



# NEWSLETTER

No. 2, November 2009

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*This UPTW Newsletter was compiled by the Institute of Asian Research at the University of British Columbia.*

## SECOND ISSUE OF UPTW NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the second issue of the Universities Partnership for Transboundary Waters (UPTW) Newsletter! For many universities, if not all, this is the start of a new school year, full of optimism, hopes, dreams and possibilities not only for incoming students, but also for their parents, professors and the institutions-at-large. This comes with the realization that there is much work to be done, that right action, appropriate action is needed to crystallize the intent.

Likewise, the partnership is at a critical juncture.

If the organization is to move forward, then it is time for us to “collectively” focus our energy to find ways to address the needs of the global waters community. And in so doing, we rise to this organization’s full potential. At this time, there are many “news” to the partnership - new committees towards action, the possibility of leadership, and many universities interested in joining.

With the formation of the newly established committees to improve the functioning of the UPTW: the Funding Committee; Membership Committee; Mid-Range Planning Committee; and Workshop Committee, we now have structure. And, through Professor Maitland Seaman, University of the Free State in Bloemfontein, South Africa, also newly appointed as Director of the Academic Cluster "Water management for water-scarce areas," there is encouragement, (nay, hope!) that he will consider assuming a leadership role in the UPTW. And more than ever, as other faculty see the value in being associated with UPTW, we are on a continual basis being approached by universities, interested in joining the partnership.

New beginnings are immersing, and our ability to get organized through the spirit of cooperation could help crystallize our intent, and lead to more beneficial and fruitful outcomes in the area of transboundary water education, outreach and research.

The Newsletter provides information about the UPTW, its Partner Universities and their current activities. More information about the UPTW, including this Newsletter, can be found at: <http://waterpartners.geo.orst.edu>

## NEWSLETTER STRUCTURE

The Newsletter template has been developed by the Helsinki University of Technology (TKK) together with the Oregon State University. Our idea has been to keep the Newsletter simple and short, so that it can be easily read – and also modified if need arises.

The first half of the Newsletter is reserved for general information on UPTW and its partners, while the latter half presents the activities of the UPTW Partner University that is putting the particular issue together. For the general UPTW part, we anticipate having both topical issues and common features, such as 'Emerging water issues' to be written by different professors.

The responsibility for putting the Newsletter together will rotate among partners, with two or three issues published per year. In this way the Newsletter will enable us also to learn more about the current activities of different Partner Universities.

Any suggestions regarding the Newsletter are naturally very welcome; please send them to Lynette de Silva ([desilval@geo.oregonstate.edu](mailto:desilval@geo.oregonstate.edu)) and Marko Keskinen ([keskinen@iki.fi](mailto:keskinen@iki.fi)).

## UPTW COMMITTEES

To improve the functioning of the UPTW, the following committees have been formed for period May 2009 – May 2010.

### Funding Committee

Yunnan University: Daming He  
([hedaming@public.km.yn.cn](mailto:hedaming@public.km.yn.cn))

University of South Australia: Jennifer McKay  
([jennifer.mckay@unisa.edu.au](mailto:jennifer.mckay@unisa.edu.au))

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research:  
Peter Ashton ([pashton@csir.co.za](mailto:pashton@csir.co.za))

### Membership Committee

University of New Mexico: Susan Kelly  
([skelly@law.unm.edu](mailto:skelly@law.unm.edu))

UNESCO - IHE Institute for Water Education:  
Pieter van der Zaag ([p.vanderzaag@unesco-ihe.org](mailto:p.vanderzaag@unesco-ihe.org))

Universidad Nacional de Litoral: C. Tujchneider  
([pichy@fich.unl.edu.ar](mailto:pichy@fich.unl.edu.ar))

### Mid-Range Planning Committee

University of Dundee: Alistair Rieu-Clarke  
([a.rieuclarke@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:a.rieuclarke@dundee.ac.uk))

Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica: Alexander López Ramírez  
([alope@una.ac.cr](mailto:alope@una.ac.cr))

Asian Institute of Technology: Mukand S. Babel  
([msbabel@ait.ac.th](mailto:msbabel@ait.ac.th))

### Workshop Committee

University of British Columbia: Richard Kyle Paisley  
([paisley@law.ubc.ca](mailto:paisley@law.ubc.ca))

University of Tokyo: Mikiyasu Nakayama  
([nakayama@k.u-tokyo.ac.jp](mailto:nakayama@k.u-tokyo.ac.jp))

Linköping University/SIWI: Jan Lundqvist  
([jan.lundqvist@siwi.org](mailto:jan.lundqvist@siwi.org))

*We used to think that energy and water would be the critical issues for the next century. Now we think water will be the critical issue.*

