**Brief summary of the event**

**WWF Italy** is organising **Trame** - an international cultural event - involving the arts, theatre, music, TV, radio and photography, aimed at drawing attention to the unique value of a very special European ecosystem: the Tagliamento river.

**THE TAGLIAMENTO RIVER**

The river system of the Fiume Tagliamento, (178km long, situated in North-East Italy) is considered the last morphologically intact river in the Alps. It is a remarkable gravel-bed river that retains the dynamic nature and morphological complexity that must have characterised many Alpine rivers in their pristine stage. Although the Tagliamento is considered to be the most natural river system in the Alps, it is not without human impacts. Major human influences on the main river corridor are water abstraction in the upper Tagliamento valley, organic pollution, and gravel exploitation.

Europe's main universities and research centres are currently studying the Tagliamento River which is seen as presenting the last possible opportunities for experimenting new river restoration. The Tagliamento River in Italy offers the rare opportunity to investigate natural processes at a scale that can be studied nowhere else in Europe. This remarkable river corridor exemplifies the ecological processes and patterns that must have characterised Alpine gravel bed rivers. The Fiume Tagliamento is clearly a river ecosystem of European importance, since it constitutes a unique resource as a model reference catchment.
However, the Tagliamento is a highly endangered ecosystem: the regional government is planning 14 km² large flood retention basins in the most natural section.

For WWF European Alpine Programme the Tagliamento river system is a symbol, a "panda of rivers" that deserves the highest protection. The WWF European Alpine Programme has, therefore, declared its protection an absolute priority and currently the WWF offices in Italy, Switzerland, Austria and France are involved in a common conservation project and have proposed an alternative and scientifically valid plan for flood control.

THE EVENT

DATE AND LOCATION
The event will take place from the 30th of June until the 4th of July 2005 in the towns and villages along the course of the Tagliamento River, in particular in Pinzano al Tagliamento, Ragogna, San Daniele del Friuli, Spilimbergo, Flaibano, Dignano, Codroipo and Latisana.

ART AND INSTALLATION

Mathew Broussard (USA) - will create the installation "Voice", made of hundreds of river pebbles which will be incised with words that will form poems by Pasolini. Returned to the river, the pebbles will be slowly carried away, creating a 'talking river' and giving it back its voice.

Giuliano Mauri (Italy) - the artist, famous for his tree cathedral' will create an installation at the mid-stream stretch of the river

Marcello Chiarenza (Italy) - Chiarenza will build an installation at the mid-stream stretch of the river

Isabella Bocus with Annabella Beltrami (Italy) - Isabella Bocus will create Natura Naturans, a sculpture/installation in the river bed made of little ponds that will be filled with differently coloured water. The installation will be accompanied musically by Annabella Beltrami

Nils Udo (Germany) - the artist usually works with materials found in situ, such as leaves, fruits, branches, etc. He will also work at the mid-stream stretch of the river

Chris Drury (UK) - Drury will make a nature-based sculpture/installation along the river

Michelangelo Frammartino (Italy) - he will organise the happening/installation 'Battesimo' (christening), treating the topic of the river as a metaphor of transformation where water will be seen in its various states: from ice to vapour, hiding and revealing in the process images projected onto the river.
THEATRE

Il fiume della vita (the river of life) - by Rita Maffei - a performance inspired by a piece of Hesse's 'Siddhartha', which will see the active participation of the local population.

Racconti del Tagliamento (Stories of the Tagliamento) - by Giulio Ferretti and Bruna Braidotti - a musical and theatre trip along the river where actors and musicians will enact a piece of the river's history in different locations. The audience will follow them along, while the story unfolds.

Creature - African acrobatic dance performance directed by Marcello Chiarenza and Alessandro Serena - Creature will be performed in the streets of Spilimbergo and will be an eclectic mix of dance and street theatre communicating with the audience with a wide range of elements and artistic forms.

MUSIC

I want to die here - by Akio Suzuki (Japan) - the pioneer of 'sound art' will perform a 'concert' with materials offered by the river: stones, pebbles, water, etc.

Pic Nic nel Tagliamento - by Akio Suzuki (Japan) - in this performance and installation linked to the above concert, the artist will assemble a giant ear from river stones and pebbles which will then be filled with water from the river that will slowly change and carry away the installation.

Le Cube - by Cellule d'intervention Metamkine (France) - the creative duo of Metamkine will direct an audio-visual performance in a large white cube, projecting continuous images, shot on the Tagliamento river, from the inside, thus intervening on the spectators perception of the landscape on two levels - vision and sound.

In-Sect - by Eric La Casa and Jean-Luc Guionnet (France) - the two artists will perform a 'concert' with the sound of insects which they will register on site, transforming the diverse sounds of nature into a piece of clear musical meaning, magnifying (in the acoustic sense) the invisible life along the river.

FILM

Tagliamento - by Armin Linke with Renato Rinaldi and Piero Zanini (Italy) - the aim of this artistic 'documentary' which will be shot entirely on film and not in digital format, is to capture the visual power of the geometry of the braided rivers, such as the Tagliamento. The artist would like to restore the important place the river once had in the local people's collective consciousness, while at the same time presenting it to the outside world for what it is: an important model of nature in its most 'natural' and naturally beautiful state.

The film will be shot along the whole course of the river for about 20 days, giving special emphasis also to the sounds (and silences) of the river.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Ponti sul fiume Tagliamento (Rivers on the Tagliamento) - by Giorgio Bombieri (Italy) - the exhibition will look at all the currently existing bridges crossing the Tagliamento river. The photos will be

Photo by Dominique Huber
printed on boards which can be shown both internally and externally.

**Collective Photographic exhibition** - supervised by Dominique Huber (U.S.A.) - this international exhibition will have as a theme the name of the event "TRAME" - meaning both 'plot' and 'interconnectedness', and artists from all over the world will explore the way in which things are intertwined in nature and in life.

**SEMINARY AND WORKSHOPS**

WWF will organise **several scientific and informative workshops** that will allow a more detailed and technical examination of the river system and will involve scientists, experts and the public sector, but also citizen wanting to know more about ‘their’ river.

**SUPPORT AND SPONSORSHIP**

The event is organised in several modules that can be sponsored individually or in groups. According to the module supported, WWF will personalise the communication package and benefits offered to the sponsor.

Some elements included in the package could be:
- logo of the sponsor on the materials of the event (brochures, posters, signs, press release, invitations, etc.)
- joint press conference (on site, or in Rome or Milan)
- special invitations reserved for the sponsor and their guests
- mention in the catalogue of the event
- wherever possible mention of the sponsor on the communication channels of WWF and the event (web-site, radio, TV, newsletter, poster campaign, etc.)