



European Centre for River Restoration
Secretariat:
Italian Centre for River Restoration
Viale Garibaldi 44/A
30173 Mestre – Venice, ITALY



European Centre for River Restoration

NEWSLETTER – September 2007

Editor: Francesco Pra Levis

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ECRR SEMINAR "PRACTICES OF RIVER RESTORATION IN THE DANUBE BASIN" – BUDAPEST, 28-29 September 2007

In collaboration with



**Centro Italiano per la
Riqualificazione Fluviale
(CIRF)**



**Institute for Inland
Water Management and
Waste Water Treatment
(RWS-RIZA)**



**Water Resources
Research Centre
(VITUKI)**

The European Centre for River Restoration ECRR organizes the seminar "Practices of river restoration in the Danube Basin", that will take place in Budapest, Hungary, on 28-29 September 2007.

The event will focus on river basin management and river restoration experiences carried out in the Danube Basin, in order to share knowledge and concepts, approaches, methods and strategies on river restoration and to foster networking associating subjects working in river restoration within the frame of ECRR.





DRAFT PROGRAMME

Day 1 – Friday 28 September 2007: seminar

- 9.00 Opening and overview of ECRR, **Bart Fokkens**, RWS-RIZA, The Netherlands
- 9.15 Welcome, **Peter Bakony**, Hungarian Water Research Center - VITUKI, Hungary
- 9.30 Participation of the ECRR in the Riversymposium 2007 & Environmental flow (conference organized within Riverfestival 2007, 31 August – 9 September 2007, Brisbane, Australia). Report by **Martin Janes**, River Restoration Centre, UK.
- 9.50 Case study from Germany by **Barbara Stammel**: "River restoration project between Neuburg and Ingolstad"
- 10.10 Case study from Austria by **Rudolf Hornich**: "River restoration works on the river Mur"
- 10.30 Case study from Slovenia by **Stanka Desnik**: "Restoration of the river Ledava in the Goričko Nature Park"
- 10.50 Coffee Break
- 11.30 Case study from Hungary
- 11.50 Case study from Romania by **Anca Savin**: River restoration practice in Prut River Basin - "Costuleni Project"
- 12.10 Case study from Romania by **Dan Badarau**: River restoration practice in Prut River Basin - "Elan Project"
- 12.30 Presentation of the 4th ECRR International Conference on River Restoration 2008, **Bruna Gumiero**, Italian Centre for River Restoration, CIRF, Italy
- 12.50 Lunch
- 14.00 Discussion about further international cooperation in river restoration and the role of ECRR in this
- 16.00 Conclusions of the seminar

Day 2 – Saturday 29 September 2007: Field trip

- 8.00 – 13.00 Excursion to restoration sites downstream of Budapest



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To see the restoration site with Google Earth Software go [here](#) and click on the blue spots in the map for some pictures.

There are no charges for the inscription, but all attendants will cover their travel and living expenses.

The number of participants will be maximum 30 persons.

The final programme of the seminar is available at http://www.ecrr.org/sembud_07.htm.

For registration and further information please send an e-mail to: info@ecrr.org.

VENUE

VITUKI - Hungarian Water Research Center

Kvassay J. út 1.

Budapest

H-1095

Tel: +36-1-2168137

Web: www.vituki.hu

E-mail: vituki@vituki.hu or bakonyi@vituki.hu

To view VITUKI location with Google Earth Software go [here](#).

ACCOMODATION

Hotel Mercure Duna

Soroksári út 12

Budapest H-1095

Web: www.mercure.com/mercure/fichehotel/gb/mer/2025/fiche_hotel.shtml



4th ECRR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RIVER RESTORATION – QUICK UPDATE

On September 27th, 2007, the second meeting of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the 4th ECRR conference will take place in Budapest, in order to define the structure of the programme, the thematic sessions and the deadlines of the event.
The second announcement of the conference will be available from October 2007.



For updates, please visit the [conference homepage](#).

