



# We are here Venice



impact vision



# introduction

- › foreword
- › methodological approach
- › we are here venice's note





# “There is no favorable wind for the sailor who does not know where to go.”

Seneca, *Letters to Lucilius*

by Kilowatt

The decision to embark on an impact assessment journey marked an important milestone for the team at We are here Venice (WahV), a non-profit third sector organization dedicated to promoting strategic and participatory approaches for safeguarding Venice and its lagoon. This **reflection and planning moment** became even more crucial during WahV's participation in the **H2020<sup>1</sup> WaterLANDS project (GA. 101036484)**, which provided a **significant opportunity for growth and consolidation.**

The objective of the process with Kilowatt was twofold: to **look back at past experiences and lessons learned**, and to **plan for the future with a clear strategy, supported by qualitative and quantitative indicators that help define a clear course forward.**

In the face of complex macro-phenomena like climate change, many people feel powerless to act. WahV aims to be a **reference point for those who want to make a change** but don't know how, offering **support and guidance based on solid scientific foundations.** The association is committed to co-creating **greater awareness** with its communities about the environmental and social changes that Venice and its lagoon are undergoing.

Simultaneously, WahV aims to **re-imagine Venice as a space full of generative possibilities.** This horizon of change is reflected in the strategy presented in this report, knowing that this is just the first step in a journey toward consolidating new transformative and inclusive visions for Venice's socio-ecological system.

It was crucial to outline a clear impact vision: the idea of a desired future, knowing there is not just one future but many possible futures competing with one another. Involving more and more people around a common and desirable vision of the future increases the chances of making it a reality. WahV's vision for Venice and its lagoon is one where **the city is an environmentally, socially, and culturally living, dynamic, and generative system.**

From this perspective, impact evaluation is not just about measuring the changes created by organizations but also about **designing those changes intentionally, deciding beforehand what change to contribute to.** Without setting an intention, it becomes difficult to observe and assess your positive contribution to a system. This requires internal strategic alignment and the adoption of new methods to create value for the community. Impact assessment thus becomes a tool to monitor and ensure that the objectives set are achieved and sustained over time.



<sup>1</sup> Horizon 2020 or H2020 is the European Commission's scientific research and innovation funding programme.

by Kilowatt

The strategic planning and impact evaluation process undertaken by the organization We Are Here Venice as part of the WaterLANDS project (GA. 101036484), with the support of Kilowatt, was based on the **principles and conceptual framework of the Theory of Change (ToC)**, a well-established approach, recognized and cited by the Reform of the Third Sector and its **guidelines for the evaluation of social impact**<sup>2</sup>.

Planning and designing from the ToC means intentionally orienting one's actions based on a desirable perspective of change in the reference context, then tracing back actions and resources employed to achieve that change. Change is never a linear process; it always triggers unforeseen dynamics in the interaction between different parts of a system. To avoid rigid and reductionist frameworks in the design, the Theory of Change was combined with systems thinking, reflecting on the system of relationships in which the organization operates.

2 Published in Italian Gazzetta Ufficiale No. 214 of 12 September 2019.

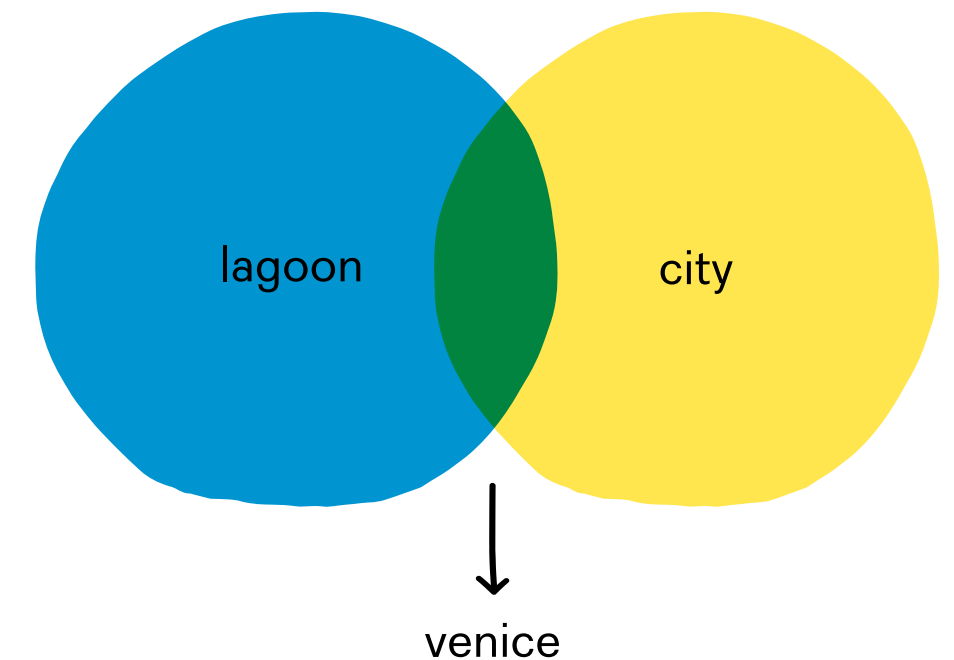
3 It is an approach from the Japanese manufacturing culture (reworked by three MIT researchers) based on certain founding principles that can give rise to lean design, which is useful when we operate under conditions of uncertainty: first of all, it is based on the concept of continuous improvement, according to which any organisation (or design team) must recognise its need and ability to always improve, reduce waste by small steps and not only by big changes.

The planning was thus developed starting from the definition of a **long-term impact vision**, guiding the overall strategy of both the organization and the WaterLANDS project (GA. 101036484). The process involved the WahV team at every phase of planning and impact evaluation. The first step was aligning the working group to create a shared language on impact within the organization. Due to the hybridization with the **Lean approach**<sup>3</sup>—based on founding principles that can create “lean” design—**strategic audiences were then involved in validating the impact production chain, also verifying data considered “taken for granted” internally**. After defining and validating the impact production chain, a set of quantitative and qualitative indicators was developed to detect the outputs achieved and measure the effects generated by WaterLANDS (GA. 101036484) and WahV as an organization.

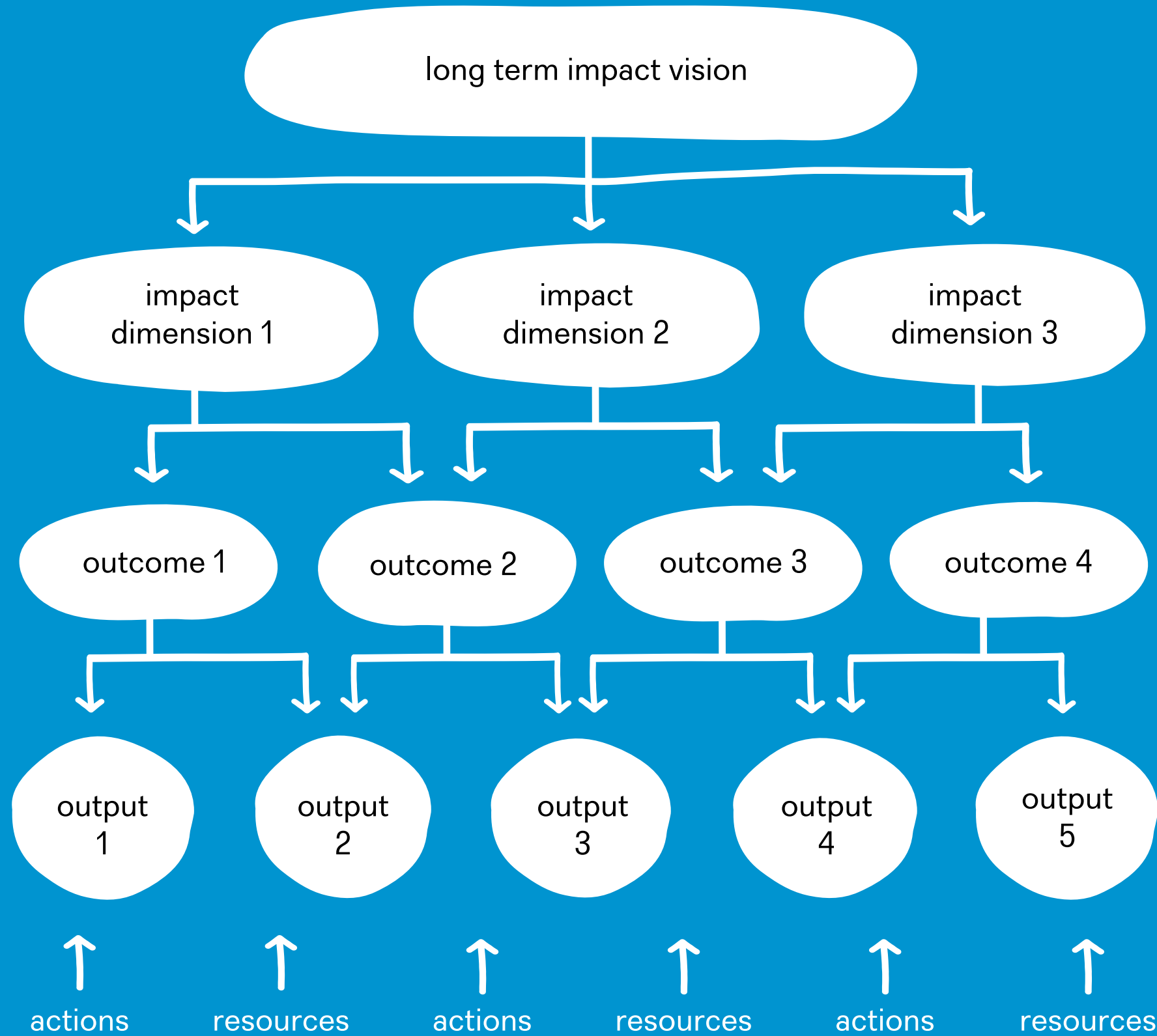
Change takes time and is never **immediate; it's a gradual and transformative process** requiring careful observation in the short, medium, and long term. Continuous monitoring helps verify whether the actions undertaken are producing the desired effects, allowing for **timely adjustments** if things aren't progressing as planned.

