

## AT A GLANCE

**Title:** Coordinating Twinning partnerships towards more adaptive Governance in river basins

**Instrument:** Coordinated Action, FP7

**Total Cost:** 999.021,74 €

**EC Contribution:** 999.021,74 €

**Duration:** 24 months

**Start Date:** ~ 01/06/2009

**Consortium:** 8 partners from 6 countries

**Project Coordinator:** Institute of Environmental Systems Research at University of Osnabrück (Germany)

**Project Web Site:** not yet available

**Key Words:** twinning basins, integrated water resources management, adaptive governance, climate change

## THE CHALLENGE

The Integration and new approaches to manage risks in the light of increasing uncertainties require transformation processes in institutional resource regimes and management style. Different approaches have been developed and proposed to deal with this complexity and with the ambition of ensuring a sustainable use of the resource. The failure of governance systems has been identified as being one of the most important reasons for the increased vulnerability of populations to water related disasters. Successful governance in river basin management depends on adaptive institutions that are able to cope with complexity and uncertainty and to face new challenges such as climate change.

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Over the past years, the EU has funded several projects that undertook research on specific integrated water resources management (IWRM) issues in case studies carried out on twinned river basins from Europe and from developing countries. The aim of Twin2Go now is to review, assess, synthesize and consolidate the outcomes of these projects in order to make them transferable and applicable to other basins, and to disseminate the project results effectively to relevant authorities, stakeholders and end-users. In order to achieve this aim, Twin2Go will elaborate a methodology that allows comparative analysis and synthesis of the outcomes of the diverse projects. The consolidated outcomes will feed into best practice guidelines for the adoption and implementation of sustainable water resources management plans. All synthesis activities will involve stakeholders from the projects and basins including all relevant levels of target groups and high level decision makers in water policy. Twin2Go will focus its activities on the thematic priority 'adaptive water governance in the context of climate change' and



cluster past and ongoing twinning projects along their target regions (Latin America, Africa, NIS, South and South East Asia).

## METHODOLOGY

In order to facilitate a comparison of past and ongoing work not only in the selected projects and river basins, but also on the framework conditions (social, economic) within which these projects are performed, a methodology for comparative analysis will have to be elaborated. This methodology is intended to support the comparison between the ongoing projects and/or river basins and synthesise their lessons, which will allow opening new perspectives for water managers and stakeholders in Europe, Asia, Latin America and Africa. Such analyses support what can be called a “diagnostic” approach which develops tools to analyse problems embedded in context and supports the development of context specific solution instead of advocating simplistic panaceas. In the conceptual context, the methodological framework of Twin2Go will fall back on approaches of adaptive management, institutional development, social learning and adaptive governance.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

Twin2Go will elaborate a diagnostic approach that allows analyzing the results of past and on-going projects and initiatives with regard to improved water governance and adaptation to climate change. From existing project results, appropriate context-sensitive approaches for improving adaptive water resources management will be drawn also taking into account similarities and differences in circumstances as elaborated in the diagnostic approach. Twin2Go will formulate best practices and tools for implementing adaptive water governance and for improving the uptake of research results by relevant authorities, stakeholders and end-users based on experiences, successes and failures in existing projects and initiatives. Twin2Go will disseminate consolidated results to policy at the multiple level where decisions are taken while also making them available to stakeholders, implementing authorities and end-users, and thus to ensure best exploitation of existing research.

| PROJECT PARTNERS  |   |
|---|---|
| University of Osnabrück, Institute of Environmental Systems Research, D | DHI Institut for Vand og Miljø Forening, DK   |
| Adelphi Research gGmbH, D   | Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena<br>Institute for Geography, Department of Geoinformatics, D |
| Environmental Protection and Water Management Research Institute, HU    | EcoPolicy   |
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