ENVISIONING THE FUTURE OF WATERS IN EUROPE

The future of Europe's waters is influenced by a set of environmental, social, political and policy drivers, such as global change, population growth, land use change, economic and technological developments. Further drivers are the current and future agricultural, industrial, energy, trade, transportation and environmental policies. The enlargement of the European Union and other political developments will have impacts on Europe's waters, too.

One of the most important policy drivers is the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD). The WFD promotes sustainable water use based on long-term protection of water resources. Since many basins are trans-boundary in nature, the WFD encourages a European approach to river basin management. River basin management plans have to take a broad view on water availability and quality of surface waters and groundwaters, as well as programmes of measures and others.

It is an important task to assess the future state of waters in Europe in order to foresee and solve problems of future uses of different sectors. This will allow water authorities, companies and policy makers to design improved strategies for water policies and water management in Europe.

This Conference will elucidate potential visions of Europe's water resources, in terms of quantity and quality; water demand, use and availability; and adaptive strategies and implementation plans on how to reach sufficient water supply in next decades in Europe.

The Conference is directed to policy makers working at international and national levels, water managers, NGOs, and the scientific community. It is our purpose to produce policy recommendations as an outcome of our Conference.

You are cordially invited to attend the Conference and the SCENES Pre-conference associated to learn more of alternative water visions and, more importantly, to contribute to discussions and the preparation of recommendations of the Conference.

On behalf of the organisers

Prof. László Somlyódy
Chair of the Scientific Committee
Conference "Futures of European Waters"

Juha Kämäri
Research Director
SCENES project
Water Scenarios for Europe and for Neighbouring States

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CIRCULAR AND INVITATION
FUTURES OF EUROPEAN WATERS
How should policies be adapted?

WWW.ENVIRONMENT.FI/SYKE/SCENES

CO-ORGANIZERS

SCENES project
Water scenarios for Europe and neighbouring countries

Ministry of Rural Development, Hungary

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hungary

EWP
European Water Partnership

NFFT
National Council for Sustainable Development (Hungary)

REC
Regional Environmental Center

2011.hu

Organiser: Hungarian Academy of Sciences

CIRCULAR AND INVITATION
FUTURES OF EUROPEAN WATERS
How should policies be adapted?

BUDAPEST, HUNGARY
23 TO 25 MARCH 2011

´Futures of European Waters´ conference is part of the Hungarian EU Presidency programme.

PROGRAMME OUTLINE

Pre-conference:
SCENES water scenarios – final results
Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS) **(23 March)**

23 March

Opening words
Christos Fragakis, EU Commission

Needs for new knowledge on long-term water futures
Juha Kämäri, Finnish Environment Institute, Finland

Scenarios for driving forces
David A. Wiberg, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Austria

Multi-scale, participatory, qualitative scenario development
Kasper Kok, Wageningen University, The Netherlands

Scenario development – quantified stories
Martina Flörke, University of Kassel, Germany

Impacts of Europe's water futures
Harm Duel, Deltares, The Netherlands

Regional scale socio-economic and ecological impacts
Mike Acreman, Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, UK

SEAMLESS-IF: an integrated framework to assess agricultural and environmental policy scenarios
Olivier Therond, INRA (National Institute for Agricultural Research), France

The global changes in the terrestrial water cycle
Richard Harding, Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, UK

Participatory scenarios for water management planning: an Eastern Baltic case study,
Kristina Veidemane, Baltic Environment Forum, Latvia

Planning the water future of the Black Sea region – lessons learnt from work with Crimean stakeholders
Olga Zhovtonog, Institute for Hydraulic Engineering and Land Reclamation, Ukraine

Policy messages arising from water scenarios and their impacts,
Andrew Farmer, Institute for European Environmental Policy, UK

Integrating stakeholder-based Fuzzy Cognitive Maps for understanding water systems in the Mediterranean *Consuelo Varela-Ortega, Polytechnic University of Madrid, Spain*

Future water scenarios for the Great Plain of Hungary and their connection of water resources risk management *Zsolt Jolánkai, Budapest University of Technology and Economics*

SIDE EVENTS TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER

Futures of European Waters
Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS) **(24-25 March)**

24 March

PREPARATION FOR A FUTURE BLUEPRINT FOR EUROPEAN WATERS – Plenary session

Welcome *Mr. József Pálinkás, President of HAS*

Key note address *Mr. Janez Potočnik European Commissioner for Environment*

Key note address *Mr. S. Fazekas, minister (Ministry of Rural Development, Hungary)*

Key note address *Mr. A. Kraszewski, minister (Minister of the Environment, Poland)*

Key note address *P. Gammeltoft (COM//DG ENV)*

Waters in a changing Europe *L. Somlyódy and J. Kindler*

European water futures until 2050–Results of the SCENES project *J. Kämäri (SYKE)*

Challenges for water governance in times of change
C. Pahl-Wostl

Water and resources efficiency in Europe
J. McGlade Executive Director of the EEA

Discussion

RIVER BASINS, CLIMATE CHANGE AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION – Session 1

Implementation of the Water Framework Directive – the Danube experience *P. Weller Executive Secretary of the ICPDR*

River networks: transboundary cooperation and partnership for the Blue Danube *M. Szigeti Bonifert Director, REC*

Hydro-ecological criteria for sustainable utilization of the Middle Danube *G. Guti*

Discussion

Future challenges of flood management in European urban and rural areas *R. Thepot*

Climate change and WFD in the light of the results so far of the project ClimateWater *G. Jolánkai*

Impacts of climate change on water resources – an European perspective in a changing world
H. Moser

Discussion

Policy document plenary discussion

WATER FOR FOOD AND PEOPLE – Session 2

Nutrient management in large international river basins with special regard to the Danube *H. Kroiss*

Water, food and agriculture: challenges and responses
Mr. Pasquale Steduto, FAO

The challenge of integrating water and agriculture policy *A. Farmer*

Discussion

Assessment of sensitivity and vulnerability of soil to climate change *Gy. Várallyay*

The EU Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive implementation and its impact on European waters
K. R. Szatkiewicz

Participatory water management: the water stewardship approach *Sabine von Wirén-Lehr (EWP)*

Discussion

Policy document plenary discussion

Session 3 – to be organized on the basis of abstracts submitted

25 March

CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS – Closing session

The global water challenge *J. Alcamo (UNEP)*

Challenges of international cooperation in transboundary water management *F. Bernardini, UNECE*

Issues of ecosystem services *WWF*

Perspectives of flood management and mitigation
A. Szöllösi-Nagy

Panel discussion on key water policy challenges
(panelists include representatives of EU institutions (tbc), J. McGlade, J. Kindler, A. Szöllösi-Nagy)

Closing

REGISTRATION AND DEADLINES

Registration is open! Please register on-line at:
www.environment.fi/syke/scenes

You can also book a hotel through this website.

You are invited to submit an abstract (one A4 page). The accepted presentations (oral and posters) will be published. There is no registration fee for the conference or for the pre-conference.

Important dates:

Registration	From 10.01–15.03 2011
Abstract submission	Before 15 February 2011
Final programme	10 March 2011

CONFERENCE VENUE

The venue for both events is the main building of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Roosevelt tér 9.
http://mta.hu/articles/main-building-105001