

# EWRA news

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### EWRA news: The bulletin of EWRA

Responsible: Prof. G. Tsakiris, President of EWRA  
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Publishing Editors: D. Tigkas & Dr H. Vangelis  
www.ewra.net

### The Editors in front of the syndrome "Publish or Perish"

G. Tsakiris  
*Editor-in-Chief of Water Resources Management Journal*

In a flashback to mid '70s I could bring into my mind my first attempts to publish material from my research work while I was working towards my PhD thesis in Southampton University.

That time my supervisor, a Czech Professor, was insisting on completing the whole work first and then present the key findings of the entire work in an International Conference. Respecting his experience, I did exactly that. After the completion of my PhD thesis, we presented together a paper in the ICID Conference in Athens 1978 summarising the main outcomes of my research work of the previous four years.

This was the attitude of most academic people and researchers in Europe until recently. On the other side of the Atlantic, however, the attitude was totally different. The American attitude could be condensed in the slogan "Publish or Perish", which pushed researchers to publish frequently regardless of the significance of their publications.

*(cont. page 2)*

EWRA – 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference:

### 'Water Resources Management in an Interdisciplinary and Changing Context'

(Porto, Portugal, 26 – 29 June 2013)

**Deadline for abstract submission: 30 November 2012**

see the 2<sup>nd</sup> Announcement and the Call for Papers at

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Gradually the American slogan became the prevailing opinion among academics and researchers worldwide. The ranking of universities, the status and even the salaries of academics were linked to the number of published papers, their quantity metrics, the impact factors of the journals etc. During the last decades this was spread to most countries of the world with even more profound effects in the academic community of the developing countries. It is amazing that during the recent years, the major bulk of papers, the international journals receive come from India and China. The rate of submissions from these countries is following an exponential growth curve meaning that in the near future all journals will be flooded by manuscripts from these countries.

This boom of submitted papers had as a consequence the initiation of hundreds of new journals of different types, to accommodate this increasing demand. Some of these journals have very general or ambiguous scope. As a result this "inflation" brought about a general confusion regarding what is worth publishing, what is new and original and what material in each paper actually belongs to the authors.

In this new situation the burden of the Editors is critical. From the thousand of papers circulated to various journals they have to identify the quality papers which fulfil the criteria of originality and significance and at the same to select those which advance the existing knowledge in the scientific field which they serve.

To achieve this difficult task (apart from some technological tools available) several items should be fulfilled:

- i) the Editors to pre-select the papers for the review process based on their own judgement before initiating the review process. This will substantially reduce the number of papers which need review.
- ii) the members of the Editorial Board of each Journal and the competent reviewers should be eager to thoroughly review papers which are selected after the screening of the Editor. To fulfil this, the voluntary basis of the current review procedure is inadequate.
- iii) the journals to consider papers strictly in the scientific area covered by their scope leaving other journals to cover reliably the area of their expertise.
- iv) tiring repetitions of published material, big numbers of authors having an "industrial"

production of papers by changing the rank of the authors, and articles the authors of which violate the ethics of publishing research, should be eliminated.

There are several initiatives which can be implemented to avoid some of the above malpractices. Among them, is the close cooperation of Editors of the prestigious journals for eliminating repetition and fraud. The ban of this kind of authors from these journals could be seen as a first step in this direction. However above all is the determination of the scientific community (regardless of the role: editor, reviewer, author) to fulfil its obligation to the society moving from quantity to quality criteria. The scientific community and the society have a lot to gain if this attitude prevails in publishing research in the future.



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## VI EWRA International Symposium (Catania-Italy, 29 June-2 July 2011)

The Symposium was successfully organised by the University of Catania (Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering) and the venue was Monastero dei Benedettini, Piazza Dante (Faculty of Arts). Co-organisers of the Symposium were the Italian Hydrotechnical Association and the CSEI Catania (Centre for the Applied Economics in Engineering). Organisation was supported by the secretariat of the Laboratory of Reclamation Works and Water Resources Management (School of Rural and Surveying Engineering of NTUA).



