



Real-Time Video Interactive Systems for Sustainability

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**RTiVISS** is an exploratory research project that proposes to investigate innovative concepts and design methods regarding environmental and sustainability issues. It is concerned with natural resources, specially forests, and their preservation, through critical research and experimental artistic approaches.

By promoting a more sustainable world through digital media arts and experimental design, this project blurs the distinction between art and society, local and global, contributing to broader aesthetic and political implications of new technology-engaged art forms, tools and media.

Additional info and research iterations » [www.rtiviss.com](http://www.rtiviss.com)

An activist facet sparks due to all the potential in contributing to forests preservation to a more sustainable world. Living in a country that has always been extremely exposed to forest fires, makes us very sensitive to an issue which also applies to a world scale – the whole planet is being affected by the consequences of the destruction of the forest patrimony by fire hazards. Despite previous measures, **an attitude towards prevention** seems pertinent and urgent:

*what are the possibilities of proposing constructive approaches to the destructive dynamics of fire that aggravate climate change? Can art foster awareness and respect for nature?*

The project proposes multiplatform access to real-time networked video and allows users to adopt selected forests under surveillance. The interactive system feeds a whole community that establishes connections by sharing “the emotion of real-time” and the challenge of uncertainty, while remotely monitoring natural environments for forests protection. This achievement enables artistic explorations with digital media in interactive installations that engage the audience senses in unconventional ways.

**RESEARCH OUTCOMES** Online, a **multiplatform prototype** optimized for access with different devices, displaying the real-time forests videos and correspondent artistic exploration, processed in real-time, and open for use as raw material in art and research contexts.

**Interactive installations** for public exhibition and participation with real-time video of the forests as raw material and experimental approaches regarding video manipulation. These interactions provide the experiences of contact with nature and becoming part of it, contributing to a feeling of belonging and strengthening the relationship with the forest. The first interactive installation, *B-wind!*, is currently being actively developed with the collaboration of members of Audiência Zero creative labs – LCD, altLab, and xDA – and is scheduled to premiere in July 2010 at the transdisciplinary arts centre *O Espaço do Tempo*.

The overall research proposal has recently been recognized, in “Artech”, distinguished as the best Portuguese paper at this international conference on Digital Arts. RTiVISS is an innovative approach that comprises a strong dimension on social and natural sciences combined with New Media Arts and Design, with a challenging technological component.

