

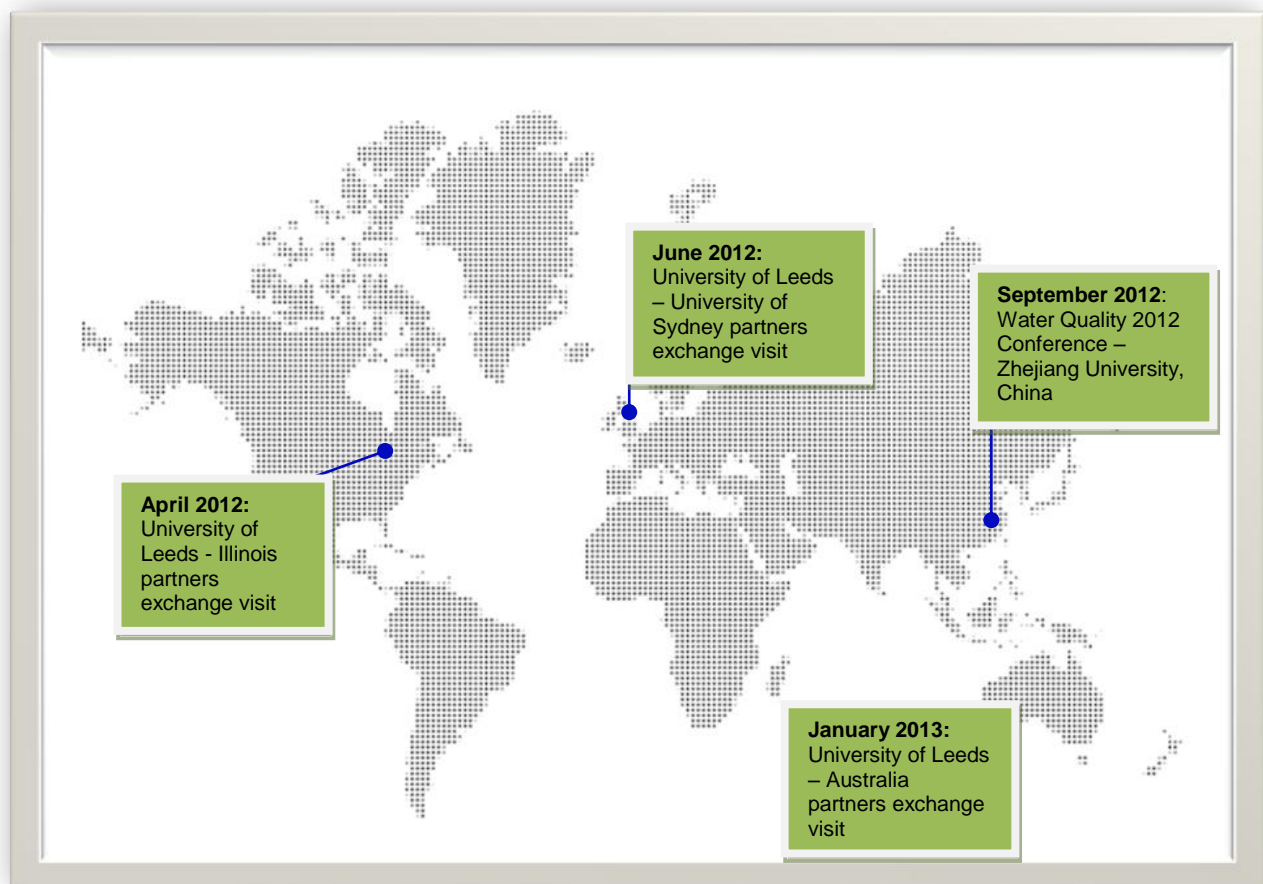
Approaching Climate Change for Water Resource Adaptation (ACCWA)

Welcome to our third edition of the **Approaching Climate Change for Water Resource Adaptation (ACCWA)** newsletter. The purpose of ACCWA is to evaluate the social, economic and environmental effects of climate change on water resources across different regions throughout the world. Through a series of events and exchanges, the project aims to enable greater collaborative research across international partners. The project will run until December 2013 and this newsletter provides an update on some of the ACCWA activities that have taken place during recent months.

Items in this edition include:

- ACCWA member exchanges;
- Funding opportunities;
- Forthcoming events.

ACCWA RECENT AND PLANNED EXCHANGES



RECENT EXCAHNGES**University of Sydney Members visit to Leeds**

In June 2012, the water research centre at the University of Leeds, water@leeds hosted two visitors from the University of Sydney, Dr Tihomir Ancev, a Senior Lecturer in Resource and Environmental Economics in the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, and Dr Willem Vervoort, Associate Professor from the same faculty. Tihomir's research focuses on the economic and social aspects of water management whilst Willem works on climate change impacts and adaptation.

As part of their visit, Tihomir and Willem presented their research in a seminar to water@leeds staff. Tihomir talked about institutional innovations such as water trading to help water systems better adapt to climate change. Willem highlighted that climate impacts assessments are unable to account for the actual human response to slowly changing climate, and particularly how this affects land use. He then went on to propose a climate impacts framework that incorporates adaptation of the human and biophysical world.

During the last day of the visit, a trip was arranged to the 263 hectare (630 acres) University Farm. The majority of the farm area is arable and the site is subject to two long term agro forestry experiments which comprise trees grown in rows through arable crops and some small woodland blocks which act as forestry controls.

The exchange has so far resulted in a joint Leeds University – University of Sydney paper being written on climate change and water quality. There are also plans to prepare a joint paper on climate change adaptation strategies implemented across several countries. This will enable greater knowledge sharing and learning from best practice.

University of Leeds Members visit to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)

From Monday 16th April to Friday 20th April 2012, five academics and one postgraduate research student from water@leeds visited the UIUC to participate in the “Water in a Changing World” conference organised as part of the UIUC's European Union Center of Excellence. The five-day visit was organised by Dr George Czapar of the Prairie Research Institute at UIUC and included meetings with academics from across UIUC as well as with representatives of the Illinois Departments of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the Illinois EPA. The visit ended with a tour of the amazing National Great Rivers Research and Education Center (NGRREC) on the banks of the Mississippi River to consider collaborative opportunities.



Visit to the oldest experimental cornfield plot in the western hemisphere and the second oldest in the world (dating from 1876)



A seminar being delivered at UIUC

Following the visit, Leeds University have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with UIUC to enable greater researcher exchange. A number of collaborative research projects are currently being developed as a consequence of the visit, all of which will benefit from the MoU. Student exchanges and co-supervised doctoral studentships are also being evaluated with a joint lecture series due to take place in early 2013. Online distance learning opportunities are also being considered, as are many other collaborative ideas.

PLANNED EXCHANGES

In early 2013, Leeds University ACCWA members plan to visit a number of Universities in Australia. The visit will also provide opportunity for exchange with other research and governmental organisations such as CSIRO. A visit is also planned to water@UTM, a water research centre in Universiti Teknologi Malaysia to enhance collaborative activity.

Further exchanges - we would like hear from you!

If you would you like to host a delegation from Leeds University or you would you like to visit a ACCWA partner institute then we want to hear from you! Funding is available for such exchanges through WUN researcher mobility grants (see later item).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) Researcher Mobility Grants

The Research Mobility Programme (RMP) encourages the personal and academic development of individuals, particularly those at an early stage in their research careers, to equip them with the skills needed for future

international academic success. The programme allows young scholars to advance their knowledge-base within their field of study, establish new contacts and mentors, and enhance their graduate dissertations through the experience gained in studying in other research cultures.

All WUN members waive any fees associated with the RMP, which are typically short visits of 2-3 months. The programme enables institutions across the Network to exchange expertise, share access to rare facilities and establish new relationships at both graduate and supervisor level. There are usually two deadlines per year which will differ across the ACCWA member institutes (further details available at:

<http://www.wun.ac.uk/mobility>).

China-UK PhD Exchange

Applications are invited for funding to support research partnerships and exchange of PhD students between UK and Chinese institutions. The UK Higher Education Research Partnership for PhD Studies programme will sponsor 28 partnerships from December 2012 to December 2014 with a maximum grant of £36,000 for each partnership from the UK Government and a separate fund for the partnership for Chinese universities from the Ministry of Education. The programme will fund two activities - mobility of researchers and exchange of PhD students.

UK Universities based in England, Wales and Scotland and Chinese Project 211 universities are eligible to apply for the programme, which is being delivered by the China Scholarship Council and British Council China on behalf of the Chinese and UK governments. The deadline for receipt of applications is 10th September 2012.

Leverhulme Study Abroad Studentship

The studentship supports an extended period of advanced study or research at a centre of

learning in any overseas country, with the exception of the USA. Studentships are available to UK residents and are tenable for between 12 and 24 months. The next deadline is likely to be in January 2013.

