# RAVENNA OLA 2023







Intensive Study Programme AGAINST ALL ODDS: DEFYING FUTURE THROUGH PARTICIPATORY DESIGN

24st july – 1st august



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## Floods in Ravenna through history

History of flooding and water management

**Roman era:** centuriazone, a grid system of canals and reclaimed agricultural fields constructed on former wetland areas.

Gothic era: repair of Roman aqueducts of Ravenna, ~500 AD to provide clean water and also project power and stability during uncertain times.

#### Modern era:

1544-1651: 10 severe floods and many other localized floods due to embankments rupturing 1636: Ronco and Montone Rivers submerged Ravenna city over 6 meters

1739: San Marco Lock→ Montone River rerouted to intersect Ronco River and flower into the sea as the Fiumi Uniti

**20th century:** wetland and woodland dredging/reclamation increases rapidly with surge in urban development.



# Flood Types In Ravenna

1-River Flooding 2-Coastal Flooding

3-Flash Flooding

4-Urban Flooding

5-Groundwater Flooding

6-Sewer Flooding

## What has happened recently?



The historic centre of Lugo, outside Ravenna was among the cities with the worst flooding



The Rocca Estense castle surrounded by flood water in Lugo, in Ravenna province, northern Italy, on Thursday, May 18, 2023.

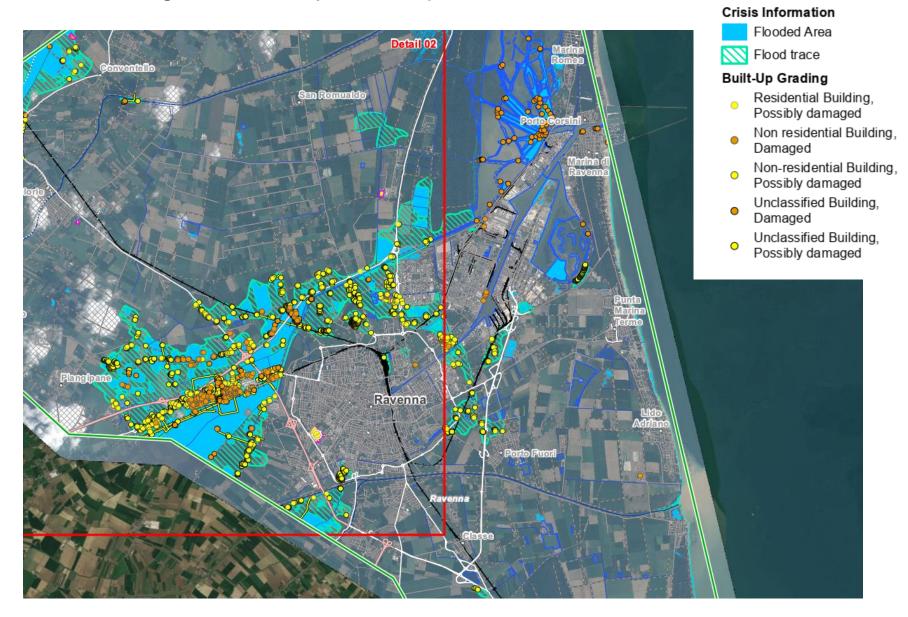
Within 6 days, 01 May to 17 May 2023: More than 20 rivers have burst their banks in Emilia Romagna,

resulting in 13 death,

forcing thousands to leave their homes

after six months worth rainfall fell in a day and a half.

# The flooding and its impact May, 2023



## Community vs. Flood

More than 10,000 people have been evacuated as rivers of mud tore through towns. People who stayed behind were left without gas, electricity, and food.

"People are struggling to find food and places to stay,"

"The reaction by people here was exceptional. When you see 2,000 young volunteers arriving with shovels, ready to remove mud, you know you need to do your part too."

"Our community is broken,
we felt completely cut out,
isolated, some of us were
truly terrified."
Ines, who runs the local
cafe in the central square in
Lugo a city near Ravenna