*From right to left: A.Cancelliere, E.Giardina, M.L.Carnazza,  
E.Foti, M.Benedini and G.Tsakiris*

About 150 papers were submitted and presented in oral and poster sessions as well as in five invited lectures covering the following thematic areas:

- Drought characterisation, monitoring, forecasting
- Modelling of natural and dam-break floods and extreme events
- Water Framework Directives implementation
- Water quality management
- Assessment of climate change
- Water resources management
- Irrigation
- Innovation in water supply and distribution systems



*Prof. M. Benedini who was honoured by EWRA during the General Assembly*

The Symposium attracted the attention of scientists and experts from several European countries (Italy, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Cyprus, Romania etc.) from countries of North Africa and Near and Middle East and some other countries of the East.



*Prof. R. Maia who was announcing the next International Conference of EWRA*



*From right to left: G. Rossi, P. Quevauviller, G. Tsakiris and D. Alexakis during a coffee break.*



*An attentive and involved audience*

During the Symposium the General Assembly took place in which:

- Prof. M. Benedini was honoured for his devotion and support to EWRA
- Amendments to the Statutes were accepted in which EWRA accepts members from any country of the world and not only from a European Country
- The next International Conference of EWRA will be held in Porto (Portugal) June 2013



*Participants during the poster session*

### International Water Association "2<sup>nd</sup> Water Research Conference" (20-23 January 2013, Singapore Expo)



Following the successful Water Research Conference in 2010, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Water Research Conference will address two major topics:

- Urban water management to increase sustainability of cities
- Microbial ecology of water and wastewater treatment

Presentations will consist of the latest research

achievements as well as more general conceptual papers.

#### *Call for Abstracts*

Oral and poster abstracts are invited on the topics below and should be submitted using the online abstract submission system by 24 August 2012.

- Microbial diversity and community dynamics
- Molecular ecology
- Wastewater microbiology
- Microbial conversion of inorganic compounds
- Drinking water microbiology
- Microbial ecology of biogas systems
- Frameworks for integrated urban water management
- Water sensitive urban design
- Transition management for urban water systems
- Novel approaches for urban water management in developing countries

For more details visit the link:

<http://www.waterresearchconference.com/>

### **8<sup>th</sup> International Conference of EWRA "Water Resources Management in an Interdisciplinary and Changing Context" (26-29 June 2013, Porto – Portugal)**

#### **Second Announcement and Call for papers**

In Europe, the last decade has been of great change and adaptation in water policy and management. Following the work and progress achieved in the 7th International Conference held in Limassol (2009) and the VI International Symposium of EWRA, held in Catania (2011), on "Water Engineering and Management in a Changing Environment", it is a good opportunity to evaluate the current status of the work achieved by the EU Member States related to the Water Framework Directive (WFD) implementation, having in mind the 2015 deadline. On the other hand, the Floods Directive, published in 2007, is also a current concern of the Member States that are required to draw up flood risk maps by 2013 and establish flood risk management plans by 2015.

In parallel, it is also important to highlight and acknowledge the process on water infrastructures and technologies, facing the changing context and the increasing challenges created by climate change and other new paradigms taking place in water resources management. More specifically, according to WFD

requirements, the second cycle of River Basin Management Plans cycle will have to include climate change effects.

In this context, the 8th International Conference of European Water Resources Association (EWRA) will give special emphasis to the application of the WFD, emphasising the challenges encountered and foreseen by the different Member States and more specifically the challenges raised by the transboundary river basins which represent more than 60% of the European territory.

The 8th International Conference of EWRA intends to be a platform of discussion and sharing of information and experiences between scientists and professionals from the Member States but also from other regions around the globe facing new challenges related to water resources management. More than an analysis of what has to be done, Member States need to share their know-how and enhance their capacity building related to the implementation of a common legislation at the European level.

Abstracts can be submitted in the three sections of the Conference proposed hereafter. The first section is devoted to the current state of the implementation of the Water Framework Directive and the lessons learned, the second section will deal with innovative methodologies in water resources management and policies. Finally, the third section will deal with several specific topics, which are at the cutting edge of future innovations in this scientific area.

