

7TH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME
THEME 6
Environment (Including Climate Change)

FP7-ENV-2007-1 (ENV.2007.1.3.3.3.)
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FINAL Circular
Workshop Drought & Natural System
(Climate & Hydrology)
NH Conference Centre De Leeuwenhorst, Noordwijkerhout
15-17 June 2009, The Netherlands

Organizers:

Wageningen University, the Netherlands
University of Oslo, Norway
DG Joint Research Centre European Commission, Ispra, Italy
Centre National du Machinisme, Agricole, du Genie Rural, des Eaux et des Forets,
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Emergency telephone number: + 31 317 48 5442 (14-17 June 2009)

¹ Information is identical to Second Circular.

1. Time and location of the workshop

The workshop will be held in:

NH Conference Centre De Leeuwenhorst
Langelaan 3
2211 XT Noordwijkerhout
the Netherlands
tel: +31.25.2378888
fax: +31.25.2378890
email: nhleeuwenhorst@nh-hotels.com

The conference centre is about 30 min from Schiphol-Amsterdam Airport and about 5 km from the North Sea coast. The workshop will start on Monday 15 June at 13:30 hour and will close on Wednesday 17 June 2009 at 15:30 hour.

The accommodation during the conference will be in Nieuw-Leeuwenhorst, the same building where the conference will be held.

2. Workshop programme

Monday, 15 June 2009

10:00-12:30	Arrival participants and registration
12:30	Lunch
13:30-17:30	Plenary session
13:30-13:50	- Welcome and introduction to the XEROCHORE project (Henny van Lanen)
13:50-14:10	- XEROCHORE in the FP7 context (Philippe Quevauviller, EC)
14:10-14:30	- Objectives workshop Drought & Natural System (Henny van Lanen)
14:30-14:50	- Drought Natural System: Experiences from outside EU o Canada (Ronald Stewart)
14:50-15:10	o Australia (Alexander Osti)
15:10-15:30	o USA (Mark Svoboda)
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-16:20	o China (Ailikun)

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- **Background information**
- 16:20 o Impacts (Jaroslav Mysiak & Oliver Olsson/Melanie Bauer)
- 16:50 o Management & Policy (Dionysis Assimacopoulos & Thierry Davy)
- 17:20 o European Drought Centre (Lena Tallaksen)
- 17:30 Logistical information (WUR)
- 18:30 Reception
- 19:30 Joint dinner

Tuesday, 16 June 2009

- 09:00-09:30 Introduction to breakout groups (plenary)
- 09:30-10:30 Parallel sessions of (each BOG² in 2 subgroups):
Breakout Group 1: Atmosphere: climate drivers of drought
Breakout Group 2: Land: hydrological / land surface response
(brief introduction, points³ from individual participants, discussion)
- 10:30-11:00 Coffee break
- 11:00-12:30 Continuation of morning parallel sessions (discussion, consensus, writing up of research gaps)
- 12:30-14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-15:00 Parallel sessions of (each BOG in 2 subgroups):
Breakout Group 3: Integrated drought modelling: Interactions and global change
Breakout Group 4: Methodologies for monitoring and forecasting
(brief introduction, points from individual participants, discussion)
- 15:00-15:30 Coffee break
- 15:30-17:00 Continuation of afternoon parallel sessions (discussion, consensus, writing up of research gaps)
- 18:00 Social event (beach walk and workshop dinner)

² BOG: Breakout Group

³ Completion of state of the art and additional research gaps

Wednesday, 17 June 2009

08:30-09:30	Preparation of reports by rapporteurs and chair persons of breakout groups (merge subgroup reports) not all participants.
09:30-10:15	BOG 1: Atmosphere: climate drivers of drought (plenary presentation, round table discussion, including identifying drought research gaps for the roadmap)
10:15-10:30	Coffee break
10:30-11:15	BOG 2: Land: hydrological / land surface response (plenary presentation, round table discussion, including identifying drought research gaps for the roadmap)
11:15-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-12:15	BOG 3: Integrated drought modelling: Interactions and global change (plenary presentation, round table discussion, including identifying drought research gaps for the roadmap)
12:15-13:45	Lunch
13:45-14:30	BOG 4: Methodologies for monitoring and forecasting (plenary presentation, round table discussion, including identifying drought research gaps for the roadmap)
14:30-15:30	Wrapping-up session (how we will move forward)
15:30	Closure
	Departure participants

3. Expected input from participants

Participants will receive a so-called draft Guidance Document that includes information (state-of-the-art, research gaps) on Drought and the Natural System early June. Additionally, the participants will get a preliminary Background Document on the impact, management and policy aspects of drought.

