

# Bridges

## UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe

Issue 2 • 2015

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United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization

Venice Office  
Regional Bureau for Science  
and Culture in Europe

## UNESCO's contribution to EXPO 2015 Overview of activities

The theme chosen for EXPO Milano 2015, "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life", provides an opportunity for UNESCO to share its experience of the relationship between people, culture, nature and the production/consumption of food with a global audience, and to explore the vital role of cultural and natural diversity as drivers for sustainable development.

As well as participating in EXPO Milan as a member of the UN system under the banner "The Zero Hunger Challenge", UNESCO has prepared a broad set of activities and events in and around Venice and other

Italian UNESCO sites as part of the Venice to EXPO 2015 programme:

- The "**Behind Food Sustainability**" exhibition
- **Water worlds**, including the "Exploring the Venice Lagoon" multimedia installation and two international conferences, "Waterscapes and Historic Canals as a Cultural Heritage" and "Water for a Sustainable World"
- **Children's EXPO**, including the Treasure Hunt in Venice, the Parco degli Alberi Parlanti in Treviso and Young Leonardo at EXPO
- The involvement of **other designated territories and sites** in Italy. >> full story



UNESCO's contribution to EXPO 2015 was made possible thanks to the generous support of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice (Italy).



Ministero degli Affari Esteri  
della Cooperazione Internazionale

## UNESCO takes part in EXPO 2015 in Milan and Venice, Italy



UNESCO's Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, located in Venice, Italy, is ideally placed, thanks to a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the cities of Milan and Venice, to spearhead the Organization's efforts to use "EXPO 2015" as a platform for raising awareness on important issues relating to sustainable development at the local, regional and global levels.

EXPO 2015 is a non-commercial Universal Exposition hosted by Italy, in which 144 other countries are participating. Over the six months of its duration (May-October 2015), Expo 2015 is expecting upwards of 20 million physical and one billion virtual visitors. UNESCO, as part of the United Nations (UN) system, will participate in Expo 2015 together with over 20 other UN specialized agencies and programmes, coordinated by an UN-EXPO 2015 team under the leadership of FAO.

The general theme of EXPO 2015, The cities of Milan and Venice have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to qualify the direct and indirect participation in the Venice area at EXPO 2015 in Milan. Venice, with more than 23 million visitors a year, acts as a fundamental gateway to and, at the same time, important co-location of Expo 2015.

UNESCO, through its Venice Office, has taken advantage of this unique

opportunity and signed a MoU with the Comitato Expo Venezia, the body responsible for coordinating Venice's participation to the EXPO 2015, on 3 December 2013 to further promote UNESCO's mission and mandate in line with the main theme and with the selected special theme for Venice's participation in the EXPO 2015, "Water, Energy for life".

Organized around these themes, the projects, events and activities UNESCO has planned have served to introduce many of the Organization's flagship programmes to the general public. The initiatives include: an exhibition on UNESCO designations

(World Heritage sites; Biosphere Reserves; Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage) as best practices for sustainable development; the hosting of water-related international conferences; the promotion of "slow" and sustainable tourism along the historical waterways connecting Venice to its hinterland where many UNESCO designated sites are located; and, Young Leonardo and the Treasure Hunt to guide the many children and families visiting Venice along alternative itineraries through the city in search of the "blue gold". >>full story



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## BEHIND FOOD SUSTAINABILITY

The exhibition was organized thanks to the support of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe.



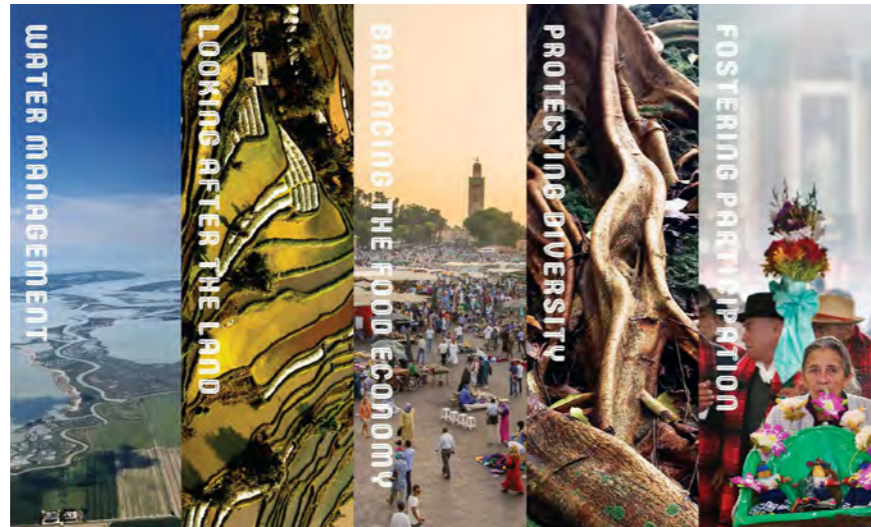
The cultural and natural diversity feeding our future

BEHIND FOOD SUSTAINABILITY

6 May - 31 October 2015

Palazzo Zorzi, UNESCO Venice Office. Castello 4930, 30122 Venice

Opening days: Tuesday-Sunday  
Opening hours: 10 am.-1pm., 2pm.-5.30 pm.



## United for a sustainable food future. Striking the balance between production and consumption

According to recent studies, we have already entered an era of 'peak food', with the production of many of the world's staples (such as rice, meat, wheat and vegetables) starting to slow. We are at a critical moment. In order to rise to this challenge and achieve 'food sustainability' – the continued ability to sustain a growing population with sufficient and nutritious food – we must learn to produce and use food and water in a way that balances environmental, social and economic needs.

How can the world adequately feed more than 9 billion people (by 2050) in a manner that advances economic development and reduces pressure on the environment? This is one of the key questions the world faces over the next four decades. Answering it means performing a "Great Balancing Act".

Rather than relying on short-term solutions, which can damage our environment and degrade our natural resources, we must devise answers that will have a lasting effect and yield valuable lessons for the future.

The answer to many of these challenges lies in the relationship between peoples, their ecosystems and their cultural and natural

heritage. UNESCO's programmes and networks include many communities across the world that have found ways to produce and consume food in harmony with their environment, drawing on their knowledge, heritage and active participation.

The world can learn from their experiences, and policies must be put in place to ensure they continue to thrive.

The safeguarding of outstanding sites that are home to some of the richest examples of terrestrial and marine biodiversity is vital for environmental sustainability. Cultural and natural heritage also stimulates economic development, attracting investment and creating green, locally-based, stable jobs; it plays an essential part in the spiritual well-being of individuals and communities, as well as in fostering cohesive and inclusive societies.

The UNESCO "Behind Food Sustainability" exhibition takes a look at what communities and territories around the world can teach us about humankind's relationship with food and nature.

The United Nations (UN)'s "The Zero Hunger Challenge: United for a Sustainable World" is a call for

action to ensure that all people have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious and sustainable food.

