

ACTIVITY 1.4

REPORT OF REGIONAL WORKSHOP (Emilia Romagna Region – Po river delta target area)

On the basis of the scenarios produced with the A1.2 and the assessment of the A1.3, this activity aims to raise awareness of the relevant institutions in charge of territorial policy making and of the social and economic stakeholders on data about water use and water saving practices, to support its concrete conceptual consideration in institutional and sectoral policies and implementation through concrete practices. This is made possible through the organisation of ad-hoc Regional Workshops in each targeted area, with the contribution of each partner.

DATE: 14th April 2025

TIME/DURATION: 4.5h

PLACE: DAMA, Tecnopolo of Bologna

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 32

REPRESENTED SECTORS/ORGANISATIONS:

1. **Cabinet President of the Council – Emilia-Romagna Region:** Government
2. **CADF - Consorzio Acquedotto Delta Ferrarese:** Water Management
3. **Emilia-Romagna Region Managing Authority PR ERDF and ESF+:** Government
4. **LAG Delta2000:** Local Development
5. **Umbria Region:** Government
6. **Councillor of the Legislative Assembly of the Emilia-Romagna Region:** Government
7. **Ferrara Plain Reclamation Consortium:** Water Management
8. **Municipality of Cervia:** Local Government
9. **RER / Coast Defence Environment:** Environmental Protection
10. **Emilia-Romagna Region – Water Management Protection Area:** Environmental Protection
11. **RER Environment Association / Land Protection:** Environmental Protection
12. **ARTER- Emilia-Romagna Region:** Regional Development
13. **PP1 Emilia-Romagna Region:** Local Government
14. **Ass. Naz. Consortia for the management and protection of the territory and irrigation water:** Water Management
15. **Councillor of the Municipality of Codigoro:** Local Government
16. **FAI:** Cultural Heritage
17. **Renana Reclamation Consortium:** Water Management
18. **Naxta:** TA ERR
19. **University of Ferrara:** Education



SHORT SUMMARY OF THE EVENT

- Registration of participants (9.30 a.m. – 10.10 a.m.)

- Kick-off session (10.00 a.m. – 11.20 a.m.)

Presentation of the general contents of the activity and the elements relevant to the discussion:

- Working groups (h. 11.20 – 12.15)
 - Participant self-presentation
 - Submission of discussion questions
 - Collective discussion within each group
 - Definition of the priority critical aspects within each group and preparation of a matrix that represents them graphically

- Systematization of the results (h. 13.05 – 13.30)

Identification of a speaker who presents the results of each group, in order to share the results of the work carried out. Reporting will be conducted in a way that allows all participants to view the results presented. The actual time available will be managed according to the number of participants and working groups taking part in the workshop.

- Concluding remarks and closing of the workshop (h. 13.30 – 14.00)

DETAILED REPORT (please include pictures)



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- **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

(h. 9.30 – 10.10) Following the welcome and registration of the participants in the Workshop, we gathered in a conference room for the presentation of the event. This was followed by a self-presentation of all the stakeholders present, as well as that of all the participating collaborators, who are part of the partner organizations promoting the project. The plenary session then began.

- **PLENARY SESSION**

The plenary session began at 10:10 am with a series of presentations by the speakers, who explained the contents, the aims, and the way the working day was carried out:

1. **Enrico Cocchi:** Overview of the priority of the interventions and description of the territory.
2. **Stefano Marani:** Presentation of the project and policy. (10:26)
3. **Barbara Parma:** Illustration of the data relating to the answers to the questionnaire. (10:35)
4. **Alberto Grando:** Illustration of data on climate change. (10:42)
5. **Dimitra Rapti:** Illustration of the water balance, soil scenarios. (10:46)
6. **Alessandra Marin:** (10.56)
 - During the plenary session, a reasoning on the resilience of the territory is expressed, imagining the actions and processes to be implemented in response to the problems covered by this event
 - The method of carrying out group work is also illustrated: each participant will have to answer two questions, using post-its but also publicly arguing the reasons for their synthetic judgment, in order to highlight possible solutions and priorities for action, expressing synthetic opinions through the use of post-its.

The proposed actions should be included in an **Eisenhower matrix**, in order to obtain a classification of the relevance of problems and solutions: the final result should graphically represent the order of priority and importance of the group's responses.

