

# INTERNATIONAL SEDIMENT INITIATIVE

## NEWSLETTER

*Reporting ISI news to you quarterly*

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## NEWS

### MOU Signing between IRTCES and UiTM

The signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding between International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES), China and Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM), Malaysia was held in Beijing in the morning of March 24, 2008. Prof. Dr. HU Chunhong, Secretary General and Deputy Director of IRTCES, and Prof. Dr. Roslan Zainal Abidin, Director of National Soil Erosion Research Centre (NASEC), UiTM on behalf of Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Abu Shah, Vice Chancellor of UiTM, signed the MOU representing both sides. Dr. Jayakumar Ramasamy, Programme Specialist for Science, Technology and Environment, UNESCO Office Beijing and IRTCES staff attended the ceremony.

In the ceremony, Prof. Dr. HU Chunhong welcomed Malaysia friends coming here for the signing on behalf of IRTCES. He said in his speech that the MOU signing will open a new page for strengthening cooperation, which would promote the scientific study, information communication and technical cooperation among experts of both sides in areas of rational utilization of water and soil, soil erosion control and eco- environment protection and contribute to the sustainable development of the international community. In Prof. Dr. Ibrahim Abu Shah's speech, which presented by Prof. Dr. Roslan Zainal Abidin, he said that the MOU signing will enhance bilateral relationship further and work towards other forms of programmes and activities that are ongoing are of mutual benefit to both parties concerned. Dr. Jayakumar Ramasamy congratulated to the MOU signing.

A friendly meeting for discussion of future cooperation both parties share interest was held before the ceremony. Prof. Dr. HU Chunhong, Prof. Dr. WANG Yangui and Prof. Dr. LIU Cheng, Section Chief and Deputy Section Chief, and others from IRTCES, Prof. Dr. Roslan Zainal Abidin and Mr. Mohd Shafee Harun, Research Officer of NASEC, UiTM joined the meeting.

In the afternoon, Prof. Dr. WANG Yangui, Prof. Dr. LIU Cheng, Prof. ZHANG Yanjing and Ms. SHI Hongling of the Department of Research and Training, IRTCES had a discussion with Malaysian guests concerning the future cooperation on practical basis. Mutual recognition on collaborative research, information exchange, international conference and training workshop organization, technical consultancy and personnel exchange were achieved.

(by Cheng LIU)



### 3rd General Meeting of NARBO (20-22 Feb. 2008, Indonesia)



The 3rd general meeting of the Network of Asian River Basin Organizations (NARBO) was held in Solo/Surakarta, Indonesia, on February 22-24, 2008. The meeting was organized by Jasa Tirta I Public Corporation, Water Resources Research Center, and Indonesia NARBO Secretariat. Approximately 100 experts, scholars and managers from NARBO members and related organizations from 17 countries attended the meeting.

According to the NARBO charter, the NARBO general meeting is held every two years, which includes a workshop and a general meeting. Main subjects of the workshop were "measuring the performance of river basin organizations and river basins" and "managing assets and risks and exploring new challenges in integrated water resources management (IWRM)", respectively. Two keynote speeches and 22 panelist speeches were presented. The content covered Lessons learned from 4 pilot RBO peer reviews, benchmark of river basin performance, sustainable management of water resources infrastructure, erosion and sedimentation management, water hazard and risk management and early warning system, water rights and water allocation, participation of civil society and private sector in IWRM, and river health restoration, etc. Current issues, new challenges and future strategies about IWRM were discussed. In order to investigate the practical situation of Bengawan River basin, a study visit to the Wonogiri Reservoir basin and Colo Weir, etc. was arranged.

