



River Basin Adaptation Conference

Society as a key player in river basin adaptation for global change

7-8 March 2017

Nova Gorica, Slovenia

Topic

In the Mediterranean region, water resources are expected to be severely affected by climate change and other pressures. The impact of such pressures needs to be considered to ensure the sustainable supply and use of high quality water resources in the future. However, many water management initiatives do not adequately pay attention to climate change impacts at the river basin level. Given the cross-cutting nature of water management, it is crucial to involve society at large, stakeholders, experts and policy makers and address their interests, demands and concerns to ensure long-term effectiveness of the management of water resources.

Objective

There is an urgent need for adaptation plans to outline how individual river basins can prepare for the impacts of climate change and other pressures. The development of successful adaptation strategies needs to involve both regional and local stakeholders. The River Basin Adaptation Conference will be a practice-oriented conference with a strong science base, with the aim to share experiences and identify best-practices on science-society interactions for river basin management and climate change adaptation.

“Legitimised decision making spaces, bringing together all stakeholders in the river basin, are crucial to overcome confronted interests exacerbated by the impacts of global change.”

Mr. Gabriel Borràs
Catalan Office for Climate Change
Head of Adaptation Area

Initiative

The River Basin Adaptation Conference is the final conference of the BeWater project. The BeWater project is funded by the European Union's 7th Framework programme for research, technological development and demonstration. The BeWater project aimed to spur proactive responses to water-related global challenges at the river basin level by fostering a dialogue between science and society.

“We are hoping that the BeWater project will be a source of inspiration at the level of participatory planning in the water catchment [...] which will lead to practical processes that would gradually be applied in other regions of the country.”

Mr. Abdallah Rabhi
Cabinet-chief of the Minister of
Agriculture, Tunisia

Programme

The River Basin Adaptation Conference consists of a conference day and a field trip. The conference day will be dedicated to sharing experiences

on science-society interactions as developed within the BeWater project and other initiatives.

The conference day will include keynote speeches, presentations and interactive sessions on best practices on how to adapt river basin management to climate change, while involving society.

The conference language will be English.

Call for abstracts

A detailed programme and a call for abstract will be published on 15 September 2016.

Participants

Around 70 participants are expected. The conference is open to citizens and society at large and we especially welcome policy makers, representatives of public administrations, environmental NGOs, scientists and other professionals working in the field of river basin management and climate change adaptation.



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