

SWAN (SUSTAINABLE WATER ACTION)

*BUILDING RESEARCH LINKS
BETWEEN EU AND US*

UWE, BRISTOL TEAM REPORT

Objectives

WP2, will work on governance for sustainable water, with a participatory approach and:

- Develop the governance and participation studies for the project of the SWC
- Seminar's presentations on governance and participation
- Analysis of the implementation of policies for water in selected European countries (UK, France, Spain, Holland and Bulgaria) and comparison with USA
- Identify Common EU/USA challenges (water quality issues)
- Prepare of material for public information and education with public, private and third sector organizations.

“EU/USA Issues in Water Governance”

WP will be led by partner 3 with substantial input from UMI and partners 4 and will involve partner 6 at specific activities (ex. Stakeholders Workshops will all involve an important contribution of IHE).

Task 2-1: Public participation in water management: EU/USA

Organize joint research (scholars and students), prepare the thematic area on water governance for the scientific program of SWC. Selected case studies will be analyzed in a comparative perspective. Findings will be submitted to the Stakeholders Committee to be included in the Stakeholder Workshops Reports.

Month 1-6, with UMI and partners 4 and 6

Task 2-2: Develop a comparative water security policies : a key thematic field for the SWC Project

The UWE team, together with IHE, UMI, BAS will focus in the development of this major thematic field. This task will study the development and implementation of policies for water security in the UK, France, Spain, Holland and Bulgaria, and comparison of these experiences with water security initiatives in the USA. An autumn 2012 conference at UWE will involve a digital link-up with UMI/UA and enhancement of on-line materials related to water security, public participation and social engagement for sustainable water management.

Month 6-24, with UMI and partners 4 and 6

Task 2-3: Joint research activities: the WFD (Water Framework Directive)

This task will coordinate joint research (researchers and students) with UMI, WP3, WP4 and partner 6 and the contribution to the seminar and workshops. These activities will encompass institutional issues dealing with water governance and the implementation of the European Water Framework Directive (WFD).

Month 18-45, with and partner 4 and 6

Deliverable Number ⁶¹	Deliverable Title	Lead beneficiary number	Estimated indicative person-months	Nature ⁶²	Dissemination level ⁶³	Delivery date ⁶⁴
D2.1	Working papers: "Water security and sustainability EU/USA"	3	45.00	R	PU	24
D2.2	Handbook: "Stakeholders Workshops"	3	46.00	O	PU	36
		Total	91.00			

2014-2015 Work Plan:

1. Begin development of “Stakeholders Handbook” – plan to draft key conceptual chapter in time for November 2014 meetings
2. PhD Students: mix of SWAN and non-SWAN students at PhD and MSc level (near and medium term mobility?)
3. Mobility for non-student team members
4. Near-complete paper on public participation and consultation in drafting the new UK Water Act (2014) – *Journal of Environmental Management*
5. Case studies of failed consultation and/or dissensus in water planning (Burton and King)
6. WFD Implementation/management issues in comparative context with USE team (deliverable 3.2)
7. New Bids:
 1. Horizon 2020 (PES)
 2. **Bristol Green Capital 2015** activities – right to water, right not to be thirsty!

Links with other funded research programmes (student collaboration and exchange, research e.g. “water and energy” and “urban water cycle”, “benefit sharing in African River Basins”, east Africa WS programme)



International Water Security Network

Home Research People News Blogs

International Water Security Network

This International Water Security Network project is founded on the realisation that technical fixes alone cannot deliver enhanced water security. Experience around the world has shown that there has been insufficient attention to the changing nature of governance over increasingly scarce water resources, and in particular the potential contributions of more democratic governance to improved water security. There is widespread recognition that workable solutions will have to be “socio-technical” in nature; though powerful, the hydro-engineering paradigm does not exist in a vacuum, but rather must take careful account of the social, political, and economic constraints adhering in specific localities.

Under the cross cutting themes of ‘risks & vulnerabilities’ and ‘innovation & adaptive capacity’ the project will investigate three primary areas of research:

- Towards Urban Water Security (UWE)
- Strengthening Transboundary Water Security (University of Arizona, UA)
- Improving Water Quality Security (Monash, South Africa (MSA))

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Integration of Upper Thames PES project as a WP2 activity

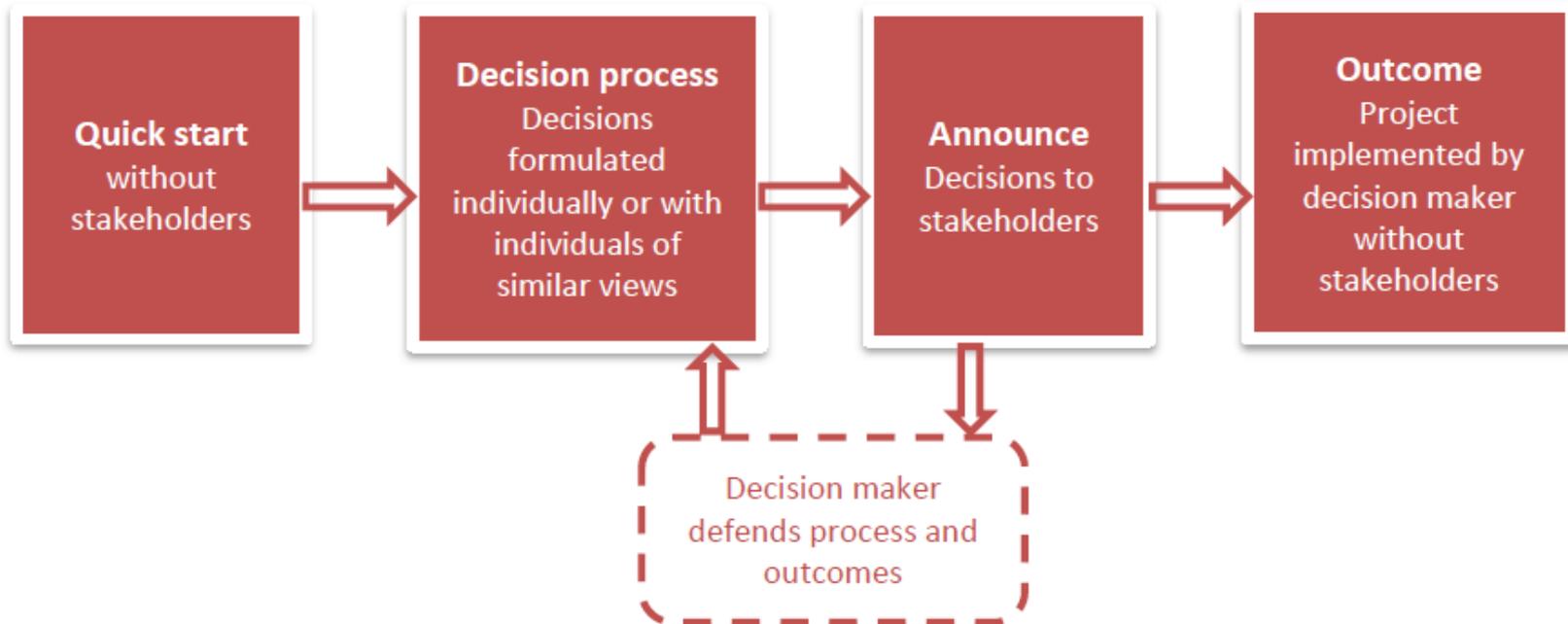
Links with UWE Centre for Floods and Communities

There are slippages in the ways the “participation” deliverable is expressed in different parts of the DoW:

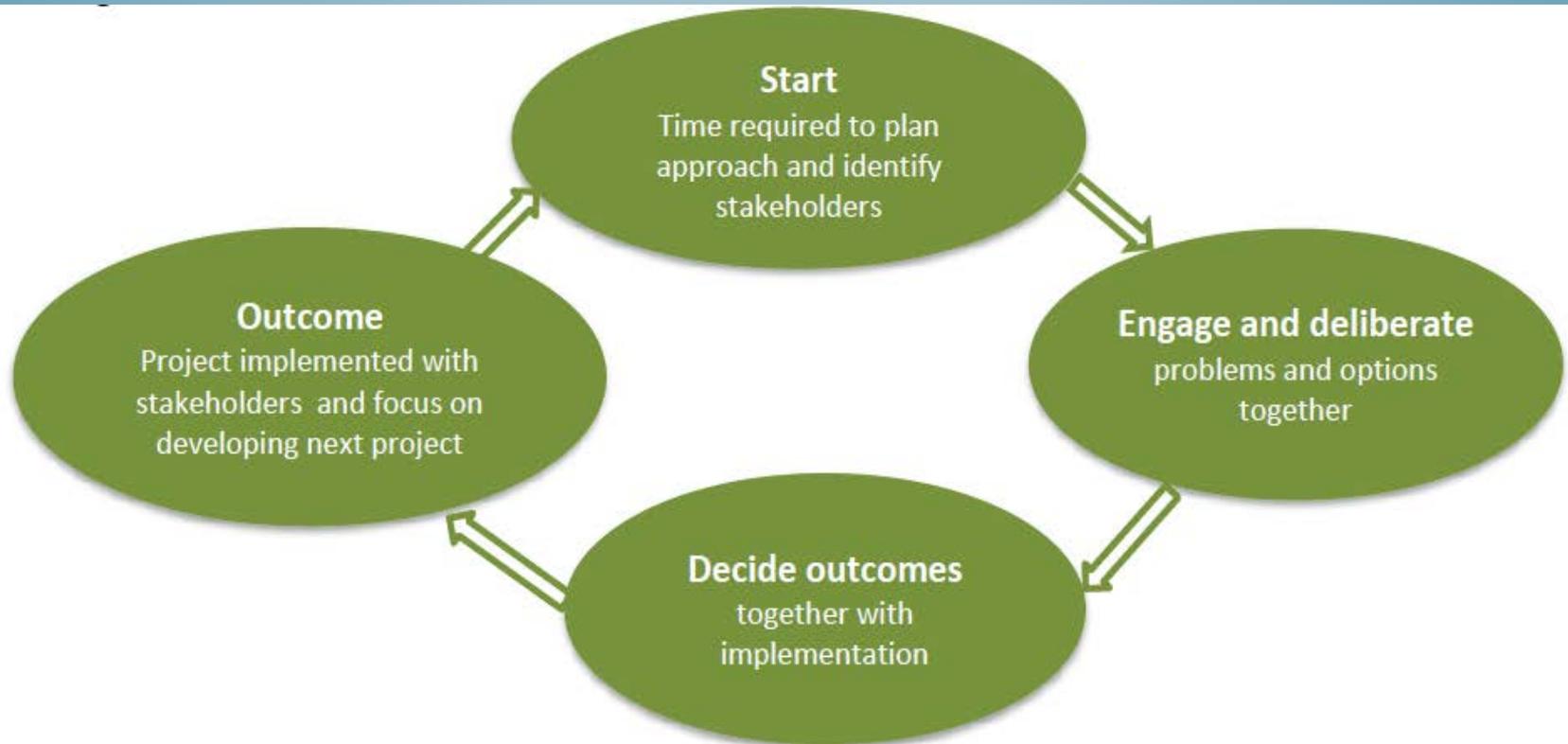
- “stakeholders”, “public” or both?
- How related to emphases elsewhere in DoW on either or both of “sustainable water” or “water security” ?
- Is it a “Handbook” for the subsequent stakeholder workshops, OR is it a scholarly deliverable? What is this document, ultimately, for?

Our view is that this work can, in the context of SWAN’s overriding objective of a SWC/TAD, most usefully incorporate articulation of an approach to the critical social science of “engagement/participation” by “stakeholders”.

DAD – Decide, Announce, Defend



EDD – ENGAGE, DELIBERATE, DECIDE



... with thanks to Joan Subirats...



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Staddon: CCG
Process in England
& Wales

Short: Upper
Thames PES
Project

King: Agonistic
geographies of
water

Jones: participatory
modelling of sediment
transport

Kerry: Black Mesa
Case Study