*"At least one in nine people worldwide goes to bed without a meal. Food is life, it should be a fundamental right, a basic need to be met if we wish to build more equitable and secure societies",* observed our colleague, Philippe Pypaert, coordinator of the Science Unit. *"We must shape our future around the sustainable use of resources, good practices and education, developing solutions together to build a better, hunger-free world!"*

In accepting this challenge, UNESCO has taken a cross-sectoral approach to its participation in EXPO 2015, preparing a activities as part of the Venice to EXPO 2015 programme. In particular, these will showcase experiences from UNESCO heritage networks –World Heritage properties, Man and the Biosphere reserves, Intangible Heritage elements – as beacons of food sustainability, raise global awareness on water as an essential and limited resource and educate youth on sustainable development.

*"EXPO 2015 comes at a key moment for the UN as it reviews overall progress in meeting the Millennium Development Goals, and it provides an excellent example of the benefits of an interdisciplinary approach. "By enquiring into food production and consumption throughout history and in the present day, it reveals the essential links and mutual influences between traditional cultural values and technological innovations",*



Exhibition map layout and tablets



The exhibition explores what is behind food sustainability ...

... and sets the challenge of balancing environmental, social and economic needs

noted Véronique Dauge, Officer-in-charge of the Venice Office and Head of the Culture Unit. *"We are currently preparing a series of exhibitions, conferences and events that will showcase UNESCO's unique insight into the relationship between man, culture, nature and sustainable practices."*

The exhibition, organised at UNESCO premises in Palazzo Zorzi and on display until 31 October 2015, brings together best practices from UNESCO's heritage networks. It provides a platform for communities to share the knowledge they have acquired over the course of generations, bearing witness to their values and passing on the lessons learned in the field of sustainable development to others. In order to

reach the widest possible audience, activities are also being developed in the Po Delta Area and the Padua Botanical Gardens.

*"UNESCO's networks of cultural and natural sites and intangible cultural heritage elements celebrate natural and cultural diversity in all its forms, as a crucial factor for sustainable development. The communicative value of these international networks is unparalleled",* Matteo Rosati, Programme officer of the Culture Unit, stressed.

EXPO 2015 offers the opportunity to look at such networks in terms of food sustainability, and to use their experiences to raise awareness on the importance of cultural and natural heritage as assets for achieving sustainable forms of food production and consumption. Viewed together, these examples of humanity's resourcefulness and of man's relationship with nature hold the key to understanding present and future challenges in the field of sustainable development. >>full story

**Managing Water**  
**Looking after the land**  
**Balancing the food economy**  
**Protecting diversity**  
**Fostering participation**



The "Behind Food Sustainability" exhibition can yield valuable lessons for the future. Communities from around the world share expertise, traditional knowledge and practices and an undivided passion for sustainable development in their territories – a "heritage" to be passed down to future generations.

The exhibition includes five main thematic areas, each focusing on a particular sustainability challenge:

**Managing Water; Looking after the Land; Balancing the Food Economy; Protecting diversity; Fostering participation.**

**MANAGING WATER**

Water is the source of life – but challenges to its availability, use and distribution are increasing. Half of the world's wetlands have been lost to development; groundwater levels are declining due to overuse; many of our biggest rivers no longer reach the sea; water quality is dropping, threatening health and livelihoods across the world.

These problems derive largely from our excessive and increasing use of water, which is a limited resource. The vast majority of the world's fresh water supplies are used for agriculture, which accounts for 70% of all water extracted for human purposes, and most of the stages of food production rely on water. A rapidly growing population means we are under pressure to produce more and more food, while climate change is affecting biodiversity and water availability, compounding the problem.

The planet is facing a 40% shortfall in water supply by 2030 unless we dramatically improve the management of this precious resource. We can do so by learning from others who have successfully balanced competing needs. Many of the best examples can be found in the diverse communities and regions across the world that participate in UNESCO's networks.



**Our water resources face huge pressure from population growth, climate change and pollution. Improved water management plays a vital role in increasing food production and reducing food insecurity.**

**LOOKING AFTER THE LAND**

The amount of productive land available in the world is affected by a series of factors, ranging from climate change to human intervention. Mismanagement of the land has resulted in serious degradation, irreversible damage to the wider ecosystem and reduced productivity.

Population pressure – and the resulting need for more food – is causing huge changes to the way in which we farm and use land in many parts of the world. Large-scale monoculture and the widespread use of harmful chemicals and pesticides are replacing small-scale, diverse and sustainable methods. Meanwhile, mass urbanization and desertification are reducing the amount of land available to us, affecting food production, distribution and consumption. Land abandonment in some areas is leading to reduced biodiversity, natural disasters and the loss of highly valuable rural landscapes.

Proper integrated land management and the enforcement of land use rights are essential if we wish to guarantee sustainable food production. Past and present experiences in many of the rural and urban landscapes listed under UNESCO's programmes provide examples of this in action. Agricultural and other food-production practices are a testament to humankind's long and successful interaction with the land. They have shaped outstanding, historic landscapes and contributed to food sustainability and environmental protection, ensuring the steady provision of food and livelihoods to local communities.



**Productive land is essential to the needs of humankind. Our ability to feed the world in the future largely depends on the sustainable use of this resource.**

**BALANCING THE FOOD ECONOMY**

The methods used to produce food and sell it to a rapidly growing world population are creating huge strains on the food system and on the people who should benefit from it. Farmers, producers, transporters and retailers have become links in a global chain that often fails to meet local needs and ethical imperatives.

Mass retail places immense pressure on small farmers and producers, reducing their profits and livelihoods. Prices – increasingly driven by financial speculation that damages both producers and consumers – are ever more volatile. This trend is unsustainable in the long term, both for the environment and for us all, beginning with the most vulnerable.

Communities around the world have learned to produce high quality food in a responsible and sustainable way that benefits local society, the economy and the environment. Their experiences can provide a source of inspiration for policies and behaviour.

UNESCO works with many of these "food communities", helping to safeguard their environment, their social practices, their cultural legacies, as well as to promote and entrepreneurship based on local food production and sales. The combination of this wealth of knowledge, creativity and innovation is highly important for sustainable development.



**Food production and distribution stimulate economic growth. By drawing on the local cultural, social and natural environment, food-related practices can become more sustainable and create wider opportunities.**

**PROTECTING DIVERSITY**

As the demand for land for agriculture and energy production increases, more and more ecosystems are endangered or irreversibly damaged. Intensive, large-scale agricultural practices alone provide a short-sighted response to global food challenges, as they reduce genetic diversity and contribute to habitat loss and degradation, climate change and pollution.

Meanwhile, our cultural diversity, embodied by the plurality of identities of groups and societies, is increasingly challenged by global pressures such as mass labour migration movements and the dramatic spike in urbanization. The loss of cultural pluralism reduces the range of options open to us and depletes a key resource for humanity.

There is growing evidence that reduced diversity makes the world more vulnerable to natural and human-induced changes. The direct link between biological and cultural diversity is also increasingly recognized as critical for sustainable development.

In order to preserve this resource, close co-ordination between a wide range of policy areas – social, economic, cultural and environmental – is necessary. Ways must be found to engage local communities, producers and administrations in the task of managing their own territories and connecting rural and urban areas.

UNESCO works to protect biological and cultural diversity in the form of unique ecosystems and lifestyles which also contribute to food sustainability. From natural reserves to traditional agricultural and forest management, inter-cultural exchanges and co-operation in cross-border areas, these experiences teach us that different facets of diversity are inextricably linked. We cannot understand and protect the natural environment unless we commit to safeguarding the cultures that live in it and help to shape it.