# Our vision: Community based flood / drought resilient and adaptive Ravenna region

Green belt around Ravenna as

#### suburb protection

• Multipurpose micro parks to

# contain water in the dense city centres







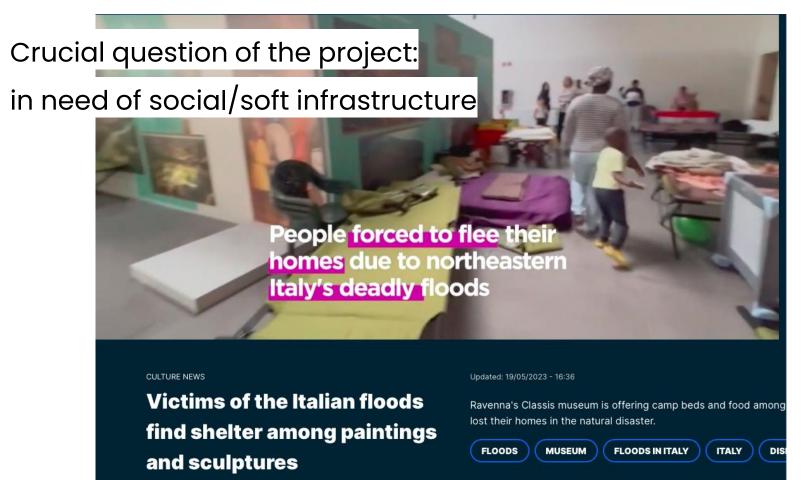


Basin Park/ Playground





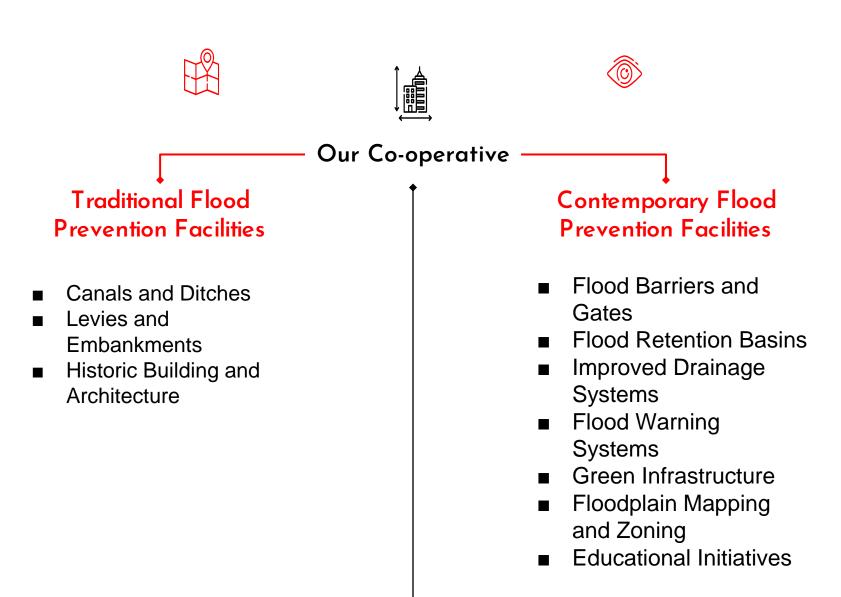
Max Claps, a researcher from Ravenna – Climate Change Resilience: A Cry for Help from My Hometown



How could this be overcome with landscape democracy?

How are the marginalized communities are getting involved in the decision making and are helped to adapt to future – more drastic – floods and droughts?

# Existing Flood Prevention Facilities



## Power Map – Co-design Network



#### **Process**

Regular Town Hall Meetings Feedback mechanism Recognition and Appreciation

#### **Monitor& Evaluate**

Continuously monitor the impact and effectiveness of the community center's initiatives. Gather feedback from the community

#### **Outreach plan**

inform the community/ potential partners about the new flood awareness center and its objectives flyers, local newspapers social media, local events media partnerships

**Open House Event** 

Youth Engagement Programs

Co-design activities/ prototype solutions

local residents, business owners, ,community leaders, schools and local organization Community Advisory Council

representative voice for the community, providing ongoing feedback and suggestions to shape the center's programs and initiatives Power Map

environmental organizations

local government

community leaders

educational institutions

concerned citizens

**Experts** 

hydrologists, environmental scientists, urban planners, and flood management experts

provide accurate information about flooding, its causes, and potential solutions. These experts can also advise on best practices for community engagement and flood mitigation

#### **Community Flood Adaptation plan**

Based on the inputs from community members and expert advice

 Long term strategies
 Short term strategies

 Nature based solutions
 Raising Awareness

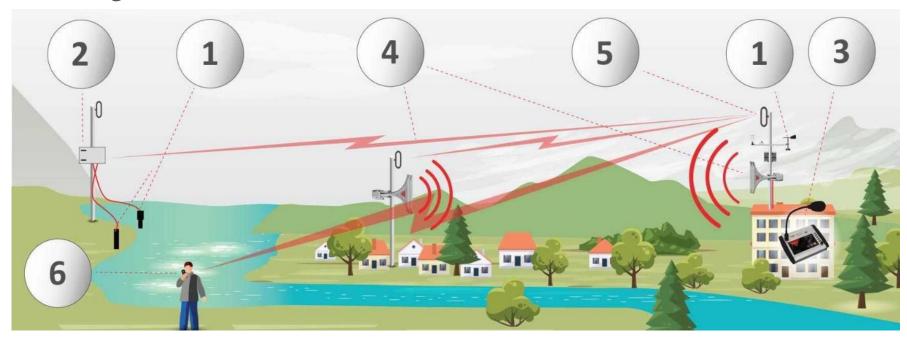
 Infrastructure improvements
 Early warning systems

 Long term educational program
 Emergency response plan



# Early Warning Systems

Creating innovation center with collected datas



The Early Warning System (EWS) in Ravenna, along with collected data, has the potential to become an innovative field. Engage the community in planning, utilize local knowledge, and establish accessible communication channels. Provide education, conduct drills, and consider the needs of vulnerable groups. Adapt the system based on data and community input for better disaster preparedness.

#### Prototype:

## Community Center designed with colorful mosaic

These community center serves as:

Host workshops and seminars on various flood-related topics

Conduct participatory design sessions where community members can contribute ideas and solutions to address flooding issues



## Prototype:

#### Community Center designed with colorful mosaic

Develop youth-centric programs that involve local schools and youth organizations in flood awareness activities.

Organize community events and contests that focus on flooding and flood preparedness.