At the workshop, participants are supposed to comment and to add to the draft Guidance Document on Drought & Natural System in parallel breakout groups. Based upon your expertise you are supposed to participate in a particular breakout group in the morning and another one in the afternoon (Tuesday). Early June we will inform you about the suggested list of participants for each breakout group. Prior to the workshop, you are strongly encouraged to formulate two or three bullet points for the discussion in the breakout group. Please note that the bullet points should refer to the natural system; the impact, management and policy aspects of drought will be discussed later in Venice and Brussels. The outcome of the breakout groups will be presented in a plenary session on Wednesday, which is followed by a round table discussion. The results from the breakout groups and the round table discussion will be included in the final Guidance

Document on Drought & Natural System. This Guidance Document will be input to the Workshop on Impacts (Venice) and the Conference on Management and Policy (Brussels).

Please note that the format of the workshop does not allow to give a oral presentation (except a few invited speakers in the opening session). Your expertise is well recognized and you are encouraged through discussion in the breakout groups to complete the state-of-the-art and to define missing research gaps on Drought & Natural System.

4. Transfer Schiphol-Amsterdam Airport – Conference Centre Leeuwenhorst, Noordwijkerhout v.v.

Although the distance from Schiphol-Amsterdam International Airport to the conference centre is not large, it is somewhat complicated to reach the centre by public transport. Therefore we offer organized transfer from the airport to the conference on arrival. You will be picked up at the airport, if you have given us your flight number and arrival time.. After arrival you have to claim your luggage, to go through the customs and then to walk to the main hall. You have to follow the sign “meeting point”. This meeting point is in the main hall of the airport where you also will find the escalators to the trains in the basement. The meeting point is a cube with red and white faces., which is several meters high. The map on the website provides more information:

http://content.schiphol.nl/info/plattegronden/pdf/plattegrond_plaza_uk.pdf. Somebody of the Local Organizing Committee will meet you there with a sign “XEROCHORE workshop, 15-17 June 2009”. In the week before the workshop you will receive a list when you will be picked up at the meeting point. We will also organize your transfer back to the airport if you have given us your departure time. Those partners who will fly out on Thursday 18 June, have been booked in the NH hotel at the airport for the night Wednesday/Thursday. Free transfer to the airport will be arranged on Wednesday afternoon after the workshop.

Clearly, we can only offer you this transfer service if you have informed us about your arrival and departure times.

4. Financial items

As a Core Group partners you are supposed to cover your own costs from the XEROCHORE budget you have received. The Conference Centre will charge you for the room and the meals upon departure. We negotiated a package price of 420 EUR. If you arrive on Sunday 14 June then you have to add 99 EUR and if you leave on Thursday 18 June, then you have to add 135 EUR. In addition, the Conference Centre will charge you for telephone, internet and drinks from the bar, if applicable.

Wageningen University will cover costs (also for Core Group partners):

- transfer costs Schiphol Airport - Conference Centre, Noordwijkerhout v.v.;
- coffee, tea and pastry - coffee and tea breaks
- reception drinks and snacks;
- drinks - lunches and dinners;
- transport social event;
- workshop dinner (beach);
- farewell drink;
- meeting costs (meeting rooms, PCs, beamers etc.).

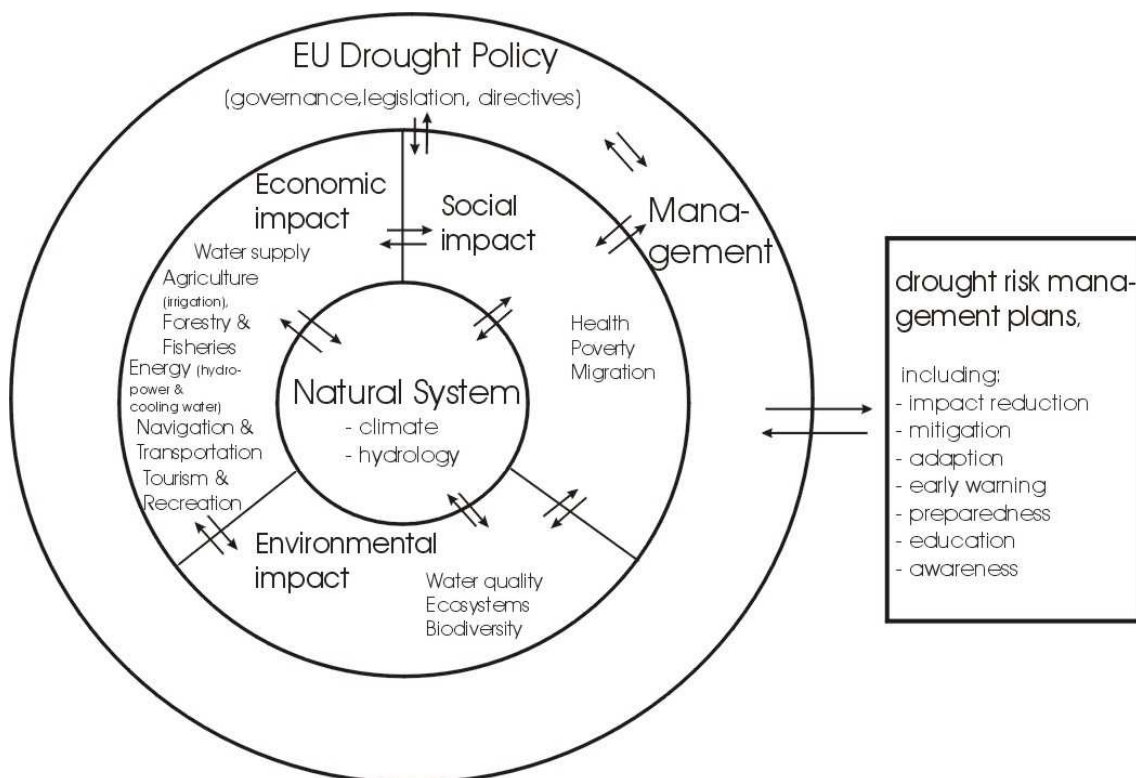
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Each participants will get a double room, because this is standard in this conference centre (one person per double room). If extra persons (e.g. family) come along, the costs for extra rooms (if more than 1 extra person) will be for the participant as well as the costs for extra breakfast, lunch or dinner.

