



# 1st International Conference on SUSTAINABLE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

First Announcement and Call for Papers

## First International Conference on **SUSTAINABLE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT**

Istanbul, 19-23 September 2011

### **OBJECTIVE and SCOPE of the CONFERENCE SERIES**

The overall objective of this Conference Series is to enhance and evaluate, at the global level, decision support tools and models for the sustainable use and development of watersheds. This objective will be accomplished by:

- integration of existing expertise and advancing knowledge,
- strengthening scientific and technological excellence,
- increasing scientific acceptability through publications,
- organizing training programs,
- establishing web-based platforms.

The series of Conferences will be structured to address these issues. Pre-conference courses will be offered to provide technical training for conference participants who are unfamiliar with tools for integrated watershed management.

The First Conference will provide participants with an opportunity to develop understanding and skills in advanced decision support tools and models for sustainable management of watersheds. Participants from all over the world will exchange knowledge on how to use advanced tools for assessment and decision-making that provide the ability to manage watersheds to balance economic and environmental considerations. Participants will benefit from applying the sustainable use and development models to minimize and mitigate anthropogenic effects on the natural capital of water resources, watersheds, and socioeconomic systems. This will lead to recommendations based on an "ecosystem approach" for decision-making directed at protection of human security and peace. Further, group sessions will result in the identification and harmonization of terms and principles of integrated watershed management as well as recommendations for application and implementation of sustainable use and development practices in developing countries.

On the whole the outcome will be sharing of knowledge, ensuring lasting integration of information and data, networking of experts and stakeholders across and throughout the participating countries, expanding use of scientific tools to promote sustainability on a watershed basis, and to spread sound watershed management practices worldwide.

### **WHY WATERSHEDS and DECISION SUPPORT TOOLS for MANAGEMENT**

Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes, and they cross political and geographic boundaries. No matter where you are, you are in a watershed! Watersheds supply drinking water, provide recreation, and sustain life worldwide. Watersheds are rich in natural capital, producing goods (agriculture and fisheries products) and services (industry, energy, and technology) for broad geographic areas. In many countries, the base of watersheds, where rivers empty into large water bodies such as estuaries and oceans, are centers of society. These are typically densely populated areas that serve as concentrated centers of socioeconomic systems. They also are centers of domestic and international commerce and tourism, and often are where local, regional, and national governments are located. Watershed systems are highly vulnerable to threats to human security and peace.

Because we all live in a watershed, our individual actions can directly and indirectly affect it. The cumulative effects of all the individual actions of everyone within a watershed may be, and often are, devastating to the quality of water resources and affect the health of all living things.

Traditionally, water is managed by different geographical compartments (e.g., rivers, reservoirs, lakes, estuaries, groundwater) using specific tools for each compartment and often by different institutions or governmental entities. But management for sustained use of water and other ecosystem resources requires an integrated watershed-based approach. Watershed management is a broad issue that requires expertise from multiple disciplines including water quality and water quantity, transport of pollutants in the aquatic medium, aquatic chemistry and ecology, as well as social sciences, economics, and decision making. Multidisciplinary approaches are required, and groups of natural scientists, engineers, social scientists, and managers must collaborate to develop and implement recommendations for sustainable management of natural capital.

A watershed approach is the most effective framework to address today's water resource challenges. A watershed approach involves a coordinating framework for environmental management that focuses public and private sector efforts to address the highest priority problems within hydrological defined geographic areas, taking into consideration both natural and socioeconomic systems. Management tools for all the geographical compartments are coupled and used interactively. These integrated management systems provide information and results to all the stakeholders in the watershed and consequently stimulate collaboration and cooperation among competing users of the natural capital. In a framework of cooperation, it is easier to share knowledge, data, and working methods with the advantage being sustained use and development by stakeholders.

## **THEMES OF THE CONFERENCE**

- **Good watershed management practices:** examples from various countries including climate change challenges and trans-boundary problems to be presented by invited key speakers
- **Decision support tools:** monitoring, GIS, data / information management, indicators, ecological economics, cost/benefit analysis, decision making models, legislation and policies, participatory methods / water user partnerships
- **Models:** integrated watershed model applications for watershed management

## **ORGANIZERS**

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## **MODERATORS of PANEL MEETINGS**

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Raghavan Srinivasan, Texas A&M University, USA  
Rebecca W. Hanmer, USA

