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SedNet

European Sediment Research Network

scribed to the network. In that same period, scientific, policy and management aspects of contaminated sediments and dredged material were addressed in 17 workshops and 3 conferences. Europe's leading scientists and major sediment managers contributed to these activities. The results are summarised in the **SedNet booklet**. The comprehensive results will be published in 2006 by Elsevier as a series of four books.

Our mission is to be a European network aimed at incorporating sediment issues and knowledge into **European strategies** to support the achievement of a good environmental status and to develop new tools for sediment management.

Our focus is on all sediment quality and quantity issues on a river basin scale, ranging from freshwater to estuarine and marine sediments.

We bring together experts from science, administration and industry. We interact with the various networks in Europe that operate at the national or international level or that focus on specific fields (such as science, policy making, sediment management, industry, education).

Our aims are:

- To contribute to the further development of a holistic understanding of sediments and their management;
- To be a multidisciplinary platform for communication of sediment management and the needs for future action;
- To be main contact / information point for the European Commission (EC) on sediment related questions.

Network structure. SedNet is structured in order to enhance communication on sediment issues. For that reason it is essential that SedNet exchanges information with other networks and organizations. To date, SedNet is formed by individual and institutional members, supported by a Steer Group (SG) and a Secretariat, as presented in **Fig. 1**.

A **daily management team**, appointed by the SG, is responsible for the following tasks, and reports to the SG:

- Making ad-hoc management decisions with regards to communication with other networks, the EC etc.;
- Preparing SG meetings;
- Checking status of actions agreed on in the SG meetings;
- Controlling the finances.

Fig. 1: The SedNet network structure with some examples of strategic alliances and partnerships

The SedNet **home base** is located at the Venice Port Authority in Venice. The home base may be used for SG and is intended to host important SedNet meetings.

The **SedNet forum** is available to the SedNet members to start and continue a web based discussion on any sediment related issues. Other SedNet members can join that discussion on any time. The SedNet management keeps the right to stop and/or remove discussions that are conflicting to the SedNet mission and objectives.

Through the **E-newsletter service** SedNet keeps you regularly updated on SedNet and any other sediment related, latest policy or management developments, EC news, events (workshops, conferences, training courses etc.), publications etc. At the **Join SedNet** site you can indicate whether you want to receive this E-newsletter.

EU Projects

OT-SAFE

Sources, consumer exposure and risks of organotin contamination in seafood. Results of large EU-wide survey of TBT in seafood and human risk assessment.

ABACUS

Evaluation of availability to biota for organic compounds ubiquitous in soils and sediments. EU contract EVK1-2001-00094.

AQEM

Development and Testing of an Integrated Assessment System for the Ecological Quality of Streams and Rivers throughout Europe using Benthic Macroinvertebrates. EU contract EVK1-CT-1999-00027.

COSA

EU-Research Program 'Coastal Sands as Biocatalytic Filters'. EU contract EVK3-2001-00183, EVK3-CT-2002-00076.

EUGRIS

European Groundwater and Contaminated Land Information System. EU contract EVK1-CT-2002-80021.

DESPRAL

An environmental soil test to determine the potential for sediment and phosphorous transfer in run-off from agricultural land. EU contract EVK1-1999-00031.

MODELKEY

Models for Assessing and Forecasting the Impact of Environmental Key Pollutants on Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems and Biodiversity. EU contract 511237 (GOCE).

PhytoDec

A Decision Support System to quantify cost/benefit relationships of the use of vegetation in the management of heavy metal polluted soils and dredged sediments. EVK1-1999-00024, EVK1-2002-00552.

SENSPOL

European Thematic Network aimed to enhance the development of sensors for practical applications in the abatement of water pollution. EVK1-CT1999-20001.

WELCOME

Development of Integrated Management System (IMS) for prevention and reduction of pollution of waterbodies at contaminated industrial megasites. EVK1-2001-00103.

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