

**THE FP5 EUROPEAN PROJECT SEWING
"SYSTEM FOR EUROPEAN
WATER MONITORING"**



Toulouse, October 30, 2003

**REPORT FROM THE 4th ECOLINK WORKSHOP
IN MEZE (FRANCE) ON SEPTEMBER 18-19, 2003**

The 4th and final workshop organised within ECOLINK, a 9 month project funded by the European Commission under the 5th framework program for research and development (accompanying measure, environment and sustainable development) aims to develop an European network for research institutions and initiatives of sustainable development at local level. It has therefore brought together leading experts in different areas of the European environmental R&D and local sustainable developments policies. In order to establish relations with this scientific community in the frame of the SEWING project and in the optic of the future SIMPPLE network of excellence (proposed under the 6th framework program for research and technological development - sub-priority: Global change and ecosystems), it was decided to participate to this last ECOLINK workshop. Thus, the attendance was made by doctor Pierre Temple-Boyer from LAAS-CNRS (Toulouse - France).

During, the workshop, different topics and/or projects related to the R&D in environment and sustainability were presented:

- Presentation of the ECOLINK project
- Presentation of the "Ecosite du pays de Thau"
- Presentation of the the 6th framework program for research and technological development
- Management and sharing of environmental information: the water and habitats federative network
- Towards integrated coastal lagoons management
- Presentation of the Natura 2000 programme
- Population exposure to air pollutants in Europe (PEOPLE) project
- Sustainable urban development
- The "global footprint"
- Rural and sustainable development in China
- Presentation of the Natural capitalism group (USA)

- New ecosites & possibilities of European cooperation
- Presentation of the Copernicus campus, the university network for sustainability
- Clean technologies: prospectives techno-economic, analyses & scenarios

These presentations and the related discussions have described different policies for environment and sustainable development. Among them, the industrial development of reliable sensors was emphasized according to the following guidances:

- The monitoring of water and soil pollution: ions (H^+ , NH_4^+ , NO_3^- , Pb^{2+} , Cd^{2+} ,...), organic molecules (hydrocarbons, pesticides,...), biological species (algae, bacteria, micro-organisms...)
- The monitoring of air pollution: hydrocarbons, ozone,...

These activities are at the core of the SIMPPLE network of excellence and relations with institutions participating to the ECOLINK project will therefore be of interest for end-users applications. Let us quote for example:

- "Pays de Thau" ecosite (France)
- IBGE - BIM, Brussels (Belgium)
- Universität für Bodenkultur (Austria)
- Copernicus Campus (Germany)

All in all, participating to the 4th ECOLINK workshop has been very interesting in terms of knowledge at the edge between sustainable development and pollution monitoring.

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