A review of NARBO activities of 2006-2007 was made, and an active role and great achievements of NARBO in promoting IWRM has been fully recognized by the participants. Focusing on concerned tasks, NARBO workplan 2008-2009 was discussed and approved. Charter revision was made, and NARBO constitutional body 2008-2009 was elected. Nine new NARBO members including IRTECS were accepted through the general meeting. The newly joined members will further strengthen the NARBO active role in contributing to IWRM in the Asian monsoon area. Up to now, NARBO members have reached 65, mainly from the southeastern Asia, the eastern Asia and the central Asian. IRTECS joined NARBO as an interregional knowledge partner. IRTECS will contribute to the IWRM in the Asian area through scientific research, consultation, training, workshop, regional information exchange and technology cooperation, related to erosion and sedimentation, and water and land resources management.



NARBO was collaboratively launched by the Water Resources Development Public Corporation of Japan (recently reconstituted as the Japan Water Agency), the Asian Development Bank, and the Asian Development Bank Institute at the 3rd World Water Forum in March 2003 in Kyoto, Japan, and it was officially established in February 2004 in Indonesia. NARBO aims at promoting and achieving integrated water resources management (IWRM) in river basins in the Asia monsoon area. Activities conducted by NARBO include information sharing and exchanges, thematic workshops, performance benchmarking, training courses and twinning programs, etc.

Prof. Yanjing Zhang from IRTCES was dispatched to participate in the meeting and made a presentation.

(by Yanjing Zhang, IRTCES)

### Ban Ki-moon warns that water shortages are increasingly driving conflicts

Many of today's conflicts around the world are being fuelled or exacerbated by water shortages and climate change is only making the situation worse, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told the General Assembly today.

Briefing an informal Assembly session on the crises in Kenya, Darfur and Chad, as well as his recent trip to Europe and Africa, Mr. Ban noted that he told the annual World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, last month that "increasingly, fights are erupting over such basic human needs as water or arable land.

"I find this trend deeply worrying, especially because such shortages are only projected to grow in coming years," he said, adding that water also underpins many of the world's key development challenges – food, the environment, health and economic well-being.

"Water shortages are at the core of many of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), one of which is to reduce by half the number of people without safe access to

water by 2015. When you consider the health and development challenges facing the poorest of the world's population – diseases like malaria or TB [tuberculosis], rising food prices, environmental degradation – the common denominator often seems to be water."

International cooperation is crucial to overcoming the problem, the Secretary-General said, calling for governments, business and civil society to form new and innovative partnerships. He also pointed out that the UN has declared 2008 to be the International Year of Sanitation and the UN Global Compact's CEO Water Mandate is also coordinating work on the issue.

"Water is a classic common property resource. No one really owns the problem. Therefore, no one really owns the solution."

(Source: <http://www.un.org/News/>)

### More News in ISI Website

- Major dredging project for Yangtze
- Yellow River flood kills livestock, damages homes in Inner Mongolia
- 20 March - World Water Day 2008: Sanitation
- UN Secretary-General, in Message for World Water Day, Calls Lack of Political Will Biggest Culprit in Failure to Achieve Basic Sanitation Goal
- SEPA report: Three Gorges main water body slightly cleaner, branches worsening
- Three-year plan to renovate nation's dams
- China says its desertification acreage dwindling, but erosion risk lingers
- UN Secretary-General's address at the World Economic Forum on "Time Is Running Out on Water"
- IRTCES and UNESCO celebrated the coming Chinese New Year
- Water level of Yangtze lowest for 140 years

More .....

(<http://www.irtces.org/isi/>)

## PUBLICATION

### Publications in ISI Information System

- Report on the SedNet Round Table Discussion Sediment Management – an essential element of River Basin Management Plans (SedNet)
- Sediment Management at the River Basin Scale Sustainable Management of Sediment Resources (SEDNET)
- Selected papers of the Yellow River studies (YRCC)
- Hazard Mitigation Related to Water and Sediment Fluxes in the Yellow River Basin, China (Osterkamp & Gray)
- UNESCO-IHE Symposium: Final recommendations

More .....