**The biological and cultural diversity of the planet, key to our present and future well-being, is under threat. Ensuring its survival is a necessary step on the road to achieving a fairer and more sustainable food system.**

**FOSTERING PARTICIPATION**

Faced with a growing demand for food, the goal for food policy cannot be to simply maximize productivity; it must also make improvements across a complex network of issues that bring social and environmental considerations into play.

Over the centuries, communities around the world have developed a wealth of knowledge and unique social practices related to the production, distribution and consumption of food. They could prove to be effective in coping with emerging food insecurities. If we wish to make the most of these experiences, we need to safeguard them and support their viability, ensuring that they are transmitted to future generations.

In recent years, community involvement has increasingly been the focus of attention in international and national development policies. It is an important human right and an invaluable tool towards achieving social cohesion, empowerment and sustainable growth. Participation of local communities in the management of their own resources is crucial for food sustainability.

UNESCO's networks include many cases in which community participation and cultural food-related practices contribute to food security, helping to maintain health standards, sustain livelihoods, respect the environment and strengthen social cohesion and identity. These examples remind us of the need for cultural and social elements to ensure the sustainability of any development or policy process.



**Food-related practices have a social and cultural dimension, based on community participation. This is vital for building identities and supporting social cohesion and development.**

## Protecting cultural and natural diversity to feed the planet



The world's population is growing at an ever-higher rate. Maintaining adequate food supplies is becoming a critical issue, compounded by the combined effects of climate change, urbanization, and the overexploitation and depletion of natural resources. The response to these challenges cannot only rely on technological 'enhancements' and intensive, large-scale food production, which are increasingly showing their limits. More sustainable solutions can be found in practices used around the world for generations and contained in UNESCO's global networks of sites.

Since our first, nomadic ancestors roamed the Earth in search of food, we've encountered an extraordinary range of habitats, supporting a vast diversity of plant and animal life. Over thousands of years, we learned to adapt to local conditions,

'working the area' to make the most of natural resources, while gaining a profound awareness of our delicate relationship with fragile local environments.

This 'awareness' evolved into a diverse heritage of knowledge and practices that sustained communities while caring for ecosystems essential to life. Protecting and learning from this cultural and natural diversity is vital for humanity's survival.

Throughout history people have endeavoured to shape and adapt the land to meet their food and housing needs. There are many examples of how humankind has successfully adapted nature into agrarian landscapes and human settlements. Key to the on-going success of these enterprises has been the conscious preservation of harmony with the environment – with sustainable land

management practices to balance food production with the needs of the ecosystem.

Many UNESCO designated sites are thriving examples of these principles in action. They represent outstanding managed landscapes and agricultural systems, producing staple foodstuffs and globally recognised products, while protecting the land.

These sites are invaluable sources of unique, pioneering land management techniques, and examples of how human settlements and industrial-scale food production can exist in harmony with their surrounding landscapes.

The challenge for people everywhere is to embrace these vital lessons in order to understand



'Behind food sustainability' video

[7:58]

and address present and future sustainable development issues.

UNESCO helps safeguard many food producing communities around the world, mostly made up of small-scale and family farmers who rely on traditional knowledge and participatory practices. These communities encourage and support entrepreneurship in thriving local markets and help sustain wide socio-economic systems. They produce celebrated gastronomic cultures and cuisines, which play a vital role in ensuring food security and maintaining a social and ecological balance. They are custodians of unique gastronomic knowledge on the sourcing, cultivation and use of local ingredients, as well as methods of food production and processing. They generate value chains that include distribution, catering, tourism, and cultural activities, creating opportunities for income generation and helping local peoples remain engaged in community life.

The world can learn from these models of high quality food production, achieved in responsible and sustainable ways .

Experience in many UNESCO programmes indicates that the involvement of farmers, rural workers, community leaders and others in policy-making is crucial to achieving successful and sustainable food production. There are many examples of how communities working together reap long-term, social, economic and environmental benefits.

Food-centred traditions are passed down from person to person and collectively inherited through rituals and ceremonies; they embody an intimate understanding of the environment, including long-established subsistence technologies for fishing, agriculture or food processing; they reinforce individual and collective identities, and community empowerment. Today, part of this intangible cultural heritage is under threat.

Encroaching urbanisation, population drift, the homogenisation of food production and consumption are just some of the factors that are contributing to the disappearance of these ways of life.

UNESCO helps safeguard and foster the development of these practices, contributing to food security, maintaining livelihoods, and strengthening social cohesion. The safeguarding of active communities, together with their natural and cultural heritage, is essential for food sustainability and to meet the pressures of a fast changing world; action at various levels, as well as individual awareness, are urgently required to ensure they continue to thrive.

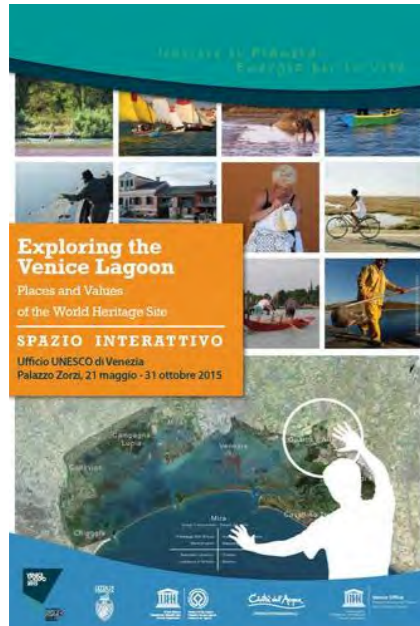
Learning to understand, cherish and pass on these invaluable natural and cultural 'treasures' is a responsibility for us all; it holds the key to solving some of our planet's most pressing needs. >>full story



The exhibition 'Behind Food Sustainability' on the Piano Nobile of Palazzo Zorzi



## Exploring the Venice Lagoon. Places and Values of the World Heritage site



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Set up as part of the 'Venice to EXPO 2015' Programme, the interactive multimedia installation exploring the places and values of the UNESCO World Heritage site "Venice and its Lagoon" was inaugurated at Palazzo Zorzi, UNESCO's premises in Venice, on 21 May 2015, in the presence of management bodies and institutions that work to promote and develop a greater general awareness and understanding of the values of the site.

The event was opened in the presence of Sergio Pomponio, sub-commissioner for the City of Venice; Pier Francesco Ghetti and Eriberto Eulisse, respectively president and director of the Centro Internazionale Civiltà dell'acqua

(ONLUS); Katia Basili, responsible officer of the Office of the World Heritage site "Venice and its Lagoon" of the Municipality of Venice; and Silvia Conte, the Mayor of the City of Quarto d'Altino.

The "Venice and its Lagoon" site, inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1987 for the uniqueness of its cultural values, contains historical, archaeological, urban, artistic heritage and exceptional cultural traditions integrated into an extraordinary and outstanding environmental, natural and landscape. It was with these qualities in mind that the Management Plan 2012-2018 for Venice and its Lagoon was prepared by all the bodies responsible for the site through their appointed representatives sitting on the Steering Committee.

