



MAIN CHALLENGES FOR WATER MANAGEMENT ADDRESSED

The project, started with financial support of the Lombardy Region, addresses the challenge of sustainable use of water for irrigation through improving knowledge on actual water uses and crop water requirements, facilitating access to data and information and providing agro-hydrological modelling tools.

SOLUTION DEVELOPED

The project has led to the creation of an integrated monitoring network comprising 430 hydrometric monitoring stations and 32 agrometeorological stations, a data management centre based on open-source spatial data infrastructure (CeDATeR), and a mathematical model for assessing crop water requirements and actual water consumption at both regional and more detailed spatial scales (IrrAgra model). In addition, web-based tools have been developed to disseminate knowledge, and an annual report on the irrigation season is published.

PROJECT TYPE: Public regional funded project

DATES: 2017 - 2025

BUDGET: 130.000 €/year

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HOW IT CONTRIBUTED TO WATER RESILIENCE

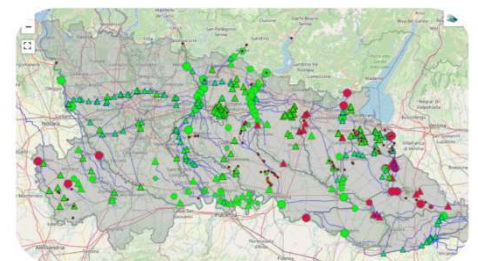
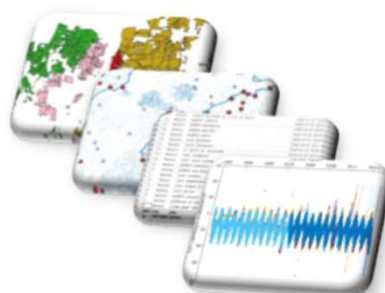
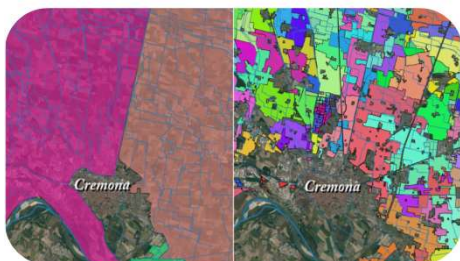
Through its outputs, the project has contributed to promote the responsible use of water for irrigation and to support initiatives aimed at improving the efficiency and resilience of irrigation systems. These results were achieved thanks to the proactive collaboration between Lombardy Region, the Irrigation Consortia and the University of Milan, which also gave impetus to a series of spin-off projects with more specific objectives, based on the project's outputs and promoted by national and regional bodies, individual irrigation consortia, farmers and their associations.

UPTAKE / PRACTICAL APPLICATION

The Regional agencies and the Irrigation Consortia have largely benefited of the project's outcomes. They have relied on the CeDATeR database and on the IrrAgra model to support the planning and management of irrigation systems, to improve the regional and district water balances and to manage drought periods.

Farmers have benefited of the project's outcomes in several forms, including the use a web-based platform to assess the expected increase of irrigation efficiency that could be achieved through specific measures needed to submit funding requests within the EU-RDPs.

Moreover, the project's products have been used by Po River District Basin Authority and research institutions in a variety of projects, including EU funded ones, such as the study on the optimal location of multifunctional water storage basins, the assessment of ecosystem services provided by irrigation, the improvement and expansion of more efficient irrigation systems where it's needed (e.g. in the Garda-Chiese and in the Franciacorta districts).



This poster was presented at the EU CAP Network conference 'Water resilience in agriculture: innovation in practice' - Hamburg, Germany, 19-21 May 2026

In collaboration with: