

“Public Participation in Water Governance in China, North Africa and the EU”

15 January 2015, University of Glasgow
25 Bute Gardens, G12 8RS Glasgow

For nearly three decades, “Public Participation” has been promoted as a paradigm for water management. Since the end 1980s, The World Bank has made the formation of Water User Associations in agricultural water management a pre-condition to their loans, - with mixed results. In the 1990s, nitrate groundwater pollution in some European contexts led to the participation of farmers in the governance of water pollution prevention. The EU Water Framework Directive, which entered into force in 2000, seeks to encourage the active participation of all interested parties in the implementation of the Directive. In recent years, also in countries with political traditions different from Europe, like China, experiments with public participation in environmental governance have been made.

This half-day conference brings together academics and practitioners who will present on different experiences with public participation in water governance. It will stimulate discussions about what public participation actually is in the respective context, which kinds of changes in water governance public participation has brought about, and how these changes can be further built upon to support effective water governance.

Organizing Committee:

Dr Bettina Bluemling, Lecturer in Social Sciences, School of Interdisciplinary Studies & Research Fellow, Institute of Agricultural Development in Transition Economies, bettina.bluemling@glasgow.ac.uk

Dr Neil Munro, Lecturer in Chinese Politics, School of Social and Political Sciences

Dr Nai Rui Chng, Research Associate, Institute for Health and Wellbeing & Affiliate Research Fellow in Human Rights, School of Social and Political Sciences

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University
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Programme

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- 09:00 – 09:10 Opening Speech
Prof Jane Duckett, *International Dean East Asia, University of Glasgow, UK*
- 09:10 – 09:30 Keynote “How to get people involved in decisions”
Prof Mark Reed, *Interdisciplinary Environmental Research, Director Knowledge Exchange Research Centre of Excellence, Birmingham City University, UK*
- 09:30 – 09:55 Public Participation in Environmental Governance in the Jiaxing model
Dr Hailun Zhu, *Jiaxing University (tbc)*
- 09:55 – 10:20 Public participation in practice in Zhejiang’s water management
Mr Jiahua Wan, *Jiaxing Environmental Federation, China (tbc)*
- 10:20 – 10:30 Tea break
- 10:30 – 10:55 Farmers’ participation in Moroccan water management and agricultural development
Dr Nicolas Faysse, *Researcher, CIRAD, France*
- 10:55 – 11:20 20 years of Groundwater Protection through Collaboration of Environmental and Agricultural Stakeholders: Strengths and Weaknesses of the Lower-Saxon “Cooperation Model”
Mr Gerald Nickel, *Head of Department Groundwater Management, NLWKN, Germany*
- 11:20 – 11:45 Legitimate Policy through Public Participation: two examples from the Netherlands
Dr Bert Enserink, *Associate Professor, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands*
- 11:45 – 12:00 Tea break
- 12:00 – 13:00 **Panel discussion**
Furthering participation: How can we sustain effective public participation in water governance?