#### *Sections & Topics*

Section 1: "Water Framework Directive – implementation status and lessons learned"

- Lessons learned from WFD application
- Organisational and Public Participation issues
- Transboundary river basins
- Incorporation of climate change effects and adaptation in WFD implementation

Section 2: "Water resources management"

- Adaptive IWRM and new paradigms
- Floods Directive and applications
- Droughts and Water Scarcity
- Water Quality

Section 3: "Water related specific topics"

- Water and Energy
- Water loss management
- Eco-efficiency (Life cycle assessment)

- Risk management oriented approach
- Optimal vs. Rational decision making

#### *Organising Committee*

- Rodrigo Maia (President)
- Ana Iglesias
- António Guerreiro de Brito
- Abilio Seca Teixeira
- Jose Tentugal Valente
- João Pedro Pêgo
- George Tsakiris
- Bambos Charalambous
- Stuart Hamilton

#### *Important Dates*

- Deadline for submission of abstracts:  
30 November 2012
- Notification of acceptance:  
15 January 2013
- Deadline for submission of full papers:  
15 March 2013
- Acceptance of full papers:  
30 April 2013

#### *Submission of Abstracts*

- Abstracts for oral or poster papers could be submitted to [ewra2013@fe.up.pt](mailto:ewra2013@fe.up.pt)
- The abstracts should include title, the names of the authors, their full affiliation and their proposal for the type of presentation (oral or poster). The length of the text should be between 200 and 250 words.

#### *Local Secretariat*

Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto  
Department of Civil Engineering  
Hydraulics, Water Resources and Environment Division  
Rua Dr. Roberto Frias, s.n. 4200-465 Porto - Portugal  
Contact Person: Cristina Silva  
Tel.: (+351) 225 081 957  
E-mail: [ewra2013@fe.up.pt](mailto:ewra2013@fe.up.pt)

#### *Useful Information*

- Language : The official language of the conference is English.
- Venue : Porto, Portugal
- Dates : June 27<sup>th</sup> – June 29<sup>th</sup> 2013
- Types of presentations : Oral or Poster presentations will be accepted
- EWRA Web site : <http://www.ewra.net>

Further information concerning details on the Conference (e.g. accommodation, specific sessions, guidelines for writing the papers, excursions etc.) will be announced in due course.

### **Romanian Water Association "14<sup>th</sup> Regional Water Forum" (11-13 June 2012, Bucharest - Romania)**

The Romanian Water Association is organizing the 14th edition of the complex of events REGIONAL WATER FORUM which will be held in June 11 – 13, 2012, at the Palace of Parliament – Bucharest, Romania.

ARA developed vision and thus initiated a series of conferences and seminars which will cover the key issues for the water and wastewater sector, focused on:

- Scientific and technical Conference: "New technologies for wastewater treatment"
- International Financial Conference: "Water services sector coexists with the crisis"
- Seminar: "Launching of the programming cycle 2014 – 2020 for consultants, designers and suppliers of equipments and technologies"

The events are aimed at all specialists in the field of water since water managers, operators of water supply and sanitation and not least the general public interested in improving the technical and managerial performance of the sector.

In the specialized exhibition, equipment and technology providers dedicated to water will meet face to face with the users (providers of water supply and sanitation) and can thus effectively promote their latest products. This year there will be organized several pavilions dedicated to design firms, general contractors and consultants.

More details at: [www.araexpoapa.ro](http://www.araexpoapa.ro)

### **Minutes of the Meeting of the General Assembly of EWRA (Catania, Sicily - June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011)**

President:

I welcome you all in the General Assembly of EWRA here in Catania. There are several topics which we will discuss in this session. However, because time is restricted I would ask you to be brief and up to the point so that we convene this important session of our Association in an effective way.

The General Assembly takes place together with the Board of Management of the Association. In fact the Board of Management is inactive after the amendment to the statutes done 6 years ago.

The Agenda of the GA is:

1. Honouring Prof. M. Benedini
2. Amendments to the statutes
3. Review of the implementation of WFD in Europe
4. International Conference of EWRA in Porto 2013
5. Organisation of Permanent Working Groups
6. Other activities

*Item 1: Honouring Prof. M. Benedini*

I will start by highlighting some important dates and activities from Prof. Benedini's CV: Born in 1932, he graduated in Civil Engineering at the University of Padova in 1957 and was awarded the Lecturer Degree ("Libera Docentia") on Hydraulics in 1968. He served as Assistant Professor to the Chair of Hydraulics and responsible of an experimental section for research in applied hydraulics at the Institute of Hydraulics of Padova University. In 1969 Prof. Benedini joined the Water Research Institute of the Italian National Research Council in Rome, where he was appointed Head of Water Resources Department. In 1975 he was awarded the Degree of "Director of Research" in the National Research Council. In 1999 he formally retired from the Water Research Institute. He has worked in the field of theoretical and applied hydraulics using the experimental facilities of Padova University.

