



## WP 4: Summary of the Watersketch-Workshops on European Water Framework Directive and Sustainable River Basin Management

14th December 2005  
TuTech Innovation Hamburg

### Introduction

The European Water Framework Directive (EU-WFD) and Sustainable River Basin Management (SRBM) are closely connected with each other and need to be discussed together with experts in this field. These two combined workshops were organised and held at TuTech Innovation in Hamburg on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2005 to provide a discussion platform. Training was held in German language. The workshops act as pilot trainings for further events in the other partner countries in 2006.

### Aims

- Information of participants about latest trends and perspectives of the EU-WFD.
- Exchange of experience between ministries, universities and institutes
- Promotion of the initiatives of Watersketch

### Programme

The programme of the workshops followed a simple structure: each consisted of two expert presentations with questions and answers and after both a longer discussion of half an hour. The key results were identified and discussed in the forum.

- 8:30 Registration and coffee
- 9:00 Welcome (Prof. Walter Leal, TuTech, Irene Lucius, EUCC)
- 9:10 Watersketch in Hamburg: Regional approaches for a sustainable river basin management (Susanne Heise, Technical University of Hamburg-Harburg and TuTech)

#### **Workshop 1: The European Water Framework Directive**

- 9:30 EU-WFD – Monitoring programme 2007/2008 for water bodies in Hamburg (Burkhard Stachel Ministry of City Development and the Environment, Hamburg)
- 10:00 Cooperation between the federal states: Implementation of the WFD in the tidal area of the River Elbe (Thomas Gaumert, Wassergütestelle Elbe, Hamburg)
- 10:30 DISCUSSION 1
- 11:00 Coffee break

#### **Workshop 2: Sustainable river basin management**

- 11:30 Sediments in spur dikes in the Elbe – what is to respect regarding quality components of the WFD? (Dr. René Schwartz, Technical University of Hamburg-Harburg)
- 12:00 The ICARM Marker, a measure for the progress in integrated Coastal Area and River Management (Irene Lucius, EUCC - The Coastal Union)
- 12:30 DISCUSSION 2
- 13:00 Lunch and closure

## Results

The participants were informed about the latest trends and state of WFD implementation in Hamburg and the upper Elbe River. The aims and contents of the Watersketch project were delivered to an interested audience of NGOs and GOs. Lively discussions led to an exchange of expertise. Resulting from these discussions, 6 main lessons were learned:

### **1) Communication needs to be improved between a) NGOs and GOs, b) institutions on the federal and the regional level, c) with the public.**

Although NGOs are already invited to participate in the WFD and river management process, there are still gaps in communication. The same holds for communication and cooperation of institutions on different administrative levels, notably federal government institutions and institutions of the regions (Länder). Last not least, the public needs to be better informed. Watersketch can contribute to better communication by moderating discussions and informing the key players in a targeted manner where needed.

### **2) Watersketch should disseminate its results to politicians in a targeted, strategic manner**

Watersketch results will be readily available in form of a decision support tool. Although, this tool will be made available to politicians, it is not very likely that they will take the time to study and apply it. Consequently, results should be made available in a form that is attractive for politicians and distributed in a targeted manner (e.g. during an attractive event, e.g. a boat trip). The interest of politicians can also be raised by pressure from an informed public. Therefore, a public information strategy about results of Watersketch will have this indirect effect.

### **3) Conservation of maritime landscape and culture heritage**

Hamburg and its region are rich in cultural heritage which has imprinted its landscape. Lighthouses, small harbours, fisheries traditions create a landscape people can identify with. Conserving this cultural landscape through careful planning and management needs to become an additional objective of Watersketch and should be included as an aspect in the analysis and the decision support tool.

### **4) Integrated planning, taking connected water bodies and floodplains into account**

For Hamburg, the harbour is of central interest and importance and consequently plays an important role in the case study. However, sustainable management should take connected water bodies into due account. The areas surrounding the connected water bodies are used in a multi-faceted way. If the many forms of uses of these areas – from recreation to housing, industry, transport etc – are not being managed in an integrated fashion, conflicts of interest, in particular with biodiversity conservation values – will be the consequence. Urban planners in Hamburg are on a good way to reaching this goal with their concepts of urban land use planning and city planning (e.g. concepts to increase infiltration areas), but more needs to be done.

### **5) Information management and knowledge transfer**

Workshops and seminars like this should deliver Watersketch knowledge to a wider public. Additionally, the ministries and scientific institutes should make their information publicly available and easily accessible in a continuous fashion. Although attempts have been made to achieve this, they are usually limited to a certain project period and then discontinued. Watersketch should use its influence to underline the importance of these databases here and in the European Union.

### **6) Pilot implementation of ICARM marker**

The ICARM marker was presented at the workshop. It is an indicator for measuring progress in integrated (sustainable) coastal area and river management developed and promoted under the auspices of UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme). The ICARM marker has been developed by EUCC - The European Coastal Union in cooperation with an American expert. It is presently being tested all around the world. In certain circumstances, it can be used by Watersketch, as tool for evaluating progress in the case studies, as an awareness raising event for sustainable river management, or to foster better cooperation and coordination of stakeholders in sustainable river management. For Hamburg, there are two levels: the whole river Elbe or only the Elbe in Hamburg. Experts like today should come together and discuss where progress has been achieved and where more work needs to be done, using the ICARM marker methodology.

## Participants

Name	Firstname	Institution	E-Mail
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**Hamburg, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2005**

Irene Lucius, EUCC – The Coastal Union

Dörte Lange, TuTech Innovation, Watersketch co-ordination for Hamburg