This document marks the beginning of the path WahV has undertaken and describes how, through the WaterLANDS project (GA. 101036484), the organization intends to contribute positively to the context of the Venice Lagoon. It is the first concrete opportunity to align strategies and actions and to observe the initial effects of these strategies on the context.

Finally, this report, along with future ones in the form of social and impact reports, will aim to make all the indicators that the organization monitors internally transparent and relevant. These indicators will be collected through internal reporting tools and questionnaires for qualitative data. The data collected in this first report represents **the baseline**. From next year, it will be possible to begin monitoring the data more effectively.







impact vision We are here Venice

in summary

- theory of change

for strategic planning and impact evaluation of the WaterLANDS project

- systemic thinking

to analyse the internal and external relations of the organisation

- strategic vision

to guide the actions of WahV and WaterLANDS and measure their long-term effects

- lean approach

to engage strategic audiences and validate the impact production chain

- continuous monitoring

to assess the effectiveness of actions and address potential issues





In the period before 2024, WahV evaluated its activities and impact in a single document, the **"5 Years Report: 2015-2020."**

In that report, WahV's activities and the projects it encompassed were examined in relation to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda, using the official tool for SDG impact evaluation.

However, in this document, and similarly in future impact reports and social balance sheets of WahV, the organization's work will be assessed according to specific indicators for third sector entities, as proposed by the previously mentioned Kilowatt guidelines and methodology. This will still include an analysis of activities in relation to their contribution to achieving the SDGs at both local and national levels.

The absence of impact data for the years 2021 to 2024 is due to internal reorganization following the transition of the organization from an unrecognized association to a third sector entity registered in the RUNTS. This change, while not affecting WahV's overall objectives, has **significantly altered the administrative and reporting structures** of the activities promoted and carried out by the organization.



# we are here venice

> who we are

> our history

> social utility

> our values

> the map of relationships







Venice is a microcosm where local solutions to global challenges can be developed and promoted.

We Are Here Venice (WahV) was founded in 2015 by Jane da Mosto and Liza Fior to address the challenges of Venice and promote evidence-based cultural, social, and environmental policies that take into account the city and its lagoon ecosystem.

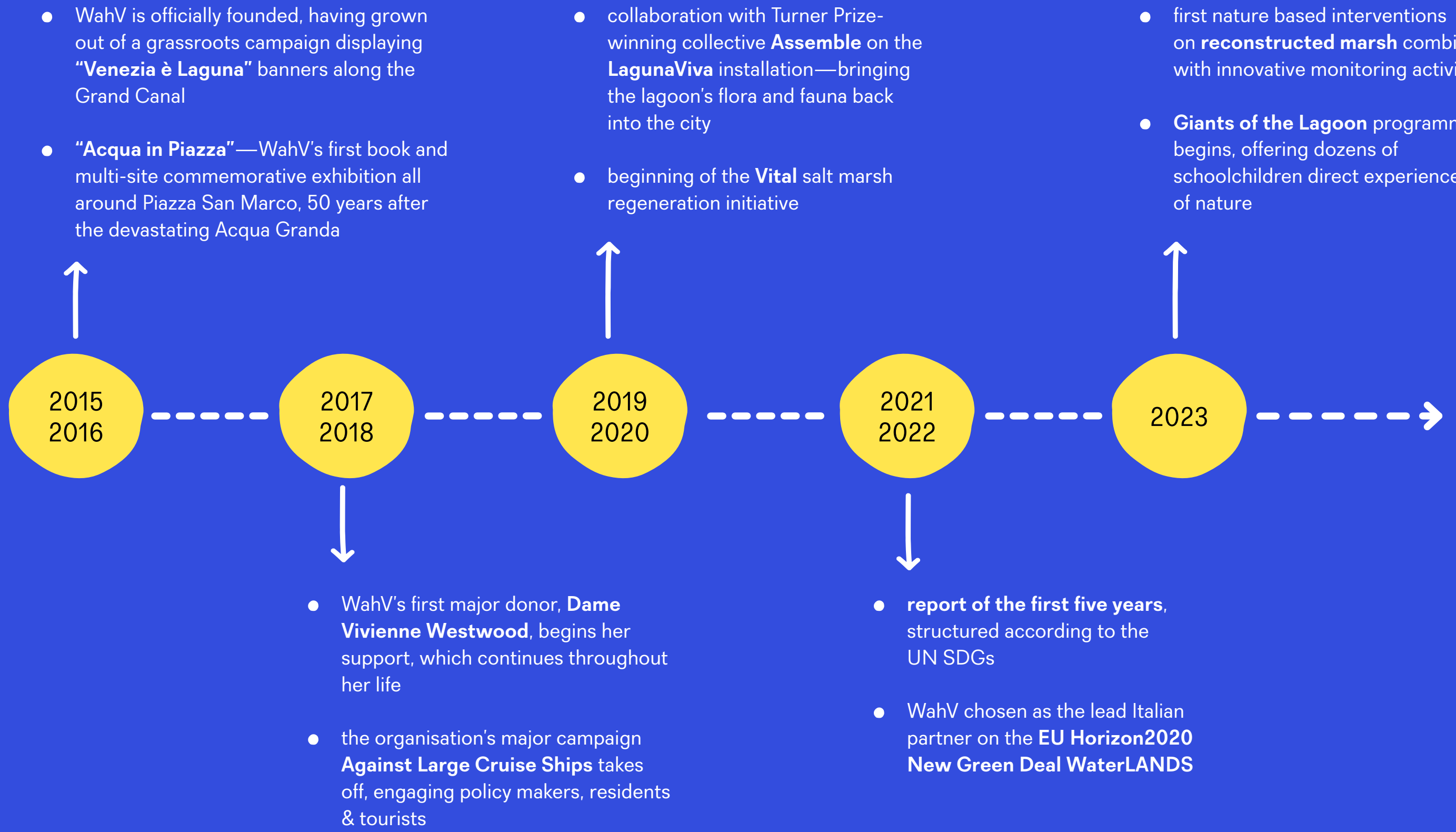
Since 2022, WahV has been registered in the National Third Sector Register with the goal of carrying out non-profit activities of general interest, aimed at pursuing civic, solidarity, and social utility purposes, particularly in the cultural and environmental fields.

✦ WahV's central challenge is to ensure that Venice remains a living city. Its mission views the city and the lagoon as inseparable parts of a single system, highlighting through research and action the vital

interaction between the natural environment and human activities.

The motto **Venice for Venetians, Venice for the world** reflects WahV's vision: only through an informed population and respect for local knowledge can Venice thrive as a city and become a model for climate resilience and sustainable development—a microcosm where local solutions to global challenges can be developed and promoted.





- WahV is officially founded, having grown out of a grassroots campaign displaying “**Venezia è Laguna**” banners along the Grand Canal
- “**Acqua in Piazza**”—WahV’s first book and multi-site commemorative exhibition all around Piazza San Marco, 50 years after the devastating Acqua Granda

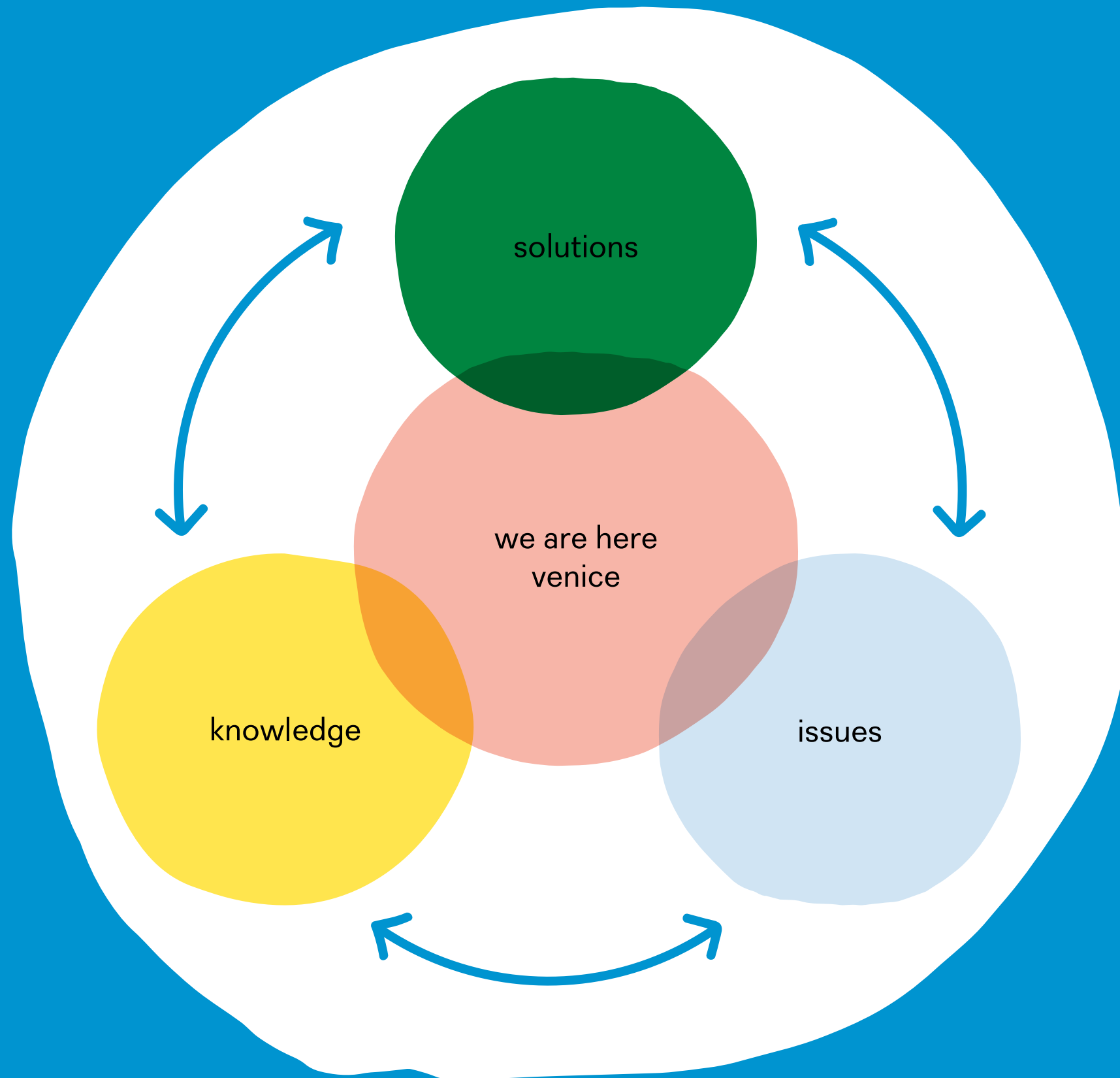
- collaboration with Turner Prize-winning collective **Assemble** on the **LagunaViva** installation—bringing the lagoon’s flora and fauna back into the city
- beginning of the **Vital** salt marsh regeneration initiative

