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SNIFFER *'e' bulletin*

www.sniffer.org.uk

Issue 10 –
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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Since the last e-bulletin, SNIFFER has published new reports that are now available to download from the SNIFFER website. Just click on each title to view these projects.

- **UKCC12** - Scoping Study for Public Body Biodiversity Guidance
- **UKCC09** - Strategic Environment Assessment - Guidance for practitioners on how to consider air, water and soil, see www.seaguidance.org.uk
- **UKCC21** - Climate Change Land Management and Erosion in the Organic and Organo-mineral Soils & Organic Carbon Stocks in Scotland and Northern Ireland
- **UKCC20** - Targeted risk based approaches to compliance assessment

Useful links

- [Research Information Service for Flood Risk Management \(RISE\)](#)
- [Water Framework Directive UK TAG](#)
- [WFD Visual](#)
- [WFD Research Database](#)
- [URBAN-NET project](#)
- [Integrated Water Resource Management](#)
- [Scottish Climate Change Impacts Partnership](#)

Enhanced SCCIP Service



Scottish Climate Change Impacts Partnership

The Scottish Climate Change Impacts Partnership (SCCIP) team has grown to fulfill an expanded remit to support climate change adaptation activity in Scotland. The Partnership is managed at SNIFFER by Julian Holbrook who continues his involvement from an earlier phase of the project. New to the team are Lorraine FitzGerald who has joined as Private Sector Officer, and Joe Hagg who is the Technical Advisor. Anna Beswick joins soon as Public Sector Officer.

The team is gearing up to provide broad practical and technical support to the public and private sectors in Scotland on adaptation planning measures. Much of the early work will be helping practitioners understand and interpret the recently released [UKCP09 climate change projections](#), to inform specific work functions within these sectors. To assist with this SCCIP together with UKCIP in association with the Met Office is hosting a series of events from 16th – 20th November. For more information on these events visit <http://bookwhen.com/sccipevents>

Work will continue on further development of the already successful [Local Climate Impact Profiles \(LCLIPs\)](#) that have been developed for a number of local authorities. Other work areas that the team will cover include supporting the Scottish Government in delivering key actions within Scotland's Adaptation Framework and delivering customized training and guidance.

For more information contact julian@sniffer.org or visit the website www.sccip.org.uk



IWRM-NET updates

Second call to close soon.

The second IWRM-net joint call was launched earlier this year by 9 European Member States, covering water and climate change, water scarcity and drought and environmental economics for water management. For more information visit www.iwrn-net.eu. Proposals are due in on the 15th October and decisions on funding will be made by early 2010.

International workshop on Wetlands.

Organised by SNIFFER and hosted by the RAMSAR convention Secretariat in Gland, Switzerland the event will bring together European wetland managers to investigate research needs for wetland management and links to the Water Framework Directive. In preparing the research priorities for the second call wetlands was raised an issue but not taken forward. IWRM-net took this idea, which has support from SEPA and other European environment agencies, to help develop an informal network and the ability of IWRM-net to take forward ideas on a small scale. This pilot subject will facilitate the already active network of research managers and aims to share information and potentially fund wetlands research projects in 2010.

For more information please contact Stephen Midgley, Stephen@sniffer.org.uk, +44 131 524 0971

New Climate Change Project ideas

SNIFFER recently held a workshop with its members to determine priority projects within the climate change topic area. From a short list of 15 projects six were nominated for working up into more complete proposals. These are;

- Measuring and modelling of agricultural and associated land use GHG emissions
- Carbon Accounting
- Climate Change Indicators
- Impact of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (has the ETS resulted in carbon reductions?)
- Industry Workshop (to share current and new technological innovations in industrial due to carbon reduction drivers)
- Workshop to identify how deployment of tidal technologies will effect regulatory agencies

SNIFFER is working with its members and is inviting interest from other partners to collaborate on these. For more information contact Paul@sniffer.org.uk

European Urban Research Opportunities

URBAN-NET will be launching a second call for transnational research proposals late October 2009. The call theme is **climate change, sustainable land-use and integrated management in an urban context** with 3 sub-themes on i) urban response to global challenges; ii) urban structure and processes; and iii) managing urban change. The call will be announced on the URBAN-NET website at www.urban-net.org

Progress on the 11 projects funded under the first URBAN-NET call will inform discussions on the **added value** and **integrated approach** of transnational research on urban sustainability at the next **URBAN-NET stakeholder workshop** 17th and 18th November 2009 in Stockholm.

The funded projects, covering themes such as climate change, energy, governance and resilient cities, illustrate the vast and complex research field of urban sustainable development. Researchers, funders, managers, policy-makers and practitioners will discuss the benefits and challenges of transnational cooperation in terms of added value and an integrated approach.

