



Implementing COP22 agreements: river basin adaptation planning through stakeholder engagement

BeWater European Policy Event

9 February 2017
Brussels, Belgium

Topic

Particularly in the water sector, the Mediterranean shows high vulnerability with regards to climate change impacts. Therefore, immediate adaptation action at all levels is required, based on proper planning and inclusive decision-making processes. For these actions, a broad range of stakeholders need to find agreement about the necessary actions and steps to take. In order to enhance the acceptance for environmental policy measures, the participation of relevant stakeholders is key to reaching more flexible and adaptive decisions. Yet, the link between participation and climate change adaptation is not yet exhaustively exploited, particularly with regards to river basin management. The event responds to this gap by showcasing the outcomes of participatory European research projects, and supporting the advancement of methodologies for assessing stakeholder interests, demands and concerns within the field of adaptive water resources management.

Programme

The event will present policy relevant information during the half-day programme via targeted presentations and panel discussions. Dedicated slots for short impulses will enable contributions from key institutions and bodies in the topic area, such as the European Parliament and European Commission. Focus will be on approaches and tools for engaging society in water and particularly adaptation-related processes, the potential of participation, and associated challenges and limitations. Experiences from the EU FP7-funded BeWater project and other participatory projects will guide discussions to advance the field of adaptive river basin management, helping to answer the question: What is the potential of engaging participatory processes to impact (EU) policy making processes and support the implementation of e.g. COP22 decisions?

The event language will be English.

Participants

Around 30 participants are expected. The event is open to citizens and society at large, and we especially welcome EU policy and decision makers (e.g. MEPs and the European Commission), but also representatives of European projects with a participatory focus, public administrations, environmental NGOs, scientists and other professionals working in the field of river basin or natural resource management and climate change adaptation.

Please register at
<http://registration.ecologic-events.eu/bewater-european-policy-event>



The BeWater project has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement No. 612385.

Objective

The purpose of this policy event is to foster adaptation planning at river basin level by demonstrating the critical value of stakeholder engagement, and to articulate politically relevant recommendations to inform on-going work in the aftermath of the COP 21 and 22 and contribute to their implementation.

