

Public Newsletter No 2

May 2006

Welcome to FLOODsite Public News

It is nearly a year since our last public newsletter but these will become more frequent now the project is beginning to deliver results.

News and publications on www.floodsite.net

I would encourage you to visit the website and look at the news and publications pages. You will find several documents have been uploaded in recent weeks and more will be added shortly. There is a “What’s new” tool to allow you to access the most recent posts quickly.

Project Progress

In April we reported to our research client in Brussels on our progress in the second year and plans for the next 12 months. All our research tasks are active and our progress review identified over 130 outputs that team members have produced or are planning in the next 12 months. These are project reports, journal papers and conference papers. Wherever possible these will be placed on the website for public access, however, the conditions for publication in some scientific journals may restrict us to posting a link to the website of the journal concerned.

Project links

In response to advice from the independent evaluators of our first annual report we have developed a database of current and completed research projects related to FLOODsite; summary information on these is available on the public part of the project website.

European Action Programme on Flood Risk Management

In January 2006 a proposal for a European Directive on flood risk management was published and this is now under active discussion in the EU Member States. The text and current position on the adoption of the Directive can be found on the EC website at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/flood_risk/dir_asses.htm.

The Directive is one part of the European Action Programme. Other activities include information exchange on current practice on relevant issues, led by representatives of the executive agencies in several member states. Topics for existing groups are flood forecasting (the EXCIFF group) and flood mapping (the EXCIMAP group); a group covering land use and flood risk may start later this year.

More information on aspects of the Action Programme were presented at the conference on Floods hosted in Vienna on 17-18 May by the Austrian Presidency of the EU; see the presentations on the conference website: <http://www.wassernet.at/article/archive/5711/>.

Developments of our project website

In the coming weeks we shall be upgrading our project website to make information easier for you to find. The next newsletter will highlight the changes and additional content – so as they say...

Watch this space

Paul Samuels

Project Coordinator

31 May 2006