

Interreg GO!

Building a Greener Europe through Water Resilience and Integrated Management

28 March 2025
#Interreg



The objective of the workshop “*Building a Greener Europe through Water Resilience and Integrated Management*” is to explore how Interreg programmes have effectively integrated environmental sustainability into programme delivery as well as their strategic goals. Participants will engage with examples highlighting different models of programme governance developed to implement projects in the field of water management, examining their long-term impact, sustainability, capitalisation and legacy of project results. The workshop aims to provide key lessons learned and recommendations for other Interreg programmes across Europe, fostering knowledge exchange and inspiring future synergies and collaboration.

Venue: *Kulturni Dom Goriza*

Project visit:

Location: Corno di Rosazzo

Address: P.za XXVII Maggio, 11, 33040 Corno di Rosazzo (UD), Italy

Projects to be presented:

- Standard Project 2014-2020 ACQUAVITIS | Italia Slovenia (ita-slo.eu)
- Capitalisation Project 2021-2027 IRRIGAVIT | Italia Slovenia (ita-slo.eu)

The Collio/Brda hills

The Collio/Brda hills lie on the right bank of the Isonzo/ Soča River north of the cities of Gorizia and Nova Gorica. The Slovene part is situated entirely within the Municipality of Brda. The Italian part lies within the boundaries of the province of Gorizia, and it is divided between the municipalities of San Floriano del Collio, Cormons, and Dolegna del Collio.

Viticulture is one of the most important economic sectors in the cross-border area, where there is a tradition of producing fine (predominantly) white wines. The area has been experiencing increasing episodes of drought, high temperatures and other extreme meteorological events due to climate change. The simultaneous increase in temperatures combined with a decrease in rainfall threatens both the quality/ quantity of the grapes produced and the survival of the grapevines. In the cross-border wine-growing area, the use of irrigation is limited due to lack of water sources and historical issues.

ACQUAVITIS | Italy-Slovenia - Standard Project 2014-2020¹

- **Main project objectives**

The ACQUAVITIS project (Innovative solutions for the efficient use of water in cross-border viticulture) aimed to develop and test innovative technologies and guidelines for the protection and efficient use of water resources and for contingency planning in the event of unforeseen events and climate change.

- **Key results and lessons learned**

The project created a network for qualitative and quantitative water monitoring of irrigation systems, making them greener and more sustainable. The improvement of irrigation strategies, together with the bilingual platform www.acquavitis.eu which allows monitoring of the soil and crops, led to an improvement in wine quality.

The project enabled the development of protocols to improve irrigation and soil management through:

- Study of the hydrological cycle
- Monitoring the water status of vines
- Remote control monitoring of water stress in vineyards.

- **Ideas for the future**

The project has demonstrated the importance of using a combination of aerial, drone and satellite images to monitor the state of plants, enabling appropriate intervention during the production and the processing of grapes. The project results therefore provide evidence to encourage a wider use of such instruments for a more resilient and sustainable viticulture.

- **Description of the collaboration method**

The exchange of experience between research institutions, the testing of new technologies and the transfer of knowledge are helping vineyards to manage water sustainably in viticulture. In various work streams, researchers and specialists from different fields are contributing their knowledge and experience to obtain significant achievements and conclusions.

- **Post-implementation arrangements**

The capitalisation project IRRIGAVIT intends to transfer the knowledge and results obtained from ACQUAVITIS and to use this information to consolidate and disseminate strategies that promote vineyard resilience in new areas of particular interest for viticulture (namely the Collio/Brda area).

PROJECT DATA

DURATION: 1st January 2020 to 31st August 2022

BUDGET: EUR 811 463.65 (ERDF), EUR 954 663.12 (total)

LEAD PARTNER: Kmetijski Inštitut Slovenije (Agricultural institute of Slovenia)

PROJECT PARTNERS: 6

¹See project website:

<https://2014-2020.ita-slo.eu/en/acquavitis>



IRRIGAVIT | Italy-Slovenia – Capitalisation project 2021-2027²

- **Main project objectives**

The project aims to promote the optimization of irrigation strategies in cross-border vineyards and beyond. It shall showcase experiments on irrigation and vineyard soil management using innovative green technologies; offer training and promotion (workshops, video lessons, international conferences); provide expert support to decision-makers and stakeholders in the agricultural sector to help them adapt to climate change.

- **Description of the collaboration method**

Cooperation is based on the transfer of knowledge acquired during the ACQUAVITIS project from the giver partners to taker partners through demonstration trials in the field, meetings, and video lessons. Partners are involved in the promotion of good practices and protocols, supported by administrative bodies and development agencies.

- **Outputs so far**

Meetings, activities and trials were managed in eight cross-border vineyards, with physical-chemical analyses of grapes, soil, and plants using DSS and multispectral analyses. Guidelines for irrigation and soil management are under development, with updates to the Irrigavit.eu platform. Two tastings of experimental wines in Italy and Slovenia, workshops, and an information campaign promoted the transfer of knowledge to viticulturists.

PROJECT DATA

DURATION: 1ST October 2023, ongoing

BUDGET: EUR 493 860.78 (ERDF), EUR 617 325.98 (TOTAL)

LEAD PARTNER: Università degli Studi di Udine (University of Udine, Italy)

PROJECT PARTNERS: 6

²See project website:

<https://www.ita-slo.eu/en/irrigavit>