The UNESCO Office in Venice played an important role in the organization of the consultation process for the preliminary definition of the objectives and contents of the Plan.

"The installation is an important result.", stated Vittorio Zappalorto, special commissioner for the City of Venice, at the Press Conference held on 15 May. "It is a test of the ability of the Steering Committee that worked to make it happen, and is extremely important for the environment of the lagoon and all the neighbouring areas. The task has involved various municipalities and hopes to encourage a different political approach to environmental protection – a collaborative and

synergic effort to enhance the new 'metropolitan city'."

The 'Exploring the Venice Lagoon' installation aims to convey the universal value of this World Heritage site. Visitors have the chance to explore the historic waterways that extend inland from Venice itself – because the Venice lagoon is a rich, complex ecosystem containing a wealth of cultural and historical heritage and a broad variety of natural habitats and cultural landscapes that together represent a unique 'Water Civilization'.

The interactive space offers 4 distinct thematic sections to accompany the visitor through an immersive vision of the places and values of the "Venice and its Lagoon" site, an extremely rich and articulated natural ecosystem and settlement. Retracing the historical waterways that branch from Venice into the inland lagoon, one can explore the 9 municipalities included in the site with one's own hands. The space includes itineraries from Venice to Campagna Lupia, Cavallino, Chioggia, Codevigo, Jesolo, Mira, Musile di Piave and Quarto d'Altino.

"Under the banner "Water Worlds", UNESCO is lending its support to the organisation of an 'Exploring the Venice Lagoon' installation. Venice is an excellent example of the relationship between nature and culture, between people and the environment they inhabit. The city is both surrounded and defined by water, a precious resource. Yet,



Water systems



Canals and waterways



Sustainable ecotourism

© Civiltà Internazionale Civiltà dell'acqua (ONLUS)

water is also a threat to its very existence", observed Philippe Pypaert. "Our intention is to use this innovative interactive installation as a means to disseminate the cultural values and landscape of the entire area; and to render the lagoon more attractive and approachable for a common understanding and respect of the territory, in the perspective of ecosustainable tourism." >>full story



©Comune di Venezia

## Visualizing Water Worlds. Imagine a world without water



©Comune di Venezia

The 'Visualizing Water Worlds' multimedia exhibition was inaugurated on 29 June 2015 by Luca Battistella, councillor in charge of Innovation and Smart City for the Venice City council, in the presence of Véronique Dauge, Officer-in-Charge of the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice (Italy), at Dock 105 of Venice's Arsenal.

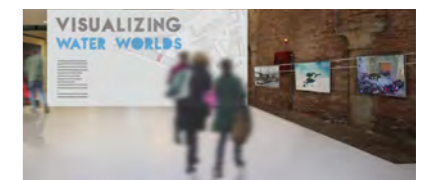
'Visualizing Water Worlds' is a project undertaken in the context of Venice to EXPO 2015 by the City of Venice (Office of the World Heritage Site "Venice and its Lagoon") and the Centro Internazionale Civiltà dell'Acqua Onlus, with the participation of the UNESCO Venice Office, and in partnership with Vela S.p.a., through Waters and the Eulabor Institute. The exhibition aims to provide a captivating, sideways look at the various 'liquid worlds' which humanity has lived in over the centuries and which today are at the centre of a new drive

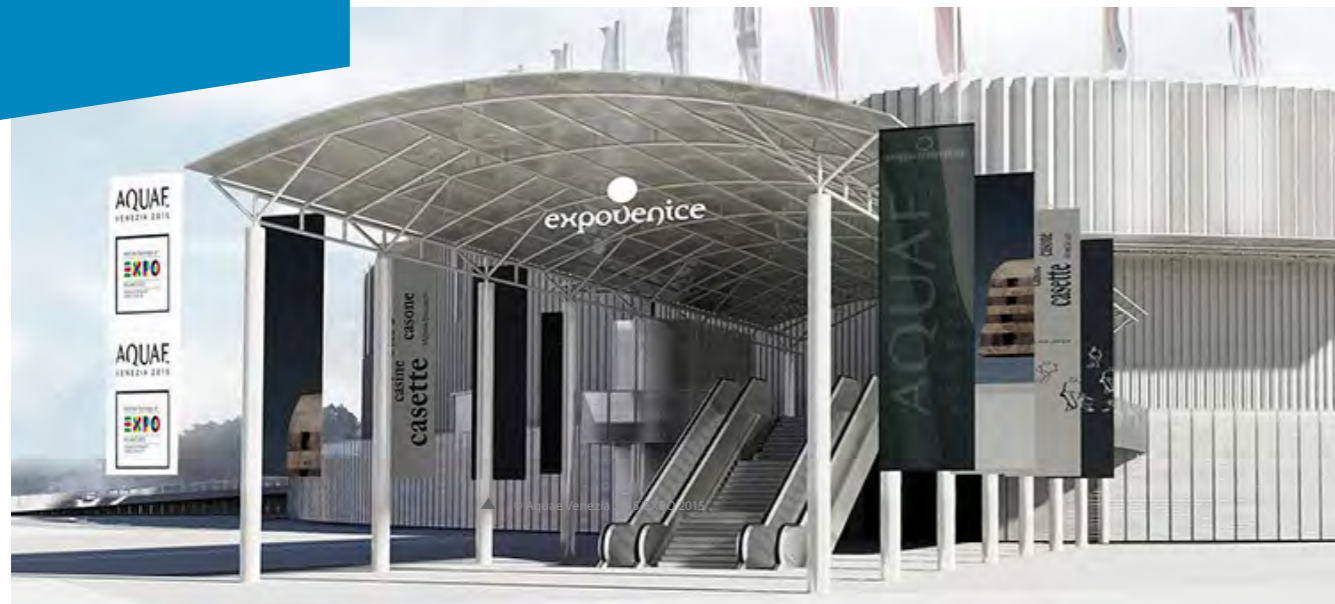
towards sustainability and good governance. It wishes to sensitize the wider public to the many cases of pollution and water scarcity that occur around the world. By highlighting these topical themes, it supports the establishment of a new 'Water Culture' with Venice at its centre, leveraging the area's international reputation to create a global network of projects. Visitors of Dock 105 are invited to take part in an interactive, innovative and engaging experience.

The installation transforms visitor's bodies "into liquid shapes", as though they were immersed in water, through a kinetic camera, computers and a projector. A series of big screens focus on specific themes such as the "Tribunal de las Aguas de la Vega de Valencia", Spain, founded to resolve water-related disputes; the historic waterways of the Serenissima on the Venetian mainland; the water-based crisis and issues of marine

biodiversity in the Mediterranean; and, the celebration of water in the work of 25 international artists.

'Visualizing Water Worlds' is closely connected to the "Exploring the Venice Lagoon" interactive installation, organised by the Office of the World Heritage Site "Venice and its Lagoon" at the City of Venice and the Centro Internazionale Civiltà dell'Acqua Onlus in cooperation with the UNESCO Venice Office at its premises in Palazzo Zorzi. The next step is in its development will be to involve local schools. Educational workshops, cartoons and laboratories will be organized for younger participants on water saving and protection. The project will include a 'cloud of colours and perceptions' that traces the emotional journey associated with 'Water Culture'. >>full story





▲ © Aquae Venezia 2015/EXPO 2015

## Water for a Sustainable World. A vision of 2050



In the context of Aquae Venezia 2015, the UN World Water Assessment Programme promoted “Water for a Sustainable World”, a conference dealing with the World Water Development Report 2015, held in Venice, Italy, on 21-22 May 2015. The conference studied the role water resources play in fundamental social processes such as economic growth, poverty reduction and environmental sustainability.

Water is at the core of sustainable development. Water resources, and the range of services they provide, underpin poverty reduction, economic growth and environmental sustainability. From food and energy

security to human and environmental health, water contributes to improvements in social wellbeing and inclusive growth, affecting the livelihoods of billions. Launched in a worldwide preview in New Delhi, and developed by the United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (WWAP) and UN-Water, the report, entitled “Water for a Sustainable World” (WWDR 2015), was presented in Venice at the Aquae Venezia pavilion dedicated to water. The pavilion is an extension the EXPO 2015 Universal exposition in the Venetian Lagoon, which explores the relationship between Man and Water.

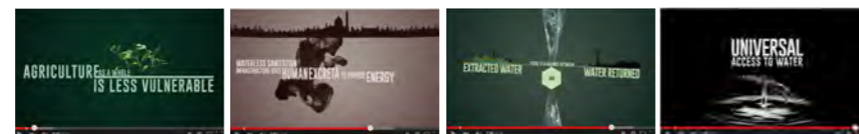
The conference looked into the relationship between water and the 3 spheres of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental). The event focused on the role of water supplies as vital for economic growth, poverty reduction and environmental sustainability. It was also an opportunity to analyse the challenges and the important

changes that will affect the global community leading up to 2050. It is estimated that by then the water demand will have grown by 55% as a result of increasing industrial demand, use in energy production and increasing domestic use due to demographic growth. Lastly, the conference proposed solutions and examined success stories, at both a local and a global level.

United Nations agencies were represented by: UN-WATER/WWAP, Water Sciences Division and Secretary of the International Hydrological Programme of UNESCO; UNESCO Office in Venice representing the Assistant Director General for Natural Sciences; Director, UNEP Regional Office for Europe; and, a Special Advisor to the DG – UNESCO. >>full story



### Water for a sustainable world: a vision for 2050



This video presents the vision for 2050 of the world water future. It represents the prologue to the latest edition of the World Water Development Report 2015, Water for a Sustainable World. The Report was launched on 20 March in New Delhi, during the main celebrations of the World Water Day.

## European waterscapes and historic canals, a crucial cultural heritage to safeguard



▲ © waterscapesculturalheritage.org

The “Waterscapes and Historic Canals as a Cultural Heritage” international conference took place in Venice, Italy, from 14-15 May 2015 as part of the broad set of activities organized by UNESCO in the context of EXPO 2015. The event was organized by the Ca’ Foscari University of Venice and the Centro Internazionale Civiltà dell’Acqua, in cooperation with the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice, and the Istituto Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti.

The control and management of water flows are among the most significant human activities that transform the natural environment. Canals and rivers are linear paths of high cultural value where it is possible to identify specific and unique cultural landscapes. The relationship between human settlements and European historic waterways is widely documented by archival sources (including historic maps and charts) related to water courses and catchment areas and by an equally rich cultural and artistic heritage; heritage that celebrates the cultural use of water, charging it with a symbolic value that enhances the practicalities of controlling and managing the flow.

The 2015 International Conference: Waterscapes and Historic Canals as a Cultural Heritage was an integral

part of the set of activities UNESCO has developed for EXPO 2015, in particular to contribute to the “Venice to EXPO 2015” initiative. Following a first workshop on issues concerning the European Historic Canals and their related heritage as an opportunity to promote a “responsible” tourism, this second conference highlighted the crucial importance of waterscapes and historic canals as visible infrastructural networks constituting a significant part of European history.

Even today, many European historic waterways maintain structures of great importance in the field of industrial archaeology, such as bridges, lock systems, hydraulic

factories, warehouses and river ports. In addition, it is important to consider the high aesthetic value of river and aquatic landscapes, or waterscapes.

This event gathered many perspectives on waterscapes and fostered new strategic planning in specific riparian contexts and in the wider stratification of rural and urban landscapes crossed by historical hydrography. It developed a research line related to European Waterways as cultural heritage and focused on more detailed aspects of waterscapes interpretation, cultural tourism along historic canals and fluvial waterfronts’ management. >>full story



Would you like to learn more about the Bacchiglione? The Tagliamento? All you need is the App!

# Bridges

## The fight against hunger in the world explained to young visitors at EXPO Milan 2015

The Children's Park hosts one of the UN Spoon Installations from the Zero Hunger Itinerary, with content made specifically for girls and boys. The Zero Hunger Challenge, the UN participation theme, will be accessible to children who visit EXPO Milano 2015. The Children's Park offers the vision of a world where no one, from the youngest to oldest, suffers from hunger.

This UN space, designed in collaboration with UNICEF Italy, was decorated by Lorenzo Terranera who has illustrated the Zero Hunger Challenge in a manner that is comprehensible for younger visitors. They will discover the importance of a nutritious diet in the first 1,000 days of one's life as well as of having access, every day, to adequate food, in terms of quality and quantity; food waste and sustainable food systems; doubling productivity and the income of small farmers.

Alongside other content dedicated to children, there is a cartoon developed for Expo Milano 2015. In the UN space at the Children's Park you can view the animated series "Leonardo EXPO", co-produced by Gruppo Alcini e RAI, in collaboration with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the UNESCO Venice Office. Following the international success of the first



▲ Gruppo Alcini - Young Leonardo

series, the young Leonardo is back in action to tackle food and energy challenges. The main character, inspired by the figure of Leonardo da Vinci, is committed with his inseparable friend to solving various problems including those related to nutrition, food waste, the use of water as well as natural resources and renewable energy sources.

With this same spirit, the United Nations have developed "get to Zero" an app-game for EXPO Milano 2015, making the UN itinerary interactive

and educational. Currently, about 800 million people go to bed hungry. The goal is to get to zero, which we can achieve together. >>full story



### "World EXPO is celebrated in a crucial year for the UN", says Ban Ki-moon

"The Milan World EXPO takes place in 2015 - a crucial year for the United Nations. It is not only the deadline for the Millennium Development Goals, it will also mark the launch of a new global development agenda.", said United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon at the official

presentation of the World EXPO Milan 2015 to the UN system's leadership, hosted in Rome. Making an appeal to urgently redress the dramatic imbalance in the global distribution of food and an hunger-free world, Ban Ki-moon explained that the theme adopted

by the UN for its participation in the EXPO, "Zero Hunger Challenge", carried forward the campaign he had launched on the occasion of the 2012 Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development



The United Nations  
at Expo Milano 2015



▲ Gruppo Alcini - Young Leonardo

## Leonardo for EXPO set to reach tens of thousands of young viewers at the Children's Park in Milan

UNESCO and FAO have collaborated to produce the 'Leonardo for EXPO' cartoons, currently on display at EXPO Milan as part of the United Nations multimedia installations and in the EXPO Children's Park. Kids from around the world – an estimated 200,000 – are being immersed in an environment that combines nature and imagination, exploring the complex subjects of life on Earth and sustainability in a stimulating and fun way.

