

HYDRO CLIMATIC EXTREMES
Minutes of workshop
April 9th 2010, Barcelona, Spain

ACTION PLAN

1. Publish Report on the survey conducted on website - CHB
2. Post presentation on the website + Adapt the title of the PP6 as “Hydro-Climatic Extremes” - CG
3. Compile 2x EU call texts - AJ
4. Compile a vision/strategy document for PP6 – CvdG/CP/AJ
5. Prepare a (max 2 page) PP6 status report for Board – AJ
6. Prepare minutes from the meeting – CHB/AJ

BACKGROUND

The PP meeting was attended by 26 people (Attached list of participants) and was hosted by CETaqua (Attached agenda). The objectives of the meeting were to;

- Review recent initiatives on hydroclimatic extremes (focussing on droughts) at national and international levels
- Identify and articulate the priority research challenges that need to be addressed
- Review the case studies within the pilot programme

OPEN SESSION - STATUS OF PP6

Alan Jenkins (AJ) opened the workshop by welcoming participants, shortly presented the Pilot and the objectives of the meeting.

- *Status Report*

He updated on the current status of the work done by the PP6.

- *Stakeholders survey*

AJ presented the results of the survey conducted by M. Butts. He highlighted some key answers from the stakeholders.

- *Suggested EU Call texts*

AJ presented recommendations sent to DG RTD last November 2009. The group should check if the FP7 2011 took some of these recommendations.

- *R&D priorities*

AJ presented the priorities identified by M. Butts. From this priorities, he opened the discussion on how to prioritize R&D. He presented some guiding principles including: Robust and adaptive, Long term perspective, Mix of structural and non structural, attention to the EU Directives, Technology / management / tool oriented.

Carlos Pova (CP) underlined the importance of including the perspective of the EC, Interreg approach and coordination of EC directorate

PRESENTATIONS - Review of recent initiatives in flood and drought research

1. “REVIEW OF SOME RECENT INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES ON DROUGHT: XEROCHORE”

Henny Van Lanen (HVL) presented list of EU projects and networks involved on drought. He focused on the project XEROCHORE. He detailed the specific objectives of XEROCHORE, the core group and network

partners, the different workshops held and the writing of an “extended guidance document”. He first underlined the importance of terminology, further described the content and topics highlighting the importance of data, the climate drivers, the physical system. He concluded his presentations focusing on the key challenges from this initiative and the request from the EC to release Science Policy brief. To get more information on his presentation, participants should contact him directly.

2. “DROUGHT ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES: RESEARCH EXPERIENCES AND PERSPECTIVES.”

Michele Vurro (MV) presented a drought analysis based on their experience in Italy. He further detailed different cases in Italy. He presented different data management and analysis on different utilities / cases. He also drew attention to “drought perception” and the behaviour of stakeholders. He also presented experiences of impacts of climate change on springs and river basins in southern Italy and the different projects running on these aspects i.e. CIRCE, PRODIM, MEDROPLAN, and Tevere Project. He concluded on the various perspectives that could be undertaken from this experience.

3. “IMPROVING PREPAREDNESS AND RISK MANAGEMENT FOR FLASH FLOODS AND DEBRIS FLOW EVENTS; THE IMPRINTS PROJECT”

Daniel Sempere (DS) presented the project IMPRINTS which is based on key objectives: anticipation in time and in effects; probabilistic forecasting; and increase preparedness. The major goal is to produce a tool for stakeholders as a prototype. The aim is to develop a platform and to test the tool in 6 test-beds. He further described the different levels of analysis, models and data. He showed that models could be combined – work package - to support decision making. He underlined the complexity and difficulty of problems; the goal of this tool is to give simple answers. He concluded on the different activities and events of the IMPRINTS project.

OPEN SESSION - PRIORITISING FUTURE RESEARCH NEEDS

Four suggested call texts had been sent to the European Commission in November 2009. Two further priority research topics were considered; Improved drought management plans, and; seasonal climate predictions for operational water resource management (see attached call texts). The current draft of the Environment (including climate change) Programme for the 2011 call already contains a ‘drought’ oriented topic. The meeting suggested a more focused approach and a new call text was drafted. This has been sent to the EC. There is, however, some speculation that the ‘drought’ topic will not be included in the final Programme. The second call text has been developed in relation to the request of the PCC.

The need for an expanded vision/strategy for the PP was agreed and this requires development. In addition the PCC request for a 2 page (max) summary of progress was noted.

OPEN SESSION - FUTURE PLANS FOR PP6

The implementation cases were considered. Further work is required by the Pilot Leaders in advance of a future PP6 meeting to ensure that the IC’s are appropriate for the work priorities. It was agreed that a further PP meeting is required and that this needs to be aligned with a stakeholder event to ensure maximum attendance.