

**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

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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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