



EUROPE UPDATE – ERA-NET RESEARCH CALLS

Two ERA-Nets with which SNIFFER is actively involved have opened their first calls for research.



The URBAN-NET project coordinated by SNIFFER, will issue its first call for research proposals between 15 January 2008 and 15 April 2008. Representing a major milestone for the project the call demonstrates that the URBAN-NET partners are ready to deepen their collaboration and offer transnational research opportunities.

Research consortia will be invited to elaborate a research problem from the wide framework of sustainable urban development. The main topics for research are the interactions *between* urban functions and sectors (e.g. economy; environment; housing) rather than developing more sustainable approaches *within* them. *The resilient city* is an example of such a crosscutting theme integrating the economic, social/ cultural and ecological dimensions of sustainability and demanding a multidisciplinary approach. Further examples are outlined in the preliminary thematic urban research framework developed by URBAN-NET.

There will be two types of call:

- Full research projects for duration up to two years.
- Shorter pre-research activities, e.g. activities preparing the way for research. It could be arranging a conference, workshops or seminars or writing a literature review, state of the

this first call. The management of the call is by one of the URBAN-NET partners - the Swedish Research Council Formas at www.formas.se through their "formas direct" facility.

More information will be available from the URBAN-NET website www.urban-net.org



IWRM-Net's first call for research – involves two subject areas:

- hydro-morphology and
- water governance.

The closing date for bids is the 28th February. For more information visit www.iwrM-net.org

With the Environment Agency leading the UK involvement in this first joint call, SNIFFER has started to look towards the future and how it will develop any further joint calls or collaborations. A series of small regional workshops are planned around Europe, (Valencia, Stockholm and Bucharest) to identify research needs but also to broaden our network and get more people involved in IWRM-net discussions.

Map of research programmes

The new year will see SNIFFER publish a map of research programmes across Europe that are related to integrated water resource management.

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New Briefing Sheets Knowledge Exchange & Dissemination Flyer



For stakeholders, SNIFFER has produced an overview of its Knowledge Exchange and Dissemination service. A copy of this document can be downloaded as a pdf from here www.sniffer.org.uk/whats_new.asp

SNIFFER Staff Update

Some readers will be aware that we have three members of staff on maternity leave: Research Managers Vanessa Kind and Fiona Mactaggart and Northern Ireland Business Development Manager, Diane Foster.

During their absence, Gina Martin will take responsibility for Flood Risk Management and Environmental Regulation assisted by new employee, Amber Moss, who joined SNIFFER in November.

art or an application that could be used in the final URBAN-NET call or in FP7, etc.

Currently, URBAN-NET partners from Sweden, France, The Netherlands, Romania, Turkey, Cyprus, Portugal and Bulgaria are jointly funding

For more information please contact: Stephen Midgley IWRM-Net Project Coordinator SNIFFER.

Email Stephen@sniffer.org.uk
www.iwrm-net.eu

Rebecca Kelly will pick up a portfolio of WFD and UK regulation projects.

Business Development matters in Northern Ireland and the Republic will be handled by Trevor Elliott and Ruth Wolstenholme.

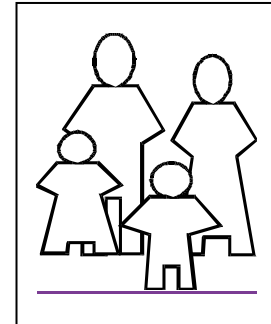
SNIFFER chosen for SESEG/SESEN secretariat role

SNIFFER has been appointed to provide the secretariat function of Scottish Environment Social Evidence Group / Scottish Environment Social Evidence Network (the SESEG/SESEN project).

The aim of the SESEG/SESEN project is to bring strategic direction to the generation of social and economic research in Scotland. It will do this in relation to the development of environmental policy, with a particular focus on providing policy makers with the socio-economic indicators to measure progress towards key policy targets.

SNIFFER's secretariat role will help co-ordinating social research and environmental issues in Scotland.

The SESEG/SESEN project will become the forum and focal point for the producers and users of social and economic research in Scotland. Particular benefits for this community will stem from improved knowledge transfer, collaborative working, more effective use of evidence and through tackling cross-cutting issues.



SESEG/SESEN PROJECT

For more information please contact Elliot Robertson – email

seseg@sniffer.org.uk

UK TAG Stakeholder Workshop

A very successful workshop, hosted by UK TAG, was recently held in Birmingham to present the mitigation measures that would define Good Ecological Potential (GEP) for Heavily Modified Water Bodies (HMWB) and Artificial Modified Water Bodies (AWB) under the Water Framework Directive

Presentations described the results of trialing work in five sectors: ports, inland navigation, water resources, hydropower and flood risk management. This work was carried out in partnership with the agencies and regulators throughout the UK in order to classify HMWBs, and AWBs.

Copies of the presentations can be found at: www.wfduk.org/st_workshops/

Further information can also be obtained by contacting UKTG co-ordinator, Janet Cowden on janet@sniffer.org.uk

UK TAG – holds joint workshop with the Water Working Group of the German Federal States

Entitled "From Monitoring to Programmes of Measures" this workshop held in Brussels and involving 80 national experts, was hosted by the United Kingdom Technical Advisory Group (UKTAG) and Länderarbeitsgemeinschaft Wasser – LAWA) the Water Working Group of the German Federal States.

The event provided an excellent opportunity to exchange information of the key issues relating to the implementation of WFD in both countries and covered:

- Different approaches for the use of environmental standards
- How environmental objectives will be set
- Current status of work on Programmes of Measures

More information can be found at :

www.ecologic-events.de/wfd2007/en/index.htm

Or by contacting SNIFFER's UK Tag Co-ordinator, Janet Cowden at Janet@sniffer.org.uk

Established in 1994, SNIFFER is a private company and registered charity dedicated to increasing knowledge to protect the environment and improve quality of life. SNIFFER's corporate objectives are:

- the protection, conservation and amelioration of the environment for public benefit, including improved wellbeing and quality of life;

the facilitation of the active engagement of relevant sectors of society, including government and industry, in the consideration of the environment and sustainable development; and the identification of knowledge gaps, the promotion of research and the dissemination and exchange of knowledge from such research and activities undertaken and advancement of education.

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