



Università
Ca'Foscari
Venezia

PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE: WaterScapes – Human-Environment interactions in and around Venice Lagoon: micro-ecologies and geoarchaeological narratives from Roman Period to Middle Ages

FUNDING PROGRAMME: Horizon Europe

CALL: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships

DESCRIPTORS: Archaeology, archaeometry, landscape archaeology

HOST DEPARTMENT: Department of Humanities

SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE: Daniela Cottica

FELLOW: Alexandra Bivolaru

FINANCIAL DATA:

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 172.750,08	€ 172.750,08

ABSTRACT:

WaterScapes is an interdisciplinary project that examines the relationship between environmental changes, natural constraints and potentialities and past societies settled in and around Venice Lagoon from the Roman to Medieval periods. WaterScapes has 3 core objectives. First, it will explore the high-resolution potential of paleo-archives, which have been undervalued by traditional archaeological research and text-based narratives. This will be achieved through geophysical surveys and coring missions in various sites (Venice, Torcello, Altinum, Lio Piccolo, Aquileia, Grado), laboratory research (geochemistry, bio-sedimentology, etc.) and contextual analysis of the settlements through literature reviews. Second, it will examine waterscapes as a human-made environment in Venice Lagoon in order to determine the historical roots and mechanisms responsible for the Holocene-Anthropocene transition. The research will be centred on multi-period waterscape archaeology to see how former cultures shaped themselves to the surrounding environments and developed different waterscapes through water management practices. WaterScapes will qualitatively and quantitatively analyse the degree and consequences of human interventions vs natural dynamics using multivariate statistical analysis based on bio-geoarchaeological proxies from the investigated sites. Third, WaterScapes will emphasise the social aspect of the materiality of the past, simultaneously measuring its legacy in the present. Establishing the relation between variations in past climatic conditions and coastal changes enables to contribute to the understanding and modelling of the ongoing processes, thereby providing tools for the policies of territory management. WaterScapes integrates perfectly in the principles of European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage, and in two areas of continued actions: a resilient Europe-safeguarding endangered heritage and an innovative Europe-mobilising knowledge and research.

Planned Start date

Planned End date

01st August 2022

31st July 2024

PARTNERSHIP:

1 Università Ca' Foscari Venezia

Venice (IT)

Coordinator