- first nature based interventions on **reconstructed marsh** combined with innovative monitoring activities
- **Giants of the Lagoon** programme begins, offering dozens of schoolchildren direct experience of nature

- WahV’s first major donor, **Dame Vivienne Westwood**, begins her support, which continues throughout her life
- the organisation’s major campaign **Against Large Cruise Ships** takes off, engaging policy makers, residents & tourists

- **report of the first five years**, structured according to the UN SDGs
- WahV chosen as the lead Italian partner on the **EU Horizon2020 New Green Deal WaterLANDS**





in summary

- **solutions: making constructive proposals**

WahV co-designs practical solutions based on in-depth analysis and dialogue with institutions and local stakeholders, addressing Venice's needs and contributing to its sustainable and resilient development.

- **knowledge: fill research gaps**

WahV gathers and integrates multi-disciplinary knowledge from academic and local experts, bridging research gaps on crucial issues for Venice and ensuring that decisions and policies are based on accurate, up-to-date data.

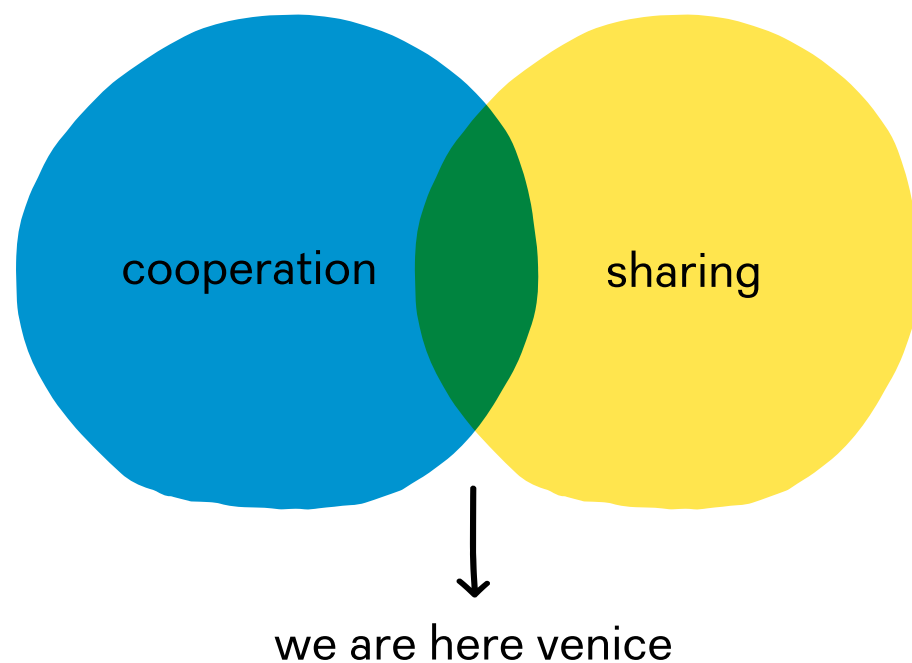
- **issues: build awareness**

We analyze Venice's issues, disseminating information and raising awareness on urgent topics that affect the city's well-being, empowering the community to actively participate in seeking solutions.



Since its foundation, the organization has embraced a working method rooted in cooperation and skill-sharing, involving a multidisciplinary team.

We Are Here Venice stands out for its commitment to **political and economic independence**, enabling the organization to interact with institutions with authority and without external pressures.



● collaboration and transparency

We foster effective **synergy between public and private sectors, civil society, and the third sector**, based on transparency and accountability. Our work aims to improve the quality of public goods and build networks with local associations, valuing shared knowledge and expertise.

● management and well-being

At WahV, the well-being of the organization is closely tied to the quality of relationships in the workplace. **Our non-hierarchical, relational management model encourages a cooperative and adaptable environment**, with a strong focus on relationships and distributed leadership. We invest in the well-being of our team by valuing their time, talents, and opportunities for growth. To strengthen activity planning, WahV organizes alignment and vision-sharing moments (**co-creation**), fostering team cohesion and enriching the organization through everyone's contributions.

● inclusion and diversity

We promote a **fairer, more inclusive, and equitable society**. We believe that diverse skills and experiences enhance our work and help combat stereotypes and biases. WahV is committed to addressing the needs of the new generations of workers clearly and effectively.

● equality and opportunity

At WahV, we see gender equality as essential to **combating discrimination and improving employment opportunities in Venice**. We are committed to ensuring a fair work environment, focusing on equal pay and flexible schedules, reducing the gender gap, and promoting dignified and respectful work for both people and the territory.



To date,  
we were, are  
and will be

artists

technicians

curators

engineers

sociologists

researchers

writers

but above all  
committed  
citizens

ecologists

environmental restoration  
technicians

scientists

economists

architects

facilitators





### our networks

To fulfill its mission of social utility, We are here Venice is part of **various networks** with which it **collaborates closely** to enhance the effectiveness of its work.

- at the local level

- > since 2020: Comitati Internazionali Privati di Venezia Association
- > since 2021: Alta Tensione Abitativa PON metro

- at the national level

- > since 2019: Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASVIS), Pro Bono Italia, Cittadini per l'Aria Onlus

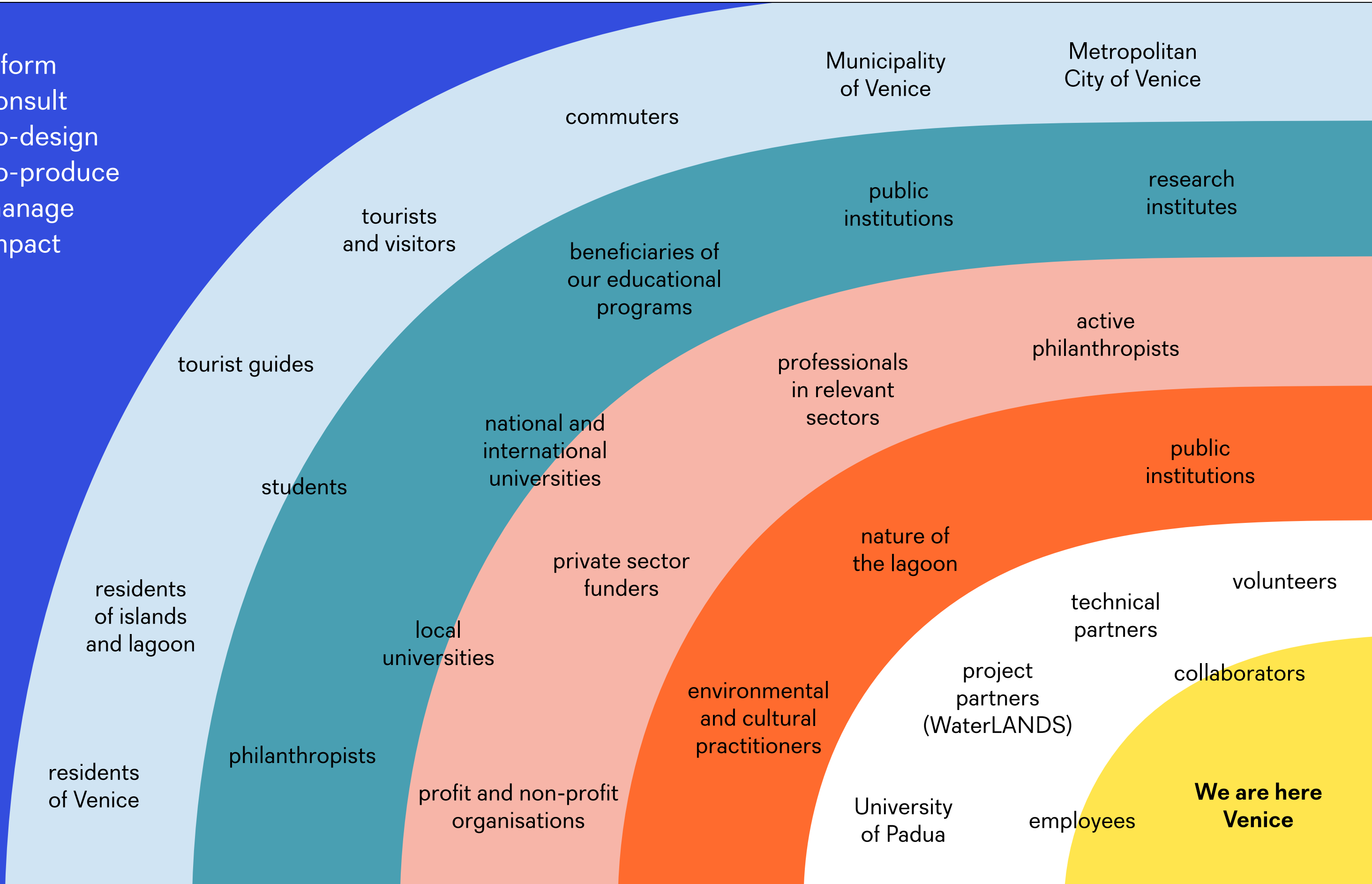
- at the international level

- > since 2018: IUCN, Transnational Giving Europe (TGE), CAF UK
- > since 2020: Society for Ecological Restoration (SER), Global Cruise Activist Network (GCAN),
- > since 2023: UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030



- inform
- consult
- co-design
- co-produce
- manage
- impact

impact vision We are here Venice



residents of Venice

residents of islands and lagoon

tourist guides

students

tourists and visitors

private sector funders

local universities

national and international universities

beneficiaries of our educational programs

commuters

environmental and cultural practitioners

nature of the lagoon

professionals in relevant sectors

public institutions

Municipality of Venice

project partners (WaterLANDS)

employees

technical partners

collaborators

**We are here Venice**

public institutions

active philanthropists

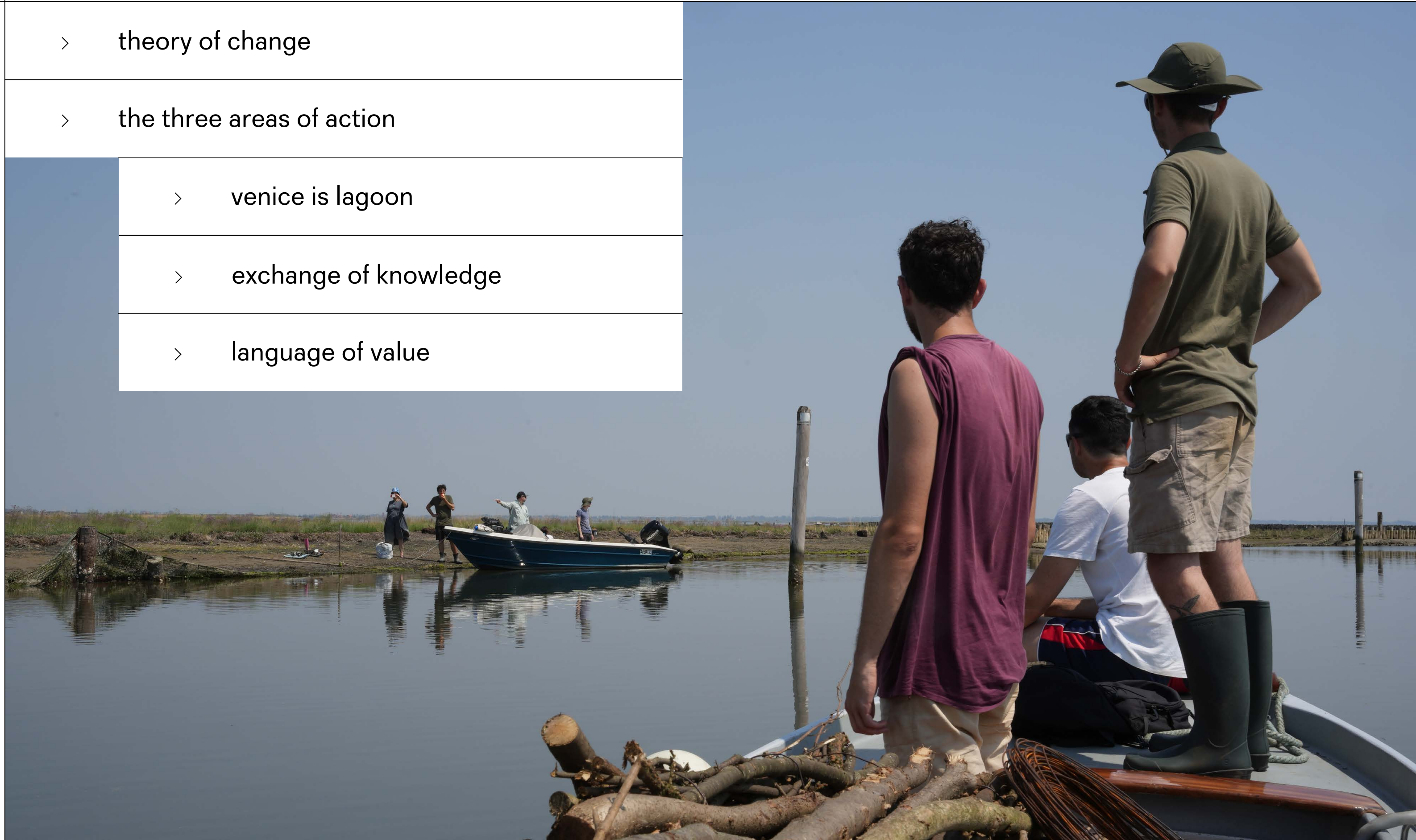
research institutes

Metropolitan City of Venice



# our impact strategy

- > theory of change
- > the three areas of action
  - > venice is lagoon
  - > exchange of knowledge
  - > language of value