Building on the international success of the 'Leonardo' series, 13 new episodes starring a young Leonardo da Vinci and his inseparable group of friends were produced exclusively for EXPO 2015. The multimedia content was developed by RAI Fiction and Gruppo Alcini under the scientific supervision of the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice (Italy), and in cooperation with FAO. Each episode deals with a topical theme, from nutrition to the sourcing of local and seasonal ingredients, food waste and renewable energy sources. Throughout the series, Leonardo relies on his inventions to solve problems and help those around him.

The Children's Park at EXPO Milano 2015 is an area dedicated to exploring the EXPO theme, where children between the ages of 4 and 10 can enjoy activities and educational

games, but also relax; the concept is titled "Ring around the planet, Ring around the future", symbolizing the gesture of hugging the planet. It is an ideal place for the 'Leonardo for EXPO' cartoons to present topics like food, water, renewable energy, sustainable cities, ecological footprint, cooperation and solidarity. Young viewers of the 'Leonardo for EXPO' series are introduced to important themes in an accessible, fun format that is easy to understand. Leonardo, Gioconda and their friends embark on adventures around the Italian countryside, making exciting new discoveries that bring them face to face with some of the issues that are at the centre of the sustainability debate.

Sustainable resource management, for example, is at the heart of "The upside down umbrella" episode, in which the Leonardo surveys the fields surrounding his hometown, Vinci, from an improvised flying device. Shocked at the sight of the arid countryside, blighted by drought, he solves the problem by devising an ingenious irrigation method, which uses available water resources to their full potential.

"The cooking contest" episode, meanwhile, focuses on food waste. Leonardo has a real challenge on his hands: with his friends, Gioconda and Lorenzo, he has to prepare

a banquet using only leftovers. Their rivals have discarded a huge amount of good food, but our three heroes find a way to use what is left creatively and intelligently, without letting anything go to waste.

A third episode, "The Solar-Powered Oven", takes on the subject of renewable energy. As Leonardo watches a lizard – a cold blooded animal – warming itself in the sun, he comes up with a plan to harness the sun's rays to power a "solar-powered oven", a cooking method which frees the cook from the constraints of using wood and fire.

The 'Leonardo EXPO' episodes are also on display at the Parco degli Alberi Parlanti in Treviso, where children will get the chance to visit Leonardo's treehouse, and take part in a series of challenges to test their knowledge of food and where it comes from. >>full story







▲ Gruppo Alcini - Treasure Hunt

## Treasure Hunt in Venice for children to find out about water, the blue gold of the 21st century!

The Treasure Hunt in Venice has been launched with great success. This activity, inspired by the “H2Ooooh!” initiative, is part of UNESCO’s contribution to Venice to EXPO 2015 and features the Pet Pals and young Leonardo. The hunt, centering on water and its sustainable use, is promoted by the UNESCO Venice Office and Gruppo Alcini, with the scientific support of the Secretary of the UN World Water Assessment Programme in Perugia (WWAP).

Map in hand, or guided by a fun new App, young participants eagerly embark on an adventure around the Venetian streets to learn more about blue gold, a vital and limited resource. Water is, after all, the source of life.

Young people from primary and middle schools are invited to take part in the treasure hunt, which will last until 31 October. Map at the ready or using the App, they must reach all five stops in the order they prefer: the Museo di Storia Naturale, the Chiostro di San Salvador, Palazzo Zorzi, UNESCO’s premises in Venice, the Museo Navale and the Tesa 105 of the Arsenale. A totem has been placed at each stop to indicate where

to ask for the stamp (featuring the corresponding Pet Pal) to be placed on the treasure map. Once all 5 stamps have been collected, participants will receive a board game allowing them to continue to explore these topics from home.

Where is the largest reserve of fresh water on the planet located? How many people lack access to water in Africa? How do we consume most of the planet’s available freshwater? What percentage of freshwater found in the world is accessible? How much water do you think an average 8-minute shower consumes?

These questions, and many others, were developed by UNESCO and WWAP, the UN World Water Assessment Programme, set up in 2000 to monitor the state of the world’s water resources, publishing recommendations and proposals to enhance the assessment and decision-making capabilities of member states.

The Treasure Hunt and the board game represent an excellent opportunity to reach out to Venice’s younger visitors and encourage them to ask questions that are of the

utmost importance for the future of the planet – How much of the world’s population will experience water scarcity by 2050? Is water a source of energy? Present and future water-related challenges require, above all, a collective effort to change our approach and behavior when it comes to this precious resource, which should be treated with extreme care.

The same aim is carried forward in the Parco degli Alberi Parlanti in Treviso. Visitors will have the chance to watch 13 new



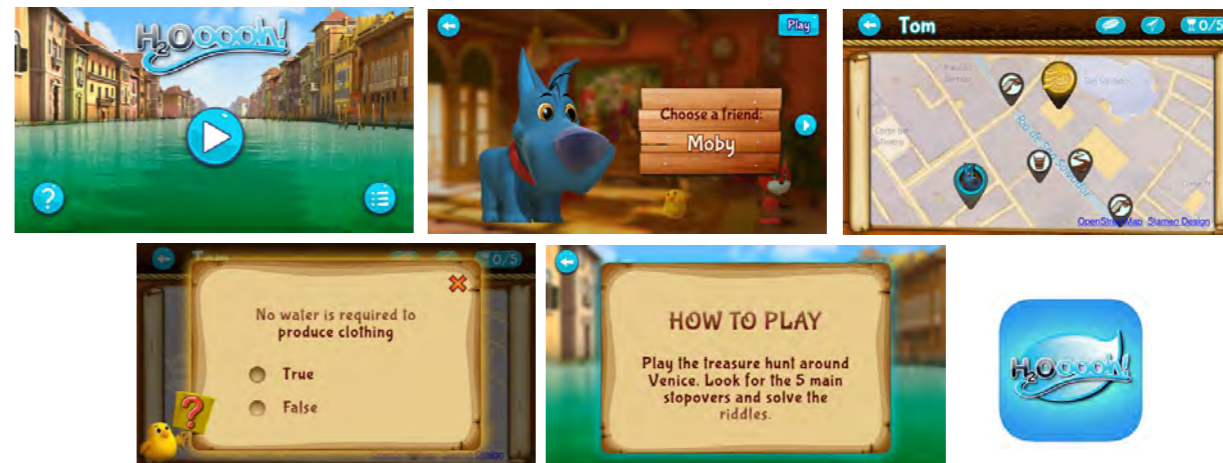
▲ Gruppo Alcini - Treasure Hunt

episodes of the Leonardo EXPO cartoons, featuring the boy genius and produced by Gruppo Alcini and RAI fiction in cooperation with

UNESCO, which are aired at EXPO 2015 in Milan at the UN multimedia installation points and in the Children’s Park. Visitors to the park in

Treviso will also be able to view the H2Ooooh! cartoons with the Pet Pals. >>>full story

## ‘H2Ooooh! Discover Venice’ App



Join the Treasure Hunt expedition in Venice with the Pet Pals and Leonardo. Find the five stops in the order you prefer, collect the stamps on the card and ask for your free board game prize. Is a fantastic treasure hunt with the Pet Pals through the streets and squares of Venice! On the first page, you can choose which of the Pet Pals will be your partner to guide you through the city on this fantastic adventure. You will explore Venice with the Pet Pals to reach the five stops, in the order which suits you best. Once you reach a stop, you will find a totem which will show you where to get the stamp needed for the game card. The card can be found in the Info Point situated in the Vela ticket office in the square next to the Venice train station. Once you have collected all five stamps, you can request your free board game in any of the five stops. While you explore Venice to reach the different stops, you will receive lots of information about water and the nearby places of interest. The route you take and the time you spend on your treasure hunt are up to you! And if you’d like to continue the adventure, come and join us at the Talking Tree Park in Treviso!

