



TWINBASIN MISSIONS : REPORTING GUIDELINES

Mission reference
2005 C 2 T 12 M 2

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Expert Name and function	Prof A Werritty, Director of the Centre for Research on Water, University of Dundee Scotland
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<u>Mission Report</u>	
Wording of mission	<i>In short, objective or content of mission</i>
	<i>The objective of Mission #1 is to develop a stakeholder engagement framework for the Spey based on the lessons learned in the Motueka. We recognise that the resources for research and collaborative investigations carried out in a national programme like Motueka ICM cannot be replicated in every catchment; the experiences and knowledge – including both successes and failures - from the Motueka programme can be distilled into useful guidelines for designing an effective stakeholder engagement strategy for the Spey.</i>

1. CONTEXT

Place, location	Country visited, Basin Organization concerned, other information about location in the Nelson area. Nelson, New Zealand Basin Organisation, Landcare Ltd. Lincoln, New Zealand.
Mission duration	Mission comprised 14 days in New Zealand: 6-13 November 2005.

2. OBJECTIVES

	Initial objectives	Results	Results indicator
1	Compare and contrast the governance of river basin management programmes in New Zealand and Scotland	<p>River basin management in New Zealand is largely undertaken by local authorities with central government rarely involved. Overall national objectives (including managing river basins) have been defined in the <i>The Resource Management Act (1991)</i>, but their implementation is a duty placed on local authorities as part of their overall planning processes. Implementation varies widely across the nation.</p> <p>By contrast, under the requirements of the EU Water Framework Directive, river basin management is highly centralized. The Scottish Executive is required to develop and implement river basin management plans in accordance with EU-wide norms. There is little opportunity for local divergence from these norms. A highly centralized system of environmental governance is emerging.</p>	<p>Tasman District Council sees the development of ICM on the Motueka as part of its implementation of a Resource Management Plan in accordance with the <i>The Resource Management Act (1991)</i>. Only in discussions on creating a Water Conservation Order on the Motueka was central government involved.</p> <p>In Scotland the Scottish Executive requires its national regulator (the Scottish Environment Protection Agency) to develop, implement and report on all aspects of river basin management planning. When River Basin Management Plans are fully implemented, local authorities will merely be one of many key stakeholders. Adherence to national norms will be required of all river basin management organizations.</p>
2	Understand the design and development of the Motueka ICM programme, particularly with reference to stakeholder engagement and community participation	<p>The development of the Motueka ICM programme has been driven by the desire to achieve a better balance between the expectations of scientists, policy-makers and key stakeholders in river basin management, in accordance with the principles of the UNESCO-HELP programme</p> <p>Throughout, dissemination of results back to the stakeholders, community and other local authorities across</p>	<p>In accordance with HELP principles, stake-holder engagement and community participation were incorporated at the planning stage of the ICM and continue to be important 5 years later. The key scientific questions emerge from consultation and discussion with the key stakeholders. Progress then arises as the research team (including physical and social scientists) develop appropriate models to address the agreed questions.</p> <p>Dissemination has included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops/training sessions at the Annual General

		New Zealand has been a very important output.	<p>Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The production of a website in which all aspects of the programme are updated and summarized. • The production of a report (The Motueka and Riwaka catchments) which summarises key scientific issues • Successful mounting of “Travelling River” an exhibition communicating the programme to non-specialists by innovative use of pictures, photographs and graphic design. • Development of the Motueka CD ROM for dissemination to stakeholders
3	Identify successful outcomes of the Motueka ICM programme with potential for implementation in the river basin management plan for the River Spey	<p>Motueka successful outcomes</p> <p>Links between cattle crossing (wading through the river), downstream water quality (fecal colliforms) and human health following bathing in the river.</p> <p>Debate on the relative merits of willow and native species in stabilizing river banks.</p> <p>Controls on abstraction (Water Conservation Order) which has assisted in protecting the brown trout fishery.</p> <p>Group of selected stakeholders including foresters, farmers and scientists examining the water resource impacts of current forestry practices</p>	<p>Relevant Management Objectives in <u>Spey Catchment Management Plan</u></p> <p>Promote agricultural practices which benefit water quality and riparian and wetland habitats</p> <p>Develop, promote and support a strategic response towards the control of invasive riverine species</p> <p>Improved knowledge and understanding of trout distribution and biology within the catchment and co-ordinate management with other fisheries</p> <p>Develop a better understanding of the implications for water quality and freshwater ecology of forestry management within the catchment</p>