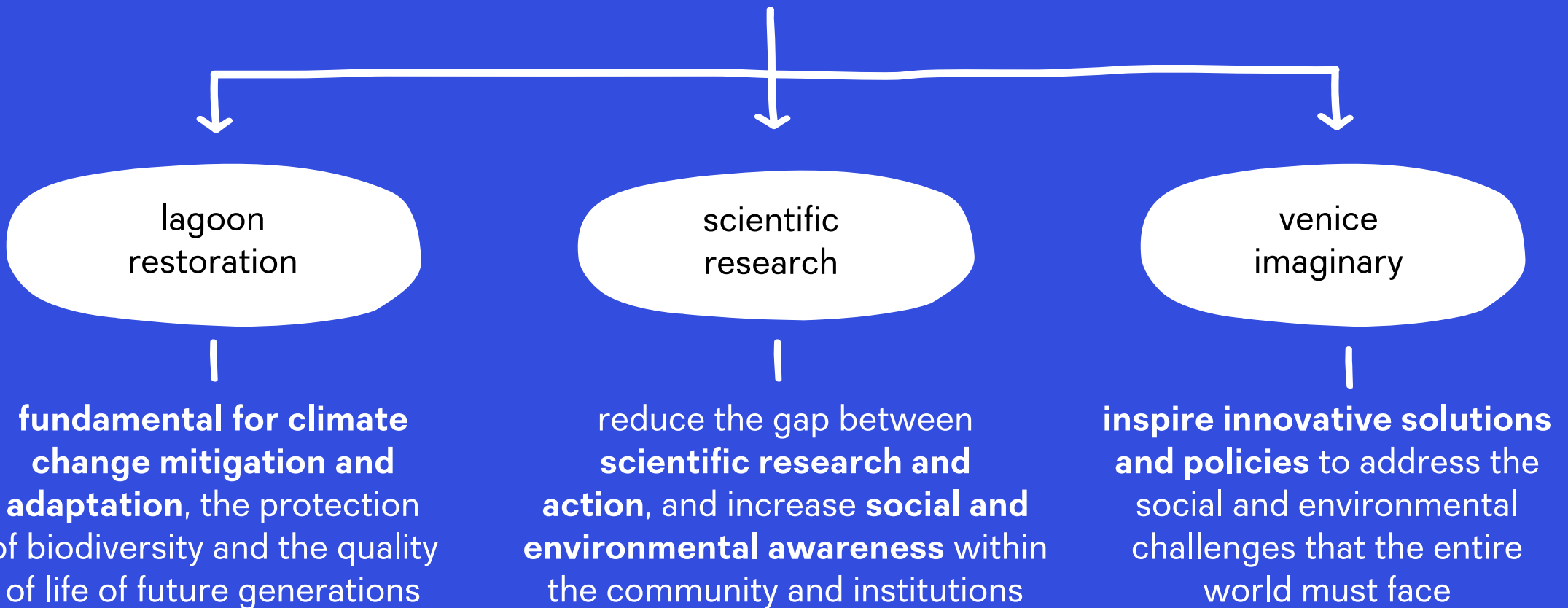




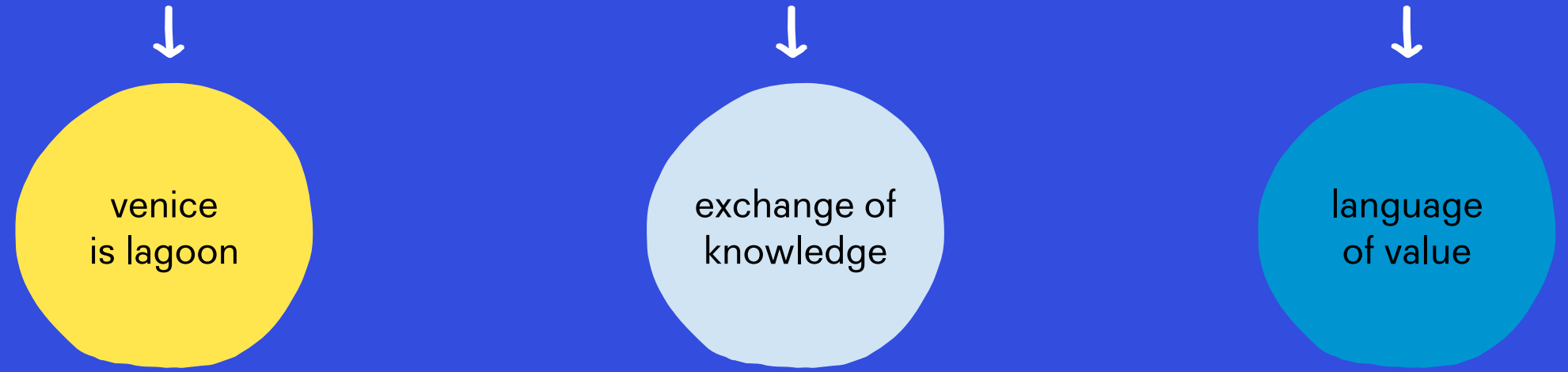
● impact vision

In the next **5–50–500 years**, We are here Venice is committed to reducing the gap between research and virtuous practices by supporting those who live, visit, and govern Venice in making the well-being of the city and lagoon a priority.  
**How? Through three different dimensions of impact.**

● impact dimensions

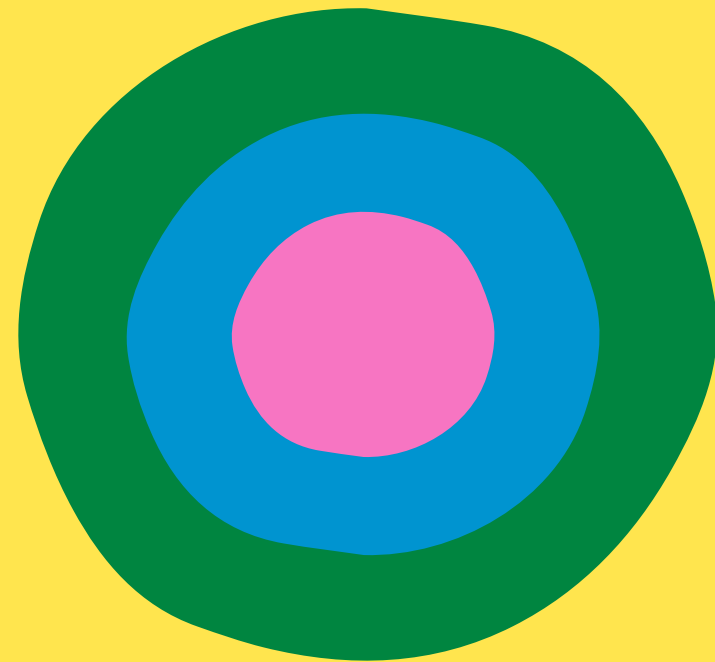


● areas of action

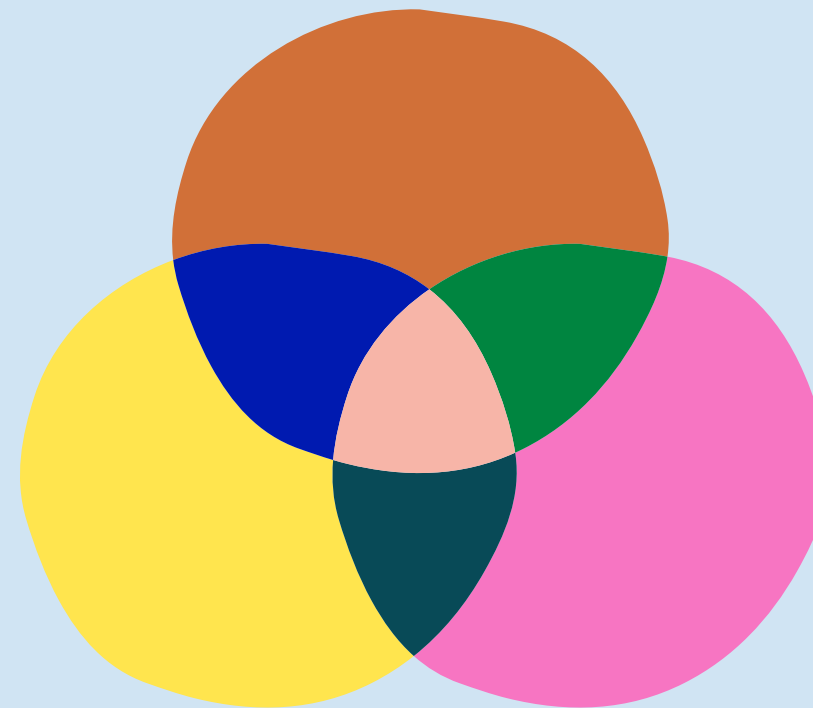




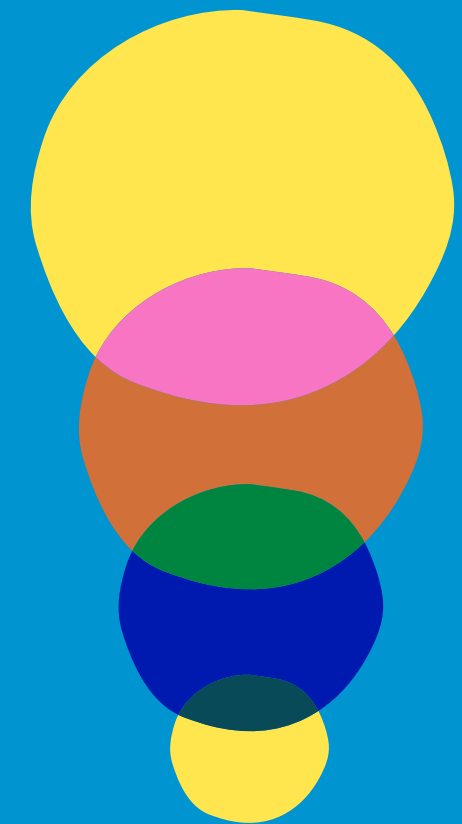
The areas of action specify the projects and activities that will enable We are here Venice to contribute to achieving the desired long-term positive impact.



1  
venice  
is lagoon



2  
exchange of  
knowledge



3  
language  
of value



1  
venice  
is lagoon

WahV's mission in this area of action is to **bring the lagoon and its natural capital back to the center of discussions concerning the future of Venice as a living city, capable of responding through adaptation and mitigation to the climate and environmental crises affecting our planet.** The activities in this area focus primarily on the physical and ecological dimensions of the lagoon system and its relationship with the city and the human communities that inhabit it. WahV is actively involved with other environmental organizations, community groups, industry representatives, experts, researchers, and public administration, all working together to support the health of the lagoon.





		our indicators: lagoon regeneration	UN sustainable development goals
<p>The regeneration of the Venice Lagoon, as a <b>wetland of fundamental importance for climate change mitigation and adaptation, as well as the preservation of biodiversity</b>, is one of the priority strategies to ensure the <b>quality of life for residents and future generations</b>.</p> <p>The city and the lagoon are inseparable elements of a single system. Over nearly two millennia, there has been a continuous interplay and coexistence, sometimes tense, between human interventions and natural dynamics within this unique context. However, starting from the 1960s, a new scale of human impact has emerged, leading to a range of problems affecting the city and its surrounding lagoon—social, economic, administrative, fiscal, and environmental.</p>	<p><b>3 scientific articles</b> published in scientific and sector journals</p> <p>2021 Rethinking Venice from an Ecosystem Services Perspective</p> <p>2022 Restoring for the Climate: A Review of Coastal Wetland Restoration Research in the Last Thirty Years</p> <p>2022 Innovative Nourishment Elevation Change (NEC) stations for monitoring and optimizing marshland restoration projects: prototype application in the Lagoon of Venice (Italy)</p>	<p><b>11.6</b> reduce the environmental impact of cities</p> <p><b>13.3</b> build knowledge and capacity to tackle climate change</p> <p><b>14</b> conserve and sustainably use oceans, seas, and coastal areas for sustainable development</p> <p><b>17.6</b> share knowledge and cooperate for access to science, technology, and innovation</p> <p><b>17.17</b> encourage effective partnerships</p> <p><b>17.18</b> improve the availability of reliable data</p>	
	<p>our indicators: lagoon regeneration</p> <p><b>20 hectares</b> of salt marshes under regeneration in the central lagoon</p>	<p>dal 2020</p> <p><b>over € 150k/year</b> spent on fair salaries for young researchers in the field of ecosystem restoration</p>	
<p>since 2020</p> <p><b>over € 2mIn</b> in public and private funding raised for research activities and ecological restoration of salt marshes in the central lagoon</p>	<p>dal 2022</p> <p><b>over € 40k/year</b> spent on salaries for young technicians working on conservation and restoration “green jobs”</p>		



case study  
vital

year  
2020 – ongoing

in collaboration with  
Laguna~B, University of Padua

key words  
ecological restoration, awareness raising,  
natural capital

- objectives
- > demonstrate that functional marshland can be rebuilt using dredged sediments
  - > gather essential design insights through pilot projects, monitoring plans and strategic actions to scale-up revitalisation of the Venice Lagoon
  - > develop innovative, sustainable business models for the creation and maintenance of more functional marshlands
  - > align key stakeholders' interests to collaboratively develop restoration goals and methods, fostering strong partnerships

website  
[www.v-i-t-a-l.org](http://www.v-i-t-a-l.org)



On February 2nd, 2019, in conjunction with World Wetlands Day, WahV and LagunaB organized an interdisciplinary workshop with experts from the Universities of Cambridge, Padua, Ca' Foscari, and the Veneto Region to discuss the challenges of restoring the Venice Lagoon's salt marshes and identify critical skill gaps. From this, in 2020, the Vital initiative ("Venlce naTural cApital") was born—a **group of experts focused on preserving the natural capital of the Venice Lagoon.**

Guided by scientific research and local knowledge, Vital aims to find Nature-based Solutions for the restoration of coastal wetlands, creating climate-resilient infrastructure. In 2023, Vital began a partnership with DEME Group (SIDRA) to adopt innovative solutions.

