



7th international SedNet event. 6 – 9 April 2011

Venice, Italy

Dredged material assessment nowadays and in the future

DGE

Key messages - Dredged material assessment in the future

Forms the starting point in the management chain - has to account for the varying complexity of the problems *ab initio*

Has to account for the whole life cycle and address sustainability

Needs for better integration of different legislative and guidance frameworks

Has to be problem-oriented/risk-based

Has to be proportionate

Should integrate the management and protection goals

Key messages - Dredged material assessment in the future

Better use of options through improved communication with stakeholders based on dredged material as a resource

As for protected areas need to demonstrate that conservation objectives are not compromised.

The environment outside the dredging and disposal sites should not be significantly affected



Key messages - Dredged material assessment in the future

Should be based on a better understanding of the system and its interactions; monitoring could be crucial

Should rely on effect-based criteria (sediment quality guidelines based on the response of the ecosystem in situ and at the relocation site)

Should use WOE approaches and a better understanding of integrating the LOE

EQS should be based on a regional (e.g. river basin) approach taking local conditions into account.

Is integrated as relevant issue from the very start when developing new technical and environmental specifications e.g. applying working with nature approach

Key messages - Dredged material assessment nowadays and in the future

Transparent and scientifically sound, thus helping to overcome negative risk perception of dredging and dredged material in the public domain

Should be developed in a dialogue between scientists, regulators, users and practitioners

Does not replace the decision but provides a scientific assessment of decision options.