

Activity on Trans-boundary Flood Management

Background

- In the 2007-2009 work plan it is foreseen to organise a Workshop about Flood Risk Mapping and Flood Forecasting under the lead of the Federal Ministry for Environment, Germany.
- At its first meeting in Bonn in November 2007 the Task Force agreed to prepare for a workshop to be held in the first half of 2009 either in Germany or in another UNECE country.
- The workshop would
 - address issues such as flood risk forecasting, flood risk mapping, and institutional and legal arrangements for flood risk management in a trans-boundary context with a sub-regional focus on countries in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia and non-EU countries in South-Eastern Europe.
 - involve experts from the European Expert Networks as well as from the EU Working Group on Floods to ensure the transfer of experience and results.
- The Task Force also agreed that it would be useful to illustrate and discuss some basin-specific examples with the aim of applying the relevant EU experience to concrete cases;

Available information/guidance

- **EXCIFF** -> finished in 2007
output: - “Good practice for delivering flood related information to
to the general public”
- **EXCIMAP** -> finished in 2007
outputs: - “Handbook on Good Practices for Flood Mapping in
Europe” and
- associated “Atlas of Flood Maps”.
- **EXCILUP** -> still in process

In addition available for example:

- “Guide for preparation of Flood Risk Management Schemes” (HR Wallingford;Funded by the EIB, December 2007)
- “Guidance on Integrated Flood Management (WMO Associated Programme on Flood Management, 2007)
- Reports from EU-research programme FLOODSITE

Preparation

- With a view to the preparation for the workshop programme, the Co-Chairs will send a letter to the members of the Task Force and the Focal Points of the Water Convention in the next weeks with the request to
 - specify priority issues (flood risk assessment, flood risk mapping, flood risk management plans, information and preparedness, role of land use and spatial planning ...); and
 - identify specific cases of trans-boundary cooperation in flood risk management which could serve as a basis for targeted discussions at the workshop and which could be addressed during the workshop.
- The final programme of the workshop would be developed on the basis of the contributions received from countries.
- WMO Associated Programme on Flood Management has been contacted and signalled interest in co-operating in the preparation and implementation of the workshop. Willingness of other contracting parties to co-organise the workshop would be highly appreciated.

- Place/Venue: Geneva or Bonn?
- Duration: 2 days
- Time period: 20 – 24 April 2009
or
11 – 14 May 2009