

CASE HISTORY

Environmental Monitoring of the Olympics



Turin and its Alpine valleys took front stage during the last Winter Olympic Games. The Alps and their ecosystems play an important role in the ecology of Italy as they are a primary source of water for major rivers, the main factor in guaranteeing fertility of the plains and a decisive element in determining the principal meteorological events. To promote ecologically-responsible staging of the Games and in accordance with the environmental quality criteria indicated by the IOC, Agenzia Torino 2006, the organising body of the Games, carried out a set of sustainability studies and audits on all the geographical areas involved. Fenice, through the laboratories of its Environmental Services Centre (ESC), was entrusted, starting from 2003, with the monitoring stations responsible for controlling the atmosphere, the acoustic environment, soil and subsoil and water resources. The project embraced the territory of the Upper Susa Valley and the Val Chisone including the sites of Claviere, Sestriere, Pragelato, Oulx/Sauze d' Oulx, Cesana, San Sicario and Bardonecchia where 76 monitoring points, shared with the A.R.P.A (Regional Agency for the Protection of the Environment), were set up.



Monitoring comprised three phases:

- the **ante operam** phase, carried out in the Spring-Summer of 2003, before the start of the Olympic works, with the aim of defining baseline environmental conditions.
- the **in operam** phase, carried out during construction of the Olympic works (sports facilities, infrastructures and roads) with the aim of verifying all the impacts of construction sites tied to progress of the works, and of recording any critical aspects.
- the **post operam** phase, completed in the Summer of 2006, with the aim of final assessment of environmental conditions with particular attention to those areas affected by deterioration factors.

Constant, attentive supervision and monitoring also guaranteed by Fenice mobile laboratories equipped with sampling and analysis systems and with the possibility of remote real-time transmission of recordings and data to the laboratories.

A tough challenge in which Fenice demonstrated its exceptional professional expertise as a reliable, qualified partner also for major sports events.