		<p>Dialogue between foresters, Fish and Game New Zealand, farmers and local authority (extracting river gravels from river bed) on optimal management of low flows</p> <p>Community Reference Group initiated at beginning of project and used to consult on each phase of the ICM programme</p> <p>“Travelling River” exhibition taken around communities within the catchment as well as the Art Gallery in Nelson.</p>	<p>Develop a vision for the contribution of woodlands to management of the catchment while promoting and supporting good woodland management</p> <p>Gain a better understanding of the overall water resource capabilities of the Spey catchment and establish the optimum low flow mitigation measures for the catchment</p> <p>Raise the profile of the economic, cultural and environmental importance of the river and its tributaries among residents and visitors and establish a better basis for the sharing of information</p>
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3. ACTIVITIES DEVELOPED DURING THE MISSION

Activity 1	Topic : <i>(Legal aspects, Regulation, Institutional, Finance, Communication ...)</i>
Description <i>(Exchange of experience or practice, Increasing of knowledge and learning, Development of methodology, Training ...)</i>	<p>The first week involved attending a two-day workshop on the Motueka ICM programme (one day of papers followed by a one day field trip in the Motueka catchment) plus a two day workshop with water resource managers from Pacific nations who are attempting to develop UNESCO HELP basins in their countries.</p> <p>This week introduced me to the initiation, development and current implementation of the Motueka ICM programme since 2000. It also enabled me to make initial contact with a range of stakeholders and representatives of the community whom I could then interview the following week. The 2-day Pacific nations HELP workshop provided an extended opportunity to learn more about the UNESCO-HELP programme. The River Spey will be proposed to the European HELP Co-ordinator as Scotland’s HELP basin following this mission.</p>

Activity 2	Topic :
Description	The second week was spent visiting and interviewing staff in the Tasman and Malborough District Councils and interviewing key stakeholders and members of the Community Reference Group. Malborough District Council is one of many

local authorities for whom ICM could be a valuable framework within which to develop their environmental management policy. Tasman District Council is already a major stakeholder in the Motueka ICM programme and is one of four partner organizations involved in promoting ICM within the Motueka catchment.

The following stakeholders were interviewed:

Tasman District Council:

Rob Smith (Resource Information and Investigation)

Martin Doyle (Hydrometric networks)

Eric Verstappen (River engineer)

Joseph Thomas (Ground water engineer)

Steve Markham (Planning and Environmental Policy)

Clare Webster (Environmental Education)

Glen Lauder (Programme facilitator)

Julian Raine (Orchardist and former Deputy Chair of Landcare Research)

Neil Dean (Assistant Director: Fish and Game)

The following member of the Community Reference Group were interviewed:

Geoff Rowling (Orchardist and member of National Recreational Fishing Council)

Alastair Webber (Tourist and Fishing Lodge operator)

Guthrie Beaton (Valuer, farmer and long time resident)

As a result of these structured interviews (which lasted between 30 and 60 minutes and were taped for later reviewing) I have a much clearer understanding of

- Governance issues: the relationship of the Motueka ICM to implementation of New Zealand's *Resource Management Act* (1991)
- The role of local authorities in implementing the *Act* at a local level, including the management of fresh and marine water resources
- The degree to which the development and implementation of environmental policy and regulation is devolved to local authorities with minimal central government guidance
- The potential contribution of stakeholders and communities in the design of ICM – and the need to consult early in the programme
- The very high costs (capital resources and duration) of a programme in which scientists, policy-makers stakeholders and local communities are all contributing to the objectives of ICM
- The complex management structure needed to maintain active engagement of all the key players (scientists, policy-makers, stakeholders and local communities) and balance the expectations of the partner organizations who have responsibility for managing the programme
- The challenge of disseminating the outcomes of a high profile programme to other organizations with responsibilities for river basin management.

4. LESSONS LEARNT during the mission (*what could be shared with other partners and/or introduced in guidelines, as far as IWRM is concerned*)

- **About Methodology :**

The high costs of funding an ICM research programme (in this case mainly via major grant from the New Zealand Foundation for Scientific Research and Technology) in which both physical and social scientists were involved and in which there were high levels of stakeholder engagement and public participation. Given the need to integrate physical science and societal agendas, at least five years funding is necessary.

The need to have very clear management structures when a multi-partner project is being funded. In this case the major partners included Landcare Research, Tasman District Council, NIWA and the Cawthron Institute, with Landcare having overall responsibility for management

The need to include in the programme dissemination to other national/regional and local organizations also involved in river basin management especially when (as in this case) only one such programme can be funded at the national level.

The very challenging criteria that have to be met to achieve the status of a “demonstration” UNESCO HELP basin. This requires very high resource inputs over a sustained period.

- **About Practice :**

In terms of governance, the relationship of the Motueka ICM to implementation of New Zealand's *Resource Management Act* (1991)

The role of local authorities in implementating the *Act* at a local level, including the management of fresh and marine water resources

The degree to which the development and implementation of environmental policy and regulation is devolved to local authorities with minimal central government guidance

The potential value of community engagement (in this case the Community Reference Group) as a sounding board for issue-based science programmes. This is fundamental if HELP principles are to underpin the programme

The importance of including stakeholder consultation and community engagement at an early stage in the design of an ICM programme which truly seeks to integrate science, policy and public participation.

The need to distinguish generic programme outcomes which can be disseminated to other national/regional and local organizations also involved in river basin management, from outcomes which are specific to the basin.

5. DISSEMINATION (opportunities and difficulties). In what measure these learnt lessons are applicable to :

a) The Basin Organization the expert belongs to:

An informal and voluntary *Spey Catchment Management Plan* was produced by the Spey Catchment Steering Group in 2003, substantially resourced by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) who appointed the Project Officer. In part, this was driven by the designation of the main stem of the River Spey as a Special Area of Conservation under the EC Habitats Directive which SNH is required to implement. Since then SNH and the Spey Fisheries Board have sought to promote implementation of the Plan. Publications by myself and Dr Andrew Black's proposal to the Rural Environment Land-Use research programme (funded by the UK's Economic and Social Research Council and Natural Environment Research Council) have also contributed to potential further development of the *Spey Catchment Management Plan*. My role is to reflect on how successfully delivered ICM in other parts of the world can inform the development of river basin management in the Spey basin.

b) National IWRM practice:

Under the *Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003* which transposed the EC *Water Framework Directive* into Scots law, a small number of informal and voluntary catchment management plans in Scotland are now being replaced by statutory river basin management plans designed and managed by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency - SEPA. Under this new provision, the Spey will become one of several catchments included in one of Scotland's sub-basin district management plans for which river basin management plans will need to be in place by 2009.

The mechanisms for delivering river basin management plans are still to be announced by SEPA but it is clear that some degree of stakeholder involvement and public participation will be required. Outside the existing voluntary and informal catchment management plans, there is little experience of undertaking this across Scotland. I hope that by sharing the "lessons learnt" from my two weeks in New Zealand (see above), I can make a contribution to the inclusion of stakeholder involvement and public participation in the new statutory plans as they emerge over the next two years. However, I realize that resources are limited and the costly procedures which have been successfully developed within the Motueka ICM may be difficult to transfer to Scotland.

c) Regional experiences:

The River Spey is only one of several rivers that will be included in the district sub-basin river basin management plan and one of two for which informal catchment management plans already exist. As noted above, it is hoped that some of the "lessons learned" from the Motueka can be translated into the sub-basin management plans for North East Scotland as they emerge.

d) Worldwide :

One of the reasons for visiting the Motueka was to see at first hand a "demonstration" level UNESCO-HELP basin. At present, there are no HELP basins in Scotland, but following my visit to New Zealand an application is being prepared to the UNESCO-HELP bureau for designation of the River Spey as a HELP basin.

Attending the 2-day Australasia-Pacific Islands HELP workshop provided informative insights on the implementation of HELP principles when financial and human resources are very limited.

6. IDENTIFIED TIPS

☞ *Identified tips which could be useful for colleagues*

By timing my visit so that it coincided with a national conference on ICM and an international workshop I maximised the opportunities for meeting, discussing and networking. The combination of one-day conference papers followed by a one-day field trip also enabled me to quickly understand the key issues in the Motueka ICM programme.

Many of the contacts I made at the conference during the first week, I was able to visit and interview the following week. This made for a very cost effective use of my time while in New Zealand.

7. PERSONAL COMMENTS

⇒ *What does the missionary think about his mission*

A two week visit to a project on the other side of the world is costly in personal terms (time, disruption of other work activity, travel and subsistence), so real positive outcomes are looked for. In this case positive outcomes were achieved. As a result of the visit I have a much better understanding of:

- ICM in a country where delivery is largely undertaken at the local level
- the very heavy demands which arise when HELP principles (balancing science, policy and public engagement) are taken seriously
- the complex and demanding management necessary to make such a programme work
- the importance of dissemination when only one such programme can be resourced at this level.

The contrast between ICM as developed in New Zealand and river basin management as it is now emerging in Scotland could hardly be more striking. The highly de-centralised and locally-delivered programme in New Zealand is the antithesis of what is likely to emerge in Scotland with its highly centralized implementation of WFD. Thoughtful comparisons of the two systems could yield valuable insights as both continue to develop over the next five to ten years. I plan to contribute to that comparison.

8. CONTACTS

⇒ *principal local contacts met*

Name	Occupation	E-mail	Phone Number
Mr Andrew Fenemor	Project Manager, Motueka ICM programme, Landcare Research, New Zealand Ltd	Fenemora@landcareresearch.co.nz	
Dr Tim Davies	Hydrologist, Landcare Research, New Zealand Ltd	daviet@landcareresearch.co.nz	
Dr Glen Lauder	Programme Facilitator, Motueka ICM programme		
Mr Neil Deans	Local Manager Fish and Game, New Zealand	ndeans@nmfgc.co.nz	

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

⇒ *Main documents, manuals or supports used during the mission which could be useful for colleagues*

Bibliography		
Name	Description / Notice	Reference
Documentation for 2-day conference on ICM	Programme and Abstracts for ICM Workshop, 8-9 November 2005.	Tools, techniques and lessons for Integrated Catchment Management. Available from Andrew Fenemor at Landcare Research

The Motueka and Riwaka catchments	Technical report summarising current state of knowledge of the catchments, May 2003	Report by L R Basher, Landcare Research New Zealand
Report on research for Integrated Catchment Management	Use of research to support Integrated Catchment Management in the Motueka River Catchment	Report to Landcare Research New Zealand, Ltd by T Dunne and G E Likens 2000
Book on participation in river basin management	Edited book on public participation in river basin management	Swimming Upstream; Collaborative Approaches to Watershed Management, edited by P A Sabaitier et al (2005) MIT Press, Cambridge, Mass, USA ISBN 0-262-19520-8
Exhibition catalogue	Catalogue for Exhibition, "Travelling River"	Travelling River: a collaboration of artists, scientists and the people of the Motueka River catchment. Andrew Fenemor, Maggie Atkinson and Suzie Peacock (2004)

Websites		
Name	Description / Notice	Address
Motueka website	Website for Motueka ICM programme. Full of valuable resources for those working in the field of river basin management.	http://icm.landcareresearch.co.nz
UNESCO HELP	Main site for information on UNESCO HELP programme	www.unesco.org/water/ihp/help

N.B. This framework provides necessary information for further capitalisation and dissemination, but should not prevent experts from making any other comments (as far as basins characterisation is concerned, for instance).