The conference will take place in
San Servolo Island (Venice),
16-21 June 2008.

To visit the website of the venue
click [here](#).



FROM ECRR DATABASE: RESTORATION OF RIVERS AND FLOODPLAINS IN BAVARIA

The floods in 1999 and 2002 hit many countries in middle Europe and also parts of Bavaria. The state of Bavaria developed in the 2003 the "Action program 2020, flood control in Bavaria". The program covers:

- natural flood retention
- technical flood protection (by dams, dikes, etc.)
- flood prevention (like flood warning, etc...).

The program will spend more than 2 billions € till 2020 to reduce the risks by flooding. An important part of the "action program 2020" is the natural flood retention. This includes



1. protection, sustainable development and/or restoration of rivers and streams where ever this is still possible today,
2. mapping of the flood endangered areas to inform the public via internet about the risks of flooding along rivers and streams and
3. the Bavarian alluvial flood plain program (Auenprogramm Bayern) to preserve or to restore the natural conditions of the flood plains as indunation areas, wherever this is possible.

RIVER RESTORATION PROGRAM

Many rivers and streams were channelled in the past and floodplains were drained to improve shipping, agriculture and flood control for housing or industrial use. Rivers were dammed to win hydropower. They results today are straightened and dammed river systems. This changes of the river systems from natural systems to man made systems are documented in the "Gewässerstrukturkarte Deutschland 2001". The map is a result of a state wide monitoring of the hydromorphological structures of rivers. It shows that only 1/3 of the rivers are more or less still natural and for 2/3 are more or less channelled and need restoration. This is a job for the state of Bavaria, responsible for larger rivers and as well for the communities, responsible for the smaller rivers.

The river restoration program demands river restoration concepts for all sizes of rivers and streams to improve flood control, to protect and restore rivers and streams with their flood plains. The objectives of this restoration program is also covered by the European Water Framework Directive which demands: to reach the good ecological status for natural water bodies and the good ecological potential for artificial and heavily modified water bodies. Reference status for river restoration concepts is to reinstall the are natural hydromorphological processes like:

- natural discharge (floods and low flow)
- migration of the river channel within the alluvial plain
- longitudinal and lateral connectivity of the river.

The steps for river restoration are

1. to review the status quo
2. to put up the reference conditions
3. to analyse the deficits
4. to plan the mitigating measurements
5. to discuss the plan concept with its mitigation measurements with stakeholders, nature conservation experts, etc...
6. to do the restoration work.

In Bavaria there are various restoration projects and the way. Two projects will be presented.

THE ISARPLAN MÜNCHEN

Within the city of Munich parts of the Isar are under restoration since 1998. The project which was in finished 2006, contains:

- to improve flood control
- to improve the ecological functions of the river
- to improve recreation

For this the river channel was widened, the banks and flood plains lowered and the dike system improved. For more information see www.wasserwirtschaftsamt-muenchen.de.



Isar before restoration in the city of Munich



Isar after restoration in the city of Munich



MITTLERE ISAR BETWEEN MÜNCHEN AND LANDSHUT

In the beginning of the 20th Century the Isar was still a natural system with a braided riverbed within a wide alluvial forest. Water construction and the discharge of water from the river in a hydropower channel system reduced the value of this river section, compared to the reference status, the once braided system.

The water management office in Freising put up a project to improve the flood control along the Isar. Part of the project is to relocate the dikes and enlarge the existing floodplain of 1600 ha to 2600 ha. The widening of the flood corridor offers the changes to take out bank protection and allow again the migration of the river channel. This project will be done in the next 10 years, partly financed by the EU. The demands of flood control, to achieve a good ecological status and the demands of the European Network "Natura 2000" were carefully negotiated between the different groups of interest like nature conservation, forest, fishery, canoeing and others.

The new Isar will be not anymore the same like before 100 years. But it will be again a river showing its alpine character, hosting plants and animals like in earlier days and offers recreation facilities for the people living in the circle of Munich.