## The Parco degli alberi parlanti. EXPO 2015 for children



▲ Gruppo Alcini - Parco degli Alberi Parlanti

The Parco degli Alberi Parlanti in Villa Margherita in Treviso is one of the Venice to EXPO 2015 activities aimed at children, schools and families, jointly organized by Gruppo Alcini and UNESCO.

From 1 May until 30 September 2015, visitors to the park can watch – free of charge – the Young Leonardo at EXPO cartoons and the H2Ooooh! cartoon series featuring the Pet Pals, while specially designed itineraries

allow them to take part in a number of engaging activities on important subjects such as ecological footprints, water or energy saving.



▲ F.Gasperoni – Parco Delta del Po

## New Po Delta Biosphere Reserve and other designated sites in Italy contribute to Venice to EXPO 2015

The International Co-ordinating Council of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) has added 20 new sites to the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, bringing their total number to 651 sites, including 15 transboundary sites, in 120 countries. The Po Delta is one of 3 sites in Italy, along with The Ledro Alps and Judicaria and Appennino Tosco-Emiliano, to have been added on this occasion.

The Po Delta reserve is worthy of special attention. It covers an area of 139,398 hectares in northern Italy and is home to 120,000 people living in 16 municipalities. The plain along which it extends is produced by the Po river and by recent human activity. The site, Italy's only delta, represents an exceptional heritage of biodiversity due to its range of habitats. Tourism, agriculture and fish farming are the main economic activities.

The richness of stunning landscapes, natural heritage, architecture and urban settlements of the Delta area presented an opportunity for the two regions, Emilia-Romagna and Veneto, which share this territory, to submit the nomination for the MAB Network of Biosphere Reserves.

"The decision to add the Po Delta to UNESCO's World Network of

Biosphere Reserves recognises [...] the high natural value of the area, helping to safeguard a landscape that is unique in Italy and to promote sustainable development. This is reflected in the number of tourists visiting the area and the promotion of a territory whose image can benefit Rovigo and the whole Veneto" said Antonio Finotti, president of the Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Padova e Rovigo (CARIPARO) that, along with the Ente Parco Delta del Po, provided support for the nomination.

The UNESCO Venice Office gave its full support to the nomination, with a view to conserving important natural and historical assets, but also to developing and implementing projects to create sustainable development pathways for the Po Delta territory benefiting its population and its main socio-economic actors. The project "The Po Delta Towards Expo 2015: Man - Nature - Development" was conceived with this purpose.

As part of the Venice to EXPO 2015 programme, the UNESCO Venice Office has organised a series of activities centring on the "Behind Food Sustainability" exhibition, the new Po Delta Biosphere Reserve and a number of important territories and UNESCO sites throughout Italy.

19 June marked the launch of the "Un Po di Storie" interactive installation and the "Delta del Po" App at the Conference Centre in Rosolina Mare: events organised by the UNESCO Venice Office and the 'Centro Civiltà dell'Acqua Onlus' with the support of the Fondazione CARIPARO. The aim was to encourage greater public interest on a topic which is of huge historical value but which also holds great potential for sustainable development in rural areas: navigation on inland rivers and lagoons. The specially designed 'Delta Po' App for smartphones and tablets allows visitors to further explore the delta landscape.

On 20 June, Biosphere Reserves from around Italy – including Po Delta – came together in the Theatre at the Centre of the Earth - Biodiversity Park at EXPO Milano 2015, for an event organized by the Directorate for the Protection of Nature and Sea at the Italian Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of Land and Sea in collaboration with the UNESCO Venice Office. Participants discussed the themes explored in the "Behind Food Sustainability" exhibition. The exhibition video was shown, and will remain on display in Milan until the end of October.

>>full story

## Involvement of Other Territories and Designated Sites in Italy

The "Behind Food Sustainability" exhibition is being displayed in a number of important landscapes and UNESCO sites throughout Italy, including: The Dolomites (World Heritage site and Alpi di Ledro – Giudicarie Biosphere Reserve); the Tuscan-Emilian Appennines (candidate to become a Biosphere Reserve); the Circeo (Biosphere Reserve); the Sila (Biosphere Reserve).



## UNESCO to EXPO 2015 encourages Biosphere Reserves to work towards a network of sustainability

Biosphere Reserves from Italy and beyond came together at a meeting organized by the Italian Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of Land and Sea in close cooperation with the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice (Italy). The event, which took place on 20 June 2015 at the Centre of the Earth - Biodiversity Park at EXPO Milano 2015, was accompanied by the launch of the "Behind Food Sustainability" video produced by the UNESCO Venice Office.

The meeting heralded a renewed communication drive by the Man and Biosphere (MAB) Network, Biosphere Reserves in Italy and invited UNESCO sites from Austria, France, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain and Switzerland -, demonstrating its ability to address crucial societal issues such as sustainable development and food security and respect for the environmental constraints and cultural assets of the territories in question. The sites also demonstrated their potential to be "models" for innovation in territorial governance far beyond their borders.

The event followed the decision in June by the International Coordinating Council of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme

to add 3 new Italian sites to the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR).

The cooperation between UNESCO, the Italian Ministry of the Environment and the Protection of Land and Sea and the UNESCO designated areas – World Heritage sites and Biosphere Reserves – represented an opportunity to open multiple channels of communication on development and sustainability issues. It was opened by the representatives of the Italian Ministry of Environment and the Protection of Land and Sea and by Han Qunli, Director, Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences, and Secretary of the MAB Programme, who stressed the importance of the new Italian Reserves recently

included in the Network, not only in terms of biodiversity conservation but also for their contribution to the promotion of sustainable development, with a particular focus on traditional knowledge, production and food.

The "Behind Food Sustainability" video was shown as part of the presentation and various experiences were presented, mainly through brief videos, from the following Biosphere Reserves: Coastal Systems, wetlands and deltas: Po Delta (Italy), Camargue (France) and Selva Pisana (Italy); Vulnerable landscapes: Ticino Valley (Italy), Wienerwald (Austria), Circeo (Italy); and, Transboundary cooperation: Monviso/Queyras (Italy/France). >>full story



▲ UNESCO/Marco Branchi, The Appennino Tosco-Emiliano Biosphere Reserve, Italy

## Connecting solutions for water, food, energy and ecosystems to address our emerging water future



▲ Addressing our Emerging Water Futures: The Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Security Nexus

**'Addressing our Emerging Water Futures: The Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Security Nexus will take place on 18 September 2015 (CNR) and 19 September 2015 (EU-Pavilion at the EXPO site). The Milan workshop, organised by the CNR-Italian National Research Council, the JRC-Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, FAO and the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice (Italy), will address solutions for a Nexus governance of water resources.**

Climate change, population growth, urbanization, economic development and land use are expected to lead to water scarcity in all countries and continents, with increased competition for resources, constraints on socio-economic development and inequality of access. With the

agricultural sector accounting for ca. 70% of water use worldwide, and considering projections for 2050 stating that 60% more food will need to be produced to feed a population of 9-10 billion people, water will become increasingly crucial to food security.