Within the Water Research Institute he has been responsible for research on advanced methods for water resources management and published many articles in journals and several very interesting books. He has worked as an expert in various international organisations (OECD, European Commission, UNESCO).

He has been also active member of International Associations {IAHR, IWRA, EWRA (founding member)}.

He has also taught post-graduate courses in various Italian Universities.

We know Marcello Benedini as the real founder of EWRA. The idea to create a European Association of Water Resources was conceived by us during the conference "Water in the year 2000" which was held in Athens in 1984.

EWRA was established in Athens in 1986 during the International Symposium "Water for Agricultural Development". In the first Executive Committee we both

(myself and Prof. Benedini) participated together with Prof. J. Nemeč (acting as president) (WMO) and Prof. J. Kindler (Poland).

During the IAHS Conference in Budapest we presented EWRA in the General Assembly and EWRA became ECOWARM (European Committee for Water Resources Management) as a regional committee of IAHS.

Later Prof. V. Klemes (President of IAHS) thought that water resources management is something wider and could not be under the umbrella of IAHS. Then we run into a crisis and Prof. M. Benedini took the responsibility to become the interim president up to 1992 when EWRA was re-established in the form we have today. That is an independent European Association on water resources.

Prof. Benedini was always available to help the association in its activities. He represented EWRA in TECHWARE and participated in successful European projects originated by EWRA. Due to Prof. Benedini, EWRA obtained a respectable status organising successful conferences and publishing journals. I am not far from reality to say that EWRA exists due to the entire commitment of Prof. Benedini.

I think the last thing we could do is to express our sincere gratitude to his devotion to the idea of EWRA and the persistent way he served its objectives for integrated and adaptive management of water resources and its final goal of global water security.

I feel honour and luck as the President of EWRA to be able to express the gratitude of our members to you Prof. Benedini by giving you this letter of honour.

Prof. Benedini received the "Letter of honour" and thanked the association and the President for the gesture. He thanked also his wife for her support throughout his career and all the colleagues who cooperated with him. Addressing the young scientists of the conference he advised them to be persistent and devoted to their goals. He quoted "From 100 targets you are aiming at your way fail in 99. But it is still worth trying to succeed just in one".

Finally one of the organisers of the Symposium Prof. G. Rossi took the floor and addressed Prof. M. Benedini with warm words mentioning his contribution to the Italian Hydrotechnical Association and Water Resources Management in Italy in general.

*Item 2: Amendments to the statutes*

During the last year and after the Conference of EWRA

in Lemessos (Cyprus) I started receiving requests from scientists from non-European countries expressing their willingness to become members of EWRA. Unfortunately so far members of EWRA can be only physical or legal persons from a European country. To some of these colleagues I promised to bring this issue in the next General Assembly aiming at transforming EWRA in an entirely International Association.

So we ask you as members of EWRA to accept the following amendment to our statutes:

Article 6 (before)

Member of the association can be any physical or legal person from a European country who is engaged in an activity which is compatible with the aims of the association.

Article 6 (amended)

Member of the association can be any physical or legal person from any country of the world who is engaged in an activity which is compatible with the aims of the association.

Further, Article 8 becomes:

Kinds of membership:

1. Membership of physical persons from any country of the world
2. Student membership
3. Institutional membership for commercial enterprises, public institutions, water resources associations, NGOs etc.

No fees are paid for the first two categories. An annual fee of 200 euros should be paid for each member of category 3.

All present members agreed with the amendments.

*Item 3: Review of the implementation of WFD in Europe*

Key presentations on this issue were presented by Prof. R. Maia and G. Monacelli reviewing the existing progress regarding the implementation of WFD in member states. The experiences in other countries (e.g. Turkey) were presented by Prof. N. Harmancioglu. Their reviews will appear in the next issue of EWRA news.

*Item 4: International Conference of EWRA in Porto 2013*

The Vice President Prof. R. Maia presented the decision of the EC to organise the next Conference in Porto (Portugal). He presented the city and the university where the next conference will be held.

He promised to organise a very successful conference and urged the participants to come to Porto in late June 2013.

The title of the conference and the first announcement will be ready by October 2011. The presentation of the Vice President was received warmly by the participants.

*Item 5: Organisation of Permanent Working Groups*

The permanent working groups of EWRA were presented and a deadline for member who wishes to join them was set at the end of December 2011.