The main objectives of river restoration projects are giving space back to the river and changing the intensive use of the flood plain. For this it is necessary to find solutions with stakeholders, and all, interested in the future of their river. This needs a "new deal" for our river-landscapes.

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CONFERENCE: EUROPEAN WATER MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE –5 November 2007, Bruxelles, Belgium

The 3rd EWA (European Water Association) Brussels Conference will bring together experts and opinion formers from throughout the European Union to discuss Climate Change, its impact on the water sector and the mitigation and adaptation measures that can be adopted. The conference will outline the latest scientific knowledge and update the delegates on policy measures being developed by the European Commission. The day will conclude with a presentation on the EWA response to the EU Green Paper and a panel discussion with all the day's speakers. Besides updating attendees on the latest scientific knowledge on Climate Change following production of the IPCC reports; the conference will outline the policy development within the European Commission following the issuing of the Green Paper on Climate Change and Adaptation.

For further information, please visit:

<http://www.ewaonline.de/downloads/3rd-EWA-Brussels-Conference.pdf>



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CONFERENCE: RIVERFLOW 2008 – 3-5 September 2008, Izmir-Çesme, Turkey

The next IAHR River Flows Conference will take place as follows:

E-mail: riverflow2008@riverflow2008.org

Website: <http://riverflow2008.org>

Deadline for Abstracts is September 2007

Contact:

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Executive Director

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e-mail: chris.george@iahr.org

OTHER PUBLICATIONS (find more on the ECRR website!)

Water Demand Management glossary

The Regional Water Demand Initiative (WaDimena) of the International Development Research Centre has announced the launch of the second edition of our online "Water Demand Management glossary". The glossary is part of the Regional Water Demand Initiative in the Middle East and North Africa (WaDimena), and aims at contributing to a more in-depth and holistic understanding of water demand management (WDM) concepts and terms. The glossary is developed in three languages: Arabic, English and French and targets policy makers, research groups, NGOs and other practitioners working on water demand management and promoting the efficient, equitable and sustainable use of water.

New issues of Dams, Rivers and People published

The July – August issue of Dams, Rivers and People has been uploaded at the website as a pdf file.



Special Issue of Water and Environment Journal

This special issue will bring together different views and aspects of the progress and implementation of the Water Framework Directive.

Authors are invited to submit a full length manuscript to Water and Environment Journal. All manuscripts will be peer-reviewed and accepted articles will be published in a special issue of Water and Environment Journal to appear in print in 2008.

The deadline for submission is November 30th, 2007.

Cities of the Future - Towards integrated sustainable water and landscape management, Vladimir Novotny, Paul Brown (eds)

With urban waters as a focal point, this book will explore the links between urban water quality and hydrology, and the broader concepts of green cities and smart growth. It also addresses legal and social barriers to urban ecological sustainability and proposes practical ways to overcome those barriers.

Drought and Demand - Modeling the Impact of Restrictions on Demand During Drought, UKWIR Report

The objective of this study was to attempt to quantify the impact of restrictions on demand during the drought, using a multiple linear regression model.

The Price of Water - Studies in Water Resource Economics and Management, Stephen Merett

The Second Edition of the Price of Water expands on the coverage of the first edition and ambitiously develops the theme of the proper management of river basins, both with respect to the control of rivers' water quality and the defence of their quantitative flows from source to sea.

"Friends of the Middle East"

Various publication from the site of Friends of the Middle East (Foeme).

TOP NEWS (find more on the ECRR website!)

Assessing water quality in Europe using stratification techniques - Results of a prototype application using French data

The European Environment Agency has improved a methodology for assessing the quality of river water and to relate the assessment to evaluating the environmental effects of water-related EU environment policy (e.g. Nitrate Directive, Urban Waste Water Directive).

This report offers experts both a tool to assess changes at water basins as well as an early warning system for water status change. It was tested and validated with comprehensive data provided by France, covering the period 1971-2005, prior to a large-scale application at the European level depending on data availability.