Water crises are one of the major global risks to social stability that the world is largely unprepared for. To reduce risks to long-term water security, we need to design resilience strategies and solutions capable of overcoming sectoral divides and meeting the different water needs of users in a region. This is the reasoning behind the 'Water -Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus'. Managing the Nexus requires equitable allocation of water across all economic sectors including an appropriate appreciation of the role

of ecosystems as elements of the capital assets that support the water sector. Given that integration is not a new concept in water management, how can adopting a Water Nexus perspective make a difference?

The workshop is intended to complement numerous specific events on the effects of water scarcity on agriculture and humanity in general taking place at EXPO 2015. The event will help raise awareness and increase knowledge with the aim of implementing best sustainable practices when dealing with the problem of water, food and energy. It will bring together participants from Europe and beyond, ranging from science to industry, policy and civil society.

The first day will feature four sessions: The challenge of decentralised governance; Investing in human and social infrastructure; Enrolling technologies in the Nexus; and allowing transition to practice. The format adopted will include lectures by key leaders in their fields. At the end of each lecture, a panel featuring prominent personalities from social and political fields will highlight possible consequences and interactions of the proposed approach for the Nexus, and the overall benefits/costs of presented innovations at a local, regional and global level.

Philippe Pypaert, coordinator of the Science Unit at the UNESCO Venice Office, will represent UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme (IHP) at the event, and chair the fourth session on 'Allowing transition to practice'. People in the audience will form groups and play the "Water Nexus" role playing game to analyse the interactions between actors in the nexus between food, ecosystem services and water management. In this highly interactive session, participants will play the Blue River role simulation game. The game

contains a real-world problem on the water-ecosystem-food nexus that should be solved through a simulated negotiation between different parties.

On the second day, an event for the general public and the press will be held at the EU Pavilion at

the EXPO site. Moderated by a renowned scientific communicator, key participants of the previous day's event will release an overview of the problem as analysed from the Nexus viewpoint and a series of testable best practices and recommendations to lead policies toward the sustainable use of water

for food and energy production and for ecosystem stability.

The conclusions will be debated with the public and collected in an opinion paper to be released to stakeholders and the scientific community. [>>full story](#)

## Turin to build on EXPO theme by showcasing sustainable management of UNESCO designated territories

**From 13 to 16 October 2015, Turin will host the 3rd World Forum on Local Economic Development and launch the EXTO-EXPO 2015 programme. Within this framework, the Centro Studi Silvia Santagata-Ebla (CSS-Ebla, Turin, Italy), is organising, in cooperation with the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice (Italy), the pilot edition of a capacity-building workshop on the Management of "UNESCO designated sites" for Sustainable Development: World Heritage Sites and Biosphere Reserves.**

Conceived as part of the activities promoted by the UNESCO Venice Office within the framework of EXPO 2015, this initiative is intended as a pilot activity to be institutionalized and replicated in the coming years. The "Behind Food Sustainability" exhibition has served as a source of inspiration and as starting point to select sites from around the world to take part in the workshop. The programme is generously supported by the City of Turin and the Compagnia di San Paolo, and organized with the cooperation of the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC), based in Turin, Italy.

The programme will commence on 16 October 2015 to coincide with the World Forum on Local Economic Development in Turin and will include a visit to EXPO Milan 2015, with a final discussion at the Swiss Pavilion, supported by the cities of Geneva and Lausanne. It aims to improve the institutional and professional capacities of local agencies, site managers, and key stakeholders

involved in the management of UNESCO designated sites, with a special focus on World Heritage properties and the Biosphere Reserves Network.

Managing natural and cultural territorial assets in the era of the knowledge society, global markets and experience economy, is a complex effort that requires us to adapt to diverse and heterogeneous policy issues. Within this framework, territories, communities and governmental agencies concerned by "UNESCO designations" are faced with great challenges and opportunities, which require the development of specific professional and institutional capacities. This is all the more true in the case of sites in which food production still plays a key role in ensuring sustainable development and heritage preservation.

The innovative approach of this programme relies on bringing together stakeholders from UNESCO global networks that have food production at their centre to identify, share and discuss sustainable management policies and practices and to further develop their capacities by means of a combination of presentations, tutorials, group work and site visits. On this basis, the present initiative intends to organize a cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary capacity building programme, and training sessions will be organized to facilitate knowledge and experience sharing among participants, with the participation of lecturers from UNESCO and academic institutions and of site managers. A final publication of the materials and case studies presented during the training course and side activities is also foreseen. [>>full story](#)



▲ SITI - Higher Institute on Territorial Systems for Innovation - Vineyard Landscape of Piedmont: Langhe-Roero and Monferrato

## Backstory

### EXPO Milano 2015: Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life



EXPO Milano 2015 is the Universal Exhibition that Milan, Italy, is hosting from 1 May to 31 October 2015. Over this 6-month period, Milan is a global showcase where more than 140 participating countries show the best of their technology that offers a concrete answer to a vital need: being able to guarantee healthy, safe and sufficient food for everyone, while respecting the Planet and its equilibrium. In addition to the exhibitor nations, the EXPO also involves international organizations, and expects to welcome over 20 million visitors to its 1.1 million square meters of exhibition area.

A platform for the exchange of ideas and shared solutions on the theme of food, stimulating each country's creativity and promoting innovation for a sustainable future, Expo 2015 gives everyone the opportunity to find out about, and taste, the world's best dishes, while discovering the best of the agri-food and gastronomic traditions of each of the exhibitor countries.

EXPO Milano 2015 provides an opportunity to reflect upon, and seek solutions to, the contradictions of our world. There are still the hungry (approximately 870 million people were undernourished in the period 2010-2012) and there are those who die from ailments linked to poor nutrition or too much food (approximately 2.8 million deaths from diseases related to obesity or to being overweight in the same period). About 1.3 billion tons of foods are wasted every year. For all these reasons, we need to make conscious political choices, develop sustainable lifestyles, and use the best technology to create a balance between the availability and the consumption of resources.

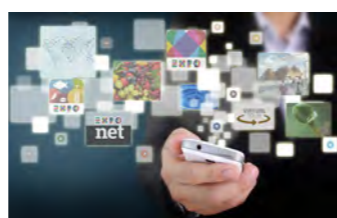
Reflection on the EXPO theme becomes a time of sharing and celebration, involving conferences, events and performances, enhanced by the presence of the mascot Foody and the cheery characters who accompany him.

Every aspect and every moment of, as well as every participant in EXPO Milano 2015, define and build on the chosen theme: Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life.

website: <http://www.expo2015.org/>



MILANO 2015



▲ EXPO Milano 2015

# Bridges

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