



European Centre for River Restoration

NEWSLETTER – February 2008

Editor: Francesco Pra Levis

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UPDATE ON THE ECRR CONFERENCE 2008: COURSE
"INTRODUCTION TO INSTREAM HABITAT MODELING USING
MESOHABISM" - Venice, San Servolo Island, 15 June 2008



This short course is organized by Rushing River Institute, a no-profit organization of Massachusetts (USA) and is planned for Sunday, prior to the ECRR conference.

Due to excellent participation and feedback, from the seminar-course offered at the 137th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society, San Francisco, California, United States, Rushing River Institute is offering a similar course for river restoration community in Europe.

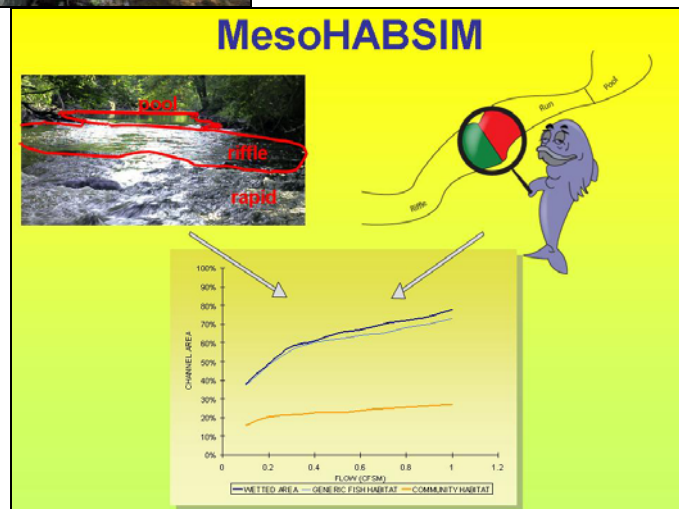
River restoration planning demands tools capable of quantifying the consequences of flow and channel modification at various temporal and spatial scales. The Rushing Rivers Institute focuses on developing an efficient habitat assessment approach to analyze functional relationships between river biota and their physical environment at the watershed scale.

A recently developed habitat modeling approach, called MesoHABSIM, and its associated software, SimStream, is experiencing growing popularity in river restoration and management planning throughout the Northeastern United States.



This one-day crash course will introduce you to the MesoHABSIM method addressing following topics:

1. Identifying biological targets and indicators
 - a. Reference fauna
 - b. Bioperiods
 - c. Indicators
2. Biological filters for habitat suitability
 - a. Literature based criteria
 - b. Multivariate models from empirical data
3. Instream Habitat evaluation
 - a. Delineation of habitat in space
 - b. Assessment of habitat quantity
 - c. Upscaling
4. Adjusting Biophysical template
5. Time Series Analysis
6. Interpretation and management
 - a. Restoration recommendations
 - b. Flow management criteria
 - c. Management tools





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Using projects on rivers throughout New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts as case studies, RRI will teach you the basics of data collection techniques, data processing, and river restoration planning. More in depth MesoHABSIM courses are also offered throughout the year.

For more information please visit the website at:

www.rushingrivers.org/Courses/Courses.htm.

Download promotional movie:

<http://www.rushingrivers.org/Courses/Mesohabsimcourse.html>

A NEW LOOK TO THE RRC WEBSITE

the River Restoration Centre



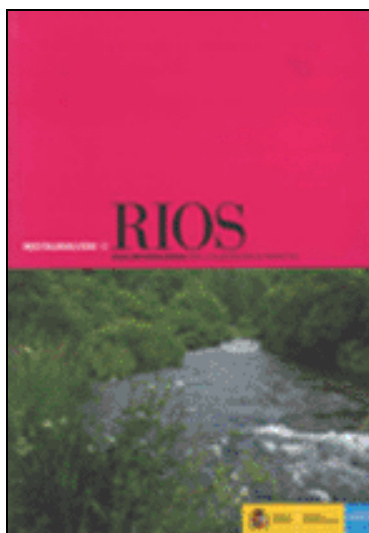
www.therrc.co.uk

The RRC website has been modified and updated with the aim of improving the information that it provides.