LIFE+ draft application guidelines just published

The European Commission has published draft application guidelines for the 2007 call for proposals under the LIFE+ programme.

SWEDEN – Final press release Stockholm World Water Week

The final pres release of the SWWW is now available at the website: "Strong Messages as 2007 World Water Week ends : It Is Time to Do Better on Global Poverty, Sanitation, Water Scarcity and Climate Change"



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EVENTS (September 2007 – October 2007)

The Seed Ecology II meeting

9/13 September 2007 – Perth, AUSTRALIA

Establishing a Successful and Sustainable Waterworks: Revenues, Rates and Funding

9/13 September 2007 – Roanoke, Virginia, USA

2007 Eastern Regional Wetland Restoration Institute

9/14 September 2007 – Olympia, Kentucky, USA

Fish Stock Assessment Methods for Lakes and Reservoirs: Towards the True Picture of Fish Stock

11/15 September 2007 – Ceske Budejovice, CZECH REPUBLIC

2nd International Symposium on Environmental Management

12/14 September 2007 – Zagreb, CROATIA

International Symposium on "New Directions in Urban Water Management"

12/14 September 2007 – Paris, FRANCE

14th German Dam Symposium and 7th ICOLD European Club Dam Symposium

17-19 September 2007 – Munich, GERMANY

Hydroecology: Putting theory into practice

19 September 2007 – University of Birmingham, UK

Water Loss 2007

23-26 September 2007 – Bucharest, ROMANIA

WaReLa Scientific conference on Integrated catchment management for hazard mitigation (WARELA = Water Retention by Land Use)

24-26 September 2007 – Trier, GERMANY

Jornadas Técnicas sobre Hidráulica Fluvial (in Spanish)

24-28 September 2007 – Madrid, SPAIN

European research input to river basin management

25-27 September 2007 – Venue Brussels, BELGIUM

Global challenges, global solutions

8/11 October 2007 – The Brit Oval, London, ENGLAND

6th Conference on Wastewater Reclamation and Reuse for Sustainability

9/12 October 2007 – Antwerp, BELGIUM

5th Victorian Flood Management Conference

9/12 October 2007 – Warrnambool, AUSTRALIA

The sixth Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe"

10/12 October 2007 – Belgrade, SERBIA



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La gestion physique des cours d'eau: bilan d'une décennie d'ingénierie écologique
10/12 October 2007 – Namur, BELGIUM

Third international yellow river forum on sustainable water resources management and delta ecosystem maintenance
16/19 October 2007 – Dongying City, Shandong Province, CHINA

23rd Annual International Conference on Soils, Sediments and Water Analysis
15 October 2007 – Amherst, Massachusetts, USA
For information contact dleonard@schoolph.umass.edu

Tenth Inter-regional Conference on Water and Environment ENVIROWAT2007
17 October 2007 – New Delhi, INDIA

Procedes d'épuration plantes de macrophytes: nouveautes et retours d'expierenc
18 October 2007 – Limoges, FRANCE

Management plans for Ramsar Sites in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)
18/22 October 2007 – Putbus, GERMANY

Stream Ecosystem Restoration Training Series - Blending Stream Ecology, Hydraulic Engineering & Fluvial Geomorphology for Successful Stream Restoration
22/26 October 2007 – Dublin, OHIO

Third Southeast Asia Water Forum
22/26 October 2007 – Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA

The 14th Annual Conference of the California Society for Ecological Restoration
23/26 October 2007 – San Diego, California, USAbr>

Joint UNECE, UNDP and OSCE workshops on river basin organizations, water governance and regional networking.
23/26 October 2007 – Almaty, KAZAKHSTAN

Aquaculture Europe 2007
24/27 October 2007 - Istanbul, TURKEY

AGRI OUTLOOK 2007
25/26 October 2007 - Pretoria, Gauteng, SOUTH AFRICA

International Conference on Coastal Management 2007
31 October/2 November 2007 - Cardiff, UK



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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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