(<http://www.irtces.org/isi/info.asp> )

### Papers Published in Issue 1, Volume 21, 2008, International Journal of Sediment Research





**Technical Papers**

Transition from Wavelets to Ripples in a Laboratory Flume with a Diverging Channel

**William B. RAUEN, Binliang LIN, and Roger A. FALCONER**

Impact of Water Diversion on the Morphological Development of the Lower Yellow River

**Zheng Bing WANG, Zhao-Yin WANG, and Huib J. de VRIEND**

Experimental Study for the Allocation of Ground-Sills Downstream of Check Dams

**Bing-Shyan LIN, Chao-Hsien YEH, and Hui-Pang LIEN**

Sediment Load Reduction in Chinese Rivers

**Cheng LIU, Jueyi SUI, and Zhao-Yin WANG**

Scour and Flow Field around Spur Dike in a 90° Bend

**Majid FAZLI, Masoud GHODSIAN, and Seyed Ali Akbar Salehi NEYSHABOURI**

Non-Uniform Sediment Incipient Velocity

**Haitao XU, Jinyou LU, and Xiaobin LIU**

Re-Look to Conventional Techniques for Trapping Efficiency Estimation of a Reservoir

**V. JOTHIPRAKASH and Vaibhav GARG**

On the Formation of Couplet-Style Stratifications

**Yu-Hai WANG, Yan-Hong WANG, and Li-Qun TANG**

## COMING EVENTS

### International Workshop – Erosion, Transport and Deposition of Sediments

**From:** 2008-04-28 to 2008-04-30

**Venue:** Main building of the University of Berne

Kuppelraum, Room 501

Hochschulstrasse 4

CH 3012 Bern

**Background:** The International Sediment Initiative (ISI) is a UNESCO-programme, which has been set-up in September 2004. The mission of ISI is to organize and promote international information exchange and provide direct access to policy makers in Member States, while activating scientific and professional communities in all regions and countries concerned. ISI will promote the elaboration and monitoring of sediment data to develop appropriate methods and procedures in sediment management. The main activities and projects of ISI are: review of erosion and sediment-related research, global evaluation of sediment transport, setting-up of an erosion and sediment information system, development of case studies for large river basins, networking with other institutions in the field of sediments and education and capacity building. The International Commission for the Hydrology of the Rhine Basin (CHR) is a cooperation of scientific institutions from Switzerland, Austria, Germany, France, Luxembourg and the Netherlands in the field of hydrology. The mission of the CHR is the expansion of the hydrological knowledge in the Rhine basin as well as the support of decision making in sustainable water resources management by solving of cross-border problems. CHR aims at the joint development of know-how and equipment for observation, quantification and forecasting of sediment transport.

**Objectives of the workshop:**

- To present a state-of-the-art of sediment related problems
- To discuss present and future problems in relation to sediment management.
- To exchange knowledge about erosion, transport and deposition of sediment.
- To detect and discuss research needs.
- To discuss and solve specific problems in a Swiss alpine catchment area.

The International Commission for the Hydrology of the Rhine Basin (CHR) invites scientists, researchers, decision

makers, consulting experts and stakeholders in the field of sediment management to discuss these issues during a three day workshop.

**Organisers and sponsors:** The invitation to the event is issued by the International Commission for the Hydrology of the Rhine Basin (CHR) in cooperation with UNESCO International Hydrological Program / International Sediment Initiative, the University of Berne and the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment

**Co-sponsors:** Hydrologic Commission of Switzerland & National IHP-secretariats of the Netherlands, Germany and Switzerland

For further information about CHR and about the workshop, please visit our website at [www.chr-khr.org](http://www.chr-khr.org).

**Coordination committee**

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- For further information, please contact either the CHR/KHR secretariat or one of the members of the coordination committee.

### 3rd International Conference on Estuaries & Coasts (September 14-16, 2009)

**Date:** September 14-16, 2009

**Conference Venue :** Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan.



**Summary:** After great success of ICEC2003 (Hangzhou, China) and ICEC2006 (Guangzhou, China), ICEC2009 will be held in Sendai, Japan, co-organized by Department of Civil Engineering, Tohoku University and the International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES). You are invited to attend the conference to exchange our knowledge and experiences related to estuarine and coastal issues.