(Mostafa Tolba of Egypt, former head of the United Nations Environment Programme)  
(source: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity)

## SUSIE MEETS UPTW PARTNER OSU



(Source: Todd Jarvis)

The Institute for Water and Watersheds at Oregon State University, in concert with International Programs, Departments of Chemical, Biological, and Environmental Engineering, Geosciences, and Public Health, hosted the Study of the U.S. - Institute for the Environment (SUSIE) program bringing 23 undergraduates from Central American and Caribbean countries to Corvallis for a summer of environmental studies. The students studied water and watersheds, water and wastewater treatment, and coastal development issues through a grant from the U.S. Department of State. For more information, visit the SUSIE website <http://oregonstate.edu/instruct/susie/> and watch a two minute movie of their coastal field trip <http://oregonstate.edu/media/vgpfm>.

## LWRD & UPTW SEMINAR

The London Water Research Group (LWRG), and The Universities Partnership for Transboundary Waters (UPTW) convened a half-day seminar at the 2009 World Water Week, in Stockholm. Entitled, "Cooperation as Conflict? Towards Effective Transboundary Water Interaction," partnership representation included

presentations by Prof. Patricia Wouters, University of Dundee, UK, and Ms. Christina Leb, University of Geneva, Switzerland, with the title of "The Role of International Law in Cooperation Dynamics," and Ms. Lynette de Silva, Oregon State University, US, and Dr. Pieter Van der Zaag, UNESCO-IHP, Netherlands, entitled, "Educational Strategies: An Integrative Approach to Water Relations." To read the event summary and conclusions, go to web link [http://waterpartners.geo.orst.edu/info\\_and\\_publications.html](http://waterpartners.geo.orst.edu/info_and_publications.html) under the heading, "Conferences" and click on "2009 World Water Week."



(Source: Lynette de Silva)

## WATER CONFLICT MANAGEMENT AND TRANSFORMATION

The program is aimed at supporting water conflict prevention and resolution in Oregon, across the United States and internationally through a four-fold approach:

- 1) [The Certificate in Water Conflict Management and Transformation](#);
- 2) [The Transboundary Freshwater Dispute Database](#);
- 3) [The Universities Partnership for Transboundary Waters](#); and

4) [Collaborative Facilitations and Skills-Building Workshops.](#)

This Program is being designed to fill the niche as a broader, more integrative approach that explicitly integrates human, policy, and scientific dimensions of water resources within the framework of governance and sustainability, and focuses training and research on all facets of water conflict transformation. The PWCMT serves as a training, resource and information hub for students, citizens, officials, and business leaders in Oregon, across the United States and internationally, facilitating dialogue on critical water issues across diverse values and perspectives. For more information, please see [http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/trainin/g/learn\\_more.html](http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/trainin/g/learn_more.html)

## HYDROPOLITICAL VULNERABILITY AND RESILIENCE REPORTS

The *Hydropolitical Vulnerability and Resilience along International Waters: Europe, North America, and Asia* Reports have now been published! They join two earlier reports addressing Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean. As a result, the long awaited series is now complete. To access these documents go to [http://waterpartners.geo.orst.edu/info\\_and\\_public.html](http://waterpartners.geo.orst.edu/info_and_public.html). Through Oregon State University (OSU), USA, this project was directed by Aaron T. Wolf; and managed, first by Marcia Macomber, and in the latter years, Lynette de Silva. It is the combined effort of the United Nations Environment Program – Division of Early Warning and Assessment (UNEP-DEWA), and the Universities Partnership for Transboundary Waters. To all those that coauthored, reviewed, provided data, or were involved in this project in any way. Bravo!

## NEXT UPTW NEWSLETTER

The next UPTW Newsletter is planned to be published in spring 2010, and we will announce shortly the UPTW Partner University that will compile the Newsletter.

Suggestions for the news items and stories for the next Newsletter – as well as feedback on this second issue – can be sent to Lynette at [desilval@geo.oregonstate.edu](mailto:desilval@geo.oregonstate.edu).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**The Transboundary Water Management International Training Programme** will start next year. The programme is aimed at mid-career professionals from around the world - all of whom are in some way working on TWM issues. Participants from outside of the traditional water sector - agriculture, health, defence, education, media - are encouraged to apply. The five month programme involves two face-to-face modules (two weeks in Mozambique & Swaziland in April 2010 and one week in Stockholm in June 2010). During the programme the participants work on an individual project - based on a real-world TWM issue their organisation is facing.