Most notably they have:

- Changed the look of our homepage in order to make our website easier to navigate
- (<http://www.therrc.co.uk/>)
- Created a new 'Map of River Projects' page which identifies restoration projects, case studies and demonstrates sites across the UK. This will be updated regularly as we update/collect more information. Many projects will not be included as we do not have the 'full' details, so it is always worth contacting us to see what else has been undertaken in that area or region
(http://www.therrc.co.uk/rrc_case_studies.php)
- Built a new 'Registering Your Project' form, making it much quicker and easier for you to provide us with details of projects that you have been involved with
(http://www.therrc.co.uk/rrc_form_proj_reg.php)
- Created a new 'Project Advice and Reports' page which details RRC's expertise and how we can assist with your river restoration project
(http://www.therrc.co.uk/rrc_projects_advice_reports.php)

METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE FOR PROJECTS ON RIVER RESTORATION: LOS RÍOS: UN COMPROMISO DE TODOS



On 24 January 2008 was presented in Madrid the Methodological guide for projects on river restoration “Los ríos: un compromiso de todos” and the basis of the National Strategy for River Restoration.

To download the documentation of the day click [here](#) and check “Presentación Guía metodología elaboración de proyectos y bases de la ENRR”.

IWRM-NET LAUNCHES ITS FIRST JOINT CALL FOR TRANS-NATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS: TOWARDS EFFECTIVE RIVER BASIN PLANS

The European network IWRM-NET launches its 1st Joint Call for trans-national research projects “[Towards Effective River Basin Plans](#)”.

IWRM-NET first joint call is a trans-national initiative funding by IWRM-NET partners. After one year and a half, IWRM-NET partners have agreed on a common research programme dealing with Integrated water Resource Management within the context of the Water Framework Directive implementation.

The focus of this call is applied research to support development of the 2015 river basin plans. IWRM-NET wishes to develop a series of case studies, which include field testing and applications that can be used by river basin managers across Europe. Trans-national collaborative research projects will be directed to the following two topics:
Hydrological and morphological pressures and impacts on ecological status
Water Governance

The research period is limited to a maximum of 24 months between 2008 and 2010.
Deadline for submission of applications: February 28 2008.



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FRIAR 2008: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FLOOD RECOVERY INNOVATION AND RESPONSE - 2-3 JULY 2008, London, UK

Organised by:

University of Wolverhampton, UK and Wessex Institute of Technology, UK, at the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), London, UK

Sponsored by:

WIT Transactions on Ecology and the Environment

View the conference website, which has full details about the conference objectives, topics and submission requirements [here](#).

Conference Key Themes

- Risk Management in Relation to Flood Events and Climate Change
- Pre-event Planning and Business Continuity
- Management of Major Events
- Post Damage Restoration and Recovery
- Victims of Flooding
- International and National Government Policy

Conference Topics

- Flood Defence Methods
- Financial and Insurance Issues
- Coping Strategies
- Adaptive Capacity
- Rural Vs Urban community approaches

Full conference information is available at: www.wessex.ac.uk/friar2008rem3a.html
or submit an abstract directly by sending an email to: jsolanki@wessex.ac.uk

Conference Secretariat:

Jenna Solanki

FRIAR 2008, Wessex Institute of Technology, Ashurst Lodge, Ashurst

Southampton, SO40 7AA. Telephone: 44 (0) 238 029 3223

Fax: 44 (0) 238 029 2853. Email: jsolanki@wessex.ac.uk

Submit an abstract via the conference website or contact the [Conference Secretariat](#)

ECORYS INTERREG PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

INTERREG is an interesting European fund as it stimulates international positioning, knowledge development and strength. Such cooperation is now funded up to 75% (in some cases 85%). However, preparing a good and successful INTERREG project proposal is far from an easy task, due to the (new) requirements on partners, finance, indicators, project logic and the challenges of international cooperation. ECORYS has therefore developed a training course that boosts the quality of your proposal. The training provides guidance on how to meet the requirements for the new programme period 2007-2013 and how to improve your proposal's chances of success in both content and organisation.