The permanent working groups and the responsible member of EC are:

- Water Quality, Desalination and Non-conventional Water Resources (G. Tsakiris)
- Water Resources Management (R. Maia)
- Climate Change, Extreme events, Water security (A. Cancelliere)
- Water Systems efficiency (B. Charalambous)
- Energy and Technology (S. Hamilton)

The groups will finally be organised next January appointing their coordinators who will be selected by their members. Interested scientists and professionals are asked to communicate with the responsible EC members.

*Item 6: Other activities*

The journals of EWRA were presented as follows:

- WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (Springer, IF 2.201)
- EUROPEAN WATER (free access)
- WATER UTILITY JOURNAL (launched in 2011)

EWRA also supports the following journals:

- DESALINATION AND WATER TREATMENT (EDS, IF 0.75)
- HYDRO HAZARDS (CANAH, abstract journal)
- EARTH OBSERVATION AND NATURAL DISASTERS (CANAH, abstract journal)

It was stressed that all the above journals improve their position from year to year. A unique example is the main journal of EWRA Water Resources Management, which reached the 6th position (rating according to the Impact Factor) out of about 80 journals in the field of Water Resources.

### Investing in Water for a Green Economy: Services, Infrastructure, Policies and Management

Mike Young, Christine Esau (Editors)

Publication Year : 2012

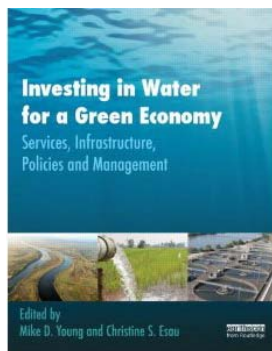
Published by : Routledge

ISBN-10 : 0415501253

ISBN-13 : 978-0415501255

Binding : Hardcover

Pages : 256



This book is a mixture of reviews of specific issues and global overviews. It provides an interdisciplinary and global overview of the condition of the world water resources. Moreover, this book shows how accelerated in water management can be expected to expedite the transition to a green economy.

### Emerging and Priority Pollutants in Rivers: Bringing Science into River Management Plans (The Handbook of Environmental Chemistry)

Helena Guasch, Antoni Ginebreda, Anita Geislinger (Editors)

Publication Year : 2012

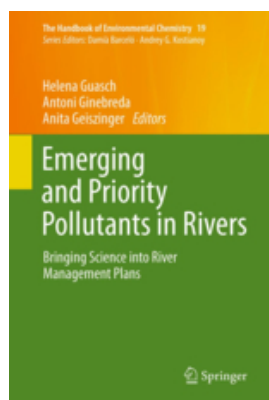
Published by : Springer

ISBN-10 : 3642257216

ISBN-13 : 978-3642257216

Binding : Hardcover

Pages : 305



This title provides the latest advances concerning the sampling, analyses, occurrence, bioavailability and effects of priority pollutants in European rivers and the applicability of the newly developed techniques for water monitoring purposes. The book topics are discussed in the context of the Directive 2000/60/EC

(WFD); while this book is an invaluable source of information for water managers, aquatic scientists and ecologists. Methodological approaches to relating

ecological alterations on ecosystems and chemical pollution are presented.

### Management of Water Resources in Protected Areas

Hermes Farfán González, José Luis Corvea Porrás, Irene de Bustamente Gutierrez, James W. LaMoreaux (Editors)

Publication Year : 2012

Published by : Springer

ISBN-10 : 3642163297

ISBN-13 : 978-3642163296

Binding : Hardcover

Pages : 210

The present book reports the proceedings of the first Symposium for the Management of Hydraulic Resources in Protected Areas. The Symposium explores different aspects of the management of water resources focusing on Vulnerability and risks associated with aquifers, Impact of public use on water resources, Purification and reuse of wastewater in rural communities, Research and monitoring of water resources in protected areas, Design and management water resources in protected areas, Geodiversity and conservation of areas with hydraulic heritage, and Water and its importance as a source of renewable energy in protected spaces.

### Water Quality Management: Present Situations, Challenges and Future Perspectives

Asit K Biswas, Cecilia Tortajada, Rafael Izquierdo (Editors)

Publication Year : 2011

Published by : Routledge

ISBN-10 : 041568885X

ISBN-13 : 978-0415688857

Binding : Hardcover

Pages : 288

The present title assesses the current status of water quality management in both developing and developed worlds. This book outlines the importance of building up awareness to reverse the trend of continuing water quality deterioration. It is published as a special issue of International Journal of Water Resources Development.

