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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Analysis</th>
<th>To represent the characteristics of the urban water cycle (inputs, outputs and consumption)</th>
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</table>
| Social Analysis   | Urban Politica Ecology Approach  
To analyses 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

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1. Overview
2. Background
3. Objectives
4. Method
5. Case Studies
6. Summary
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 surface 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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