



First Announcement of Workshop

Uncertainty in data and models: On the way to operational use in environmental management

Brussels, September 21, 2006

Uncertainty in data, databases and models has been addressed in a number of research projects in the Catchment modelling cluster "CatchMod". These projects are funded by the European Commission under the Fifth Framework Programme. One project dealing in particular with uncertainty and data is HarmoniRiB: "Harmonised Techniques and Representative River Basin Data for Assessment and Use of Uncertainty Information in Integrated Water Management". The HarmoniRiB partners organise a workshop with the overall objective to discuss the importance of uncertainty and the available operational tools with respect to the implementation of the Water Framework Directive and related water resources management fields. During the workshop strategies of key European policy organisations will be highlighted, and the contributions of HarmoniRiB towards development of concepts and tools for handling uncertainty in data, databases and models will be presented. Contributions from other CatchMod research projects on this issue will also be presented.

The workshop will be hosted by the European Commission in Brussels on Thursday September 21st 2006. The background, objectives and programme are provided below.

The workshop is open and without registration fee, but with room for a limited number of participants. For those who are interested in receiving more information please send the attached form to Mrs. Kirsten Bache (Email: kba@geus.dk)

We look forward to seeing you in Brussels September 21st.

Jens Christian Refsgaard
Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (GEUS)
HarmoniRiB Co-ordinator

HarmoniRiB – Harmonised Techniques and Representative River Basin Data for Assessment and Use of Uncertainty Information in Integrated Water Management – www.harmonirib.com

HarmoniRiB is a research project supported by the European Commission under the Fifth Framework Programme and contributing to the implementation of the Key Action "Sustainable Management and Quality of Water" within the Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development Programme. Contract no: EVK1-CT-2002-00109.

Why should you attend this workshop

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) requires that integrated water resources management is carried out in international river basins and that the underlying Programmes of Measures and River Basin Management Plans are based on best possible confidence. Good data and credible integrated models are therefore crucial for the WFD implementation. Most of the WFD guidance documents emphasise that uncertainty analyses should be performed, but do not include recommendations on how to do so. Hence, there is a need to develop guidelines and operational tools that can address uncertainties in data and models. A pre-requisite for the useful application of such tools is the possibility to store uncertainties and associated meta-information and metadata to facilitate uncertainty assessment. Databases that can hold such information are not on the market. Furthermore, databases have traditionally been established on a national basis for different sectors or domains (meteorology, hydrology, ecology, economics, etc.). For the WFD implementation there is a need for an integrated approach to data including databases that ‘speaks a common language’ and can be understood without ambiguity across domains and across countries.

The workshop will focus on uncertainty in data and models within water resources management. Policies and status of key European policy organisations will be highlighted, and the contributions of the EU FP5 project HarmoniRiB towards development of concepts and tools for handling uncertainty in data and models will be presented. Furthermore selected results from other EU research projects in the CATCHMOD cluster will be presented.

Objectives of Workshop

- To discuss the importance of uncertainty among water resources policy makers, practitioners and researchers with respect to the WFD implementation as well as to related fields such as Earth Observatories, spatial management, etc.
- To present and discuss operational tools for handling uncertainty in data and models.
- To outline the need for future database functionality and discuss the limitations in the current database designs for adequately supporting water management functions.

Target Audience

The workshop aims at attracting attendance from policy makers, practitioners and researchers involved in implementation of the Water Framework Directive and related policies.

Programme – 21st September 2006

| Time | Presentation |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 9 ⁰⁰ - 10 ⁰⁰ | Registration and coffee |
| 10 ⁰⁰ – 10 ¹⁵ | Welcome (DG RTD) |
| 10 ¹⁵ – 10 ⁴⁰ | Uncertainty in water resources management (HarmoniRiB) |
| 10 ⁴⁰ – 11 ⁰⁵ | Uncertainty in the WFD implementation (HarmoniRiB) |
| 11 ⁰⁵ – 11 ²⁵ | Coffee |
| 11 ²⁵ – 11 ⁴⁵ | The DUE tool for characterising and assessing data uncertainty (HarmoniRiB) |
| 11 ⁴⁵ – 12 ⁰⁵ | Design of a water and information system for future needs (HarmoniRiB) |
| 12 ⁰⁵ – 12 ⁴⁵ | Introduction to CatchMod posters (Project leaders) |
| 12 ⁴⁵ – 13 ⁴⁵ | Lunch |
| 13 ⁴⁵ – 14 ⁰⁰ | Challenges in WFD implementation (DG ENV) |
| 14 ⁰⁰ – 14 ¹⁵ | Data and databases in WISE (DG JRC) |
| 14 ¹⁵ – 14 ³⁰ | Perspectives of handling uncertainty in European data (EEA) |
| 14 ³⁰ – 15 ⁰⁰ | Coffee |
| 15 ⁰⁰ – 15 ¹⁵ | Data storage and uncertainty seen from a GEO/GMES perspective (GEO) |
| 15 ¹⁵ – 16 ⁰⁰ | Discussion |
| 16 ⁰⁰ - 16 ¹⁵ | Closing remarks (DG RTD) |

The HarmoniRiB Consortium

The HarmoniRiB consortium consists of the following 11 partners:

| Partner | Key roles in project | Responsible Person |
|---|---|---------------------------|
| Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (GEUS), Copenhagen, <i>Denmark</i> | Co-ordination Dissemination Dataset and case study | Jens Christian Refsgaard |
| Institute of Inland Water Management and Waste Water Treatment (RIZA), Lelystad, <i>The Netherlands</i> | Socio-economy Dataset and case study | Michiel Blind |
| Water Research Institute (CNR-IRSA), Roma-Bari, <i>Italy</i> | Uncertainty assessment Data Centre Dataset and case study | Guiseppe Passarella |
| Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ), Leipzig, <i>Germany</i> | Socio-economy Uncertainty assessment Dataset and case study | Bernd Klauer |
| Centre for Ecology & Hydrology (CEH), Wallingford, <i>UK</i> | Database design Socio-economy Dataset and case study | Roger Moore |
| University of Amsterdam (UVA), Amsterdam, <i>The Netherlands</i> | Uncertainty assessment | James Brown |
| DHI Water & Environment (DHI), Hørsholm, <i>Denmark</i> | Database software development | Thomas Bech |
| Technical University Crete (TUC), Chania, <i>Greece</i> | Dataset and case study | Ioannis Tsanis |
| Universidad de Castilla - La Mancha (UCLM), Albacete, <i>Spain</i> | Dissemination Dataset and case study | Salomon Montesinos |
| Povodi Moravi (PM), Brno, <i>Czech Republic</i> | Dataset and case study | Pavel Biza |
| Alterra, Wageningen, <i>The Netherlands</i> | Dataset and case study | Piet Groenendijk |

More information on the HarmoniRiB outputs can be found on www.harmonirib.com or by contacting the Co-ordinator (jcr@geus.dk)

More Information on other CATCHMOD projects

More information and links to project websites can be found on www.harmoni-ca.info