



Living rivers: a driver for sustainable regional development

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Extensive Fishing in Comacchio lagoon

- Description

*The **Comacchio lagoon** is an extraordinary nursery habitat for juveniles of species of both commercial and conservation interest: eels, anchovies, shrimps and mullets*

*Fishing activities in Comacchio lagoon are directly performed by the **Po river Delta Park***

*Particularly, **eel fishing** represents an important heritage of an ancient activity of local villagers and is yet carried out with traditional and extensive practices.*

*The **Comacchio lagoon** requires a continuous and expensive **management** of the several water gates by the Po river Delta Park: they have to be opened and closed, in order to allow species movement and to supply fresh and sea water for habitat and species conservation.*



Extensive Fishing in Comacchio lagoon



- **Results**

*The incomes generated by fishing is reinvested by the Park in the **environmental conservation and management of the lagoon**, thus representing an **implicit Payment for Ecosystem Service (PES) scheme** which guarantees habitat and fishery conservation.*

*Moreover, part of the catch **is directly sold to local population**, thus representing an additional identity cultural value.*

This practice involves different stakeholders and beneficiaries. Fishing generates direct and indirect job positions for the local community. The Po river Park achieves the goal of conserving habitat and species, while maintaining traditional fishing practices and supporting tourism in the lagoon.

- **Timing** start 1991 - ongoing

- **Budget:**

*The practice **does not need** any external financial resource; it is managed by internal staff, both seasonal and permanent. 2 permanent workers are employed for fishing and management activities.*

The total incomes generated by fishing activities in 2018 was 185,667 € of which 24.760 (eels) directly sold to local population, also representing an identitarian cultural value (sense of place)

- **Responsible organization:** Parco del Delta del Po –
mpiapagliarusco@parcodeltapo.it

<u>Activities 2018</u>	<u>Annual costs</u>
Regional projects (historical pickling factory, only in 2018) of cultural inheritance and environmental management	86,500
Seasonal personnel	18,500
Non-seasonal personnel	31,800
General expenses	13,000





Thank you!

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