Annex I Background information XEROCHORE

A.1 Introduction

In recent years large parts of Europe suffered from extreme drought, a phenomenon that likely will become more frequent and more severe, as predicted by the climate models. This will lead to significant socio-economic and environmental impacts and associated damages. There is therefore an urgent need to develop a roadmap toward a European Drought Policy, in accordance with the EU-Water Framework Directive (WFD) and related EU Legislation and Actions. The aim is to mitigate and to adapt to droughts, and hence reduce the risks they pose in Europe. The EU-FP7 XEROCHORE project is a Support Action (SA) that compiles a roadmap that comprises of: 1) a state-of-the-art review and identification of the research gaps in the natural system, in impact assessment, in policy-making and in integrated water resources management, and 2) an assessment of the possible impacts of droughts and guidance on appropriate responses for stakeholders.



Integration of relevant drought aspects towards a future EU Drought Policy

An extended network of experts will gather inputs for the roadmap through focussed workshops, round table discussions, which integrate the various aspects, and a concluding conference. A Core Group will guide and facilitate the discussion and synthesis process, and eventually write the integrated roadmap. The project network consists of over 80 organizations including research institutes, universities, ministries, water management organizations, stakeholders, consultants, international organizations and programmes. It includes key members of the European Drought Centre and the WFD-CIS Working Group on Water Scarcity and Drought and representatives from overseas and neighbourhood countries, in particular around the Mediterranean Basin. The large number of organizations covering different aspects and geographic regions guarantee that all drought aspects will be covered. The drought network will be embedded in the already-existing European Drought Centre to reach the wider scientific community and to provide

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research advice and policy support to the European Commission beyond the lifetime of this project.

A.2 Objectives of XEROCHORE

The broad objectives are to:

1. synthesize knowledge on past, current and future drought events;
2. compile a roadmap that provides a short to long term vision on research needs
3. Provide information on possible impacts of droughts, as well as guidance for stakeholders in the area of planning, implementation and scenarios;
4. Further extend and develop the drought network that was established as part of the European Drought Centre (EDC) to assess the international state of the art in research related to droughts (addressing the natural system, economic, social and environmental aspects, and policy development);
5. Initiate a long lasting platform through the network that communicates drought related research and policy making within the research community and the wider public, leading to an intensive communication between the different scientific drought communities, disciplines, stakeholder representatives, planners, policy-analysts and decision-makers.

The objectives will be achieved through two workshops, namely:

1. Drought & Natural System (Climate and Hydrology);
2. Drought & Impacts.

The project will conclude with a conference on “Drought, management and policy”. The planned project duration is 18 months.

A.3 Workshop Drought & Natural System

The workshop will bring together a large group of invited hydrologists and climatologist working on drought from Europe, neighbourhood countries and overseas. Some experts on drought impacts, management and policy will also participate to keep the outcome of the workshop consistent with these fields that will be addressed in following meeting. In total about 60 experts will participate in the workshop.

The specific objectives of the workshop are to:

1. synthesize knowledge on past, current and future drought events with focus on the hydrological and climatological system;
2. contribute to the roadmap that provides a short to long term vision on research needs;
3. build a drought network as a further extension of the European Drought Centre (EDC).

The following topics will be addressed:

- (a) persistent large-scale weather patterns causing drought in Europe and its variability;
- (b) propagation of meteorological droughts into soil water droughts (relevant for ecosystems and agriculture) and hydrological droughts (groundwater and surface water; relevant for, e.g. water resources, ecosystems, including aquatic and riparian areas, navigation, electrical power production, irrigated agriculture);
- (c) investigation of physical causes for historical droughts;
- (d) spatial and temporal development of past droughts, incl. ending of a drought;

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(f) methodologies suitable for early warning systems and forecasting of drought.

The topics will also consider existing information on human influences (e.g. land use (change), abstractions). It will also include climate change.