



## Announcement

The Department for Science and Technology of the **French Embassy in Berlin**, the **Franco-German University (DFH-UFA)** and the **Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research - UFZ**, in collaboration with the **French National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture (IRSTEA)** and the **Institute of Meteorology and Water Management (IMGW-PIB)** are organizing a two-day conference on water quality and resources in the context of climate change.

Water is the most precious natural resource, essential for life. Despite this evidence, human activities continue to threaten water resources, both in terms of quality and quantity. At the same time, climate change will increasingly impact water resources, e.g. some regions already suffering water scarcity today will become dryer, while severe extreme events may occur more frequently. In such unfavorable conditions, water is of major concern for the whole planet.

In Europe, legislation was established to safeguard and manage water resources. Most prominently, the Water Framework Directive (WFD), adopted in October 2000, defined a framework for the water management and protection at the scale of large hydrographic basins. However, how effective and efficient is this legislation? What can we learn from the WFD results' appraisal scheduled for 2015? And how can research contribute to solving water problems worldwide?

In this framework, and in relation to the forthcoming Climate Conference (COP21) in Paris, the conference "Water and Climate Change" will bring together actors of research and development from three European countries – France, Germany and Poland – with Rhine and Oder rivers as common natural borders.

The aim of this trilateral conference is manifold: first of all, the conference will bring together the state-of-the-art of latest developments in the domain of water research. Leading experts will discuss recent progress and future research demands, and identify opportunities for intensified cooperation.

The conference will allow addressing a broad set of pressing issues, such as:

- Status and development of water quality
- Hydrological modelling – complexity vs. applicability
- Prediction and management of extreme events
- Water and wastewater treatment – tackling problems of the city of the future



At the same time, the conference will provide opportunities for young scientists (PhD students, post-docs...), who are conducting research in this domain: they are invited to present their results, discuss with senior scientists and get the possibility to network. The third objective is to assess how research can serve policy and industry in tackling the challenges posed by human activities and climate change to our water resources. The exchange of ideas and practices will help to face these challenges, and the strong participation of young scientists will contribute to increasing the involvement of young people in European cooperative research, development and demonstration.

The scientific board of the conference is composed of scientific coordinators from the three countries:

Prof. Georg Teutsch, Scientific Director of the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Germany

Prof. Patrick Flammarion, Scientific Director of the Water Department, National Research Institute of Science and Technology for Environment and Agriculture – IRSTEA, France

Ass. Prof. Tomasz Walczykiewicz, Head of the Water Resources Management Unit, Institute of Meteorology and Water Management – IMGW – PIB, Poland

You find the program of the conference at the following address: [http://www.dfh-ufa.org/water\\_and\\_climate\\_change/](http://www.dfh-ufa.org/water_and_climate_change/).

#### Information about registration:

The participation in the conference is free of charge. Please register at: [http://www.dfh-ufa.org/water\\_and\\_climate\\_change/registration](http://www.dfh-ufa.org/water_and_climate_change/registration). The number of places is limited. The registration will be open until **October 30, 2015**. The oral presentations are by invitation only.

#### Information about posters:

The conference will be accompanied by a poster exhibition and a poster session. In order to submit a poster proposal please send an abstract of no more than 1000 characters until **October 23, 2015 (extended deadline)** to: [wcc@dfh-ufa.org](mailto:wcc@dfh-ufa.org). You will be informed about the acceptance of your proposal by **October 30, 2015**.

#### Venue:

Leipziger KUBUS, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Permoserstraße 15, 04318 Leipzig.

#### Organizing committee:

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