



INFORMATION TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE  
WATER MANAGEMENT:  
FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL LEVELS

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Conference Secretariat Monitoring Tailor-Made IV  
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15-18 September 2003  
St. Michielsgestel The Netherlands



## INFORMATION TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT: FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL LEVELS

### Focus

Monitoring Tailor-Made IV is a conference dealing with strategies and practices for the collection and dissemination of information in support of integrated water resources management. It is the stage for scientists from different disciplines and policy makers alike and seeks to connect the different worlds of these groups. The conference, organised within the framework of the 1992 UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (UNECE Water Convention), aims to obtain new views on information in support of fair and equitable water management decision-making.

The previous MTM-conferences converged towards the need for multidisciplinary approaches and an overall integration of disciplines when dealing with information for integrated water resources management. This relates for instance to integration of surface water management and ground water management but is also connected to transboundary river basin management and coastal and marine water management.

Monitoring Tailor-Made IV will further build on this integrative idea and address the transition from multidisciplinary to interdisciplinary in integrated water resources management. The issue of spatial integration will be expanded to an overall global perspective where experiences from local and regional monitoring and assessment can be input for global assessments and vice versa. The spatial integration stretches out from freshwater to coastal zones and the marine environment.

You are invited to participate in this conference and share your experiences and knowledge. We welcome contributions deal-

ing with the themes mentioned below in an integrative way, integrating over disciplines, linking between different scales and connecting groundwater to surface water, and fresh water to salt water.

### Waters assessment programmes and international cooperation

Integrated water resources management requires assessments of the availability, use and status of water resources. Water resources management also faces problems of worldwide significance, as water scarcity grows, quality declines, environmental and social concerns mount and the threats posed by floods and drought are exacerbated by climate change. Therefore, cooperation is needed between countries and international organizations on different levels. On a basin scale, countries and international organizations work together in joint bodies to monitor and assess transboundary inland surface waters and groundwaters as well as coastal and marine waters. On a regional and global scale, countries and various international organizations or programmes also joined forces to deal with water resources assessments. Examples include regional activities, such as assessments under the UNECE Water Convention, EUROWATERNET of the European Environment Agency and joint assessment programmes of the marine conventions, and global programmes, such as the World Water Assessment Programme, the Global International Waters Assessment, the International Hydrological Programme, and the Global Environment Monitoring System, carried out under the auspices of UN bodies and programmes. This theme focuses on information for international cooperation. Possible questions to be addressed include: how is cooperation established and how does it function, and which are the experience and lessons learned from

these programmes and joint bodies on the institutional building, which are the main problems encountered, such as availability and comparability of data, and which are the tools, e.g. indicators, to make integrated assessments?

### Role and sources of information

Information is necessary, but does better information result in improved water resources management? Water resources management entails communication of information between institutions and people having diverse cultures and beliefs, different disciplines and agendas. Moreover, integrated assessment requires a diversity of both socio-economic as well as water resources information that may or may not be available. Also, information from different disciplines is collected on different scales while coordination between disciplines is lacking. Ample forethought of the need for specific information can reduce the drawbacks of these aspects, but will not be the sole solution. This theme will focus on the role of information in integrated water resource management; how to define information needs, how to address the proper audience, how to reduce boundaries between disciplines, how to coordinate between scales, and how to improve utilisation of information in decision making. It will also deal with questions like: What data are available and how are they structured, and how does this meet the assessment needs?

### Indicators for integrated assessment

Policy makers have to resolve between different often conflicting water uses and ecological integrity of water systems, generally compacted in the trade-off between economic, sociologic and ecological values and demands. The decisions should be supported by integrated information that allows for such trade-offs. Indicators are used in many assessments as a means to reduce the volume of information and to provide improved support for decision making. However,

some indicators are successful, while others fail to provide the information wanted. This theme focuses on the needs of the policy maker and how he/she can be provided with integrated information through the use of indicators. The theme will also focus on the development of indicators on different scales; local, regional and global, and indicators for different purposes; resource indicators, but also policy progress indicators. The various methodological approaches (like the DPSIR framework) and the methodological merits and demerits of the used approaches on the various scales will be discussed as well as the possibilities to aggregate and disaggregate between the scales.

### Public participation: processes, methodology and institutional change

The importance of involving stakeholders and/or the public in water management, so-called public participation, is often raised and included in documents like the Guiding Principles of the 1992 Dublin Conference, the 1998 UNECE Aarhus Convention, and the EU Water Framework Directive. Despite this wide recognition of public participation as a key principle for water management, its implementation is problematic. This theme will focus on approaches to promote public and/or stakeholder involvement in the development and implementation of water policy and the implications of this involvement for the demand for and use of information. Aspects to be discussed are (1) the way participation processes could work, like who should be involved, when should they be involved and at what scale should they be involved; (2) methodologies like citizen juries, expert panel, focus groups, and communication tools to support the process; and (3) the consequences this will have for institutional arrangements. The emphasis in this theme should be on the provisions for the information and the information production process (defining information needs, data collection and information dissemination) that supports these participatory processes.



