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Water flows in tourist environments: examples from the Mediterranean



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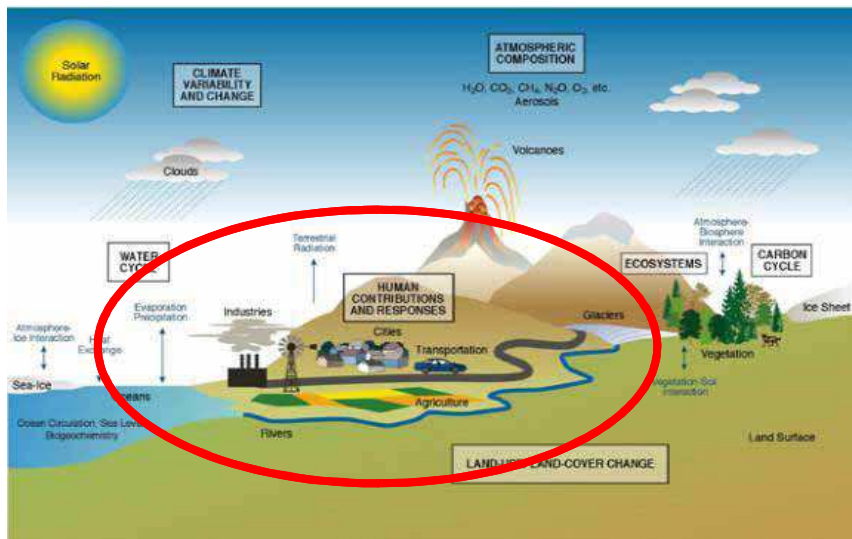
1. Overview

- Background
- Overall Objective
- Conceptual and methodological framework
- Case studies: Venice (Italy) and Benidorm (Spain)
 - Expected results
- Summary

Discussion and Comments

2. Background

- Urban phenomenon: change and expansion
- New functions: innovation, dynamism, efficiency and productivity
- Change of socio-economic and political systems
- New economic sectors: Tourism
- New sizes and forms in coastal areas
- Environmental pressures: water resources



3. Overall Objective

Understanding how **physical** (hydrological) and **social** (human activities and economical and cultural conditions of power and control) flows of water shape or reproduce new hydro-social configurations

(Swyngedouw, 2004).

4. Methodology

Physical Analysis

To represent the characteristics of the urban water cycle (inputs, outputs and consumption)

Social Analysis

Urban Political Ecology Approach
To analyse the governance of the hydrosocial cycle

