

**2007 NEWATER SUMMER SCHOOL**  
**'MANAGING TRANSITIONS TO ADAPTIVE RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT'**  
**11 July – 21 July, 2007**  
**Location: Alla-Fonte Hotel and Seminar Facility**  
**Bad Krozingen, Germany**

### **1. Introduction**

The 2007 NeWater Summer School on Transitions to Adaptive River Basin Management will take place from 11 July – 21 July, 2007 in Bad Krozingen, near Freiburg and the Black Forest in Southern Germany. The Summer School is intended as a sequel to last year's Autumn School in Peyresq, France which introduced NeWater and non-NeWater researchers to concepts of and methods for adaptive river basin management. It is organised by the Institute of Environmental Systems Research, University of Osnabrück, Germany, in cooperation with the Global Water System Project (GWSP) and The Integrated Assessment Society (TIAS).

### **2. GWSP Funding Opportunities**

The GWSP is able to offer funding (participation and travel costs) for up to 5 young researchers (PhD-Students and PostDocs). **Deadline for applications is 23 April 2007.** Download the application form from [http://www.gwsp.org/summer\\_school.html](http://www.gwsp.org/summer_school.html). Please submit the application form including a CV, a letter of reference, and a letter of motivation to the GWSP IPO (mail to the address given on the application form or email to [gwsp.ipo@uni-bonn.de](mailto:gwsp.ipo@uni-bonn.de)).

### **3. Teaching and Learning Objectives of 2007 Summer School**

There is an emerging hypothesis among interdisciplinary scientists and practitioners in the field of water management that sustainable water management cannot be realized unless current water management regimes undergo a transition towards more adaptive water management. The 2007 summer school will facilitate an understanding of the role of societal transitions in the process of adaptive river basin management. Participants will examine the role and use of transitions management including the policy and decision-making process and for more effective and sustainable water management regimes.

Specifically, participants will gain an understanding of the following:

- 1 The complexity of the transitions process in moving towards adaptive management in river basins
- 2 Socio-economic and institutional barriers to change in the context of water resources management
- 3 The importance of learning processes in facilitating change
- 4 Insights into what societal transitions are
- 5 How to analyse transitions (multi-level/multi-phase)
- 6 How transitions management can contribute to more effective river basin management (including transitions management theory and strategies)
- 7 The role of the European Water Framework Directive in water management and transitions management

The above will be demonstrated through applied research being carried out within the NeWater Project in a range of rivers basins facing a variety of challenges from drought to

flooding to water pollution, including the Nile (Central Africa), Orange (South Africa), Rhine, Elbe, Guadiana (Spain and Portugal), Tisza (Hungary, Czech Republic), and Amudarya (Uzbekistan). Instructors of the summer school are carrying applied research in adaptive management in the context of these river basins.

#### **4. Preliminary Programme**

(Specific programme with times to be announced by mid-April)

##### **A. Introduction to Transitions for Water Resources Management**

- 1) The need for change in water resources management and barriers to change
- 2) Climate change as a driver for transition in water management
- 3) Insights into what societal transitions are and the theory underpinning transitions management

##### **B. Methods for Transitions Management**

- 4) How transitions management can contribute to more effective river basin management
- 5) How to analyse transitions
  - Multi-level/multi-phase transitions
  - Uncertainty analysis
  - Foresight analysis and management
- 6) Importance of learning processes in facilitating change
  - Group model building
  - Participatory approaches
  - Role playing
- 7) Modelling and Transitions Management

##### **C. Transitions in Water Management in Practice**

- 8) Role of the European Water Framework Directive in water management and transitions management
- 9) From the practitioner's perspective (IUCN or other)

In addition, time slots will be made available for presentations by participants

#### **Confirmed Session Leaders**

Dr. Marcela Brugnach, Inst. of Environmental Systems Research, University of Osnabrück

Dr. Matt Hare, Independent Consultant, Germany

Dr. Alex Haxeltine, Tyndall Centre, University of East Anglia

Prof. Dr. Pavel Kabat, Alterra-Wageningen University

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Kinzelbach, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology

Prof. Dr. Claudia Pahl-Wostl, Inst. of Environmental Systems Research, University of Osnabrück

Prof. Dr. Jan Rotmans, Dutch Research Institute for Transitions, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Dr. David Tabara, Institut de Ciència i Tecnologia Ambientals, Autonomous University of Barcelona

Mr. Rutger van der Brugge, Dutch Research Institute for Transitions, Erasmus University Rotterdam

#### **4. Profile of Participants**

The summer school will include the participation of approximately 25 young academics, primarily PhD candidates, as well as several post-doctoral researchers and Master's level students, who are involved in interdisciplinary studies and/or research oriented towards addressing water management issues. This may include researchers in the fields of resource management, environmental science, ecology, environmental and civil engineering, regional planning, regional economics, geography, systems science, and related fields. It is expected that at least one-half of participants will be researchers involved in the NeWater Project.

#### **5. Importance of the Summer School**

The summer school on transitions to adaptive river basin management is already judged to be of prime importance among the 41 international partners (representing 12 EU countries and three non-EU countries: Uzbekistan, South Africa and Ukraine) of the NeWater project whose junior researchers and students have benefited from the concepts and skills being taught in summer schools, training courses and training exchanges. In addition, the experience of the previous TIAS summer schools indicates that there is considerable demand and growing interest among a community of young academics (including Masters students) who are engaged in resources and environmental studies and who recognise the importance of multi-disciplinary research that integrates the physical and social sciences.

#### **6. Accompanying Excursions**

There will be at least two excursions built into the programme. The first and most important is an excursion to water management institute, in the region where the summer school will be held, in order to demonstrate first-hand adaptive water management in practice. In such a visit, one or two practitioners (water managers) from the organisation will be asked to give a presentation first about the organisation and their activities (policies and practices) as they relate to river management, followed by a site visit (most likely several sites along the river). The cultural programme includes one excursion to a nearby organic vineyard and, if time and resources permit, the nearby city of Freiburg, known for its sustainable planning and development.