

## Venue

University Club (Universitätsclub Bonn e.V.)  
Konviktstr.9  
53113 Bonn, Germany

[www.uniclub-bonn.de](http://www.uniclub-bonn.de)

## Call for Abstracts

Abstracts which fit within any of the themes listed are invited until **1 June 2010**. Guidelines for submission of abstracts will soon be given at [www.gwsp.org](http://www.gwsp.org).

When submitting, please indicate the full name of the author, address and contact details and indicate under which theme you wish to present your work.

Consult the concept note at [www.gwsp.org](http://www.gwsp.org) for additional thematic guidance.

Authors of abstracts accepted for oral or poster presentations will be notified and will receive further guidelines for preparation of presentations, papers, and posters by **31 August 2010**.

## Fees & Registration

A conference fee of 200 € will be charged to cover lunches, coffee breaks, conference dinner, proceedings and the social event.

A limited number of scholarships can be applied for and student fee reductions will be available.

Online registration will commence on **10 May 2010** through [www.gwsp.org](http://www.gwsp.org).

A second circular with the draft program is foreseen for **1 October 2010**.

## The Global Water System Project (GWSP)

The Global Water System Project (GWSP) is a joint project of the Earth System Science Partnership (ESSP) which unites the four Global Environmental Change Programmes: the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), the International Human Dimensions Programme (IHDP), the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) and DIVERSITAS, an international programme of biodiversity science.

The central tenet of the GWSP is that human-induced changes to the water system are now global in extent, yet there is a lack of adequate understanding of how the system works and responds to disturbances, and how society can best adapt to rapidly evolving new system states.



## Global Water System Project Conference of the Global Catchment Initiative (GCI)

The Global Dimensions of Change  
in River Basins  
Threats, Linkages and Adaptation

6 – 8 December 2010  
University Club, Bonn, Germany

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## The Scientific Framework

The **Global Catchment Initiative (GCI)** is one of GWSP's three "Integrative Study Areas" aiming to expand the focus of river basin research and management to advance a more global perspective. It encourages researchers to address new research questions that move beyond the catchment level to highlight the relations to the wider global water system.

In addition, it seeks to advance the state of scientific understanding of the global water system through a worldwide comparative study of catchments, identifying regional feedbacks between the hydrologic system, the terrestrial environment, and the climate system. The Initiative also aims to better understand the linkages between changes in a river basin and decisions made outside the river basin by governments, companies and other institutions.

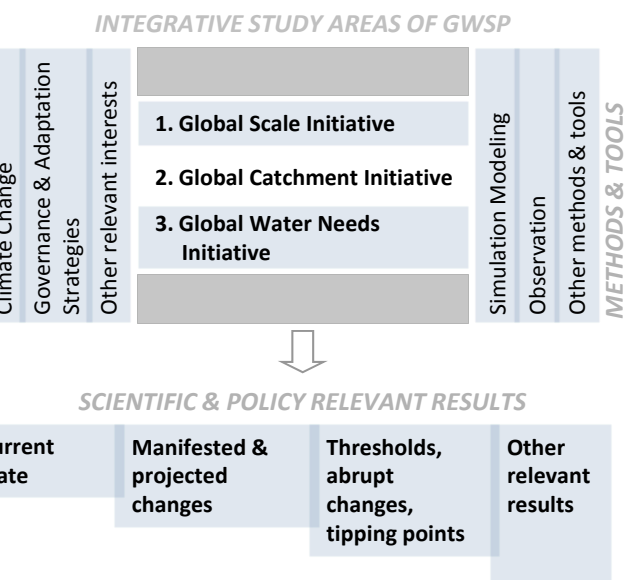


Figure 1.

GWSP's Integrative Study Areas are: 1) Global Scale Initiative  
2) Global Catchment Initiative and 3) Global Water Needs Initiative

## Objectives

An important new insight in river basin research and management is that water in its various forms "operates" in complex social, ecological and economic sectors forming an interlinked system of a much larger scale than an individual river basin or large aquifer. This new awareness of connectivities has spawned the concept of the "global water system", which in return bears important implications for upcoming research. The focus of research should move beyond river basins to seek sustainable solutions within the context of the global water system.

The aim of the conference is to review the state-of-the-art research, advance understanding and foster dialogue with professionals and policy makers concerning global aspects of river basins and their management.

In particular, this conference will focus on understanding the connection between changes in a river basin and driving forces originating outside of the basin, e.g. the impact of climate change on river basin water availability, or the influence of international food trade on land use and resulting hydrologic changes within a basin, or the impact of international financial institutions on the development of water infrastructure within particular river basins.

## Scope

The conference will bring together scientists, practitioners and young academics, promoting exchange and feedback between the various actors concerned with river basin research and management.

**The conference will involve plenary sessions, panel discussions, workshops and poster sessions. (Due to space limitation the number of participants cannot exceed 200).**

## Conference Themes

### Impact of global change on river basins

- Climate change impacts on river basins
- Impacts of large-scale land use patterns and demographic changes

### Long-distance connectivities and linkages of river basins

- Connectivities and linkages between river basins and the earth system
- Connectivities and linkages within river basins
- Virtual water flows between river basins

### The role of global governance in river basin management

- Impacts of national and international actors on river basin processes
- Influence of global and national governance on water resources in river basins