The "**working with nature**" approach aims to make the ecologically reconstructed salt marshes functionally effective, involving **civil society, businesses, and research**. The goal is to enhance the natural capital of the Lagoon, which provides essential services to the local economy, through sustainable and inclusive management.

Vital seeks to **demonstrate the contribution of ecologically functional salt marsh habitats to coastal defense, climate mitigation, and social well-being**. The project develops scientific, economic, and cultural tools to promote the health of the lagoon ecosystem through Public-Private Partnerships and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategies for large-scale ecological restoration of the Lagoon.



case study

# waterLANDS

year  
2021 – 2026

in collaboration with  
EU commission Horizon 2020 programme,  
coordinated by University College Dublin

key words  
ecological restoration, local community,  
citizen science

- objectives
- > demonstrate the technical, scientific, and economic feasibility of restoring artificial salt marshes in the Venice Lagoon through the application of nature-based solutions
  - > engage stakeholders, experts, and the local community to implement the ecological restoration process through participatory approaches
  - > explore and integrate local values connected to the relationship with the lagoon into territorial decision-making
  - > promote environmental education, citizen science, awareness-raising, and artistic initiatives for cultural regeneration

website  
[www.waterlands.eu](http://www.waterlands.eu)



Since December 2021, WahV has been a partner in the European **WaterLANDS** project (GA101036484), an initiative under the European New Green Deal aimed at regenerating wetlands in Ireland, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Estonia, Bulgaria, and Italy. The five-year project aims to improve the natural environment, carbon storage, and the quality of life for the involved communities. With 32 organizations from 14 countries, WaterLANDS has secured €23 million in funding through the EU's Horizon 2020 program. The main objective is the large-scale ecological restoration of European wetlands and the development of replicable models. WaterLANDS raises awareness about the benefits of ecosystem restoration and seeks to make local communities the protagonists of change. In Italy, the intervention area is the Venice Lagoon.

WahV's project aims at the regeneration of the lagoon ecosystem, addressing not only morphological aspects but, above all, ecological functions, with particular attention to the flora of the salt marshes, to ensure their natural level of resilience. Residents and stakeholders actively participate in the decision-making and planning process—**co-creation and co-design**—to raise awareness of the Lagoon's value.

Through **citizen science** activities and an environmental education program in secondary schools in Venice, the project disseminates scientific knowledge to make citizens vigilant and active in caring for the natural and cultural common good, for the benefit of future generations.



2

## exchange of knowledge

This area of action is realized through seminars, conferences, fieldwork, and orientation activities for public socio-cultural institutions, local schools, as well as national and international university groups. To reduce the gap between research and action, WahV intends to **facilitate dialogue between scientists and citizens, allowing for the building of trust and mutual understanding.**





The reduction of the gap between **scientific research and action** fosters the development of greater **social and environmental awareness** within the community and institutions.

Exchange and integration not only accelerate the practical application of scientific discoveries concerning the health and functioning of ecosystems and human societies but also promote social and environmental awareness.

This philosophy also applies to relations with the media. The numerous requests for information on fundamental topics concerning Venice have made WahV an independent reference point over time for radio, documentaries, and reports addressing its challenges.

our indicators: research/action distance

**4 public institutions**  
with whom we collaborate for the restoration of salt marshes

**+70 stakeholders**  
and +100 representatives of communities engaged through workshops and other participatory processes

**a point of reference for international media**

on all topics concerning Venice, especially to comment on disasters and future possibilities

2020  
The Times, [Venice stricken by floods in great barrier grief](#)

2021  
The New York Times, [Venice and Cruise Ships: A Delicate Balance](#)

2022  
BBC, [Italy's plan to save Venice from sinking](#)

2023  
MIT Technology Review, [Why salt marshes could help save Venice](#)

2024  
Bloomberg, [The Secrets of "Soft Travel"](#)

UN sustainable development goals

**4** ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

**12.8** ensure that people everywhere have the information and awareness needed for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature

**13.3** build knowledge and capacity to meet climate change





### 3 language of value

This is a broad area of work focused on analyzing issues, developing new parameters, and improving the collective ability to **critically assess changes and trends related to daily life in Venice**, including non-human life. The work in this area primarily focuses on the urban fabric, although Venice is unique for its close interaction between its natural and built environments.





Venezia, con le sue specificità, diventa **ispiratrice di soluzioni e politiche** adatte a rispondere radicalmente alle sfide sociali e ambientali.

Venice, with its unique characteristics, becomes **an inspiration for solutions and policies that radically address social and environmental challenges.**

Venice is a city with a rich historical, cultural, and environmental heritage that strongly influences every initiative, but at the same time can limit the imaginative possibilities for the future. However, Venice also represents a place where possible imagined futures can come to life, serving as a living inspiration to develop and test solutions and policies that can be adapted and replicated in other parts of the world with similar issues, such as mass tourism, loss of residents, youth unemployment, rising sea levels, lack and loss of usable green spaces, the need for more sustainable mobility, and more. Its unique characteristics require a tailored approach to tackle these social and environmental challenges while simultaneously **inspiring global strategies** to address them in a radical and innovative manner.

our indicators: venice imaginary

UN sustainable development goals

**over 30 types of plants and seed**

have been planted since 2022 in the adopted flower beds of Sant'Anna and Castello, thanks to the contributions of the group of volunteers



ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

**19 classes**

from over 5 secondary schools (first grade) in the Venetian area, participating in the educational program **Giants of the Lagoon**



make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable

**7 anni**

of awareness campaign on crucial issues for the city, carried out through **municipal posters**, aimed at reaching a wide audience and stimulating active dialogue



build knowledge and capacity to address climate change



encourage effective partnerships





case study

# giants of the lagoon

year

2023 – ongoing

in collaboration with

Wageningen University

key words

environmental education, citizen science, landscape

objectives

- > bring the lagoon into local schools
- > promote environmental education focused on coastal wetlands
- > train teachers and students on biodiversity and its conservation



Developed within the framework of WaterLANDS, Giants of the Lagoon is an **environmental education program that offers a participatory experience**, inviting students to explore and understand the lagoon environment. The activities include observing the landscape with binoculars and searching for details in the soil using magnifying glasses, encouraging direct interaction with nature.

The project initially involved 6 first-grade secondary school classes in the Venice area, but in 2024 it was expanded to include 13 classes

from the region, thus increasing its scope and educational impact.

The long-term goal of the project is to re-integrate the lagoon into the educational curriculum of schools, aiming to become part of the programs recognized by the Ministry of Education. In this way, the project seeks to **raise awareness among both teachers and students about the value of every element of the lagoon ecosystem**, promoting a holistic view that encourages care and respect for the surrounding environment.



case study  
the green spaces  
project

year  
2020 – ongoing

in collaboration with  
City of Venice, spontaneous group of volunteers,  
Patagonia 1% for the Planet

key words  
urban regeneration, citizen science,  
community participation

- objectives
- > enhance the overall quality of the Sant'Anna area by providing accessible and well-maintained green spaces
  - > increase the availability of green areas for nature conservation and biodiversity within the city
  - > promote active citizenship and ecological thinking, fostering a sense of belonging to shared urban spaces



Since 2020, WahV has been addressing the lack of accessible green spaces in Venice by developing a project aimed at revitalizing a small public garden next to the Sant'Anna complex, once a church and later converted into a military hospital, which closed 40 years ago. By **revitalizing the sense of community to improve the quality of public spaces**, WahV strongly believes it is possible to reverse the trend of urban decay in Venice. The regeneration of this urban space, though limited in size, represents an opportunity to enhance the physical beauty of the neighborhood, stimulate residents' sense of belonging, and promote active management that strengthens community connections in a positive feedback loop. WahV's

vision transcends mere beautification, aiming to restore Venice as a vibrant, ecological, and welcoming city.

The project "Green Spaces—Regenerating Green Spaces and Resilient Communities for a Living City in Venice" stands out for its collaborative process and aims to nurture a local network of associations and individuals involved in urban gardening and agriculture to facilitate the sharing of local knowledge. Green Spaces specifically focuses on the regeneration of a small public garden—four flowerbeds at Sant'Anna—allocated to WahV in 2021 through the Venice Municipality's "Adopt a Flowerbed" program.



