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Impact of Climate Change on the Quality of Urban and Coastal Waters - Diffuse Pollution -

NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to DiPol's Final Conference – September 15th 2011

Started back in 2009 DiPol is going to hold its Final Conference after 33 months of successful work and cooperation. Project partners from 5 countries bordering the North Sea are going to present the results of their investigations against the background of the project's question: Impact of Climate Change on the quality of urban and coastal waters. Moreover representatives from other Interreg IVB projects are invited to summarise the key deliverables of their activities over the past three years.

Local and regional stakeholders will provide their feedback on the project achievements and future expectations will be discussed in a plenary session. The Conference, an official event in the framework of *Hamburg European Green Capital 2011*, will be jointly hosted by the Hamburg University of Technology (Lead Beneficiary) and the TuTech Innovation GmbH.



DiPol's Final Conference in Hamburg – Why to attend?

The quality of life is linked to the quality of water in our environment. Projected climate changes will probably affect the quality of rivers and coasts. Within the DiPol project scientists and students work together to maintain our environment for the future and therewith a good quality of life.

Over the past three years the project consortium has comprehensively investigated 4 case studies in Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Germany and gained data under regular and extreme weather situations. Tools to access and model the impact of climate change on the coastal zone due to loads of rivers with toxic contaminants and mixtures have been applied. All data have been made available in a visualised format through the Web-based Knowledge Platform, one of the mayor deliverables of the project. Moreover, under active participation of local and regional

stakeholders the communication and simulation tool SIMACLIM has been developed.

During the conference these project deliverables will be presented and discussed. Stakeholders are invited to participate and to provide feedback on the tools and models in order to allow for a final enhancement until the project's termination.

Finally the DiPol documentary – a video filmlet made by students from Norway and Germany, showing the project from their perspective – will be shown for the first time.



Investigations at the case studies yielded comprehensive data

DiPol's Final Conference in Hamburg – How to get there?



The Hamburg University of Technology (TUHH), Institute of Environmental Technology and Energy Economics, coordinates the Interreg-IVB project DiPol. In fact, TUHH and TuTech Innovation GmbH cooperating closely in order to make use of TuTech's expertise in the fields of technology transfer and

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international administration issues. Therefore, the Final Conference will be jointly hosted by both organisations.

You may find detailed information on how to reach the conference site when visiting the TuTech webpage under www.tutech.de. Further information and the conference program are available from the DiPol website (www.interreg-dipol.de) as well as through the event calendar of Hamburg European Green Capital 2011 (<http://hamburggreencapital.eu/>). See you in Hamburg!

European Union



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Fifth consortium meeting in Delft, The Netherlands

From March 7th to 9th 2011 the DiPol consortium met for its 5th regular General Assembly in Delft, The Netherlands. The meeting intended to wrap up the activities of the past six months, prepare for the March 2011 reporting round and to provide the basis for the upcoming work until the final conference in September 2011.

It was remarkable to notice the progress that has been made with the modelling approaches, such as SCREMOTOX and



Being prepared for high water – daily business in The Netherlands

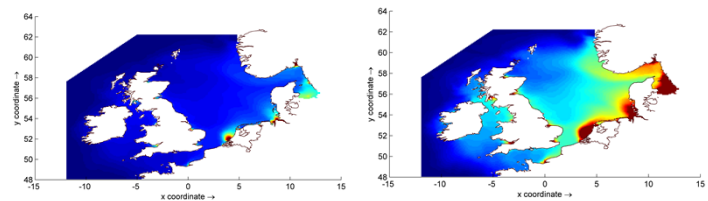
SIMACLIM. Regarding the latter, the third program version has been elaborated and successfully tested during the meeting. With respect to the intended implementation it will be crucial to meet the expectations of stakeholders from the involved regions. Therefore Swedish, Norwegian and German stakeholder representatives provided their feedback during the meeting and will further guide the final development of the program.

Beside the scientific work the consortium took advantage of the meeting location to get acquainted with the region's water management. For many years the Dutch struggle successfully with high-water and storm floods. Impressive flood barriers have been constructed and proved their reliability. However, new challenges are expected with a change in water quality associated with climate change; in this regard DiPol will contribute towards a raise in awareness.

SCREMOTOX and coastal transport

The objective of SCREMOTOX is to demonstrate water pollution in the North Sea caused by different diffuse sources under the influence of a changing climate.

In a transnational approach, guided by the partners from the Netherlands, the relative contribution of diffuse pollution sources towards coastal water quality on the scale of the North Sea is investigated. With respect to climate change, changes in run-off related pollution fluxes into the rivers as well as changes of the river hydrology are expected.



Comparison of pollution fluxes from rivers: Dry (left) and wet conditions

Regarding the impact on river hydrology, the assessment makes use of results from a global appraisal of effects of climate change on hydrological regimes, in the form of an “ensemble forecast” driven by twelve different Global Climate Models connected to a global hydrological model. So far, consistent changes were found in seasonal patterns: Increasing winter run-off and decreasing summer run-off.

Furthermore, an effort was made to characterize the CC impact on estuarine retention processes. Based on the available scientific literature, it can be assumed that the “temperate” North Sea estuaries will be moving closer to the “Mediterranean” estuaries conceptual model (more variable freshwater input, change in estuarine circulation, intense stratification during floods, limited flushing during periods of low discharge, shift in size/position of turbidity cloud). For more information visit www.interreg-dipol.de.

DiPol Booklet – Second volume released

The second volume of informative booklets has been released in April 2011. Entitled “Climate Change and Water Quality”, the booklet comprises general information on climate change, background information about the project and a focus on risk analysis. Based on the example of the Copenhagen case study the transnational cooperation within the DiPol consortium is highlighted.

The booklet text has been translated into six languages. Beside English, Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, Dutch and German text versions are available.

Both booklet volumes are available for download (PDF files) from the DiPol website and from the NSRP website. For printed copies please get in contact with the DiPol lead beneficiary TUHH.

Currently the third and final volume of the booklets is under preparation (release: Sept. 2011). The focus will be on modeling approaches within DiPol.