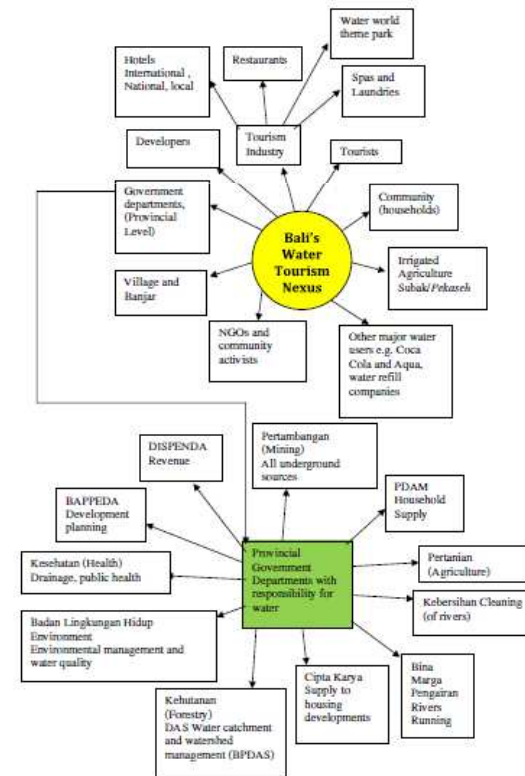
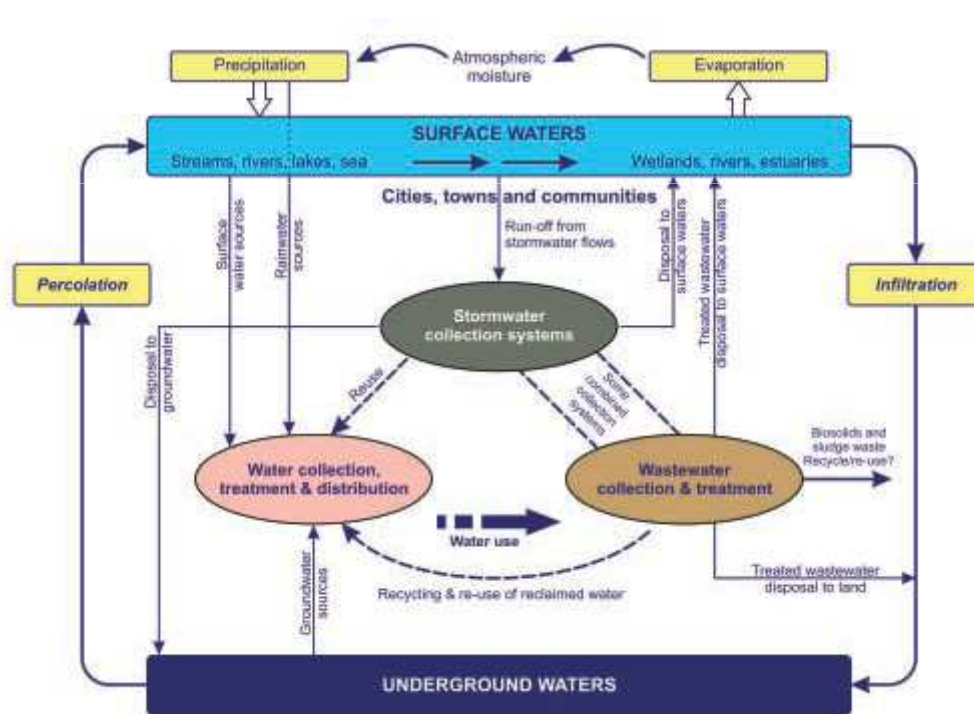
Hydrosocial Configuration

To evaluate how hydro-social configurations may be governed and managed in the present and future years

4. Methodology

How to represent the hydrosocial cycle?

Examples from the scientific literature review and previous works



5. Experiences from the Mediterranean

The Venice Case



Venice location

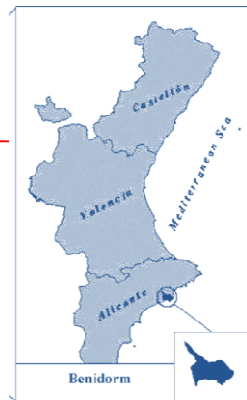


Venice land and water-lagune



Venice urban area

Benidorm Case



Benidorm location



Benidorm 1960



Benidorm Today

5. Venice case: Key features

- Northern of Italy
- Heritage town characterized by historical urban parts and other parts constructed for tourist purposes
- Less than 60 000 inhabitants.
- 21 million of tourist per year
- Number of B and B's has gone up by 1008 per cent in the last seven years
- Abundant water resources and flooding events
- Water supply coverage is at 100%, but wastewater treatment (sewage) coverage is only at 70%.



5. Benidorm Case: Key features

- Eastern Spain
- Dry summers and long droughts
- Urban area characterized by mass tourism
- About 71 000 inhabitants.
- 6 million visitors annually - 142 hotels with some 34,000 tourist beds
- Tourism projections: 40,000 beds by 2010.
- Water from local groundwater and sur-face water, and from the so-called Tajo-Segura interbasin water transfer.
- Wastewater recycling system: about 15 cubic hectometres of wastewater are treated annually.



6. Summary

- The analysis of the urban water cycle in Venice and Benidorm may help to characterize the flows of water in these tourist cities
- Relationships between water resources and tourism may be better understood in order to design water policies
- Urban Political Ecology approach may be useful to understand present and future hydrosocial configurations in the both cities.

Thank you for your attention



your feedback will be very appreciated...

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