



# GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL WATERS ASSESSMENT

NEWSLETTER No 2 May - June 2002

Dear GIWA friends,



As spring returns to Sweden, the tulips are blooming and the sun is shining, GIWA enters into the next phase of the project. The Scaling & Scoping is now close to be completed and the global comparative matrix is being

formed. As expected the GIWA concerns show different severity in the individual sub-regions, but outstanding as global problems are the concerns "Habitat destruction" and "Unsustainable exploitation of living resources and fisheries".

The methodology for the remaining phases of GIWA has been issued and in this newsletter you can read about it. This will now be implemented by the sub-regional expert teams. A challenging time is ahead. The critical GIWA concerns have been identified. The causes and the policy options required for mitigation are now to be established.

My congratulations goes to the "GIWA Father", Professor Erik Arrhenius, who as an appreciation of the work done for GIWA, has been named Honorary Doctor of the University of Kalmar. We are thankful for his efforts for GIWA, but also proud to have contributed to his success.

**Dag Daler**  
Scientific Director

## UCC-Water

– a New Collaborating Partner of GIWA

A collaboration since 1996 between the DHI Water and Environment and UNEP was early this year consolidated through the establishment of the UNEP Collaborating Centre on Water and Environment (UCC-Water). The purpose of the centre is to support UNEP in the implementation of the Water Policy and Strategy, and it shall thus provide assistance to the relevant UNEP projects and programmes including GIWA.

DHI Water and Environment is an independent, international consulting and research organisation affiliated to the Danish Academy of Technical Sciences. The services of the institute are based on the development and application of know-how and advanced technologies within ecology and environmental chemistry, water resources, hydraulic structures and hydrodynamics and other areas related to water environment. The Institute has approximately 475 employees, the majority of whom are professional engineers and scientists with post-graduate qualifications and it has project experience from more than 140 countries.

The assistance to GIWA from the centre will mainly concentrate on further development of the GIWA second stage methodology i.e. through participation in the Methodology Task Team, peer reviews etc. and, more importantly, through "hands on" testing in one or two of the GIWA sub-regions. Thus, the centre will play a key role in the second stage assessment in sub-region 42 (the Gulf of Guinea) already this year. Moreover, the centre shall assist in linking UNEP activities including the GIWA process with the networks of DHI and Global Water Partnership (GWP), the latter through a close collaboration with the existing GWP Resources Centre at DHI.

More information about the centre can be found at: [www.ucc-water.org](http://www.ucc-water.org), [www.dhi.dk](http://www.dhi.dk) or by e-mail to [ucc-water@dhi.dk](mailto:ucc-water@dhi.dk)



At the Academic ceremony Professor Erik Arrhenius was greeted by the University board Chairman Yvonne Sandberg-Fries, Vice-chancellor Örn Taube, pro Vice-chancellor Britt-Inger Saveman and Professor Edna Granéli.

## Professor Erik Arrhenius Honorary Doctor

The University of Kalmar has named professor Erik Arrhenius Honorary Doctor. Professor Arrhenius received the symbols of the doctorate at the annual Academic Ceremony at Kalmar Castle on May 7.

Professor Erik Arrhenius is honored by the university for his strong engagement in Agenda 21 and for his efforts to establish GIWA in Kalmar.

Professor Erik Arrhenius is internationally reputed in his field of expertise and thanks to his international commitments the University of Kalmar was selected to host the GIWA project. He has been a keen supporter of GIWA and he has spent much of his working capacity as the GIWA Scientific Advisor and in that capacity also contributed significantly to the success of GIWA.

# GIWA Methodology an Important Reference Framework

The latest version of the GIWA Methodology for the remaining stages of the assessment was posted on our web site on May 7. It builds from the previous versions and follows the advice of the Methods Task Team as well as the recommendations of the different teams that tested it. Due to the great variation in sub-regional circumstances under which the methodology will be applied, it is recognized that the guidelines should be considered as a reference framework, rather than as a set of detailed instructions.