IPCC PhD Scholarships

The aim of the IPCC Scholarship Programme is to build capacity in the understanding and management of climate change in developing countries through by providing opportunities for young scientists to undertake studies that would not be possible without the intervention of the Fund.

Applications from students from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) researching topics with the fields of study chosen for the call for applications are given priority. Proposals should focus on one of the following fields of study:

- Socio-economic modelling related to climate change
- Underlying science of climate change
- Climate change and water

A Scholarship award will be accorded for a period of one year, renewable once. The award, and its possible renewal, is subject to satisfactory progress during the period of study. Deadline is 30th September 2012.

UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) Fellowships

EPSRC Fellowships (Early or Established Career) provide funding for 5 years on a research topic related to water engineering. Applicants can be of any nationality and overseas applicants must have agreement from a UK HEI to host the fellowship. There is no deadline and applicants can submit at any time. However, priority areas such as water are likely to be valid for just one year (2013)

Adaptation Fund

This is an international fund that finances projects and programs aimed at helping developing countries to adapt to the harmful effects of climate change. Up to \$10 million is available for projects that will be led by a developing nation. The fund was set up under the Kyoto Protocol of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Adaptation Fund Board accepts and considers project and programme proposals throughout the year on a rolling basis. Details of the next deadline (which is unannounced as yet) can be obtained via the website: <http://www.adaptation-fund.org/>

Please let us know of any other funding opportunities you would like to share with the ACCWA community.

PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS

We would like to hear about relevant projects that ACCWA members are engaged in or currently preparing ideas/teams for. The ACCWA platform will be especially useful in helping to assemble international project teams. We would also like to hear about any relevant publications.

RESEARCH FACILITIES

To demonstrate cost effectiveness, collaborative projects are increasingly required to demonstrate shared use of resources. ACCWA members would therefore benefit from access to a list of facilities across partner institutes. We will begin compiling the list and you are requested to get in touch with details of relevant facilities at your institute that you would like to be listed.

EVENTS

International Water Quality 2012 Conference, Hangzhou, China

There is less than a month before the Water Quality 2012 conference hosted by the Universities of Leeds, Zhejiang and Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The conference will take place at the JinXi Hotel and Conference Center, Hangzhou, China and is organised as part of the WUN Water Quality Network (now part of ACCWA). Water Quality 2012 follows the first conference in the series, Water Quality 2010, which took place in Leeds two years ago. The conference will take place from 19-21st September 2012. The draft programme is now available online: <http://www.wateratleeds.org/water-quality-2012.php>

Global Research Questions – Get Involved!

Water Quality 2012 will also host a workshop to consider the key global water research questions of the future. To inform the workshop, water experts from around the world are being asked to complete an online survey at:

<https://www.survey.leeds.ac.uk/water>.

Please do contribute to the identification of the priority research questions by completing

the survey: it is open until 10th September 2012 and should only take a few minutes to complete.

OTHER ITEMS

ACCWA Members News

Prof Jon Lovett, Professor of Sustainable Development at Twente University will be joining the University of Leeds from 1st September 2012. Jon will be a valuable member of the ACCWA Leeds community

ACCWA Virtual Seminar Series

Plans are being drawn to run a seminar series and members will be contacted about this in due course. Desktop videoconferencing is the preferred mode of delivery. Comments/suggestions greatly appreciated!

Website and Social Media

The current website (www.accwa.net) will be updated during the next three months. A twitter page has been set up and access will be granted to CCWA members (www.twitter.com/accwawun). Please get in touch if you would like to share any items with the ACCWA community via twitter.

Meet the ACCWA Leeds Team

ACCWA Leeds is a collaboration between different research groups at the University of Leeds. The principal investigator for the project is Professor Joseph Holden, Director of water@leeds - the water research centre at the University of Leeds. ACCWA coordinator is Dr Rizwan Nawaz who has a background in climate change impacts research. ACCWA comprises three work packages, each with a leader: Dr Paul Kay (WP1), Dr Dabo Guan (WP2) and Dr Luuk Fleskens (WP3). Further assistance is provided by Samantha Bowman.

Contact details

Please contact Rizwan (email: n.r.nawaz@leeds.ac.uk; tel. +44 (0)113 343 1596) to submit information requested in the newsletter or for general enquiries. Thank you!