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The ECORYS INTERREG Project Development Training focuses on key issues in the proposal phase:

- Content development (process, clear & well presented objectives & logic, involvement of partners)
- Team building & Partnership building (what contract type, how to communicate and divide tasks)
- Financial resources (how to calculate budgets, what rules to apply)
- Indicators (how to develop clear indicators)
- INTERREG terminology, language and rules (planning, presentation styles and techniques)

Our training programme takes a pragmatic approach, combining working and learning. The 2.5-day course provide the opportunity to work on your own proposal, incorporating newly-acquired knowledge and skills to immediate effect in all stages of proposal preparation, from understanding requirements, to writing your proposal, and to presenting it successfully. Costs range from 975 Euro to 1300 Euro.

Our trainers have many years of experience in proposal preparation, implementation and appraisal. Together, they have trained hundreds of people. Their understanding of the processes and details of INTERREG project proposals means they are ideally placed to help you add value to your proposals and ultimately improve the success rate of obtaining funding to translate your cross-border, transnational or interregional project ideas into practice.

There are several training dates in 2008, all in Brussels:

19-21 March

7-9 May

18-20 June

8-10 October

19-21 November

Information on the INTERREG Project Development Trainings in 2008, including [the brochure](#) and registration form can also be found on our website www.ecorys.com.

For registration or questions, please send an email to interregtraining@ecorys.com or contact Cecile Alen in our Brussels office +32 2 743 89 49.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: "IMPLEMENTING ENVIRONMENTAL WATER ALLOCATIONS" - 23 – 26 February 2009 – Feather Market Convention Centre, Port Elizabeth, South Africa

Organized by the
WATER RESEARCH COMMISSION (WRC), South Africa
and the
DEPARTMENT OF WATER AFFAIRS & FORESTRY (DWAF), South Africa

THEME

Promoting the sustainable use of rivers, wetlands, estuaries and groundwater



OBJECTIVES

- Identifying and critiquing global trends in the implementation of environmental water allocations:
 - policy and legislation
 - integrating ecosystem protection with socio-economic development;
 - defining and involving stakeholders
 - decision making for sustainable use
 - operational management of water allocations
- Sharing knowledge and skills

TOPICS

- Integrated management and use:
 - Surface and ground water
 - Water quality and quantity
 - Biophysical and socio-economic
- Institutional mechanisms:
 - From local to international
 - Stakeholder participation
 - Training and capacity building
- Decision-making and trade-offs:
 - Awareness, policy and legislation
 - In knowledge-poor environments
 - Balancing development and resource protection
 - Valuating ecosystem services
- Delivering environmental water:
 - Delivering floods
 - Maintaining variability
 - Constraints and solutions
- Monitoring and adaptive management

CALL FOR PAPERS

Keynote speakers will address the conference topics. Oral and poster papers are invited. Intending authors should complete and return the accompanying template by not later than 30 June 2008

Papers/posters will be accepted on the understanding that the main author (or a co-author) will personally attend the conference as a fee-paying delegate and present the paper; and that the deadlines indicated below will be strictly adhered to. Papers will be subject to local and international peer review.

DEADLINES

30 June 2008:

Closing date for electronic submission of abstracts (on attached template)

31 August 2008:

Provisional acceptance. Authors advised to start preparation of full papers and issued with format guidelines.



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30 November 2008:
Submission of final papers.

15 January 2009:
Registration and payment of registration fee.

For more information:
The Secretariat (Cilla Taylor Conferences)
Tel: +27 (0)12 667–3681
Fax: +27 (0)12 667–3680
P O Box 82, IRENE, 0062 South Africa
E–mail: confplan@iafrica.com
Website: www.wrc.org.za [still to be instituted]

WATER LECTURE: "THE GWSP DIGITAL WATER ATLAS: PROVIDING A HOLISTIC VIEW OF THE GLOBAL WATER SYSTEM"

Held by:
Dr. Marcel Endejan
(Deputy Executive Officer, Global Water System Project (GWSP))

The Center for Development Research (ZEF) at the University of Bonn, the Global Water System Project (GWSP) and the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS), have initialized a Water Lecture series taking place approximately once a month.

They cordially invite you to the next session of the series on Thursday, February 21:

The GWSP Digital Water Atlas: Providing a Holistic View of the Global Water System

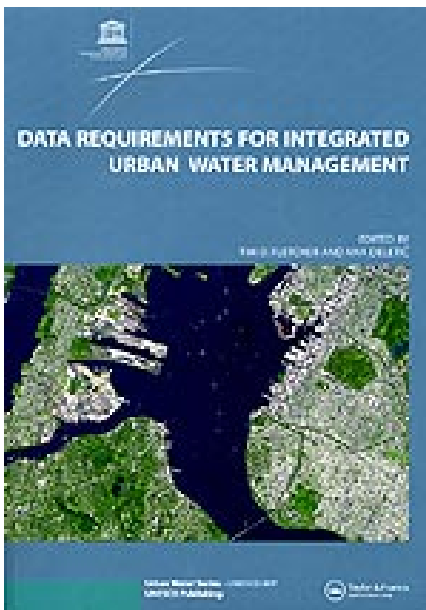
February 21 2008
5.00 - 6.30 p.m.
at ZEF (Ground floor conference room)

Zentrum für Entwicklungsforschung (ZEF)
Center for Development Research
University of Bonn
Walter-Flex-Straße 3
53113 BONN
Subway stop: Heussallee/Museumsmeile Line 16/63/66
Tel.: (0228) 73 - 1846 or - 6124
Fax: (0228) 73 - 1889
e-mail: presse.zef@uni-bonn.de

A joint series organized by
The Centre for Development Research (ZEF), the Global Water System Project (GWSP),
and the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS)

PUBLICATIONS (find more on the ECRR website!)

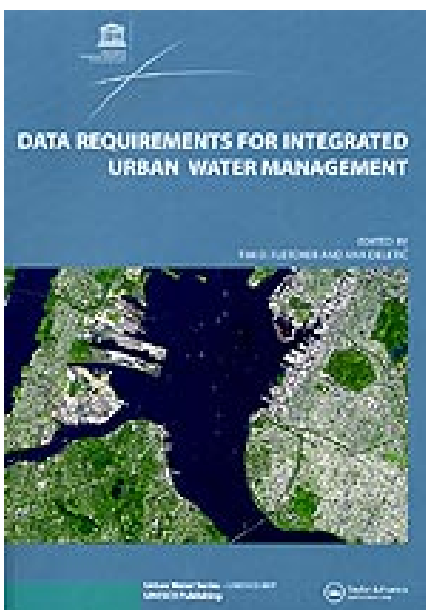
Data Requirements for Integrated Urban Water Management



Integrated urban water management relies on data allowing us to analyse, understand and predict the behaviour of the individual water cycle components and their interactions. The concomitant monitoring of the complex of urban water system elements makes it possible to grasp the entirety of relations among the various components of the urban water cycle and so develop a holistic approach to solving urban water problems.

Data Requirements for Integrated Urban Water Managements – issuing from UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme project on this topic – is geared towards improving integrated urban water management by providing guidance on the collection, validation, storage, assessment and utilization of the relevant data. The first part of this volume describes general principles for developing a monitoring programme in support of sustainable urban water management. The second part examines in detail the monitoring of individual water cycle components. Two case studies in the final part illustrating attempts to deliver an integrated monitoring system help demonstrate the fundamental principles of sustainable urban water management elaborated here.

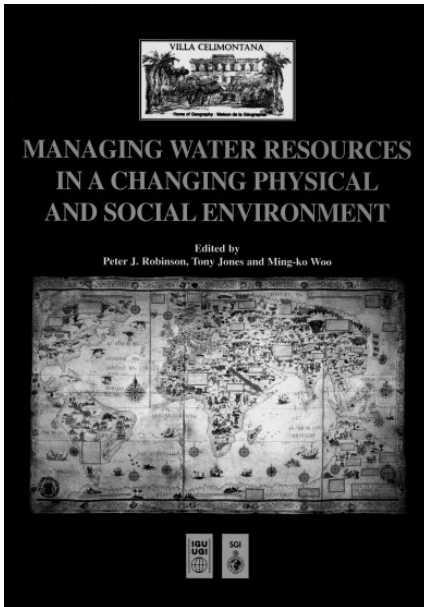
Aquatic Habitats in Sustainable Urban Water Management (Science, Policy and Practice)



Aquatic habitats supply a wide range of vital ecosystem benefits to cities and their inhabitants. The unsustainable use of aquatic habitats, including inadequate urban water management, however, tends to alter and reduce their biodiversity and thereby diminish their ability to provide clean water, protect us from waterborne diseases and pollutants, keep urban areas safe from flooding, and support recreational ecosystem services and even the aesthetic enjoyment of our world.

Aquatic Habitats in Sustainable Urban Water Management – the result of collaboration between UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme and its Man and the Biosphere Programme – aims at improving our understanding of aquatic habitats, related ecosystem goods and services, and conservation and sustainable use – with a special focus on their integration into urban water management. The first part of this volume reviews basic concepts and challenges in urban aquatic habitats, as well as strategies for their management integration. The second part examines technical measures related to habitats management and rehabilitation, along with their incorporation into urban planning and their role in human health. The final part looks at current urban aquatic habitat issues and practical approaches to solving them through the lens of case studies from around the globe.

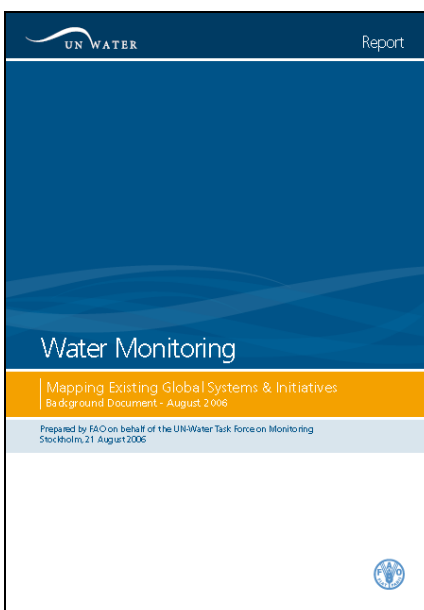
New book: "Managing water resources in a changing physical and social environment"



The book has been compiled by the Commission for Water sustainability and comprises 16 chapters written by both engineering and geographical hydrologists, practitioners and academics. Topics range from water ethics to flood modelling and water management theory, and geographically from Europe and the Americas to China, India and Africa. Full details can be viewed by following the link above.

REPORTS

New UN-Water Report: Water Monitoring: Mapping Existing Global Systems & Initiatives



New UN-Water Report: Water Monitoring: Mapping Existing Global Systems & Initiatives, prepared by FAO on behalf of UN-Water. International coordination in monitoring the state of the world's water resources is needed, in order to guide future investments and efforts in achieving these goals. Governments and donors are increasingly called to put in place a uniform and consistent system to monitor the impacts of water-related initiatives.



TOP NEWS (find more on the ECRR website!)

[EU-CRUE Project - recommendations published on flood research](#)

The CRUE ERA-NET has published a raft of recommendations aimed at improving the coordination of flood-related research programmes in Europe. Proposals include the pooling of experts to identify research needs and the creation of a joint research agenda for flood research.

ERA-NETs were designed to encourage the coordination of national and regional programmes. The CRUE ERA-NET was established to consolidate existing European flood research programmes, promote best practice and develop future joint activities in flood research. The network has published a good practice guide which provides an overview of the various opportunities for programme development and the organisation of flood related research. It is based on a survey of flood research programmes in 11 European countries.