At the end of this operation, all members of the group will have the opportunity to indicate, out of the set of actions proposed by the group, which are the most heartfelt, using 5 voting options (colored stickers) that they will be able to freely express by indicating actions that are urgent, planned or delegated.

The composition of the groups was not random, but designed in such a way as to create for each of them a whole as heterogeneous as possible in terms of individual skills and sector/institution to which they belong.



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Questions:

- **1. WHAT PROCESSES AND ACTIONS DO YOU THINK NEED TO BE INITIATED, IN THE SHORT OR MEDIUM-LONG TERM?**
- **2. TERRITORIAL RESOURCES AND VALUES THAT ARE RECOGNIZED IN THEM, AND THAT ARE INTENDED TO BE PROTECTED: WHAT ARE THEY AND WHERE ARE THEY?**

• **WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES – INITIAL SESSION, ACTIVITY 1, ACTIVITY 2**

Working Groups: At 11:20 am, the participants were divided into three working groups to identify priorities and solutions, relating to the issues and problems previously introduced.

Group 1

Facilitator: Marani Stefano

Verbalizer: Dello Russo Marco

Liberatoscioli Elena	RER Environment Association / Territorial Defense
Liserra Tonino	Ass. Naz. Consortia for the management and protection of the territory and irrigation waters
Farina Giulia	Ferrara Plain Reclamation Consortium
Girelli Caterina	Municipality of Cervia
Lippi Silvia	PP1 RER
Tumiati Davide	

Group 2

Facilitator: Righetti Giulia

Verbalizer: Dorato Elena

Montanari Roberto	RER Environment Association / Coast Defence
Massarenti Edi	CADF - Consorzio Acquedotto Delta Ferrarese
Leoni Stefania	ARTER- Emilia-Romagna Region
Bianconi Patrizia	Cabinet President of the Council – Emilia-Romagna Region
Solmi Michele	Renana Reclamation Consortium



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Group 3

Facilitator: Marin Alessandra

Verbalizer: Curatolo Antonio

Berneschi Martina	Ferrara Plain Reclamation Consortium
Ruffato Marco	Councillor of the Municipality of Codigoro
Ferrara Daniela	Emilia-Romagna Region Managing Authority PR ERDF and ESF +
Moretti Alfiero	Umbria Region
Bavieri Alberto	Renana Reclamation Consortium

The members of each group introduced themselves again, also defining their role and related tasks within the organization to which they belong.

● PANEL DISCUSSION AND WORKING GROUP CONCLUSION

Report on the results of the minutes of the working groups:

Minutes of Working Group 1

Participants:

- Stefano Marani (facilitator)
- Marco Dello Russo (verbalizer)
- Elena Liberatoscioli, Tonino Liserra, Giulia Farina, Caterina Girelli, Silvia Lippi, Davide Tumiatì



The first working group, led by Stefano Marani, addressed the questions posed during the workshop, focusing the discussion on the processes and actions necessary to deal with climate change, both in the short and medium-long term.



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**Question 1: What processes and actions do you think need to be initiated, in the short or medium-long term?****Short Run:**

In **the short term**, participants underlined the importance of improving territorial governance through collaborative synergies between provinces, regions, municipalities and consortia. The need for in-depth planning and programming studies emerged to assess effective actions against phenomena such as desertification and floods. In addition, actions to raise awareness of extreme events have been proposed to avoid human losses and counter mistrust in weather warning systems. Improving infrastructure for climate risk management and cleaning and monitoring rivers and canals were considered priorities. Finally, the importance of training local administrators and professionals for the management of climate emergencies was highlighted.

In **the medium to long term**, the group suggested the creation of forward-looking strategies for planning and prevention, the restoration of natural ecosystems and the reinforcement of embankments with green solutions. An assessment of the effects of irrigation on the environment and the identification of new ways of managing water were proposed. Hydraulic safety, with actions to protect people, settlements and the production system, was considered fundamental.

Priority:

The actions formulated were then grouped into the following thematic areas: governance, analysis/studies, infrastructure, plans/programmes. During the vote, the "Analysis/Studies" area received 21 votes, followed by "Plans/Programmes" with 17 votes, "Governance" with 16 votes and "Infrastructure" with 13 votes.

