

The organization of the Conference *Systems for Water Pollution Control* of the International Water Association



October 2010

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IRIDRA Ltd. is an Italian company based in Tuscany with extensive experience in the design of Constructed Wetland systems. IRIDRA has been designated by the International Water Association (IWA) as Technical Secretariat for the organization of the Conference titled: “*Systems for Water Pollution Control*”, to be held in Venice, Island of San Servolo, from 4th to 9th October 2010.

IRIDRA has been cooperating for years with ARPAT – Tuscany Regional Agency for Environmental Protection - in providing technical

assistance to countries willing to get acquainted with methodologies on Constructed Wetlands in the framework of IDEASS activities and UNDP human development programmes at local level.

The biennial event of the IWA Specialist Group on the Use of Macrophytes in Water Pollution Control, for the first time held in Italy, represents the most important technical-scientific occasion at the international level on low-tech methods for Water Pollution Control and participants will get to know the latest progresses in this field.

IRIDRA, in collaboration with ARPAT and within the framework of the IDEASS programme, has been providing technical assistance to relevant and interested stakeholders in Honduras, Cuba and Albania, for the drawing up of pilot projects of Constructed Wetlands. Specifically:

In Honduras, ARPAT and IRIDRA designed a *Constructed Wetlands* pilot system in the Municipality of Nacaome (Department of Valle), in cooperation with the Municipality of Nacaome; the Autonomous University of Honduras and the



Department of Biology and the National Independent Service of Aqueducts and Sewers Systems (SANAA). The project was carried out in the framework of the UNDP’s Anti Poverty programme.

In Cuba, in cooperation with the UNDP Human Development Programme at local level, ARPAT and IRIDRA designed a *Constructed Wetlands* system in the Province of Guantanamo, for water treatment of the food industry plant EMBER in Guantanamo. Among the results of this technology transfer activity, it is worth mentioning that three graduation theses on Water Pollution Control were realized by the University of Guantanamo.



In Albania, in the framework of the UNDP *Governance and Local Development* programme, ARPAT and IRIDRA designed a *Constructed Wetlands* pilot system in the Narta Municipality (Vlore Region). The project was carried out in cooperation with Albanian Ministries of Environment and Agriculture; the Government of the Vlore Region; the municipalities surrounding the Lagoon area; the Regional Economical Development Agency AULEDA and the UNDP/GEF "MedWetCoast" project (Conservation of Wetland and Coastal Ecosystem in Mediterranean Region). The project generated a result of great impact: the Reform Plan for the Water Supply and sewerage of the Albanian Government suggests Constructed Wetland Systems as recommended practices for water pollution control.