Please contact Anton Earle at the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) ([anton.earle@siwi.org](mailto:anton.earle@siwi.org)) for more information or download programme application form and brochure at [www.siwi.org/trainingprogramme/TWM](http://www.siwi.org/trainingprogramme/TWM)

**A water resources policy course is offered at Portland State University.** The course reviews the history, policies, institutions, science, economics, and politics involved in understanding and managing water resources in the United States, with a particular emphasis on the West. It examines policy history leading to the present institutional and legal arrangements for the

administration and regulation of water uses, water rights, water development, and water quality, at the federal, state, regional, tribal and local levels. It also examines the evolution and interweaving of purposes in water resource policies and administration, including economic development, anti-speculation, privatization, human health protection, fish and wildlife mitigation, ecosystem health, ecosystem services and more, exploring recent efforts to integrate these distinct issues through "watershed" approaches to land and water management. A major theme is the problem of developing and implementing coherent water policies in a policy arena which has divided authority, plural traditions, and multiple resource and social issues. The class concludes with a particular focus on the Willamette River Basin, in which it is possible to find nearly all of the major issues in water resources policy and administration. For more information, please see <http://www.pdx.edu/eli/wmpp-course-descriptions#policy>

## TRANSBOUNDARY WATER RESEARCH AT UBC

### UBC in a nutshell

This issue of UPTW Newsletter was compiled by the Institute of Asian Research (IAR) at the University of British Columbia (UBC). IAR provides innovative perspectives on policy research on Asia and worldwide. It focuses on both the generation of interdisciplinary knowledge about the different regions of Asia and worldwide, and the integration of local knowledge to form new perspectives on contemporary policies.

For more information, please see: <http://www.iar.ubc.ca>



## Governance of International Waters

### Good practices & portfolio learning in GEF transboundary freshwater & marine legal & institutional frameworks

**This three year multi donor GEF project is dedicated to facilitating good governance** and more effective decision making in international waters (IW) management through the identification, collection, analysis, adaptation and replication of beneficial practices and lessons learned from international experiences. The project facilitates dialogue among individuals and organizations engaged in the governance of international fresh, marine, and ground waters, with an emphasis on South-South cooperation and learning.

Dialogue and learning experiences will be made sustainable in part by the South-South Peer Review Group - a group initiated in the first stage of the project and established to facilitate the ongoing exchange of ideas and solutions after the project concludes.

Innovative learning tools will be developed to assist in sharing governance experiences, and the Group will help disseminate the tools and train local experts across regions.

The key measurable benefit of this project is ensuring that various lessons learned from multi-country experiences, including identification of areas where problems and delays are typically experienced, are assimilated by various target audiences in a meaningful way. These target audiences include local water managers, governments, and civil society groups, primarily

the portfolio of GEF projects. The project encourages local participation in the sharing of best practices by diverse stakeholders with a focus on women and youth. Climate change adaptation knowledge will be incorporated into the learning tools.



*GEF contributors at the Whistler inception meeting  
(Source: Glen Hearn).*

The project has three components:

**1. Identification, analysis and codification of successful approaches to IW governance within and beyond the GEF portfolio and the determination of appropriate performance measures.**

**2. Creation and promotion of experiential learning tools specifically targeted for GEF practitioners, designed in collaboration with local experts and practitioners.**

The output will be a series of demand driven specialized experiential learning tools for good governance focusing on understanding and promoting effective legal and institutional frameworks and decision-making. The experiential learning tools will include case studies, negotiations, role play simulation exercises, and interactive tools.

**3. Targeted experiential training and adaptive learning to build local capacity to replicate**

**experiential learning programs that foster a culture of good governance in IW.**

The outcome will be enhanced capacity of GEF practitioners in good governance and effective decision-making, including experienced local experts to replicate learning programs. Activities will center on conducting regional targeted programs where local experts deliver tools to regional practitioners.

**Project Partners:**

El Colegio de Mexico; University of British Columbia, Institute of Asian Research

**Project Affiliates:**

Aquatic Resources Conservation Group; Canadian Water Research Society; Network for Environmental and Sustainable Development in Central Africa; Asian American Partnership; WWF USA; Gender & Water Alliance; Dept of Foreign Affairs & International Trade Canada; Columbia Basin Trust; FAO; UNDP; UNEP; World Bank Institute; World Bank; UN Center for Preventative Diplomacy; UN Office of Mediation Services; University of La Rochelle; Bates College; Oregon State University; Texas Tech School of Law; McGeorge School of Law; National University of Singapore; Makerere University; Chulalongkorn University; White & Case; Holguin, Neira & Pombo; Lawson Lundell; Pierce Atwood; Compass Resource Management. For more information: <http://governance.iwlearn.org/>