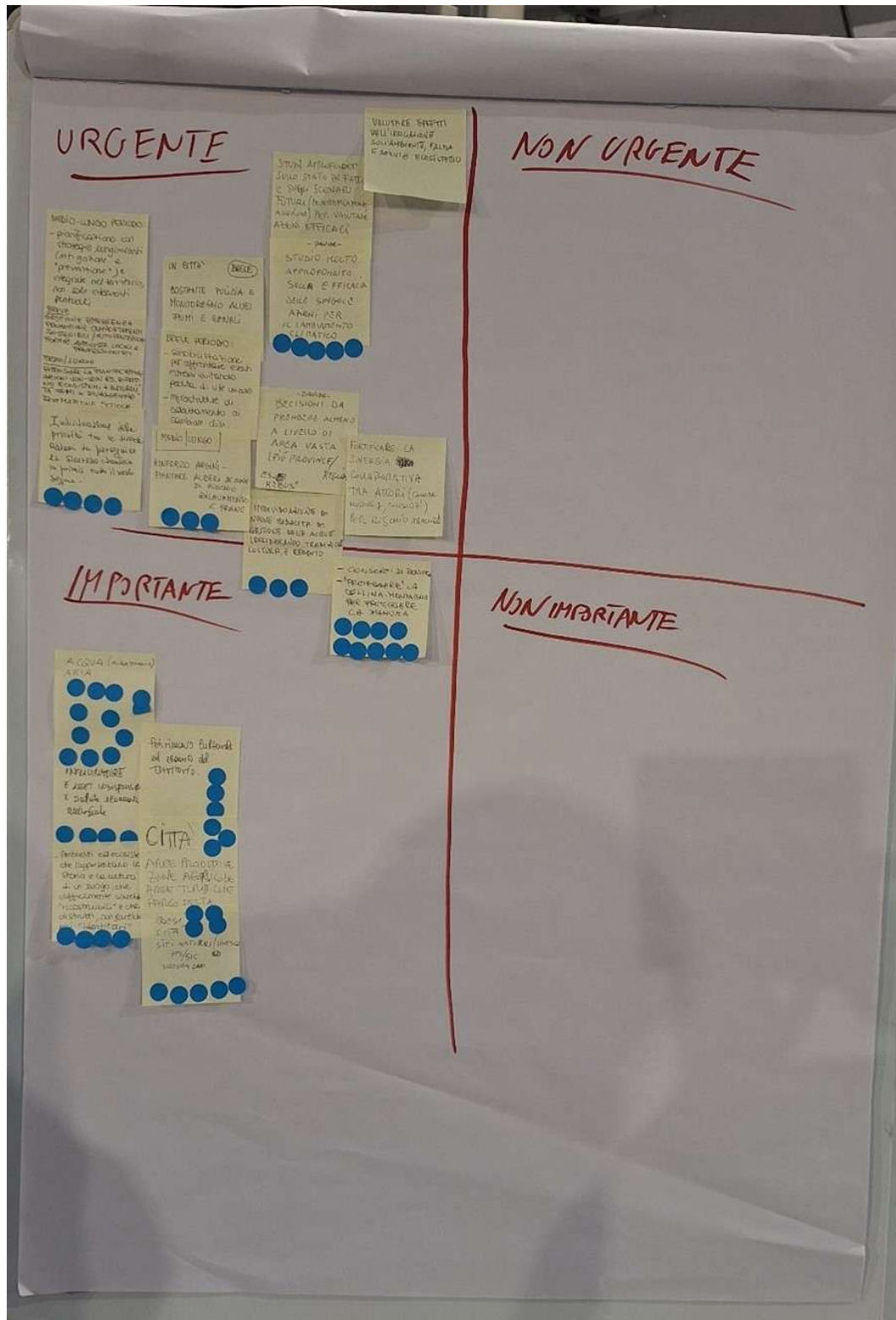
Question 2: Territorial resources and values that are recognized in them, and that are intended to be protected: what are they and where are they?**Resources and values:**

The group has identified drinking water and air as primary assets to be protected, together with fundamental infrastructures to ensure health, economy and the environment. Land reclamation consortia have been recognized as centers for the protection of territories, while environments and ecosystems represent the history and culture of a place. The cultural and natural heritage of the territory, including cities, towns, productive, tourist and agricultural areas, has been considered of great value.

Priority:

During the vote, drinking water and air, cities, towns, production areas, tourist areas, agricultural areas and Delta Park, and the reclamation consortia each received 9 votes, followed by environments and ecosystems and infrastructures with 4 votes each, and the cultural and natural heritage of the territory with 3 votes.





Minutes of Working Group 2

Participants:

- Giulia Righetti (facilitator)
- Elena Dorato (expert)
- Richard Lee Peragine (verbalizing)
- Stefania Leoni, Alessia Buccheri, Edi Massarenti, Patrizia Bianconi, Roberto Montanari



The second working group, facilitated by Giulia Righetti, addressed the same questions with a particular focus on governance and resource management.

Question 1: What processes and actions do you think need to be initiated, in the short or medium-long term?

Short Run:

In the short term, the group highlighted the need to work on an updated and integrated knowledge framework, define a guide for the common and dedicated financial architecture, and create infrastructure to deal with extreme events. The importance of adapting the existing structures and creating lamination tanks to regulate the water was emphasized. Correct and continuous training at a capillary level with respect to climate change was considered essential.

In the medium to long term, the group suggested improving governance and the ability to legislate, build a framework for financial strategy, and raise awareness among citizens. The relocation of certain situations and



Italy – Croatia



the redevelopment of existing infrastructures were considered important actions. The management of rising waters in coastal areas has been identified as a priority.

Priority:

During the vote, the dedicated financial architecture and the upgrading of existing infrastructure received 4 votes each, followed by increased regulatory capacity, citizen training and awareness, and rising water management with 3 votes each.

Question 2: Territorial resources and values that are recognized in them, and that are intended to be protected: what are they and where are they?

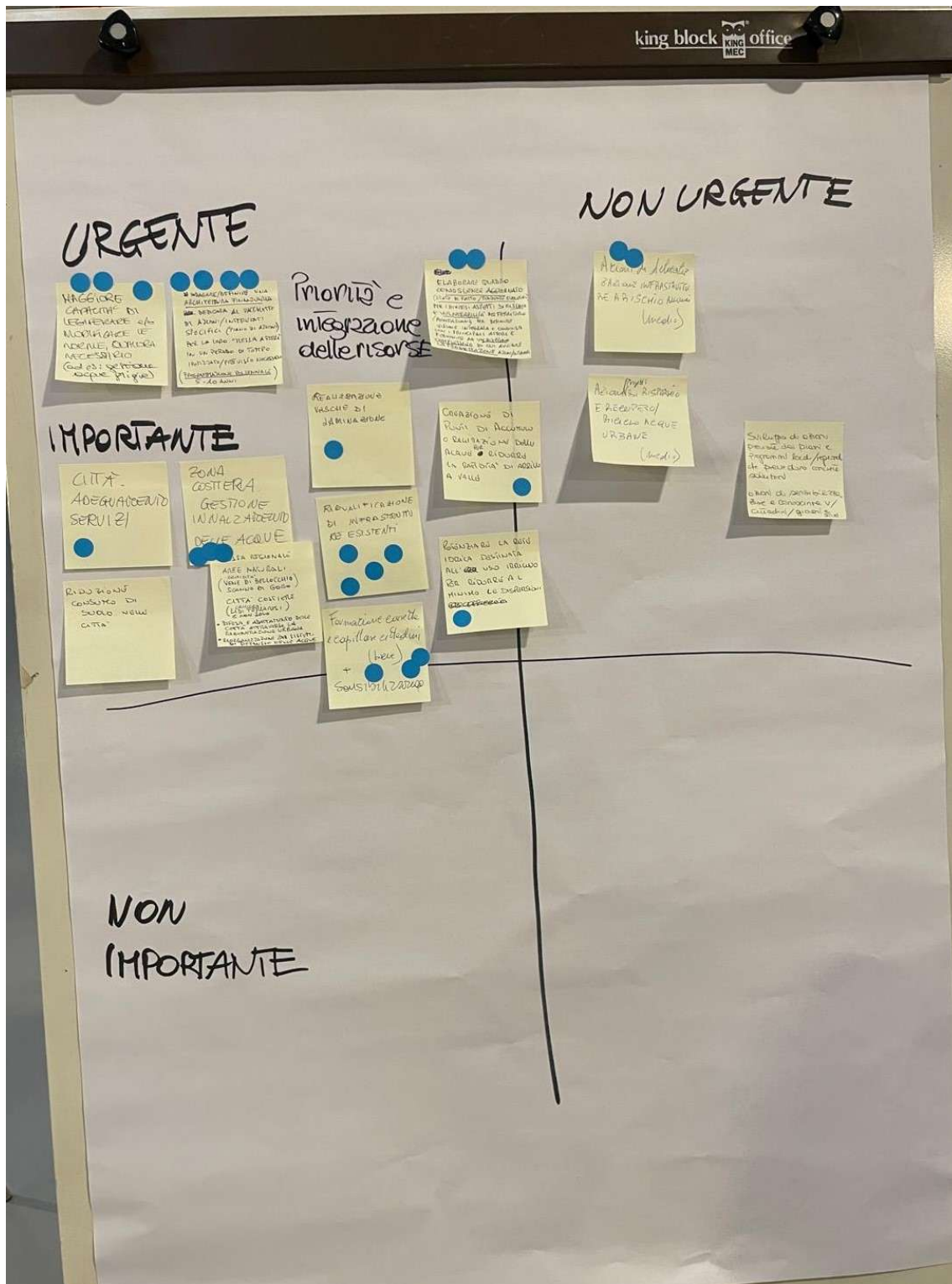
Resources and values:

