how river contracts have been developed, and the desired and achieved objectives. The research focused on Natisone, Rojello di Pradamano, Cormor, Judrio, Alta Livenza River Contracts, and the wetland contract for the Marano Lagoon.

APPLICATIONS:

This research shows that river contracts can be a tool to foster discussion about the links between communities and water bodies and help move the conversation towards a renovated community-based sense of place in which participation plays an active role.

This project exhibits the potentialities potential for river contract to be tools not only for water management, or for and leisure alongside the waterscapes, but also for developing a community-based sense of place, thanks to the active participation and interaction of a range of stakeholders at every stage of the participatory process.

RESULTS:

The top-down approach and participation are possible opposite approaches to co-designing a river contract. Actors have different capacities to influence participatory processes and leadership should help the river contract process by enabling participation. Moreover, developing a river contract using a managerial approach, with a linear conception and a scheduled agenda, could lead to a poor outcome because of the lack of involvement of the local population. Conversely, a river contract carried out as a process, respecting all the phases, allowing sufficient time, and building a sense of belonging, will motivate stakeholders because they will identify themselves as part of the process itself.

The best framework for enabling place-making and enhancing a sense of place is to develop river contracts within a process that includes a high degree of participation, allowing citizens to move from being passive recipients of plans territorial actors towards becoming territorial actors.



The Roiello di Pradamano river



The Livenza river in Sacile