



Summary P1027 - Aquaterra

Project number : P1027
 Short title : Aquaterra
 Type/Theme : Fundamental applied scientific / innovative practical project (bridge project)
 Estimated costs :

Consortium

	Stakeholders	Contact
Consortium leader	TNO	Huub Rijnaarts, Jan Joziassse, Hans van Duijne
Other members	VU Amsterdam Wageningen University Utrecht University ABdK/Province of Noord-Brabant	Kees van Gestel Ekko van Ierland Marc Bierkens Ebel Smidt, Erik Kessels
	RIZA	Jos Vink

Climate changes may adversely affect water quality and water quantity in the catchment areas of rivers. In order to find out what measures the managers of these river areas must take, more knowledge must be available regarding the relationship between the soil and the river water, that is regarding the behaviour of contaminating substances in this respect. Within this European project, Living with Water primarily focuses on the catchment areas of the Maas and Dommel rivers.

Objective and bottlenecks

Improving the knowledge of climatic influences on the water cycle, water quality and availability and the functions of the soil. In this project, LmW also focuses on integrating the research results into policy and on applying the knowledge in the Dutch situation (Maas case).

Global developments and climate changes in particular may adversely influence the water quality and the water quantity in the catchment areas of rivers. In the water cycle, the soil influences the groundwater suppletion and the chemical composition of groundwater and surface water. Sediments also influence surface water and groundwater.

Plan of approach

AQUATERRA is a long-term European Integration project involving various European partners. The Dutch participants are the Delft Cluster and the Ministries of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV), Housing, Spatial planning and the Environment (VROM) and Transport, Public works and Water Management (V&W). The Dutch parties are involved in various studies on soil-water management in river catchment areas, i.c. Brévilles, Maas, Ebro, Elbe and Donau.

LmW focuses on integrating the developed knowledge and on the interaction of science, civil engineering, economic sciences and administrative processes (including decision-making). The parties involved in the catchment areas participate in stakeholder groups, which organize conferences, workshops and symposia.

Results

Knowledge of the ongoing processes in river catchment areas regarding the water cycle, the water quality and the availability and the functions of the soil. LmW is primarily interested in the administrative and socio-economic aspects.

Final result

Insight into the development of soil and water quality under the influence of climate changes, land use and pollution.

Keywords