# publication *how was it for you?*

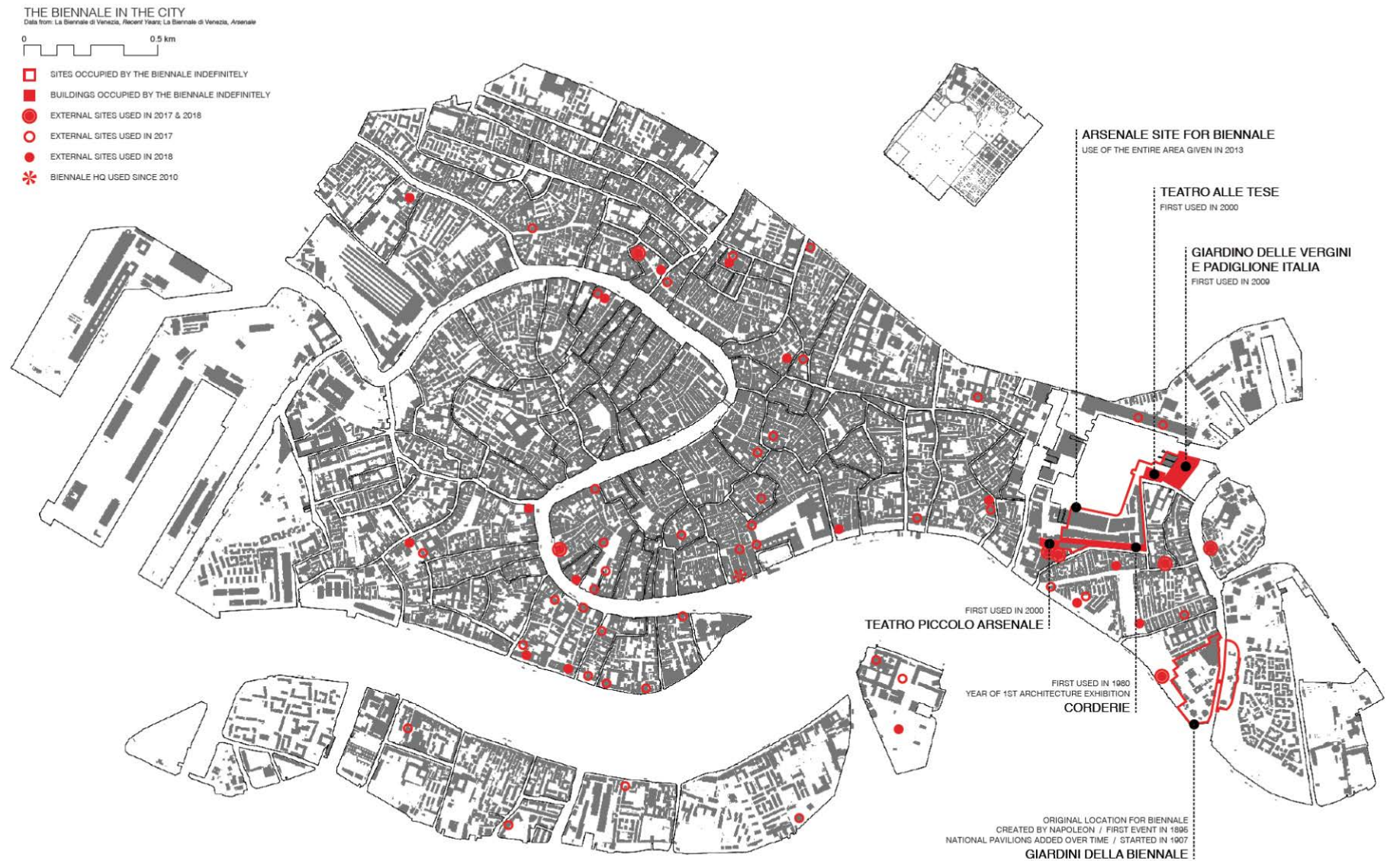
year  
2019

key words  
Biennale, community participation, residency

abstract  
This publication is an investigation into how the Venice Biennale institution responds to the interests of the city and its inhabitants. The size and influence of the Biennale institution mean that it is, and will continue to be, crucial in determining the future of the city. The issue is not whether Venice should host the Biennale: it is a significant reality. But should Venice get more out of the Biennale, and vice versa? The report is based on observations, collected data, interviews, and media coverage. The research presented in the study has stimulated some significant responses from exhibition curators, exhibitors, and the press.

download  
[Download the full report here \(in English\)](#)

impact vision We are here Venice





# publication *whose city is it anyway?*

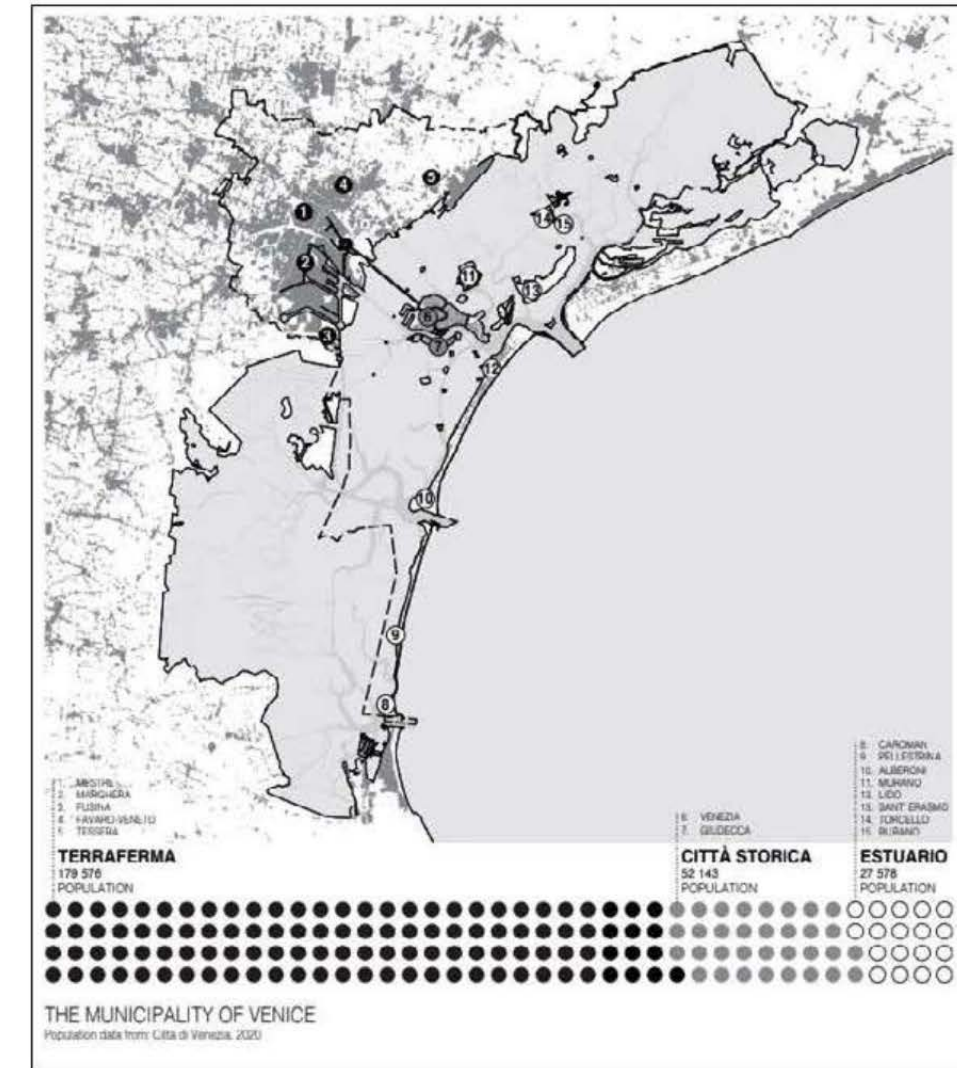
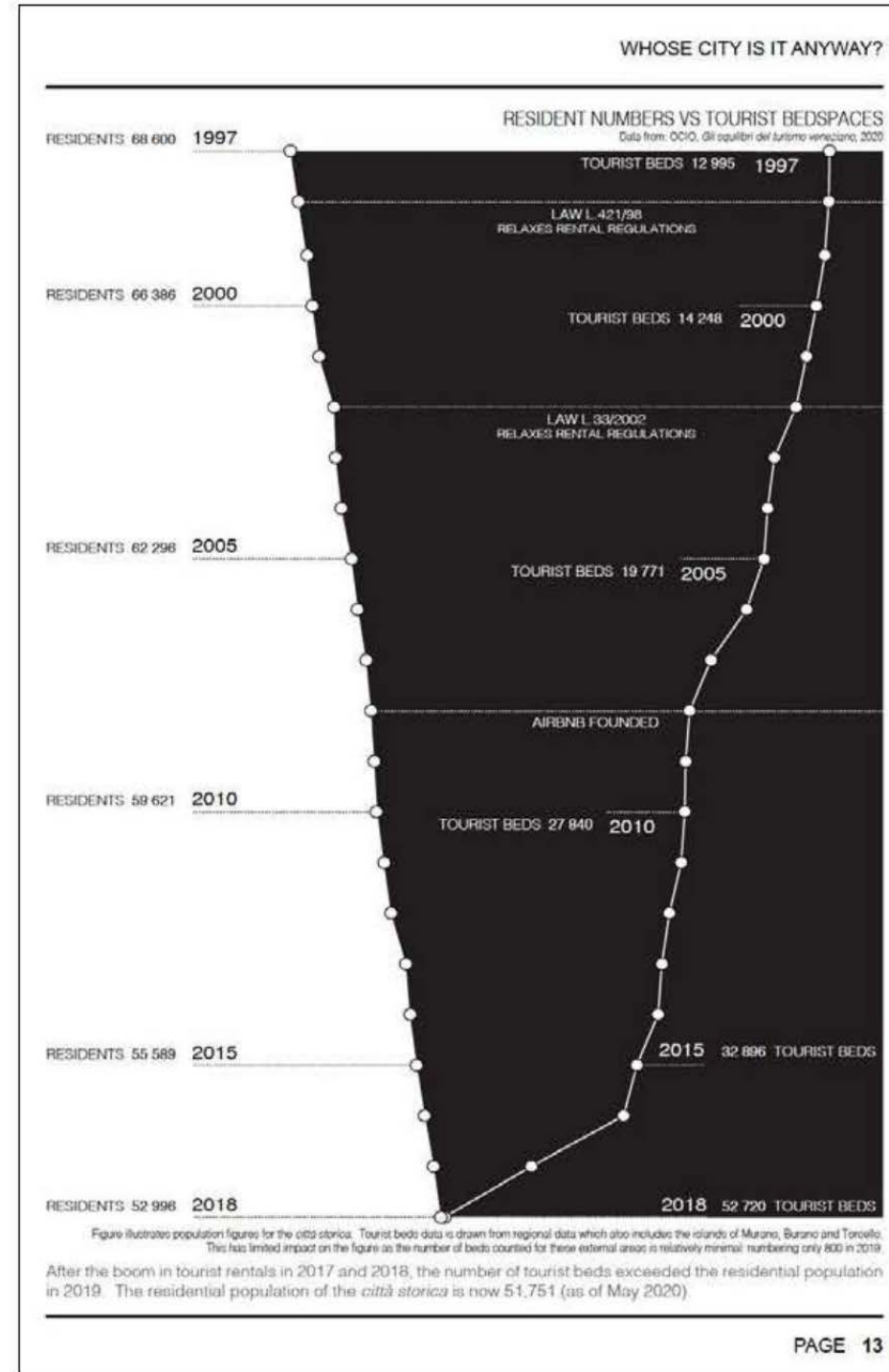
year  
2020

key words  
residency, mass tourism, proposals

abstract  
Using the context of Venice's long and rich history, the publication combines research on economic and social factors to create a comprehensive synthesis of Venice's relationship with tourism, accompanied by specific programmatic recommendations for improving this relationship. The report calls for urgent changes in the management of excessive tourism, which both supports and destroys the city. The report was reviewed in *Corriere del Veneto* on July 21, 2020, and received the Premio Venezia 2021 awarded by the Istituto Veneto di Scienze Lettere ed Arti.

download  
[Download the full report here \(in Italian and English\)](#)

impact vision We are here Venice





# conclusion

- › concluding reflections
- › support us







impact vision We are here Venice

This framework marks the beginning of WahV's formal impact measurement process according to **a robust and specific set of indicators which will meaningfully reflect our work, current activities and guide our future actions.**

In assessing our impacts we aim to communicate in a way that is as clear and meaningful as possible,

without betraying the complex reality of our work. The organisation is committed to publically publishing an annual impact report.

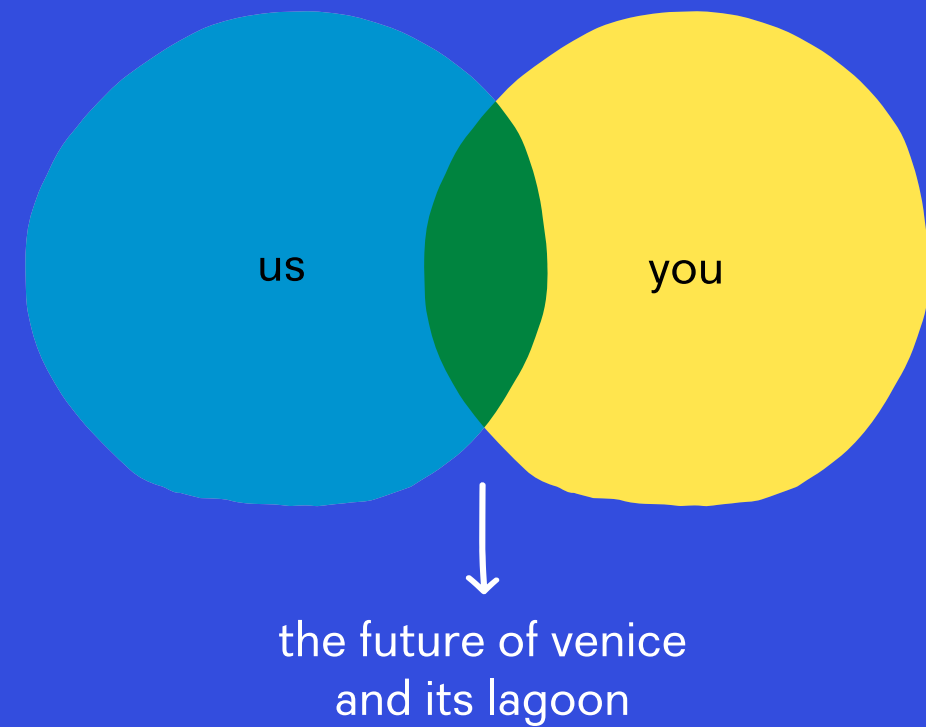
**We are determined to manifest our transparency and accountability to our stakeholders, partners and funders, so that they can be sure that their investment in WahV is creating tangible benefits**

for Venice and the lagoon that also resonate elsewhere—nationally and globally..

This ongoing evaluation will not only ensure that we remain focused on our mission but also strengthen the trust and collaboration with those who support our work.



# We rely on donations to fund our work and promote the safeguarding of Venice through approaches and policies based on concrete elements.



Companies can also support our activities through **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** initiatives, contributing to the preservation of Venice's environmental and social ecosystem while strengthening their commitment to creating shared value in the territory.

**We are here Venice is part of Transnational Giving Europe.** This network promotes philanthropic donations in Europe and allows our supporters to make tax-advantaged donations.

**Donations in Italy can benefit from the tax advantages provided by Article 83 of Legislative Decree 117/2017.**

Contact [info@weareherevenice.org](mailto:info@weareherevenice.org) if you wish to make a donation through the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF UK or CAF America) or other partner institutions in the Transnational Giving network.

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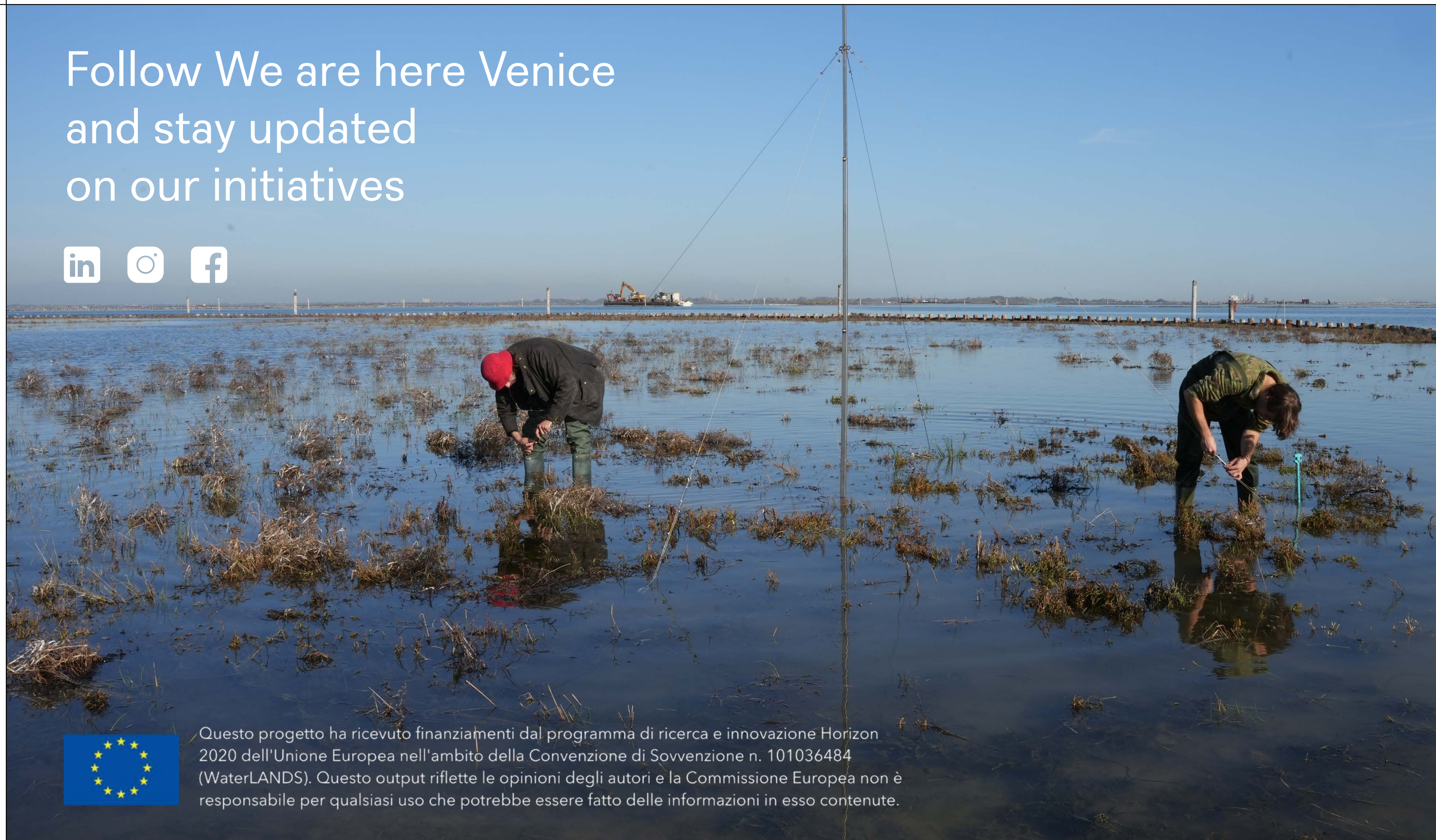
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