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FUTURE WATERS FOR EUROPE

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The future of Europe's waters will be influenced by a combination of many important environmental, social, political, and policy drivers, such as global change, population growth, land use change, economical and technological developments. Political developments, such as the enlargement of the European Union will have impact on Europe's waters. Amongst the most important policy drivers are the current and future agricultural, industrial, energy, trade, transportation and environmental policies.

One of the most important policy drivers is implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD). The WFD promotes sustainable water use based on long-term protection of water resources. Since many basins are trans-boundary in nature, the WFD encourages a European approach to river basin management. River basin management plans have to take a broad view of water availability, including the quantity and quality of surface waters and groundwater.

An important task is to assess the future state of waters in Europe in order to anticipate and plan for the problems of future water use for different sectors, availability and quality. This will allow water authorities, water companies, and policy makers to devise better strategies for water policies and water management in Europe.

This Conference will elucidate potential visions of Europe's water resources, in terms of quantity and quality, water use and availability, and adoptive strategies and implementation plans how reach sufficient water supply in next decades in Europe.

The Conference is directed to policy makers working at international and national level, water managers, NGOs, and scientific community. It is our purpose to produce policy recommendations as an outcome of the Conference.