

SECOND CALL FOR PAPERS

SCIENCE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT – ENVIRONMENT FOR SOCIETY

**Bridging the gap between scientists and practitioners
in environmental science**

International conference in Denmark (Aarhus)
5-6 October 2011

Speakers include

- **Andrew Sharpley**, Professor, Soils and Water Quality, University of Arkansas, US
- **Brian Kronvang**, Professor, National Environmental Research Institute (NERI), Aarhus University, Denmark
- **Roger Owen**, Head of Ecology, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, UK
- **Douglas Evans**, Senior Officer, European Topic Centre – Biological Diversity
- **Torben Sigsgaard**, Professor, Institute of Environmental and Occupational Medicine, Aarhus University, Denmark
- **Jens-Christian Svenning**, Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Aarhus University, Denmark
- **Stefano Galmarini**, Scientific project leader, Joint Research Centre (JRC-IES), European Commission
- **Simone Bastianoni**, Professor, Ecodynamics Group, University of Siena, Italy
- **Carsten Nesshöver**, TEEB Scientific Coordinator, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Germany
- **William Sutherland**, Miriam Rothschild Professor of Conservation Biology, University of Cambridge, UK
- Opening address by **Lea Kauppi**, Chairman of Partnership for European Environmental Research (PEER), Director General of the Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), Finland

Main topics are
Meeting European environmental legislation
– the Directives under scrutiny
2010 behind us
– is biodiversity in free fall?
A low impact, low carbon economy
– socio-economic implications for ecosystems and human health
Making decisions
– management tools for the future

Call for papers

Contributions in the form of presentations or posters are invited for all four conference topics. Interdisciplinary studies which adopt integrating approaches such as the ecosystem services framework will be particularly welcome. **The deadline for submission of abstracts is June 1st.**

Call for special Sessions and Workshops

Researchers who would like to organise one or more Special Sessions or workshops on topics falling within the scope of the conference are invited to submit a proposal for consideration. These special sessions could contain 3-4 papers which the proposer will obtain from colleagues.

More information: <http://Environment2011.dmu.dk>


SCIENCE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
Conference Aarhus 5-6 October 2011



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE
AARHUS UNIVERSITY



Partnership for European
Environmental Research

Background

Environmental science is currently addressing complex cross-disciplinary, cross-sectoral challenges. Evidence based, holistic solutions are vital for society, but require research scientists, administrators, consultants and other end-users to work closely together within the international policy framework.

We therefore invite everybody who is interested in interdisciplinary environmental science and science-based management to join us in Denmark 5-6th October 2011 for 'Science for the environment - environment for society'. Scientific presentations will address the inter-disciplinary scientific basis for regulation across different media, scopes and scales. Workshops will allow scientists and practitioners to exchange knowledge, identify research gaps and discuss best practice and potential synergies in the interpretation and implementation of environmental policy and legislation.

Topic I (day 1)

Meeting European environmental legislation – the Directives under scrutiny

With Denmark as the EU chair in 2012, the time has come to take a closer look at European environmental legislation.

European environmental legislation has traditionally been media-specific i.e. focused on how to protect water quality, air quality or habitats. The scientific sessions and workshops on Day 1 aim to develop a more thematic cross-cutting view of European regulations. How do current and planned Directives work together to ensure nature conservation? Where are the conflicts and synergies between the goals of individual Directives? What are the socio-economic impacts of implementing multiple Directives? What scientific challenges do we face when trying to implement Europe-wide goals at national and regional scales? What lessons should we learn from the implementation of existing Directives when addressing new Directives?

This topic is for everybody interested in science-based environmental management in a European setting. The scientific sessions will focus on the scientific basis for regulation across different scopes and scales. The workshops will be a forum for exchange and discussion between scientists and practitioners. Here practitioners can discuss problems and challenges across borders and media with others who face similar problems, knowledge gaps and trade-offs. The overall aim will be to identify best practice and current research needs.

Workshops will address these issues:

- **Data collection and data strategy**
How to collect data to support research and legislation?
- **Evidence based nature management and Natura 2000**
Mapping, monitoring and managing - experience across countries .
- **Nature management in a climate perspective**
How to manage low lying wet nature habitats in a future climate and to include these effects in the next generation of water action plans?
- **The Battle for Land**
How to balance the conflicting land uses in catchment areas?
Is the Ecosystem Services framework the answer?



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Topic II (day 2)

2010 behind us – is biodiversity in free fall?

Biodiversity – the rich variation in genomes, species and ecosystems – is an extremely valuable natural legacy that the global community is obliged to protect. Disturbingly, the UN estimates that species are now disappearing at 100 to 1000 times the natural extinction rate. The World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg in 2002 confirmed the 2010 Biodiversity Target originally put forward at an EU summit in 2001 and called for "the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity". The UN furthermore declared 2010 as the Year of Biodiversity but the essential question is: 'Did nature notice?' How can we learn from past successes and failures in protecting biodiversity en route to the 2010 target, and how can we build upon those successes in the approach to 2020?

Topic III (day 2)

Low impact – low carbon economy

National and supra-national regulations and treaties are modifying the local and global combustion mix for energy generation and transportation, and adjusting the atmospheric signature of industry and agriculture. These changes will affect greenhouse gas concentrations, atmospheric deposition into terrestrial, aquatic and marine ecosystems and also impact directly and indirectly on human health.

This session will focus on the challenge of identifying, analysing and quantifying the consequences of these changes and assessing their implications for Directive-driven legislation. Interdisciplinary studies and integrating approaches will be discussed.

Topic IV (day 2)

Making decisions – management tools for the future

Combining legislation spanning local to the supra-national levels with tools which operate at relevant scales is a major challenge for the future support of evidence-based decision making. Today, the majority of decision support tools operates at local scales, limiting managers' possibilities for synergistic implementation of mitigation measures across a range of different scales. Furthermore, indicators and assessment systems are often site- and stressor-specific, which again makes synergistic extrapolations and diagnostics difficult. Large-scale spatial models and ensemble modelling appear to be promising future avenues for bridging these gaps, but uncertainties must be quantified to enable appropriate decision making on the basis of model outputs. The conference aims to help solve this dilemma by bringing modellers, administrators and practitioners together to exchange ideas for the development of management tools for the future.



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Abstract submission

The conference will offer scientific sessions back-to-back with end-user workshops. Scientific sessions will include talks by invited keynote speakers, oral presentations and poster presentations selected on the basis of submitted abstracts. Abstracts for posters and presentations must be submitted in the template provided on the website. Deadline for abstract submission is June 1st. Abstracts will be reviewed by an international programme committee. Full papers will be reviewed for publication in the on-line journal *Environmental Practice*. This is a peer reviewed journal published by Cambridge University Press for the National Association of Environmental Professionals.

Payment and registration

Conference online registration and payment is open via the conference website. Early bird conference fee including conference dinner is 325 € (55 € discount). The deadline for early registration at a reduced fee is August 1st. Student full conference fee incl. dinner is 170 €.

Who should attend?

The conference is for scientists, Ph.D. students, administrators, managers, representatives of consultancy firms and non-governmental organizations as well as decision-makers working with all environmental aspects of the natural and social sciences and/or in practical environmental management. The conference language is English.

Contact information

For more information, please visit the conference website <http://Environment2011.dmu.dk> or e-mail the conference secretariat: Environment2011@dmu.dk

Conference co-organisers

National Environmental Research Institute (NERI), Aarhus University
Partnership for European Environmental Research (PEER)
Danish Society of Engineers, IDA
Official Airline partner: SAS
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**Environment Conference
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