**Conference Topics:**

- Estuarine and Coastal Processes
- Estuarine Eco-Environment and Its Protection
- Maintenance and Management of Waterways in Estuaries and Harbors
- Research Technologies for Estuarine Engineering

**URL:** <http://donko.civil.tohoku.ac.jp/icec2009/index.html>

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## International Water Resources and Hydropower Forum

**Date:** Oct. 16 ~18, 2008

**Venue:** China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHR), Beijing, China

**Summary:** This year happens to be the 50th anniversary of China Institute of Water Resources and Hydropower Research (IWHR). In order to celebrate this great event, IWHR is planning to hold a series of academic exchange and celebration activities. The Organizing Committee of the International Water Resources and Hydropower Forum would like to invite all the participants of this Forum to take part in the celebration ceremony of IWHR which will be arranged right after the Forum on Oct.18th, 2008. We are confident that this event will leave you a deep impression and a happy memory.

**Themes (draft):**

- Climate Change and Countermeasures
- Water Resources and Management
- Hydropower, Renewable Energy and Dam Safety
- Water and Food Security
- Water and Environment
- Flood Management and Drought Mitigation
- Water and Soil Conservation

**Sponsor:**

Ministry of Water Resources of People's Republic of China

**Organizer:**

China Institute of Water Resources & Hydropower Research

**Co-sponsor:**

Chinese Hydraulic Engineering Society, Chinese National Committee on Irrigation and Drainage, ICID, Chinese National Committee on Large Dams, ICOLD, China Chapter of International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research, IAHR, International Research and Training Centre on Erosion and Sedimentation, Global Water Partnership China, GWP, National Natural Science Foundation of China, Other co-sponsors to be decided.

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## 33rd IAHR CONGRESS

Co-located with the 19th CANADIAN HYDROTECHNICAL CONFERENCE and Co-sponsored by the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering

**Date:** August 10-14, 2009

**Venue:** Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

**WELCOME:** On behalf of the entire local organizing committee and IAHR council members, we invite you to join us in Vancouver, British Columbia for an event you will not want to miss! We take great pleasure in announcing the 33rd IAHR Biennial Congress, August 10-14, 2009. Themed "Water Engineering for a Sustainable Environment," the Congress focuses on the central roles of hydraulic engineering and hydroinformatics in water engineering for a sustainable environment, and how these roles link to broader aspects of environment sustainability in watershed and coastal settings. By 2009, it will have been 12 years since an IAHR Biennial Congress was held in North America. The last North American venue was San Francisco, in 1997. That Congress was well received and attracted approximately 1,000 registrants. The North American hydraulics community is extensively represented in IAHR's membership (some 15-20% of the total) and looks forward to once again welcoming international colleagues to an IAHR Congress at an attractive North American location. Several organizations with broad representation from the North American water engineering community – namely EWRI-ASCE, COPRI-ASCE, UBC, and CSCE – are collaborating with IAHR to organize the 33RD IAHR Congress and the co-located 19th Canadian Hydrotechnical Conference.

**CONGRESS TOPICS:**

- Topic A. Advances in the Fundamentals of Water Science and Engineering
- Topic B. Water Engineering in Support of Built Environments
- Topic C. Water Engineering for the Protection and Enhancement of Natural Watershed and Aquifer Environments
- Topic D. Water Engineering for Sustainable Coastal and Offshore Environments (Built and Natural)
- Topic E. Advances in Hydroinformatics for Integrated Watershed and Coast Management

**URL:** <http://content.asce.org/conferences/iahr09/>

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## International Conference on Fluvial Hydraulics (River Flow 2008)

**From:** 2008-09-03 to 2008-09-05

**Venue:** Altinyunus Hotel, Çeşme-İzmir-Turkey

**Summary:** Rivers are continuously eroding or depositing under normal natural conditions. However, these changes can be either reversible or irreversible. Reversible changes



result from the natural cycle of water and sediment runoff from a catchment. However, irreversible changes normally occur under natural conditions in the upper or lower reaches of a river. Within the context of reversible and irreversible water-sediment processes, Fluvial Hydraulics was born as one of the fundamental discipline in engineering practice and scientific research. Recent developments in fluid and sediment mechanics have provided Fluvial Hydraulics the integration of basic phenomenal knowledge into practical engineering works. New engineering tools revealed from advances in physical understanding, computation methods and measuring techniques. River Flow 2008 will be organized with the support of Fluvial Hydraulic Section (FHS) of the International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research (IAHR). This conference intends to be a forum for all researchers involved in River Hydraulics studies. It would be an opportunity to meet together for scientists working on both complementary aspects of hydrodynamic processes and sediment transport phenomena in rivers, using theoretical, experimental or numerical approaches. The conference will concentrate on the hydraulics fundamentals, its application in engineering or environmental related problems.

The conference, River Flow 2008 in Turkey, will be a three-day-long simulation of the work of the scientists studying on Fluvial Hydraulics. The conference will begin on Wednesday, September 3. Technical sessions will be held in four parallel tracks from Wednesday to Friday. During the conference, one or two plenary lectures will be planned each day to deliver by expert scientists. Master classes, which are an important feature of the River Flow Conference Series, will be held the day preceding the formal opening of the Conference.

**Organizer:** Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for River Flow 2008 of Turkey. The LOC members consist of the following Universities/ Institutions:

State Hydraulic Works of Turkey  
Middle East Technical University (METU)  
Gazi University (GU)  
Istanbul Technical University (ITU)  
Dokuz Eylül University (DEU)  
İzmir Institute of Technology (IYTE)  
Cukurova University (CU)  
The University of Mississippi, USA

**Sponsors/co-sponsors:**

International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research (IAHR)-Fluvial Hydraulics Committee (FHC)  
UNESCO- International Hydrological Programme-(IHP)  
International Sedimentation Initiative (ISI)-IHP

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## 8th International Conference on Hydro-Science and Engineering (ICHE-2008)

**From** 2008-09-8 to 2008-09-12

**Venue:** Nagoya, Japan

**Summary:** On behalf of the International and the Local Organizing Committees of the 8th International Conference on Hydro-Science and Engineering (ICHE-2008), we cordially invite you to participate in the conference to be held on September 8-12, 2008 in Nagoya, Japan. It is great

honor for us to be your hosts at this important event in which our primary goals are the sharing of scientific and professional experiences and recent advances in our engineering discipline. The conference is hosted by Nagoya University, School of Civil Engineering, and organized locally by an organizing committee composed of faculty members from Nagoya University and other universities in the region.

The ICHE-2008 will extend the series of biennial conference started in Washington, D.C (1993), continued in Beijing (1995), Cottbus (1998), Seoul (2000), Warsaw (2002), Brisbane (2004), and Philadelphia (2006). These conferences have acted in the past as a welcome forum to report and discuss the latest advancements in Hydro-Science and Engineering and as such have always been highly valued by all participants. Undoubtedly, the ICHE-2008 will provide an opportunity for making numerous personal and professional contacts. The theme of this conference is "New Challenge of Hydro-Science and Engineering toward Sustainability through Flood Risk, Water Resources & Ecosystem Assessment ". Though the topics discussed in this conference are wide as listed below, they will be organized as several mini-symposia to clarify the direction of the new challenge. In addition to personal and professional contacts during the technical sessions, the conference offers its participants a chance to attend specialized technical visit that will demonstrate "New Challenge of Hydro-Science and Engineering toward Sustainability through Flood Risk, Water Resources & Ecosystem Assessment".

**Sponsors:** International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research (IAHR), Nagoya University, Japan Society of Civil Engineers (JSCE), Ecology and Civil Engineering Society (ECES), Japan Water Forum, Chinese Hydraulic Engineering Society (CHES), Korean Association for Water Resources (KWRA), Canadian Society for Civil Engineering (CSCE), American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), World Association for Sedimentation and Erosion Research (WASER), National Center for Computational Hydroscience and Engineering, the University of Mississippi (NCCHE)

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## International Conference on Hydrology and Climate Change in the Mountainous Areas

**Date :** November 15 to 17, 2008 and abstract dead line : 31 January, 2008

**Venue:** The conference will be held in Kathmandu, the capital city of Nepal. Draped along the greatest heights of the Himalaya, Nepal is a land of sublime scenery, timeworn temples, and some of the best walking trails on earth. November is the best season for tourist and trekkers because of likely no rains and neither hot nor cold. It is a best season to enjoy lots of green and blue sky as well as for out door activities like trekking, rafting, and wild life jungle safari.



**Organized by:** SOHAM-NEPAL and in collaboration with DHM

**Supports :** UNESCO, NAST, NEA, DWIDP have expressed their interest too support this conference SOHAM-Nepal invites and welcomes supports and cooperation from local and international agencies, scientific communities and individuals.

**Introduction:** To emphasize the reality that water is critical for sustainable development, environmental integrity and the eradication of poverty and hunger, UN General Assembly the Fifty-eighth session, agenda item 95 targeted years 2005-2015 as "International Decade for Action-Water for Life". Changes in the environment have been worrying issues to the scientific communities and planners. In order to open forum in these pertinent topics, SOHAM-Nepal is organizing an international conference on "Hydrology and Climate Change in the Mountainous Areas". The proposed conference date is November 2008. The main objective of the conference is to involve scientists, engineers, development workers and planners as well as experts on related fields and create an opportunity for discussion and sharing information on observations, researches, best practices, lessons learnt etc. Broadly, the conference aims to address on - review the available technology in the field related to climate change and its impact on snow, glaciers and hydro-meteorological processes, assessment of the impact of sediment on water resources, environment, and socio-economy and to look for a mechanism for research and capacity building on understanding of hydrological system of mountainous areas. The main topics of the conference are: 1) Climate change impacts and adaptations 2) Snow and glacier hydrology, 3) Sedimentation and Mass wasting, 4) Hydrological modeling 5) Flood forecasting and early warning systems 6) Water induced disaster management 7) Droughts and low flows

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## International Symposium on Sediment Management

**From** 2008-07-10 to 2008-07-12

**Venue:** I2SM, Lille, July 10-12th, 2008, France

**Summary:** For many decades, waterways have been exposed to a wide variety of contaminants. Over the ages, river estuaries have given economic prosperity to those who live on their embankments. Much of this prosperity is based on the sediments brought by the rivers.

Even if regulations and a better control of contaminants have been established to reduce their emission, many contaminants are still present in bottom sediments. In fact, some of them are persistent and continue to pose a risk to the environment.

Since contaminated sediment problematic is extended throughout the world, this symposium will be international event. The symposium will review recent advances on sediments management related research and focus on engineering aspects. It will provide a unique opportunity for experts and engineers all over the world to meet and share their experience.

The organising committee cordially invites you to attend I2SM, which will be held on July 10 -12th 2008 in Lille, France

**Organizer:** Ecole des Mines de Douai France,

**Co-sponsors :** Région Nord-Pas de Calais, ADEME and Europe

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## More Coming Events in ISI Website

- 4th Int. Symposium on Contaminated Sediments: Sustainable Management and Remediation (2009-6-30)
- The First World Landslide Forum (2008-11-18)
- 16th IAHR-APD 2008 and ISHS-IAHR (2008-10-20)
- 2008 Integrated Water Resources Management Advanced International Training Programme (2008-8-11)
- Sustainable Sediment Management - a systems approach from a resilience point of view (2008-5-30)
- 5th International SedNet Conference (2008-5-27)
- International Workshop – Erosion, Transport and Deposition of Sediments (2008-4-28)

More .....

(<http://www.irtces.org/isi/>)

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