



# **12th International Conference on Wetland Systems for Water Pollution Control Venice (Italy), 4-8 October 2010**

In 1999 the Italian Section of the IWA Specialist Group on the Use of Macrophytes in Water Pollution Control was established. This group is collecting data (process, design criteria, plant utilization, removal efficiency, economic and legislative aspects, etc.) from existing plants operating in Italy. Since the 1980's over one thousand Constructed Wetlands (CWs), both free water and subsurface (horizontal and vertical) flow systems, have been realized in Italy. Most of the facilities are located in the northern and central part of the country.



The Italian section of our IWA Specialist group has been committed to conducting a successful event for the 2010 conference. This commitment has been supported by the key

entities in CWs research and practice in Italy including all the involved Universities and others: Ministry of Environment, Veneto Agricoltura, University of Padua, University of Venice, University of Catania , University of Pisa, University of Ferrara, University of Florence, Polytechnic of Bari, ENEA, CNR, IRIDRA Srl, PAN Srl.

The Steering Committee is very pleased to thank you all indeed for participating in the 12th IWA Specialist Group Conference on Wetland Systems for Water Pollution Control, making it a memorable and successful event. The conference has been held in the San Servolo Island, Venice, Italy, from 4 to 8 October 2010.

***"If you share data you do not give away all your secrets but demonstrate that you know what you are talking about and are a group worth co-operating with" .....***

***"A Green process producing a Grey effluent is no use to anyone"***

***(Paul Cooper, 2010)***



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*"Dear Colleagues,*

*I wish to send you my deepest thanks for your participation to our 12th International Conference on Wetland Systems for Water Pollution Control, 4-8 October in Venice. Many of you travelled thousand of kilometres to join us in this adventure and we thank you for this.*

*It has been a pleasure and honour for us to host you in our University and in our City, with the possibility of meeting new colleagues and old friends and acquaintances.*

*I want here to thank the organising committees, the Board Members of our Macrophytes Specialist Group, all the chairpersons, the platform speakers, the poster presenters, the evaluators for Young Scientists awards.*

*A particular thank to Claudio Albano, who worked with us to collect funding for financing the participation of 85 students from all over the world and granting more than 30 participants.*

*We also wish to thank all the colleagues we could not thank in the concluding session, in particular Gabriela Dotro for her precious help in organisation, Jaime Nivala for her patient work on the Proceedings, Marta Casotto, Riccardo Bresciani and Lisa Zanieri for the wonderful work done in San Servolo and in the general organisation of the event.*

*I want to thank again the local authorities for their support at all levels: Veneto Agricoltura and the Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea. I want to thank the local and national press for reporting the news, all the sponsors who contributed generously, and the San Servolo staff for their kindness, the assistance and the warm hospitality.*

*We all hope that you received a favourable impression, and that you enjoyed your stay.*

*With best regards*

*Fabio Masi"*