

**Location**

Italy

**Users**

Small farmers

**Maintained by**

The Bevilacqua La Masa Foundation, Venice; Verlato+Zordan Architects, Vicenza; Termoidraulica Cabi, Vicenza; and project manager Gaston Ramirez Feltrin

**Duration**

2010 - ongoing

**Category**

scientific, environment

**Nr. and Title**

U 033

# Rainwater Harvesting

**Initiator(s)**

Marjetica Potrč and Marguerite Kahrl

**Description**

In 2010, Marjetica Potrč & Marguerite Kahrl developed a rainwater-harvesting system for a farm on Sant'Erasmus island in the Venice Lagoon. Rainwater is collected from a rooftop catchment system that is used to irrigate the crops in the greenhouse and it is powered by solar panels. Venice is currently facing serious water resource threats as the lagoon subsides and as a result, is limiting water use from underground aquifers. By creating sustainable and alternate methods of catchment and irrigation, small farmers are able to maintain their livelihoods and provide food for the surrounding areas.

**Goals**

To respond to changing climate and urban resource needs in Venice by creating a sustainable alternative for accessing water. To support a local farm. To encourage a paradigm shift so that the city of Venice once more has a symbiotic relationship with its water.

**Beneficial outcomes**

The farm is able to use rainwater to irrigate crops, leaving more water in Venice's aquifers.

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