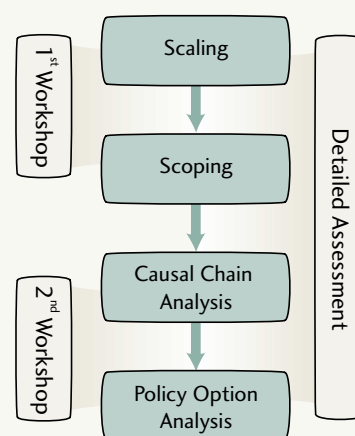
**Detailed Assessment (DA)** is not meant to be a massive data gathering process but rather a documentation of existing information related to the assessment. It also should be emphasized that DA is not a self-contained component of the assessment confined to one stage but an activity within all the components. DA has two purposes: to substantiate the experts' conclusions by providing updated and reliable information and to identify and document the nature and availability of information related to the selected priority concern and issues within the sub-regions.

**Causal Chain Analysis (CCA)** traces the cause effect pathways associated with each significant concern, from the socio-economic and environmental impacts back to its root causes. Its purpose is to identify the most important root causes of each concern, in order to target them by policy measures for cost-effective remediation or mitigation. It should be stressed that the CCA of GIWA is policy oriented. The core of the GIWA approach to CCA is to look at the factors that directly or indirectly shape the human actions that impact the way in which water and water related resources are used. These factors are the root causes. The methodology only provide a non-exhaustive list of root

causes and examples of how they may act, because at present, there is no unified theory that universally explains how the different root causes developed and interact. In the absence of such a theory, we must accept pluralism. However, according to the methodology, all the hypotheses on the importance of the different root causes and the way in which they interact, must be substantiated with available evidence.

**Policy Option Analysis (POA)** indicates potential policy interventions (based on the identification and understanding of root causes) to solve or mitigate the addressed concerns. It is the culmination of the assessment. The GIWA guidelines remind the sub-regional task teams of essential activities and choices that have to be conducted while performing a POA. One of these activities is the analysis of different scenarios developed on the basis of projected actions taken to address the identified root causes of environmental degradation.

The following figure illustrates the assessment process in every sub-region. The first sub-regional workshop was designed to help each team conduct the Scaling and Scoping components. The second sub-regional workshop will give directions to conduct the Detailed Assessment and will focus on the Causal Chain and Policy Option Analyses.



[www.giwa.net/methodology/methodology.phtml](http://www.giwa.net/methodology/methodology.phtml)

## GIWA seminar in Stockholm on August 11

GIWA is hosting an assessment seminar on August 11, 2002, at the Stockholm Water Symposium. The seminar will review the issues in the world's shared waters, both through oral presentations and posters. GIWA's regional work will be presented and it is an excellent opportunity for discussions of the result of the GIWA project.

See the complete program for the 2002 Stockholm Water Symposium (August 12-15) and World Water Week in Stockholm (August 11-17): [www.siw.org/sws2002/](http://www.siw.org/sws2002/)

## Upcoming events 2002

16-17 May in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; 2<sup>nd</sup> Causal Chain Analysis Workshop for Latin American Regions.

10-14 June in Victoria, Canada; ASLO Summer Meeting on freshwater issues. GIWA presentation together with UoK Limnologist Jan Herrmann.

17-19 June in Abuja, Nigeria; Invitation from the Federal Ministry of Environment in Nigeria to participate in the final Super Preparatory Meeting.

13-15 June in Rostov-on Don, Russia; International Conference on Modern Problems of Oceanology and Shelf Seas of Russia. GIWA to give presentation on "Environmental Issues and Ecosystem Based Management of Marine Resources in the Globes International Waters".

27-29 June in Monterey, California; World Conference of Environmental Economists in Monterey, California. GIWA to present the Methodology.

26 August - 4 September in Johannesburg, South Africa; World Summit on Sustainable Development.

25-29 September in Dalian, China; GEF Second Biennial International Waters Conference.