



# GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL WATERS ASSESSMENT

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Dear GIWA friends,



we are at the beginning of a new year and new challenges are ahead for the GIWA project. Intensive work has been ongoing lately for the development of the methodology for the

remaining stages of GIWA. These stages focuses on the causal-chain analysis and the policy options identifications.

Testing and development have been conducted in both Latin America and South East Asia in critical and important workshops. The GIWA Methods Task Team will meet in Kalmar on February 19th in order to give the final recommendations and suggestions to complete the methodology document. The GIWA steering group will meet in mid March. Among the many tasks of the Steering Group approval of the methodology is one of the most important. As you understand, following from this, the realization of the detailed impact assessment and the causal chain analysis will start in the sub-regions in the near future.

The Danish Hydrology Institute, DHI, recently entered into an agreement with UNEP to serve as a competence center for water and the environment. Parts of DHI's activities under this agreement is to serve the GIWA and its subregions, an arrangement that certainly will strengthen both DHI and the GIWA. I therefore welcome Prof Torkil Jönch-Clausen and his team to the GIWA collaboration.

Dag Daler  
Scientific Director

## A brief summary of the results of Scoping from several sub-regions around the world

The initial Scaling and Scoping phase of GIWA has now been conducted in many of GIWA's sub-regions. In each sub-region, local experts assessed the present and predicted future environmental and socio-economic impacts of 22 issues ranging from freshwater shortage to sea level change. In more than 60% of those sub-regions that have completed assessments, freshwater shortage, which encompasses three environmental issues; modification of stream flow, pollution of existing supplies and changes in the water table, was considered to have the greatest impact and was identified as the priority concern for analysis in the subsequent assessment phases of GIWA. Task Teams from these sub-regions attributed the apparent shortages of freshwater to a variety of factors, particularly the construction of dams, excessive extraction of water for irrigation and intensive agriculture activities. In many sub-regions, wells that supply water for drinking and irrigation have had to be deepened to reach subsidizing water tables, aquifers are becoming contaminated with salt rendering the water unfit for consumption or irrigation, and the construction of dams on many rivers is significantly reducing water flow causing a significant decline in valuable wetland habitats. The consequence is that a large number of sub-regions do not have access to water that meets WHO standards.

The socioeconomic analysis is divided into three indicators, economic, health and other social and community impacts. The socioeconomic consequences due to fresh water shortage differ in urban and rural areas. The potential for upstream/downstream conflicts due to freshwater shortage has increased in several areas. The number of regions where freshwater shortage has affected farming as well as caused losses of drinking water supplies or costs for alternative water supplies have increased. In some areas freshwater shortage even causes migration.



### The GIWA Methodology for the remaining stages

For those of you who wishes to read the Methodology for the remaining stages, please visit the GIWA web site [www.giwa.net](http://www.giwa.net) where it is possible to download the document in different formats.



## GIWA and Kalmar University collaborate in ICZM-course

As a joint activity between the University of Kalmar and GIWA, a course in Integrated Coastal Zone Management was started in the beginning of January 2002. The course is designed for graduating students and has drawn participants from several different universities with various backgrounds ranging from tourism, social sciences and biology. The course focuses on preparing the students for work with issues related to resource and environmental management in tropical developing countries. In this, the inaugural year of the course, 17 students were selected from a large group of applicants. Lecturers teach the students from different universities in Sweden, as well as from the network of experts collaborating in the GIWA assessments and the GIWA Core Team itself. A central component in the course is a number of case studies that illustrates the issues and solutions that



have been applied under different circumstances. The course is an example of the expanding collaboration between GIWA and the University of Kalmar. The course

is lead by Prof. Olof Linden and Dr. David Souter who are both affiliated with GIWA as well as the University.



Dr. Clive Wilkinson from the Australian Institute of Marine Science and Prof. Olof Lindén Science Advisor at GIWA lecturing together at the course in Integrated Coastal Zone Management

## New Scientific Advisor Appointed

The University of Kalmar has appointed Dr. Olof Linden to the position as Science Advisor to GIWA. Dr. Linden is Professor of Natural Resources Management at the University and has acted as a consultant to GIWA since July 2001. Before joining the University and GIWA, Dr. Linden was working for over 10 years as Program Coordinator for Sida/SAREC, focusing pri-

marily on science cooperation and capacity building in coastal management in East Africa and South and Southeast Asia. Dr. Linden is the Coordinator of the CORDIO program (CORDIO supports research and management on coral reefs in 11 Indian Ocean Countries). He has been working extensively in Latin America, Africa and Asia, often in connection with acute envi-

ronmental pollution incidents such as oil spills, mercury poisoning etc. He has written a large number of scientific papers, is the author of books on coastal management, the environmental impacts of was, etc. GIWA welcomes Professor Olof Lindén in his new position.

## The fruits of GIWA's labour are now being reaped.

GIWA has now received 25 Scaling and Scoping reports from sub-regions distributed all over the globe. These reports are currently being reviewed by the GIWA Core Team to ensure that all information that is required to undertake the subsequent stages of the GIWA assessment is included. The Core Team is striving to complete the review of all sub-regional Scaling

and Scoping reports as quickly as possible in order to fulfil contractual obligations to Sub-regional Task Teams and to facilitate the implementation of the Causal Chain Analysis. Future editions of the GIWA newsletter will report the issues that were prioritized within each sub-region for further analysis.

## Methods Task Team to meet in February

GIWA Methods Task Team will meet in Kalmar on February 19. The main Task on the agenda for the meeting is a review and discussion about the methodology for the remaining stages of the GIWA sub-regional assessments, that is the Causal Chain Analysis and the Policy Options Phase. The experiences from testing of these parts methodology in several sub-regions in South-east Asia and Latin America will be provided as an input for the discussions. There will also be a review of the experiences from Causal Chain Analysis developed as part of WWF-projects. Chairman of the Methods Task Team is Prof. Olof Linden.