



SNIFFER 'e' bulletin

Issue 8 –
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New SNIFFER website now live at
www.sniffer.org.uk

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

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

- **UKCC22** - Differential social impacts of climate change in the UK. See below for more details about this project.
- **UKCC19** - Better Regulation - Rethinking the approach for SMEs
- **UKLQ09** - Human Health and the Environmental Impact of Using Sewage Sludge on Forestry and for Restoration of Derelict Land
- **UKLQ10** - Prioritisation of closed landfill sites for environmental monitoring
- **WFD99** - Lake habitat survey Phase 3
- **WFD49f** - Development of a decision making framework for managing alterations to the morphology of lakes
- **WFD94** - WFD and catchment restoration - scoping project
- **UEUW02** - SUDS Pollution Degradation
- **UEUB02** - Development of a methodology for predicting the impact of demographic change and urban development on biodiversity

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

Staff updates

Paul Sizeland has moved internally and is now Programme Manager for the Sustainable Places topic area.

June Graham has joined us on a 2 year secondment from SEPA as URBAN-NET Project Manager.

We have a new Research Coordinator - **Rebecca Williams** who is working on Environmental Regulation.

Fiona Mactaggart has moved on to SEPA, working on their Flooding programme,

Differential Social Impacts of Climate Change in the UK - report now published

Research on the differential social impacts of climate change in the UK has now been published.

The research, which was undertaken by CAG Consultants, draws attention to the link between climate and welfare, and scopes out national and local actions that redress the balance for those disproportionately affected by climate change. It provides a literature review and social impacts framework that recommends a number of key adaptation responses for government, agencies and community leaders.

Key findings of the work include that community empowerment is critical to building capacity to adapt to climate change, clear and consistent messages on climate change are needed, and climate change demands an integrated response to mitigation and adaptation, with action supporting the wider goals of sustainable development.

[Go to the reports](#)

Helping to protect wetlands – development of a new wetlands typology for Scotland

Wetlands can be sensitive to abstractions, impoundments and pollution discharges, so regulators must consider the sensitivities of wetlands in planning and regulatory decisions. To do this, regulatory staff (who may be non-ecologists) need to be able to quickly identify different wetland types and assess their sensitivity to any proposed regulatory changes.

Existing wetland classification schemes are either too detailed or too general to support this assessment, so **SNIFFER has recently commissioned Entec to develop a basic functional wetlands typology (project code WFD95)**. The typology will allow non-ecologists to identify a limited series of wetlands categories in the field to then assess the sensitivities to proposed regulated activities. It will be developed for Scotland, but is likely to be applicable for wetlands in England and Wales too. The project is due for completion in May 2009.



Are you a national research funder based in the UK interested in collaborating with other national research funders in Europe on research activities in the field of urban sustainability?

If so you may be interested in attending a Funders' Call meeting in Paris on 18th and 19th February to discuss funding themes and approaches for an URBAN-NET research call in September 2009. Discussions will centre around four priority themes:

- Integrated urban management and city leadership
- Sustainable land-use in poly-centric city regions
- Climate Change in the urban context
- Health, quality of life and public spaces.

We will also be holding a stakeholder workshop on opportunities for joint research activities on 31st March/1st April 2009 in The Hague. Such opportunities might include research programmes/projects, dissemination events, preparing proposals, sharing research best practice. An initiative is under way within URBAN-NET to develop transnational research collaborations within Europe.

URBAN-NET, coordinated by SNIFFER, is a consortium of European funding agencies including research councils and ministries which aims to stimulate and coordinate transnational research funding and collaboration to address some of the most pressing urban sustainability issues in Europe.

Contact june@sniffer.org.uk for more information about the call meeting or the stakeholder workshop.

For more information on URBAN-NET visit www.urban-net.org.uk

IWRM-Net update

Within the IWRM-Net project the partners are progressing towards the launch of the second call for research, due in October 2009. SNIFFER is working to develop the scientific specification and has been closely involved with the Office of Water in Limoges to bring online a Forum for discussion of the research needs and to make the process as transparent as possible.

The IWRM-Community website is available now by logging onto www.IWRM-net.eu and visiting the community section where you will then be asked to register. We welcome suggestions for its development and hope by the end of the project we will have created a valuable tool for facilitating the collaborative research funding between members states on water management. This website will also bring together the information SNIFFER has collected through its series of small regional workshops investigation research needs across Europe.

The next IWRM meeting is the mid-term event in Brussels where external organizations have been invited to join the partners to look at a number of issues, in particular the science policy interface. The event will also be the first opportunity to hear about the research funded by the first joint call from the scientists undertaking the work. If you are interested in proceedings from the event then please contact Peter Allen-Williams at Peter.Allen-williams@environment-agency.gov.uk



Scottish Climate Change Impacts Partnership

Full details on this partnership are available via the SCCIP website www.sccip.org.uk. The January newsletter has just been issued. If you wish to add your name to the mailing list or send news items for the February edition, please send contact details to sccip@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.

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