

INVITATION-CALL FOR PAPERS AWARD
X ITALIAN NATIONAL TABLE OF RIVER CONTRACTS
"Good governance of water and territory"
MILAN, 15-16 october 2015

The River Contracts are innovative instruments to contribute to the definition and implementation of district planning tools at the hydrographic basin and sub-basin scale. **The River Contracts** are voluntary agreements of strategic and negotiated planning, aiming the protection, proper management of water resources and enhancement of the river territories, together with flood protection, contributing to the local development of such areas.

The River Contracts bring together private and public partners to sign agreements and commitments and to carry out the maintenance of the territory, the implementation of the environmental role of agriculture, the development of ecological production areas, the proper land use and the integrated protection of the quality of water resources with the mitigation of hydrogeological risk. The public agreements or covenants on water have demonstrated to be very useful participatory tools to promote the involvement of the local communities in making decisions on river basins management. This aspect is clear in the implementation of EU directives 200/60 and 2007/60, which highlight the importance of participatory governance to achieve the objectives of quality of water and reduction of risk from flooding, through a general policy. However, any state generally develops its own approach often without any interaction with other countries. These processes have taken various forms, often in compliance with national policies and the most widespread tool is the so called River Contracts, currently used in France, Belgium, Spain and Italy (see about it the case study # 4 "River Contracts for sustainable development in the Italian context...")

(<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/water/wwap/wwdr/2015-water-for-a-sustainable-world/>).

However, these tools still have a lower diffusion in the East European countries and quite different approaches have been adopted in most of the other EU states.

Sharing knowledge, best practices, technologies, is a crucial aspect in enhancing IWRM across Europe. Then, water and floods EU directives are facing crucial deadlines.

The participation to the CALL FOR PAPERS is thus an opportunity to share the experiences already existing at the EU level and to enhance the spreading of participative governance in European countries.

At the X National Table to be held at Milano Expo, in view of the fact that the Coordination of the table in 2015 coincides with the Coordination of the European Action Group "Participatory European network on Water Governance - Smart Rivers Network" EIP-Water, selected from the III European Call EIP Water Action Groups (AG's), ALTA SCUOLA as an official partner of the Table and of the Action Group launches a

Call For Papers

addressed to the academic and research world, to practitioners and stakeholders (public and private), who have conducted or are conducting meaningful experiences of participatory approach to the water management and planning in river basin also in the implementation of the EU directives. We want in this way to contribute to the diffusion and dissemination of "Innovative best practices" for the management of river territories, within European Innovation Partnership on Water, "Action Group - Smart River Network (<http://www.eip-water.eu/SmartRiverNw>). At the congress of the X° National Table of Contracts river (Milan, 15 and 16 October 2015) October 16th will be held the meeting of the EIP-Water "Action Group - Smart River Network and the prizes will be handed during an international working session, devoted to the "Good governance of water and territory".

HOW TO PARTICIPATE TO THE AWARD 2015

1.0 References for the presentation of papers

Those interested in participating to the Call can send **by the date of 21 September 2015** a paper in English whose theme is included among those listed below:

UNIQUE SESSION: SIGNIFICANT EXPERIENCES

Description of national and international researches, publications, studies and educational programs, books, articles, degree and doctoral dissertations, innovative methodological and scientific approaches, related to River Contracts or description participative governance experiences in the management of European hydrologic basins, with particular reference to the implementation of Directives 2007 / 60 (Directive on the assessment and management of flood risk) and 2000/60 (Framework Directive on Water Quality) and to the participatory approach envisaged by those directives.

2.0 Guidelines for the presentation of papers



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The texts of the Paper should be written in English and contained in a maximum of two (2) pages, including illustrations (graphic designs, photographs, etc.) that shall not exceed 50% of the paper.

The Paper should be sent by electronic mail, in Word format (.doc), Rich Text Format (.rtf) Portable Document Format (.pdf) in open format.

Each Paper should contain:

TITLE (max 10 words, in English and Italian).

AUTHORS (the name of the authors in bold with the name followed by the last name; the name of the principal author presenting the Paper must be underlined. It must be specified the institution or the affiliation of the authors).

OUTLINE:

SUMMARY - ABSTRACT (in English and Italian. Describe in brief the work presented)

INTRODUCTION (clearly explain the objectives of the project. A brief review on the interested context problems is desired).

ACTIONS AND METHODS (briefly describe the actions taken and the procedures used)

RESULTS (must be clearly stated and quantified when possible)

CONCLUSIONS (the conclusions must explain the results and provide feedback to their theoretical and practical background, and to future developments)

REFERENCES (please mention only the essential references)

3.0 Award Ceremony of Papers

The contributions received **by the date of 21 September 2015**, will be reviewed and evaluated by a **multi-disciplinary commission-jury** composed by **10 members including the President**. Each juror will express for each abstract a numerical rating from 1 to 4, taking into account the following three references:

- 1-clarity of the issues and objectives;
- 2-quality and innovation of contents;
- 3-coherence with the instrument "River Contracts".

The commission-jury will identify, among the papers considered most significant, at least three papers. The recognition is a **signed and numbered "intaglio" print by the Italian Artist OSCAR Piattella**, http://youtu.be/cnljHc_sXjA and specially created for the X National Table of River Contracts.

The commission-jury may decide not to award prizes if the papers will be judged as not worthy and will have the right to award prizes or special mentions and awards ex aequo.

4.0 Deadlines and delivery of papers

The paper should be sent **exclusively by e-mail no later than 21 September 2015** to the following email address: **segreteria@altascuola.org**

The organization of the Prize and the assistance to the activities of the jury also for this edition will be handled by "Alta Scuola" (Perugia) - <http://www.altascuola.org>

All papers will be published online together with a report of the works of the X Table, in the websites of the National Table of River Contracts, of the National Coordination A21Italy and of Alta Scuola.

5.0 Communication and clarifications:

1. **The secretariat of Alta Scuola**, (www.altascuola.org) can be reached at the following email address: **segreteria@altascuola.org**

An employee of Alta Scuola secretariat will respond on weekdays every morning from 09:00 to 13:00 tel .: (+39) 075.97.33.99 - Fax: (+39) 075.97.34.37

2. **The technical-scientific secretariat of the Table**, can be reached at the following email address: **info@ecoazioni.it**
An operator of the Table secretariat will respond on weekdays every morning from 09:00 to 13:00 Tel +39 075.9222693 Fax +39 075.9272282

3. referring Web site for **more information:**

<http://nuke.a21fiumi.eu/>

<https://twitter.com/ContrattiFiume>



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