*GEF 5 Australia*

The 5th Biennial GEF International Waters Conference,\* hosted by the Government of Australia in Cairns, North Queensland October 26 through 29, 2009, offered an exciting menu of participative learning opportunities. GEF-IW:LEARN's partnership with the Coral Triangle Initiative and the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts

and Islands, aimed to help GEF IW projects exchange practical experience in linking freshwater and marine management, and a key objective of this portfolio learning event was to promote sustainable development in basin and coastal communities sharing natural resource systems, to achieve MDGs through the benefits of transboundary cooperation in ecosystem-based management. With an eye to integrated-ecosystem based management and mainstreaming climate variability and change, this meeting meant to build on 2009's key freshwater and marine meetings with an eye to preparing the GEF IW portfolio for the future. See [http://www.iwlearn.net/abt\\_iwlearn/events/iwc5](http://www.iwlearn.net/abt_iwlearn/events/iwc5)

### Focus on UBC/GEF Project Partners

#### 1) White & Case LLP: A Global Law Firm\*

Founded in New York in 1901, White & Case has lawyers in the United States, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia. International practice is the foundation of the firm.

For years White & Case have been a leader among national firms in the strength and depth of its pro bono commitment. The firm actively seeks out and take on matters referred by many legal services organizations. From tropical rain forests to juvenile immigrant deportation representation, their work spans cultural, geographic and political boundaries.

Pro bono work includes political asylum and other human rights work and discrimination suits, consumer matters and prisoner rights. White & Case is very active in non-litigation areas as well, including advising and assisting not-for-profit community groups. They have also advised Conservation International and other

environmental groups with regard to debt-for-nature transactions throughout the world (ex. White & Case served as pro bono legal counsel to Conservation International (CI) in a \$30 million debt-for-nature swap, the largest such agreement organized by the United States and the first with Indonesia). White & Case strongly believes that pro bono legal activity is in the public interest as well as in the professional interest of its attorneys.

\* Source: [www.whitecase.com](http://www.whitecase.com)



(Source: Richard Paisley)

#### 2) Dr. Daniel Pauly, Professor, UBC Fisheries Centre and Zoology Department; Principal Investigator, Sea Around Us Project

After many years at the International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management (ICLARM), in Manila, Philippines, in 1994 Daniel Pauly became a Professor at UBC's [Fisheries Centre](#). Since 1999, he is also Principal Investigator of the Sea Around Us Project (see [www.seaaroundus.org](http://www.seaaroundus.org)), devoted to studying, documenting and promoting policies to mitigate the impact of fisheries on the world's marine ecosystems (see [AMBIO, 34: 290-295, 2007](#)). The concepts, methods and software which Daniel Pauly (co-)developed, are used throughout the world. This applies especially to the Ecopath

modeling approach and software ([www.ecopath.org](http://www.ecopath.org)) and FishBase, the online encyclopedia of fishes ([www.fishbase.org](http://www.fishbase.org)).

### *Regional and Global Dimensions of Conflict and Peacebuilding*

In the context of the strategic theme on fragility and conflict, the World Bank's Fragile and Conflict-affected Countries Group started a series of high-level Headline Seminars bringing in experts in the field to advance research and knowledge, and to identify opportunities to operationalize lessons learned. Following up on the first Seminar which dealt with the transition from conflict to peace, and the second Seminar which deal with deteriorating situations in fragile and conflict-affected countries, the third Seminar on rule of law in fragile and conflict-affected situations, this fourth Seminar was held on October 10 and October 12, 2009 and dealt with regional and global dimensions of conflict and peace building.



*(source: Richard Paisley)*

The primary aim of the seminar was to stimulate debate on the particular challenges posed in situations where global and regional externalities are fuelling or exacerbating fragility and conflict or where fragility and conflict in one country spills over with negative impacts upon

surrounding countries, and to examine methods of stemming and mitigating those effects to strengthen states and build peace. It provided inputs to the World Bank's efforts towards developing a strategic framework for guiding its work in this area. The Seminar also helped to identify areas of inquiry that can be pursued within the Bank's research, knowledge and learning agenda.

Richard Paisley's paper ([\*Trans-Boundary Water Resources – An Entry Point In Pursuit Of Regional And Global Peace And Security\*](#)) focussed on not whether it is desirable to support the negotiation and implementation of trans-boundary water agreements but rather how best to strengthen development aid to better facilitate the negotiation and implementation of trans-boundary water agreements that contribute to regional peace and security. Unresolved trans-boundary water issues can also block cooperation as a whole between states. Water issues thus overshadow many political themes in connection with which a regional cooperation would benefit all stakeholders.

*We never know the worth of water till the well is dry. (Thomas Fuller, Gnomologia, 1732)*

(source: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity)