

Restoring Europe's Rivers



RESTORING EUROPE'S RIVERS

"Debating the challenge"

Boat Cruise on the Scheldt River, Brussels

3 till 5pm

Thursday 27th June 2013

Summary

- Can river restoration approaches and measures help deliver the Water, Floods and Habitats directives?
- Can best practice become common practice? Challenges to implementation, including monitoring and evaluation, cost and benefit evaluation, effective dissemination and communication.
- How will we meet the challenges in the Blueprint for Water and in the Green Infrastructure Strategy?

Join us for a boat cruise, along the Scheldt River where we will debate the challenges facing the delivery of water management policy and hear how different approaches are being used in different countries to restore our managed watercourses.

The two hour private boat cruise, with indoor facilities and refreshments, will take participants downstream along the Scheldt River, from Temse to Rupelmonde. A 40 minute return coach transfer from central Brussels is provided.

Participation

This event is aimed at policy makers and river basin managers. The presentations will be delivered in English.

Please register your interest in this event with the River Restoration Centre.

Email: rrc@therrc.co.uk or call on +44(0)1234 752979.

This event is being organised by the UK River Restoration Centre and Wetlands International under the EU LIFE+ RESTORE project partnership.

The RESTORE project aims to disseminate current knowledge to a wide audience of policy makers, river basin managers, practitioners and other stakeholders across Europe, to help ensure best practice river management and restoration is implemented.

To find out more visit the RESTORE website - <http://www.restorerivers.eu>

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Provisional Programme

Thursday 27th June 2013

- 14.00** Coach from central Brussels to the boat at Temse on the Scheldt River
- 15.00** Board boat – 2 hour programme of talks, debate and light buffet and refreshments

RESTORE representative - project introduction and welcome

1. Delivering policy - short introduction and debate

- *Can river restoration help meet the goals of the Water, Floods and Habitats directives, the Common Agricultural Policy, the EU Water Blueprint and the Green Infrastructure strategy?*
- *Case studies of river restoration initiatives that contribute to those goals.*

International Scheldt Commission representative – river management and restoration in the Scheldt River Basin

2. Challenges of scale – short introduction and debate

- *What has RESTORE learned from river restoration professionals regarding directives?*
- *Is raising awareness sufficient?*
- *How easy is it to implement directives?*
- *What are the challenges to implementation?*
- *What are the tools and capacities needed?*

3. Taking river restoration forward – short introduction and debate

- *What comes next?*
- *Are Green Infrastructure and the Blueprint (natural water retention) the right hooks to better integrate river restoration into directives?*
- *What barriers need breaking down?*
- *How do we best do this?*

European Commission - response to the way forward

- 17.00** Leave boat
- 18.00** Arrive back in central Brussels

Further information on coach departure location, representatives and speakers will be confirmed shortly

RESTORE's European River Restoration Conference - September 11-13th

This event forms a pre-cursor to the final RESTORE conference in Vienna ([ERRC 2013](#)). The outputs from the above debates will be used to inform a number of sessions within this international event.