## **PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME**

### **Pre-Conference Activities (12-17 September 2011)**

Course: Modeling with SWAT, R. Srinivasan and K. Abbaspour  
Course: Modeling with MOHID LAND, R. Neves and F. Braunschweig  
Course: Modeling with MOHID WATER, R. Neves and L. Fernandes  
Course: Modeling with WASP, R. Ambrose and A. Ekdal  
Course: Theory & Practice of Hierarchical Decision Making, B. Srdjevic  
Course: MODELKEY DSS: a decision support tool for river basin  
Assessment and Management, E. Semenzin and S. Gottardo  
Course: GIS for Environmental Projects, D. Z. Şeker

(daily program will be announced in the 2nd Announcement )

### **Tentative Conference Program (19-23 September 2011)**

**19 September:** Integrated Watershed Management Practice (invited key-speakers)

**20 September:** Concurrent Sessions - one each on the basic conference themes –  
Decision Support - Tools and Models

**21 September:** Concurrent Sessions - one each on the basic conference themes –  
Decision Support - Tools and Models

**22 September:** Istanbul tour and Conference dinner

**23 September:** Panel meetings (concurrent meetings)  
Conference General Assembly meeting – conclusions and results

### **Post-conference Activities (24-30 September 2011)**

Optional 3-5 days excursion to Ephesus, Troy or Cappadocia or Pamukkale  
(details will be announced in the 2nd Announcement )

## **SUBMISSION OF PAPERS**

All interested contributors are invited to submit abstracts of oral or poster presentations. Abstract submissions must be sent to the Conference's secretariat by **email** **<suwama2011.conference@igemportal.org>** before 17 January 2011. Author should identify their intent of submitting an oral or poster presentation while online registration. .

**Abstracts** of scientific or practical approaches will be reviewed by Conference Scientific Committee. After the approval of abstracts authors will have the opportunity to submit a full paper for publishing in a scientific journal (see instructions below). All oral and poster presentations must submit an abstract of 500 – 1000 words. Abstracts must be written in English with "times new roman 11 character" format. Abstracts will be published in the short Proceedings to be handed out at the conference.

**Full paper submission for publication** - Papers must be original and previously unpublished scientific research (maximum 6000 word manuscript) follows. Papers will be submitted for publication in the relevant scientific journal. Papers must be written in English according to the guidelines from the publisher, which will be distributed with the second Call / Announcement for this Conference. Note that all papers are subject to the peer review process.

**If you plan to submit an abstract and a full-paper, please note the following schedule:**

<b>Abstract submission deadline</b>	<b>17 January 2011</b>
<b>Acceptance of submissions</b>	<b>15 March 2011</b>
<b>Draft program with the second Announcement</b>	<b>4 April 2011</b>
<b>Full paper submission deadline</b>	<b>24 June 2011</b>
<b>Final program</b>	<b>25 July 2011</b>

## REGISTRATION

All participants should register between November 8, 2010 and September 1, 2011, following instructions given at the conference website <http://igemportal.org/?Dil=1&SID=689> . Please note that number of participants will not be more than 300 and will be restricted by the organizing committee.

## LANGUAGE

The language of the conference is English.

## CONFERENCE VENUE

The Conference will be held in Hotel Artemis Marin Princess, Kumburgaz, Istanbul.

## REGISTRATION FEES AND ACCOMMODATION

Registration fee of the conference is	400 EUR
Early registration fee (by 15 March)	300 EUR
Reduced fees for young scientists (less than 30 years old) from developing countries	200 EUR
Reduced fees for students	200 EUR
Registration fee for each course for conference registered participants	150 EUR
Registration fees only for course participants	300 EUR

Conference registration fee includes proceeding of abstracts, welcome cocktail reception, Istanbul tour (except entrance to museums) and Conference dinner, coffee breaks and VAT (value added tax). The course fee only includes the participation in all lessons, the course material, which will be distributed during the course, VAT and coffee breaks. Please transfer the conference and course (if any) fee to:

YAPI ve KREDİ BANKASI, Çatalçeşme İstanbul Branch TURKEY  
 IGEM Account No. 0329 66893324 (EURO Account)  
 Swift: YAPITRISFEX IBAN: TR060006701000000066893324

after on-line registration. Please include your full contact details on bank debit slip and E-mail or fax this slip back to: [suwama2011.conference@igemportal.org](mailto:suwama2011.conference@igemportal.org) or +90 216 361 22 35.

Details about the accommodation and optional excursion will be presented in the second Announcement. Cost of accommodation will be around 75 EUR per day for single room including three meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner).

## SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

The second Announcement will appear at the conference webpage <http://www.igemportal.org/?Dil=1&SID=689> on April 4, 2011.