# PROGRAMME

The programme of the conference will consist of invited and contributed papers and discussion sessions. There will be a special poster session included in the programme. Several parallel sessions will be held. The working language of the conference will be English.

### Submission of abstracts

Papers that fit into one of the themes of the conference are welcomed. You are kindly asked to follow the layout requirements when you prepare your abstract. Please, send in the abstract together with the reply form, on which you indicate the theme you would like your abstract to be grouped in. The Conference Secretariat should receive your abstract before 15 February 2003. Authors are expected to present their papers at the conference.

### Lay-out requirements

- Abstracts should be submitted digitally by e-mail or diskette;
- Abstracts should be typed with single spacing;
- Margins are left/right: 2,0/2,0 cm and top/bottom: 1,5/1,5 cm
- The title is in 14 point font BOLD CAPITAL LETTERS, subtitle and text must be in 12 point font;
- Abstract text may not exceed 1000 words;
- All the names of the authors should be mentioned, the name of the presenting author underlined;
- Name of organisation with full address;

- Text, symbols and graphs in black ink;
- All abstracts should be in English.

All authors will receive a confirmation of receipt. In April 2003 they will receive a letter of acceptance or rejection. Acceptance of a paper in no way implies that the organisation assumes any responsibility for the registration fee. All accepted abstracts will be made available on internet and will be printed in a book of abstracts. All accepted authors will be asked to submit a full paper, which will be included in the proceedings to be printed after the conference

### Deadline and important dates

#### 15 February 2003

Deadline of submission of abstracts

#### April 2003

Notification of acceptance/rejection

#### May 2003

Final announcement/registration

## REPLY CARD CONFERENCE MONITORING TAILOR-MADE IV, 15-18 SEPTEMBER 2003

M/F Initials: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please, send me the final announcement/registration form in May 2003

I would like to submit an abstract for

oral presentation

poster presentation

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this reply card, together with your abstract, before 15 February 2003.

### SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

A. Aureli	UNESCO - International Hydrological Programme, France
W.P. Cofino (Chairman)	Institute for Inland Water Management and Waste Water Treatment (RIZA), Netherlands
D. Daler	UNEP - Global International Waters Assessment, Sweden
F. Bernardini	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Switzerland
P. Heinonen	Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), Finland
Ph. Ross	United States Environmental Protection Agency, USA
N. Thyssen	European Environmental Agency, Denmark
J.G. Timmerman	Institute for Inland Water Management and Waste Water Treatment (RIZA), Netherlands
R.K. Turner	CSERGE, University of East Anglia, United Kingdom
C.J.M. van Ruiten	National Institute for Coastal and Marine Management (RIKZ), Netherlands
R.C. Ward	Colorado Water Resources Research Institute, USA
G. Young	UNESCO - World Water Assessment Programme, France

### ORGANISING COMMITTEE

P.F. Heinen	Institute for Inland Water Management and Waste Water Treatment (RIZA), Netherlands
L. Meusing	National Institute for Coastal and Marine Management (RIKZ), Netherlands
H.J.M. Oosterwijk	National Institute for Coastal and Marine Management (RIKZ), Netherlands
H. Ruiten (Chairman)	Institute for Inland Water Management and Waste Water Treatment (RIZA), Netherlands
J.G. Timmerman	Institute for Inland Water Management and Waste Water Treatment (RIZA), Netherlands



STAMP

## Conference Secretariat Monitoring Tailor-Made IV

**IWAC**  
P.O. Box 17  
8200 AA Lelystad  
The Netherlands



## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Organising Committee of the conference has chosen to limit the number of participants to 175. If necessary, the Committee reserves the right to make a final selection, based on the diversity of the issues discussed and the various participating organisations and countries.

### Registration

Registration fee for the conference will be known in the final announcement. This fee will include the following:

- participation in the conference
- hotel accommodation for 4 nights
- breakfast, lunch and dinner
- coffee and tea during official breaks
- excursion
- attendance of social activities

More detailed information will be included in the final announcement. Please, fill out the enclosed reply card and return it to the Conference Secretariat before 15 February 2003; you will receive the final announcement in May.

### Location and date

The Conference will take place at "de Ruwenberg", St. Michielsgestel, The Netherlands, from 15 to 18 September 2003. The accommodation is situated in a green part of the country, a very nice area for a meeting like this.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:



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Internet: <http://www.mtm-conference.nl>

### ORGANISED BY:



Institute for Inland Water Management and Waste Water Treatment (RIZA), Netherlands

National Institute for Coastal and Marine Management (RIKZ), Netherlands

### IN CO-OPERATION WITH:



UNESCO – World Water Assessment Programme, France



International Water Assessment Centre (IWAC), Netherlands