8th International SedNet conference

Innovative Sediment Management: How to do more with less

6-9 November 2013 – Lisbon, Portugal
Sediment quantity and hydro-morphology

Human management of most European rivers means that the natural sediment transport processes have been substantially modified, sometimes with dramatic consequences for the stability of rivers and coastlines. The European Water Framework Directive calls for the restoration of good hydromorphological status *inter alia* by reconnecting aquatic systems. This demands careful risk assessment before any measures are taken. We need better understanding of both current status and potential impacts to ensure that hydromorphological assessments are reliable and measures are appropriate.
Moving Sediment Management Forward
10 years of SedNet

Sediment quality and remobilisation
Contaminated sediments can have adverse effects on people, the environment and the economy. Because sediment is moved through the river basin to the sea, such effects can occur not only locally but far from the source of the contamination. Remediation and protection measures therefore need to be integrated into river basin management plans. To ensure management is effective we need better understanding of the underlying processes of remobilization, phase transfer, availability of contaminants and their transport, particularly under extreme conditions.
Sediment and river ecology
Sediment is a fundamentally important component of aquatic ecosystems. Achieving a sustainable balance between the development of waterways and meeting ecosystem objectives (i.e. to reach good ecological status and protect ecosystem functions) will depend on both constructive dialogue between various stakeholders and better policy coordination.
Dredged material management
A sustainable approach in relation to the management of dredged material requires a change of focus: rather than considering dredged material as a waste, dredged sediments need to be seen as a resource. Issues of perception remain one of the biggest challenges to those promoting sustainable dredged material management. EU level support will be important in helping to change attitudes and to promote integrated dredged material management within the existing legislative framework.
How to proceed with sediment (1) research and management – SedNet

Aims of SedNet

- Contribute to the further development of a holistic understanding of sediments and their management
- Be a multidisciplinary platform for communication and education about Sediment Management and the needs for further action (either in policy making, management or research)
- Be the main contact – information point for the European Commission on sediment related questions in relation to sediment related EU policies
How to proceed with sediment (2) research and management - SedNet

- Follow-up on ‘10 years of SedNet’ messages
- Follow-up on Working Group Initiatives
- Maintain relations with EU & EU networks (ECSA, ARCH..)
- Keep on giving input in EU policy processes
- New Round Table reports and Papers!
- Next conference in 2015?
- Sediment documents on library of www.sednet.org
- New Steering Group members?