



## Full wave and soil abuse

By Francesco Lettera

Every year the rainy season brings death and destruction.

Rivers and seas keep always in hand their ownership papers of the flood plains: those who enter illegally in such "properties" expose themselves and others who have followed him, to responsibilities of all kinds, administrative and personal; we cannot continue to ignore risks when we challenge the environment that transforms itself from a landscape into a force of nature.

Dying of rain, floods and storms is the consequence of omitted conservation works of protection of the territories and the postponement of solutions for the many buildings that for decades have continued to be kept in flood plains, without verifying the fragility of the constructions, original or due to senescence.

Dangers and risks are certified by the Basin Plans and Flood Plans;

The basin plans, introduced by law n.183 of 1989 - now incorporated in the Legislative Decree n.152 / 2006 - have defined dangers and risks of our relationship with the waters.

Flood plains, and the immediate needed civil protection interventions have been detailed by the Flood Area Plans prepared in implementation of Legislative Decree No. 49 of 2010; the areas exposed to flooding are defined as fluvial bands, subdivided according to the severity of the flood risk when the watercourses are full:

- a- territory subject to the ordinary full of water courses: (Band A);
- b- territory subject to the flooding of the flood plain from the river course: (Band B);
- c- territory exposed to flooding episodes due to particularly catastrophic events: (Band C).

Another element of reflection concerns the maintenance of the mountain.

The basin plans and the legislation on hydraulic and hydraulic-forest works provide for the constant maintenance of canals, embankments, roads and bridges; if maintenance works are not carried out in due course, the danger of disarranging mountain and hill slopes increases with the consequent mudslides and debris that overwhelm houses, roads and those who live in it or pass through it.

The reduction of funds, to almost symbolical amounts, for land protection works is intolerable when the dangers and risks are certified by approved and published prevention plans; public money, based on municipalities and provinces that are the closest administrative expression of the territory, must be given priority to prevent the tragedies of floods and landslides.

If there is a valid reason to ask the European Union for the expansion of public debt, it is to invest public resources for soil conservation, with the employment of the unemployed and non-employed, as well as with information and above all the education of citizens not only of the landscape but also to some components of the environment that present themselves as a force of nature.

This is one of the main duties and debts of citizenship that weighs on the Peninsula and its Islands.

November 4, 2018