

## ***Interactive comment on “The “WFD-effect” on upstream-downstream relations in international river basins – insights from the Rhine and the Elbe basins” by S. Moellenkamp***

**Y. von Korff**

yorck.von-korff@cemagref.fr

Received and published: 12 September 2007

Very interesting article in total. Illuminating overview of the issues arising between upstream/ downstream countries in a river basin and particular in the Rhine and Elbe. And it becomes clear that the WFD has encouraged further cooperation between the concerned stakeholder countries.

Some questions remain of course: The fact of finding each other together in a common legal context (WFD) and to "suffer" an outside control institution (European Commission) explains - according to this article - the enhanced cooperation. But is this sufficient as an explanation? I would like to know more what processes the ICPR and the

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper

ICPE have used to build trust (beyond the trust they had already established by the year 2000).

And: What exactly are the effects of the insistence on the polluter pays principle by the WFD? May it not hinder in practice other creative solutions such as the compensation mechanisms that were used previously (Moellenkamp mentions a possible way around but it would be interesting to see how this works in practice).

On a formal level it might be useful to be more clear about the purpose of the paper in the abstract. Only the last paragraph mentions it briefly but at this point it does not become clear what are the "results presented in this article" and why they are important to be known.

---

Interactive comment on Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci. Discuss., 4, 1407, 2007.

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper