
Danish Water Forum, Danish Research Platform – Water and Water Research Initiative
ViVa hereby invite to a workshop:

“Identifying water and climate related topics for research”

28 January 2009.

Venue: Marble Hall, 40 Thorvaldsensvej,
University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Life Sciences

Rationale: The Danish Research Platform Water (DRPW)* is aiming at setting up a new working group with focus on climate changes and water. The aim is to identify research items, which will provide an opportunity to get access to Danish, European and other Research funds. Climate change related to water is very much a discussion about adaptation to a changing climate, an area where developing countries face the main challenges. For this reason the Working Group on Climate Change within the DRPW will not only address issues related to Denmark, but also to the rest of the world including developing countries. Accordingly Danish Water Forum and ViVa are co-conveners for the workshop.

Development of research projects will have to provide results that can be utilized in Denmark as well as in developing countries such as Danish partner countries. Researchers from developing countries should therefore be partners in the discussion of research topics and projects within this theme as well as Danish researchers and end-users. Danish Water Forum has as an important field of work to facilitate cooperation and knowledge sharing between researchers and practitioners from developing countries and Denmark.

Setting up a Danish research working group, including researchers from developing countries in the discussions and facilitation cooperation between North and South is the purpose of this workshop, where knowledge needs and research projects will be discussed. It is not expected that the results from such research projects can be transferred directly to developing countries but the results could be utilized for further adaptation activities.

Invitees for this workshop are all Danish researchers with an interest in Climate change and water – in North and South. 4-6 researchers from developing countries will be invited to participate and contribute to the discussions. The researchers will be from Danish Partner countries with research cooperation and experience within research related to climate change such as Tanzania, Vietnam, Zambia, SADC region and West Africa.

The participating researchers from South will also be invited to attend the RPW Annual Conference on 29 January, where they will be presented to results from Danish and European research projects related to water in general.

FORSKNINGSPLATFORMEN – VAND

Registration by email to Danish Water Forum at dwf@danishwaterforum.dk with subject: "Tilmelding DWRP Water/Climate"

Workshop agenda:

- 12.30 Welcome (sandwiches and beverages)
- 13.00 Opening of the workshop
- 13.20 Short presentations from researchers from universities/ research institutions from developing countries, focusing on research needs related to the overall topic of the workshop.
- 14.00 Presentations of results from a DWF/Danida workshop on Transboundary water management (Dec 08)
- 14.30 Presentation of Danish research projects on climate change, some with results transferable to developing countries.
- 15.00 Discussions on research ideas in groups
- 16.30 Plenum session
- 17.00 Concluding remarks and action plan for the way forward
- 17.30 Establishing a working group under DRPW (possibility to participate for researchers from South, mainly virtually)
- 18.00 End of workshop

Needs and assumptions:

It is assumed that there is an interest among Danish researchers to engage in the working group after the workshop. It is also assumed that DWF can identify 5-6 researchers from Danida countries to participate and contribute in the workshop. Potential candidates could be representatives from the Vietnamese and Tanzanian research projects on Climate changes (3 persons), identified water researchers from the southern Africa through the preliminary DWF-mission in November 08. There may be a need to have Danida accept of the approach.

*: The Danish Research Platform Water was established in 2005 under the initiative from Danish Water Forum. The aim was to have all the players in the water sector go together to formulate research projects, which would assess specific needs from the end-users and ensure research projects with participation of universities, research institutions, water utility industries, water supply companies and end users. By the end of 2008, the DRPW has initiated more than 10 research projects.