The group has recognized natural areas such as Bellocchio veins and Goro reserves, the protection of the coast, and the irrigation water distribution network as fundamental resources. Farmers were considered an important territorial presence, while urban regeneration and citizen training were identified as key actions.

Priority:

The voting highlighted the strengthening of financial instruments and the redevelopment of existing infrastructure as key priorities. Particular attention was also given to legislative capacity, public awareness, and the management of rising water levels. Additional aspects included the updating of knowledge, adaptation of urban services, and water resource management.





Minutes of Working Group 3

Participants:

- Alessandra Marin (facilitator)
- Antonio Curatolo (minuter)
- Daniela Ferrara, Martina Berneschi, Alfiero Moretti, Marco Ruffato, Alberto Bavieri.



The third working group, led by Alessandra Marin, discussed the actions needed to improve the resilience of the territory.

Question 1: What processes and actions do you think need to be initiated, in the short or medium-long term?

In the short term, the group stressed the need for collaboration between administrations and to define what information is held between the different bodies involved. A risk awareness campaign and the integrated design of existing infrastructure were proposed.

In the medium to long term, the group while acknowledging that these topics are also important and somewhat urgent, though less so than the previous ones – suggested building competencies to inform citizens, spread awareness of climate change, and collaboratively design resilience measures. The importance of rethinking infrastructure that supports hydraulic engineering works was also emphasized.



Italy – Croatia

**Priority:**

During the vote, the risk awareness campaign and the protection of the primary economic sector received 6 votes each, followed by the sharing of the information held by the various actors with 5 votes.

Question 2: Territorial resources and values that are recognized in them, and that are intended to be protected: what are they and where are they?

Resources and values:

The group identified urban areas, the protection of the primary economic sector, and the preservation of the landscape shaped by it, biodiversity and wetlands, and the degradation of Apennine areas as key resources. The management of the artificially reclaimed landscape and fishing and tourism were considered important values.

Priority:

During the vote, the management of the artificially reclaimed landscape and fishing and tourism received the highest number of votes.





Final Thoughts

From the analysis of the results that emerged from the three working groups, some common and priority considerations can be drawn:

1. **Collaboration and Governance:** There is a clear need to improve collaboration between different administrations and entities, and to develop a more inclusive and functional territorial governance. This was underlined by all groups as a key element in addressing climate and environmental challenges.
2. **Awareness and Training:** Raising awareness among citizens and training local administrators and professionals are considered urgent and fundamental actions. The dissemination of the culture of climate change and the promotion of sustainable behaviors are shared priorities.
3. **Infrastructure and Planning:** The need to improve and upgrade existing infrastructure, as well as to design new adaptive solutions capable of addressing fragile territories while respecting natural dynamics. Was emphasized by all groups. Strategic and forward-looking planning is essential to prevent and mitigate the effects of climate change.
4. **Resources and Territorial Values:** The protection of natural resources, such as drinking water and air, and of the cultural and environmental values of the territory, is considered urgent and cannot be delegated. The protection of ecosystems, production and tourist areas, and land reclamation consortia has been recognized as fundamental.

