

Session 3: Urban river restoration - key messages

- The complex challenges of restoring rivers in urban environments, and how these can be overcome.
- The importance of understanding the historic evolution of river landscapes in guiding new restoration schemes.
- The value of integrated design (e.g. river scientists and engineers working with landscape architects).
- The presentation is about revitalisation works at the Petersbach in Vienna and describes the construction works
- A ten and a two year old construction site were compared. Vegetation and structures developed well
- Additionally water temperature investigations have been done. There can be seen differences between shaded and unshaded sites.
- Sediment dynamics should be considered linked to restoration
- Restoration on the ground is a complex & delicate process (Social Science.....) easily derailed
- Rapid morphologic rewards are possible on responsive rivers – good for WFD!
- It's a long term strategy- we have to aim the impossible to reach the possible
- We have to work with clear images and messages for recurring communication
- And – last not least – we have to wait patiently for the “windows of opportunity” (projects which open chances for development)