



Engineers in Granada invent an inflatable dam to give access to water in disaster zones

LOCATION: Granada

DURATION: 1'38"

SUMMARY: Researchers of the University of Granada have patented a new system based in modules foundation to build cheaper dams than can be installed or uninstalled easily, in a few hours. It would be necessary to use any special machine, so it could be used in areas with a difficult access, minimizing the environmental impact. As it can be easily transported, it could be used in emergencies or in developing countries.

VTR:

Thanks to dams like this one, the water that arrived to rivers gets to crops or our home. Complex and expensive engineering structures, that maybe won't be necessary in the future thanks to a system developed by a group of researchers of the University of Granada.

FERNANDO DELGADO
Professor at the University
of Granada

"We have patented a new system for the foundation of inflatable dams composed by two modules that can be inserted between them so the weight of each one of them can be carried by one person."

Easy to move and reusable. They could be installed in places hard to access. A solution to developing countries affected by a natural disaster.

JOSÉ ANTONIO MORENO
Professor at the University
of Granada

"We arrived there with this modular dam, in a Land Rover or in a truck to the town at the specific river. We are always talking about small rivers, not with high flow rates, and we can install the dam quickly, creating a diversion for public supply or even agriculture."

Good news for NGO's like this one, Agua de Coco, in the middle of an emergency campaign caused by the cyclone, that a month ago devastated the south occidental coast of Madagascar.

EVA GONZÁLEZ
Agua de Coco NGO

"Facing a situation like this one, when a dike breaks and the river overflows and flood the poorest neighbourhoods, going back to normal is fundamental and the construction of a infrastructure is expensive and long. A patent like this one, that allows acting fast avoiding consequences or delimiting the river again, would be very helpful."

FERNANDO DELGADO
Professor at the University
of Granada

"What we have tried to get is a system that avoids the entrance of all that machinery if it is difficult to access that area, to reduce the environmental impact or because we have to send it to an emergency situation."

Technology and solidarity, a perfect combination.