- What is added value at the European level, what does it signify at national, regional and local levels? How can differences in culture, geography, expertise, funding etc. bring added value?
- An integrated approach is imperative in sustainable urban planning and management. How can transnational research support integration in respect of the different disciplines, sectors and professionals; the differing tiers of governance and the differences in space, time and in economic and social well-being which are all consequent on the urban totality?

If you would like more information on the research call or the stakeholder workshop please contact june@sniffer.org.uk



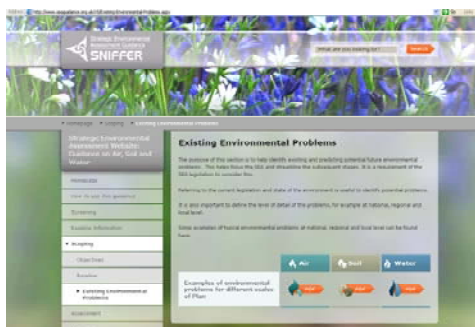
SNIFFER launches Strategic Environmental Assessment guidance on Air, Soil and Water

On September 21, SNIFFER launched www.seaguidance.org.uk, a website containing guidance for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) practitioners to help them take account of air, soil and water.

The guidance makes it easy for SEA practitioners to consider air, soil and water issues in an effective and resource efficient way. It adds value to existing SEA guidance published by Government Departments, and highlights and promotes good/best practice. It is aimed at SEA practitioners in Scotland and Northern Ireland but much of the guidance should also be useful for practitioners in the rest of the UK and also in Europe.



The project was funded by SNIFFER's Environmental Regulation programme of research, with delivery overseen by a project steering group from SEPA, NIEA, the Environment Agency, SNIFFER and Historic Scotland. The research reports for the guidance were produced for SNIFFER by EnviroCentre and can be downloaded at www.sniffer.org.uk (project search: UKCC09). The research reports have been adapted for the web by SEPA, with support from SNIFFER and web-design by Lewis Creative Consultants.



Environmental Regulation Programme – recent workshops

ER06

A workshop to develop a competency matrix for radioactive substances staff in the three UK environment agencies (in support of Environmental Regulation Programme [project ER06](#)) was held in July. It was attended by 16 invited participants from across the three UK environment agencies.

The purpose of this workshop was to develop a detailed understanding and a comprehensive list of the competencies applicable across the UK environment agencies for working with radioactive

UKCC14

SNIFFER facilitated a workshop to examine the use of environmental limits (EL) in regulating environmental systems (in support of Environmental Regulation Programme [project UKCC14](#)) was held in September. This workshop was the first SNIFFER workshop to be simultaneously held in three locations (Edinburgh, Belfast and London), connected to each other via video-conference. A total of 26 participants from NIEA/DOENI, SEPA, Scottish Government, Defra, Macaulay Institute, SNH and EnviroCentre (project

substances.

The workshop discussions will be fed into the final project outputs. The final project outputs (report and a comprehensive competency matrix) will enable the environment agencies to ensure they have appropriate training and development schemes in place.

contractor) attended the event.

The aim of the workshop was to increase participants' understanding of what environmental limits (EL) are and how they can be used in regulatory decision making.

The goals of the workshop were to:

Explore views on current implementation of ELs.
Explore views on obstacles to implementation of ELs.
Establish whether regulators consider there is a need for guidance on EL (soil protection and/or generic).

Sustainable Economics Research Ideas

A workshop on sustainable economics was held by SNIFFER in September to determine collaborative research proposals. Four projects were prioritised to be worked up into proposals. These are;

- Measuring the contribution to the economy and growth potential from the green/sustainable sector
- A Carbon Road Test: Implementing the Carbon appraisal guidance
- Environmental Goods and Services Sector: Case Studies to Demonstrate Economic Benefits
- Valuing Ecosystem services and costs of degradation and mitigation

SNIFFER is working with its members and is inviting interest from other partners to collaborate on these. For more information contact vanessa@sniffer.org.uk



SNIFFER is pleased to announce that we are once again a supporting partner of the Rushlight Awards, which is now open for entries.

The event, now in its 3rd year, has recently been accredited by the RSA and so it is one of a handful of feeder schemes for the European Business Awards for the Environment

The Rushlight Awards are a promotion and celebration of the significant achievements of organisations developing technology and innovations in renewable energy, clean fuels, power generation, water, waste and pollution management. They are a community which is providing support for the further development of clean technology and improved environmental standards.

There are 28 initial categories with every entry having the chance to win up to a further 2 awards, including the prestigious overall Rushlight Award, which will be presented at a Gala Dinner at the Grand Connaught Rooms, London on 28 January 2010

To find out more and to enter the awards, go to www.rushlightawards.co.uk or contact Eventure Media on 020 8870 9345.

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

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