[Conclusions : SMAP RMSU Regional workshop on "environmental knowledge and information exchange in the Mediterranean"- Rome 5,6 December 2007](#)

The SMAP RMSU team has published the conclusions of the Regional SMAP-RMSU Workshop on "Environmental Knowledge and Information Exchange in the Mediterranean" held at APAT Headquarters in Rome on 5-6 December 2007

[Conclusions of the International Roundtable on Integrated Management of Shared Groundwater in Southeastern Europe, 14-16 Nov 2007, Slovenia](#)

The International Roundtable aimed to promote cooperation for sustainable utilization, management and protection of shared groundwater resources in Southeastern Europe (SEE). Among others, linkages to the management of connected river basins, coastal areas and ecosystems as well as contribution of groundwater to economic development were addressed. The meeting built on related ongoing work in the region carried out by international organizations such as GEF, UNECE and UNESCO IHP.

Among the objectives of the International Roundtable was to:

- Identify the most significant problems, pressing needs and challenges for the SEE region relating to groundwater resources management;
- Promote recognition and awareness of the socio-economic and environmental values of shared aquifers as well as the need for integrating shared groundwater management with river basin management;
- Exchange information and communicate good practices and success stories in different aspects of shared groundwater resources management;
- Identify key areas of action where the involvement of Petersberg Process Phase II / Athens Declaration Process, would result in the enhancement of synergies with ongoing and planned activities in the region;
- Identify key steps needed to advance a strategy and action programme for the management of shared groundwater in the SEE region;
- Facilitate the establishment of a peer network between persons working in the shared groundwater management area.

[SCAR net: Web site on Agricultural research](#)

New website of the Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR) that was established by [Regulation \(EEC\) No. 1728/74 of the Council of 27 June 1974](#) on the coordination of agricultural research.



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EVENTS (February 2008 – March 2008)

[11th International Symposium on the Interactions between Sediments and Water](#)

17-22 February 2008 – Esperance, AUSTRALIA

[Transboundary Water Management for the MENA Region](#)

18/22 February 2008, SWEDEN

[European Regional Coordination Fifth World Water Forum](#)

27 February 2008 – Brussels, BELGIUM

For information: h.riedstra@ewp.eu

[10th Conference on Environmental Education in Europe](#)

6-9 March 2008 – Valetta, MALTA

[Water China 2008](#)

4/7 March 2008, Canton (Guangzhou), CHINA

[AEHS's 18th Annual West Coast Conference on Soils, Sediments and Water](#)

10 March 2008, San Diego, California, USA

[International Conference on Integrated Water Resources Management \(IWRM\): Lessons from Implementation in Developing Countries and the 2nd Africa Regional meeting of the National Committees of UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme](#)

10/12 March 2008, Cape Town, SOUTH AFRICA

[Participating in Nature: Communities and Protected Areas in Central and Eastern Europe](#)

10/13 March 2008, Bistrita, ROMANIA

[The 4th International Conference on the Water Resources in the Mediterranean Basin, WATMED 4](#)

20/22 March 2008, Algiers, ALGERIA

[4th International Conference on the Water Resources in the Mediterranean Basin, WATMED 4](#)

22/24 March 2008 – Algiers, ALGERIA



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BECOME A MEMBER!

Joining the ECRR is FREE!

Acting as an international network the ECRR is pleased to get contributions from its members: they are all very welcomed to provide us information on projects, events, news, training courses, etc.

The ECRR newsletter, for example, is thought as a tool (available to all members) for advertising to an international platform the outcomes of the project, important events worldwide, new publications, etc.

As a member of the ECRR, you will:

- keep on receiving a monthly newsletter with the most recent international information related to river restoration (conferences, projects, policy document, funding opportunities...);
- have the opportunity to share your experiences and spread the results of your projects;
- become a part of a network of people and institutions involved in river restoration and sustainable river management at European level, find partners for your project proposals and develop joint activities;

To Become a member of the ECRR fill in the [application form](#) in our website.

For request of information please contact

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